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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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Hon. Peter Taptuna
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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Monday, October 25, 2010

Members Present:

Honourable Eva Aariak, Honourable James Arreak, 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 Peter Taptuna, Honourable Hunter Tootoo, Ms. Jeannie Ugyuk.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. A very good afternoon, Premier, Ministers, and Members of the Legislative Assembly. Nunavummiut and the people of Clyde River watching the proceedings, have a very good afternoon.

(interpretation ends) Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Hon. Peter Taptuna.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

**Minister's Statement 199 – 3(2):
Tourism Sector Development
Strategy**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues, members, Kuglukturmiut, and Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to provide an update on my department's implementation of the Tourism Sector Development Strategy.

We have been working to develop a consultation plan and this month, we have launched a community and stakeholder consultation process, which represents phase 2 of our three-phase plan. Our objective is to consult with our partners in tourism development: communities, Inuit organizations, and the federal government.

Through these consultations, we will gather information that will assist us in developing a comprehensive strategy for structuring our investment in tourism and building a strong partnership model that will allow us to focus on our strengths for future growth in the tourism sector. This work will also help provide and develop a consumer-oriented plan that is consistent with our ongoing destination marketing activities.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the ongoing collaboration of our industry partner, Nunavut Tourism, and thank the association for its continued support for this work.

Nunavut has a lot to offer as a tourism destination and, by working together with our partners, we will develop a common vision for the tourism sector that will support and strengthen Nunavut's economy. *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. If there

are no more... (interpretation ends) Hon. Daniel Shewchuk.

**Minister's Statement 200 – 3(2):
Department of Environment
Research Vessel**

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to also say “good afternoon” to all of the people of Arviat and all of the wonderful people of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to provide an update on my department's implementation of the Tourism Sector Development Strategy. Excuse me, Mr. Speaker, I had the wrong statement.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, I'll try this again.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to provide members with an update on our progress on the Department of Environment's new 64-foot research vessel, which was made possible through funding from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and will significantly enhance our capacity for research and development of Nunavut's coastal resources. Significant progress has been made on the vessel and we are looking forward to launching it next summer.

My department held a youth contest to unique name for the vessel. The winning entry, Nuliajuk, was put forward by 11-year-old Rudy Alaaq Angutittauruq of Gjoa Haven. At the recommendation of the Department of Environment's Elders Advisory Committee, this name was chosen from a number of promising candidates.

Nuliajuk is named after an important figure in Inuit legend that is believed by many Inuit to have nourished people for generations with the plentiful bounty of the sea. The name is a fitting symbol of the mission of new vessel, which is to build upon the Inuit tradition of knowledge and relationship with the sea to the benefit of present and future generations of Nunavutmiut.

Mr. Speaker, my department is also working with the Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association to commission artwork for the bow of the vessel by Andrew Qappik of Pangnirtung. As you can see, this is just the beginning of many positive outcomes for Nunavutmiut as a result of this new and exciting initiative. *Ma'na*, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Hon. Eva Aariak.

**Minister's Statement 201 – 3(2):
Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Mr. Speaker, even though Nunavut's breast cancer rates are relatively low compared with the rest of Canada, we would like to take advantage of this time to raise awareness and make sure that these rates stay low. As with many health issues, education and awareness can go a long way to prevent illness from developing into cancer.

Mr. Speaker, Breast Cancer Awareness Month has become well established

throughout Canada and internationally. Like millions of people across the country, I will be doing my part by wearing my pink ribbon badge throughout October, along with all members here who are wearing a pink ribbon. It would mean a lot to those affected by the disease if other Nunavummiut wear one too. It would mean a lot to those who have cancer that there are others who are aware and who care.

Mr. Speaker, in *Tamapta: Building Our Future Together*, this government committed to improving health through prevention. The Department of Health and Social Services continues to monitor breast cancer rates through their cancer registry. They also offer well woman screening at health centres, a component of which covers breast health.

Apart from that, the Qulliq Status of Women Council has received funding from the National Breast Cancer Foundation for several years now to develop comprehensive community level initiatives around awareness and support for survivors. This has included fact sheets in all four languages, shower cards, and breast self-examination kits which were sent out to all health centres.

I would like to applaud Qullit and other community initiatives that aim to raise awareness about this issue. They have shown their commitment to have a positive influence on the health of Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Premier. Ministers' Statements. Hon. Hunter Tootoo.

Minister's Statement 202 – 3(2): Interdepartmental Collaboration on Aulajaaqtut Curriculum

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning and hopefully everybody had a wonderful weekend.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to tell my colleagues about an interdepartmental collaboration between the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Social Services. The departments are working together to expand on the Aulajaaqtut health, wellness and identity curriculum for youth in grades 7 to 9.

Mr. Speaker, Aulajaaqtut for grades 10 through 12 focuses on Inuit values, setting personal goals related to values, developing and nurturing healthy relationships, and recognizing the issues related to overall personal wellness. The curriculum creates a critical understanding of Inuit identity, social history, the impact of colonialism on the Inuit, and the contribution of Inuit to northern exploration and development. Throughout the curriculum, there is a focus on leadership within the context of Inuit culture.

Mr. Speaker, working with the Department of Health and Social Services and sharing knowledge and resources will ensure that we include essential health and wellness competencies and behaviours in this important learning tool. With the expansion of this curriculum into grades 7 to 9, both our departments are committed to ensuring the most innovative and inclusive material for youth.

I would like to thank the staff at the departments of both Education and Health and Social Services for their contributions and for developing curriculum for young Nunavummiut that encourages quality of life and an understanding of themselves. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Minister's Statement 203 – 3(2):
Electronic Health Record Program**

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to provide an update on the new Electronic Health Record program in Nunavut. This program will use computers and the Internet to manage health information. Clinical reports, drug profiles, immunization information, and communicable disease information will be transferred to electronic format.

Mr. Speaker, the intent of the Electronic Health Record program is to enable those involved in the direct or indirect care of an individual access to critical information where and when it's needed. This program will allow my department to improve service delivery, direct patient care, and increase cost effectiveness. It will streamline procedures, such as patient registration, x-ray handling, workload collection and reporting, and results reporting.

Mr. Speaker, the implementation of the electronic health record system will decrease the turnaround time for reports, eliminate the need for film handing for

x-rays, and patient reports will be available to all appropriate practitioners across Nunavut, anywhere and anytime.

Mr. Speaker, the Healthtech Consultants Incorporated and the Department of Health and Social Services have been responsible for building the Nunavut Meditech system and providing on-site training and support. Our staff have already completed 30 weeks of this training. This approach has allowed our staff to continue to focus on the delivery of quality patient care and service.

Mr. Speaker, this project includes privacy and security policies that meet both national and international standards for the protection of personal health information. These policies will be in place before the program implementation. A senior health privacy officer position has been created. The information in a person's electronic health record will be secure and private, and only those who have authorization will be able to access your record.

The Department of Health and Social Services is fully committed to the implementation of the Electronic Health Record program. The first phase of this project is replacing QGH and Rankin Inlet systems with a territory-wide clinical information system, which will include clinical records for in- and outpatients. By 2013, Mr. Speaker, the Electronic Health Record program will be integrated and available in all Nunavut communities. (interpretation) Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members'

Statements. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 316 – 3(2): Community Health Committees

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am appreciative that I am able to be back in the Chamber. Both by written notices, posters, and as was mentioned by the Premier in her Minister's Statement, we have been informed that October has been designated as the Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Furthermore, during the Kivalliq mayors' conference in Rankin Inlet, Mr. Curley was attending that meeting where I spoke about the community health committees. I stated that more funding and authority were needed in order to expand their mandate. I made that statement during the meeting because they are under the hamlet auspices and are usually operated as a hamlet committee.

Perhaps if the department provided more funding to the hamlets for these programs and allocated funding for an office worker for these health committees, or even if they were provided with training funds in order to increase their capacity to meet the needs of the committee, if the health committees were operating some of these programs, Mr. Speaker, we would have more information about cancer prevention and education available in our communities, in Nunavut.

Additionally, there is a mother in Kugaaruk who related a story this fall or

summer. She was wondering how long it would take to get a test or if there was scheduled cancer screening tests in the communities. She wanted to know. She also wanted to know if there was a specific age group that was more susceptible to breast cancer or whether women of a certain age had to start getting breast cancer screening. She wondered if it meant women entering middle age had to be checked.

Mr. Speaker, as we were informed previously by the Premier in her statement, we do not have very many cases of breast cancer here in Nunavut based on the data provided. However, if the department could institute mandatory testing of women, then they could diagnose cancer at a very early stage, as some people do not know that they have cancer and we may have cases here in Nunavut.

Even though it may not be the right month for cancer awareness, everyone here has to be aware of the effects of cancer.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleagues.

At the appropriate time, I will be raising several questions to the Minister of Health and Social Services with respect

to the age groups that are most at risk, as well as what is the frequency of testing for breast cancer in women. Further, I will be asking whether we even have a screening machine here in Nunavut that is available for screening for breast cancer. I will be asking my questions at the appropriate time. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. (interpretation ends) Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Okalik.

**Member's Statement 317 – 3(2):
Cancer Awareness – Run**

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also wish to thank my colleagues. Mr. Ningark, please feel welcome in the Chamber and we are grateful to see you again back in the House.

I wish to thank the Premier for her statement regarding this issue and of residents who suffer from this disease. Indeed, although we may not have very many patients with breast cancer, we see far too many cases of other types of cancers here in Nunavut. The incidents cause many concerns to residents and it can impact almost everyone here in Nunavut. I believe that many families have already been impacted.

Here in my constituency, we have an annual run. Just last month, I partook in the breast cancer awareness and prevention run, and I would like to thank the Rankin Inlet and [Whale Cove] member who sponsored me during the run. Annually, I try to attend the races. There were not too many participants during the run for cancer awareness. I do would like to see more people take part

and participate in that run so that we can prevent ailments.

I also would like to apologize to the people as I did not take part in the run in October. I will be able to take part next year if I am in full health. I urge Nunavummiut to please go for testing and also please try and provide support for research. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 318 – 3(2): In
Support of Social Workers**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to acknowledge and pay tribute to the fine work and incredible effort made by our community social workers.

Mr. Speaker, social workers are amongst Nunavut's most important and invaluable frontline community workers. They work long, hard hours often under stressful conditions and do an excellent job. I am very grateful for the work that they do and it saddens and frustrates me to see them so overworked.

Mr. Speaker, in some cases, where communities have no social workers on the ground, a social worker from another community is asked to shoulder the additional load as well as continuing to provide services to their own assigned communities. In many cases, these individuals are not only doing social work but also the work of a probation officer.

Mr. Speaker, the High Arctic communities of my constituency have been without a full-time indeterminate social worker for too long. Currently, an agency social worker is providing short-term support. The social worker from Pond Inlet is also called upon to help out.

Mr. Speaker, the current situation is unsustainable. Asking social workers to take on additional responsibilities on top of their existing commitments is unrealistic. As we have seen, placing unrealistic demands on individuals, no matter how dedicated and committed they are, leads to further problems.

On the one hand, it may result in the fact that they cannot meet all of the demands on their time and energy. Without adequate and necessary resources, services cannot be met. Often, the caseloads are so great that there is no opportunity to check up on children in foster care, for example.

On the other hand, those frontline workers put their own health and well-being at risk. As individuals, it is unrealistic to expect them to continue to meet such a demanding workload without feeling incredible pressure.

Mr. Speaker, it is time that this government paid serious attention to what it is asking of its frontline workers. Greater effort must be made to train, recruit, and employ Nunavummiut into these critical positions. Do away with agreements that add responsibilities, such as probation duties, to the already long list of tasks and jobs required of our community social workers. Give social workers adequate support and resources so that they can address the many issues

that fall under their mandate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

**Member's Statement 319 – 3(2):
Minister Tapardjuk Absent from
House**

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you. (interpretation) I would like to say "good day" to all of the residents of Rankin Inlet. I don't have much to say, but I would just like to state that we are short a member. For your information, our colleague from Amittuq is unavailable to be at the House today. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, Mr. Kusugak.

**Member's Statement 320 – 3(2):
Constituents in Whale Cove and
Rankin Inlet**

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased that I was able to assist Mr. Okalik when he was trying to run. He was quite fleet footed and he was quite fast when he ran that run. It was very pleasing to see that. Hopefully, next year, I will be able to run against him.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about an issue that occurred this summer up until this fall. I was able to travel to Whale Cove to visit my constituents and I tried to canvas what type of concerns they had. Whale Cove, although it's a

small community, had the same interests as a lot of the larger communities, such as infrastructure and capital projects. I tried to meet some of the issues that were voiced by the residents of Whale Cove. It's quite difficult to try and meet all of their interests. I'm unfortunately unable to ask questions and only by meeting with my colleagues am I able to deal with their concerns.

It was very gratifying this summer while I was there as I was able to visit this elder. He had worked for many years in the hamlet at Whale Cove and he has not retired. He was given a set of nets, so he must be really enjoying his fall and he is no longer worried about going to work. I hope he enjoys his retirement, Mr. Ikualaaq. As I stated, he worked for many years at the Hamlet of Whale Cove.

During this session, I am unable to attend, but I have asked my Constituent Assistant, David Kritterdlik, to be available to all of the constituents and they can convey any concerns, news, or issues that they want raised. In addition, they can call my office here in Iqaluit and the same applies to Rankin Inlet South constituents. They can go to Johnny One to speak to or convey their concerns.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Have a very pleasant day.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Nattilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Member's Statement 321 – 3(2):
Appreciation for Ancestors from
Nattilik and Kinngait**

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be celebrating our past. I wish to begin by mentioning Rudy Alaaq Angutittauruq of Gjoa Haven. I am very proud of that individual. Even though he is very young, he named his daughter after a relative. I am very proud.

