



**Nunavut Canada**

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**3rd Session**

**3rd Assembly**

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Official Report

**DAY 2**

**Tuesday, March 1, 2011**

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**Iqaluit**

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

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Iqaluit East)

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(Pangnirtung)

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*Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole*

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*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*

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(Akulliq)

**Johnny Ningeongan**

(Nanulik)

*Deputy Speaker and Chair of the Committee of the Whole*

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(Amittuq)

*Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole*

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*Deputy Premier; Minister of Economic Development and Transportation*

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**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**

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**Jeannie Ugyuk**

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut  
Tuesday, March 1, 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): Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. I would like to ask the Member for Quttiktuq to say the opening prayer. Mr. Elliott.

&gt;&gt;Prayer

**Money Message**

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Good afternoon.  
(interpretation ends) Before we proceed to the orders of the day, I wish to read the following communication from our Commissioner:

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

- Bill 1, *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2011-2012*

Thank you.

(interpretation ends) To the orders of the day. Item 2. Budget Address. Minister.

**Item 2: Budget Address****Minister's Statement 006 – 3(3):  
Budget Address**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, hon. colleagues, and Nunavummiut, I rise today to present this House with our government's budget for the coming fiscal year. This budget takes stock of our current fiscal condition and sets out the practical, achievable results that we can obtain as we pursue our long-term vision of *Tamapta*.

In our Throne Speech yesterday, the government confirmed that *Tamapta* remains our goal. We also said that we had brought into clearer focus the steps that we should take now in order for *Tamapta* to succeed. We heard from the Commissioner that we will concentrate our efforts for the rest of this government's mandate in five broad areas. Let me return to those briefly as my remarks today will give each of them greater meaning.

First, we will continue to invest in Nunavummiut, especially youth and children. We are preparing for tomorrow by taking steps today. Our population is very young. Thousands of Nunavummiut are moving up through the school system and into the labour force. As they progress, they will bring new pressures to our public services and economy. We must prepare them to succeed.

&gt;&gt;Applause

Second, we will reduce poverty through partnerships with our communities. You have heard some of our plans for the Nunavut Anti-poverty Secretariat and our investments in country food distribution.

>>Applause

Third, we are providing all communities with greater infrastructure support so that they can increasingly rely on their own resources...

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

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** ... and reach their own decisions. As each of our communities grows stronger, all Nunavummiut will benefit.

Fourth, our support for more and better housing continues undiminished by the recent troubles at the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

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

>>Applause

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** We will ensure that the corporation can carry out its mandate. As we have seen in the Nunavut housing survey, our people need more homes and we will do all that we can do to help.

And fifth, we will focus our approach to large capital projects so that we can explore opportunities to build in partnership with the federal government and the private sector.

These five priorities represent the areas where we can do the most good for the greatest number of people while living

within our means. Today I will describe this agenda in financial terms. Members will see that we have planned cautiously and realistically.

First, the good news. The economy appears to be rebounding. We had seen real GDP grow by 4 percent in 2007 and a further 11 percent in 2008, but in 2009, the Nunavut economy shrank 6 percent. In the face of a serious global recession, the mining industry slowed its exploration and development, and the construction sector slowed as well.

While the growth rate for 2010 is still being calculated, we see a positive trend in mining. Meadowbank began production last year. The Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation has been acquired by the world's largest steel producer, ArcelorMittal, in partnership with Nunavut Iron. Looking ahead, we will probably see Newmont Mining start production at its Hope Bay gold project next year. And Shear Minerals plans to reopen the Jericho diamond mine. All of these are major projects operated by large resource companies. They represent a serious vote of confidence in the future of Nunavut.

>>Applause

Looking at the larger picture, the Bank of Canada projects that the Canadian economy will grow by 2.4 percent this year and 2.8 percent next year. This means that the recession has come to an end, but we still see its effects in public finances. The federal government has projected a \$45 billion deficit for this year, a deficit of \$30 billion next year, and expects to incur deficits for at least three more years. We need to watch this closely.

The federal government provides the bulk of our revenue through the territorial formula financing arrangement. The agreement expires March 31, 2014. We expect to make good progress over the next year in negotiating a renewal. Clearly we will continue to rely on this funding for many years, but it is just as clear that we must become more self-reliant as a government, as communities, and as a people. Over the long term, we must develop our own source revenues and help our private sector to grow.

A devolution agreement would bring us royalty payments on our natural resources but it may be many years before we can bank that money. This is why we must prepare Nunavummiut today for future success in the private sector as well as in the public service.

>> *Applause*

Let me turn now to the fiscal plan. In my last Budget Address, I had said that I expected to achieve a balanced budget. I had fully expected that to occur, but then we needed to accommodate the budget shortfalls incurred by the Nunavut Housing Corporation. We deferred capital expenditures. We reduced operating and maintenance spending across the board by 3 percent.

I expect that we will close our books with a deficit of \$33 million. In the coming year, we will incur another deficit. Our total revenues will rise 7 percent to \$1.35 billion. Our program spending will reach \$1.19 billion. Add to that a capital plan of \$122 million and a provision for \$89 million in supplementary requirements. In all, we face a deficit of \$50 million.

Some will ask whether we could eliminate the deficit next year through continued restraint. We could do that, Mr. Speaker. We could defer or cancel all capital spending. We could cut program spending again across the board by 3 percent or even more, but that would be a very difficult choice. Many Nunavummiut depend on the government to help them through their daily lives. Instead, our best course is to create the conditions in which our communities and our people can contribute to our common good.

>> *Applause*

Our role as a government is to help Nunavummiut to gain skills and knowledge, to gain the credentials that employers require, and to become healthy, self-reliant, and prepared to succeed. This is why we have placed a premium on health and wellness. A healthy economy needs healthy communities and healthy families.

Our spending on health care and social services this coming year will reach almost \$297 million, a rise of \$32 million from this year. This represents one-quarter of all of our spending. We will provide the Department of Health and Social Services with an additional \$1.2 million in health promotion services, a rise of \$3.4 million for hospital and physician services, an increase of \$5 million for specialized residential care, an extra \$5.5 million for medical transportation, and \$2 million more for improved mental health care.

>> *Applause*



Mr. Speaker, we are making an investment in the health of our people that is entirely necessary.

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

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** But at the same time, I'm concerned about the rate at which this spending is growing. We will need to ensure that the federal government fully appreciates our challenges when we discuss the renewal of the Canada Health Transfer Agreement.

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

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** We are spending more, Mr. Speaker, but we must ensure that we are spending smarter. Every government in Canada is grappling with the issue of soaring health care costs. That is why the Department of Health and Social Services is working to establish, community by community, the best way to deliver services.

