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**Thursday, October 28, 2010**

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**Iqaluit**

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

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

### *Speaker*

**Hon. James Arreak**  
(Uqqummiut)

**Hon. Eva Ariak**  
(Iqaluit East)  
*Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister of Aboriginal Affairs; Minister responsible for Immigration; Minister responsible for the Status of Women*

**James Arvaluk**  
(Tununiq)

**Moses Aupaluktuq**  
(Baker Lake)

**Hon. Tagak Curley**  
(Rankin Inlet North)  
*Government House Leader; Minister of Health and Social Services; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation; Minister responsible for Homelessness*

**Ron Elliott**  
(Quttiktuq)

**Adamee Komoartok**  
(Pangnirtung)

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak**  
(Rankin Inlet South – Whale Cove)  
*Minister of Community and Government Services; Minister of Energy; Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation*

**John Ningark**  
(Akulliq)

**Johnny Ningeongan**  
(Nanulik)  
*Deputy Speaker, Chair of the Committee of the Whole*

**Paul Okalik**  
(Iqaluit West)  
*Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole*

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

**Allan Rumbolt**  
(Hudson Bay)

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

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk**  
(Amittuq)  
*Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth; Minister of Languages; Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council*

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

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo**  
(Iqaluit Centre)  
*Minister of Education; Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission*

**Jeannie Ugyuk**  
(Nattilik)

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Hansard Production  
Innirvik Support Services

**Box 1200**

**Iqaluit, Nunavut, X0A 0H0**

**Tel (867) 975-5000 Fax (867) 975-5190 Toll-Free (877) 334-7266**

**Website: [www.assembly.nu.ca](http://www.assembly.nu.ca)**

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut  
Thursday, October 28, 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 Louis Tapardjuk, Honourable Peter Taptuna, Honourable Hunter Tootoo, Ms. Jeannie Ugyuk.

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Speaker** (Hon. James Arreak) (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to ask Mr. Ningeongan to say the opening prayer.

>>Prayer

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. A very good afternoon, Premier, Ministers, Members of the Legislative Assembly, Nunavummiut, the people of Qikiqtarjuaq, and the people of Clyde River, should they be able to watch the proceedings.

(interpretation ends) Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Hon. Louis Tapardjuk.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements**

**Minister's Statement 214 – 3(2): Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Katimajit**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, my *Annuraaqatik*. I hear that my constituents in Igloodik are able to see us

and as for my constituents in Hall Beach, I wish them a very good day.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to take this opportunity to provide an update on the activities of the *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Katimajit*.

Members of the third IQK met for the first time on April 21 to 23, 2009. At that time, an overview of the mandate of the committee was presented and this included: the purpose and terms of reference of *Katimajit*; administrative issues; and an overview of the *Tamapta* Mandate.

IQK elected a chairperson, a co-chair, and a representative to sit on the Embrace Life Council. As well, five members were selected to serve on Nunavut Geographic Place Names Committee. IQK also selected individuals to sit on subcommittees in the areas of health and social services, education, and justice.

Since that first meeting, IQK has met twice; in November 2009 and March 2010. During the November meeting, they voiced their concerns about access to traditional knowledge and the lack of Inuit advisors/counsellors in the communities. During the March meeting, IQK members provided advice to the GN's Poverty Reduction Working Group around the issue of poverty and how it should be addressed in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, IQK committee members have once again convened this week in Iqaluit. Topics to be covered during their meeting include:

- Inuit healing processes
- Inuit perspectives on counselling



- Presentations from the Nunavut Court for family intervention, which has recently been passed in the House
- NTI Harvesting program
- Update on the poverty working group
- Presentation on *Taiguusiliuqtiit*

Mr. Speaker, IQK members are individuals who have garnered tremendous respect in their communities for their wealth of knowledge and experience they have accumulated. They know the tremendous hardships our forefathers have experienced and what is happening today.

I met with the committee members two days ago and I am inviting my esteemed colleagues to a special dinner with them tonight so they can meet them in person.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to tabling the IQK annual report at the appropriate time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Eva Aariak.

**Minister's Statement 215 – 3(2):  
Tribute to the High Arctic Exiles**

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to pay tribute to the Inuit who were relocated to the High Arctic by the federal government in the 1950s. On August 18, after more than 60 years, the Government of Canada apologized to those who were relocated to the Nunavut communities of Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord.

The Hon. Duncan, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, on behalf of the Prime Minister, the Government of Canada, and all Canadians, expressed his regret for the suffering caused by the mistakes and broken promises that led to this dark chapter in our history.

Mr. Speaker, on September 19, me and my colleagues, Minister Curley and Minister Tapardjuk, travelled to Grise Fiord to witness another tribute to these individuals. The Member for Quttiktuq was also there. Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated unveiled one of the two monuments commissioned to honour the sacrifices made by the High Arctic exiles.

I want to thank Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated for commissioning these two monuments: one in Resolute Bay by artist Simeonie Amagoalik and one in Grise Fiord by artist Looty Pijamini.

Mr. Speaker, the formal apology given by Minister Duncan to those affected by the relocation was, no doubt, due to continuous advocacy by Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and for that we are deeply grateful.

It is my great hope that these long-awaited words from the federal government and these monuments will help to heal the pain still felt by so many. My thoughts are with them, their families, and those who suffered who are no longer with us today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ministers' Statements. Hon. Hunter Tootoo.

**Minister's Statement 216 – 3(2):  
Upcoming DEA Elections**

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, everybody. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform my colleagues about the upcoming district education authority elections, which will take place later this fall in all communities. December 13 is Election Day in Nunavut and our territory's DEAs are looking for new members.

Mr. Speaker, our community DEAs play a crucial role in shaping and elevating our education system. Their contributions at the community level guide language of instruction, inclusive education, attendance policies, and the hiring of teachers, principals, and elders. DEAs work to direct the school program and establish local programs based on Inuit societal values and the needs of their communities. They encourage student participation to ensure positive school environments and are responsible for the finances associated with the operation of the DEA.

Now more than ever, we need committed, enthusiastic Nunavummiut to become involved in their local DEAs, to help the Department of Education implement the new *Education Act* and make our dreams of a truly successful made-in-Nunavut system a reality.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my fellow members to encourage their constituents to become involved and put their names forward. The nomination period for these DEA elections is open on September 25 to November 8.

Education in Nunavut is about learning with culture, tradition, and innovation,

and we need participation from Nunavummiut in all of our communities to ensure our success. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Hon. Eva Aariak.

**Minister's Statement 217 – 3(2):  
Arnait Nipingit Summit**

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise again. Last month, the Government of Nunavut co-hosted the Arnait Nipingit Summit in Iqaluit together with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, and the Qullit Status of Women Council. The aim of the summit was to increase women's leadership skills through plenary sessions, workshops, and networking opportunities.

The summit brought together 150 women from across Nunavut and other Inuit regions, as well as federal ministers and national organizations. The summit was very well received. The event was a successful exercise in collaboration between our government, Inuit organizations, and women's groups and agencies.

Mr. Speaker, events like these are important as it is essential that women be equally involved in and responsible for leadership development on every level. This initiative has ensured that women will return to their communities with increased skills and knowledge, stronger networks, and confidence. Next steps will be a summit report and a continued partnership with the various

organizations involved to explore the possibility of implementing community-level initiatives.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that through events like this, women will feel a sense of empowerment so they can take on leadership positions and claim a stronger voice. This is certainly a very promising beginning.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the partnering organizations and sponsors who helped in making the summit a success and all of the women who participated in the summit. Our communities are home to many inspirational women and showcasing their strength, capacity, and resilience at the summit was an incredible opportunity to demonstrate to all participants that they too can have leadership skills. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Hon. Daniel Shewchuk.

**Minister's Statement 218 – 3(2): Five Pangnirtung Turbot Fishers Visit Ilulissat, Greenland**

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This week, five turbot fishers from Pangnirtung are embarking on a knowledge gathering journey to Ilulissat, Greenland. During this trip, Nunavut fishers will learn inshore turbot fishery skills and techniques from Greenlandic fishers.

Greenland maintains prosperous inshore fisheries and harvests thousands of pounds of turbot annually. Nunavut's

Cumberland Sound winter turbot fishery was developed using methods and gear types learned from Greenlandic fishermen back in 1986, and we are looking forward to repeat that success as we continue to develop inshore, open water turbot fisheries.

Through funding from the Department of Environment and the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor), the delegation will observe the techniques, gear types, and vessels utilized in the inshore turbot fisheries of the Disko Bay area. They will observe the fishing activities of two different vessel size classes and will tour local turbot processing facilities. This trip will be followed by a visit from Greenlandic fishers to Pangnirtung in the summer of 2011 for further learning and mentorship.

Mr. Speaker, this trip represents a very positive and necessary step in the continued development of Nunavut's inshore, open water fisheries. *Ma'na*, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Hon. Eva Aariak.

**Minister's Statement 219 – 3(2): Partnership with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated**

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I'm trying to make up for yesterday's absence as I was in Rankin Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to acknowledge our important partner, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. I was

happy to travel to Rankin Inlet yesterday to address their annual general assembly and to take their questions. I would like to thank my colleague, Jeannie Ugyuk, MLA for Nattilik, who joined me yesterday.

I am proud to say that our government's working relationship with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated has never been better. I am proud of many accomplishments that NTI and the GN have achieved together and the work we are currently undertaking.

For example, the Suicide Prevention Strategy is an excellent example of partnership between NTI and the GN, as well as the Embrace Life Council and the RCMP. This collaboration is our best effort to address one of the largest challenges in our society.

Another example is the Poverty Reduction Strategy in which NTI and the GN will use a public engagement process. We want communities to play a leading role in this process. No one person or organization can reduce poverty on their own. It is through partnership and hard work that we can achieve this.

And yet another example of cooperation between the GN and NTI is the establishment of Piquisilirivvik, our Inuit cultural learning facility. Construction started in August 2009 and should be completed during the winter of 2011. This entire project, the design of the unique building in Clyde River, as well as the concepts for the programming are the result of close cooperation of the members of the Piquisilirivvik Steering Committee. The committee consists of members from

NTI and the GN, which has been guiding this very original and valuable project for many years.

Finally, our successful partnering in Nunavut Day every year provides not only an important reason to celebrate but also nourishes us when we have to work on tougher issues.

The GN/NTI protocol is almost complete. Once both parties have signed the document, we will have an official document that identifies priority areas, evaluates through our annual reviews, and sets the course of our future annual work plans. As NTI and the GN renew and continue our working relationship, I am confident a more established and increased cooperation will occur between us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Premier. You were right on the two-minute mark. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Hunter Tootoo.

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to get up and say that my eyesight is not what it used to be. I mistakenly said September 25 for the opening of the nomination period for DEA elections; it is October 25. So I just want to get that correctly on the record. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Item 3: Members' Statements****Member's Statement 332 – 3(2): First Air to Ship Trigger Locks**

**Mr. Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my appreciation to First Air for its support of our communities.

As members will recall, I made a statement last week in which I committed to helping acquire trigger locks for any resident of Cape Dorset or Kimmirut who cannot afford them. As I noted last week, the safe storage of firearms in our communities will help to improve public safety.

Mr. Speaker, I also noted that I had discussed this issue with the Minister of Justice and I am looking forward to the government playing its part.

Mr. Speaker, First Air held a community event today which was very positive. I am extremely pleased to be able to report that in my discussions with First Air management, they have committed to transporting new trigger locks free of charge to any community in Nunavut.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in paying tribute to a good corporate citizen. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you. Members' Statements. Mr. Elliott.

**Member's Statement 333 – 3(2): Where is Nunavut's Child and Youth Representative?**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to once again address Nunavut's commitment to establish the position of a child and youth representative.

Mr. Speaker, almost one year ago today, Full Caucus, that is, all of us here who are committed to representing the people of Nunavut, young and old, agreed, together, that one of our priorities as the Third Legislative Assembly of Nunavut was to establish an independent position to represent and articulate the needs of children and youth.

Mr. Speaker, imagine my surprise when, exactly one year later, our Premier tables a document in this House which identifies her government's strategic directions and does not make a single mention of the child and youth representative.

Mr. Speaker, the government's *Tamapta* document also made promises and commitments, such as the establishment of an office for advocacy and action. Strangely, this new "Direction" document does not make a single mention of establishing the Social Advocacy Office which was to represent and advocate on behalf of challenged and disadvantaged individuals in our society.

Mr. Speaker, what has happened to these commitments? Why are the needs of the most vulnerable groups in our society no longer a priority?

Mr. Speaker, yesterday, this House approved over \$6 million in residential care contracts for services provided out of territory. I am confident that a significant amount of this funding goes towards care for children and youth. Who knows how much pain and suffering could have been avoided with the support and assistance of a child and youth representative.

Mr. Speaker, I have risen on this topic many times in this House. I remain committed to my position. I am disappointed, disheartened, and discouraged by the government's failure to demonstrate a continued commitment to this important issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Members' Statements. Member for Natilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Member's Statement 334 – 3(2):  
Thank you Premier for Trip to Rankin Inlet**

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "hello" to the people of Natilik. I say "good day" and I love them dearly to my older sisters in Gjoa Haven and Taloyoak. I am appreciative of your continual support.

I was grateful that I was invited to go to Rankin Inlet with the Premier. They were very hospitable and welcomed us with open arms, and we had a community feast. It really taught me a couple of very good lessons about government operations. Previously I had never partaken in the AGM of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, so I am very

thankful that I had that opportunity. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Member's Statement 335 – 3(2):  
Resigning from Executive Council**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Additionally, I mentioned this earlier, the residents of Igloolik were unable to tune into the proceedings for quite some time. I would like to thank the staff and people who worked to ensure that the proceedings are now available on television in Igloolik as well as my constituents in Hall Beach.

