



Nunavut Canada

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT

2nd Session

3rd Assembly

HANSARD

Official Report

DAY 56

Thursday, February 24, 2011

Pages 3150 – 3196

Iqaluit

Speaker: The Honourable Paul Okalik, M.L.A.

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

Hon. Paul Okalik

(Iqaluit West)

Hon. Eva Aariak

(Iqaluit East)

Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs; Minister responsible for Immigration; Minister responsible for the Status of Women

Adamee Komoartok

(Pangnirtung)

Hon. Lorne Kusugak

(Rankin Inlet South – Whale Cove)
Government House Leader; Minister of Community and Government Services; Minister of Energy; Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation

Fred Schell

(South Baffin)

Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk

(Arviat)

Minister of Environment; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Arctic College

Hon. James Arreak

(Uqqummiut)

Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth; Minister of Languages; Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council

John Ningark

(Akulliq)

Johnny Ningeongan

(Nanulik)

Deputy Speaker and Chair of the Committee of the Whole

Louis Tapardjuk

(Amittuq)

Hon. Peter Taptuna

(Kugluktuk)

Deputy Premier; Minister of Economic Development and Transportation

James Arvaluk

(Tununiq)

Moses Aupaluktuq

(Baker Lake)

Hon. Keith Peterson

(Cambridge Bay)

Minister of Finance, Chair of the Financial Management Board; Minister of Justice

Hon. Hunter Tootoo

(Iqaluit Centre)

Minister of Education; Minister of Human Resources; Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission

Hon. Tagak Curley

(Rankin Inlet North)

Minister of Health and Social Services; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation; Minister responsible for Homelessness

Allan Rumbolt

(Hudson Bay)

Jeannie Ugyuk

(Nattilik)

Ron Elliott

(Quttiktuq)

Officers

Clerk

John Quirke

Deputy Clerk
Nancy Tupik

Clerk Assistant
Stephen Innuksuk

Law Clerk
Michael Chandler

Sergeant-at-Arms
Simanek Kilabuk

Hansard Production
Innirvik Support Services

Box 1200

Iqaluit, Nunavut, X0A 0H0

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

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|------|
| Opening Prayer..... | 3150 |
| Ministers' Statements | 3150 |
| Members' Statements | 3153 |
| Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery..... | 3160 |
| Oral Questions..... | 3162 |
| Tabling of Documents | 3175 |
| Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters | 3177 |
| Report of the Committee of the Whole | 3194 |
| Third Reading of Bills..... | 3195 |
| Orders of the Day | 3196 |

A.

Daily References

Thursday, February 24, 2011.....3150

B.

Ministers' Statements

235 – 3(2): Remembering Jose Kusugak (Aariak)3150
236 – 3(2): NHC Continues to Enhance Financial Controls (Curley).....3151
237 – 3(2): Arctic Bay Airport Opening (Taptuna).....3152
238 – 3(2): New Science Campus for Nunavut Research Institute (Shewchuk)3152

C.

Members' Statements

366 – 3(2): Passing of Mary Kuutsiq Mariq (Aupaluktuq)3153
367 – 3(2): Congratulations to Sanikiluaq's 2010 High School Graduates (Rumbolt).....3154
368 – 3(2): Social Worker Challenges (Elliott).....3154
369 – 3(2): Passing of Peter Kamingoak (Taptuna)3155
370 – 3(2): Working Together to Reduce Suicide in Nunavut (Ningark)3155
371 – 3(2): Nutrition North Canada Program (Ningeongan)3156
372 – 3(2): Addressing Access to Alcohol in Nunavut (Ugyuk).....3157
373 – 3(2): Narwhal Tusk Ban by the Government of Canada (Arreak)3159

D.

Oral Questions

542 – 3(2): Status of European Union's Seal Ban (Tapardjuk).....3162
543 – 3(2): Social Worker Challenges (Elliott).....3164
544 – 3(2): Minister's Task Force to Review the Liquor Act (Ugyuk).....3165

| | |
|--|------|
| 545 – 3(2): Sanikiluaq Health Centre Fuel Leak (Rumbolt) | 3167 |
| 546 – 3(2): Repulse Bay Water Pump (Ningark) | 3169 |
| 547 – 3(2): Baker Lake’s INAC Water Use Inspection Report (Aupaluktuq) | 3170 |
| 548 – 3(2): Operations of the Qulliq Energy Corporation (Schell) | 3172 |
| 549 – 3(2): Financial Reports of NHC (Elliott)..... | 3174 |

E.

Tabling of Documents

| | |
|---|------|
| 273 – 3(2): Correspondence from Constituent Concerning Nutrition North Canada Program (Rumbolt)..... | 3175 |
| 274 – 3(2): Lease, Contract and Procurement Activity Report 2008-2009 (Kusugak) | 3176 |
| 275 – 3(2): Lease, Contract and Procurement Activity Report 2009-2010 (Kusugak) | 3176 |
| 276 – 3(2): Statistics on Suicide in Nunavut (Ningark) | 3176 |
| 277 – 3(2): Kugaaruk and Repulse Bay’s INAC Water Use Inspection Reports (Ningark) | 3176 |
| 278 – 3(2): Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games Report (Taptuna) | 3176 |

F.

Bills

| | |
|--|------|
| Bill 52 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2009-2010 – Consideration in Committee | 3177 |
| Bill 53 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2010-2011 – Consideration in Committee..... | 3179 |
| Bill 54 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2010-2011 – Consideration in Committee | 3181 |
| Bill 52 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2009-2010 – Third Reading | 3195 |
| Bill 53 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2010-2011 – Third Reading | 3195 |

Bill 54 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2010-2011 –

Third Reading3195

Iqaluit, Nunavut**Thursday, February 24, 2011****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, Honourable Paul Okalik, Honourable Keith Peterson, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Mr. Fred Schell, Honourable Daniel Shewchuk, Mr. Louis Tapardjuk, Honourable Peter Taptuna, Honourable Hunter Tootoo, Ms. Jeannie Ugyuk.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. Paul Okalik)(interpretation): Good afternoon. First of all, I would like to ask Ms. Ugyuk to say the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Good day. The first item in our orders of the day is Ministers' Statements. Premier.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements**Minister's Statement 235 – 3(2):
Remembering Jose Kusugak**

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I speak about the recent passing of a teacher, a politician, a friend, and an advocate for Inuit across Nunavut: Jose Kusugak.

When Jose passed away on January 19, the memories and stories came pouring in from across Nunavut and beyond.

Jose was my first Inuktitut teacher at residential school in Churchill, Manitoba more than 30 years ago. He was a wonderful teacher, always full of stories and jokes. Many of us had left Nunavut for the first time, and Jose had a way of instilling in us so much pride in our language and culture. He inspired us not only to be better students but to be better people. His expectations were high: he expected us to go out in the world and truly make a difference.

I know there are many people, Mr. Speaker, in this room who also have wonderful memories of Jose, especially his brother, our colleague, Minister Lorne Kusugak, and one of his first employers and colleagues, Minister Curley. I'm sure there are many others.

We all know Jose's legendary history as an Inuit activist and politician, working for Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, the Inuit Language Commission, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, the Kivalliq Inuit Association, and the Inuit Circumpolar Council. It would take many hours for me to detail all of the work that Jose accomplished in his short lifetime. Suffice to say, his accomplishments in advocating on behalf of Inuit and his passion for our language and culture have forever changed the political and social landscape of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I was very pleased to travel to Rankin Inlet to be present at the funeral service with Mr. Curley, a funeral service held in his honour, and to pay respects to Nellie, Jose's wife and our Deputy Commissioner. A few weeks later, a memorial service was held in Ottawa, and here in Iqaluit, we held a

celebration of his life to allow those who could not make it to Rankin Inlet to have an opportunity to say goodbye.

Mr. Speaker, a book of condolences has been displayed here at the Legislation Assembly, and those who would like to leave a message for the Kusugak family are welcome to do so. This book will be sent to the Kusugak family, along with photos of the Iqaluit memorial service, at the end of the month. Jose will be dearly missed by many people. His memory will live on in the great strides made by our children and grandchildren, who will no doubt go out in the world and make a difference. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. We remember him well, and he was a friend of mine. We used to call him José. Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Curley.

**Minister's Statement 236 – 3(2): NHC
Continues to Enhance Financial
Controls**

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, agree with our Premier because we used to work closely with him and we send our condolences to the family. Good afternoon to the people of Rankin Inlet.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I previously spoke of the major steps taken by this government and the Nunavut Housing Corporation of relocating the finance division and strengthening the IT infrastructure of the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

Because Nunavutmiut and the members demanded we take decisive action to address the root causes of the CEAP and NHT over-commitments, Mr. Speaker, I want Nunavutmiut and the members to know of the other measures that this government and the Nunavut Housing Corporation are taking to ensure we are ready for the next round of major federal investments in housing when they come.

Mr. Speaker, this government and the Nunavut Housing Corporation are committed to ensure that Nunavutmiut are served with the utmost transparency and accountability.

Mr. Speaker, I want to reassure the members that the Nunavut Housing Corporation has met all of its reporting requirements under the ministerial directives issued last April. In addition, Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Housing Corporation has complied with providing O&M expenditure reporting and capital budget status reports to the Department of Finance on a monthly basis. Also, Mr. Speaker, reporting showing status of completion in spending to date has been implemented and, Mr. Speaker, all change orders to construction contracts now flow through the Nunavut Housing Corporation's directorate to ensure overall budget control.

In September 2010, Mr. Speaker, as part of the corporation's internal review of the financial administration system, a comptrollers' forum was held here in Iqaluit to identify issues and develop an internal action plan to implement the changes needed to fundamentally improve the Nunavut Housing Corporation's oversight of its overall

financial administration system. This meeting included staff from all three districts, headquarters, and directorate, and has been followed up with regular conference calls to review monthly reporting.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Housing Corporation is tackling its challenges and is working hard to restore the trust of Nunavutmiut. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statement. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Minister's Statement 237 – 3(2):
Arctic Bay Airport Opening**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to my colleagues and Kuglukturmiut.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for this opportunity to rise today before the Members of this House to inform them of the recent official opening of Canada's newest airport in Arctic Bay. This project has been in the works for years and the time has come when we are finally able to say that Arctic Bay has its own airport, one that will serve the needs of the community for many years into the future.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, large undertakings like building an airport do not happen without a coordinated effort, and I want to commend the work done by all of the departments and individuals involved in this worthwhile project.