Mr. Speaker, as we look forward to the Nunavut of 2030, we should see a new generation taking up the responsibility of leadership – new heads of organizations, new managers, new employees. Today that generation is in our daycares and in our schools. They are learning to play together, share together, learn together, and grow together. They are in many ways our most precious resource. We owe them a future with chances for success that exceeds our own.

>>Applause

This government sees children and youth as a leading priority. Although our financial situation is not easy, we recognize the need to invest in young

Nunavummiut. The need is serious, Mr. Speaker. In the last census taken five years ago, only 40 percent of students graduated from high school. There is a positive trend in that the number of graduates two years ago reached 250. That number had just about doubled from five years earlier, but we will need many more graduates.

If we are to prepare our children and youth for their future responsibilities, then we shall need to focus our attention and theirs on learning. In this context, I note with satisfaction that the Nunavut Teachers Association signed a four-year contract.

>>Applause

My budget provides the education department with an additional \$18 million in the coming fiscal year...

>>Applause

... an increase of nearly 9 percent from this year. Most of this increase will reach students in elementary and high schools, encouraging them to attend school, to learn, and to graduate with grade 12. The budget provides an additional \$13 million for this purpose.

>>Applause

Plus, we will encourage graduates to continue their studies. I draw your attention to the \$2.5 million increase we provided this year for the Financial Assistance for Nunavut Students program.

>>Applause

We will maintain support at that level next year – a sustained investment to support higher education

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

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** In addition to supporting students, we are also acting now to help reduce poverty in all of our communities.

>>Applause

Since we established the Nunavut Anti-Poverty Secretariat last April 1, we have engaged in discussions with all communities. Next November, our Premier will chair the anti-poverty summit here in Iqaluit...

>>Applause

... an event that will bring together government, business, the non-governmental sector, and people who have lived in poverty. Together, these delegates will set goals for all of our sectors so that we have an action plan that can achieve real results.

As visible as the summit will be, it is not all that we are doing to help Nunavut's least fortunate residents.

We are contributing an additional \$3 million to the Income Support Program. This program pays for food and clothing allowances, which will rise on the first of next month for the first time in six years.

>>Applause

In the coming year, the Department of Economic Development and Transportation will launch the county

food distribution systems, a program to improve the storage and distribution of traditional food.

>>Applause

Our investment of \$1.1 million next year will launch a program to help municipalities to upgrade, repair, or replace their community freezers. We expect to work with three communities in the first year and to expand our work in the two years that follow.

>>Applause

As well, Mr. Speaker, we are advancing toward the establishment of an independent child and youth representative.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

>>Applause

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** In the coming year, the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs will prepare legislation to establish the independent representative. The government anticipates that the representative will start work in 2012-13 fiscal year. This representative will give voice to a large and growing segment of our population. It is worth remembering that one-third of our population is aged under 15. While they cannot vote, they can and will be heard.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, in addition to working with children and youth and to reducing poverty, this government has also made a point of increasing our support to all of our communities. We aim to increase

their self-reliance so that government decisions are made by the authorities closest to the people. Government works best when public services can be provided and managed locally.

We are working closely with the Nunavut Association of Municipalities and the Nunavut Association of Municipal Administrators. Together, we are defining and providing municipal employees with the training they need to better serve their communities. We are also providing them with tools and equipment and greater opportunities for economic development.

Next year, we will give municipalities an additional \$6.6 million.

>>Applause

This includes \$650,000 for better water and sewage services. Further, we will invest an additional \$1 million so that each community can obtain the mobile equipment that it needs.

>>Applause

Through all of these measures, we are helping each of our communities to improve its services to the public.

As well, we will promote tourism, culture, and the fisheries in our communities using the \$3 million that we received from the federal Community Development Trust.

>>Applause

Our transportation network will receive some much needed improvements, Mr. Speaker. This government will invest an

additional \$1.3 million in Iqaluit International Airport...

>>Applause

... and a further \$1.89 million for all other airports across Nunavut.

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

>>Applause

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** We aim to ensure that our airports are safe and efficient and that they meet the needs of Nunavummiut. As the busiest airport, Iqaluit is ready for a new air terminal. We are now discussing with a federal Crown corporation how to finance the improvements that we so clearly need.

Housing will continue to receive our strong focus as we enter the new fiscal year. The Nunavut Housing Corporation will receive an additional \$11 million, almost all of it for public housing.

>>Applause

This includes \$6 million in payments for utilities.

I have already spoken at length about the measures the corporation will undertake to improve our supply of housing. I want to take a moment now to point out that the corporation has some internal improvements to make as well. I take favourable note of its plans to improve its governance, tighten up its financial administration, and improve its operational capacity. Of course, these are measures that should be implemented in all departments.

Mr. Speaker, my own Department of Finance is playing a role in helping this government to improve its operations. We are entering the third year of a five-year agreement with the federal government to strengthen our financial management capability. This arrangement will contribute greatly to the future of our financial operations.

I would invite every government manager and every government employee to think very carefully about the money that they administer. We must make sure that every dollar spent on behalf of Nunavummiut actually produces value for Nunavummiut.

>>Applause

We all recognize that organizations, including governments, must be prepared to adapt to changing circumstances and expectations. This is why we initiated an independent review of the government's decentralized functions. The results will enable us to improve the delivery of essential programs and services to Nunavummiut.

But now the time has come for us to consider the structure of government itself. I suggest that we take a thoughtful look at the number of departments and agencies, their mandates and organizational designs. We should ask whether the current government structure is appropriate, considering our priorities and goals.

>>Applause

Members of the Legislative Assembly have offered thoughtful suggestions in this area...

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

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** ... and will have more, all of which we would carefully consider during this process.

All departments, all corporations, all employees, even us here in the Legislative Assembly need to understand that we are using public money to produce public good. When finances are as tight as ours, we cannot afford any waste anywhere. We can do better, we must do better, and we shall do better.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, let me turn now to our relationship with the land, a relationship that is central to our way of life. We are rich in resources, with abundant fish and wildlife. At the same time, we know that some of our resources are less abundant than many of us can remember.

Protecting the caribou remains one of the environment department's top priorities as we enter the new fiscal year. The department has been consulting widely and will now complete the Caribou Management Strategy. We look forward to seeing guidance on the consistent and comprehensive management of the caribou herds so that they can support our future generations.

>>Applause

As well, this government will improve wildlife conservation in general by investing a further \$180,000 in our network of local wildlife conservation officers.