First of all, I would like to acknowledge quite a few people who worked extremely hard on the land claims agreement for Nunavut. There are quite a few that we know who have passed away and those who are still living who worked really hard on making the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement a reality.

Now, this one person I want to acknowledge who helped to initiate the land claim happens to be my hon. colleague, Tagak Curley. We are very appreciative and thankful to you for your efforts on behalf of Nunavummiut. He had a vision on how we could get Inuit rights recognized, especially our dream of self-sufficiency. I wanted to acknowledge that.

Secondly, another person who was one of the chief negotiators happens to be

our first Premier as well, Paul Okalik. I am very thankful for his hard work and dedication because, even though he was young at the time, he was deeply committed to that cause. Now that we have finally embarked on self-sufficiency, there is no question that we have much to thank him for.

Back in those days, with the land claims, we assumed that we would start taking more control of our lives and start making decisions with regard to the land and resources. We were administered by governments that were quite far; first in Ottawa and then in Yellowknife. When the government got moved to Yellowknife, it was felt that it would be a lot closer than Ottawa.

When Nunavut became a territory and they chose the capital, they chose Iqaluit. We wanted the government to be closer to the people of Nunavut and to work towards fulfilling their interests.

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

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, my colleagues. My *Annuraaqatik*, Mr. Speaker, thank you.

When the Nunavut government was created, the larger communities got the benefit of decentralization by virtue of the separation of the departments. This

was also to ensure that the government was closer to the residents of Nunavut. At least that was the purpose that I was led to understand.

The government should be approaching their residents and not the other way around since this government is theirs and they have to have a collective perspective that this government is our own. In the past, the continuous message we heard was that it was their government. Today, we have to celebrate our ascension into having our own government. When the decentralization process was being initialized, the departments with their positions were allocated to the communities and employment opportunities opened for their residents.

Mr. Speaker, this significant milestone which I have alluded to and which I keep reiterating makes me quite proud and gratified, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, for being a Nunavummiuq. Furthermore, not just for being a resident of Nunavut, I'm also quite satisfied that in this House, I am able to partake in the decision-making process, especially in providing direction and strategies for our future priorities. I am justifiably proud of that participation and I wanted to note that here.

I have twice agreed to represent my constituents when I was first elected in 2004, and later on in 2008. In agreeing to undertake these duties twice, these are what I agreed to: I personally, in all truthfulness and honesty, agree to represent my constituents to the utmost of my capability and capacity in the House. All of my skills and knowledge would not be set aside but put towards fulfilling the trust given to me by my

constituents. I agreed to never abuse this privilege and I committed to these two principles while I was in the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. Further, I have also stated, "God help me," when I made that oath. These are the two instances whereby I have committed to representing my constituents.

In 2004, I was elected to the cabinet and I was selected by the regular members to sit on the cabinet. I was extremely proud and appreciative for that selection because they believed in my abilities to handle certain portfolios. That was very gratifying. When I was first elected, the Premier at the time was Paul Okalik, and he gave me a portfolio that was dear to my heart, especially related to cultural issues when we were trying to get the operations going.

In 2008, when I was re-elected, I was again selected to sit on the cabinet. I was very happy and gratified that my colleagues had selected that for me, so I thank my cabinet colleagues and Premier Eva Aariak. Ever since that time, my constituents in Igloolik and Hall Beach have believed in me, and they have elected me to represent them here in the Government of Nunavut, and they felt that I had the ability to continue my ministerial portfolio.

I am trying to fulfill my duties to the utmost of my capability so that I can represent my constituents and try and make their lives easier. To my constituents in Hall Beach and Igloolik, I will continue to try and meet your concerns and interests here in this House, especially as it applies to cultural issues. I keep mentioning it and I'm sure some of my colleagues are tired of my statements regarding cultural issues.

Now with health, youth, the justice system, housing, education, and in particular, the culture, language, elders, and youth are priority issues for me. I keep mentioning to the government the same statements and positions that I've had in the past that all of the services that we provide as a government have to be closer to the Inuit. Once that happens and the government can realize that yes, we're trying to make improvements, and yes, if the government feels closer to the people, then that can happen.

Our elders, I know, are trying to pass along their knowledge and legacy, and they want the younger generations to know about their history. It has been 40 years that our ancestors were put under severe stress when they were moved to the communities. I will continue to work to represent all Inuit in this legislature, especially the Hall Beach and Igloolik residents whom I represent.

Mr. Speaker and my hon. colleagues, I want to inform the House that I submitted a resignation letter for my membership in the cabinet to the Premier. The Premier accepted my resignation letter and my reasons for resigning. I am thankful for the Premier. I stated in my letter that I wanted to resign from the cabinet so that in the fall of 2010, I will be resigning my ministerial portfolio here at the end of this session. The Premier has approved it, so I would like to thank her for that.

The reason for my resignation is one that I have deliberated for a lengthy time and it's not something I thought about just recently. I felt it was easier to represent the interests of my constituents here in the House. I wanted to give the opportunity for the regular members to



select a new executive member for the new fiscal year. That is how I have made my decision. It seems to just happen to fall in line. Basically I am trying to go along with the interests of the regular members.

In the future, I want to help resolve a lot of the problems with the help of my colleagues. Furthermore, I want this to be heard. I am happy and I am expecting that I will now become a regular member. I have never been a regular member ever since I was first elected. I want to become part of the Regular Members' Caucus. I want people to know that I want to find out what it's like at that side of the House.

Mr. Speaker, I am very appreciative of the past Premier because he gave me the portfolio of CLEY. I was very passionate about that, especially those of us who were sent to residential schools. They really tried to assimilate us and take out the language and culture of the Inuit. Back then, the government felt that the Inuit customs and knowledge were not worthy and they had to be assimilated into the general public. Again we were living in an environment that had no trees. That was absolutely not relevant to the southern mentality. Again I am very passionate and committed to this cause, and I will continue that.

I would like to thank everybody at this time because they have been very hospitable and has worked well during my time in the executive. I will continue to make these my priorities and will continue to be committed to representing the Inuit of Nunavut. The Inuit of Nunavut have to be proud of their culture and identity. This is the strength

of Inuit because we continue to retain our cultural pride and identity. We have to be proud of that. We have to feel that. Again we have to continue what our ancestors' dream was to ensure that we leave a legacy for our descendants.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I have been advised by many elders that in those days, they worked really hard to survive. Sometimes they would go through hunger and hardships, but they survived. I think that's one thing I see down the road. Our descendants will be going through a difficult time, especially here in the House. There are a lot of issues we have to resolve in order to work towards our dream. We have to ensure that priorities for Nunavut are still followed and we have to commit ourselves to realizing that dream.

I would like to thank my constituents and my colleagues in the various portfolios I have been in. I want to thank Simon Awa and my assistant, Eileen Kilabuk-Weber. She has been a tremendous resource to me as minister, so I would like to thank her. I would also like to thank the Clerk here at the House.

I will end my statement for now. I want to thank you, Mr. Speaker, and it is quite obvious that I will no longer be a minister, but I will continue to represent the interests of Nunavummiut, wherever they are, and assist them however possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you very much, our esteemed colleague, Minister Tapardjuk. I know that many youth, elders, and cultural advocates are very appreciative of your tremendous

hard work. At this time, as we all want to thank the hon. minister, we will take a short break. The bell will be rung once we're ready to resume our proceedings.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 14:11 and resumed at 14:24*

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

**Member's Statement 336 – 3(2):  
Letter from Young Constituent**

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, prior to reading my statement, I want to express my gratitude to our colleague, Louis Tapardjuk. On behalf of all of the people listening to the proceedings, I say "thank you" along with all Nunavutmiut, especially the Inuit who call our offices to speak about Inuit societal values and customs. They knew the minister dealing with CLEY was committed to incorporating IQ. It will be very difficult to replace him as he epitomized that department. For that reason, I would like to agree, Mr. Speaker, if possible, let's stand and rise to thank the member.

>>*Applause*

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I feel that many people will reminisce about the member due to his untiring efforts to represent Inuit and his impact was quite large.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I do have a letter that I would like to read on behalf of my constituent. It is a letter from Denise Graham in Rankin Inlet.

She says in her letter to me, "Dear Tagak Curley, MLA for Rankin Inlet North, I am Denise Patricia Graham, 17 years old. I'm a student at Maani Ulujuk Ilinniarvik. I'm writing a letter to you because I believe it's time to make some changes in Rankin Inlet for the youth to keep them out of trouble after school and on weekends. First of all, I think a good idea to keep the youth entertained and keep out of trouble would be more activities at the hall like an arcade and laser tag," whatever that means.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, she goes on to say, "That would catch a lot of attention. Also, a bigger youth centre with more things inside like pool tables, computers, and another Ping-Pong table, etcetera, maybe hold more dances and many tournaments of all different kinds of sports. I think all of these ideas I just gave would be really good for the citizens of Rankin Inlet. Maybe people would stay away from drugs and alcohol more. It's totally worth a try."

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to acknowledge the students from the local high school here. I think it's time for youth to speak up and I certainly welcome them. Thank you.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit West, Mr. Okalik.

**Member's Statement 337 – 3(2):  
Tribute to Louis Tapardjuk**

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleagues. As

someone who has been a member of the cabinet for a long time, Mr. Louis Tapardjuk, I want to acknowledge him today. It hasn't been just during these legislative years that I have worked with Louis Tapardjuk.

In 1985, when I started working for TFN, I first met Louis Tapardjuk, who was already representing his fellow Inuit. Based on his own beliefs, he wanted to help represent Inuit interests and ensure that Inuit became more self-sufficient. He was already there when I first started. He provided very good advice along with his expectations of Nunavut. He also advised me to pursue my dreams. I have been forever grateful ever since that day I first met him.

Again, in reference to Louis Tapardjuk, he has gone through hardship and stress, and obviously only by using his Inuit knowledge has he been able to resolve these challenges. He provides an example of how Inuit can resolve all of these challenges and overcome them.

When Louis was elected in Amittuq, as the Premier, I immediately started looking for a portfolio that would fit him so that he could be part of the government. The Department of CLEY seemed to be an orphan in those days and every time I would try to assign it to a minister, it would never quite gel. So when Louis was elected, I immediately told him that the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth was set aside for him and that it seemed to fit Louis to a "T." I asked him to manage that department properly. When he accepted that portfolio, I was quite ecstatic about his acceptance and I have been thankful since that day.

The government seemed very far from Inuit customs and traditions when it was first created. It was due to Mr. Tapardjuk's insistence that the government became a more Inuit-friendly operation. I am very thankful to Mr. Tapardjuk for that because he followed his beliefs in trying to change the operations of the government, especially when we talk about the Inuit language.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to conclude my statement if it's okay with my colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

As I was saying, Louis became a valuable member of the cabinet. He really urged the government to change its direction. When we started to work on a strategy, one of his values was that the Inuit traditions and the language have to be part of the government operations. With Tapardjuk providing encouragement, we became more focused towards Inuit interests as a government. Mr. Tapardjuk was quite vocal and lobbied hard when we started talking about language protection and today, we now have language legislation.

He also showcased a perfect example in your riding, Mr. Speaker, where the Piqqusilirivvik Cultural School will now open, which is specifically geared

towards the Inuit culture. It is gratifying to see this facility being completed and inching closer to opening. Irrespective of his status, whether he is not a minister anymore, I would urge this government to invite Louis Tapardjuk for the grand opening of that school as he was instrumental in pushing for this facility.

Tapardjuk will leave a very large void in the government cabinet. He has set a lofty and worthwhile goal for the Department of CLEY. Although I supported all of the ministers, I liked him since the goal he set out was quite as a destination that may be hard to reach since he had a unique set of skills as the minister. So I would like to thank the member for his tireless dedication and I would be happy to work with him anywhere. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Members' Statements. (interpretation ends) Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of... oh, I'm sorry. Minister Kusugak.

#### **Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions**

#### **Return to Oral Question 460 – 3(2): Government Response to Motion Calling for a Comprehensive Performance Audit of the Qulliq Energy Corporation**

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to the residents of Whale Cove and Rankin Inlet. I'm sure those who visited Rankin Inlet were welcomed hospitably.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to give a return to an oral

question asked by Mr. Okalik, Member for Iqaluit West, on Question No. 460 – 3(2), a question asked on October 22 on the government response to motion calling for a comprehensive performance audit of the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

The request pursuant to Motion 17 – 3(2) from March 22, 2010 is currently pending. The motion as passed would result in the largest and most comprehensive audit of a public agency or government department in Nunavut since 1999. Through informal conversations, it was determined that neither the Office of the Auditor General nor QEC would have the resources available to conduct such a thorough review immediately following the motion. However, as part of the OAG's ongoing performance audits of the GN and its territorial corporations, the OAG will be conducting a performance audit of procurement management practices in 2011-12. The remaining aspects of the comprehensive audit remains a work in progress and a formal request will be submitted in the near future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It gives me great pleasure to welcome to the Gallery today: Betty Brewster, she is the Manager of Legal Translation in Inuktitut in the Department of Justice; and Jenny Fahmy, she is our French Language Translator. They do a lot of tremendous work that we see every session in the

Legislative Assembly. They are sitting over here in the Gallery. Welcome to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Unfortunately my colleague cut me off as he recognized them first. I would like to recognize Betty Brewster, who is one of my constituents.

I believe there are students here from grade 9. I would like to welcome them to the Gallery. I hope you are learning a lot from this experience and I hope you continue your education so you can supplant us as Members of the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you. Mr. Ningark.

**Mr. Ningark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, would like to recognize a long-time friend of the family from the Natilik area, Betty Brewster. Welcome. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize a young man here today from Sanikiluaq who is attending school here in Iqaluit because his mother is doing Arctic College courses, Mr. Iabeli Ekidlak.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Mr. Ningark.