The reason why I want to be a proud of our ancestors is because this was a very important aspect of our history. Our parents' parents or grandparents... it goes back a couple of generations. In Taloyoak, we seem to have two types of Inuit; half of whom are from Nattilik and the other half from Cape Dorset.

The Inuit from Nattilik are traditional people from there and the people who came from Cape Dorset were dropped off by ship in the 1940s, when they couldn't land at the place they had chosen. They ended up in Taloyoak, where they have stayed since then.

I am very proud of our parents. My father was from Cape Dorset and my mother was from Nattilik. If you look at the map, Cape Dorset is quite far away to the east. If you look at Taloyoak, it is quite a fair distance from Taloyoak. The people who moved from Cape Dorset merged with the Nattilingmiut and they became one group.

My grandfather, Qavavau, and his wife, Uvilu, their many sisters, the late Joanne and Uttuqikuluk, Pauloosie Itigattaqtak Muluktoarjuk, I believe they are related, Inuusiq Napatsikallak and his wife, Susie, Simeonie, and the late Kublu have

all passed away, but they brought their children to those lands when they were shipped up by that ship. There were quite a few people who were dropped off, but they have a lot of descendants now living in Taloyoak. However, there are still two survivors of the original people who were shipped to Taloyoak.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask for unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.

Ms. Ugyuk is seeking unanimous consent to conclude her statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. You may conclude your statement, Ms. Ugyuk.

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

With regard to the people who were shipped to Taloyoak by ship, there are still two elderly survivors living in our community, Quujuk Pudlat and Pitikooti Taqtu, who is the person who now goes on CBC news. These two elders are the last survivors of people who were transported to Taloyoak by ship.

Although there are many descendants of the others, since there are now only two elders from that trip, I am very proud of them. They were originally supposed to be dropped off in Creswell Bay from Cape Dorset, but they ended up in Taloyoak.

I don't really recall Qavavau, my great-grandfather, because I was born when he was getting old and he passed away shortly thereafter. However, I want to express my pride since he was able to survive after being shipped over to Taloyoak. He volunteered to go on that

trip and ended up here. He got on the ship and I am proud that they survived the journey to Creswell Bay, although they ended up here.

My father used to tell stories about that era that if our ancestors hadn't worked hard to survive or to go to new places, many of us modern Inuit would not be here. If our parents had not survived, neither would we be able to be here. My parents came from those families and I am very proud of my great-grandfather.

Secondly, I am very thankful to the people originally from Nattilik because they embraced these Cape Dorset Inuit into their arms. My maternal great-grandmother, Uquqtuuq and Arnangujaq, Kuvalaaq, Unalirjuaq, Qimmitsiaq, Arnaqquq, Matniq, Niviuvak, Uhuliq, Haqittaaq, Anaijjaq, Qaunnuaq, Iglujjuaq, Kakkiarniut, Hallarina, Arnatsiaq, one of her children was one of the pages here in the House, Uqutturnuaq, Nalijjuk, Nalijjuk had a husband whose name was Inugalurjuk, there was also Kajuqtuq, Aapituq, Ugyuk, Tagvik, my in-law's parents, Hivuraq, Kajjurjuk, Ivraq, Aggiaq, Itinnguaq, and Agguaq.

There are names of many people I haven't mentioned, but these were the main families from the Nattilik area, and they are both my grandmothers and grandfathers relatives. I have provided a quick list and there are a lot of people I haven't mentioned, but I am proud of each and every one of them because a lot of their descendants now comprise the population in Taloyoak. They were so hospitable and welcoming to my great-grandparents, Qavavau, so I thank you for that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. (interpretation ends) Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 463 – 3(2): Support for Social Workers

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Social Services.

Earlier today, I spoke of the need for adequate support for social services in our communities. The High Arctic communities in my constituency have been without a full-time social worker for a very long time. Can the minister provide an update on what is being done to address this critical need and when he anticipates filling the social workers positions for Quttiktuq communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank you for continually raising that question. I was just up there earlier this spring in April. I did invite the MLA and the community to hear what the issue was about. Unfortunately the MLA I invited could not be there and I don't know why.

I just met with Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord communities and the health committees within those communities.

They explained the issues in that riding and they said that they are trying to get space. There are 46 Inuit positions, 45 indeterminate positions, and 10 casual positions.

I know that they are in need of a social worker in their communities, but since last summer to this summer, we have been trying to get a social worker in that position. I know it is a slow process, but we are not getting positions filled as fast as we would like to. I'll be able to provide an update on which community would be going first once I get more information about the situation. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I heard the minister say that he was taking it as notice, just for clarification. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. I don't believe I heard the minister taking it as notice, so if you can you clarify that, minister.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Mr. Speaker, I know it's a translation difficulty. What I said in my Inuktitut language is if I have more information, I will be prepared to provide more information that is specific to communities because there are number of communities involved.

One may be at a High Arctic community. Earlier this year, when I went up, early in springtime, there was one social worker who was visiting from Arctic Bay. So I need to check upon exact progress and provide more information as to which community is

now slated for a next appointment.
Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for clarifying that. I thank the minister for coming up to the High Arctic to visit and I was unfortunately not able to go.

I think, as the minister starts coming to visit the High Arctic a bit more, he will come to realize the hardship we have in terms of travelling because I was told by his department on Friday that if I had made it to Pond Inlet by Sunday, I could travel with him. Realistically, I need at least a week to travel to Pond Inlet. So I'm sure, as he travels more in the High Arctic communities, he will realize how hard it is, the mobility for the people within my communities, and I know that is one thing we continue to keep pushing for.

So my next question is: can the minister describe what is currently being done to ensure that social services are being provided to the three communities in my constituency of Quttiktuq? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to thank the member for updating me on the hardships of travel. I have been travelling around the Arctic for the last 40 years; I know quite well how difficult it is. I think, from when I started many years ago, it has improved quite a bit, but still we need to do a bit more to

make it particularly affordable for Nunavutmiut to move around.

We are committed to fully staffing all of the positions that we have, but it takes time, particularly in Nunavut, to fill these positions. We don't actually have a degree program at the moment in Arctic College, but we do have some other programs that enable them to get experienced enough to lead them into a degree program with the help of our partners outside the territory. We are doing as much as we can in advertising positions.

I will be happy to provide the member with more information as we make progress towards a number of communities that are served.
(interpretation) Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that response. Again, I tend to disagree with the minister. In Quttiktuq, with the closing of the Polaris mine and the Nanisivik mine, I think we have gone backwards in terms of mobility and travel. We have lost airline service and jetliner service, so I'll continue to push for more mobility for people in my communities.

As the minister is aware, we do not have a probation officer in Quttiktuq as there are no social workers currently assigned to the communities of Quttiktuq. Can the minister provide an update on what steps are being taken to ensure that probation services are being provided in these communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Mr. Speaker, I am not sure whether I am the right person to answer that question or not.

I have made a tentative, at least a gentleman's agreement with my colleague from the Department of Justice to start moving some of the positions to where they belong. Actually they have been carrying on the load of probation officers in some communities. Due to some of the tremendous cost pressures the government faced early in the year, we had to delay some of the transfer of positions and whatnot. But once again, if I have more information, I'll be prepared to respond.

One area of that particular role is, hopefully, that we will not see any increase in people's lives so that we don't have to make continual use of probation officers but, where it is needed, we will have to utilize the social service workers, particularly from Pond Inlet, and so on. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In each of my three previous questions, the minister said that he would be getting back to me. I was wondering if he could tell me how and when he will be getting back to me, whether it will be in a letter or a reply in the House. Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I will be prepared to do all of the venues that we have. So one is that I'll send a copy of my response to the Clerk and I will certainly make use of the electronic communications system. I am accessible through the email system, but for more formal departmental issues, I would rather sign a letter. So it will likely be a letter when I deal with the personnel issues. Thank you.

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

Question 464 – 3(2): Community Health Committees

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated earlier during Members' Statements about cancer that affects our people and when the minister was in Rankin Inlet, I spoke a bit about the Kivalliq region and the committees under the hamlets.

For example, community health committees require quite a bit more assistance and they should be given a larger mandate under the *Hamlets Act*. As we hear now, people who suffer from breast cancer do not have enough information. There should be more educational programs geared towards this sickness.

Sometimes it's very difficult to talk about illnesses, especially in the House, because there is a lot of confidentiality involved. When we talk about the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, it's hard to speak about specific individuals. Perhaps if the community health committees were given a larger role or mandate within their hamlets,

then it could be dealt with at the local level.

With education being an important part of health, I wanted to talk about this. My question to the minister is: what is the minimum age for when women should be checking themselves for breast cancer? What is the minimum age or what is the recommended age when women should be checking for breast cancer? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know my colleague is very well informed about this issue. I believe he is speaking about two issues. One deals with health committees which, I believe, were created in 1999. That is when the regional health boards were extinguished and they created the community health committees. To date, we still provide funding for them, which we have increased slightly since it was only \$10,000 per annum and was way too small. What I can tell the member is that we should be working on health issues and education programs and we have been continuing to work on it, but we haven't completed that educational program yet.

As I stated last winter, I forget where, but I informed the member that we will want to consult more with the communities as to how best we can deal with health initiatives, especially health education, to ensure that we deal with this issue before it becomes an epidemic and to look at ways to inform our Inuit. If we can look at a solution and provide a strategy, we still would have to go

through the cabinet. We are still working on all of those details.

With respect to cancer, I don't think there's a minimum age. However, if anybody feels that they may have cancer or they suspect they may be sick, then they should be going to the health centre sooner rather than later. Even if they cannot do actual breast cancer checkups, they may have to travel to Iqaluit. What we have to do is inform the people that anyone who is concerned they may have breast cancer ought to go to the health centre as soon as possible to ensure that their illness is dealt with. Thank you.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps due to the lack of funding, we may not be able to deal with that.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps the minister can research with the health official or professional because it's obvious we have a very capable medical professional who is advising the minister. I would like to know what the recommended age is for when women should be checking themselves for cancer, such as certain cancers they identify at a certain age. That's what I am trying to get at.

Perhaps as a secondary question: here in Nunavut, is there a breast cancer scanning machine or do they have to go elsewhere outside of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I cannot state what age they should be checking, especially in the House, because that sickness can strike anybody, even a very young or very old woman. There is always scanning. Sometimes there are local clinics in the communities and they have women wellness clinics that deal with the women's issues, and then they tour the communities to speak to the women who may be at risk and they have to be able to speak to people who want to get checked up. That program can be utilized a bit more.

However, anybody who suspects they may be sick due to any kind of cancer may have to leave their community, but they would have to be screened. Here, with respect to the cancer screening or best screening machines, there is one here in Iqaluit that looks primarily after the Baffin region and really assist the patients. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My supplementary question: I believe, in Kitikmeot, which is a region where I am, I would want to see a machine such as that. I hear from all over Nunavut and, Mr. Speaker, I'm not sure whether this applies, but I hear so many stories of people who have become sick from cancer and the diagnosis is usually too slow and it's usually too late for the cancer to be dealt with at that time.

I would like to see the minister encourage his officials to publish these educational programs, especially as it

relates to this cancer, and to speak about the Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The purpose is to raise awareness amongst the people, so I further urge the minister and his officials to inform Nunavummiut about breast cancer and who it could affect. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. It was more of a comment, but if you would like to respond, Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation):

Thank you. I totally understand where the member is coming from. If this were the case, it would really assist them. I will urge my officials, which I do every year, to work harder to deal with this issue. Perhaps, around the time of that month, there could be a tour to look after that. So I will further urge my officials to see how they can best deal with these issues when we're meeting with the medical team.

I know I have to put my emphasis on pre-emptive checking and again, as many people have heard, there are too many cases of people who have started suffering from cancer and they are usually not diagnosed until it is way too late. We don't want the numbers to increase, so, yes, we will try that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Curley... oh, Mr. Okalik.

>> *Laughter*

Question 465 – 3(2): Tourism Deposit Assurance Program

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I didn't know that. I have been branded a number of names and that's now the newest one.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) My question is for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation. Last Thursday, I asked the minister on a question about the Tourist Deposit Assurance Program. At that time, I pointed out that the Nunavut Tourism's website contained the information about this program. Nunavut Tourism's website told potential visitors that they are "protected under this program."

The day after I raised this issue, the information disappeared from the Nunavut Tourism's website. My question for the minister is: who ordered Nunavut Tourism to remove this information from its website and is the Nunavut Tourism Deposit Assurance Program actually in existence, yes or no? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I recall the question the member raised on Thursday. The site he had indicated was an old site and it goes back to the NWT days, the Northwest Territories. No, this department does not have an adjustment program that the member has seen previously on the old website. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister. (interpretation ends) I will, I guess, table the contents of that website which say Nunavut.

I have also visited the minister's own departmental website in light of what I have discovered and I was surprised to find that his department has produced the Nunavut Tourism Sector Development Strategy, a document that the minister has not yet tabled in our Assembly. According to the minister's own strategy, one of the government's priorities is to "work with the industry association to establish an assurance program for tourists."

Will the minister also be removing this document from his own website? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. The tourism strategy has indicated that we do have a lot of partners within that tourism strategy, the plan that we do have for the department and, in fact, we created a division within our department just for dealing with tourism and reorganizing the structure of tourism within our department to build a foundation. As you know, Nunavut has a great potential for tourism activity.

Getting back to the member's question, yes, the old website did indicate that there is an assurance program within that site, but the website also goes back into

the NWT days and some of the subfolders of the website that was missed. So I did indicate to my officials to have that subfolder removed from the old website. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) When we welcome visitors to our territory, we want to assure them that their money is well spent and that they will get value for their money that they choose to spend in our territory.