I would also like to thank the people of Arctic Bay, the Premier, and the Quttiktuq MLA. The Premier, the Quttiktuq MLA, and I had the honour of spending the evening with the community on the occasion of the official opening, and I was touched by their warmth and hospitality and their ability to throw a good party.

Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that the Arctic Bay Airport will be an integral part of the community and will contribute to the well-being of the community for many years to come. I am honoured to have played a part in this project, and I think all of the Members of this Assembly and of the previous Assembly should be pleased that their support of projects like this has paid off. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Arctic College, Minister Shewchuk.

**Minister's Statement 238 – 3(2): New
Science Campus for Nunavut
Research Institute**

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last year, construction equipment tore down the old lab building just across the street from us. The old building had been there since 1978 and was originally used by INAC. Later it became the home of the Environmental Technology Program of the college and then in 1995, became the home of the Nunavut Research Institute. Now, just 13 months later, I am pleased to announce that new headquarters and

science campus of the Nunavut Research Institute is ready for occupancy.

The Nunavut Research Institute's new science campus is larger, more modern, more energy efficient, and provides greater capacity for research activities and services in the health, natural, and social sciences. The Environmental Technology Program will now work in partnership with the research program.

Mr. Speaker, this is very good news for Nunavut, Nunavummiut, and the very many science researchers who regularly travel to Nunavut each year. This coming year, we will see the research centre work with large conferences, such as Oceans Technology Conference and the Eastern Arctic Integrated Regional Impact Study meetings.

This project was made possible through \$11 million of economic stimulus funding from the Government of Canada's Arctic Research Infrastructure Fund.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to announce that Nunavut students will have an excellent facility in which to resume their studies. We are planning an official opening for later this year and you will all be invited. *Ma'na*, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Item 3 in the *Orders of the Day*. Members' Statements. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 366 – 3(2): Passing of Mary Kuutsiq Mariq

Mr. Aupaluktuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say "hello" to the residents of Baker, especially to my mother, who slipped and hurt herself. I would ask that my nephews shovel her steps and porch. I am very happy to be back in the Legislative Assembly as well as to Baker Lake. I was sick yesterday and I was unable to attend yesterday's sitting, my apologies.

I rise today in this House to speak about an esteemed elder who has passed away, Mrs. Kuutsiq Mariq. I remember her family, in particular her sons that I used to play hockey with in Baker Lake. They are in my thoughts.

Furthermore, another issue I am raising the House is that our elders are dwindling. There are a lot of elders that we are losing in Nunavut, especially those who were there when Nunavut was created. My mother, who just turned 16, moved into a house in Baker Lake. I do not want elders to be forgotten, especially in my home community, because they are worthy and loveable. I recall Kuutsiq as she was a neighbour for many years. As a result, her being an elder would remind me of where we come from. Perhaps what I can reiterate is that the elders should not be forgotten and we have to respect them.

Another issue I wanted to raise is when I spoke about supporting this CLEY initiative. We also have to remember that youth are an important part. We have to remember that we are working for them. We must honour and respect our elders as they are our foundation

because only through them can we maintain our identity. This is what I wanted to state to my fellow Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Hudson Bay.

**Member's Statement 367 – 3(2):
Congratulations to Sanikiluaq's
2010 High School Graduates**

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say "good afternoon" to all the people from Sanikiluaq.

I rise today to congratulate Sanikiluaq's 2010 high school graduates and to wish them continued success in their future.

Mr. Speaker, Sanikiluaq's high school graduates waited until Valentine's Day to celebrate their big day. If any day can be an added sense of warmth and style to celebrate, then that is the day to pick.

Mr. Speaker, the 2010 graduating class is one of the largest graduating classes we have had in a long time. I hope this is a sign of things to come.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Christopher Meeko, Tina Meeko, Christopher Kittosuk, Joanase Tookalook, Sarah Tookalook, Wanda Qavvik, Kelly Fraser. These young people are fine examples for the youth in the community who are still in school. I know their parents and families are very proud of them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Member for Quttiktuq.

**Member's Statement 368 – 3(2):
Social Worker Challenges**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to once again urge our government to address as a priority the need to staff social work position all across Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, it was very good to hear some frank and detailed discussion in this House yesterday about social issues across Nunavut, and the role that social workers are required to play to address those issues.

Mr. Speaker, until our legislation changes, and until there is a fundamental shift in how the people of Nunavut address social issues, we need social workers to perform certain legislative duties.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that we remain aware of the tremendous burden that was put on the social workers who are employed within our government today. The level of stress they face in doing their jobs is remarkable. In many cases, it is not just one job that they are doing, but two are more as they are given additional duties covering other communities and facing unexpected increases in their case load.

Mr. Speaker, at the recent Baffin Mayors conference, the Mayor of Grise Fiord highlighted the need for a social worker in that community. They have gone without one for a very long time. The same can be said of Resolute Bay and

Arctic Bay, the other two communities in my constituency.

Mr. Speaker, if this situation is not addressed soon, then the social workers that we do have will become exhausted and burnt out. We owe it to them, as well as to our constituents to provide adequate support.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the government to treat this issue as a high priority. I do understand that our entire system of providing child and family services is under review, but in the mean time, the health and welfare not only of our constituents, but our social workers is at risk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Member for Kugluktuk.

**Member's Statement 369 – 3(2):
Passing of Peter Kamingoak**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to remember a well respected elder, who passed away suddenly on the 17th of February of this year. Peter Kamingoak was a friend to many, a colleague, and a fellow community member who was well liked and respected by all who knew him. I have known Peter personally for a long time. We were connected through family, as he is the grandfather of my son, whom my wife Joanne and I adopted 18 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, Peter worked hard in our community and strived to make changes that would affect our community of Kugluktuk and the rest of Nunavut in a positive way. I would like to give one

example of one of the positive things he has done for the community of Kugluktuk, way back when it was called Coppermine. There was an expansion to our airstrip that he had a hand in doing with the company that he had worked with for a long period of time. Of course, that oil company was Gulf Oil in the Mackenzie Delta.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time now to extend my sincere sympathy to the family, friends, and colleagues of Peter Kamingoak. His death saddens me, as we have lost a well-respected leader and elder. Peter Kamingoak leaves behind a wife of 67 years, Cecile Kamingoak, with 13 children, 42 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, and so forth.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to encourage everyone that is here with us today to take a moment of their time to remember this great man from Kugluktuk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Member for Akulliq.

**Member's Statement 370 – 3(2):
Working Together to Reduce
Suicide in Nunavut**

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak frankly about the issue of suicide.

Mr. Speaker, on October 26 of last year, the Minister of Health and Social Services tabled the Government of Nunavut's Suicide Prevention Strategy. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge my hon. friend's work on

this important issue and to join with my colleagues in encouraging him to move forward with his plan.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is important for all of us to reflect on how suicide has touched all of our communities. Although it is painful to do so, we have a responsibility to acknowledge that every single community has been hurt by suicide.

Mr. Speaker, a total of 327 lives were tragically and needlessly lost in Nunavut between 1999 and the end of 2010. Mr. Speaker, these numbers can seem overwhelming and the challenge before us can appear insurmountable. However, we should also recognize that there is hope.

Mr. Speaker, a number of Nunavut communities have not suffered suicides for some time. It seems to me that community residents must be doing something to avoid this type of tragedy. In government, I believe that this is called “best practices.” All I know is that they must be doing something right and we could learn from them.

Mr. Speaker, we know that many dedicated people are making great efforts to reduce suicide in Nunavut. I encourage everyone to be willing to listen and learn from the experiences of others, which is how we will succeed together. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Member for Nanulik.

**Member’s Statement 371 – 3(2):
Nutrition North Canada Program**

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to bring a Kivalliq perspective to the issue of the federal government’s new Nutrition North Canada Program.

Mr., Speaker, the issue of affordable food is a concern to residents of all communities in Nunavut.

As members are aware, the communities of the Kivalliq have extensive trade and transportation links with the province of Manitoba.

Mr. Speaker, it has recently been brought to my attention that Canada Safeway, which operates food mail services to the Kivalliq out of Winnipeg, will be discontinuing its relationship with the federal government’s Food Mail Program as of March 31 of this year.

An Hon. Member: Shame, shame!

Mr. Ningeongan: It is my understanding that the company will not be participating in the new Nutrition North Canada Program, which means that residents of the Kivalliq who want to make personal food orders from this company will be paying full shipping rates. According to the company, it has made this decision following, and I quote, “considerable review of the costs and administration associated with the new federal government program.”

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that it is important for the federal government to ensure that the arrangements that it puts into place with retailers and suppliers to receive subsidies under the new

Nutrition North Canada Program are designed to ensure that they actually pass savings along to the consumers.

At the same time, I am concerned that the design of the new program does not unintentionally result in a situation where our constituents have significantly fewer options when it comes to purchasing food.

Mr. Speaker, it's clear that many questions need to be answered, and I am looking forward to supporting my colleague's motion to invite stakeholders to appear before us to address our concerns. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 372 – 3(2):
Addressing Access to Alcohol in
Nunavut**

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would like to recall the elder who just passed away. We remember him well in Nattilik. He has two daughters in Taloyoak. He is in our thoughts and prayers. He was a good friend to many people in Gjoa Haven. He is in our thoughts, as well as his wife.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak about an issue that is continually brought up in Nunavut. I rise today to speak about this issue that is very dear to Nunavummiut and it revolves around liquor.

Mr. Speaker, as an MLA representing the Nattilik constituency, in Taloyoak,

they have a free community, whereas in Gjoa Haven, they have a dry community. If you are in Gjoa Haven, you cannot import any liquor. These two communities are very close to each other.

I think you all know that Gjoa Haven is a dry community and Taloyoak is a wet community, and these two communities comprise my constituency. They have different mindsets with relation to this particular issue on liquor and how it can best be handled in the community.

I personally know that certain communities are dry and the importation of liquor is prohibited. I also know for a fact that many people state that they are dry in name only, that people can bring in liquor if they wish.

Mr. Speaker, I think you all know that I used to be a social worker. Alcohol is the biggest factor in causing difficulties in Nunavut. It's not just alcohol but also drugs which cause issues within families. Due to that fact... .