>>Applause

Our priorities include the need for an accurate count of the polar bear population using techniques that do not disrupt the animals. We conducted one full-scale survey from the air in this past year and tested the method in the Foxe Basin. In the coming year, we plan to conduct full surveys of the western Hudson and Baffin Bay populations.

>>Applause

We also look forward to providing the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board with a polar bear population estimate for Foxe Basin, information that could lead to an adjustment in the total harvest.

>>Applause

Our fishing industry is showing some promise. We saw good progress last year toward establishing an inshore turbot fishery and we are encouraged by the results of the Nunavut Coastal Resource Inventory.

In the coming year, the environment department will invest an additional \$460,000 in its Fisheries and Sealing Division to make possible the implementation of the Nunavut Fisheries Strategy.

>>Applause

As we enter the new fiscal year, we will have completed the Nunavut Fisheries Branding and Marketing Strategy.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to the priorities that our government has established for the remainder of our mandate, let me bring you up to date on some other initiatives.

In the year ahead, we will celebrate the establishment of the *Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit* as an arm's-length entity. It will standardize the Inuit language so that the same word has the same meaning anywhere in Nunavut.

>>Applause

We will also mark the opening of Piquusilirivvik at Clyde River. Like all Nunavummiut, this government looks forward to that opening day with great anticipation.

>>Applause

We also encourage students in all communities to apply for admission. We will also contribute an additional \$2.5 million to the school so that it can hire the rest of its staff and prepare its first year program.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, my tour of the government's expenditure plan brings us at last to the Department of Justice, where we are focused on responding to the rising crime rate. We have allocated an additional \$1.2 million to the RCMP and an additional \$2.5 million for legal aid.

>>Applause

As we continue to adapt the justice system to meet the needs of Nunavummiut, I draw your attention to two programs in particular.

The first is the Community Corrections program, where dedicated probation officers have taken up duties previously

provided by the Department of Health and Social Services.

>>Applause

We have contributed an additional \$564,000 to this program this year to better support adult and youth offenders on probation.

The second program is the Adult Institutions and Correctional Camps. We have provided an additional \$5.9 million for the new Rankin Inlet Correctional Centre. It will provide traditional healing and Inuit living skills, reduce pressure on the Baffin Correctional Centre, and allow us to bring home inmates from other jurisdictions.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, now that we have walked through the government's fiscal plan for the coming year, I suggest that some conclusions are possible. The first of these is that our government has shown resilience in a difficult year.

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

>>Applause

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** My second conclusion is this: we have seen over the past year the scale of the challenges we face in implementing *Tamapta*.

>>Applause

The *Tamapta* destination is the right one for our young territory.

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

>>Applause

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** But we have a great deal of work to do in order to get there and some of that work will need to be performed by the private sector. That includes the large corporations and the growing ranks of successful small businesses. All of us have a role to perform so that Nunavummiut can succeed.

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

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** This is why we have chosen to focus our efforts in five broad areas. Again, Mr. Speaker, we are investing in Nunavummiut, especially children and youth. We are working in partnership to reduce poverty and increasing community self-reliance. We are working for more and better housing, and we are taking a focused approach to our large capital projects.

>>Applause

By concentrating our work in these areas, we can best position Nunavummiut for success. I look forward to working with all members in this Third Session. Let us cooperate so that the people we serve can succeed.  
*Koana*, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Going back to our orders of the day. (interpretation ends) Item 3. (interpretation) Ministers' Statements. There being none. (interpretation ends) Item 4. (interpretation) Members' Statements. Member for Akulliq.

**Item 4: Members' Statements****Member's Statement 010 – 3(3):  
Fighting Tuberculosis in Nunavut**

**Mr. Ningark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my support for the government's efforts to fight tuberculosis in our communities.

Mr. Speaker, the scourge of tuberculosis has been present in our communities for too many years and it is unacceptable that Canadian citizens living in the 21st century still suffer from this disease.

Mr. Speaker, I am glad that the Hon. Minister of Health is also the Minister responsible for Housing. As he is well aware, one of the major factors that contributes to the spread of TB is overcrowded housing that is in poor condition. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, the words "overcrowded" and "dilapidated" describe far too many of the homes in which our constituents live today.

Mr. Speaker, good nutrition and hygiene are important tools in the fight against TB. It is very important that Members of the Legislative Assembly are looking closely at the new Nutrition North Canada Program because improving access in Nunavut to nutritious food and essential hygiene products will also help us make progress in reducing tuberculosis. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 011 – 3(3):  
Nutrition North Canada Review  
Website**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to draw the attention of the House to an exciting initiative that has been undertaken by Nunavut residents concerning the new Nutrition North Canada Program.

Mr. Speaker, the Nutrition North review website can be found at [www.nutritionnorth.org](http://www.nutritionnorth.org). The creators of this website have stated that its goal is to "gather prices on a small selection of groceries from communities across Nunavut. The first round of information gathering will occur during March of 2011; the last month of the old food mail program. We'll then conduct a second round of price checks in April of 2011 to review whether or not Nutrition North [Canada] has made our food staples more or less expensive."

Mr. Speaker, this is a great example of people taking the initiative to make a difference. As I have said on many occasions in recent weeks, we all hope that the Nutrition North Canada Program will have positive benefits for our constituents and this is exactly the kind of information that will be helpful for the administrators of the program, MLAs, and other stakeholders.

Mr. Speaker, the creators of the site have indicated that they are "looking for people in every Nunavut community to visit their local stores with our shopping list." Later today, at the appropriate time, I will be tabling the list of items for which current prices are needed.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all members to join me in helping with this project which shows how the power of modern communication tools and grassroots effort can be harnessed together to make a difference. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 012 – 3(3):  
Departmental Reorganization**

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about the strengthening of the government operations.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, yesterday's Opening Address that was delivered in the Legislative Assembly by the Commissioner of Nunavut states that our budget deficit "will require an even closer look at the government's structure and processes to ensure that everything is streamlined for best efficiency and effectiveness." I was very pleased to hear this.

As you will recall, when I made my first Member's Statement in June of last year, I said that I believe that we need to take a serious look at reorganizing the Department of Health and Social Services into two separate departments. I was pleased that my colleague from South Baffin said the same thing yesterday as I believe that this has the potential of allowing one department to focus its energies and attention on delivery of medical care while allowing the other department to focus on social

services and programs for children and families.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that different jurisdictions in Canada have different ways of doing things. Given our commitment to moving forward on changes to our social service system, now is a time to look at this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased that our government appears willing to consider making important changes to the way that we deliver programs and services. At the appropriate time, I will have questions on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Member's Statement 013 – 3(3):  
Water Shortage in Arviat**

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I'm sure all Members of the House are aware, my community and my constituents of Arviat are dealing with a shortage of water in our community.