The minister's press release of October 12 announced that they had revoked a licence for an operator in our territory and that those tourists who had made plans with that outfitter were out of luck in terms of their deposit. Will the minister reconsider the issue of returning the dollars for these tourists who had no idea that there were complaints outstanding with this outfitter and that they were trying to spend their dollars in our territory but, through the minister's and the department's actions, these tourists lost their deposit?

Will the minister reconsider compensating or returning the amounts spent for the tourist operator at the earliest opportunity? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. In tourism, for the most part, tourists do actually provide their own insurance to cover any situations like

that and other potential incidents that may arise during their travels, whether it is within the nation or internationally.

As far as I know, the assurance program that the Northwest Territories had, there have been some issues that we're looking into. We don't want to fall into the same situation where it becomes a liability rather than a program that benefits both the territory and tourism people.

Now, I will definitely be getting more information on this and how that program works, although it existed in the past during the Northwest Territories' days. But for the most part, times have changed and the tourists who do come up here do actually get their own insurance for such cases like this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Up until last Friday, tourists who came to our territory thought that they were assured that their dollars were safe. So probably most tourists did not buy insurance, knowing that there was an advertisement on a website which said that Nunavut had said they were assured. Those tourists were misled.

Perhaps the minister should compensate these people who have been basically burned because they made plans to travel to our territory and spend their money in Nunavut. Will the minister reconsider his decision or the department's decision and compensate these people who have been left high and dry because of the

department's decision? (interpretation)
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. There's no specific indication to me that the tourists were left high and dry. Once I get the full details of the situation, I will re-evaluate and consider whether the assurance program would benefit the tourism operators and Nunavummiut. At this time, I have no reason to believe that the tourists were left high and dry. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 466 – 3(2): Trichinella
Testing in Coral Harbour**

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to raise a question to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

Mr. Speaker, last month, we heard on the news and I believe I read a portion there in the Member's Statement about walruses that were harvested in Sanikiluaq that had trichinosis. A number of residents got sick from eating from these animals. From what I understood, the Department of Health and Social Services spoke about how they are supposed to be responsible for sampling these animals.

Mr. Speaker, I know that a lot of walruses are consumed by the people of Coral Harbour because there are a lot of

walruses around the vicinity. Based on what we have been led to understand for Coral Harbour, I believe the wildlife officer will be hired next year. I was also led to understand that there are sampling kits available in Coral Harbour and that there are trained individuals in Coral Harbour who can sample the walruses.

Based on this concern, I would like to ask the minister whether they could consider having the sampling proceed once the wildlife officer has been hired in Coral Harbour. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I totally understand what he is referring to. We are aware that over the summer, they also wanted more sampling in Sanikiluaq, especially after the incident with the hunters this summer who got sick.

It seems that we are witnessing more cases of sick animals or ones with transferable diseases and it seems to be occurring with more frequency. I wish to inform our colleague who raised that issue that I have been discussing these issues with my fellow minister and we debated on the best course of action to mitigate these concerns and to ensure the safety of our residents.

Most of the samples that are sent down to laboratories usually go via the wildlife offices. We wish to work towards establishing a sampling laboratory here in Nunavut. We have never had a real sampling laboratory in Nunavut, although Rankin Inlet's facilities were

suspected of having that capacity by the previous member from Repulse Bay last year. He raised his questions about wildlife sampling and I dealt with the questions posed by that previous member at that time. However, there haven't been enough qualified trained technicians, including nurses, to assist in the laboratories and sampling and we have never been able to fill it.

I will have to collaborate with my colleague, the Minister of Environment, on this issue whereupon we will make a statement on our chosen course of action. We are still in the initial discussions. Nonetheless, we understand the concerns of our residents with respect to this issue and we are concerned about this matter as well.

Currently all samples of suspected cases of trichinosis are sent to Kuujuaq in Northern Quebec, where they have an existing sampling laboratory. We are in dire need of a laboratory here in Nunavut, but there are many issues to contemplate. Based on the changes to the situation and our determined course of action, I will keep the House informed about this matter. Thank you.

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

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am also thankful that they seem to already be working towards dealing with this matter.

Just recently, they started a scheduled flight to Coral Harbour from Baffin Island. If you look at the map, Coral Harbour is pretty much right in the middle of the territory. Could they

consider Coral Harbour as one of the sites? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Exactly and personally, that would be the best case scenario because the hospital here in Iqaluit is almost fully equipped to handle sampling. If we were able to establish one here, then this would be the easiest route. The flight schedules in the Baffin region mean that there are almost daily flights into Iqaluit, so that would be quite possible to accomplish.

I will commit to continue discussions with my colleague, the Minister of Environment. As a matter of fact, last week, my colleague came to my office to discuss questions he had been asked after one of the regional wildlife organizations had a meeting. We hope that we will have some news as just recently in our department, I tasked my officials to provide options and solutions to this issue. At this time, I have yet to receive an update.

However, this is a very serious matter that we are dealing with as we do not want our walrus hunters to be in jeopardy. I also eat walrus meat myself, including raw meat. Due to this reason, I will ensure that this continues to be a high priority in our department since it is becoming an urgent matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. (interpretation ends) Oral Questions. Member for Natilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

Question 467 – 3(2): Information on Cancer Types in Nunavut

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regard to breast cancer, we have recognized that people who undergo breast cancer experience a lot of stress and require assistance when they are going through that. Now, I would like to ask a question to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

With Nunavut having an approximate population of 30,000, I am not sure of the exact number of our population, especially elders in Nunavut. What is the ratio of people who get sick? What types of illnesses do they suffer, such as lung cancer, liver cancer, and blood illnesses? Can the minister provide any kind of details about the kind of illnesses that we have? We would like to know which illnesses are more prevalent. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do understand the member's question, but with regard to that kind of information from the department, I'll have to check into that and I'll have to check to see if there are any reports. I'll have to also find out if those kinds of details are available in our reports.

What I can tell the member is that in relation to women who undergo breast cancer in all of Canada, Nunavut has the lowest cases of breast cancer. In terms of Canada-wide statistics, Nunavut is not suffering from that. It could be partially based on our health and nutrition, but

that's something that I'll have to ask Health Canada.

With regard to the actual question, I do not have the details and I'll have to check with my officials to see if this information is available, but I cannot respond to your question at this time. Thank you.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): At least we have been informed that Nunavut has the lowest incidences of breast cancer. However, what I was trying to ask about is, every year, people are starting to get cancer irrespective of whether it's lung cancer or breast cancer. I would like to know how we can better screen for cancer and that is my follow-up question.

For example, the old DEW line sites could be causing part of the problem and they could be polluting part of our wildlife. In a lot of communities, wildlife is impacted by these oil development sites. We are still very concerned about the pollutants that could stem from these old polluted sites. We are very concerned about these, so that's my next question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now that I understand her question, what I can state is that this is an issue that we are dealing with on an almost daily basis, with news releases as well as working with our

aboriginal partners on public health issues, especially when dealing with public information issuances.

We work with the Aboriginal Healing Foundation and other agencies on public health issues, such as the anti-smoking campaign. The importance of this preventative measure is that by pushing anti-smoking campaigns, we can lower the incidence of cancer amongst our residents.

Furthermore, people who buy cigarette packs are faced with warnings that smokers may suffer from lung cancer. This, in itself, is a powerful tool to keep people from smoking. If we want to lower the incidence of lung cancer patients in our territory, then we should be encouraging our residents to quit smoking. I am glad that quite a number people are able to quit and I am grateful for their choices.

Additionally with regard to some of the issues you raised pertaining to work environmental hazards or other dangers to our people, it took quite a while to determine the exact causes, especially when you talk about aerated environments. In some cases, it was caused by the dangerous work environments. We now have a multitude of information about workplace hazards. We also have information pertaining to various substances that inform our people about dangers of the workplace.

To reiterate, we will continue to try and improve education amongst our residents because we do not want them exposed to these types of hazardous situations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you for that adequate response. Another thing I want to understand is that many people are sometimes said to be in remission. Are people who are in remission provided more support and assistance to ensure that they remain in remission? What kind of service is available for those people who may be in remission? For example, if I pass a certain stage and I feel better, what kind of assistance would I be provided if I was a patient who happened to be in remission? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In talking about our health practitioners in the communities, many of our nurses are working diligently to deal with the many health issues and patients. We have to ensure that we keep communicating with the local nurses, as well as providing public health information notices. Many of our community health representatives receive this information, so our residents should be requesting the information from them.

However, with respect to your question about remission cases, if a patient has entered remission or if they suspect that they are in remission, then they should be checked. What I'm trying to say is that in the communities, we already have existing community health representatives who these patients can approach. Furthermore, we have to communicate with these workers on the

frontlines, including the public health officials, if available.

If there's a public health representative, the patients should be approaching them to get the information that is already available on various diseases or sicknesses. The CHRs usually have a multitude of information on various illnesses, including specific sicknesses. The information is also available for taking home for perusal. That is what I can inform the member about.

We also have a number of associations that deal with aboriginal health issues. When you include all of the initiatives of these parties, we have provided more services to Nunavummiut. However, in Nunavut, we continue to face barriers, such as the high costs of shipping, and it's very expensive to ensure that information is made available to all of the communities.

However, our department is focussing on prevention by educating the public about health as this is the most cost-effective means of assisting our residents. If they have to go elsewhere to get the information, then they have options as there is quite a lot of information available that patients can research. If they are unable to research the disease, they should at least be asking questions to the medical practitioners on alternatives or options in their treatment.

I further urge all residents, where they have a community health representative, to approach them for this information and they can request this information if it is not available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 468 – 3(2): Nunavut's Suicide Prevention Strategy

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

Mr. Speaker, the minister recently had the privilege of attending QIA's annual general meeting where he was asked about delays in the introduction of the Government of Nunavut's Suicide Prevention Strategy. The media quotes the minister as replying, "It is because I wanted to make changes."

Can the minister clarify what he meant by this comment? Is the delay in introducing the Suicide Prevention Strategy due to the fact that the minister wants to make changes himself or are changes being suggested by representatives of his department? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the member for that very important question. Before submitting the final document, the minister certainly has the responsibility to whether or not there is further work needed to be done.

There was one that I did find this summer that I felt the draft that was presented required more clear provisions to go directly to the homes of

Nunavutmiut. I believe it is important to have a strategy that includes families, that includes discussion within the family, rather than just the interest groups out there and our partners in the suicide prevention work.

My contribution to that was, “Could we at least ensure that the Nunavutmiut private homes are given an opportunity to take part in this exercise?” That was the only contribution that I made and to date, I think we have made a progress on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Representatives from NTI, the Embrace Life Council, and the GN consulted with every community across Nunavut to get input on the proposed Suicide Prevention Strategy. It is quite clear that the consultation process fully respected and incorporated *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* at every step of the way. Can the minister explain why he feels it necessary to make changes to the Suicide Prevention Strategy at this stage? Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I am not at all suggesting that it's a shortcut for anyone to say, “IQ is included in that,” but if you don't define it and if you don't stipulate exactly what you mean by IQ, it does not mean anything. I'm an Inuk. I understand it fully.

I'm not 100 percent sure that the member from the other side fully

understand how complex IQ means when it's just two letters included, when, in fact, it should include providing information to families. It's quite important that discussion takes place at home in order to save lives of our young people, and so on. I think we have made progress in that.

The document I submitted has now been approved by the cabinet and will be tabled, perhaps, during this session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I never actually said or was saying that I was an expert in *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit*, but to me, I would hope that the people who were consulted in every community who were Inuk would have that insight.

It continues on with the whole debate that we have been having in the High Arctic about the Government of Nunavut and also the Government of Canada in terms of meaningful consultation. To me, I thought the process was excellent in terms of being meaningful because it went to every community. It had NTI, the Embrace Life Council, and also the GN on side and working together.

I just wondered, after all of that consultation, going to every community, talking to every community, getting input from every community, and having input from all of those organizations, why things still needed to be changed. In terms of once you do the consultation, why does the government still have to make changes after it has already consulted with everybody?

Again, representation within the community, I may not be Inuk, but representation in all three of my communities is the majority being Inuk. Again I just wonder why the consultation is not being meaningful. That was the question I was asking and I don't think the minister answered it. Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No one disagrees with a need for suicide prevention. If the member is appearing to try and suggest that I disagree, that's totally unacceptable.

I think the document, as presented, has improved. Consultations are not normally drafting policy documents for the cabinet. They are creating a discussion document in order to put forward a final policy document. Out of that discussion and consultation comes a very shorter version of statement of principles and the need to do continuing actual community-by-community implementation of the plan. That has taken place.

No organization has the authority to actually develop a final document and call it a strategy. That goes to the policy divisions of each department. From there, it goes to another level of the department, executive as well as the departments, and then the department submits it to the cabinet from there. My colleagues have been quite respectful of that document and it's now ready for implementation. I think it strengthened the original discussion document, actually. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that response. I know the minister had answered one of the other questions I was going to be asking in terms of when the document would be tabled, and he said that hopefully within this session, but he wasn't sure. So that answers that.

He also talked about implementation. I'm just wondering if he could tell us when he feels that would be implemented. I know, in terms of the way that the GN works, we will be doing our main estimates where they have the business plans included probably in January. I'm sure that all of the GN departments have been working on their business plans for next year. Are we looking at a year delay in terms of the implementation of the Suicide Prevention Strategy because it hasn't been tabled yet and it hasn't been before all of the departments? Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the member should fully understand that there have been ongoing discussions and work being done by the various partner groups that we have in Nunavut, some of which we call healing groups, and so on, and Ilisaqsivik Society, who does a lot of consultation work, carries on.

There has been tremendous assistance that we have received from our group of partners in communities. I know that some communities are much stronger in providing that service. GN is only one

component of all of the work that is being carried out. We will implement the policies, even with the current funds that we have towards the healing and funding groups that we have. To what level, I'll be prepared to answer that, but it certainly will increase after the next fiscal spending.