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member would like to conclude her statement. Are there any nays? Thank you. There are no nays. Member for Nattilik, you may proceed.

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

Due to these issues, I urge our government to deliberate on this issue very carefully and to look at all of the factors related to the healing because we have to ensure that these facilities are

available to all Nunavummiut. There are difficulties when people try to go for treatment when there are no treatment centres in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I am very happy that Minister Keith Peterson has appointed a task force to look into this issue and they are reviewing the *Liquor Act*. This is a very important issue for many Nunavummiut and it is important that they are able to voice what their feelings are in regard to alcohol. This is the focus of that task group. As many of the MLAs know, you will be seeing the report of the task force and their recommendations as to what they want to change. It will be presented to the House. Many of us want to ensure we deal with this properly.

I want to state my own personal opinion on this matter. First of all, I know that many Inuit have many questions about the way liquor is administered in Nunavut, and we also know that we just inherited the *Liquor Act* from the NWT. I also further know that this Act was approved by the federal government and they established the Nunavut government to enact legislation.

My constituents in the Nattilik region have asked, "Why are some people not allowed to order liquor in some communities when, in Canada, it is free in all of the other jurisdictions?" I want to ensure that the task force considers this very carefully because you have to look at both sides of the coin and you should not be picking one side over the other. You have to ensure you look at both sides.

As well to the constituents, when you are reviewing the *Liquor Act*, you should be

able to voice what areas require revision and what requires improvement. Many people are not happy with the way the existing legislation is implemented today and the way alcohol is administered throughout Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, many Inuit are unhappy because they are very responsible drinkers and it doesn't cause a problem with their lifestyle. It is the people who cause trouble that force government to enact legislation. It seems like the people who are not responsible are being penalized for the sake of a few who abuse alcohol. For example, people from Iqaluit have to order from Rankin Inlet and the people from Rankin Inlet have to order from Iqaluit. That is not very effective. With that the way it is, the airlines are the only ones that seem to be making any money and that is what I see.

Mr. Speaker, many Inuit are also unhappy that people are bootlegging and that they raise the prices of this illegal liquor, which impacts many people who have small income. I further urge the minister to push forward with the legislation because, again, many people are expecting the government to raise revenue and to stop the sale of bootlegged liquor. From my own personal opinion, I have experienced that Inuit will continue to drink and if there is a market, somebody will supply. It is a simply law of supply and demand.

People will continue to look and people will continue to offer bootlegged liquor. From my perspective, Inuit should follow the law properly and order the liquor within set amounts at retail prices and not at bootlegged prices because it's people who bootleg alcohol who create

the most problems. Bootlegged liquor is very expensive and when people want to drink, they have to pay the price.

Mr. Speaker, when the community deems itself dry, it causes a problem with the residents because they no longer believe the law. It's supposed to be a dry community, but many of the residents don't listen and that causes an issue with many residents who no longer believe that status. Many elders are leery because they have been asked to stop it, but it seems like the status is a status in name only and it's time we moved on.

(interpretation ends) When you create expectations that people will behave irresponsibly, they will not disappoint you. I'm sure that all Members of the House are aware of how prohibition of alcohol contributes to the serious problem of binge drinking.

Mr. Speaker, I do recognize that many people would like to see us return to the days when alcohol was not part of our lives in our communities. However, I also recognize that we need realistic solutions to meet today's reality.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that the task force recommends changes to our system that put all communities on the same level. I believe that we are one territory and I believe that the same set of rules should apply to all of our communities.

I also hope that we move carefully towards a more open system of access to alcohol that is accompanied by programs and resources to help those who suffer from substance abuse. I believe that supporting the legal responsible use of alcohol will help to address the issue of

bootlegging, reduce the amount of money that ends up in the hands of criminals, and encourage people to take greater responsibility for their actions.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that this issue is very difficult for all of us. I would like to conclude by encouraging the minister to table the report of the task force in the Legislative Assembly before he moves forward with the amendments to the *Liquor Act* so that all of the MLAs have the opportunity to give careful consideration and work towards a consensus on how to proceed with this very difficult issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. Members' Statements. Member for Uqqummiut.

**Member's Statement 373 – 3(2):
Narwhal Tusk Ban by the
Government of Canada**

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say "hello" to the people of Qikiqtarjuaq. The people in Clyde River cannot watch the proceedings on television and it is unfortunate that that is the case.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I rise to speak about the federal government's proposed ban on the export of narwhal tusks. We heard this over the news a while back. Many communities in Nunavut are impacted by this, but particularly in the two communities that I represent, Qikiqtarjuaq and Clyde River are the most impacted. Based on the data that the DFO made available, it seems that

they thought there were about 30,000, but the population data estimates are now about 60,000. We believe that it could be twice as much as the 60,000 that DFO has stated as the population.

When the tusks are no longer able to be exported, the people most impacted will be the poorest people who are trying to sell the tusks to raise revenue. Whatever a hunter sells, he just puts it towards buying more supplies as well as food. They don't just go hunting narwhal for the sake of selling the by-products. The hunter's first priority is to harvest the food. The skin is food, including the meat, and it's distributed across the families and communities. They will even send meat to other communities and other people.

In Qikiqtarjuaq, there are very few jobs available and many people are looking for ways to raise incomes. That community in particular is looking for ways to become more self-sufficient. With this new program as well, the cost of food is rising.

DFO has notified the communities and the HTOs. . . . I'm sorry my time is up. I would like to ask for unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The Member for Uqqummiut would like to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. You may proceed, Member for Uqqummiut.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleagues for allowing me to proceed.

As I was saying, DFO has also presented a report and they keep referring back to this report. When they conducted population studies, it was unclear as to exactly how many narwhal are out there, where they actually migrate, and how many are actually harvested. Now, my question is why they did not even touch any of the quotas. Obviously it's not a conservation issue, but what they have done is they have banned the export. They haven't touched the quotas. It seems like it is someone else's agenda because they have no foundation as to why they have banned the export of tusks from these communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. My mouth is watering from the reference to the narwhal *Mattaaq*. When you bring some *Mattaaq* down, I want to be notified. Members' Statements. There are no more hands up. Following our orders of the day, Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. There being none. Going to Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Baker Lake.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Aupaluktuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize a group of people from Baker Lake who are visiting. It's very good to see people from Baker Lake and my own constituents, and I am very grateful that they are here.

First of all, it's very good to see our mayor, David Aksawnee. Please be welcome. He has now been a mayor for seven years in Baker Lake.

Another Baker Lake resident who was a past MLA and minister, who is also a business owner, David Simailak, is here. Welcome to the Gallery. His wife, Jean Simailak, is also here. It's very good to see them here because they are supporting a lot of Inuit in Baker Lake. I used to go to the church where Jean is a pastor and I thank her for that.

Furthermore, when I was a young person, I used to watch this person who would drive for the hamlet, David Owingayak, who is also here in the Gallery. I am very happy to recognize him.

The last person is Winnie Owingayak, who is working at the heritage centre. I used to work with her back then. She has been involved in many of the committees in our community and has been involved in cultural issues, such as Qilautimiut Elders Society, and has assisted and has cooked for our elders for a long time and it won't be forgotten.

Welcome to the Gallery and enjoy your stay in Iqaluit. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Kugluktuk.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's not too often that I stand up to recognize my fellow Kuglukturmiut, but today, I am especially proud to recognize Anne Rose Kerkovious. She has been a long-time government employee from Kugluktuk, of course, and Millie Kuliktana. Anybody who has anything to do with education would

know who she is, and I am pleased to see her here.

Although she has been kind of limited in travelling, she is all the way here in Iqaluit. Her health is getting better, and I am hoping that she is going to be available next year to do more Christmas radio-thons to raise more money for Kugluktuk's needy. In fact, last year, they raised over \$38,000 last Christmas for the Kugluktuk food hampers, and every year she has a hand in that. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Cambridge Bay.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like my colleague, Mr. Taptuna, it's not very often I get to welcome people from the Kitikmeot, so it's especially a proud day for us both to see so many people from Cambridge and Kugluktuk here.

I would like to welcome Bernice Lyall to the Gallery. I have known Bernice since she was pretty small anyways. I hope I am not dating her age or anything. I would like to welcome Helen Larocque, who is from Kugluktuk but she works in Cambridge Bay and she works with the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, so she helps out with all of the important work that we need to do in the Kitikmeot.

I would just like to add a comment to my colleague's comments that the Kitikmeot is a very small region, so we all kind of know each other. So it doesn't matter if you are from Kugluktuk, or Cambridge Bay, or Taloyoak, or Kugaaruk, we are

all friends, and it is very good to see everybody here today. Welcome to the Gallery. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Akulliq.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. According to *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit*, we were not supposed to state their actual names when we were children.

I would like to welcome the people from Baker Lake to the Gallery and I recognize them, as well as those from Cambridge Bay, including the people from Kugluktuk, who are all my good friends.

However, if I were to state a name, that person would just be happy, so I would like to state Peter Irniq as the person I recognize. I went to school with him in Chesterfield Inlet and we were also MLAs in the NWT days in Yellowknife.

I welcome all of you to the Gallery and I am glad that you are here. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. The Member for Iqaluit East has her hand up.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to recognize everyone who was recognized by my colleagues and Peter Irniq. Welcome. I cannot exactly say

where he is from. I safely say that he is from Rankin Inlet, Nunavut and living in Ottawa. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. There are no more hands up. (interpretation ends) I would like to recognize one of my constituents who is in the Gallery, Ms. Debora Voth. She is the executive director for the Department of Health. Welcome to the Gallery.

>>Applause

(interpretation) Thank you. Moving on to the next item in our orders of the day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Amittuq.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 542 – 3(2): Status of European Union's Seal Ban

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to direct my question to the Minister of Environment. I believe he spoke about an issue yesterday that I would like to raise a question on. Mr. Speaker, it has now been two weeks since the minister made a news release that the federal government used a court, this was the World Trade Organization situated in the European Union, and this was with regard to the seal ban. They were taking the European Union to the courts.