### Item 6: Oral Questions

#### Question 493 – 3(2): Status of the Municipal Financing Review

**Mr. Ningark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my questions to the Minister of Community and Government Services.

Mr. Speaker, during the June sitting, a colleague of mine asked questions in this House on the status of the municipal funding review. The minister indicated that his department had started its review. To be exact, the question was on June 8, Question 411 – 3(2).

My question is this: can the minister provide an update on the status of the municipal funding [review]? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you. I thank my colleague for asking that question. With regard to the municipal funding, it is correct that this is currently under review. It's still ongoing and again this is dealing with the operations of the hamlets of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Ningark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First supplementary: it's come to my attention that the position of assistant senior administrative officer in Repulse Bay can no longer be staffed because of a lack of funding and a long-serving employee had to be let go.

My question is this, Mr. Speaker: will the department's review or look at ensuring that all municipalities have adequate funding to allow for the hiring of a senior administrative officer and an assistant senior administrative officer? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When reviewing the municipal funding for the operational maintenance, any given community administers their municipality differently than another community and some have more staff than others. It's impossible to look at and review them all at once.

However, with regard to the review of municipal funding to see whether the community can keep up with their funding, I can tell the member that we will also consider how many staff they should have in the community and how many Inuit should be working within their municipality. We will also include that in our review. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My second supplementary: the department's

Municipal Funding Program Policy expired on June 30 of this year. Can the minister indicate whether cabinet has extended this policy and can he indicate when a new policy will be approved? Will there be a new policy developed with regard to municipal corporations or the hamlets, or to look at the block funding for their operations? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for his line of questioning. It's very good to get an update, especially about hamlet operations and where their funds are. We are still conducting that review and as we will be using the new legislation, the allocations are set at pre-existing levels. Prior to the completion of this new policy, I will speak to the member on it later. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to know when the review would be completed. Can he inform the House as to what timeframe the minister is looking at completing this review? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you for raising that question. It's not a very easy and simple task and again, it's added onto all of the other

tasks that our officials have to do. I imagine that it is very close to being completed and that is our goal to complete the review. Once I have been apprised of the completion of their review, I will inform the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 494 – 3(2): Child and Youth Representative**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Premier.

Last October, all Members of the Legislative Assembly met for three days in this Chamber to identify our priorities for our term of office. At the end of our meeting, we issued a communiqué that reflected our discussions. That communiqué stated, and I quote, “An independent position to represent and articulate the needs of children and youth will also be established during the life of the Legislative Assembly.”

Earlier this week, the Premier tabled a document that she indicated will guide the government for the remainder of its life. There is no reference that I can find in this document to respecting the will of the Members of the Assembly and establishing an independent position to represent children and youth. Why was this priority left out? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Let me refresh the member’s memory a little bit. From the past, the

original mandate that we have, *Tamapta*, is our mandate that we are still going by. The renewed mandate that we developed several weeks ago is still part of the original mandate.

I want the member to know that we have established the Social Advocacy Office to study how government can change its policies, programs, and structure for better advocacy and actions on behalf of those at the disadvantage. The Social Advocacy Office is currently focused on the following key priorities and files:

1. Social safety net review;
2. Development of a child and youth representative position;
3. Disabilities; and
4. Women’s secretariat and gender issues.

Interdepartmental work focuses on improving quality of life and improving conditions of disadvantaged groups are also part of that.

In October 2010, the Government of Nunavut’s contribution in regard to the physically disabled was the amount of \$100,000 that was transferred from the Department of Health and Social Services to Executive as part of the whole process of streamlining the whole thing. The Government of Nunavut is committed to ensuring that Nunavut’s children and youth are being adequately served.

As part of the Government of Nunavut’s *Tamapta* Mandate, the Department of Health and Social Services conducts a comprehensive review of child and

family services legislation, programming, and the current delivery model to ensure children receive appropriate and responsive services. This process will be led by the Health and Social Services Review Advisory Committee. My colleague, the Minister of Health and Social Services, has already initiated this very important work by hosting the knowledge sharing forum in December 2009 and by launching a comprehensive public consultation campaign on September 1, 2010.

My department, through the Social Advocacy Office, maintains an active membership presence in the Department of Health and Social Services Review Advisory Committee, holding two membership positions.

Mr. Speaker, the Child and Youth Representative Office will be created by 2013 in coordination with the Department of Health and Social Services. Right now, the Social Advocacy Office, which is very active today, is currently conducting a jurisdiction review to research the type of models used to create a Child and Youth Representative Office.

And, Mr. Speaker, the government is committed to create an independent child and youth representative who will report to the Legislative Assembly and ensure that Nunavut's children and youth are being adequately served by the government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that answer. Just for

confirmation, you were saying that there will actually be a position filled in 2013 in terms of having the office and a person holding the position or PY of child and youth representative in 2013.

The reason I'm asking this is because... well, there are two reasons: one, there might be an election in between there, which might change the direction of the government, but the one is in reference to the GLOs, which initially my understanding was that the GLOs were supposed to be hired and in positions in our communities by September of this year, and that hasn't happened.

So I want confirmation as to: will the PY be filled in 2013, with the office established at the same time? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Eva Aariak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know the member wishes to have things happen overnight, just like I do sometimes with certain positions and certain things that the government has to do, but things do take time. This is one of those things that are taking time because of the fact that the review that the Health and Social Services office is doing will have to be done first before we can work on the next phase. A lot of these decisions that come from the review of the Health and Social Services will have a direct impact on that. We would like to address things in stages.

The plan right now is the fact that the Child and Youth Representative Office is to be open by 2013. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.



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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Has your department thought of the possibility of hiring an interim person in the position to help with the research and going through jurisdictional research, you were talking about what they're doing in other areas, as well as possibly follow along in terms of the consultation with *Child and Family Services Act*? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) There are many things that come into play in terms of planning for this wonderful initiative that we can hardly wait for. Different options are being considered right now and this is one of them. So I will keep the member posted as to each step of the way that we're taking. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that response. I do realize things don't happen overnight, but I do know that, I guess since 1999, there have been members on the other side of the House who have been in different capacities, either as NAM members or mayors, pushing for this and I know all of the Baffin mayors had put this in as a recommendation that they would like to see happen. We have been doing this or on this path for the last 10 years, so I would hope that there's some information that has been kept or researched that could be reused.

In terms of reporting back to us, when should we expect...? Again I'm asking this question because, from lessons learned as a new regular member, I'm not as experienced as Minister Tapardjuk. With the problems we've had with the Nunavut Housing Corporation by being told that houses will be delivered on time and within budget, I just took that government as its word and said, "Yes, this will happen," and didn't push as much as I should have, and it's come back and bit us in the tush, I think I can say. I wouldn't want to see that happen with this very valuable position.

In terms of an interim report, or when do you think that you would be able to report back to us? Would it be after the good work that the Minister of Health and Social Services is doing with the *Child and Family Services Act* that you would report back to us as to how the progress is going with the child and youth representative? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Eva Aariak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said earlier, things will be happening in succession. The Health and Social Services review of the child and family services legislation will be happening and we need that information after their public consultation to be linked to the position. I am committed to keep the member informed. I cannot say exactly when I will report back to him, but this is one of the very important aspects of the job that is being done under the Social Advocacy Office. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 495 – 3(2): Bedbugs at Kivalliq Boarding Home in Winnipeg**

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister responsible for Health and Social Services.

Earlier today, I received concerns from Sanikiluaq that the Kivalliq Medical Boarding Home in Winnipeg is suffering from an outbreak of bedbugs. I understand that other MLAs from the Kivalliq may have received similar concerns.

As the minister is aware, news media reports in recent months have indicated that the problem of bedbugs has re-emerged in many countries and cities across Canada.

Is the minister aware of concerns of bedbugs at the Kivalliq Medical Boarding Home in Winnipeg? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The answer is yes.

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

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With bedbugs, if the bedbugs are in our boarding home in Winnipeg, it's just a matter of time before they probably end

up in our communities and, if they get in our houses, they are very hard to terminate. What is your department doing to prevent bedbugs from entering Nunavut communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Certainly the department is quite well aware. We have had a number of meetings with the boarding home in Winnipeg, as well as the office of public health. The chief medical public health officer is consulting continually with the boarding home in Winnipeg. Once I have more information, Mr. Speaker, exactly the plan to either exterminate or whatever, I will be prepared to provide more information here. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What steps is the department taking to work with the operators of our other medical boarding homes, for instance, in Ottawa and Yellowknife, to ensure that conditions are sanitary for our constituents? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe that that particular outbreak throughout the world, including nation-wide, is really taken seriously by the hospitality as well as the boarding home industry. The companies that are involved in providing these services are aware that there is a procedure that they

must use to exterminate, or whatnot, to control the pests.

Again I say if I have more information necessary that we need to provide to the public through the office of public health, we will do so. At the moment, I have not received the actual details of exactly how we are going to carry out this particular case throughout Nunavut, but the best information would be to provide information.

Really, there is not a quick solution to this thing, it continues to grow, and so on, but our officials are engaged in trying to find a solution to this. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate what his department is doing at the present time with people who are travelling on medical if the boarding home is unable to be used? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you. Mr. Speaker, if the question is about the Winnipeg hoarding home, certainly the chief medical officer is in contact with that. If the outbreak is serious, certainly he has the power to recommend closure. If it's not to that extent, we are still attempting to work with the boarding home because it's a private company that is actually responsible for taking measures into that. Once I have more information, I'll be prepared to bring it to the House. Thank you.

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

### **Question 496 – 3(2): Bedbug Infestation**

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regard to the question of bedbugs, they can be harmful to people and in hearing about these bedbugs, they eat your skin. This is not a very good experience for anybody. They are very hard to exterminate and sometimes it can take a couple of weeks that these bedbugs will live, either in the bed or in the clothes, and they can hook themselves onto clothing and bedding. They can infest a place very quickly.

So a fairly large concern is that if the bedbugs ever arrive in Nunavut, then they would spread like wildfire. I want the minister to thoroughly investigate this issue. When was this infestation found out? I would like to make that my first question as it relates to the Kivalliq Medical Boarding Home in Winnipeg. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. I believe you are raising your question to the Minister of Health and Social Services. Minister of Health and Social Services, (interpretation ends) Hon. Tagak Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I totally understand the concern with regard to Winnipeg. I first heard about it at the beginning of last month and I immediately informed the public health officials that this was a very big concern.

With regard to the extermination efforts, the people who are contracted to look after the Winnipeg boarding home were notified that this is a very big concern for us and I am awaiting further status updates about this issue. I immediately wrote to them once I heard about this matter and I informed them that this has to be resolved. Once that letter arrives, I will be able to report to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, again, this is a pressing concern. It's quite obvious that the department knows exactly who went to that boarding centre, especially the people from Kivalliq. Will the department inform all medical patients who were at that facility about this bedbug infestation?

Again, it can explode into an infestation very quickly. Nowadays, people come from all over Nunavut. If there is an infestation anywhere, then it will be stuck in that building and it will be almost impossible to exterminate. You would have to throw out all of the beds and furniture.

So I am urging the minister and his officials to look into this matter thoroughly and to inform the medical patients who happen to be at that boarding home during that time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I totally

understand the concern expressed by the member. We will commit to undertaking a thorough review. The boarding home is administered by a private contractor and it took a while for this bedbug infestation to be found out. It wasn't just the building; it seems to be spreading to various places.

Mr. Speaker, once I get an update on what the actual situation is, I will inform the House about the status of this issue. It's still being dealt with at this time. Because there is a private contractor looking after that, they have been tasked to try to stop the infestation and to exterminate the bedbugs. They still haven't gotten back to me, so I will inform you when they do so. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

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

#### **Question 497 – 3(2): Implementation of the Family Abuse Intervention Act**

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm getting itchy just by listening to these comments. I completely understand how those people would feel about this issue.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Justice.

Mr. Speaker, according to RCMP figures provided by the Minister of Justice in response to my written question last June, approximately one-fifth of violent incidents that end up in court in Nunavut involve spousal violence. That is how

large the ratio is in Nunavut, at least based on the court cases.

The *Family Abuse Intervention Act* has been in force for over two years. The legislation has caused issues in the smaller communities and they do not want to use the legislation. They want to be more involved in healing and in trying to reduce family violence, especially in dealing with couples and their issues. However, some of the communities still have not received this information that can provide a lot of benefits and services available for couples who may be undergoing stressful situations or family violence incidents.

Can the minister update this House on how many communities across Nunavut have implemented the *Family Abuse Intervention Act* to date, which communities use the legislation and which don't, and further, if it is not being implemented, why is it taking so long to be implemented in our communities? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for those three questions. Mr. Speaker, the *Family Abuse Intervention Act* is a very important Act.

It's my understanding, based on the review of the Act by an independent consulting firm, that there were problems with the Act. They say it was rolled out too fast without all of the systems in place. There were concerns with the hamlets not wanting to oversee the employees. There were problems of

having a manager in place. I believe and I think it's rolled out in all of the communities.

But, as with anything in Nunavut, there is a capacity issue. People are employed and then they move elsewhere, but there is ongoing training that is provided to all of the officials. There was a meeting in Iqaluit here last month with quite a few of the people involved in the *Family Abuse Intervention Act* across Nunavut. I know the staff are working hard to implement changes, fix things up, and make it a better program.