But the most important thing is that document is ready for the department and now it has the authority received from the cabinet to proceed with it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 469 – 3(2): Enforcement of the Government of Nunavut Motor Vehicle Policy

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

Many residents in my constituency have come to me with concerns about the government's Motor Vehicle Policy, which prohibits the use of government vehicles by GN staff for their personal use. Can the minister explain how the government enforces this policy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll have to look into how they enforce the vehicle policy as there are many vehicles out there within the government for many different purposes. Some of them are used by employees

who are on call and by such, need the vehicle with them. Some of them are in the emergency services department. So it depends on which vehicle and what they are being used for, but I definitely will look into it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate to me if any GN employees have actually been disciplined for breaching this policy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Member. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Not that I'm aware of, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I took a look at the website for the Department of Community and Government Services this morning, which is where I found a copy of the GN's Motor Vehicle Policy. However, the policy document is clearly out of date as it still refers to the "Department of Public Works and Services." Will the minister commit to tabling an updated policy in the Legislative Assembly at our winter sitting, yes or no?

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll take a look at where we are on the policy and at an appropriate time, if the member from across there would

like me to table it, I will see if it could be tabled. I can't commit to which sitting it will be at, but we will table one at an appropriate time once we have a new policy in place. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. CG&S is also responsible for the monitoring of hamlet issues. Are the hamlets in Nunavut following the government policy on motor vehicles? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The municipalities have their own by-laws. My colleague was a mayor of the fine community of Cape Dorset. The municipalities have their own policies and procedures in terms of how their property is to be used, so they conduct their own business and they follow their own procedures in terms of municipal equipment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 470 – 3(2): Review of the Nunavut Housing Trust

Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

It's the start of a new week, so I'm going to attempt to lift some more rocks today

in hopes that I get a clear answer and not simply a response.

Last week, I asked the minister how much the GN or the Nunavut Housing Corporation had paid the accounting firm of Deloitte and Touche for the report that it submitted on the Nunavut Housing Trust.

Now that the minister has had the weekend to locate this information, I would like to again ask the minister: how much did the GN or the Nunavut Housing Corporation pay the accounting firm Deloitte and Touche for the report it submitted on the Nunavut Housing Trust? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Hon. Tagak Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I would like answer that question in a factual manner. There were actually two reports that were conducted and I don't have the details with me today, but I certainly will have it by tomorrow. That I can say to the member. So I will be glad to table that question tomorrow. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When I was reading the report, I noted that the firm also indicated, and I quote, "Further, our [work] cannot be used to provide assurance that it revealed all errors, omissions, or irregularities."

Mr. Speaker, this government talks about accountability. Nunavummiut are

entitled to hear all information regarding this \$60 million over-expenditure by the Nunavut Housing Corporation. The minister appears adamant that we accept the report, stop asking questions, forget about the issue, and move on. I want to remind the minister that Nunavummiut are adamant that this issue be dealt with thoroughly.

Given the magnitude of this issue, the fact that the Nunavut Housing Corporation finds itself needing a further \$50 million and given that the minister appears reluctant to support holding a public inquiry, my question is this: will the minister initiate an independent forensic audit concerning the Nunavut Housing Trust, yes or no? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think this government has been fair, open, and transparent on the issue with respect to the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

We discovered the flawed budgeting process that led to... . Some of the investments that were made, in my view, should not have been made, which led to the tremendous cost overruns in the first place, without having a detailed budget, as well, without taking into consideration the tremendous cost escalators that were going on during the last three years that we have seen. These certainly were not reflected in the budgeting process by the previous administration.

We are not responsible, actually, ourselves, for these costs. We inherited

those costs. Nothing much we can do even if we tried, but what we did do was a new management team discovered that there were flaws in that budget and that report, with the help of the MLAs and the public, that a proper independent audit be done. An independent audit has been conducted, which many members on the other side thought would have led to further investigation required, whether a forensic audit is required or not.

We cannot just go in and have a forensic audit without any evidence, really, for going into it. We're just going to be incurring additional costs, really, without.... If there is any evidence that should lead to the forensic audit, I would like the member to name one or two. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want everyone listening to understand that I am not asking these questions for the sake of getting on camera, I hate cameras, or as a publicity stunt. I am simply conveying the message that many ordinary Nunavummiut have told me: they believe that there is more going on here than meets the eye.

The minister wants us to forget about this issue, but we will not.

What steps is the minister prepared to take to clear the air and begin the process of restoring trust in the corporation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the member has any evidence that I am personally trying to ask my colleagues to forget about this issue, I would like for him to state so rather than just making a broad statement that we are trying to hide evidence for not proceeding with any further inquiry, if needed. I want the member to help us.

If there is any other evidence that requires, not just the government's side, even maybe asking other agencies to look into any evidence of wrongdoing by the previous administration of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, we would not hesitate to do so. My colleague from the Department of Justice is ready to do so if there is any evidence.

To date, we have not seen a reason to proceed with that, but if there is any evidence that we find that we must proceed with further investigation, that's an option the government has to date. Even the Minister of Finance and our leader have stated that we would not hesitate to move to that direction. We are not attempting to hide anything.

Nunavutmiut need those units, Nunavutmiut need homes, and the only reason that we will continue to implement the building and continue to finish these units are Nunavutmiut. Even in your own riding, they need these homes and we are going to make sure that we complete them, despite the problems that we have seen with the previous administration. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the Legislative Assembly have repeatedly stressed the need for the former president of the Nunavut Housing Corporation to be interviewed as part of this process given that he was in charge when the major decisions were made. Why is the minister so reluctant to have even perhaps the accounting firm go back and do this?

Based on the information that I stressed on earlier, we have learned that we have gone only part of the way. I'm trying to stress that we need to go all the way with this, without me having to attempt to name names from across the House here. I would like to ask the minister once again: why are you so reluctant, minister, to have this accounting firm go back and do this for the sake of clarification for all Nunavummiut to finally, once and for all, whether they find good things in it or maybe practices that were rendered?

Mr. Speaker, I just cannot understand why there would be a reluctance to go all the way with this. Are we fearful that just because it's going to cost more money now that we cannot go back and clear the air once and for all? It's going to keep lingering on. So what is the reason for not wanting to proceed with this? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure which question to respond to or answer; it wasn't all that clear.

This Assembly certainly has the authority and discretion to invite any individual and invite them to the witness stand whenever they wish. Any further work that the cabinet members or myself, as the minister responsible, if we find any reason that the auditors have not completed the work, we don't do so. Normally the auditors of any kind don't go on a witch hunt. And I believe that's what they were trying to prevent, that they didn't go.

They asked the current administration of the Nunavut Housing Corporation the right questions and they concluded, to the best of their abilities, yes, there may have been budgeting problems, but by and large, whether or not there was misappropriation of funds, they did not conclude that. If there's evidence that the member can provide that there are maybe suspects in that regard, we would like to hear from any citizen or any individual to that regard.

I believe we are not finished with that work yet. I understand one of my colleagues has tabled three documents, including the audit and including two other documents, before this House. It's up to the member who has a question to schedule these items to the Committee of the Whole, and we will be prepared to continue to further respond to the questions asked by any Members of this House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 219 – 3(2): Pension Administration Report – Retiring Allowances Act and Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act, Nunavut Legislative Assembly

Tabled Document 220 – 3(2): Report on the Payment of Indemnities, Allowances and Expenses to the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Tabled Document 221 – 3(2): Record of Members' Absences from Sittings of the House and Meetings of Committees and Caucuses to the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Tabled Document 222 – 3(2): Legislative Assembly Retiring Allowances Fund Iqaluit, Nunavut Financial Statements March 31, 2010

Tabled Document 223 – 3(2): Legislative Assembly Supplementary Retiring Allowances Fund Iqaluit, Nunavut Financial Statements March 31, 2010

Thank you, Members. I have a number of items to table today.

The first item, as required by the *Legislative Assembly Retiring Allowances Act* and the *Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act*, is the 2009-2010 Annual Administration Report of the Retiring Allowances and Supplementary Allowances Funds.

The second item is the 2009-2010 Annual Report of Members' Indemnities, Allowances and Expenses.

The third item is the 2010 Record of Members' Absences from Sittings of the House and Meetings of Committees and Caucuses.

The fourth item, as required by the *Legislative Assembly Retiring Allowances Act*, are the audited financial statements of the Retiring Allowances Fund for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2010.

The fifth item, as required by the *Legislative Assembly Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act*, are the audited financial statements of the Supplementary Retiring Allowances Fund for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2010. Thank you.

Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. Elliott.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Motion 027 – 3(2): Referral of Tabled Documents 207 – 3(2), 209 – 3(2), 210 – 3(2), and 212 – 3(2) to the Committee of the Whole – Notice

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Further to Minister Curley's comments earlier regarding the Nunavut Housing Trust and having the regular members continue to ask questions, we will oblige him.

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, October 27, 2010, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Nanulik, that Tabled Document 207 – 3(2), *Nunavut Housing Corporation Contracting Report for the Year Ending March 31, 2009*; Tabled Document 209 – 3(2), *Statement of Expenditures for the Nunavut Housing Trust, April 1, 2006 to February 28, 2010*; Tabled Document 210 – 3(2), *Review of the Nunavut Housing Trust*; and Tabled Document 212 – 3(2), *Nunavut Housing Trust Project Status Summary*, be referred to the Committee of the Whole for concurrent consideration.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Notices of Motions. Mr. Elliott.

Motion 028 – 3(2): Establishment of an Electoral Boundaries Commission – Notice

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, October 27, 2010, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit Centre, that an Electoral Boundaries Commission be established as of October 25, 2010.

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

Speaker: Thank you, Member. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Elliott.

Item 16: Motions

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. The member is seeking unanimous consent to deal with his motion today concerning the Electoral Boundaries Commission. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Elliott.

Motion 028 – 3(2): Establishment of an Electoral Boundaries Commission

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, colleagues.

WHEREAS subsection 15(3) of the *Nunavut Elections Act* provides that the Chief Electoral Officer shall, no later than the 90th day after each general election, prepare a report certifying whether a constituency requires the adjustment of the boundaries of constituencies and inform the Speaker if there is a need to establish an Electoral Boundaries Commission;

AND WHEREAS the report of the Chief Electoral Officer under this section was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on March 17, 2009;

AND WHEREAS there is a need to establish an Electoral Boundaries Commission;

AND WHEREAS this need requires that the boundaries of all constituencies in Nunavut be examined;

AND WHEREAS the Electoral Boundaries Commission is responsible for proposing to the Legislative

Assembly the boundaries and names of the constituencies in Nunavut;

AND WHEREAS the Electoral Boundaries Commission shall hold public hearings to receive representations from interested persons before making its report;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly is prepared to recommend appointments to the commission;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit Centre, that an Electoral Boundaries Commission be established as of October 25, 2010;

AND FURTHER I MOVE that the Legislative Assembly recommends the appointments of the Hon. Justice J. Edward Richard, Mr. Kirt Ejesiak, and Mr. Gordon Main as members of the commission;

AND FURTHER I MOVE that the Legislative Assembly recommends the appointment of the Hon. Justice J. Edward Richard as presiding member of the commission;

AND FURTHER I MOVE that the Legislative Assembly confirms its expectation that the Electoral Boundaries Commission will examine the boundaries of all constituencies in Nunavut.

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour, raise your hand. Opposed. The motion is carried.

I would like to congratulate Mr. Kirt Ejesiak, who is sitting in the Chambers today.

>>Applause

Congratulations!

Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills.
Hon. Keith Peterson.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

Bill 44 – An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act – First Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 44, *An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour, raise your hand, please. Opposed. The motion is carried.

First Reading of Bills. Hon. Keith Peterson.

Bill 45 – An Act to Amend the Labour Standards Act (Minimum Wage) – First Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 45, *An Act to Amend the Labour Standards Act (Minimum Wage)*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour,

raise your hand, please. Opposed. The motion is carried.

First Reading of Bills. Hon. Keith Peterson.

Bill 46 – An Act to Amend the Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Act – First Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 46, *An Act to Amend the Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour, raise your hand, please. Opposed. The motion is carried.

First Reading of Bills. Hon. Keith Peterson.

Bill 47 – International Interests in Mobile Aircraft Equipment Act – First Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 47, *International Interests in Mobile Aircraft Equipment Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour, raise your hand. Opposed. The motion is carried.

First Reading of Bills. Hon. Keith Peterson.

**Bill 48 – Miscellaneous Statutes
Amendment Act, 2010, No. 3 –
First Reading**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 48, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2010, No. 3*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour, raise your hand. Opposed. The motion is carried.

First Reading of Bills. Hon. Peter Taptuna.

**Bill 49 – Agricultural Products
Marketing Act, Repeal – First
Reading**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member of Arviat, that Bill 49, *Agricultural Products Marketing Act, Repeal*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour, raise your hand. Opposed. The motion is carried.

First Reading of Bills. Hon. Keith Peterson.

**Bill 50 – Nunavut Outfitter Liability
Protection Fund Act, Repeal –
First Reading**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I promise this is my last time today.

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 50, *Nunavut Outfitter Liability Protection Fund Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour, raise your hand. Opposed. The motion is carried.

First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 38, 39, 40, and 41 with Mr. Ningeongan 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 15:23 and
Committee resumed at 15:54*

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

Chairman (Mr. Ningeongan) (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bills 38, 39, 40, and 41. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to continue with Bill 38 and the Department of Environment, followed by the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. If time permits, we

would commence the review of the Department of Justice and the Nunavut Arctic College, followed by the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt, and by the way, happy birthday.

>>*Applause*

Do members agree that we proceed with the capital estimates for the Department of Environment?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Bill 38 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,
2011-2012 – Environment –
Consideration in Committee**

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) I would now like to ask Minister Shewchuk, responsible for the Department of Environment, to make his opening remarks. Mr. Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: *Ma'na*, Mr. Chairman and members. I am pleased to be here today before the Committee of the Whole to present my department's capital plan for the 2011-12 fiscal year.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Environment's proposed capital budget for 2011-12 is \$4.02 million. The capital projects for the 2011-12 fiscal year focus on four program areas, namely: Wildlife Management, Environmental Protection, Parks and Special Places, and Fisheries and Sealing.