We also heard in the news that the Nunavut government has supported them financially when that court case had been taken to WTO. The minister also

identified in the House that this government would allocate \$35,000 towards supporting this court case. Can the minister inform the House as to whether or not the Nunavut government will also be allocating further funds in the new fiscal year or if they will be checking to see how the results of the court case are? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. That question is for the Minister of Environment.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, the member is correct that we have contributed funding through two HTOs, and on behalf of the ITK lawsuit and the HTOs that are involved, we contributed \$25, 000. That lawsuit is still ongoing; it is in an appeal stage. We are going to wait for a request from the litigants of the lawsuit if they need more funding and we would consider that funding request.

Also, the other action its taking is through the federal government, which has now launched an appeal with the European Union to have litigation heard and an appeal board. That is where the status of that litigation is to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your supplementary, Member for Amittuq.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think we all know that seals are very important and when the market is dried up, it impacts a lot of hunters in Nunavut in particular. I believe that it will be only a couple more

weeks that seal pups will start being born.

Can the minister inform the House how they are trying to support the communities to recover the lost revenue that they would have garnered when they sold the sealskins? Have you offered more programming support for these hunters? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. That question is also directed to the Minister of Environment.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question and concern. I can advise the member that the Government in Nunavut has always supported the sealers and the hunters in the sealing industry, and we still do.

The seal ban has not impacted the prices of seals that we pay hunters that we as a government buy, purchase, and send down to the auction house. We have in place funding that provides an average price of \$50 per seal that goes to the hunter. Even though we are not selling those furs in the auction for that price, we are still providing that money to the hunter. So in that essence, it has not impacted the hunter in any way right now.

We are promoting seals products. We are actually bringing more seals products back into Nunavut than ever before. We are repatriating our seals from the auction at a subsidized rate for all Nunavutmiut to use and we have done this with great success. Actually, the greatest “utilizers” of all seals are Nunavutmiut themselves. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.
Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq.

Question 543 – 3(2): Social Worker Challenges

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

Earlier today, I spoke of the urgent need to address the challenges related to social worker positions. I recognize that the current system, as legislated under the *Child and Family Services Act*, is currently under review. However, until changes to the system are made, current obligations must be met.

Can the minister describe what key factors are affecting the GN's ability to hire full-time social workers in Nunavut's communities? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The question is directed to the Minister of Health.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is a very important issue for us, the challenges we face in filling our social worker positions. These positions are critical, and I concur with the member's assessment. As I stated, there is a review being done on case workers. We are working with NTI and the other regions, with the exception of Kivalliq representatives, but we had social workers from Kivalliq and this continues to be a concern as we try to fix the issues. Are there any barriers?

There are about 46 positions and some of them have to be contracted out because of the lack of experienced social

workers and others simply do not want to move north. We have to work with the Department of Human Resources and they conduct the interviews and the screening of applicants for these social worker positions. They do appraisals. What I can say is that some of the problems that we face are after the interviews and screenings. Some of them decide not to take on the job for various reasons, such as lack of staff housing in the smaller communities. The staff housing rent is also pretty high. They get discouraged because of these issues.

I can say that there are over 40 applicants who have been screened through HR. In March, we will determine who accepts these positions of social workers. Currently I cannot state who we would hire or how many will be successful. We've had over 40 applications that we have been reviewing and screening at HR and the health and social services department. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Member for Quttiktuq.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister describe what specific resources are provided to social workers who are suffering under the stress and heavy workload of their position? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Health.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I cannot answer this from personal experience, but what I can state is that whenever our social workers are stressed, we try to

ensure that they are not over-stressed. If there is an emergency, such as what happened in Cape Dorset, we task other social workers to go and assist them, if the need arises and they are in difficulty. We also have to follow the legislated rest periods. They are being respected. Whenever employees are over-stressed, they are asked to take a rest. They also are counselled. If they need to be relieved, then we will task someone else to relieve them. These are all laid out in our collective agreement.

We're very proud of our social workers because they work really hard in a very stressful environment, and it's unfortunate many of us are slow in acknowledging them but there is a lot on our plate that we have to deal with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your second supplementary, Member for Quttiktuq.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister mentioned something about 40 applicants being within the HR department. Can the minister update the House on how many social worker positions are currently vacant? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are missing quite a few positions that are open. Generally, we're understaffed when our employees either want to move out or move to a new position because we cannot stop employees when they want to move out of Nunavut.

We currently have 46 indeterminate social worker positions. Igloolik and Cape Dorset are the two communities that are handling their social worker program. However, with the 46 positions, 20 positions are filled and I believe there are about 16 vacant positions currently. That's based on the information that I have in front of me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your final supplementary, Member for Quttiktuq.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So of those 16 vacant positions, how many are filled currently by agency workers? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have that information about agency workers in front of me. What I do have is data related to agency nurses, but I will look into that and I will have to take that as advisement in order to respond. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Natilik.

Question 544 – 3(2): Minister's Task Force to Review the Liquor Act

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) My questions are for the Minister of Finance.

In my Member's Statement today, I urged the minister to table the final

report of the task force to review the *Liquor Act* in the Legislative Assembly so that all MLAs have the opportunity to discuss its recommendations before the minister moves forward with change to the *Liquor Act*. Will the minister commit to doing this, yes or no? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister of Finance.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for asking the question. I appreciate her Member's Statement; very good comments. I would like to share it with the cabinet first, but I will share it with the Legislative Assembly and table it when the document is available. So I guess that would be a commitment, yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your supplementary, Member for Nattilik.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) In my Member's Statement, I raised the question of how much profit the airlines make from transporting alcohol. Can the minister indicate if his task force has had any discussions with the airlines on this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister of Finance.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, I have deliberately left it open to the task force to determine who they talk to in the communities and who they invite to make presentations.

Certainly I can't say with any firm knowledge that they have talked to the airlines, but I'm sure that the airlines and the task force will be given the opportunity to talk about the alcohol shipped between Rankin Inlet and Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your supplementary, Member for Nattilik.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) In my Member's Statement, I supported the minister in his efforts to introduce legislation that would allow for assets of bootleggers that were obtained through the proceeds of crime to be seized. Can the minister indicate when he is looking at introducing this kind of legislation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister of Finance.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I again thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, I have raised it with officials in the Department of Finance and with officials in the Department of Justice and with the RCMP. I understand that there is research underway.

There is civil forfeiture legislation elsewhere in Canada, and I have mentioned it on occasion in the media that we would certainly look at it. I can't say with any degree of certainty when legislation will come forward, if at all, but we are certainly researching it to see how it could possibly work in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Member for Nattilik.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) In my Member's Statement, I expressed my support for moving carefully towards a more open approach to alcohol in Nunavut that is accompanied by appropriate programs and facilities to treat substance abuse. Can the minister indicate whether he is open to considering my suggestion? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Finance.

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

Mr. Speaker, one of the goals of the liquor task force is to go to all of the communities in Nunavut to get input from Nunavummiut. When we get all of those views, opinions, thoughts, recommendation, suggestions, whatever people will tell the task force, we will sit down here and read what the recommendations are and we will seriously consider all of the recommendations that are made. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay.

**Question 545 – 3(2): Sanikiluaq
Health Centre Fuel Leak**

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are directed to the

Minister of Community and Government Services.

As the minister is aware, recent news media reports indicated that fumes caused by a fuel leak drove nurses out of the health centre in Sanikiluaq before Christmas for a period of one week. It is my understanding that Community and Government Services had conducted a cleanup but it was only temporary to get the health centre operational.

Can the minister indicate when a full assessment of the situation will be completed and clarify when more permanent repairs will be completed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Community and Government Services.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I would like to thank my colleague for the question. To begin with, Mr. Speaker, he is correct. Our department went in there and first of all replaced the furnace that was causing problems in the health centre. It created fuel damage. We had soaked floors, insulation, and vapour barriers, and, in fact, gravel. Since then, Mr. Speaker, all of those have been replaced, and a temporary solution has been put in place. Mr. Speaker, we're not anticipating any more work on there until the weather and the ground permits us to do the remainder of the repairs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your supplementary, Member for Hudson Bay.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his response. When an assessment is done of the Sanikiluaq Health Centre, will the minister be requesting an RFP on this clean-up or will it rely on the local workforce in the community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. That's another question for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is still some oil that remains under the footings. We have to deal with a cracked sewage tank and replace that. Once our department is able to go in there and assess what work needs to be done, what kind of expertise and technical support that's going to be needed to solve the problems, I think at that point, the department will assess the situation and see if it could be done with local employment or if it's going to require an RFP. That will be decided, Mr. Speaker, once we get a clearer picture of the whole situation once the ground and the weather allows us to do that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your second supplementary, Member for Hudson Bay.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his response. As we all know, Sanikiluaq is the most southern community in Nunavut and spring comes earlier there than most other communities. I'm wondering if the minister could commit to having his staff come in there at the earliest opportunity. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. Minister of Community and Government Services.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for the question. Yes, we are looking at going in there at the earliest possible time. We know the severity of this issue and it's one of those things that need to be tackled at the earliest time because you are dealing with fuel and fuel vapours underneath the health centre. It's not the greatest combination.

Mr. Speaker, we will ensure that the issue is looked into as soon as the weather and other issues allow us to do so. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your final supplementary, Member for Hudson Bay.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister has been quoted recently in the news as saying that he would visit the community and to inspect the health centre on this issue. However, I recognize that the minister has many responsibilities and I do not expect him to have the time to personally travel to Sanikiluaq to oversee repairs at the health centre.

However, I do expect his department to work closely with the community and keep the residents fully informed about a situation such as this. Will he commit to ensuring that a full report on the health centre is provided to me and the municipality? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. Minister of Community and Government Services.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I read with some surprise in the paper too that I intend to go in there and solve the problem. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, I'm not able to do that, neither did I say that, but before I go any further, I want to thank the news media for covering the Baffin mayors meeting that was held here a couple of weeks ago. Sometimes things we say do get lost in translation, but I did commit to the mayor at the time and what I said was that I will make sure that our department looks into the matter and makes sure that the matter is dealt with appropriately.

Having cleared that up, Mr. Speaker, I will and I think it's the intention of our department to take a look at what is happening in Sanikiluaq or what did happen and take a look at how we can solve the issue there. We will work closely with the municipality. I appreciate my colleague for keeping me informed as to what has been happening there. Also, I will return the favour and keep you fully informed and the appropriate personnel in terms of where we are, where we are going, and all of the other fine details on the matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) I volunteer to oversee the project myself so I can go to Sanikiluaq.

>> *Laughter*

(interpretation) Member for Akulliq.