As I said, it is an important Act and we believe that it can do important things for the folks in the communities. I look forward to continuing to implement and strengthen the *Family Abuse Intervention Act* so that it does exactly what it was intended to do in the first place. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) On March 22, 2010, the minister tabled a year-end report on community justice committees and the *Family Abuse Intervention Act*. The report contained a lot of numbers but without real results, these don't mean a thing. Can the minister describe how his department is using this kind of data to evaluate the effectiveness of the *Family Abuse Intervention Act*? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the

question. Mr. Speaker, exactly what I said earlier. We are getting that information, and we believe that the *Family Abuse Intervention Act* can be improved significantly, and we use those kinds of results to identify what's occurring in the communities and how it's being used. So it identifies lapses in the Act and the implementations, and we are working to strengthen it so that it provides better service to the people who it was intended to serve, as it was originally envisioned. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Under section 17 (2) of the *Family Abuse Intervention Act*, community intervention orders can include a requirement to attend traditional Inuit counselling. According to the minister's reply to my written question in June, this provision was only used seven times in the past two years. Can the minister explain why the IQ component of this legislation is being ignored? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I thank the member for asking that question.

Mr. Speaker, again, it was our own information that highlighted the serious shortages in the Act. I know there are emergency protection orders. There are more of those, but we believe that the CIOs, or community intervention orders, should be used more extensively in the communities. That's one of the areas we

are going to focus on going forward working with our employees across the territory. We have been providing training. I said we had the meeting last month and brought people in. We will continue to work towards strengthening the Act so that future reports will indicate better results.

In a sort of strange way, you would rather not see any results. In a perfect society, there would be no need for a *Family Abuse Intervention Act*; people would be getting along in the communities, but we know that's not going to happen. I have been a strong supporter of improving the life and standards for all citizens in all of our communities so that people are entitled to live a safe life, a healthy life. Our government remains committed to working towards that goal in all of the communities, and the *Family Abuse Intervention Act* again is one of the tools that we hope will assist us in that regard. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. Your final supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for responding to my question because it's a very important issue and something that helps the communities have healthier relationships.

It has been two years since the *Family Abuse Intervention Act* has been in force. The people of Nunavut believe that there was going to be some workshops held so that they will know the contents of the Act. Has there been any workshops and training programs set in the communities for the teaching of the Act? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member again for asking the question. I can't answer with any detail, but I do believe that in all of the regions and all of the communities, there are people who work with our community justice outreach workers and the regional coordinators who work with communities to make people aware of the program and how it can assist them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 498 – 3(2): Assessment of Housing Units**

**Mr. Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Nunavut Housing Corporation.

When was the last report done on the conditional assessment of all of the housing units? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would need clarification on that. That's a very tall order. At the same time, if the member would expand a bit on that, I'll be prepared to respond to him. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My understanding is that there was a

contract put out for an individual or a company to go to all of the communities and assess the housing units, and do a report on it. That's what I'm referring to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you. I think the member is asking whether there be condition ratings on all of the housing units in Nunavut. My information is that the condition rating is being conducted and it's going to be a little while before it's ready, but there are not only public housing that we're talking about, there are also staff housing units. If the member is asking about both of these, it's going to take a while to conclude that, but it is being carried out. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the minister let the House know who was awarded the contract and what the cost was? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Mr. Speaker, I would need to provide detailed information on that with respect to who the contractor was awarded and the detailed costing, so I will take it as notice, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. Your question has been taken as notice, Mr. Schell. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

**Question 499 – 3(2): Amendments to Nunavut’s Mental Health Act**

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

Mr. Speaker, I was very pleased to receive a copy of the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy, which was tabled in this House earlier this week on October 26, 2010. I note that one of the three core components of the strategy is a full range of mental health services and supports.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavut’s *Mental Health Act* is a piece of legislation that was inherited from the Northwest Territories upon division. Can the minister advise the House of what plans are in place to review and update Nunavut’s *Mental Health Act* in order that it can better meet the needs of our territory? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am grateful for the support that the member is giving us with respect to the Suicide Prevention Strategy. I read the comment that the member made on that.

With respect to the *Mental Health Act*, I believe that what’s happening with that is that the whole *Public Health Act* is part of the work plan the department has. That likely will go beyond this current Assembly’s mandate, but it has been mapped out as one that is requiring a complete overhaul. The *Public Health Act* really has never been amended for

the longest time, even through the NWT days; I believe it was acquired from there.

The plan by the department in my discussions with my officials is that a mental health provision should be included in there. At the moment, they are not. So the work will have to continue even as we plan. It was too time constraining to try and complete that work during the life of this Assembly, so it will likely go beyond this current Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In recent years, a number of unfortunate incidents have occurred involving Nunavut’s residents who suffer from mental health issues. The NWT’s chief coroner has recommended that mental health legislation in both Nunavut and the Northwest Territories be amended to specifically address client needs. Can the minister advise this House if he is aware of those recommendations and whether or not he has directed his officials to work towards bringing forward the suggested amendments? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you. Mr. Speaker, in my briefings with the departmental officials, they certainly take into serious consideration recommendations made by official independent groups and they are taken seriously. Therefore, it is important that the *Public Health Act* be properly changed to reflect some of the changes



that we require and to reflect the current challenges and needs of the mental health issues, and so on. I certainly will be committed to carrying this issue forward. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In many cases, when individuals suffer from mental health diseases, their situation can be much improved with the right medication. It is when they do not take their medication that problems arise. In many jurisdictions, community treatment orders can require an individual to follow a treatment program. Can the minister advise this House as to whether his officials have given any consideration to the implementation of community treatment orders in Nunavut? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the doctor on the other side there for his recommendations. Certainly I can assure the member that if an individual requires medical attention with respect to health or mental health, our officials are willing to take all of the help they need from the medical doctors.

I am not going to respond in detail to the kind of question that the member is asking me because I believe it's the medical physicians who should be handling this kind of issue and issuing orders. If they do so, our team, our officials will cooperate certainly with any help that they can give. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for giving me that designation. I don't feel I'm being a doctor, but maybe the minister misunderstood my question. What I was asking was in other jurisdictions or other provinces and territories, there is something that is called a community treatment order, which is almost like a legal document, not a doctor's prescription, where you follow a certain treatment. The question I was asking is if he would take that to his officials who are doctors and who are specialists to see if this is something that we could do in our territory.

To me, in conversations I have with constituents in my community, they want to have people who have mental health diseases in the community, but at times, they don't take their medication and when they don't their medication, that is possibly something having to do with schizophrenia, and whatnot, when people become violent and are a harm to themselves and to other people.

So my question again would be: would the minister be willing to take this back to his officials who do have the qualifications and the ability to make these decisions? I know, myself, I don't have that ability as a regular member, but you, as a minister, have the ability to take this back to your officials and say, "Is this something that we could do to help people within the community and provide safety for everyone?" Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It appears that we are debating something that may be going on already because we do have the *Public Health Act*, and so on, that entitles that any kind of a medical treatment requires a specialist to first identify exactly what is needed.

The only difficulty that I see is that most communities don't have the specialists travelling as frequently as they should, but if and when they do come in, the people who require help are checked and, if they require further help, and I read some of the examples yesterday, they are sent down to facilities where the specialized care is required.

We cooperate with the provinces and there are inter-jurisdictional agreements in place that treatments are required. Our officials cooperate with that. Certainly I think the advice the member is giving, I'll certainly take it into consideration and pass it on to the department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 500 – 3(2): Bedbug  
Infestation Public Advisory**

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

Part of this question is in relation to what Mr. Rumbolt was speaking to. During this ongoing review at the Kivalliq Inuit Centre, I would like to know if the medical patients who are arriving are being provided alternative lodgings,

such as hotels, during the bedbug situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. While I was in Winnipeg, as I stated earlier, I was briefed about this last month. While I was there, some of the rooms were closed because they were being fumigated and the bedbugs were being exterminated. I do require a status update. If that update identifies it, then we will follow through with that. If it becomes a big problem, then we would have to close the boarding home. But at this time, we do provide alternative boarding if there is space available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a significant and imperative issue and very disconcerting. Furthermore, it's quite obvious during this session of the Legislative Assembly that not all residents watch the proceedings on television nor does everybody listen to the radio. With this infestation, I want to know if the Kivalliq patients who return regularly for medical treatment have been advised about this. How has the department informed the patients about this matter currently being dealt with? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not have any information on whether all communities are aware of this matter. However, if certain patients have to be informed, the chief medical health officer has been informed that he has to provide more information. Further, I have written a brief outlining the direction we wanted to go and I copied him. I am expecting that we will have a plan of attack.

The boarding home in Winnipeg is being inspected constantly. Hopefully I will have updates to provide to the House tomorrow, as I had requested a briefing on this issue at my last meeting with my deputy minister just prior to our sitting today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 501 – 3(2): Office Space for Health and Social Services in Sanikiluaq**

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My next question is for the Minister of Health and Social Services, but it's not about bedbugs, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, in the summer of 2009, I wrote a letter to the minister regarding the need for office space so that counselling and other services provided by the mental health worker or social worker could be provided in a confidential and secure manner.

This summer, I noticed a government tender in the newspaper requesting office space in the community of Sanikiluaq. Can the minister provide an

update on what success he has had in securing office space for mental health and social services in Sanikiluaq? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I certainly would like to thank the member for that question. I think that he should have also said that he met with me, along with the SAO and my deputy minister, and we committed to providing an office facility. I understand quite well that we take confidentiality requirements seriously. I don't have current information, but I will take the question as notice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Rumbolt, your question has been taken as notice and the minister will get back to you. Oral Questions. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Schell.

**Question 502 – 3(2): Courses for Nunavut Students**

**Mr. Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Education.

I'm going back to the question I asked yesterday to the minister in regard to academic stream courses for entrance into universities. Apparently Iqaluit and Rankin Inlet teach some of the courses in the classroom and the rest through distance learning. The courses, whether in the classroom or distance learning, are paid for by the Department of Education. Is this true? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Schell. Minister of Education, Hon. Hunter Tootoo.

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to again thank the [member] for bringing that up. There was a little bit of confusion. Yesterday, I guess we had our wires crossed on exactly what the member was looking for.

Mr. Speaker, I believe if he's talking about the distance learning courses that are available to any student in Nunavut, it's my understanding that those courses are offered to students if they need to take them for entrance requirements for getting into any post-secondary program that they need and those courses aren't offered in their community, a student can take the program. They will be reimbursed upon completion of the program for the costs incurred as a result of having to take those.

I did ask my officials and as far as I'm aware, and my assistant deputy minister assured me, even going back to the days when he used to be a principal, that it was always where if a case like this came forward, it was always where the students would just be and parents would just be reimbursed for those programs based on the successful completion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 503 – 3(2): Update on Piqqusilirivvik in Clyde River**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was just wondering in terms of Mr.

Tapardjuk's announcement earlier today, and I know some of the projects that he's worked long and hard on. My question is to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth.

In terms of one of the projects, I know, in terms of briefings we have received from him, he's done a lot of work on the file. If he could just give us an update today on the Piqqusilirivvik Cultural School in Clyde River, how that's coming along and when it's planned to be opened. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for raising that question. With respect to the Piqqusilirivvik Cultural School, the project is proceeding smoothly. We have already hired an executive director for the school and he is currently undertaking a hiring process for the future staff. I believe I provided an update on this project either this spring or last winter. The project was delayed a bit, Mr. Speaker. We wanted to open in it December, but because there was some final details that had to be completed, we have identified February 2011 as the time when it will be completed.

We are expecting that once the facility has been handed over to the government and all of the furnishings and maintenance staff have been trained, we could plan for a grand opening in April 2011. It will be completed by February 2011, but we require quite a bit of planning in order to prepare for that opening ceremony. So we are expecting

to open the facility some time in April 2011, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for those answers. I know, in conversations we've had with some of the staff at CLEY in charge of this file, there are also two feeder schools, one in Baker Lake and one in Igloolik. I was wondering if the minister could update us on that as well. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In talking about these two satellite campuses allocated to Baker Lake and Igloolik, at this point in time, both of these satellite campuses are already being used for projects, such as the Inuit place names. They have also identified old travel routes between Clyde River and Igloolik. There were 14 young adults who were taught about survival on the land and how to look after oneself in the Arctic. When they were talking about the old travel routes, they used them so that the knowledge about the routes could be retained.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, we undertook the same type of activities in Baker Lake in May 2009. They undertook a trip to Gjoa Haven and there were eight students who partook in that. They used the traditional route, which included survival on the land and self-preservation.

To date, some of the activities that we have undertaken are ongoing. Whenever we have any classes that are set for teaching outside of the communities, either in Baker Lake or Igloolik, the curriculum for those classes are determined by these two facilities. They would also provide assistance with the operations of that cultural centre. A lot of the curriculum will be developed between the three communities. That is the way it's set up, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. 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. Mr. Okalik.

#### **Item 11: Reports of Standing and Special Committees\***

#### **Committee Report 005 – 3(2): Report of the Standing Committee on the Review of the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 Annual Reports of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut**

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues. Mr. Speaker, I have the honour today of presenting the report of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts on its review of the 2008-09 and 2009-2010 annual reports of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut.

\*See Appendix for full text of Committee Report 5 – 3(2).

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Alexina Kublu assumed her duties as Languages Commissioner of Nunavut in January of 2009, in the final quarter of the 2008-09 fiscal year. Her responsibilities as Languages Commissioner are prescribed by two pieces of Nunavut legislation: the *Official Languages Act* and the *Inuit Language Protection Act*, both of which were passed in 2008 by the Second Legislative Assembly of Nunavut.

As you will recall, Mr. Speaker, the Languages Commissioner's 2008-09 annual report was tabled in this House on March 18, 2010. In September of 2010, her 2009-2010 annual report was backdoor tabled with the Clerk of the Assembly, pursuant to Rule 44(2) of the *Rules of the Legislative Assembly*, and was formally tabled in this House on October 22, 2010.

The standing committee held its hearings on the Languages Commissioner's reports from September 29 and 30 of this year here in the Chambers. This was Ms. Kublu's first appearance before the standing committee. Witnesses from her office were also present. The standing committee was pleased to have the opportunity to discuss various issues relating to the Languages Commissioner's mandate and the activities of her office. I would like to thank the Languages Commissioner and her staff for appearing before us.