Wildlife Management:

Mr. Chairman, a substantial portion of our proposed 2011-12 capital budget,

\$2,785,000, will be spent by the Wildlife Management Division. Some of our wildlife offices require major renovations or even replacement.

Therefore, we plan to construct a new wildlife office in Coral Harbour, start the planning for the construction of a wildlife office replacement in Pangnirtung, renovate some of our wildlife offices in various communities, as well as replacing some of our aging wildlife mobile equipments.

**Fisheries and Sealing and
Environmental Protection:**

Mr. Chairman, in the 2011-12 fiscal year, my department plans to spend approximately seventy thousand dollars of our proposed capital budget in the Fisheries and Sealing and Environmental Protection divisions. This is necessary to purchase mobile equipment, such as ski-doods and ATVs, for the two divisions. The purchase of the mobile equipment is necessary to meet our legal obligations and also respond to various calls relating to our mandates on fisheries and sealing and environmental protection.

Parks and Special Places:

Mr. Chairman, my department's 2011-12 capital estimates also include a variety of parks projects across the territory. Territorial parks play a crucial role in the protection and promotion of Nunavut's outstanding natural and cultural heritage. Territorial parks support positive recreation and tourism experiences that help Nunavut communities. Therefore, it is vital for us to ensure that our parks meet the needs of Nunavutmiut and visitors to Nunavut.

In the 2011-12 fiscal year, we plan to spend \$1,165,000 in various parks projects throughout Nunavut. We will continue planning for the Back River to become an addition to Nunavut's Canadian Heritage River System and we will study the potential for new parks at Axel Heiberg in the High Arctic and near Arviat and near Sanikiluaq.

With regard to the proposed Sylvia Grinnell Bridge, given the substantial increase in the projected costs, the GN has made the decision to put the project on hold for the time being. The project will remain open and will be reviewed in the future as other opportunities and partnerships emerge.

We will continue on our ongoing operational upgrades in the parks in various communities, including:

- the fabrication and construction of a site trail, installation of safety guard rails and interpretive signage at Bloody Falls/Kugluk Park in Kugluktuk,
- the design and installation of boardwalks/trails at Mallikjuaq Park in Cape Dorset,
- the development of the Itijjagiq Trail at Katannilik Park in Kimmirut, and
- the fabrication and installation of interpretive signs and other capital requirements at other parks across Nunavut.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Environment's capital plan is centred on Nunavutmiut and Nunavut communities and focused in the areas that clearly

support the needs and priorities of the government as set out in *Tamapta*. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

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

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

(interpretation ends) Thank you. Minister Shewchuk, please introduce your witnesses.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to introduce to you and the members, on my left, David Akeeagok, I hope I'm getting to pronounce that properly now, the Deputy Minister of Environment, and on my right is David Monteith, the Director of Parks. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Welcome. Does the Chair of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development have comments? Please proceed, Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to welcome the minister and his officials here today. I would like to thank the Chairman for

wishing me a happy birthday. I'm just happy he didn't sing it; he doesn't sing too well.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the Department of Environment's proposed 2011-12 capital estimates. Members note that the department's proposed capital budget for 2011-12 is \$4,020,000. The department's capital budget for 2010-11 was \$2,160,000 and its capital budget was \$1,685,000 in the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

Mr. Chairman, the department's 2008-09 capital estimates included \$600,000 in funding for the Kugaaruk Park Development project. A further \$100,000 was allocated for this project in 2009-2010. There is no funding allocated for this project in the proposed 2011-12 capital estimates.

During the minister's recent appearance before the standing committee, members were advised that the \$100,000 that was budgeted in the 2009-2010 fiscal year was spent on two studies towards the Kugaaruk Park Development project. While members are supportive of this project, they recognize that a number of issues need to be resolved before park development can continue. Members have been advised by the minister that further consultations and work will occur with respect to such issues as land tenure and mineral prospecting in the area. Members look forward to receiving ongoing updates on this project.

Mr. Chairman, the department's proposed 2011-12 capital estimates includes \$1,865,000 in funding for the replacement of the wildlife office in Coral Harbour. The department's five-year capital plan indicates that wildlife offices in Pangnirtung, Repulse Bay, and Resolute Bay will be replaced in coming years.

The department's 2011-12 capital estimates proposes \$500,000 in funding for renovations and repairs to wildlife offices and research facilities across the territory.

The department's proposed 2011-12 capital estimates includes \$1.2 million in funding for small capital projects. These projects focus on the replacement of mobile equipment and the development of infrastructure in territorial parks. Members generally support improvements to Nunavut's territorial parks and look forward to progress also being made with respect to the development and implementation of management plans for our heritage rivers, such as the Thelon and Kazan. Members also support the work being done towards the Axel Heiberg Fossil Forest Territorial Park and look forward to progress on this project.

On February 8, 2008, a federal-territorial news release announced that the Government of Canada would invest approximately \$1.6 million in the Sylvia Grinnell Bridge project. It also announced that "Indian and Northern Affairs Canada will contribute \$838,669 as part of the Strategic Investments in Northern Economic Development initiative, and the Department of National Defence will contribute over \$800,000 to design and construct the

bridge and manage the project through the Bridges for Canada program.”

During the minister’s recent appearance before the standing committee, members were advised that the Department of National Defence will no longer be funding this project but that the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs will continue to provide \$800,000 in funding towards this project. Members were also advised that the department will revisit the scope of this project and that the estimated total cost of this project will be approximately \$4.1 million. The standing committee encourages the minister to provide ongoing updates to the Legislative Assembly on the status of this project, including the department’s efforts to obtain [additional] third party funding for it.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to recognize that the minister did give us an update in his opening comments and already had these prepared. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman, on March 6 of 2008, the Minister of Environment made a statement in the Legislative Assembly concerning the GN’s plans to establish a recycling program. The department’s five-year capital plan included a project to purchase recycling equipment and establish recycling depots. A total of \$900,000 was projected to be spent in 2010-11 and 2011-12. The Minister’s Statement of March 6, 2008 also indicated that the government would work towards introducing “new legislation to give the GN the authorities it needs for the reduction, reuse, recovery, and recycling of solid waste.”

On September 23 of this year, the GN issued a news release which stated that the GN “completed the pilot beverage container recycling programs which operated in Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, and Kugluktuk. An independent evaluation of the projects indicated recycling would not present a cost-effective means of addressing waste-management concerns.”

While members were disappointed to hear this announcement, members note that the news release also stated that “The Department of Environment and the Department of Community and Government Services (CGS) are working together to examine Nunavut’s solid waste management practices as a whole. CGS will take the lead on establishing a Nunavut-Wide Solid Waste Strategy which will involve a comprehensive review of the current state of solid waste management in the territory.

The strategy will examine a number of options for solid waste management for the territory, including recycling, incineration, gasification.”

The standing committee was pleased to note that both departments are working together on solid waste management and look forward to ongoing updates on this important issue. This is a comment that I also made in my opening comments on the 2011-12 Capital Estimates of the Department of Community and Government Services.

Mr. Chairman, the department’s 2009-2010 business plan stated that “A lack of modern community waste management infrastructure impacts compliance with the *Environmental Protection Act*.”

Members note that the department's 2010-13 business plan did not include any information on the need to ensure that our communities' waste management infrastructure is in compliance with the *Environmental Protection Act*. It is clear to the committee that issues related to the enforcement of environmental protection legislation require further scrutiny. The committee looks forward to its review of the department's 2011-12 main estimates and business plan at the upcoming winter sitting of the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2011-12 Capital Estimates of the Department of Environment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister and his officials for their availability. Welcome to the committee.

When the minister was speaking about the bridge project here in Iqaluit, I had to smile. I wish to thank the minister for not proceeding with that project as it posed the biggest concern to Iqaluit residents. I thank the minister for this piece of news because it alleviates one of the biggest concerns to Inuit here in Iqaluit.

As the minister stated, this project will be deferred due to a funding lapse and the fact that they have to conduct further consultation on the project. However, he also stated that if they can find funding assistance for this project, then this project would be back on track. With that being the case, can the minister inform the public on the particulars?

I would like to see this project approved, especially a version that can be used by all residents in the future, particularly original Iqalummiut. I would ask that this proposal be vetted in detail so that all Inuit, including the original Iqalummiut, are all on the same page in approving this future project, if they plan to resubmit it in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, as the member has indicated, this bridge project is put on hold due to the financial implications after a review of the project. I can say that this project will be looked at in the future, and community consultation will take place and consultation with the city and all of our partners involved would initiate again. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for his response. It has become a bit more palatable to accept this project based on what I have heard today.

With regard to issues related to Iqaluit and the Department of Environment, there is another territorial park further down the bay. I forget what the actual place name is, but I believe it's called Qammakuluvvik. We have heard complaints about this park, specifically related to the signage on the history of the site. Apparently the stories omit the traditional Inuit lifestyle which was practiced in those days and is more towards non-Inuit history. We need to revise that signage to reflect our history. I would like to raise that question to the minister. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I didn't fully hear that question. Could I have that question posed to me again? Thank you.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, with respect to this park, I was informed by one of my constituents that the signage depicts stories that require correction or revision.

The set-up of the sod hut was not as per usual Inuit customs since the stone lamp was situated right in the centre of the sod

hut, similar to First Nation customs. This type of error has to be corrected as it was related to me because Inuit are not First Nations. Will this be looked into thoroughly?

We want Inuit traditions to be presented truthfully. The signage is seen by youth and elders alike, and we prefer information that is depicted properly as per Inuit customs. This was conveyed to me as a concern and I was wondering if the minister could look into this in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When any signage is put up and wording is involved, all people are consulted. In this case, an elders' advisory committee from the city was part of this process. However, if the member has a specific concern, I would ask him to write me a letter and we will look into it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Any other questions? Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a very quick comment, if I may. I would like to welcome the hon. minister and his department here. In your opening comments, you mention under Parks and Special Places. I would like to share with the viewers as well as the committee here that we all know Baker Lake is the only inland Inuit community and we have distinct groups. We are very proud of our natural, cultural, and historical ties to Ukkuhikhalimmiut, the Back River.

So it's an honour to see that this government is taking into consideration the natural, cultural, and historical ties to all of Nunavut and also emphasizes the distinctness of what Back River means. Just for an example, Back River people are very well recognized for having very strong cultural ties, as well as contributions to cultural distinction that we share with all international/global settings.

Some of the artwork recognized that, if I may, Mr. Chairman, would tie into this for the cultural significance to all of Nunavut is that there are distinguished artists who are recognized throughout very high-level places. Some examples that were some of the artwork that comes from Back River are housed in the Vatican, Buckingham Palace, the National Gallery of Canada, and the Museum of Civilization, just to name a few.

I am also looking forward to the inclusion of the Axel Heiberg as well as the Arviat and Sanikiluaq area, and I think this is something that we must consider. So I would just like to commend the department for listening to people of Nunavut, as well as being sensitive to what it means to recognize such areas as the Back River. That was just a comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Does the minister wish to comment on this as well? Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to just say that it's in regard that it's with the request from the initiation from the member from Baker Lake that this whole

project started, and we are very proud to be part of it. Including the communities of Gjoa Haven and Baker Lake, we are moving forward with this. This process takes a long time, but it's absolutely in the process and we will look forward to the day when we could report more progress on it when it's finally completed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Mr. Ningark, to the general comments.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you. To the opening comments of the Hon. Minister for Environment, in the first paragraph here, we talk about spending approximately seventy thousand dollars in the capital budget. This is to buy ATVs, snow machines, perhaps outboard motors and boats. I'm wondering if you have any policy where you wanted to buy those made-in-Canada snow machines, ATVs, outboard motors, and boats to help entice the economy of the country. Do you have such a policy in place for whoever is doing the purchasing? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The policy on purchasing, that authority lies with Community and Government Services. However, I do know that when we purchase equipment in the Department of Environment, I believe that most of these go to open tender and that is the process that is followed, and CG&S follows that process in the purchasing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you. Under the Parks and Special Places, Kugaaruk has a proposed park, but my understanding, Mr. Chairman, is that it is, right at this point, occupied by the mining company. Do you have any idea of when the mining company's licence to do the activity will expire? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. That is a very good question. We have talked about this Kugaaruk Park for quite some time now, where the process is, negotiating lands, and whatnot. Things are moving forward, I am pleased to say that. I think I'll let the Director of Parks, Mr. Monteith, expand on that and he will give you a detailed report on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Mr. Monteith.

Mr. Monteith: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The initial park did include a significant amount of land that was on the lease and permits that had been issued by INAC. However, since the last year, the community revisited those lands that they initially wanted to have as part of the park and had come up with a new concept. There is just a very small parcel of land within the proposed park that actually is on the lease.

So we're quite confident that we can move ahead with the next phase, which is to work with KIA and to get their

acceptance for Inuit owned lands that fall within the park. By then, we hope to have addressed that very small part that INAC has issued.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Monteith. Minister Shewchuk, did you want to expand on it?

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Yes, I would just quickly, Mr. Chairman, to advise the member that there are couple of park concepts that were finally presented to the Kugaaruk Community Advisory Committee on April 21, 2010. One of these concepts was accepted, including Inuit owned land, mineral claims, and prospecting permits that were to be endorsed. Anyway, final approval for one of the concepts was received from the Hamlet of Kugaaruk on July 19, 2010, so that is showing that we are moving closer to this being a reality. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you. I am able to get some answers on the second issue.