Mr. Speaker, I have been in contact with the mayor on a regular basis about the situation. I would like to express my thanks to the Arviat mayor and hamlet council and to all of the residents of the community for all pulling together to deal with the situation.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to thank my colleague and the Department of Community and Government Services for their continued support to the hamlet in dealing with this lack of water challenge.



Mr. Speaker, clean, healthy drinking water and ice will be supplied to all households and residents of Arviat, along with water from Landing Lake for everyday household uses. Mr. Speaker, the water from Landing Lake is safe by Health Canada water standards. However, people in the community find it very salty to drink. Fresh drinking water and fresh water ice is being supplied to the community.

Mr. Speaker, the process will continue until the situation can get back to normal later this spring. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 014 – 3(3):  
Communicating with  
Communities on Capital Projects**

**Mr. Ningeongan:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my support for more clear communication between the government, communities, and Members of the Legislative Assembly on the issue of capital planning and projects.

Mr. Speaker, over the last few sitting days, a number of my colleagues and I have been asking a number of questions to ministers concerning the status of specific capital projects in our constituencies. It's clear that both ministers and regular members are frustrated.

Mr. Speaker, regular members need to be kept fully informed about the ongoing

status of capital projects in their constituencies, especially when there are any delays or changes to these projects. I have seen letters addressed to municipalities containing this kind of information, but the MLAs are not copied on them. I am sure that there are probably cases where MLAs receive information that their municipalities do not.

Mr. Speaker, although I know that all of our ministers are hard-working, I recognize that they cannot be all-knowing. Although we would like them to know the location of every last nut, bolt, nail, piling, and cargo pallet in the territory, that's asking too much and even the biggest binder or newest iPad device cannot contain all of the information.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, I think that members on both sides of the House would be less frustrated if we could step up our efforts to ensure that more detailed information flows to MLAs and municipalities in a more timely and coordinated manner from the appropriate departments. I know that MLAs are kept informed about capital adjustments and budget transfers from the Department of Finance, but our constituents expect us to be aware of the exact status of capital projects in our communities, especially when delays or changes occur.

Mr. Speaker, improvements in this area would also allow us to spend more time in this House discussing issues that affect all Nunavummiut, instead of trying to track down missing nuts and bolts in the snow. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. There are no more hands up. Going to Item 5 in our *Orders of the Day*. Returns to Oral Questions. There being none. Going to our orders of the day. (interpretation ends) Item 6. (interpretation) Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Iqaluit East.

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

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon. I would like to recognize Natan Obed, who is an employee of Nunavut Tunngavik and also my constituent, and Eva Michael, who is my constituent as well. I don't think she works for CBC anymore, but I believe she is working elsewhere. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It gives me great pleasure to recognize the son of your counterpart in Manitoba who is here in the Gallery with us today. He also works for Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and that is Brad Hickes sitting over there, who is also my cousin. I would like to welcome him to the Gallery. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.

Everyone please feel welcome in the Gallery. Going to our orders of the day. (interpretation ends) Item 7. (interpretation) Oral Questions. Does anyone have their hand up? Member for Natilik.

#### **Item 7: Oral Questions**

##### **Question 014 – 3(3): Departmental Reorganization**

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Premier.

As I noted in my Member's Statement, I was pleased to hear the commitment in yesterday's Opening Address that the government will be looking closely at its own structure.

As I indicated in my Member's Statement, I would like the government to carefully consider the idea of reorganizing the Department of Health and Social Services into two separate departments. Can the Premier assure me that the government's review of its structure will consider this suggestion? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. That question is directed to the Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for asking that question. This will be part of a comprehensive review, especially related to departments and how the Government of Nunavut operates. As was stated earlier, the Minister of Finance recalled that particular issue. Yes, we will be looking at various issues. This will be one of the ones that we consider and we will be

looking at the most effective means of operation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your supplementary, Member for Natilik.

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I know that many of my colleagues have made other suggestions about how we can improve the way we deliver programs and services to Nunavummiut. For example, it may be time to ask whether the Department of Education, which is responsible for educating children, should also be delivering fuel subsidy programs to seniors and the Social Assistance Program. Can the Premier assure me that the government's review of its structure will also look at these kinds of questions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for raising that issue. There are various matters that we have to look at and I can't say exactly how we will work it out, but we will be reviewing how we can best effectively operate as a government. I thank the member for giving us ideas to deliberate upon. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your supplementary, Member for Natilik.

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the Premier inform the House when she expects this review to be completed and will she commit to

consulting with MLAs before making any decisions on changes to the government's structure? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a very important aspect that we will have to review. The mandate will encompass a lot of issues. I cannot state at this time exactly what will happen, but it's quite obvious that I will be very happy to provide the information to the House once it's available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 015 – 3(3): Office Space for Health and Social Services in Sanikiluaq**

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

On October 28 of last year, I asked the minister a question concerning a request for proposals that was issued by the government to obtain office space in Sanikiluaq for mental health and social workers. At that time, the minister took my question as notice.

Mr. Speaker, in his subsequent written return to my oral question, the minister indicated that although the government did not receive any responses to its RFP, the municipality had been able to locate some office space and that the departments of Health and Social

Services and Community and Government Services would be working with the municipality to “ensure the space is available for occupancy in the near future.”

Can the minister update me today on the progress made in securing office space for the mental health and social worker in Sanikiluaq? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I am aware of their request, the RFP that really did not get a positive response, but the advice that we have from working with CGS is that there are other options to try and ensure that the mental health workers have a place to work.

At the moment, we have not received the final particular building which would best suit in having mental health wellness programs located, but I can assure the member that it’s something that my colleague, the Minister of CGS, and I are continuing to explore and we will continue to communicate with the municipality to try and find the best solution for the space that’s needed in Sanikiluaq. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his response. It’s my understanding that the office space that the municipality identified last year may no longer be available. However, I am aware that the GN has a vacant facility in the community that was

formerly used as a classroom and that this could possibly be converted into an appropriate space. Would the minister be willing to ask his officials to also review this option? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can certainly do that, but the lead department in that area is CGS. The minister and I continue to speak on the need for that. We will abide by the officials because they have to look at whether or not the building is adequate and safe, and all of that, and whether or not there are improvements that will be needed. Once we have some information further, my colleague or I will provide further information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 016 – 3(3): Arctic Bay, Grise Fiord, and Resolute Bay’s INAC Water Use Inspection Reports**

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

Mr. Speaker, yesterday I tabled copies of Arctic Bay, Grise Fiord, and Resolute Bay’s water use inspection reports which were prepared by a Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada inspector.