Question 546 – 3(2): Repulse Bay Water Pump

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My previous question to the CGS minister was a matter of urgency. When I was in Repulse Bay just recently, they gave me a tour of the water lake as well as the pumphouse. I'm not much of a mechanic, so I'm not sure whether it's automatic, but apparently the pump is not working. Based on my own experience of collecting water on my own, I believe that it's very urgent that this issue be dealt with.

My question to the Hon. Minister Kusugak is whether his director from Rankin Inlet or the Kitikmeot could go and visit the community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. That question is directed to the Department of Community and Government Services.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): I'll go to Sanikiluaq first and then I'll go to Repulse Bay.

>> *Laughter*

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Based on your statement, I did look into that and we spoke over the phone. We were told that the water lake in Repulse Bay was operating smoothly, but I'm not sure what is going on. Perhaps you can let me know exactly what the problem is, but based on what I was led to understand, there were no problems with the water lake in Repulse Bay, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your supplementary, Member for Akulliq.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe he is asking me about the particular problem with the pumphouse. If I'm just to relay the story to the minister, it would not be appropriate. I will have to consult with the Hamlet of Repulse Bay and check to see what the issue is. Once I have researched that, will he be able to tell someone to go to Repulse Bay? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. That question is directed to the Minister of Community and Government Services.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Yes, as he told me, he said there was an issue with the Repulse Bay water lake and he asked me to look into the matter. I looked into the matter, Mr. Speaker, and our staff looked into it. They said the water lake is operating smoothly, there are no problems or barriers, and when I was asked to look into it, I looked into it and I was told it was operating smoothly, at least with respect to the water lake in Repulse Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake.

**Question 547 – 3(2): Baker Lake's
INAC Water Use Inspection
Report**

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a public official, it is a privilege to relay concerns on behalf of our community and constituents.

One of our fundamental rights as Nunavummiut and as Canadians is to have health and well-being. Water is an

element that we as Canadians have taken for granted.

In light of Department of INAC's recent inspection report, Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my questions to the Minister of Community and Government Services.

Mr. Speaker, a couple of days ago, I tabled a copy of Baker Lake's water use inspection report which was prepared by a Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada inspector. As a public official, I would like to ask this government and remind that the inspection report indicated that, and I quote, "... the inspector recommends that formal enforcement action up to and including legal proceedings against both the Government of Nunavut and the Municipality of Baker Lake is warranted in these circumstances and are recommended."

Can the minister update this House on whether he is aware if legal action against the Government of Nunavut and the Municipality of Baker Lake is likely to occur? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. That question is directed to the Minister of Community and Government Services.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, I'm not aware of it. It's just a recommendation of an inspector, Mr. Speaker, and I'm not aware of anything beyond that recommendation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your supplementary, Member for Baker Lake.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In review of the *Hansards*, my colleague, Mr. Ningeongan from Coral Harbour and Chesterfield Inlet, had asked some questions. I, too, would like to ask for the record on behalf of Baker Lake.

When reviewing the water use inspection report, I noted the following, and I quote, "... the Government of Nunavut retains ownership and control of the pumping station and water treatment system within the community. The Government of Nunavut requires a water license for this activity and the continued use of water without a license is a contravention of the Act." Can the minister confirm if his department has obtained a water use licence with respect to the pumping station and water treatment system for Baker Lake? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Community and Government Services.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are working with the municipalities in terms of ensuring that the water licences and requirements to follow those procedures are in place, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Member for Baker Lake.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: I'm glad that's in order and I'm sure the people of Baker Lake would like to have a response from the government when all of this is being coordinated and there is a review of what has been done.

Mr. Speaker, during the last sitting, I tabled shocking photographs of Baker Lake's municipal landfill which clearly illustrated the seriousness and magnitude of the situation. It's my understanding that each municipality is issued a water use licence by the Nunavut Water Board and that the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada has authority for the inspection under these water use licences. My question to the minister is: what role and responsibility does his department have when it comes to municipal landfills to ensure that we are in compliance with all applicable regulations? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Community and Government Services.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, if you read the *Hansard* yesterday, I did allude to the fact that the municipalities are responsible for the waste disposal sites in their communities and, if there are issues pertaining to them that they have, we work with the appropriate departments to ensure that the issues they have are dealt with appropriately, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your final supplementary, Member for Baker Lake.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I wanted to ask those questions as a formality considering the fact that our territorial government also has an obligation to ensure that the health and well-being of all Nunavummiut is upheld to the highest standards.

Mr. Speaker, the 2010-13 business plan of the Department of Community and Government Services indicated that one of its priorities was to “Deliver community based training for potable water, wastewater and solid waste management in Arviat, Baker Lake, Cambridge Bay and Gjoa Haven with the Municipal Training Organization (MTO). Upon completing these courses, Hamlet employees will be in a better position to meet guidelines established by the regulatory authorities...” Can the minister indicate if these communities received this training and can he indicate if his department plans to provide this much needed training in the future to all communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Community and Government Services.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you. Thank you for asking those questions. Yes, all of the communities of Nunavut have to be taken care of properly. We all have responsibilities to take care of all municipalities because the Nunavut government is responsible for the municipalities and the federal government has responsibilities. We are now working on training programs related to waste disposal sites, potable water, and wastewater and solid waste management in all communities.

As I stated earlier, the waste disposal sites, potable water, and wastewater and solid waste management are now being reviewed in all communities in Nunavut. The review will be completed by the end of March, at which time a report will be made. From that report, INAC officials and also the entities that work with water management will work together to figure

out what the problems are and recommendations could be made. At that time, we will be able to identify what kind of training programs that we should be providing to the municipal service workers and we will have a better idea where the training will have to be taken.

Once the recommendations and reports are completed, we will take the next steps and be able to table them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for South Baffin.

Question 548 – 3(2): Operations of the Qulliq Energy Corporation

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to revisit some issues today concerning the operation of the Qulliq Energy Corporation, so my questions are for the Hon. Lorne Kusugak.

In March 22, 2010, the Legislative Assembly unanimously passed a motion that called on the government to request that the Auditor General conduct a comprehensive performance audit of the financial, billing, contracting, procurement, leasing, and human resource management practices of the Qulliq Energy Corporation. Given all of the rumours and accusations that we have been hearing in recent months about the corporation, an independent audit to clear the air would be very helpful.

On October 28 of last year, the minister informed the Legislative Assembly that, “a formal request will be submitted in the near future.” Can the minister confirm whether a formal request to the

Auditor General has now been made and, if it has, will he commit to tabling a copy of the request in the Legislative Assembly at tomorrow's sitting of the House? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. That question is directed to the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe that that process has begun, Mr. Speaker. At an appropriate time, we will be able to table that necessary document he is requesting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your supplementary, Member for South Baffin.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On February 9 of this year, the Qulliq Energy Corporation issued a media statement in response to issues that had been publicly raised concerning QEC's employment practices. Did the minister approve this media statement before it was publicly released? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I saw the media report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your second supplementary, Member for South Baffin.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Another area of concern that I have deals

with QEC's policies regarding the use of corporate property and resources. Can the minister explain what the QEC's policies are in regard to the use of company property, employees, vehicles, and time for non-essential work on private homes of QEC's management? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like any corporation, all of the use of company equipment and vehicles, and so on and so forth, are for the betterment of the corporation, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your final supplementary, Member for South Baffin.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My last question here for the record today is pretty straightforward. Does the minister have full and unqualified confidence in the senior management of the QEC, yes or no?

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Energy Corporation.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Of course, I do. We have a very good corporate management team within the Qulliq Energy Corporation; they are doing a very good job in what they are doing. We have the highest Inuit employment rate within any corporation and within any department. We have very good staff there, not just the corporate staff but all of the employees

of Qulliq Energy. They are doing a very good job, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq.

Question 549 – 3(2): Financial Reports of NHC

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Finance, the Hon. Keith Peterson.

Earlier today, the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation did a Minister's Statement on the enhancements of financial controls within the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

I was just wondering if the minister could, in stating that... Excuse me, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister, in his department, satisfied with the reporting that the Nunavut Housing Corporation is doing in terms of providing the O&M expenditure reporting and the capital budget status reports on a monthly basis to his department? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Finance.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for that question. Mr. Speaker, my officials assure me that they are satisfied with the information that they received from the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your first supplementary, Member for Quttiktuq.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With being satisfied with all of the reporting that is going on between your department and the Nunavut Housing Corporation, do you anticipate any supplementary appropriations or any cost overruns on the Nunavut Housing Trust program or the Affordable Housing Initiative? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Finance.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for that question. He is asking me to predict the future.

Mr. Speaker, I have been assured by Minister Curley and the president of the Nunavut Housing Corporation on the Nunavut Housing Trust that they are on track, on budget, and possibly even under budget to complete the houses under the Nunavut Housing Trust initiative. With respect to the Affordable Housing Initiative, they assure us that the tendering process, the awarding of contracts, and negotiations with the contractors in the communities of Nunavut are going well, and it's anticipated that they will be on budget or under budget on the Affordable Housing Initiative as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your supplementary, Member for Quttiktuq.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was glad that the minister didn't talk about the crystal ball that Mr. Tootoo used to talk about because I was going to

tell him not to follow the predictions that from that.

In terms of the monthly reporting back and forth between the two departments, how long will these measures be put in place? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Finance.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for that question. Mr. Speaker, I issued a ministerial directive to the Nunavut Housing Corporation last year and that directive will remain in place until I'm assured that the Nunavut Housing Corporation has their financial house in order. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your final supplementary, Member for Quttiktuq.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My last question was what guidance you are giving to the Nunavut Housing Corporation in terms of what mechanisms should be put in place so that you actually drop that restriction. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Finance.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Mr. Speaker, I'm not involved in the day-to-day functioning of the Department of Finance and the Nunavut Housing Corporation. I am assured by officials in my department that they meet regularly with the officials in the Nunavut Housing Corporation to discuss the financial information that our

department requires and the Government of Nunavut requires. Part of the restructuring of the Nunavut Housing Corporation is a result of those types of conversations that we do have to improve the timeliness of information, the budgeting, and the whole project management aspect, so it's progressing.