The first issue is something to do with buying Canadian made equipment. I'm wondering if the minister, along with the other ministers who do the purchasing, would seriously consider buying Canadian made ATVs, snow machines, and outboard motors. Will the minister and his colleagues consider seriously looking at it? It is possible, but I think we can play a small part in the economy of the country by purchasing Canadian made equipment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm glad my colleague is sitting listening to this at CG&S over there so that we can discuss your concerns at a later date. I think that is a good idea.

There are some difficulties in having... we do have to buy our goods from Nunavut and Nunavut businesses and when it goes to an open tender, that's what happens. They would have to be part of this process too of handling and dealing in machines and equipment made in Canada, and I'm not sure. That is an avenue that could be looked at though, but we take your concern into consideration and we will look at it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. I have no further names on the general comments in regard to the opening comments from the minister. We will go page by page. On G-3. Department of Environment. Environment. Branch Summary. Program Management. Capital Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$4,020,000. I understand, Mr. Schell, you have a question.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish you would have sung happy birthday. Unlike Mr. Rumbolt, I think you have a wonderful voice.

>> *Laughter*

Your department's proposed 2011-12 capital estimates includes \$500,000 in funding for renovations of existing wildlife offices. However, the

substantiation sheet doesn't say which project or which offices require renovations. What communities require wildlife office renovations? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We depend on the input from all wildlife officers across the territory in individual communities to update us on the work needed in specific wildlife offices and then the regional managers of each region prioritize their list and the work that needs to be done. When it all comes together, amongst the managers and director of wildlife, decisions are made on which offices should be prioritized and what work to be done. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also in your department's five-year capital plan, you indicate plans to construct four new wildlife offices in Coral Harbour, Pangnirtung, Repulse Bay, and Resolute Bay. Your department's 2011-12 draft capital estimates have allotted \$1,715,000 in funding for the Coral Harbour project, but it doesn't specify any totals for the other wildlife office replacement projects for Pangnirtung, Repulse Bay, and Resolute. Do you expect that these projects will require approximately \$2 million each to complete? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member is right on the cost projected at \$1.7 million for the Coral Harbour office. Better figures could probably come from Community and Government Services and the people there who are the experts in that field, but I suspect that those prices would be between that and \$2 million per office. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Does your department anticipate a similar project in the future and which communities would be next on the list for replacement? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As were outlined, I believe it was Coral Harbour, Pangnirtung, and Repulse Bay was next after that. We do have a list established at some point in time, I don't have that on me right now, but we could supply that if you wanted it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Mr. Chairman, I just found my list, so I can quickly read it to you if you want to hear it and I will. After Coral Harbour, it's Pangnirtung, Repulse Bay, Resolute Bay, Arctic Bay, Gjoa Haven, Cape Dorset, Kugluktuk, Kimmirut, Qikiqtarjuaq, Igloolik, Clyde River, Taloyoak, Iqaluit, Arviat, Rankin Inlet, Pond Inlet, Baker Lake, and

Kugaaruk, and that takes you all the way up to the year 2027. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a couple of quick questions, I guess. With regard to the park development in Sanikiluaq, for the benefit of the listening public out there, I wonder if they can explain what the \$100,000 was spent on last year on the park development. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The \$100,000 was spent on, again, community consultations, dealing with the hamlet and the community, establishing the first protocols in developing a park, and in that regard, in what areas and what land you are looking at, what you want the park to accomplish, and the purpose of the park. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For your 2011-12 budget, there's a further \$100,000 in the budget. Can you tell us what that money will be spent on? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That \$100,000 identified in this coming up budget is again for

development of the park process and, that is, getting deeper and in-depth into it and having a consultant involved with the community and our department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you. My first question is regarding the Kugaaruk Park. This time with the financial implication that adds to it, my understanding is that \$600,000 was allotted for the project. Further, there was \$100,000 back in 2008-09. What is the status of this project and what was the \$100,000 which was approved for this project in the 2009-2010 fiscal year used for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get the director of parks to answer this question so that he can explain it very clearly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Mr. Monteith.

Mr. Monteith: Thank you. Over the years, we have done several studies in Kugaaruk.

The first study looked at a very general area. We worked very closely with the community and unfortunately the area that we initially looked at contains significant permits, areas that have been permitted by INAC, and were being explored by the mineral industry. So a second study was done following that to just look at further areas that might have

potential for park development that wouldn't overlap with lands that INAC had already released to the public.

More recently, we just did a big cultural landscapes resource inventory that looked at traditional place names around the community and looked at a little bit of the history behind each of those place names. That was the last study that was concluded that also arrived at two options for the community to make a decision on. In the last month, we just received letters of support from the Park Advisory Committee and the hamlet council endorsing one of those two concepts.

We're now working with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association to try and see how we can work on some of the land that is owned by Inuit. There is a budget that was approved approximately three years ago by the former Premier following a meeting that he made in Kugaaruk. An envelope of \$600,000 was allotted to the Kugaaruk Park and we have been funding the studies to date out of that pot. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Monteith. Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Along the line of questioning as my colleague from Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt, for the record and for the record of Qamani'tuarmitut, in your 2011-12 capital estimates, what exactly is planned for the Thelon and Kazan Heritage River development? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The development activities for the Thelon and Kazan Heritage Rivers are tied up in the Thelon and Kazan River background, the Thelon and Kazan CHRS nomination documents. They are looking at management plans, but I believe that the processes there are being held up by IIBA agreements that need to take place. So that is where the status of that is right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. I have Mr. Komoartok.

Mr. Komoartok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to raise this question to the minister on the Pangnirtung Wildlife Office. They are planning to replace that building with an allocation of \$150,000. In the upcoming 2011-12 fiscal year, the project was included as a capital project, but there are no additional funds allocated in the 2011-16 capital plans.

Are we not incurring unnecessary capital planning since it seems to be too early to start planning or does the department have other projects that they need to include in this planning process? Is it usual practice to conduct planning exercises several years prior to a project being undertaken?

If this project will be started in 2017, does it mean that we have to spend several years on the engineering and design phases prior to the project start-up? Will we be purchasing materials on an annual basis prior to the project being undertaken? I would like to know exactly how this process plays out, but I know that the planning and the design

phases can be drawn out over a very long period. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is a well intent of the department to carry this project through. The proposed \$150,000 is for the planning and design stage in Pangnirtung in the next fiscal year. The planning and design will give us, and I think this is credible that we have a better understanding of the price of those buildings to be built after we do the planning and design, and then we would move forward in the scheduling of the construction. It is our intent to do that, to insert that construction at that time, and it would be all of us who decide what projects go forward at that time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Komoartok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like some additional clarification on the definition of "timeframe." What I understand is that the timeframe is nowhere near what the expectations of the community are.

It is understandable that you have to plan properly in order for the construction project to proceed and have all of the materials on hand. However, when you are talking about the planning and design stage during this fiscal year, when could we expect the final plan and design to be completed?

I know that there was another office being planned for Repulse Bay, as well as one in Coral Harbour. We know they

have to be replaced. With respect to Pangnirtung, when can we expect the replacement facility to be presented and in which fiscal year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our position is that we would like to see construction start in Pangnirtung in the year 2013-14. So that is what we have targeted for and that is what we are going to shoot for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to the Napaaqtulik Territorial Park on Axel Heiberg Island, I know I had written the minister in regard to this, but I was just wondering if he could give an update on what has happened. I know \$100,000 was allocated this year and now we are putting another \$150,000 in there. Would he be able to give us an update as to what has been happening in that area? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again I will get David Monteith, Director of Parks, to give you a detailed update on that park. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Mr. Monteith.

Mr. Monteith: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Most parks take at least ten

years from the idea stage to what I call the ribbon cutting stage where they are finally unveiled, not all of them but some do.

With respect to Napaaqtulik, it is very hard for us to determine when it will become a park or even if it will become a park. First of all, we need to do research on it and find out exactly what is out there, the level of support in the communities, and then look at what is the best tool to protect the site. Should it be a park or should it be some other conservation area and who has that legislation?

So the money that we have put in next year's budget is a projection based on the work that we are going to commence doing, or actually we just awarded the contract about a month ago. We have contacted both mayors and the SAOs in both communities to make sure they are fully aware of this.

Ludy Pudluk, as most of you know, went up there with us. I believe it was in 2000. It was a department team that went out to Napaaqtulik, had a look at the site and looked at some of the issues at the time. However, we were unable to advance any work at that time simply because we were in the middle of negotiating the Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement for territorial parks at the time and we were asked to kind of hold back until those negotiations have been concluded.

So that is now behind us and now we're kind of eagerly looking forward to proceeding with coming up with something that is meaningful for Napaaqtulik. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's not in this year's budget, but the Resolute Bay Wildlife Office replacement is scheduled in 2013-14 to start receiving money in terms of the planning stages of that.

I know when the minister had travelled to Resolute Bay, there was a concern or I guess it was not really an issue. The HTO wanted to possibly take over the old building once the new building is constructed. I'm just wondering if he could give me an outline as to what I should be telling the HTO to do to ensure they receive this building once it's turned over. Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would advise the member that the planning and design is planned for that, 2013-14. Again, as we plan and design for these things, we hope to construct them as soon as possible thereafter. That is the purpose to get a better price of what they're going to cost. I can't commit right to this day when that construction would happen. However, I would say that once that construction is complete, a good use for the old office would be for the HTO. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is there a process in terms of...? Since it becomes a GN asset, does it get turned over to CGS and we would have to

contact CGS, or the HTO would have to contact CGS, or do we do it through your department? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yeah, the member has it right there. Once we moved out of it, it would become a surplus asset and then it would be turned back to CG&S. The process would be to communicate with CG&S and let them know you're interested in that building. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to one of the questions that Mr. Okalik asked in regard to the Sylvia Grinnell Bridge, I think he mentioned there was \$800,000 that was coming from INAC to construct the bridge. I'm just curious. What is going to happen with that funding? Does it go back to INAC or is it going to be allocated to a different project? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, that funding would go back to INAC. It was allocated for that specific project and same with our other partners involved, the money would go back to them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. I have no further names on the list, so we will go back to page G-3. Environment. Branch Summary.

Program Management. Capital Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$4,020,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Okay, we will go back to page G-2. Department Summary. Environment. Detail of Expenditures. Capital Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$4,020,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Is the committee agreed that the Department of Environment is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank my witnesses, David and David, here for being with me and for all the staff in putting all of this information together for us.

I would really like to thank all of the members too for asking all of the pertinent questions and supporting the Department of Environment's initiatives to move forward in the future and benefit all Nunavutmiut. I know we're going through some difficult challenges as we move forward, but we will get through them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk and your staff. (interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses.

(interpretation ends) Thank you. I would now like to ask the Minister Taptuna of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation to make his opening remarks.

Bill 38 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2011-2012 – Economic Development and Transportation – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. *Unnusakkut*, Members. I am pleased to be here today to present my department's 2011-12 capital plan to the Committee of the Whole.

The Department of Economic Development and Transportation is proposing a \$3.92 million capital plan for the fiscal year 2011-12. This is a very modest budget for the department and consists mostly of design work and planning studies that we will be undertaking before starting the construction phases of larger infrastructure projects. In this regard, the department is starting to plan for three projects.

In the first project, we propose beginning the design work and geotechnical studies for a major runway overlay and upgrade of the lighting system at the Clyde River Airport. This project will be similar to those that are nearing completion in Arviat and Taloyoak. These are expected to have a service life of approximately 15 years.

Mr. Chairman, we propose to also begin developing the planning and engineering for a relocated airport in Pangnirtung. As the committee members are aware, the Pangnirtung Airport has been challenged to meet demand for a long time and we

hope to be able to do something about it with the years to come here.

My department has been collecting weather data at the proposed site on the plateau for several years now and will be analyzing that data and beginning the engineering needed for a project of this size. It will be a large project, with an expected budget of over \$40 million, and we will obviously need to do a lot of background work before presenting it to the federal government for consideration.

We are also proposing \$100,000 to begin the citing work and soil investigation for an equipment shelter in Taloyoak. We have started the process of putting shelters in several of our airports, with the first one starting in Whale Cove this year and others making their way through the design and tendering phases.

Mr. Chairman, these are the major transportation projects we will be undertaking in the 2011-12 fiscal year.

There are also some other projects under \$250,000 which are grouped together under the heading, "Small Capital Projects." We have allocated \$800,000 to complete these projects, which will include new runway inspection vehicles for three communities, minor repairs to buildings and airports surfaces in six others, and two plow attachments.

Several larger equipment purchases will be made under the "Minor Capital Project" heading. Under this project, we have allocated \$1.7 million which will be used to purchase wheeled loaders for Iqaluit and Kimmirut, plow trucks for Resolute Bay and Iqaluit, and a snow blower for Qikiqtarjuaq.

Mr. Chairman, over the years, the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development has made it very clear that harbours are a high priority for our communities.

The federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans, in collaboration with my department, completed the *Nunavut Small Craft Harbours Report* in 2006. The report agreed that small craft harbours in our communities could provide very high returns in safety, access to our resources, and economic activity.

Mr. Chairman, we continue to believe these harbours are essential, and I am pleased to inform the committee that we recently struck a working group consisting of members from my department, the Department of Environment, the Department of Community and Government Services, and the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans to advance our position. We have included \$500,000 in this capital plan to contribute towards that effort and to make minor improvements to community marine facilities.

We believe that we have had some success with small projects in Arctic Bay, Clyde River, and a handful of other communities this year, and we will be making part of the funding under this program available to communities under contribution agreements so they can facilitate some of their own changes.

Mr. Chairman, as I said in the beginning, this plan is very modest. I would like the committee members to know that my department will be delivering other capital projects as well through

carryovers and Building Canada appropriations.

In closing, I believe this plan makes good use of our very limited resources and is well focused on the department's mandate. We all realize there is more to do, but I will continue to work hard with my department to ensure that partnerships with the federal government, with industry, and with the communities are strengthened and that the investment this government makes in Nunavut has a lasting value on the economic and social future of the territory.