The inspection report for Resolute Bay indicates that, and I quote, “The Government of Nunavut (GN) remains unlicensed and in contravention of the Nunavut Water and Nunavut Surface

Rights Tribunal Act. The Government of Nunavut is responsible for the municipal water and waste water services in the community through a local service contract.” Can the minister confirm if his department has obtained a water use licence for the community of Resolute Bay? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the question. My understanding is we are still working towards that goal, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When reviewing the water use inspection report for the community of Arctic Bay, I noted the following, and I quote, “A tour of the new Lagoon was undertaken during the Inspection. It does not appear to be a lined lagoon. The Inspector and the Municipal foreman could not locate the Discharge pipe and it was stated that despite repeated requests to the GN and the contractor a set of plans for the lagoon have not been provided to the Municipality for review and approval.” Can the minister confirm if his department has provided the municipality with the lagoon plans? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In fact, Mr. Speaker, if my understanding is correct, we have begun construction of the new sewage lagoon in the community. It would be hard not to do that without plans, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wasn't saying that there were no plans for the construction.

It actually says in the report that the hamlet itself requested from both the contractor building the lagoon and from contacting GN officials requesting a copy of the plans. There are plans, but the municipality itself requested those plans and were not given them. My question was asking the minister if the municipality had been provided those plans. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the clarification of the question. If they have not, then I'll ensure that they will be. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that commitment. When reviewing the water use inspection report for the community of Grise Fiord, I noted the following, and I quote, “The

SAO also took the time to show the Inspector why people from the community do not want to use the large river that flows past the community as a water source. The silt loading in the river was substantial. A separate location was suggested by the SAO which does have community support. This will be brought ahead to CG&S with the Government of Nunavut.” Can the minister confirm if the municipality will change the location of its water source and how will his department assist the municipality?  
Thank you.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that question. I’ll have to look into that, Mr. Speaker, and I would gladly get back to my colleague on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 017 – 3(3): Departmental Reorganization**

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Premier.

Yesterday’s Opening Address that Commissioner Elias delivered in this House informed us that the government will be looking closely at its own structure.

As members are aware, I have suggested that it’s time to look at moving the operations of Sport Nunavut back to the Department of Community and

Government Services. Can the Premier commit to me that the government’s review of its structure will consider this suggestion? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The question is directed to the Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the hon. member for raising that question. Yes, it will definitely be included in our review. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your supplementary, Member for Nanulik.

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, we wanted to deliberate upon this issue, especially whether it could be reviewed as to its fit into that department because it has become obvious that the government is trying to make more effective changes.

I believe that this was raised in an earlier question by the Member for Nattilik, but I would like to find out, Mr. Speaker, when this comprehensive review of the government operations will commence and what opportunities we will have to improve government operations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Improving government operations is a very important aspect of this review and we consider it a priority.

With regard to the issue that the member has raised, it would be under the

auspices of the Department of Community and Government Services, along with the Department of CLEY, as to how we would be able to move the division. This being a very important part of the government operations review, it's still being detailed by staff. We haven't stated that this is how we will do it yet.

When we look at decentralization, a lot of the issues have already dealt with that, but with respect to the comprehensive review of decentralization, we have planned that it will be completed by June. I will keep the House informed about this matter and any developments that may surface.

With respect to this new matter that we're discussing at this point related to government operations, we know that we have to improve efficiency and effectiveness. Again, we will be very happy to start making operations and then become more responsive, as well as to keep the members informed on our progress. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 018 – 3(3): Conflict of Interest Guidelines for the Public Service**

**Mr. Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Premier.

Mr. Speaker, under the territorial *Integrity Act*, Members of the Legislative Assembly are legally required to complete disclosure statements concerning their business interests and to meet on an annual basis

with the Integrity Commissioner, who is an independent officer of the House. As you know, Mr. Speaker, the disclosure statements of elected MLAs are available to anyone in the public to review.

The Premier appoints the deputy ministers of the government's departments and the heads of Crown corporations and agencies. Can she explain to the House today what conflict of interest guidelines are in place for senior public servants and the heads of our Crown corporations and agencies? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If at all possible, with respect to the member's question, I would be pleased to receive a written question to which I can respond. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I'll take it as notice with written information. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The question has been taken as notice. So we will wait seven days, according to our Rules. (interpretation) Oral Questions. The Member for Akulliq would now like to ask questions.

**Question 019 – 3(3): Fighting Tuberculosis in Nunavut**

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a short while ago, I spoke about tuberculosis and the impact on our people. Back in the days when tuberculosis first came around, it

occurred in the 1950s and '60s when Inuit had a far smaller population. This impacted everyone. Mr. Speaker, the population of Nunavut has burgeoned and grown.

My question to the minister is: are the nurses and health care professionals conducting tests in the communities, particularly Kugaaruk, Repulse Bay, and the smaller communities? Are they conducting a set schedule of testing for tuberculosis to ensure that it's not spreading amongst our population? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Pretty much all communities now have x-ray machines. Wherever they have to test them, they take x-rays of the lungs. The patients are asked as to what the symptoms are and if the symptoms are anywhere close to tuberculosis, then the chest is x-rayed to check the lungs, and then the x-rays are reviewed by a doctor or specialist who look for symptoms. That is one part of the testing. There are also other test methods that are undertaken where a person displays symptoms.

In the old days, there were really no drugs, no medication, and no way of improving the lives of people who had tuberculosis, but they are able to provide a lot more assistance in these modern nursing stations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regard to campaigns, I was thinking about a campaign to fight tuberculosis. We haven't seen anything of that nature in this day and age. In many local nursing stations, they have community health representatives. Are their services being utilized to ensure that all residents understand the effects of tuberculosis? We used to hear that tuberculosis was wiped out, but that is obviously not the case. My question is: will you be conducting a tuberculosis eradication campaign in Nunavut? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, a lot of the public health information that relates to tuberculosis has its own system and process, and it depends on the urgency, but the information is readily available on the disease.

As well, during his Budget Address, the Minister of Finance spoke about health issues and that there was more funding being allocated to ensure that we look at dealing with health issues. We know that it's easier to prevent a disease than it is to cure it, and this is where we are trying to be more efficient.

I do agree with the member that tuberculosis should not be in the North. If the communities understand how tuberculosis is passed around, then they should try to stay away from those situations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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



**Question 020 – 3(3): New Sanikiluaq School Library**

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education.