Mr. Speaker, I will take this opportunity for the benefit of all Members of the House and the listening public to highlight the recommendations that emerged during the standing committee's review of the Languages Commissioner's reports.

Mr. Speaker, the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut has three main areas of responsibility: the investigation and resolution of complaints relating to language rights, providing guidance and support to various bodies and institutions, both government and non-government, and the administration of her office.

With respect to the investigation and resolution of complaints relating to language rights, standing committee members are of the view that in order to gain a greater appreciation of the work load and focus of resources within the Office of the Languages Commissioner as well as the effectiveness of her role in this regard. It is important that a significantly greater level of detail regarding this element of the Languages Commissioner's responsibilities be included in her annual reports.

The standing committee's first recommendation is that the Languages Commissioner records, measures, and analyzes the nature, type, and number of complaints, concerns, and queries that are identified and handled by her office and provides a clear and detailed summary of these and any other relevant information in her reports to our Legislative Assembly.

The standing committee's second recommendation is that the Languages Commissioner includes a detailed summary of the application and results of her office's complaints resolution procedure in her annual reports.

Mr. Speaker, the Languages Commissioner has indicated her intention to conduct two systemic investigations into language services

provided by the Department of Health and Social Services and the Department of Human Resources.

(interpretation ends) The standing committee's third recommendation is that the Languages Commissioner includes a detailed summary of the reasoning, purpose, progress, and results of her systemic investigations in her next annual report.

Mr. Speaker, during the Languages Commissioner's appearance before the standing committee, members raised a number of concerns with respect to the current status of the Inuit language, including statistics on usage, standardization, writing systems, and terminology. Members also raised a number of issues with respect to the current status, language service needs and demands of Nunavut's francophone population.

The standing committee's fourth recommendation is that the Languages Commissioner and her staff work to establish specific benchmarks and criteria with which to evaluate and report on support for language rights across Nunavut and that the results of applying these criteria and benchmarks be included in her annual reports.

(interpretation) The standing committee's fifth recommendation is that specific studies conducted by the Office of the Languages Commissioner, such as the ten-year review which was included as an insert within her 2009-2010 annual report, be presented as distinct publications of the office and not as components of the annual reports.

During the Languages Commissioner's appearance before the standing committee, committee members were pleased to have had the opportunity to address a number of issues relating to the provision of language services in the private sector. Members encourage the Languages Commissioner to place a priority on assisting entities to meet legislated requirements in industries where public safety issues are critical, such as the mining industry and the airline industry.

The standing committee's sixth recommendation is that the Office of the Languages Commissioner be prepared to substantively address issues relating to the delivery of services in the territory's official languages by federal and federally-regulated entities.

(interpretation ends) The standing committee's seventh recommendation is that the Languages Commissioner take every opportunity provided with the presentation of her annual reports during appearances before the Legislative Assembly and in other formal appearances to clearly express her mandate and position on language legislation and its implementation.

The standing committee's eighth recommendation is that the Office of the Languages Commissioner prepare a complete business plan for the upcoming fiscal year which clearly outlines the mandate of the office, details activities which support the mandate of the office, and describes specific budget allocations for each level of activity to be conducted by the Office of the Languages Commissioner. The standing committee notes the role of the Management and

Services Board of the Legislative Assembly in this process.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I would like to conclude the standing committee's report with an important observation made by the Languages Commissioner during her appearance and which was echoed by several committee members throughout the two days of hearings. Support for language and culture starts at home. As parents, educators, representatives, and leaders, we all share the responsibility of promoting Nunavut's languages.

I move, pursuant to Rule 91, that the report of the standing committee be received by the House and that it be entered into the record as read. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Do members agree that the report of the standing committee be received by the House and that it be entered into record as read?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Mr. Okalik.

#### **Item 12: Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills**

##### **Committee Report on Bills 019 – 3(2): Bill 43, Write-Off of Assets Act, 2010-2011**

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that Bill 43, *Write-Off of Assets Act, 2010-2011*, has been reviewed by the Standing

Committee on Legislation, and that the bill is ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to waive Rule 68(6) and have Bill 43 immediately moved into Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Okalik. The member is seeking unanimous consent to waive Rule 68(6) and have Bill 43 immediately moved into Committee of the Whole. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Do you all agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Bill 43 has been referred to the Committee of the Whole.

(interpretation ends) Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Okalik.

#### **Item 13: Tabling of Documents**

##### **Tabled Document 237 – 3(2): Correspondence with the Federal Minister of the Environment**

##### **Tabled Document 238 – 3(2): Correspondence with the Federal Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development**

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table copies of correspondence to the House which I have exchanged with the federal ministers of the Environment as well as Indian and Northern Affairs concerning the issues of the federal ban of export permits for polar bears harvested in



Baffin Bay. Furthermore, the letters also include as an issue of the appointment of the chairperson of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board. I urge all my colleagues to review these documents with care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Can I have the document brought forward to the table, please.

Tabling of Documents. Mr. Peterson.

**Tabled Document 239 – 3(2): FPT Ministers’ of Finance Meeting, June 14, 2010**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministers of Finance Meeting Report. The meeting was held in Morell, Prince Edward Island, June 14, 2010. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Tabled Document 240 – 3(2): Community Justice Annual Report on Victims Assistance Committee April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2006**

**Tabled Document 241 – 3(2): Community Justice Annual Report on Victims Assistance Committee April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007**

**Tabled Document 242 – 3(2): Community Justice Annual Report on Victims Assistance Committee April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008**

**Tabled Document 243 – 3(2): Community Justice Annual Report on Victims Assistance Committee April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009**

**Tabled Document 244 – 3(2): Community Justice Annual Report on Victims Assistance Committee April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to table the community justice annual reports on Victims Assistance Committee from the fiscal years beginning April 1, 2005 ending March 31, 2010. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. Tabling of Documents. Hon. Louis Tapardjuk.

**Tabled Document 245 – 3(2): 2009-2010 Annual Report of the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Katimajit**

**Hon. Louis Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated in my Minister’s Statement, I am pleased to table the 2009-2010 Annual Report of the *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Katimajit*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Ningark.

**Tabled Document 246 – 3(2): Resolution from the September 2010 Annual General Meeting of the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board**

**Mr. Ningark:** Pardon me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a copy of a resolution from the September 2010 Annual General Meeting of the Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board. This

resolution is on the polar bear management zones of the McClintock Channel and Viscount Melville.

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

>> *Applause*

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

Tabling of Documents. Mr. Curley.

**Tabled Document 247 – 3(2): 2008-2009 Annual Report of the Nunavut Housing Corporation**

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the 2008-2009 Annual Report of the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Hon. Lorne Kusugak.

**Tabled Document 248 – 3(2): Government of Nunavut Contract Activity Report Fiscal Year 2009-2010**

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the following document: Contract Activity Report - Fiscal Year 2009-2010 for the Department of Community and Government Services. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of

Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 42 and 43, and Tabled Documents 207 – 3(2), 209 – 3(2), 210 – 3(2), and 212 – 3(2) with Mr. Schell in the Chair.

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

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>> *House recessed at 15:56 and Committee resumed at 16:23*

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

**Chairman** (Mr. Schell): I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In the Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bills 42 and 43, and Tabled Documents 207 – 3(2), 209 – 3(2), 210 – 3(2), and 212 – 3(2). What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Mr. Aupaluktuq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to commence our review of Bill 42, followed by Bill 43. We would then proceed with the concurrent review of the following tabled documents: 207 – 3(2), 209 – 3(2), 210 – 3(2), and 212 – 3(2). Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Are we agreement that we deal with Bill 42 first?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Bill 42 – Forgiveness of Debts Act,  
2010, No. 2 – Consideration in  
Committee**

**Chairman:** I would now like to ask Mr. Peterson to make his opening remarks.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to present Bill 42, *Forgiveness of Debts Act, 2010, No. 2*.

Bill 42 will forgive mortgage debt associated with accumulated interest charges on two mortgages inherited from the Government of the Northwest Territories at division.

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 that you would like to bring to the table?

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Yes, I do, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

Thank you. Go ahead, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish to declare a conflict with respect to Bill 43. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Okay. Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I, too, would like to declare a conflict on this bill. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Peterson, could you please introduce your witnesses.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Deputy Minister Peter Ma for the Department of Finance and to my left is Jeff Chown, Director of Expenditure Management for the Department of Finance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Does the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Legislation have comments? Please proceed, Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I believe we are on Bill 42. Sorry, I was a little confused as one of the ministers said 43, but we are on 42.

The committee looked at these issues and has no issues with the outstanding debts that are to be forgiven under this bill. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Are there any general comments? If not, we will go clause by clause. Bill 42, *Forgiveness of Debts Act, 2010, No. 2*. Clause 1. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** We will go to Schedule on page 2. Schedule. Debt Forgiven. Total. \$140,366.85. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Are you in agreement with Bill 42 as a whole?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Do members agree, pursuant to Rule 62(2), that Bill 42 can immediately be placed on the orders of the day for third reading?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Does the minister have any closing comments?

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the members of the committee for their scrutiny of this bill. We had a good and informative exchange in our standing committee meetings, and I am pleased that they concur with our recommendations. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Now we will move on to Bill 43, *Write-Off of Assets Act, 2010-2011*. I would like to ask Minister Peterson, responsible for the Department of Finance, to make his opening remarks.

### **Bill 43 – Write-Off of Assets Act, 2010-2011 – Consideration in Committee**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to present Bill 43, *Write-Off of Assets Act, 2010-2011*.

Bill 43 will write off \$2,626,493.43 of Government of Nunavut assets and \$863,039.90 of Nunavut Housing Corporation assets.

The write-off of Government of Nunavut assets is comprised of \$2,582,711 of petroleum products inventory lost in the normal course of business, due to evaporation and shrinkage during 2008-09 and 2009-2010, as well as \$43,782.43 of expired pharmaceutical products from the Department of Health and Social Services.

The write-off of Nunavut Housing Corporation assets is for 18 housing units in various communities. The write-off is for housing units that have been replaced by new buildings, are beyond economic repair, or have burnt down.

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

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Peterson. Does the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Legislation have comments? Please proceed, Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik (interpretation):** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our committee closely scrutinized Bill 43 and had numerous questions with relation to the items that were going to be written off. However, we recognized that the Minister of Finance was unable to provide proper

responses since the questions were not really pertaining to his department.

My committee agreed that during the proceedings and when all of the ministers are here, we will be asking questions to the ministers with the appropriate portfolios. Additionally, only after we have scrutinized the bill and we have received answers from the appropriate ministers, we would then deal with that bill. That is what we agreed to as members of this committee, to scrutinize the bill and to be provided with adequate answers to the contents of the bill. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Okalik. Any comments on the opening statement? If not, we will go on to Bill 43, *Write-Off of Assets Act, 2010-2011*. Clause 1. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Let's go to Part 1. Schedule on page 2. Schedule. Part 1. Any questions? Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik (interpretation):** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It indicates here that the petroleum products inventory was lost due to evaporation and shrinkage. Is that the case? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Okalik for that question. Yes, Mr. Chairman, that's the information that we have. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik (interpretation):** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our committee had some questions regarding the issue of evaporation and shrinkage. There is a variation in any given year since sometimes there was less evaporation and shrinkage in a certain year and then a greater amount in loss of petroleum products in another year. We were told that it's due to the climate, with the interplay between the cold and the heat, but that is a huge variation on a year to year basis. We did not receive an adequate response to the questions.

The committee had questions about what kind of monitoring systems they have or how they measure the evaporation and shrinkage and extrapolate this loss into a dollar amount. However, we were not made aware of the system they use to come up with the loss rates. Perhaps they should first get information from the communities before the rates are struck. One of the questions the committee wanted answered was how they measured in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Okalik for that question. Mr. Chairman, the Minister for Community and Government Services, responsible for the Petroleum Products Division, is here today and we have asked him to be here to answer the detailed questions from the committee. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik (interpretation):** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did not notice I had

been appointed as a minister since the question was redirected to the Minister responsible for the Petroleum Products Division. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Community and Government Services, if he can respond to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will try to respond before Mr. Okalik becomes a minister again.

In regard to your concern, there is a variation on any given year because petroleum products evaporate depending on the temperature. We know that the sun can heat the tanks, which expand and condense, so evaporation continues to impact us. In the one year where there was a large evaporation and shrinkage rate, we had estimates that were too low. Prior to the start of the fiscal year, this estimate was added to the current year and that is why it was so large. In the past, it seemed that we had no loss due to evaporation since it was added to the previous amounts as a loss rate. We wouldn't have realized it if it was accounted for in the year that there were errors in measurement because the percentage was included in that year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hope I answered Mr. Okalik's question.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that was the information provided to us and that this happened for approximately two years. It's a little over \$2 million, so we did get

that information. However, in some of the years, we had rates of the loss due to evaporation. There's a variation of loss between any given years. It would have been better if there were closer percentages on a yearly basis. It would be a good example to do this, but only when we were dealing with the past years did we note that the estimates were not even close to the actual rates of loss.

We have some questions about the system and if there was a model, we would have more clarity on how there was loss due to evaporation and shrinkage. Using a community, for example, I imagine that they are asked how much is lost due to evaporation and shrinkage. Once the information has been compiled, we could see the variety in the loss from one particular community and what happens in another community. That was the option preferred by the committee members. My question is: is the minister open to such suggestions? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, you indicated that this is based on a two-year percentage and that's why it looks too large. But in the years that you looked at, there were some that are higher than the others, and that's because they are not in one year. They are averaged out and that's why you see some jumps in some years.