Mr. Chairman, I will be glad to answer any questions from my fellow colleagues. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

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

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

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses to the table.

Thank you. (interpretation ends) I would like to ask Minister Taptuna to introduce his witnesses, please.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my left is John Hawkins, Director of Policy. On my right is

Deputy Minister Bob Long. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Does the Chair of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development have comments? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation's proposed 2011-12 capital estimates. Members note that the department's proposed capital budget for 2011-12 is \$3,925,000. The department's budget was \$5.55 million in 2010-11. Its capital budget was \$5,833,000 in 2009-2010. The department's proposed 2011-12 capital budget is focused primarily on transportation-related infrastructure, such as airport improvements and runway upgrade projects.

Mr. Chairman, the January 2009 federal budget contained funding to accelerate the construction of Pangnirtung's new harbour. The Department of Economic Development and Transportation's proposed 2011-12 capital estimates includes \$500,000 in funding for the GN's contribution towards the construction of small craft harbours in Nunavut communities.

During the June 2010 sitting of the Legislative Assembly, the GN approved a transfer of \$800,000 from the Small Craft Harbours capital project to the Nunavut Housing Corporation. The

department's 2010-11 capital estimates only allocated \$500,000 for this project. Members note that \$1.12 million in funding was contained in a capital carryover in the *2010-2011 Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2*. The standing committee encourages the minister to table an annual report in the Legislative Assembly concerning the department's actual expenditures in this area, including a detailed list of which communities have received funding.

In June 2009, the Senate Committee on Fisheries and Oceans released its report titled *Nunavut Marine Fisheries: Quotas and Harbours*. It listed eight recommendations, the first being that, "The committee recommends that the Government of Canada move forward to develop and implement, in collaboration with the Government of Nunavut, the harbour development plan recommended by the DFO-Nunavut Harbours Working Committee in its 2005 Nunavut Small Craft Harbours Report."

The standing committee notes that the Government of Canada's response to the Senate Committee's report was presented on November 18, 2009. The committee notes that the response indicated that, "There are no immediate plans to construct additional commercial fishing harbours in Nunavut at this time. However, discussions continue with the Government of Nunavut regarding infrastructure needs to further support local fisheries."

Members are pleased that the minister tabled the GN's updated Nunavut Transportation Strategy in the Legislative Assembly on June 5, 2009. Some of the objectives of the strategy

are to "Implement the federal Small Craft Harbours (SCH) Program in Nunavut," "Act on the *Nunavut Small Craft Harbour Report*," and "Extend the Small Craft Harbours program to other communities."

During the minister's 2009 appearance before the standing committee, members were advised that Transport Canada and the Department of Economic Development and Transportation had agreed to undertake a joint study on marine needs in Nunavut. Members look forward to receiving a copy of this study when it has been completed and encourage the minister to table it in the Legislative Assembly.

Given the potential that small craft harbours have to enhance the territory's economic development and self-sufficiency, members strongly support efforts to obtain federal investments in this area.

Mr. Chairman, in the fall of 2006, the Legislative Assembly passed a formal motion that called on the government to work with the Northern Air Transport Association to bring forward an action plan to improve the availability of affordable, reliable air service to Nunavut's smaller, under-served communities. This is a particular concern to members who represent our small, remote communities.

Members are supportive of initiatives that will achieve necessary airport improvements across the territory. Members recall that the government's 2003 Nunavut Air Services Study outlined several infrastructure priorities that are necessary for improving the level of service from airlines. Current

runway lengths and their composition reduce the level of service that airlines can provide and can also increase the cost of providing services.

Members note that the project for the relocation of the Pangnirtung Airport is included in the department's five-year capital plan and that \$500,000 in funding has been allocated in its 2011-12 capital estimates. Members look forward to ongoing updates on its progress.

Some of the objectives of the updated Nunavut Transportation Strategy are to "Assure the integrity of the Nunavut transportation system by ensuring every community has infrastructure adequate for its needs within that system" and to "Enhance the current airport system." Other objectives are to "Rationalize government use of the transportation system" and "revisit the government Air Services Study." Members encourage the minister to work towards implementing airport upgrades that enhance service opportunities for Nunavut's airlines.

The Legislative Assembly approved \$2.75 million in funding in the *2009-2010 Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 1* for the planning and design of a new Iqaluit Air Terminal Building and \$925,000 in funding for the planning and design of the Iqaluit Regional Marine Facility. Members encourage the minister to provide an update on the progress of these projects to the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Chairman, two major projects with which the GN has been involved are the Bathurst Inlet Port and Road project and the Manitoba-Nunavut Road. Previous years' capital budgets of this department

have included funding to support these initiatives. Members note that no funding has been allocated for these two projects in the 2011-12 draft capital estimates.

During the minister's recent appearance before the standing committee, members were informed that the GN had contributed approximately \$360,000 for a collaborative baseline study in relation to the Bathurst Inlet Port and Road project. Members encourage the minister to table this document in the Legislative Assembly. Members also encourage the minister to provide regular updates to the House on the GN's involvement with major infrastructure projects in the Kitikmeot.

Members note that a recent news release issued by the GN and the Government of Manitoba indicated that both governments will initiate consultations on a cost-benefit study on a Manitoba-Nunavut all-weather road. Members were pleased with this announcement and look forward to ongoing updates on this important initiative.

Mr. Chairman, the department allocated \$700,000 for a new Kivalliq Visitors' Centre in its 2010-11 capital estimates. The proposed 2011-12 capital estimates do not include any further funding for this project and it is not included in the department's five-year capital plan. Members look forward to the minister providing an update on the status of the project to the Legislative Assembly.

On September 15 of this year, the GN issued a news release in which it stated that "Cabinet will work together to provide community freezers in all 25 communities." Members have raised this

issue in the House in the past and were pleased to note that the GN will work towards its implementation. The standing committee notes that the news release did not indicate which department will be responsible for this initiative or how much it will cost. Members look forward to clarification on this project.

The department's proposed 2011-12 capital estimates do not include any funding for projects, such as new meat or fish plants. While members recognize that federal investments will be essential for realizing a number of the department's longer-term capital projects, the department is encouraged to not lose sight of its economic development responsibilities.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2011-12 Capital Estimates of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Do members have any general comments? Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Because you are chairing the meeting, I'm going to ask the question on behalf of yourself for Chesterfield Inlet. Apparently the airport terminal is in dire need of repairs and replacement. I am assuming that you have allotted \$800,000 for small capital projects. Is this one of the terminals that's going to be repaired and when are you seriously going to look at replacing it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

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

I apologize for that. For the Chesterfield Inlet Airport Terminal, there's going to be some renovations and repairs done to that but it's still further down the line for replacement of that unit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also, you were talking about small harbours built in different communities. I know I had mentioned about Cape Dorset and somebody had said that it's coming out of a different funding. I'm just wondering what the status on the Cape Dorset small craft harbour is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have my director of policy respond to that question. Thank you.

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

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. DFO Real Property is looking into that project. They have the preliminary design done for it and they have it in a queue for their capital plan. It is not a very fast moving capital plan and I don't know how quickly it would move forward in that program that they've got it under. It is not actually a

small craft harbour; it's as a resupply harbour. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the questions I had was in terms of... . You had mentioned Arctic Bay as a small craft harbour success, but do you have an update as to when the Arctic Bay Airport will be opening? Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The scheduled date for the opening of the Arctic Bay Airport is January 2011, and I would like my director here to get into more detail for the member's satisfaction. There is a lot of work being done at this time, but I want my director to respond further with details. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister is correct; the projected date is still January.

There are a few steps in the certification process that are ongoing right now. The issue is trying to get everything in order prior to publication dates which have a deadline of 52 days before anything can open. All of the documentation has been submitted to Transport Canada and has been reviewed by them, and the certification data has been forwarded to NAV Canada.

There are still some unknowns in this process and we are expecting that date, but there could be some hiccups. If there are any issues on that, we will let the member know as soon as we can and it would delay the publishing of the airport in an aeronautical publication by some 52 or 54 days. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to the airport equipment shelter, I know you had mentioned that there are other communities that are receiving it, and then there were announcements of the \$600,000 by the federal government and \$200,000 by the Government of Nunavut. Is this money going to be spent in this fiscal year and then construction is going to be next year? I do not see any construction dollars in this document for next year. Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the scheduling is for the tendering for this winter 2010-11 and the construction is for next fiscal year for the equipment shelter in Arctic Bay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is where I always get confused because of overlapping years and whatnot.

So the tender that is going out this year for \$800,000 for the construction of the Arctic Bay Equipment Shelter will obviously have to be completed and paid for by March 31, 2010. So the two tenders in terms of construction dollars would be paid next year or do you give them the one-time deal and then it straddles over two years? In terms of an explanation, in my mind, how the money flows, that would be great. Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member is quite correct; the funding is only allocated once a project starts. It's going into a capital carryover for the next fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With spending some extra time in Grise Fiord this summer, I was able to meet with the community a bit more, talk with some of the workers up there, and also attend some of the hamlet council meetings. I know some of the talks that they have been having and I guess your department has been talking with the community about resurfacing the runway in Grise Fiord. I don't again see anything in the capital plan for this, but is this something that would fall under minor capital or small capital projects? Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is ongoing and the project

is being done through a capital carryover. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the answer. With two questions being asked and two of them being capital carryovers, how many projects within your department are actually capital carryover projects that are happening? Are there quite a few airports that are waiting for things to be completed? Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is one of the facts of life within a small department. Capital carryovers are bound to happen with every department.

I'm going let my director of policy get into more details of the carryovers that we have within the department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe the minister said he was going to let one of his representatives add to that. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. My mistake. Mr. Hawkins.

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the department has several projects in capital carryover. Some of these are from the Building Canada Plan, where the funding is

appropriated in a single year for the entire project, fully knowing that it is going to be carried over as we go. Some of them, such as Grise Fiord, unfortunately have been in carryover for several years now and those are really logistical issues in getting the project underway. A project such as Arctic Bay has been carried over to now.

I don't really have a listing of what will be carried over into the next fiscal year because we haven't completed all of our expenditures for this year. The members will all be seeing that in the next sitting or in the next fiscal year, but Grise Fiord is in carryover. The Kimmirut Airport is in carryover. The airport redevelopment, the small craft harbours, the Iqaluit and Cambridge Bay airport planning and design are both in carryover, the Qikiqtarjuaq Air Terminal Building; the last three projects I mentioned are all underway but they were appropriated in a single sum.

The airport equipment shelters are in carryover as well. Three of them were tendered. Igloolik, Repulse Bay, and Chesterfield Inlet were all tendered. They were tendered late in the season. The bids came in over the budget of the project and the project has been re-scoped slightly and will be re-tendered in the next month or two, at a better time to get proper bids for them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So in terms of the Grise Fiord resurfacing, is that something you foresee happening next summer in 2011? Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The airport resurfacing for Grise Fiord, including Kimmirut, it has been very difficult to initiate. Of course, by this fiscal year, Grise Fiord will be underway and hopefully completed by next summer. Of course, the completion of next summer is again a capital carryover from this fiscal year into the next. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If a bulldozer is needed for that project, I hope you realize that last year, we were promised a bulldozer in Grise Fiord but that never did happen. So if that is needed, maybe put that in your plans. Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Of course, to initiate and complete any projects, we've got to look at all of the options that are available to us. We will keep that in mind when we think of that and when we think of Grise Fiord and the project that we're trying to complete up there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the person who sits next to my chair was telling a story, they referred to Iqaluit and its airport and what is happening to this project,

including the strategic plan that was presented last year. What is the status of the strategic plan initiative at this time?

I welcome you all to the witness table. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The designing and planning is pretty well done. The plan for initiating the project is underway. At this time, Mr. Chairman, the process of putting the plan together for submission to the federal government on the cost estimate, we have to put a document together that establishes a good estimate. Once that happens, we will be putting it forth to the government and not only that. At this point too, there are some discussions on a possible P3 project for the Iqaluit ATB and airport. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for his response. Since this project was referred to as part of the Small Craft Harbours Program which was planned out in the past, I would like to know what the status of that project is today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have my assistant, director of policy respond to that question in detail. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Iqaluit port study has been completed as far as this phase of it will go. The study looked at five different options and looked at the cost, the feasibility, and how they would functionally operate and work in the sealift environment, as well as small craft owners and local boaters.

The study has narrowed down to a couple of options. Some of them were found to be technically not feasible, unfortunately, but the study has been narrowed down to a couple of options that are equivalent in price and we again have to find someone to fund them. They are both in the \$70 million price range. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not want to keep returning to this issue. However, we all know for a fact that the port project will not be initiated immediately. It would be preferable to get this \$70 million construction funding, but I doubt that we will be able to get this funding. I am wondering how we can offer or provide more support for this project, or if the department has alternative plans in the event that this is not approved. I refer to the ED&T department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that

very good question. Of course, we have been looking at several different options for possible funding. P3 is another one again and also from industry, from the mineral companies and exploration companies that are out there. There is that possibility of a P3 with them and other partners.

But yes, it's a big project and it does have a high cost that this government is unable to carry out on its own. For the most part, we are looking at all options, including assistance and possible P3s with the federal government and other Inuit organizations, including the exploration companies, like I mentioned. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have conducted studies in the past and I have met with various organizations regarding shipping and related issues. I have been told by several people that if they had made improvements to the previous port, they would be able to use our causeway for offloading sealift materials. I'm wondering if that old causeway has been the subject of any study or if the Department of Transportation has looked at it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are discussions with the city and other potential users of the facility. I will have my assistant get into better detail to answer the member's question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The old causeway was one of the options that were examined in the study that we undertook; it was actually one of our preferred options. The engineering firm that was undertaking the study identified engineering problems with it.