The community of Sanikiluaq is anxiously awaiting the opening of the new school. The other day, I asked the Minister of Community and Government Services about the status of various systems that need to be inspected and signed off before the teachers and students can actually move in.

Today I would like to ask the Minister of Education to update this House on the status of the new school library. Can the minister advise us as to when the new school library will be stocked with the books and resources that students need for references and information? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Education.

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Minister of Community and Government Services pointed out yesterday, they are hoping to have the project turned over by the end of March.

As far as when the actual books and that are coming for the library, I would assume that they would be coming in on the sealift, if they are ordered, but I don't have that level of detail of how many books or when those books are coming in for the library. I would be more than happy to follow up with my officials and provide that exact information to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 021 – 3(3): Update on Resolute Bay Utilidor**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed towards the Minister of Community and Government Services.

A lot of work has been conducted in Resolute Bay on the utilidor system. As I travel up to do community visits and visit with my constituents, I usually bump into a couple of their consultants doing reviews of what to do with the utilidor. I was wondering if the minister could give us an update as to what is happening with that. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has been a few months since I've had to update you. Thank you for asking that question. Actually, Mr. Speaker, we have been in contact with the consultants working on the report and it appears that the report should be expected to be completed some time in March. Mr. Speaker, I think we are reaching the end of that line. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the update. I was just wondering: has the decision been made by the Government of Nunavut with the information gathered and collected to determine whether it is cheaper to repair

the utilidor or will they be going with water trucks and sewage trucks? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, the report is finally being finalized and then once that is done, it will be finalized by the experts and they will take a look at the pros and cons of all issues. There is still a lot to do in terms of trying to figure out where we are on that. It would not be appropriate for me to hazard a guess until we have taken a good look at the report and go from there. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, at this point, we do not know the best way to go on that matter yet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister mentioned that the report would be finished in March. If we are not sitting, since it is March, I was wondering if he would be able to either table the document if we are in session or send a copy to me and the community for review. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like I said, the detailed analysis of the report isn't due until some time in March. Exactly when, unfortunately my iPad can't tell me that, but we are working very closely with the municipality within our department, with

the Housing Corporation, with the Department of Economic Development and many other departments to ensure that we do what is best for the community. Whatever comes out of that, we will be sharing that information, including the report, with the municipality. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It was also my understanding that when the initial discussions were brought up, a sort of loose subcommittee was set up to help with relaying information back and forth to the community and getting community input, which included members from the hamlet and also members from your department. I'm wondering if you could let me know how many times they have met and what the result of their meeting and their consultation was. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, they have met. The people from our department and other departments within the government and the municipality are working on the file. I'll have to get back to you on exactly how many times they have met, where and what. Again, I just don't have that information handy at this time, but I'm sure they continue to meet, they continue to try to iron out the issues regarding the matter, and I'll let the member know at an appropriate time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 022 – 3(3): New School  
Exterior Logo**

**Mr. Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.  
My question is for the Minister of  
Education. I don't want him to think that  
I forgot who he is.

It's in regard to the new school in Cape  
Dorset. They built a new gym there and  
there was a sign put on the exterior of  
the gym with a dog team of three dogs  
and a sled. Somebody requested the  
changing of the design of the sled after  
the sled was installed. I would like to ask  
the minister who requested the change.  
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you.  
Minister of Education.

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr.  
Speaker. I'm very happy to be here and  
I'm very happy that my colleague from  
South Baffin hasn't forgotten about me.

Mr. Speaker, the information that has  
been provided to me as far as the change  
in the signage... I wouldn't call it a  
signage; it's more of an artwork  
depicting Peter Pitseolak on a dog team  
on the school. The initial request for the  
artwork of that nature depicting Peter  
Pitseolak on a dog team on the school  
was made by the district education  
authority and also the request for the  
change on there came from the district  
education authority as well. Thank you,  
Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.  
Does the minister know what the cost on  
that was? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you.  
Minister of Education.

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr.  
Speaker. My understanding from the  
information that I have been provided  
with by my officials from the  
Department of Community and  
Government Services is that the change  
in the artwork, including the shipping  
and everything, and the replacement was  
roughly around \$50,000. Thank you, Mr.  
Speaker.

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

**Mr. Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.  
My understanding is that somebody  
redesigned that sled on there. I would  
like to know who redesigned it and what  
they paid for it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you.  
Minister of Education.

**Hon. Hunter Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr.  
Speaker. To my knowledge, once the  
request for the change was brought  
forward to my departmental officials, we  
agreed with the district education  
authority for the change and that  
information was provided to the project  
officer from Community and  
Government Services. It's my  
understanding that that project officer  
relayed that information to the  
architectural firm that had the design for  
the total project. How they went about  
getting a new design and what they paid  
for that design, I don't have that

information. That would be information that that architectural firm has. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 023 – 3(3): Update on Piqqusilirivvik**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth.

In the Budget Address, Minister Peterson spoke about the Piqqusilirivvik and I was wondering if the minister could give us an update as to what's happened with that project and whether it's still on the timeline to open this year. Thank you

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth.

**Hon. James Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for raising that question. Piqqusilirivvik has been completed and the keys have been turned over. It was completed before the completion date. There are announcements that we still have to provide that I was going to speak to later on, but since he would like to know what the date is, we have identified May 4 as the opening date for Piqqusilirivvik. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that update. As an educator, where my interest is, is the

course outlines, the learning objectives, and what will actually be taught in the schools. I'm wondering: is all of that information and material completed, and are we able to access that somewhere, maybe on the CLEY website, where we will be able to see that information? Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth.

**Hon. James Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Those kinds of details are still kind of being flushed out in terms of the curriculum as well as the operations. There are two communities involved, which are Iglolik and Baker Lake. Basically it will be using the life skills as well as survival skills.

There are still a lot of details that they are working on to develop the curriculum and we are expecting that there will be some progress in April with respect to completing the curriculum. However, the planned start date is September and we are expecting that all of the learning materials and curriculum will be completed by that time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's nice that the minister shared with us in terms of August is when the doors will open and the students will be coming to learn. I'm just wondering: are all of the instructors in place? That's one of the concerns we've had in the past with the human resource department in terms of hiring people. Are all of the

positions filled and the instructors ready to go as of August? Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth.