Possibly later this year, we will be in a position to provide more details to the member and other MLAs about the end result of all of the movements that are going on that have been recommended by the Deloitte and Touche report and cabinet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. There are no more hands up. Going back to our orders of the day. (interpretation ends) Item 7. (interpretation) Written Questions. (interpretation ends) Item 8. (interpretation) Returns to Written Questions. (interpretation ends) Item 9. (interpretation) Replies to Opening Address. (interpretation ends) Item 10. (interpretation) Petitions. (interpretation ends) Item 11. (interpretation) Responses to Petitions. (interpretation ends) Item 12. (interpretation) Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matter. (interpretation ends) Item 13. (interpretation) Tabling of Documents. Member for Hudson Bay.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 273 – 3(2): Correspondence from Constituent Concerning Nutrition North Canada Program

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish to table today a copy of correspondence that I have received

from a constituent in Sanikiluaq concerning the Nutrition North Canada Program. I have also encouraged my constituents to present their concerns to the Nutrition North Canada Advisory Board. Mr. Speaker, I look forward to our consideration of motions tomorrow to invite witnesses to appear before the Legislative Assembly on this important new program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Community and Government Services.

Tabled Document 274 – 3(2): Lease, Contract and Procurement Activity Report 2008-2009

Tabled Document 275 – 3(2): Lease, Contract and Procurement Activity Report 2009-2010

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I am pleased to table the Qulliq Energy Corporation's lease, contract and procurement activity reports for the fiscal years 2008-09 and 2009-2010. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Member for Akulliq.

Tabled Document 276 – 3(2): Statistics on Suicide in Nunavut

Tabled Document 277 – 3(2): Kugaaruk and Repulse Bay's INAC Water Use Inspection Reports

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a couple of documents that I would like to table in this House.

In my Member's Statement today, I reflected on the need to work together to fight suicide in Nunavut. I wish to table today some statistics on suicide in Nunavut. I encourage all members to take some time to reflect on the challenge that is before us.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to table another document.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to table today copies of the most recent water use inspection reports which were prepared by the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada for the communities of Kugaaruk and Repulse Bay. 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 the appropriate minister to be prepared. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Tabled Document 278 – 3(2): Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games Report

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games Report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. We are on Tabling of Documents. (interpretation ends) Item 14. (interpretation) Notices of Motions. (interpretation ends) Item 15. (interpretation) Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. (interpretation ends) Item 16. (interpretation) Motions. (interpretation ends) Item 17.

(interpretation) First Reading of Bills.
(interpretation ends) Item 18.
(interpretation) Second Reading of Bills.
(interpretation ends) Item 19.
(interpretation) Consideration in
Committee of the Whole of Bills and
Other Matters. Bills 52, 53, and 54 with
the Member for South Baffin in the
Chair.

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

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>House recessed at 15:07 and
Committee resumed at 15:42

**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
52, 53, and 54. What is the wish of the
committee? Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr.
Chairman. We wish to commence our
review of Bills 52, 53, and 54. Thank
you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Are we in agreement that we
deal with Bill 52 first?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Bill 52 – Supplementary
Appropriation (Operations &
Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2009-
2010 – Consideration in
Committee**

Chairman: Does the committee agree
that Minister Peterson could go to the
witness stand because he is doing all
three bills at the present time?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: And he wants to bring the
witnesses also. Do you agree to bring in
the witnesses, the same ones?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Sergeant-at-Arms, could you
please escort the minister and the
witnesses to the witness table.

I would now like to ask Minister
Peterson, responsible for the Department
of Finance, to make his opening
remarks. Actually, for the record, could
you introduce your witnesses first,
please.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr.
Chairman. I would like to introduce
Deputy Minister Peter Ma from the
Department of Finance and he is sitting
on my right, and Assistant Deputy
Minister Chris D'Arcy from the
Department of Finance is sitting on my
left. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Now you can
continue with your opening statement.
Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr.
Chairman. Good afternoon, Mr.
Chairman and Members. Bill 52,
*Supplementary Appropriation (O&M)
Act, No. 4, 2009-2010*, will appropriate
\$1,766,000 in additional operations and
maintenance monies for the previous
fiscal year, 2009-2010. These items
include:

- \$1,700,000 for the Department of Education to provide funding as a result of an increase in compensation and benefits to members of the Nunavut Teachers Association for a new four-year collective agreement; and
- \$66,000 to the Department of Economic Development and Transportation to provide funding so that the department can stay within its appropriated limit.

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

Chairman: Thank you. Any general comments on the opening statement? If not, we will go to page 4. Education. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. School Operations. Total School Operations. \$1,700,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: We will move to page 2. Schedule 1. Operations and Maintenance. Total Operation and Maintenance Appropriation. \$1,766,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Now we will go to Bill 52 in your white... . Bill 52, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2009-2010*. Clause 1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Now we have to go to Schedule on page 2. We've got one department here on page 5. Economic Development and Transportation. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Transportation. Total Transportation. \$66,000. Total Department. \$66,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Now we will go back to Schedule 1 on page 2. I'll redo that. Schedule 1. Operations and Maintenance. Operations and Maintenance Appropriation. \$1,766,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Now we can go back to Bill 52 in the white... . Bill 52, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2009-2010*. Clause 1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to page 2 on the Schedule. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule 1. Clause 3. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 4. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 7. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Does the committee agree to Bill 52 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Pursuant to Rule 62(2), are you in agreement that Bill 52 is immediately ready for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Does the minister have any closing comments?

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the members for their scrutiny of Bill 52. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Now we will move on to Bill 53. I would like to ask the minister for his opening remarks.

Bill 53 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2010-2011 – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman and Members, Bill 53, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2010-2011*, will appropriate \$19,750,000 in additional capital monies for 2010-11. These items include:

- \$15 million for the Nunavut Housing Corporation to complete the Affordable Housing Initiative;
- \$4,100,000 for the Department of Community and Government Services to complete the WAN/LAN/MAN upgrade of the Government of Nunavut's information technology infrastructure, which was initiated through Federal Budget 2007 as part of strengthening financial management; and
- \$650,000 for the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth to purchase furniture, fixtures, and equipment for the Piqusilirivvik facility in Clyde River.

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

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Any comments on the opening remarks? If not, we will move on to page 4. Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Capital. Not Previously Authorized. Directorate. Total Directorate. \$650,000.

Total Department. \$650,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: We will go on to page 5. Community and Government Services. Capital. Not Previously Authorized. Capital Planning and Technical Services. Total Capital Planning and Technical Services. \$4,100,000. Total Department. \$4,100,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go on to page 6. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Capital. Not Previously Authorized. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Total Nunavut Housing Corporation. \$15 million. Total Corporation. \$15 million. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: We will go back to page 2 on Schedule 1. Schedule 1. Capital. Capital Appropriation. \$19,750,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Let's go back to Bill 53 in your white legislation binder. Bill 53, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2010-2011*. Clause 1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Now we will go back to the Schedule on page 2. Schedule 1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 4. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 7. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do you agree to Bill 53 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Pursuant to Rule 62(2), are you agreed that Bill 53 is immediately ready for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Does the minister have any closing comments?

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I again thank the members for their scrutiny of the bill. We had very good discussions in the standing committee meeting this morning. I look forward to continuing to work with the standing committee on bills and go forward. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Now we will move on to Bill 54. I would like to ask the minister if he has any opening remarks on Bill 54.

Bill 54 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2010-2011 – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members, Bill 54, *Supplementary Appropriation (O&M) Act, No. 4, 2010-2011*, will appropriate \$21,213,000 in additional operations and maintenance monies for 2010-11. These items include:

- \$12,144,000 for the Department of Health and Social Services to provide additional funding as a result of increases to various programs and services;
- \$4 million for the Department of Education to provide funding as a result of an increase in compensation and benefits to members of the Nunavut Teachers Association for a new four-year collective agreement;
- \$2,289,000 for the Department of Justice to provide funding due to a shortfall in the RCMP contract;
- \$2,123,000 for the Nunavut Housing Corporation to provide funding to the corporation to improve its corporate governance and address a number of operational shortfalls, including the 6 percent interim base rate increase in power rates of the

Qulliq Energy Corporation effective November 1, 2010; and

- \$1,187,000 in aggregate for various departments and the Nunavut Housing Corporation to fund the 6 percent interim base rate increase in power rates of the Qulliq Energy Corporation effective November 1, 2010.

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

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Any question or comments on the opening remarks? If not, we will go to page 4. Finance. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Centrally Administered Funds. Total Centrally Administered Funds. \$174,000. Total Department. \$174,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: We will go to page 5. Justice. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Law Enforcement Branch. Total Law Enforcement Branch. \$2,289,000. Total Department. \$2,289,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: We will go to page 6. Culture, Language, Elders and Youth. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Inuit Traditional IQ. Total Traditional Inuit IQ. - \$650,000. Total Department. -\$650,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: We will go to page 7. Education. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. School Operations. Total School Operations. \$4 million. Total Department. \$4 million. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: We will go to page 8. Health and Social Services. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Social Programs. Total Social Programs. \$3,276,000. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For this department, I just wanted some clarification on some of the different items. On page 9, which is part of this under the Directorate, Item No. 4, \$94,000 shortfall for purchased services, I'm just wondering what those services were. Was this a position or was this contract work? Thank you.

Chairman: Go ahead, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for that question. We don't have that level of detail here; I would have to ask Minister Curley if he could respond to the question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thought the DM designate probably would provide the response. I'll try, but my head is not all that in one place today.

Mr. Chairman, purchased services request for supplementary, no doubt, the

2010-11 forecast purchased services in total is \$2,172,000, compared to the approved budget of \$1,394,000. Last fiscal year, the department spent \$2,445,000 in the year of the H1N1 outbreak. So the department requires an additional supplementary appropriation of \$778,000 for purchased services. So in a nutshell, it has to do with the impact of the H1N1 outbreak. It did require extra purchasing of service costs for expenses, such as freight of medical materials and supplies, including oxygen tanks that were critical to respiratory clients who were impacted, due to the increase in the H1N1 pandemic experience. (interpretation) Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So maybe I just didn't totally understand part of the answer. I understood where the money was going to. You had mentioned around \$700,000. Why are you only asking for an appropriation of \$94,000 then? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. And this is on page 9 under Directorate there, where it's to provide funding of \$94,000 for a projected shortfall in Directorate. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Perhaps I could shed some light on it. The total is \$778,000. If you look at page 8, Purchased Services under Treatment would be \$619,000; under Public Health, Purchased Services is \$65,000; and on page 9, Purchased Services would be \$94,000. The total would be \$778,000 and it's essentially for expenses, such as freight costs for medical materials and supplies. An

example would be oxygen tanks. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think we are all tired and like Mr. Curley, my head is in different places too. I went blank a little bit earlier.