Yes, we are looking at our options with respect to the petroleum product losses. In our review, we will consider your suggestion. Our fuel shipping contract is in its final year. When we are dealing

with these issues in the future, we will have the opportunity to review the issues that Mr. Okalik referred to and to try and make changes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I recognize this is not a new issue and this is an annual item which we already undertake.

Now, when I ask a question from the other side, the response usually seemed to evaporate like petroleum products. For that reason, I do not envy the minister's position. He will have to provide more direction to his staff to provide a proper response. It's not a trivial matter when we are considering the loss we incur due to evaporation and shrinkage, so I would like to urge the minister to consider our suggestions for a better laid out report and to implement them possibly in the New Year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. I think that was just a comment, but if you want to comment on that, Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you. I hope I responded correctly, but we do an annual review to see and to anticipate what is lost due to evaporation and shrinkage, not due to leakage. We look at the size of the tanks, the climate, consolidate all of those together, and then average it out to loss due to evaporation and shrinkage.

We will look at all of the matters and see how we can improve the system in order to have a more accurate figure so that we can figure out the bulk amount that we

buy at the beginning of the year and the amount of loss at the end of the year. There is a loss that we also have to apply. All of your suggestions will be clearly entered into all of this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My questions will be directed to the Minister of Community and Government Services also. My first question is: when does the testing take place for shrinkage? Is it done annually, like once a year, or is it done monthly to see how the shrinkage is going? I'm just trying to get an idea of when the testing is done. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. At the end of each fiscal year, PPD undertakes a full physical inventory of all of its petroleum products on hand. At that time, actual volumes on hand are compared to system calculated year-end volumes. So that is when the whole thing is completed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You mentioned earlier that if the sun is out, the gas expands and you probably have more shrinkage that way. If you tested your tanks on a hot, sunny day, would you actually have more volume in your tanks at that time? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know the exact parameters and things that they go through. It is a very complex way of measuring shrinkage, Mr. Chairman, and there are different variances and different ways that are analyzed in it. If you want exact details on how that is all done, I'm sure we have people in that field who would be able to answer that at an appropriate time, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My next question is: how do you differentiate between evaporation, leakage, or even theft of fuel? Is there any way of determining whether, you know, if it evaporated or if somebody stole the fuel? How do you put these kinds of checks and balances in place? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Spillage does occur, and we work with the contractors to ensure that it doesn't happen, but in cases where it does, there are checks and balances to find out how much actually spilled out.

In terms of theft, we believe that there is actually no intentional theft because the tanks are secured. Fuel that is unaccounted for is probably to do more with lost meter tickets and stuff like that. It's a tough question, but that is what is done to deal with it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Any more questions? Mr. Ningark.

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll probably direct my question to the Minister of CGS. The tanks are monitored with dipsticks, I believe it is. Who does the measuring? Is it the contractor, a government department, or is it a non-government entity and independent from the contractor? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you. Our staff are the ones who take the measurements to see how much there is in the tank in all possibilities. If it's not possible, then it's the people who they appoint to do that do so. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Ningark.

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you. How many times a year do you take measurements? When you get a new contractor, is there an evaluation or a measurement taken before and after they have taken over the contract? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): While it's being measured to see how much evaporation or loss there is, they check to see how much is left in the tank and how much they had sold. All of those are factored in. They measure the loss due to evaporation and shrinkage on an annual basis. If there's a change in the contractor, again, the same type of procedure is followed to make sure that there's a good working relationship between the two parties. If there are any



changes, then all of the processes are done before being handed over. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Ningark.

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, if fuel is brought in by tanker or by aircraft, is there measurements done to see how much is in the tank before any new fuel is put in the tank? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark, for asking that question. It's a very excellent question. Yes, all processes are taken. If there's fuel delivered, we usually have an employee on the tanker because they are monitoring the vault to make sure that it's proper and to make sure that it's offloaded using the standards. Everything is monitored from the time that it's bought to the time that it's delivered to the community, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Ugyuk.

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Most communities see the advertisement for oil spillage and that we have to call a toll-free line for spills to the Department of Environment. My question is: how much oil spillage occurs here in Nunavut? Perhaps he can provide that information on an annual basis. How much is spilled on average in Nunavut? I believe they are reported to the Department of Environment. Is that the case? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you. I don't know of any large oil spillage having occurred this year during the transportation of oil products. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Ugyuk.

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) My question was to the Minister of Environment. In the communities, we hear that they have to report spills environmental officers. Are there any spills being reported to them? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Shewchuk.

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is correct. Any spills need to be reported to the spill line, which is headquartered in Yellowknife.

As far as the number of spills and the spills that have occurred in Nunavut, I don't have that information on me right now, but I could get that information for you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Komoartok.

**Mr. Komoartok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is with respect to the assets that are going to be written off in this fiscal year, but I am unsure as to whether this item is part of the listed assets identified for write offs.

We were informed that our community has had excess gasoline products every

year, and this started in 2004 after the faulty gasoline episode that resulted in many broken down snowmobiles. It was reported that this gasoline was still stored in one of the leaning type of holding tanks. They finally started to remove this unusable gasoline this summer when the oil tanker ship arrived in our community.

They were going to remove that gasoline that was purported to be holding this faulty gasoline. My question is: was this gasoline being offloaded the product that caused all of the problems previously? Secondly, is this leftover gasoline product listed in the write-off of assets? That will be my first question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Komoartok for that question. Mr. Chairman, that fuel was written off in 2006-07 and the fuel is still in the community in drums or a sludge tank and it will be removed as part of the tank farm expansion project that is underway. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Komoartok.

**Mr. Komoartok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I completely understood the minister's response. Thank you for that information.

I just wanted to make an additional comment on that issue. I have noticed previously in our community that there was a person on top of the tank, on one of those immense tanks, with just a bucket on a rope... . Oops.

>> *Laughter*

They lowered this bucket on a rope and they were transferring this gasoline one bucket at a time to their tanks. This resulted in charges being laid against the person who stole that gasoline. I imagine that there are not too many examples of transferring gasoline with a bucket on a rope here in Nunavut that you may have observed.

I want to know if there have been any other cases of gasoline theft that has occurred in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Komoartok for that question. We here at this table are unaware of anything, unless Minister Kusugak has some information he wants to share. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member for raising that issue. No, I have not heard of reports of anybody stealing gasoline, at least from our department. We have not been informed of any other situations where someone stole gasoline products in any community.

Furthermore, we have not heard anything from our contractors who administer the petroleum products as to whether there have been cases of theft, at least with respect to the petroleum resources owned by the Petroleum

Products Division. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to go back because I'm still a little confused. The minister was talking about, and I guess it was Minister Kusugak, how it's averaged in and how, in different years, the average... I do not quite understand.

In the table we were given for the 2007-08 fiscal year, the Government of Nunavut wants to write off 567,981 litres, and then in the 2008-09 year, they want to write off 1,635,415 litres. In terms of percentage of write off, that's a 0.6 percent difference. Well, I guess that's percentage-wise, but when you're averaging it out, there can actually be an averaging difference of around 1.1 million litres. Is that correct? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. I will have to defer that question to my colleague, Minister Kusugak. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Elliott, for the question. It's a combination of a couple of things. Mainly the result was of two areas in inventory measurement. So the latter year had to make up for the missed inventory measurement of the previous year. You also have to keep in mind that, at the time in 2008-09, the

price of fuel was higher, so the volume of fuel to be written off would be higher as well. So it's a combination of these two or three things that you saw a spike in that.

I hope that clarifies the matter for you, Mr. Elliott. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ms. Ugyuk was asking questions about a spillage and asked questions to the Minister of the Environment. The one thing that I was just wondering about was in terms of writing this off for evaporation and shrinkage. Is any spillage that occurs in delivery or within the community included in this dollar figure? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Again I will have to defer it to my colleague. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Any spillage that occurs before the Government of Nunavut takes possession of the fuel is the responsibility of the fuel supplier. We only are responsible for fuel that is actually in our possession that is in our tanks. So to answer your question, this doesn't take those into account. This is only for fuel that we have purchased that is actually in our tanks. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do have a bit of a unique situation where fuel is transported on an annual basis to each of the communities. The Northwest Territories has a similar situation where they probably have it trucked in and a similar climate. Have you looked at what the Northwest Territories writes off? Are we comparable to what they write off or do you have those figures? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you very much. Our percentages are very similar to those with the same issues.

If I may add, the fuel delivery contracts, as they are written now, will expire in October of 2011. As part of the RFP process, these rates will be reviewed.

We are currently in discussions with provinces and territories like the NWT, Yukon, and even Alaska, and discussing and taking a look at allowable volumes for shrinkage. We are comparable now, and we do keep in touch with our counterparts to make sure that we and they are all within the allowable percentages. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister also mentioned that his staff or members of his staff travel to the communities and participate in dipping of tanks to check and help calculate the evaporation and shrinkage that go on, on an annual basis. He had mentioned that it was done community by community.

To help us better understand in terms of the communities that we represent and the amount that's evaporating and shrinking in our communities, would he be able to provide us...? Obviously if they are going around and doing it community by community, that information would be available. Could he commit to providing us with a table by community of how much shrinkage and evaporation occurs, similar to the table received going back from 2004 until 2010? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Elliott, for the question. I'll look into the matter, and if we have that information and it is able to be released, I would not hesitate to do that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Ningark.

**Mr. Ningark:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to get along with the people across the table, but the disappearance of \$2.5 million into thin air, that's a substantial amount of money, Mr. Chairman. I think what I would advise the lead minister in dealing with petroleum products is to keep records of when, where, and how the dip was made in respective communities.

I think we, as keepers of the public purse, are expected to make an informed decision. This is the essence of what we're talking about. So I would advise that keep records of what is happening. When you come to the House wanting to write off something of that substantial amount, we would have information

either to approve or oppose big money.  
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. I think that was just a comment, but if you want to comment on it, Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think our department does a super job of keeping track of things like shrinkage. It's not like we lost it anywhere. We did, but it's in thin air. It's inevitable, it's going to happen. You see that in the fine lakes around your community, and I know in mine. Water levels drop; it's just evaporation. It is something that happens and it's not something that we can control.

I just want to say that we do and we will continue to do our best to ensure that it is accounted for. It will be accounted for the best possible way we can account for it. I assure my colleagues that my staff who are and will continue to work diligently to make sure that every ounce of oil that is not there is accounted for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Ningark.

**Mr. Ningark:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I need substantiation on paper that will inform me how and when the dip was made so I could be easier to convince to approve or reject the amount of money that we are to appropriate in this House. Again I would like to say that we are the keepers of the public purse and we have to make an informed decision. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Yes, just to let you know that this is not appropriation, this is actually a write off, but in any case, do

you want to comment on that, Minister Kusugak?

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** No, Mr. Chairman, I agree this is called a public purse and I hope we are very thorough with this. I hope to get the support of my colleagues in order to be able to write off. Unfortunately there is shrinkage and if there was a way we could reduce shrinkage, we would work on it, but I hope my colleagues will support this bill. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Ningark.

**Mr. Ningark:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand this is a write off respectively, but down the road, it could become forgiveness. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. That was just a comment. I don't have anybody else on my list here, so we will go back Schedule. Part 1. Total. \$2,626,493.43. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** We will go back to clause 2. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Go to Part 2. Schedule on page 2. Any questions? Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) This is one area where the committee had real concerns and could not get much answers from the minister, understandably, because he is not responsible for the corporation.

One area that we realized is that there are some houses here in Iqaluit, in particular, that had been disposed and we are being asked to write them off, but we learned that those same units had outstanding mortgages with CMHC amounting anywhere from \$38,000 to \$49,000 still owed to CMHC on those units. To be asked to dispose of them was something that we wanted more answers from the corporation.

So I ask again: are there any plans to recover those units that are being reused with mortgages outstanding to CMHC? I ask the Minister for Housing, if that is okay. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're dealing with an issue, I believe it's an accounting issue. The debate, obviously, is really kind of difficult for me as a minister trying to justify whether or not something that is being disposed of should remain on the books of the Nunavut Housing Corporation and still be itemized as an asset of the government when it's no longer within the reach of myself or the local housing association for all that matter because they have tendered it, and so on.

So, for that reason, it's really something that I cannot answer with respect to the mortgage being continued to be on the obligation of the Nunavut Housing Corporation. These are probably not the only units that are being written off but remain on the total overall part of the mortgage that the Nunavut Housing Corporation is carrying on. So it's kind of complicated for me to answer. I know

the member wants a detailed question and, if that is the case, he could invite the president or the finance officer to explain in detail. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik (interpretation):** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We were hoping that we could get some answers on these items, on the units in question, that we learned through the media that these have been not necessarily disposed of but are now being used to make some money by the private sector. They apparently have value because they are being reused. We had some questions.

We still have outstanding mortgages on them, but we have given them away. How did we give them away is another question that came to light. There was a call for proposals, but did the Housing Corporation get any money back, for example, for these units? They still have some value because they are being used again. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have to defer that question to my colleague. Mr. Chairman, if I may make a recommendation, perhaps Minister Curley would like to be here so that he can bring his officials in. I'll leave it up to Minister Curley. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Does the committee agree if Mr. Curley wants to bring in someone?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Okay. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you. Well, I suppose it's a matter of debate at the moment. Once they were disposed of by the tenders by the local housing authority... and disposed of means that the successful bidders, not one but at least two of the local companies, acquired the ownership and possession once the contract was awarded by the local housing authority. What they do with it after they dispose them off is really beyond Nunavut Housing Corporation's ability because it wasn't part of the tender.

I know the member would like an answer to that, but in a sense, it's a private contractor that has to explain what they did with it. As far as I am concerned, we no longer had the ownership of them, but the book values... . Because there were 10 of the 23 units that are in question, 10 of them had a net book value of \$20,000 or more. So, for that reason, they require the approval or whatever of the Assembly.