**Hon. James Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The main administration and operational procedures are all dealt with and we are still doing a lot of the courses and the curriculum. We are not far behind in our scheduling in our plans and we are expecting that all of the courses and curriculum will be completed by that time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When the minister mentioned about the satellite communities of Igloolik and Baker Lake, I think the initial idea of having those two communities was sort of a starting point and then it would spread out. If other communities wanted to buy into it as well, like if Arctic Bay, Grise Fiord, or Resolute Bay were interested in participating, they would. Is this still going to happen and, if it is, when do they foresee that rolling out? Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth.

**Hon. James Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I haven't been updated or informed by my officials as to whether that will occur and whether any other communities will be involved in the satellite communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Member for Amittuq.

### **Question 024 – 3(3): Crime Prevention Funding**

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would like to thank the Minister of Finance for his Budget Address because there were a lot of good news items. I wanted to speak about the crime prevention issues that the Minister of Finance alluded to. There are a lot of interesting issues in there and I'm sure that we will be discussing them down the road. I would like to have the opportunity to speak about these issues.

I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Justice. As the minister stated just prior to the conclusion of his Budget Address, the Department of Justice would be focusing on preventing crime and allocating an extra \$1.2 million to be set aside for policing and also another \$2.5 million to be utilized by the court system. What I would like to ask, Mr. Speaker, is: out of these identified funds, is there a specific amount set aside for crime prevention or for ensuring that we have role models? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Tapardjuk for that question. Mr. Speaker, in the main estimates, when we get under review, the funding that we are providing to the RCMP are for the two RCMP officers who are working in the crime prevention area. They will work with the RCMP

and the communities to implement some of the recommendations from the RCMP and the Department of Justice's crime prevention pilot project that was undertaken last year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Additionally, it's quite obvious that there will be a lot of questions on these issues when the appropriations request is in front of the committee.

What I really want to raise a question about is the funding set aside for the RCMP. We have already identified extra funds for the RCMP, as well as the court advisors and legal aid funding. It seems that the funds are growing every year, especially if we don't focus on crime prevention. I want to know how we can better prevent crime. That is my question to the minister.

How can we put an emphasis on culture that allows better interaction between Inuit and the RCMP or how to provide services so that they can become more familiar to Inuit? They could then work towards hiring officers who can speak Inuktitut so that they would become part of the community and there would be less friction. Will the minister take these ideas into consideration? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Justice.

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

question. Mr. Speaker, in the last couple of years, we have been working very closely with the RCMP to do exactly what Mr. Tapardjuk would like. We have been working on the Inuit Special Constable Program. We did have 35 interested applicants and we got it down to four or five. For personal reasons, some of them couldn't make it. There is one individual in the RCMP Special Constable Program in Regina and he will be graduating in April.

We are working with the RCMP through youth academies and through summer school programs to interest and encourage young folks to take up positions or careers in policing. We are also working with the RCMP through cross-cultural awareness initiatives throughout the territory. So we are stressing it. There is a requirement in the shared directional agreement that the RCMP work closely with communities and work closely with the government to ensure that we do have a representative police force.

We are also working with my colleagues, justice ministers from the Yukon and the Northwest Territories, to lobby the federal government to provide some funding through the First Nations Policing Program. My colleague in the Northwest Territories is the lead minister on that. We will continue to work very hard to stress Ottawa that we require funding to help develop representative police forces in our territories. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also wish to thank the minister as the public is very interested in this topic.

We want updates of any developments because the perception of most Nunavummiut is that the RCMP is too powerful as an institution. In my opinion, they are servicing the Inuit who are aboriginal people and yet they are being serviced by officers who don't share their culture, lifestyle, or language. This can cause people to feel as if they are already incarcerated when they want to receive services. I would like to hear more statements from the minister on this topic.

I will strongly support any initiative to recruit more Inuit into police services. Aboriginal people ought to be policing themselves without feeling alienated and to be respected as fellow Inuit. For that reason, Mr. Speaker, I will be expectant that this minister will be making progress on this issue while he is still in office. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Member. I apologize. I was getting ahead of myself. That was not your final supplementary. Minister of Justice.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Tapardjuk for that question. Mr. Speaker, I think we all recognize in this House that the RCMP provides a tremendous service to Nunavut and keeps our communities safe for all of us to live. They work in some very difficult and challenging situations, life-threatening in fact, as we all know. I think we should all support the RCMP.

At the same time, the RCMP also recognizes that they would like to have some more representative police forces. They encourage young folks to apply for RCMP officer positions. I think they have a lot of Inuit in the RCMP right now. We're doing great work in communities across Nunavut. Absolutely I will keep the members informed on the progress we make in getting a more representative police force in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you. With regard to this question and being part of the government and operating on behalf of our Nunavut residents, it's as if we're always being treated paternalistically. Again, there is no ombudsman. It seems like the RCMP is our father and the social worker our mother.

There are things that we should be able to deal with in our own life. It seems like everybody is depending on outside agencies. You should be able to conduct these life skills. We shouldn't always be holding someone's hand to pull them into a better life. I know that life skills and bettering one's life or any initiative that relates to that field should be the focus, especially when we're talking about traditional Inuit adaptations. This is just a comment, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 025 – 3(3): Review of Decentralization**

**Mr. Komoartok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask my question to the Premier, (interpretation ends) Hon. Eva Aariak.

(interpretation) We have heard about government operations and decentralization, and she stated that the comprehensive plans will be completed in June. With respect to its impact on our community, it has provided a lot of benefits.

I would like to ask the minister: are you consulting not just your government employees but also the hamlet officials and workers? Are you trying to get a full representation of opinion from the communities? That's my question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the Member for Pangnirtung for asking that question. The review is in the initial stages and we are looking at the affected communities and whichever organization or body is impacted will be consulted. We are hoping to develop a comprehensive report specifying who should be consulted and how they will conduct that review. We are currently working on the details. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your supplementary, Member for Pangnirtung.

**Mr. Komoartok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the Premier for her prompt response. With regard to decentralized communities, we know and realize that the benefits to the communities are quite large because a lot of the residents are now able to work for the government and I'm sure that it has provided a lot of valuable services that they would have had to pay for.

Are there any recommendations to change operations or to make changes in communities that have these decentralized departments? Will they be consulted prior to any changes or decentralization plans? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, communication is a very important tool and we place a high priority on this as a government. We will ensure that we communicate all of this information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your supplementary, Member for Pangnirtung.

**Mr. Komoartok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Premier. With respect to the decentralization issue, it is something that is valued by the communities that received decentralized departments.