That helps me in terms of where the \$700,000 comes from, but I don't think, under the Directorate in terms of purchased services, that you would be buying oxygen tanks. With my understanding of the directorate and how it works, you wouldn't be purchasing oxygen tanks at that level. I'm just curious in terms of that line, the \$94,000. What services were purchased there? Does it have anything to do with H1N1 in terms of publicity strategy or something? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Mr. Chairman, perhaps, with your permission, if I can bring in Debora Voth from the Department of Health and Social Services as a witness and have the Sergeant-at-Arms escort Mr. D'Arcy out for the time being. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Thank you. Minister Peterson, could you introduce your new witness for the record.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The new witness is Debora Voth. She is with the Department of Health and Social Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. You can go ahead, Ms. Voth.

Ms. Voth: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Another cost that is included under Purchased Services in Health and Social Services are nurse relocation costs and the human resource department is under the Directorate. Of the \$94,000, about \$85,000 is related to nurse relocations due to the increased number of nurses we have been hiring. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't think any of us have a problem approving that and that is excellent.

On page 8, one of the things that sort of struck me, especially with some of the media attention that has been given to it, is line on Item No. 2, Pharmacy. You were asking for \$1,887,000. Does this have anything to do with the changes within the pharmacy and what you are doing through Health and Social Services? Thank you

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for that question. Mr. Elliott asked that question

earlier. We notified the department that that question might come up and I'll ask Ms. Voth if she would respond to it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Voth.

Ms. Voth: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The cost pressures that we are experiencing in pharmacy services have to do with historical issues and that would be under funding for vaccination programs that we have covered off in prior years through surpluses in other areas. Also, we have had historical budget pressures on pharmaceutical supplies that we deliver in the health care facilities and the health care centres. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you. Mr. Chairman. With some of the new ways in which Health and Social Services can deliver pharmaceutical products, is that going to change in terms of the deficiencies or the amount of money in the cost? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Voth.

Ms. Voth: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Actually, in the pharmaceutical program, things are improving already. Although we are requesting right now \$1.8 million, things are looking up. We have an excellent new territorial director of pharmacy, and she has implemented a program in which she is sending back expired pharmaceutical supplies and Nunavut is now getting credit for those expired pharmaceutical supplies.

So I expect that there is a possibility that we may not need all of the \$1.9 million,

but at the time that I was preparing this forecast, that's what our expectation was. As you may realize, this is a forecast and subject to change based on new information, and the recoveries that we're receiving on expired pharmaceutical supplies is looking good. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of the way the business is going to be done differently with the pharmacies, and whatnot, Health and Social Services is supposed to be hiring three additional people for this. With my Member's Statement earlier in terms of social workers and how hard it is to fill positions within Human Resources, sometimes 318 days, do you foresee any problem with having people hired in those three positions in a speedy manner? Thank you.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will ask Ms. Voth to respond. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Go ahead, Ms. Voth.

Ms. Voth: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this time, if you're referring to the new strategy, I believe that the Department of Health and Social Services will be rolling out that new strategy in the fall and I believe it's under a consultation process at the moment. So I would prefer that if we were allowed to comment at that future date after we have finished our consultation process and have a strategy to put forth. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer. Again in terms of medical travel, there are different line items; there's Travel and Transportation under Item 1; there's Travel and Transportation under Item 2; and on page 8, there is also a Medical Travel line. Are all of these dollar values for patients travelling in and out of the territory or to different locations for medical services? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott again for that question. Ms. Voth will respond. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Voth.

Ms. Voth: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The line items that fall under travel and transportation are different than medical travel. The main items under travel and transportation have to do with client and family travel. It's the client and family travel that does not fall under medical travel, such as children who are on adoption pre-placement visits with potential adoptive parents.

Also, when a child is living in a residential care facility outside their home community, a family member may visit that child two times a year. An adult in residential care may have one family visit once per year. Also, if no foster placement is available in a child's home community, the child is sent to the nearest community with available foster placement.

Also, the department is experiencing cost pressures for relocation travel for casual nurses and that falls not under purchased services but under travel and transportation for the casual nurses. Both of those impacts are impacting the department at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the answer. Also in terms of medical travel and whenever we talk about discussions, medical travel seems to be one of our biggest expenses under the department. Is the contract for medical travel up for review? Thanks.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. I'll have Ms. Voth respond. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Voth.

Ms. Voth: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have a number of medical travel contracts that are up for review. One of them is for the scheduled medical travel with the airlines, and I believe the RFP was issued, if not yesterday, it was today, by the Department of CGS. We have issued an RFP for the Kivalliq region and we hope to be able to issue the medevac RFP for the Kitikmeot region during the month of March. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would say that's all of the questions I

have, and I really thank Ms. Voth for coming in to help answer them. One of the things I could comment on is the fact that we have been getting a lot of really good detailed answers lately and I don't seem to be as frustrated as I used to be. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Any other questions on page 8 or 9 while we are at it here? If not, we will go item by item. Social Programs. Total Social Programs. \$3,276,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Treatment. Item 2. Total Treatment. \$8,651,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to Public Health. Item 3. Total Public Health. \$123,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to page 9. Health and Social Services. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Directorate. Total Directorate. \$94,000. Do you agree on the \$94,000?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Then we will go to the Total Department. \$12,144,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Move on to page 10. Community and Government Services. Operations and Maintenance. Any questions? Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sorry for interrupting. I wonder if I can bring Mr. D'Arcy back in. I thank Ms. Voth for appearing today. Thank you.

Chairman: I'm sure the committee agrees. Does the committee agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

We are on page 10. Community and Government Services. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Community Support. Item 1. Total Community Support. \$204,000. Do you agree? Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I noticed on page 10 that it's broken down to Community Support and Government Services. The portion for Community Support, which is \$204,000, is that going to be going directly to the communities? I'm assuming it's to help with hamlets paying for their increased power costs. Is that correct? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Yes, it will be going to communities to help them with their higher utility costs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the \$204,000, is that going to be on a community-by-community basis? Will it

be divided evenly amongst the communities or will each community send in their receipts and then be reimbursed? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question; he is getting right down into the details. I believe that the \$204,000 is an estimate and it's based on historical information. So I'm sure the communities which CGS allocates, they will be able to have a fairly good idea which communities need certain amounts. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the answer. I was wanting to be very detailed because I know, much like our Government of Nunavut, our finances are very strapped in the communities. I know my three communities are very strapped for money and they need whatever they can.

With it being 6 percent, we don't know what the committee will actually decide, whether it be 6, 9, or 18 percent. So I can see, going back to my communities, that's one of the concerns that my mayors or my SAOs will bring to me in terms of "We need every dollar we can. How do I access that money that was approved?" So at least now I have an answer in terms of it's a cost per increase, per what is needed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That was more of a comment.

Chairman: Thank you. We will go back to Community Support. Item 1. Total

Community Support. \$204,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to Government Services. Item 1. Total Government Services. \$324,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Department. \$528,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to page 11. Economic Development and Transportation. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Transportation. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In our committee meetings, you had explained in terms of Item 1 what the \$477,000 was for in terms of emergency purchase because of the ice conditions here in Iqaluit and the amount of de-ice solution on the runway, not actually on the airplanes. In thinking about this and whatnot, this de-icing solution which, in discussions I've had with employees at the airport in Arctic Bay and whatnot, contains glycol and different chemicals.

With some of the problems we're having or some of the issues that have come up in our hamlets with water being tested and not passing through INAC and garbage dumps that aren't passing for water licences and stuff like that, is there any environmental impact by the amount of de-icing solution that goes on the runway that we should be aware of? Are they tested periodically to make sure that

that's not seeping into the water table?
Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for that question. He raised a very good concern. I think we are all worried about the environment and where the chemicals ultimately end up. I would have to ask Minister Taptuna if he could provide some information to allay Mr. Elliott's concerns and what kind of chemicals are in the de-icer solution. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Elliott, that's it? Okay. Minister Taptuna. Sorry.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. At this time, I really don't know what the chemical properties are within the de-icing solution, but the solution is used worldwide and we have no indication that it causes any kind of major environmental concerns.

I can look further into the chemical makeup of the solution if it will please the member, but for the most part, there is no indication that there is any kind of environmental damage happening other than the fact that we've got to use a lot of it due to the fact of climate change. We got a lot of freezing rain coming down in December. Years ago, that wasn't the case at all.

With the amount of de-icing solution that we are using now, I'll have to get back to the member with the technical chemistry makeup of the de-icing solution. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. We will go back to Transportation now. Sorry. Anybody else? Mr. Elliott. Sorry, I thought you were done.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to thank the minister for that commitment and actually expand on what I was asking for. He mentioned that they use de-icing equipment in other jurisdictions and it's not a problem, but again going back to... There are other sewage lagoons and other locations as well and they don't have the same problems that we are having, so I think that we are in a unique situation.