If I try to justify whether or not the disposing of the units was an important decision, I think it was because these units are probably close to 40 years old and they were no longer really serving the residential needs of Iqaluit, particularly because they were too small, and that there was a need for larger units to be put in place. The town or the local housing authority has now occupied some, and so on.

So that's the only explanation I can give. If the member wants more explanation to justify the case, our financial officer is available to explain more. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. I just want to remind the minister that the committee had agreed if he wants to bring any officials in, but go ahead, Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) My colleagues have a lot of other questions and we would feel more comfortable if there were witnesses who can assist us in getting some answers to the questions that are still outstanding. We will not be prepared to approve these write-offs without getting those responses. That is the understanding I got from my colleagues. So we would appreciate the minister come forward with the witnesses at this time so that we can get some responses. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. So I guess, Mr. Peterson, if you could just leave the witness table and Mr. Curley can take your place.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My mic is on. Am I speaking?

Yes, I was prepared to do that, but I just couldn't squeeze my colleague out of a chair unless I had permission.

>>Laughter

**An Hon. Member:** He's back.

**Chairman:** He's back. Thank you. Minister Curley, could you please introduce your witnesses for the record.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Mr. Alain Barriault. He is the president of the Nunavut Housing Corporation. To my

left is Lori Kimball, Chief Financial Officer. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First I need some confirmation. Everybody knows I was housing manager for 10 years and, for the 10 years I was there, I always thought that the public housing units were the assets of the Government of Nunavut, not assets of the LHO, as the minister indicated. Can Mr. Barriault confirm whether the LHOs own the units or the Government of Nunavut? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to confirm that the units are indeed owned by the Government of Nunavut and not by the LHO. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So the tendering processes to dispose of these units here in Iqaluit would have been issued by the Government of Nunavut and not the LHO? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The LHO, on behalf of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, tendered for the disposal of units. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the president of the

Nunavut Housing Corporation give us details on what the tendering process was for the disposal of the units? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There were a number of separate public tenders over a number of years. The tenders were for the disposal of units and the preparation of sites for new construction, and these were issued by public tender. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Was part of the tender process to dispose of the units? Was there any direction on how they were supposed to dispose of these units? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do have a copy of one of the requests for proposals or tenders that were put out by the Iqaluit Housing Authority, and the direction was to dispose of the units from the site in accordance with municipal by-laws for disposal. It actually names the by-law number, but it does not specifically state how it is to be disposed of other than to be removed from site. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) So you, the Housing Corporation, through the local housing authority, just said,



“Dispose of these assets,” and no return for the value.

In my question earlier to the minister responsible of day of some units that were in my riding that had been removed, I asked the minister of the day what happened to those units. I was told by the minister that they were disposed in the landfill and were no longer going to be used. So that was the answer at the time.

Later on this summer, I became aware that some units had then been taken up by some proprietors for value. So that is where some of the confusion, I believe, took place. The understanding I’m getting now is that those older units could no longer be used and had to be disposed of, but these other units could still be used and that is why they had been reconstructed by some proprietors for value.

So are there two distinct practices here that we are noticing through the Housing Corporation? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I defer that question to Mr. Barriault. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The units appear to have a value to other developers for a different purpose than to use them as residential housing. At the time, as I understand it, that they were requested to be written off and disposed of, these older houses were deemed to be beyond economic repair

for the purposes of using them as residential units. Part of the reason was the size, the age, and the repairs required to continue to use them as residential units. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We have later learned that these units that have been disposed and value-added by the proprietors, there are outstanding mortgages owed to the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, anywhere from \$38,000 to \$49,000. Can the Housing Corporation confirm that there are still outstanding mortgages for these units that were disposed of by the local authority? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At the time of the social housing transfer from Canada Mortgage and Housing [Corporation] to the territories and the provinces, there was a net book value attached to the mortgages from the entire housing portfolio. I can’t remember the exact date, I believe it was somewhere in the area of 1996 that this occurred, and from that point forward, CMHC’s only requirement in terms of mortgages was that there were assets still existing on the books. We have more than sufficient assets overall in our stock to basically satisfy the requirements of Canada Mortgage and Housing [Corporation] and as such, the mortgages are no longer tied to specific units.

The values that we’re attempting to write off are the net book values or depreciated values which do not

necessarily reflect the market value of the house. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) So from what I'm getting from the president is that there is no attempt to try and realize the value of these units that were disposed of. There is no attempt whatsoever to recover some costs that the Housing Corporation may have incurred for these units. Is that what I'm getting from the corporation? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At the time that these buildings were tendered for disposal and those occurred in the years 2007, possibly previous to 2007, 2008, as well as in 2009, the decisions were made at that time that they were of no value as residential housing stock and were included as part of a tender which included the preparation of lots for new construction.

Whether they should or should not have been sold at that time to try to realize their value is in the past. So I cannot really make a comment on that, but the decision had been made similar to putting something to the curb as garbage. If someone picks it up and resells it, do we have a claim on it? I don't believe we do. As Mr. Curley has said, since they are no longer in our hands, we have no recourse, I believe, in that area. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I'm trying to get around this.

If I owed money to the Housing Corporation as a homeowner and I owed about \$40,000 for renovations, for example, and no longer met the criteria for the Housing Corporation, the Housing Corporation would be after me for the amounts owed and not forgive my loan. So I question. You have these units that have outstanding mortgages on them, anywhere from \$38,000 to \$49,000, but you just give them away and dispose of them to whoever wants them without getting anything in return to these proprietors.

I'm trying to find a way to try and get an explanation out of the corporation. So if you don't mind, Mr. Chairman, I will continue with this line of questioning. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not sure how clearer I can make this, but the mortgages are not tied to particular units. I'm not aware if there would have been remaining original mortgages left on these units to begin with, only that our mortgages that we carry are tied to the full portfolio and not to specific units. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We have encountered numerous challenges with the Housing Corporation in terms of financial situations. We are realizing

that they are also disposing of property that they're asking us to write off and not making any attempts to recover any costs that may be of value to our government. So is this practice going to continue in the future, Mr. Chairman?

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Disposal of units that are under the care of the Housing Corporation is done through a process whereby the value of the house is looked at. Sometimes the net book value does not reflect the actual value of the house.

For example, amongst the list of units to be written off includes houses that have burnt to the ground and have zero value. If anything, they have a negative value because we have to clean up. But on the books, they can still have thousands if not hundreds of thousands of dollars of value. The intention here is really a book keeping exercise more so than trying to write off value against a house.

I'm hoping that clarifies. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) No, it does not.

As I said, we are realizing that the units that were disposed of are now being reused for profit and that those proprietors did not pay any dollars to the Housing Corporation to be able to use those assets thereafter. I'm asking the corporation, for those units that had not been burnt that still had reusable value after some renovations perhaps, could the corporation, perhaps, re-look at their

practice of trying to recover costs in future disposals?

As I noticed, there are more units that are being boarded up throughout the community here that may still have value for other users. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can assure the members that houses, as they are being considered for write off in the future, will first be advertised for sale before any other process is looked at. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

**Mr. Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you. I'm okay at this time.

**Chairman:** Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, we're talking along the same lines of questionings as some of the other MLAs. I don't think we are questioning... .

There was a duplex that burnt to the ground in Arctic Bay. In terms of writing off assets that are no longer able to be used, I don't think we have a problem with that, but in Iqaluit here, there's that whole list. According to our table and chart that we have here, there are lot 228, lot 229, lot 230, 231, 232, 233, 238, 239, 240, and 241, and it's saying that they are being replaced by new buildings. I can see what they have wanted to do is remove the houses so they can build some of the new ones.

Are there new houses now on all of those lots? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are either new houses or buildings on those lots at present or others that are going to be there. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For me, it's a bit of a learning process in terms of writing things off. You had mentioned that were two separate... I think you had said one was a tender and the other one was a request for proposals. Is that correct for all of those lots in Iqaluit? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of houses that were removed, these were done over a number of separate... Pardon me, I am looking at the documents and the Iqaluit Housing Authority has actually described it as a request for proposals. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In answering the question, you said that it's for the houses that were removed. So some of the houses were not removed, or what do you mean by, "For the ones that were removed, it was a request for proposals."? I am assuming you were not saying the other part of it, that some of them were not removed. My understanding is that they were all removed. If you could explain what you

meant by that it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was alluding to the houses that were burnt. I don't have the details as to how they were disposed of, whether it was a request for proposals or tender. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to specifically talk about the ones in Iqaluit. According to our information, none of the ones in Iqaluit burnt down, but maybe I'm wrong. Maybe the information that I have is wrong. None of the houses in Iqaluit burned down. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Looking at our submission for assets to be written off, there was one unit in Iqaluit which was burnt down. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I see that lot no. 2 is the one that burnt. So for all of the other ones that I listed earlier in terms of lot 228 up to 241, those were all tendered out or those were requests for proposals. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you. Those were advertised as requests for proposals. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of Mr. Rumbolt's questions as the GN owning the assets, who decides to write them off? Is it the Nunavut Housing Corporation that tells the local housing authority or is it the local housing authority that determines that? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The process is for the Iqaluit Housing Authority or whichever local housing organization it is to put in a request. So they typically identify that they have units that require a write-off. The normal process is for that to be approved by their board and moved forward to the Nunavut Housing Corporation for approval before they can dispose of units. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So in terms of the unit that burnt down, I am assuming that was the tender. You said that there were two requests for proposals and there was a tender. So the tender actually went out for the unit that burnt down and that tender talked about "reclamating" or cleaning up the area. Is that what the tender was for? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Without having the specific details in front of me, I can speak more in the general process. If a unit is burnt, a tender would normally go out to remove the debris to clean the lot and, in the case of utilidor, to cap off utilidor to terminate all of the services

and to basically leave a clean lot. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of the houses and the units that were not burnt and then the request for proposals went out, is it not a policy within the Nunavut Housing Corporation... ? You had mentioned and said to Mr. Okalik that, in the future, you would put them out to be sold. I think one of things we have talked about in the House before is to have more people purchase their own homes. Why was this practice not followed for this situation? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In speaking with the housing authority, they informed me that they have had no success in attempting to sell some of the written-off units in the past and, as such, had made the recommendation to dispose of them in this manner instead. By saying that we will advertise for sale in the future does not necessarily mean that we will be successful in getting people who are interested in doing so, but we will make that attempt. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of the request for proposals that went out, if I understood you correctly, it was for all of those units. It was one request for proposals to remove 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 238, 239, 240, and 241. Is that correct?

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't want to be delaying anything. I am aware that there were as many as six separate requests for proposals related to the removal of units for new construction. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Of those six requests for proposals, were they all awarded to, did you say, two companies, or one company, or how many companies received...? Was it six separate companies? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The information I have is that there were three separate companies that received the awards. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of the three separate companies that were awarded the contract, the assumption was that these units would be taken off the lot and put into the dump or torn apart, as Mr. Okalik had indicated. Did all three companies sell them or put them into other business interest, or did two of them tear them down and put them in the dump as the request for proposals had originally stated? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Firstly, the request for proposals did not stipulate to bring the houses to the dump; it was for the removal of the units and to do a lot clean up, as well as some other work on the lot

in preparation for new construction. I really do not know what the companies did with all of the units once they were placed in their hands. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of these three companies that had completed the work and removed the houses, do you know where these houses have gone? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Mr. Chairman, no, I do not know where all of those houses have gone. Some may have gone to the dump and some may have been reused for other purposes. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of the lots that I had mentioned earlier, could you tell me which ones actually have houses on them? I'm assuming these are part of the Nunavut Housing Trust or the affordable housing, so some are probably five-plexes and some are single family units. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do have a listing of which units have been built on which lots. It will take a few minutes to read them to you. So I'll look for these specific units that you are requesting.

For units 207 and 209, five-plex no. 207 is now there. For units 234 and 236... . Actually I'm reading off a request for proposals, not off the write-off list, so these may not match. You will have to

pardon me. For 234 and 236, five-plex no. 234 is now in that location. For units 211 and 213, there is a new four-plex currently being built on that lot. Units 215 and 217 also have a four-plex being constructed on it as we speak. Reading from the list, I'm just missing 230 and 232, and as well, a four-plex is being built on that lot. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Okay, so that's actually quite interesting. That's 26 housing units. Of those 26, are they complete and we have 26 families living in those? Thanks.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The five-plexes are complete and have families living in them. The four-plexes are currently under construction. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** That's all I have for now. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Okay. Mr. Ningark.

**Mr. Ningark:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I keep getting signals that these old lots, when they were empty, they were prepared for new construction. Subsequently, who did the clean up after the removal of these units? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Barriault.

**Mr. Barriault:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I believe I had noted earlier, the requests for proposals

included the removal of the units as well as the clean up of the lots and the preparation for the new units, including utilidor and utility connections. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. I don't have any more people on my list here, so I would ask the Sergeant-at-Arms to escort Minister Curley and his witnesses out and bring Minister Peterson and his witness back in.

Thank you. We will go back to Schedule. Part 2. Total. \$863,039.90. agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Do members agree to Bill 43 as a whole?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Do members agree that pursuant to Rule 62(2) that Bill 43 can immediately be placed on the orders of the day for third reading?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Does the minister have any closing comments?

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the committee for their excellent questions. They were very detailed questions and we kept track of them. I would like to ensure the members that accountability is very important to the government and we will take note of their recommendations.

I would like to thank my colleagues, Minister Kusugak and Minister Curley,

for being here today to answer your detailed questions. I would like to thank the officials from both the Department of Community and Government Services and the Nunavut Housing Corporation for their attendance here today to help provide the detailed answers to your questions.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank my officials, Peter Ma and Jeff Chown, for attending today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. I appreciate yourself and your witnesses for answering questions here and also Minister Tagak Curley and Minister Kusugak.