The structure itself is actually quite small in comparison to anything that could bring enough out of the water to make it usable on a regular basis and usable for the kinds of loads that it would be expected to carry. It was actually constructed as a fairly temporary structure, and they felt that the base underneath it wouldn't carry the weight that was required for the structure that they were proposing. Now, further geotechnical work may prove that wrong and we would hope so, but there appears to be a lot of silt underneath that structure. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As per his comments, there has to be more geotechnical work on that causeway, especially when you look at the future possible uses down the road. I would like to see them conduct a study to determine the feasibility because it seems like that facility is one that requires the least work. We have to try and ensure that those projects that are less work intensive go forward. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With limited resources within the department and of course, the government, we do have to partner in with potential partners to get some of this infrastructure built.

Yes, I agree that the infrastructure, the marine facility there is outdated, it's old, and it doesn't provide the functions that we need for the city, including the region. So, yes, we do have to make sure that we get the proper engineering done and the proper design, and come up with a plan that is going to be beneficial to all users, Nunavummiut, especially Qikiqtaalummiut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Yes, I'm sure that my colleagues will want to ask more questions, so I'll stop at that for now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Actually I don't have any more names. Mr. Komoartok.

Mr. Komoartok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is very short. It is not long, although it may seem fairly long. I just want clarification on this issue.

Roughly two years ago, our community experienced erosion around the bridge foundations when the river overran its banks. The bridge became unusable, so a new bridge was constructed and it is now in use by our community. The north side also had an access road constructed last year, but it will become available for

the public only after the road is no longer in use by the heavy equipment.

They have completed the surveying for the north and south side where the bridge placement site is identified. They have completed the surveys for the north side, but the funding for the south side apparently ran out, so the turnoff to the bridge was not done properly. I know it was surveyed. What is the status of that project now? Will they be completing the new access road, or is it due to the federal government funding that was limited, or did the funds not cover the road construction?

We were very happy to hear that the south side was being constructed, but the funding disappeared. So, luckily for our community, the Tower Arctic Company that was constructing our harbour agreed to do this work at no cost since the community did not have any extra funding. They straightened the road and took out the big turnoff and made it less dangerous. We were very happy that they were able to do that improvement.

My question to you is: will this form part of the project or will it be a separate project? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The member is quite correct; we do a lot of work in conjunction with the other departments. CGS has that responsibility with the surveys and the planning of the community, including the usage of some of lands that you are referring to.

I will leave it at that. I am sure you will probably be asking the Minister of CGS the same question down the line here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. I think I will leave that for another day for the time being because it relates to access roads, I believe.

I do not have any more names, so we will now proceed to the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates starting with page I-5. We normally go to I-3, but I was told that the Department of Transportation is inclusive of issues that would normally be on page I-3. I-5. Economic Development and Transportation. Branch Summary. Transportation. Capital Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$3,925,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) We will go back to I-2. Department Summary. Economic Development and Transportation. Detail of Expenditures. Capital Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$3,925,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Is the committee agreed that the Department of Economic Development is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) I would now like to ask Minister Taptuna if he has closing comments.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the questions from the members of the committee. For the most part, in this department, we are trying our best to make sure that we maintain our mandate and make the best use of our resources that are available to us. Again I've got to thank the members for their very good questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Thank you. (interpretation ends) I would now like Minister Peterson, responsible for the Department of Justice, to make his opening remarks.

Bill 38 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2011-2012 – Justice – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and members. I am pleased to present the proposed capital estimates for the Department of Justice for the 2011-12 fiscal year. A total amount of \$3,450,000 is being allocated for the Department of Justice.

The majority of our capital estimates, \$3,050,000, is being allotted for the final phase of construction of the new men's correctional facility in Rankin Inlet. Upon completion, this medium to minimum security facility will accommodate up to 48 inmates. The facility's living unit will contain 32 beds for offenders and there will be an apartment complex with an additional 14 beds to house low-risk offenders. Construction of this facility is well

underway and is scheduled to be completed by the fall of 2011. This new men's correctional facility will alleviate some overcrowding issues at the Baffin Correctional Centre and enable offenders from the Kivalliq to serve their sentences closer to home. It will also provide area residents with employment opportunities.

We have also included \$400,000 for minor capital expenses. These are funds to cover capital expenditures that arise over the year, such as minor building repairs to the existing correctional facilities, the replacement of corrections vehicles, snowmobiles, and computer technology that is necessary for the delivery of programs.

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

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Do you have witnesses you would like to bring to the table? Does the committee agree to bring in the witnesses?

>> *Laughter*

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Thank you. (interpretation ends)
Minister Peterson, please introduce your witnesses.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Janet Slaughter, Deputy Minister of the Department of Justice, and to my left is

Ted Dingle, Director of Corporate Services for the Department of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Welcome, officials. Does the Chair of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness have comments? Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Yes, I do and thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Standing Committee on Social Wellness has reviewed the proposed capital estimates of the Department of Justice for the 2011-12 fiscal year, and I am pleased to provide you with the committee's comments.

Standing committee members note that the department's total proposed capital budget for 2011-12 of \$3.45 million is primarily allocated to the ongoing development of the Rankin Inlet Men's Correctional Centre, which is scheduled to be completed in September of 2011. An additional \$400,000 is allocated for minor capital projects, such as upgrades to the Kugluktuk Men's Healing Centre and vehicle replacements.

Mr. Chairman, members recognize that it is important for as many Nunavut inmates as possible to serve their sentences in their home territory. Sending inmates out of the territory is very expensive and costs will only increase as time goes on. Members recognize that while the new women's correctional facility has indeed reduced overcrowding at the Baffin Correctional Centre, this continues to be an urgent issue.

Members are pleased to note that the new Rankin Inlet Correctional Centre

was originally and still is designed to allow for expansion in the future. Mr. Chairman, members also note that the staff housing costs associated with the Rankin Inlet Correctional Centre amount to \$11.88 million.

Mr. Chairman, members are pleased to note that the new territorial correctional facility for women opened in June of this year in Iqaluit. The standing committee is pleased that female inmates now have a gender-appropriate facility that will be conducive to the delivery of healing and rehabilitation programs.

Mr. Chairman, while members recognize that funding for supporting outpost camps comes from the department's operations and maintenance budget, members continue to urge the minister and his officials to consider setting aside capital funds that could be used in order to establish new outpost camps. During his recent appearance before the standing committee, the minister stated that he encourages anyone who is interested in establishing an outpost camp to contact the Department of Justice.

Members recognize the importance of effective healing and rehabilitation programs that will help enable inmates to successfully reintegrate into their communities. Members also recognize the importance of incorporating cultural components in rehabilitation. Outpost camps can play an important role in achieving these goals.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2011-12 Capital Estimates of the Department of Justice. I am confident that my colleagues will wish to offer

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

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Do members have any general comments? Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In your opening statement, you were stating that the construction of the facility is underway and is scheduled to be completed by the fall of 2011. Is it still on schedule? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Schell for that question. Yes, Mr. Chairman, it's on schedule for the fall of 2011. I don't have an exact date but some time between September and November, hopefully. Anything can happen, so I'm not guaranteeing it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Are there any other questions? Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) This question is to save some money for my colleague from Baffin South.

Since the minister appeared before our committee, some news has come out that there needs to be some help for gun owners, in particular, storage and locks for long gun rifles. Has the minister given this more consideration of late? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Okalik for that question. Mr. Chairman, I've had my officials looking into the matter. I have an official in Cape Dorset and I believe she went in today. I have also had a conversation with Chief Superintendent Steve McVarnock about the question of gunlocks and trigger locks, so we're having that discussion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This concern has been brought up previously that the minister wanted debated. When would the minister be able to identify that this assistance is available for Nunavummiut who require a gun lock? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Okalik for that question. Mr. Chairman, I can't give any timeframe. I don't even know what the costs are right now, what the plan is, and what discussions there are. I know Mr. Schell has generously offered to pay for them himself. I don't know what the costs are, but it could be quite expensive. We will have to do some more work on that and report back when that information is available. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I look forward to the ministers hopefully updating the House before our session concludes so that good people like Mr. Schell can plan and perhaps purchase gun locks for his constituents, if he must, in the foreseeable future. So I look forward to a progress report on this in the next few days, hopefully.

My next question is on the issue of outpost camps. As my colleague mentioned, it's not in the capital budget, but I think we have to let potential operators know about the program and the useful purposes of these outpost camps need to be highlighted further. Are there any plans to advertise for prospective outpost camp operators in the future? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Okalik for his question. Mr. Chairman, I believe that there is an annual call for proposals for outpost camps. I know that I have spoken at different meetings and talked to individuals to ask them if they are interested, to express their interest. I believe the latest information I have is that there have been some potential operators contacting the department expressing their interest. So there is work underway and we know of the value of outpost camps. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Now, with regard to incarceration, it had become a very high profile, especially when it went on the news daily, and now it seems to have subsided. So could the minister present an update on whether there have been improvements on people incarcerated in the correctional centres? It's becoming more of a noteworthy item. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Okalik again for that question. I'm not too sure why there is no news about incarceration rates in I guess he is referring to the Baffin Correctional Centre.

Since the women's facility opened last June, the ladies have had their own facility and that has opened up a few more beds at the Baffin Correctional Centre. If there was even one lady, that tied up six beds in a pod. So by the ladies having their own facility, it has freed up more beds. There is probably a little bit of a better movement of inmates between facilities in Nunavut, the Northwest Territories, and Ontario, so there are a lot of logistics involved in that.

But why the media is not reporting on any activity out there, I can't answer that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is very good news because it has become mostly a pressing

issue at this point, but that is the end of my questions. It's quite obvious that my colleagues will have many questions to ask on various issues. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Okalik. I have no more names. We will now proceed to the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates starting with page C-3. (interpretation) Do you have any other general comments? (interpretation ends) Give me a chance to see it. Justice. Branch Summary. Directorate. Capital Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$400,000. Agreed? Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. According to the substantiation sheet from the department and the Nunavut Housing Corporation indicated that there is approximately 12 million dollars for staff housing in Rankin Inlet. You indicated that there are 44 PYs at the Rankin Inlet Correctional Centre. Will there be enough housing for all of the staff in Rankin Inlet when the correctional centre opens next year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Schell for the question. I believe there will be enough housing. A lot of the people who will be working at the facility will come from Rankin Inlet and I expect that they will have their own homes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Once again I have no more names. Justice on page C-3. Branch

Summary. Directorate. Total Capital Expenditures. \$400,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) We will go page to page C-5. Justice. Branch Summary. Corrections. Capital Expenditures. \$3,050,000. Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did want to ask in regard to the correctional facility in Rankin Inlet. The current substantiation sheet for your department indicates that the Nunavut Housing Corporation has a total budget of approximately 12 million dollars for staff housing. Your department indicates that there will be 44 PYs at the Rankin Inlet Correctional Centre. Will there be enough housing for all staff in Rankin Inlet when the correctional centre opens next year?

For the record, I wanted to ask. It was just in reference and I wanted to verify. With the 44 PYs, is there going to be enough housing for all staff?

An Hon. Member: Fred just asked the question.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: I know that, but I wanted to ask in relation, my apologies for that. I know for a fact that my colleague had just corrected me.

The question I did want to ask as well is if the figures were correct for 46 beds last year, but the minimum beds showing is that the facility will have a minimum of 48 beds, so my correction for that, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Aupaluktuq for that question. I believe the correct figure would be 48; 36 in the facility and then the rest in the minimum security. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. (interpretation ends) Are you done, Mr. Aupaluktuq? I don't have any other names on my list. (interpretation ends) Justice. Branch Summary. Corrections. Total Capital Expenditures. \$3,050,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: We will go back to C-2. Department Summary. Justice. Detail of Expenditures. Capital Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$3,450,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Is the committee agreed that the Department of Justice is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) I would now like to ask Minister Peterson if he has closing remarks.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the members for their questions. I look forward to inviting members to Rankin Inlet next year for the opening of the facility. It's a long overdue facility that

we need. I am very glad it is one of those facilities that can be expanded. So we will certainly be looking at expansion opportunities.

I would like to thank my officials who worked on bringing the capital estimates to the Legislative Assembly and working on these projects. Also, before I go, I would like to mention that our Intern Trainee of Corporate Services is in the Gallery, Wendy Bens... Christine Bens; Wendy Bens has gone to Ottawa. So I would like to welcome her to the Gallery. Also, Janet Slaughter is my new deputy minister. This is her first time in the House, so she is kind of learning as well.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank everybody and I appreciate your time. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Thank you. (interpretation) I thank your staff. Sergeant-at-Arms, could you please escort the witnesses out.

Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you. I think my colleagues are tired, so I would like move to report progress for today and we will start again tomorrow. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Okalik. 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. You can stay, Mr. Shewchuk. The motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Going back to our orders of the day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Ningeongan.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 38 and the capital estimates, and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Okalik. The motion is in order. All those in favour, raise your hand. Opposed. The motion is carried. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to seek unanimous consent to return to Item 5 on the *Orders of the Day*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Mr. Rumbolt would like unanimous consent to return to Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Are there any nays? There are no nays. We have returned to Item 5. (interpretation ends) Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Rumbolt.

Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleagues for returning to Item 5.

I would just like to rise and recognize two people that I did not have a chance to recognize in this House in a couple of years and apparently the last time I forgot to say their names, so I would like to correct it today. Today, I have my wife, Mina and my son, Gary, here with me in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. There being none. (interpretation ends) Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a reminder that there is a meeting of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts tomorrow at nine o'clock.

Orders of the Day for October 26:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions

11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
 - Bill 44
 - Bill 45
 - Bill 46
 - Bill 47
 - Bill 48
 - Bill 49
 - Bill 50
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 38
 - Bill 39
 - Bill 40
 - Bill 41
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.
This House stands adjourned until
Thursday, October 26, at 1:30 p.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 17:56*