He has committed to getting the information, but I was hoping not just the chemical makeup because I'm not chemist and don't really need it, it's just what type of testing is required and are we meeting the mandates that would be set out. I'm assuming it would be Transport Canada since they monitor the airports. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, there are regulations, policies, and legislation with Transport Canada and various other regulatory bodies. There are a number of them, and I'm sure that the operations of the airport here in Iqaluit, the international airport, have to abide the regulations and legislations that are within the aviation regulatory system. Again, I cannot tell you all of them, there are many. In order for an airport to operate within... By abiding with the regulatory process, I'm sure the chemical and environmental damage is more or less mitigated and, to a certain degree, not damaging the

environment at all. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. We will go back to Transportation. Total Transportation. \$509,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Department. \$509,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to page 12. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have specific questions on Item 4 and Item 5 in terms of the \$110,000 that's being put out for a one-time disbursement for the recruiting of a senior executives and board members. I'm assuming this is for the restructuring of the Nunavut Housing Corporation to provide more accountability. I'm wondering if we could get clarification on that. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Yes, Item 4, \$110,000 is a one-time disbursement to fund the recruitment of senior directors and board members. Minister Curley is in the process of reviewing the *Housing Act* and he hopes to put a board in place at some point, so that would be to help recruit for board members. The \$110,000 is to fund the relocation of finance positions. Those are to deal with

the positions that are in Arviat. There may be some severance pay, relocation pay, and then there would be the cost for office equipment and furniture, totalling up to \$110,000. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We just finished reviewing the tabled documents and had Mr. Curley and his witnesses before us. One of the things I was trying to ask for and get clarification on with my questions that I asked earlier today was just to make sure that the financial... There are just different financial management tools in place to make sure that things are running smoothly with the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

With the \$110,000, we only have a month and a half left. How much work has been done on the board in terms of recruiting? I don't remember seeing any advertisements in the news paper or getting any emails requesting suggestions for possible board members. Could we get an update as to how far we are along with that? That is just out of curiosity. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the good question. A lot of work has been done since last fall on the housing corporation working with the Government of Nunavut's HR division on job descriptions and rewriting all of that. I don't know what the exact cost breakdown would be, but in any event, the funding that has been asked for can

be carried over because they are a Crown agency. So they don't necessarily have to get it all spent in this current fiscal year; it can be carried over and complete the work they've got underway. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That was actually going to be one of my next questions, whether there would be the ability to carry that over.

In terms of the \$110,000 and you were talking about rewriting policies and going through the documentation that exists for the corporation and how it's set up, is the work being done with Human Resources, the Government of Nunavut, that department, and also the Nunavut Housing Corporation or is there a consultant who has actually been hired to help set this up and provide suggestions and tell the government how it should be operating? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have that level of detailed information. I'll have to ask Mr. Curley if he could provide that information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, one-time expenditures. The recruitment obviously will require advertising and maybe require relocation of personal effects and whatnot, we don't know, but we have to have an allowance for that amount.

In terms of what work has been done with respect to the governance structure, one is management positions, which are two executive vice-presidents positions that were approved by the cabinet. Initially when we started discussions in November, the target date that we thought we would be able to have those positions in place is April 1. It's getting quite close.

Yes, the consultation between HR is ongoing with respect to the senior positions in terms of the type of benefits, and so on. That's critical, even though the housing corporation probably has good guidelines with the current executive positions. I know Mr. D'Arcy is probably well aware of that too. I think he is the only remnant left of the previous administration.

In terms of the legal work with respect to the governance by board of directors, the legal work is the responsibility of the Department of Justice. We will not move to nor begin to advertise for any board of director position until the legal work has been approved by the Legislative Assembly. We allow for an allowance because they will, in effect, come into force some time in this coming fiscal year. That work is still ongoing. Very much so, the Department of Justice and the Nunavut Housing Corporation are working together on the legal document because the Act has to be amended in order to be able to implement new board of directors.

So I think I'll stop from there, but in terms of management positions, once the criteria have been established and the positions are established and clearly outlined, the advertisement will proceed before too long. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that explanation. That was great. I have two specific questions that come from that.

One of things I was asking was, in terms of setting up the new board and also getting the new structure in place, as to how the corporation will work and how it will function. I had mentioned the Department of HR and the Nunavut Housing Corporation, and you have now mentioned the Department of Justice. So I'll ask Mr. Peterson next in his role with the Department of Justice. My specific question was whether consultants were actually being and part of the money being used to use consultants to tell us how to set up a board and how to do it. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we have gone beyond that now. With the previous administration, there was ongoing work towards looking at the whole corporate governance models, but that work was really not complete when I got in. So what we did was start fresh and issue a very small contract, \$20,000, to look at the governance structure of senior management. That work is complete and that sets the basis for the cabinet to approve the two vice-presidents.

There were three options provided for the governance structure, one of which was the status quo, should it remain the same, and there were two other models. The cabinet chose the board of director concept and that would then be the new governance structure once the legal

instrument is put in place and the Act is amended and passed by the Assembly. So that's where we are; we're in the implementation stages, but the work that the Department of Justice is doing for the Nunavut Housing Corporation is really quite important.

But in terms of the other models, in terms of how the corporation and the board of directors function, there is an ongoing sort of a partnership discussion, if I may use that word, with Qulliq Energy. They share ideas of how the new governance structure operates. That's quite a friendly discussion that goes on between the executives, at least the president.

There was also a conference nationally held recently about the Crown corporation and exactly what their mandates are, the types of mandates, what differs from each other, and that kind of stuff. So all of these kinds of things have helped to try and define exactly how the vision and the mandate should be for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. But in our case, I think it's really quite simple. It should be at arm's length and the sooner it gets on, there would be less political interference, if I may use that word, including myself. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My next question: I was wondering if the Minister of Finance could take off his hat or ask the Minister of Justice to answer the next question. With what Mr. Curley was saying in regard to the legal aspect of what has to be done to set up the new board and whatnot, could he give us an update as to what is

happening within your department?
Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Of course, any time you are making changes to legislation, you have to be very careful, proceed carefully, and there has to be extensive research done. As Minister Curley indicated, the agency is having conversations with the Qulliq Energy Corporation. I'm not aware of the details of what is happening with respect to this legislation. We have a lot of legislation.

I'm not able to give you a timeline and when it will be ready but the hope is, as Minister Curley said, the sooner the better. You have to go through different steps to amend legislation and then you have to come back into the House. Our next sitting is June and then the next sitting after that is probably in October. So I'm unable to give you a firm date of when that legislation will be ready to proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For Item 5 in terms of the \$110,000 for the one-time disbursement of \$110,000 for relocating finance positions, is that for the individuals who will be moving here and relocating their personal belongings or are you relocating office equipment from the GN building there where they held offices? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Yes, the \$110,000, there are estimates here that break down between severance pay, relocation, and purchasing new office equipment and furniture. Again, it's a forecast; it will depend on the discussions or negotiations that the housing corporation has with the staff who are affected in Arviat. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: For Item 1, there is \$950,000 for staff house leases. It was my understanding that the Government of Nunavut was actually working towards moving away from leasing staff houses and using part of the Nunavut Housing Corporation inventory where they allocate houses from their current stock. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for that question. I don't believe that's the case. The Government of Nunavut requires a large volume of housing units for their employees. Of course, they have to lease them from third parties. That's where they get the bulk of housing for GN houses. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On Item 3, Mr. Peterson, I wanted to ask for the record on behalf of my community, notes that "To provide funding of \$450,000 to mitigate the financial impact of the Baker Lake Housing Association's 33% base water

rate increase, effective September 2010.”
I want to ask for the record the hon.
minister: do you know why the water
rate increased so much? Thank you, Mr.
Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister
Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr.
Chairman. I thank Mr. Aupaluktuq for
the question. The reason the water rate
increased so much is because the hamlet
council in Bake Lake decided that they
needed to increase the water rate and
that’s a community decision. Thank you,
Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. I have no other
names here, so we will go to the
Nunavut Housing Corporation. Total
Nunavut Housing Corporation.
\$2,123,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Corporation.
\$2,123,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: We will go to page 13.
Nunavut Arctic College. Operations and
Maintenance. Not Previously
Authorized. Nunavut Arctic College.
Total Nunavut Arctic College. \$96,000.
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Department. \$96,000.
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Now go back to Schedule 1
on page 2. Schedule 1. Operations and
Maintenance. Total Appropriation.
\$21,213,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Now go back to Bill 54 in
your white legislation binder. Bill 54,
Supplementary Appropriation
(Operations and Maintenance) Act, No.
4, 2010-2011. Clause 1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: We will go back to Schedule
1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: On that Schedule, I guess
we’re going to have to read the whole
detail here. Schedule. Supplementary
Amounts Appropriated for the Fiscal
Year Ending March 31, 2010. Vote 1:
Operations and Maintenance. Total
Operations and Maintenance.
\$21,213,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Supplementary
Appropriation. \$21,213,000. Do you
agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: So now we're on clause 3. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 4. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 7. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do you agree to Bill 54 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree that pursuant to Rule 62(2) that Bill 54 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 would like to thank the committee for your excellent questions and scrutiny of Bills 52, 53, and 54. That work is pretty important, those questions you were asking, and I am glad we are able to alleviate some of Mr. Elliott's frustrations, getting some detailed answers.

I would like to thank my colleagues for being present today to help answer the questions. It's important that ministers appear during COW in case detailed questions are asked of their departments.

I would like to thank my two officials from the Department of Finance who are here today, and I would also like to thank Debora Voth from the health department for also being here today to help answer some questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. We appreciate that you showing up here with your witnesses to answer some of the questions. Could the Sergeant-at-Arms please escort the minister and the witnesses out.

Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to report progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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 (interpretation): Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. Going back to our orders of the day. Report of the Committee of the Whole. (interpretation ends) Item 20. (interpretation) Member for South Baffin.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering

Bills 52, 53, and 54 and would like to report that Bills 52, 53, and 54 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 (interpretation): Thank you, Member. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? The seconder is (interpretation ends) the Minister for Community and Government Services. (interpretation) Thank you. The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried.

We're on (interpretation ends) Item 21. (interpretation) Third Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance.

Item 21: Third Reading of Bills

Bill 52 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2009- 2010 – 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 52, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2009-2010*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried.

(interpretation ends) Item 21.
(interpretation) Third Reading of Bills.
Minister of Finance.

Bill 53 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2010-2011 – 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 53, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2010-2011*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion. All those opposed. The motion is carried.

Third Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance.

Bill 54 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2010- 2011 – Third Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin South and Whale Cove, that Bill 54, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2010-2011*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion. Opposed. The motion is carried.

Third Reading of Bills. There are no more hands up. Going to our orders of the day. (interpretation ends) Item 22. (interpretation) *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for February 25:

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. Petitions
10. Responses to Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters
12. Tabling of Documents
13. Notices of Motions
14. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
15. Motions
 - Motion 34 – 3(2)
 - Motion 35 – 3(2)
 - Motion 36 – 3(2)
 - Motion 37 – 3(2)
 - Motion 38 – 3(2)
 - Motion 39 – 3(2)
16. First Reading of Bills
17. Second Reading of Bills

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

19. Report of the Committee of the Whole

20. Third Reading of Bills

21. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Clerk. This House stands adjourned until tomorrow at nine o'clock, February 25. I hope that the Montreal Canadiens win tonight's game. Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 16:46*