Sergeant-at-Arms, can you please escort the minister and the witnesses out.

Mr. Ningeongan.

**Mr. Ningeongan:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make a motion to report progress given the time.

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

**Speaker:** Thank you. Going back to the orders of the day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Schell.

#### **Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 42 and 43, and would like to report

that Bills 42 and 43 are immediately ready for third reading. And, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Schell. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Kusugak. "Mr. Kosiak."

>>*Laughter*

The motion is in order. All those in favour, raise your hand. Opposed. The motion is carried.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Hon. Keith Peterson.

#### **Item 21: Third Reading of Bills**

##### **Bill 37 – Tobacco Damages and Health Care Costs Recovery Act – Third Reading**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 37, *Tobacco Damages and Health Care Costs Recovery Act*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Third Reading of Bills. Hon. Keith Peterson.



**Bill 42 – Forgiveness of Debts Act,  
2010, No. 2 – Third Reading**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 42, *Forgiveness of Debts Act, 2010, No. 2*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Third Reading of Bills. Hon. Keith Peterson.

**Bill 43 – Write-Off of Assets Act,  
2010-2011 – Third Reading**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the very hard-working Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 43, *Write-Off of Assets Act, 2010-2011*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Third Reading of Bills. Hon. Tagak Curley.

**Bill 35 – Licensed Practical Nurses  
Act – Third Reading**

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 35, *Licensed*

*Practical Nurses Act*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

**Item 22: Orders of the Day**

**Clerk (Mr. Quirke):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for October 29:

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

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

- Tabled Document 207 – 3(2)
- Tabled Document 209 – 3(2)
- Tabled Document 210 – 3(2)
- Tabled Document 212 – 3(2)

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  
October 29 at ten o'clock in the  
morning.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 17:53*

## **Appendix – October 28, 2010**



# **Reports of Standing and Special Committees**

**Standing Committee on  
Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts**

*Report on the Review of the  
2008-2009 Annual Report of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut  
and the  
2009-2010 Annual Report of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Legislative Assembly  
October 2010**

**James Arvaluk, MLA  
Chair**

**Fred Schell, MLA  
Co-Chair**

**Moses Aupaluktuq, MLA  
Ron Elliott, MLA  
Adamee Komoartok, MLA  
John Ningark, MLA  
Johnny Ningeongan, MLA  
Paul Okalik, MLA  
Allan Rumbolt, MLA  
Jeannie Ugyuk, MLA**

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Mr. Speaker, I have the honour today of presenting the report of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts on its review of the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 Annual Reports of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Alexina Kublu assumed her duties as Languages Commissioner of Nunavut in January of 2009, in the final quarter of the 2008-2009 fiscal year. Her responsibilities as Languages Commissioner are prescribed by two pieces of Nunavut legislation: the *Official Languages Act* and the *Inuit Language Protection Act*, both of which were passed in 2008 by the Second Legislative Assembly of Nunavut.

As you will recall, Mr. Speaker, the Languages Commissioner's 2008-2009 Annual Report was tabled in this House on March 18, 2010. In September of 2010, her 2009-2010 Annual Report was backdoor tabled with the Clerk of the Assembly, pursuant to Rule 44(2) of the *Rules of the Legislative Assembly*, and was formally tabled in this House on October 22, 2010.

The Standing Committee held its hearings on the Languages Commissioner's reports from September 29-30, 2010. The hearings were open to the public and news media to observe and were broadcast on local cable television. Transcripts from the Standing Committee's hearings have been posted to the Legislative Assembly's website in both Inuktitut and English.

Mr. Speaker, this was Ms. Kublu's first appearance before the Standing Committee. Witnesses from her office were also present. The Standing Committee was pleased to have had the opportunity to discuss various issues relating to the Languages Commissioner's mandate and the activities of her office. I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank the Languages Commissioner for appearing before us.

A number of themes and concerns emerged during the Standing Committee's review of the Languages Commissioner's reports.

Mr. Speaker, the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut has three main areas of responsibility: the investigation and resolution of complaints relating to language rights, providing guidance and support to various bodies and institutions, and the administration of her office.

With respect to the investigation and resolution of complaints relating to language rights, the Languages Commissioner's 2008-2009 report indicated that her office had received one formal complaint during the year. The report did not provide any specific details or information on the nature of the complaint nor the means by which it was investigated and resolved.

The Languages Commissioner's 2009-2010 Annual Report indicated that three formal complaints were received during the year. Again, no specific details or information on the nature of the complaints and their resolution were provided.

Both reports indicate that the Office is very busy answering "daily inquiries" as well as addressing requests for information and concerns brought forward by members of the public or by various institutions located in Nunavut and elsewhere. During her appearance, the Languages Commissioner identified a number of issues that had been brought to her attention through conversation, anecdote or within the context of seminars and workshops. She indicated that these also constituted complaints about language rights. However, neither report provides any statistical or analytical information on the types of complaints, concerns or queries handled by her office over the course of the year.

During her appearance, the Languages Commissioner indicated that by including details on complaints, her reports would "become a burdensome and very thick document." Standing Committee Members have noted that other Independent Officers of this Legislative Assembly, as well as in other jurisdictions, are able to successfully provide informative detail on the type and nature of complaints or requests received and addressed by their offices without the reports becoming overly lengthy or revealing confidential information.

Standing Committee Members are of the view that in order to gain a greater appreciation of the workload and focus of resources within the Office of the Languages Commissioner as well as the effectiveness of her role in this regard, it is important that a significantly greater level of detail regarding this element of the Languages Commissioner's responsibilities be included in her annual reports.

**Standing Committee Recommendation #1:**

The Standing Committee recommends that the Languages Commissioner records, measures and analyzes the nature, type and number of complaints, concerns and queries that are identified and handled by her Office on an annual basis and provides a clear and detailed summary of these and any other relevant information in her annual reports.

Mr. Speaker, the Standing Committee recognizes that the Office of the Languages Commissioner has put a great deal of effort into establishing and refining a complaints resolution process. The process is depicted in flowcharts contained within her annual reports and described in a document published on the Languages Commissioner's website. Members would have appreciated information on what kinds of challenges were faced and successes achieved while implementing the complaints resolution process. For example, Members would have appreciated an explanation as to how and why the complaints resolution process was modified in 2009-2010.

**Standing Committee Recommendation #2:**

The Standing Committee recommends that the Languages Commissioner includes a detailed summary of the application and results of her Office's complaints resolution procedure in her annual reports.

Mr. Speaker, the Languages Commissioner has indicated her intention to conduct two systemic investigations into language services provided by the Department of Health and Social Services and the Department of Human Resources. In the absence of any detailed information regarding the nature of complaints and queries received by her Office over the past two years, it is difficult to determine how and why these two departments were selected for this investigative process. Further, the Languages Commissioner does not provide any detail in her reports with respect to the focus or process of conducting her proposed investigations. The Standing Committee looks forward to revisiting this issue in the future.

**Standing Committee Recommendation #3:**

The Standing Committee recommends that the Languages Commissioner includes a detailed summary of the reasoning, purpose, progress and results of her systemic investigations in her next annual report.

Mr. Speaker, during the Languages Commissioner's appearance before the Standing Committee, Members raised a number of concerns with respect to the current status of the Inuit language, including statistics on usage, standardization, writing systems and terminology. Members greatly appreciated the Languages Commissioner's insight on these issues.

During the Languages Commissioner's appearance, there was some discussion concerning the spelling of the name of the building into which her Office is planning to move. While the Standing Committee appreciates her Office's commitment to linguistic accuracy, Members would caution the Office to not allow relatively trivial matters to distract from more significant challenges. Members would also be unsupportive of any decision on the part of the Office to delay its planned occupancy until a specific piece of signage were replaced, given the potentially significant costs that could be incurred in relation to lease agreements.

Given that it is a part of the Languages Commissioner's mandate to provide advice to the Minister of Languages, government departments and institutions on language-related issues, the Standing Committee looks forward to further discussion and elaboration of the Languages Commissioner's views on these issues in the future. The Standing Committee recognizes that certain responsibilities concerning language, such as the preservation and revitalization of the Inuit language, fall under the mandate of the Minister of Languages while other responsibilities fall under the mandate of the *Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit*, the Inuit Language Authority.

It is important that the Languages Commissioner clarify her working relationship with these and other entities within the context of her own Office's mandate.

During the Languages Commissioner's appearance, Standing Committee Members also raised a number of issues with respect to the current status, language service needs and demands of Nunavut's francophone population. While the Standing Committee was given to understand that the Languages Commissioner has undertaken to address certain issues relating to the lack of French language services in Nunavut, Members were surprised to note that the Office of the Languages Commissioner has not yet developed a formal position on certain important criteria relating to the delivery of such services, such as the definition of "significant demand."

**Standing Committee Recommendation #4:**

The Standing Committee recommends that the Languages Commissioner and her staff work to establish specific benchmarks and criteria with which to evaluate and report on support for language rights across Nunavut and that the results of applying these criteria and benchmarks be included in her annual reports.

Mr. Speaker, in reviewing of the Languages Commissioner's two annual reports, Members noted that while the 2008-2009 annual report contained four specific recommendations, the 2009-2010 annual report contained no new recommendations. Instead, the Languages Commissioner's 2009-2010 annual report included a ten-page insert which repeated nineteen recommendations that had been put forward by her predecessors over the previous ten years and which discussed the government's progress in addressing those recommendations.

Mr. Speaker, Standing Committee Members are disappointed that the Languages Commissioner chose to repeat recommendations from past reports with the implication that no action has been taken to address them rather than acknowledging the progress that has been made over the past ten years in addressing language issues and needs across Nunavut.

Indeed, the introduction of two new pieces of language legislation and the commitment to the new mandate of the Office of the Languages Commissioner as well as the establishment of the *Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit* are significant examples of progress in this area. Standing Committee Members were further disappointed that the Languages Commissioner did not include any forward-looking recommendations in her 2009-2010 annual report for the consideration of the government and Legislative Assembly as a whole.

**Standing Committee Recommendation #5:**

The Standing Committee recommends that specific studies conducted by the Office of the Languages Commissioner, such as the 10-Year Review which was included as an insert within her 2009-2010 Annual Report, be presented as distinct publications of the Office and not as components of the annual reports.



Mr. Speaker, during the Languages Commissioner's appearance before the Standing Committee, Committee Members were pleased to have had the opportunity to address a number of issues relating to the provision of language services in the private sector. The Standing Committee applauds the Languages Commissioner for her proactive role in assisting and supporting private sector businesses and other organizations, such as Regional Inuit Organizations, in addressing their need to develop and implement Inuit Language Plans. Standing Committee Members encourage the Languages Commissioner to continue to work with non-government entities regarding the requirements of the *Inuit Language Protection Act*.

Members further encourage the Languages Commissioner to place a priority on assisting entities to meet legislated requirements in industries where public safety issues are critical, such as the mining industry and the airline industry.

Mr. Speaker, Committee Members were surprised that the Languages Commissioner does not appear to have given detailed consideration to the issue of language services provided within Nunavut by federal entities or federally-regulated entities, such as banks and airlines. During her appearance, Members were disappointed that responses to questions in this area were somewhat superficial.

As awareness of language rights and responsibilities within Nunavut increases, the Office of the Languages Commissioner will likely be called upon to provide informed and evidence-based advice, direction and mediation in this area.

**Standing Committee Recommendation #6:**

The Standing Committee recommends that the Office of the Languages Commissioner be prepared to substantively address issues relating to the delivery of services in the territory's official languages by federal and federally-regulated entities.

Mr. Speaker, the mandate of the Office of the Languages Commissioner is supported by a budget which is approved by the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. The Standing Committee on Oversight on Government Operations and Public Accounts has noted that the budget for the Office of the Languages Commissioner more than doubled between 2008-2009 and 2009-2010. Committee Members recognize that much of this increase is accounted for by the restructuring of the office and an increase in staff to meet the demands of the Office's new mandate.

Mr. Speaker, the Languages Commissioner's work plan for 2010-2011, as included in her 2009-2010 annual report, provided minimal detail on the proposed activities of her Office for the current year. The mandate of the Office of the Language Commissioner must be clearly defined and activities of the Office towards meeting that mandate should be clearly described.

**Standing Committee Recommendation #7:**

The Standing Committee recommends that the Languages Commissioner take every opportunity provided with the presentation of her annual reports, during appearances before the Legislative Assembly and in other formal appearances to clearly express her mandate and position on language legislation and its implementation.

Given that the budget of the Office of the Languages Commissioner has increased to well over \$1 million, and noting that the Legislative Assembly will soon be considering the Languages Commissioner's proposed budget for 2011-2012, as a component of the Legislative Assembly's budget, it is important for the purposes of accountability that the Office's request for funding be supported by a detailed business plan which demonstrates how the budget supports the mandate of the Office of the Languages Commissioner. This process will also assist Members of the Legislative Assembly to evaluate the effectiveness of the Office of the Languages Commissioner and provide support as necessary.

**Standing Committee Recommendation #8:**

The Standing Committee further recommends that the Office of the Languages Commissioner prepare a complete business plan for the upcoming fiscal year which clearly outlines the mandate of the Office, details activities which support the mandate of the Office, and describes specific budget allocations for each level of activity to be conducted by the Office of the Languages Commissioner. The Standing Committee notes the role of the Management and Services Board of the Legislative Assembly in this process.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to conclude the Standing Committee's report with an important observation made by the Languages Commissioner during her appearance and which was echoed by several Committee Members throughout the two days of hearings. Support for language and culture starts at home. As parents, educators, representatives and leaders, we all share the responsibility of promoting Nunavut's languages.

Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Rule 91, I move that the report of the Standing Committee be received by the House.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.