We have been apprised of the impact of one GN employee in a decentralized community. When that employee is from that community, they generally leave the community for holidays and one GN



employee can increase the local economy by as much as \$100,000. This is very important to those communities that have benefited from the decentralization initiative. That is why the communities wish to be involved in any efforts to change the current set-up and we would want to be consulted if there are any planned changes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, we will be reviewing all of the related items; what needs revision, what needs improvement, what poses a barrier or obstacle, and what is causing the lack of effectiveness. These are the types of issues that we will be deliberating upon when we are conducting the comprehensive review. We want to ensure that the government operates as effectively as it can to ensure that we don't waste the limited fiscal resources that we have.

With regard to decentralized positions, some communities had identified a number of positions when they first undertook the decentralization process. Other communities have surpassed the number of jobs that were originally allocated for decentralization and that's a good benefit in its own right.

With regard to all of these issues that will be included in the comprehensive review, we will ensure that we keep communicating with the House and with the members, as well as the communities as a last reminder prior to implementing it. We will be providing that report to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Komoartok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the Premier. My question was regarding recommendations and whether the government will be consulting with the communities prior to making any changes to decentralization. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will ensure that we try to consult properly with all impacted communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Oral Questions. Member for Akulliq.

### **Question 026 – 3(3): Funding for Community Freezers**

**Mr. Ningark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In his Budget Address, the hon. minister spoke of "... a program to improve the storage and distribution of traditional food." Also, he spoke of \$1.1 million to upgrade, repair, or replace community freezers in Nunavut.

Incidentally, Mr. Speaker, I just happened to have a request from Kugaaruk dated February 25, 2011, and I would like to ask the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation. Although this is for next year, I would like to think that it is first come first served.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, how can the community access this program funding? What is the process? I would like to know. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. As the member is well aware, there is a community freezer both in Repulse Bay and Chesterfield Inlet going back a couple of years.

For the process of accessing funds, it's a process where a community does work through the community economic development plan. An application is put together through various programs within the department and those applications are evaluated.

But with the process of the Poverty Reduction Strategy that we're doing, we're going to be communicating closely with all communities of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Ningark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A supplementary question to my initial question, this request is coming from the Kugaaruk Hunters and Trappers Association, it is written to the Hamlet of Kugaaruk, and it is a partnership. It's my understanding from the address of the finance minister that these programs are for our community programs. I will give a copy of the letter of correspondence to the hon. minister and I want to ensure that he will

communicate with the Hamlet of Kugaaruk about these new programs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member very much for keeping me informed of the things that are happening within his community of Kugaaruk. Yes, for sure, with our program that we are going to be doing for the poverty reduction file, of course, we're going to be talking to all of the communities.

The community round table discussions are starting this month and I cannot give him the specific details of where we are going to be starting first, but I can name off the communities where we are going to be having these round tables: here in Iqaluit, Pond Inlet, Rankin Inlet, and Cambridge Bay.

Throughout the process, we're going to be constantly communicating with the other communities on the Poverty Reduction Strategy that we are planning on doing with every community, including our partners in NTI and other organizations that are willing to participate and contribute on poverty reduction for Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 027 – 3(3): Cost of Artwork for Cape Dorset**

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

CG&S. I'll be asking a similar question as what I asked the Minister of Education.

Can the minister tell me how much the actual cost was to design that new sled on the artwork on the exterior of that gym in Cape Dorset and to supply a new sign and to erect it? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Since the Minister of CG&S has the iPad, perhaps he can answer this one.

>>Laughter

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In those situations where maintenance work has to be performed on buildings, such as was mentioned in this case as being the school's exterior, the work on the exterior design, as well as the school signage lettering, and whether there would be a sign, they need to be planned in advance. They then use the plans to develop a work plan and design the exterior with the hamlet, especially the name and whether the spelling is correct. That is how it was dealt with in this situation where they designed the exterior of the school. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Schell**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My understanding is that somebody locally designed the new design of that sled. I would like to know who did it and what they paid for it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The people who handle these designs usually designate the work to an artist, including the decision on who will paint the sign and how the name of the school will be laid out. This includes the estimate of the costs to complete the design. I will check into this matter and get more information on the artist or if we can find out who designed the artwork, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Schell**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My second supplementary question is a bit of confusion: who paid for this sign? I would like to ask the Minister of CGS: did CGS or the government pay for it or was it paid through the DEA? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It can be quite complex to deal with these types of issues. The government will sometimes designate an architectural firm to design the artwork and the firm has different responsibilities prior to the erection of the building.

Prior to the construction, some of the details included are the costs of the design, the name, and the exterior paint, how it will look, and so on. There are

different types of agreements made for the design, including the costs of construction and which body will pay for the construction. Based on these details, that is how they check on who paid for which part, and so on.

At this time, I cannot give him the details as I don't have that information. However, I will commit to providing a response to the member once the details have been fleshed out. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Usually, when there is a design done on some artwork or something for a major project, it's put forward to the DEA to get approval. My question is: was the original design or artwork that was put on the building originally approved by the DEA and then changed later? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Yes, the member seems to be quite familiar with this matter. Perhaps it would be much more prudent to have my colleague, the Minister of Education, respond to this question, Mr. Speaker. However, if the process was followed throughout all of its steps related to designing and approving artistic designs, then the approval has to come from the organization that is responsible for the administration of the building.

In this case, we are talking about a school building, which is under the Department of Education. If they followed their approval process, then the district education authority would have to approve the design as they are the mandated authority for this matter. I cannot ascertain if this process was followed, but most projects generally follow this process that Mr. Schell was inquiring about. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Question period is now over, so we can now move on with our orders of the day. (interpretation ends) Item 8. (interpretation) Written Questions. (interpretation ends) Item 9. (interpretation) Returns to Written Questions. (interpretation ends) Item 10. (interpretation) Replies to Opening Address. (interpretation ends) Item 11. (interpretation) Replies to Budget Address. (interpretation ends) Item 12. (interpretation) Petitions. (interpretation ends) Item 13. (interpretation) Responses to Petitions. (interpretation ends) Item 14. (interpretation) Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. (interpretation ends) Item 15. (interpretation) Tabling of Documents. Member for Akulliq.

### **Item 15: Tabling of Documents**

#### **Tabled Document 007 – 3(3): List of Food Prices in Repulse Bay**

**Mr. Ningark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table today a list of food prices at a major retail store in Repulse Bay. I encourage my colleagues to collect similar information from their communities, which will help us in our upcoming discussions on the new

Nutrition North Canada Program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Tabled Document 008 – 3(3): Arctic Bay Retailer Grocery List from the Nutrition North Review Project Website**

**Tabled Document 009 – 3(3): Grocery List from the Nutrition North Website**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Further to my Member's Statement of today, I wish to table a copy of the grocery list that was taken from the Nutrition North Review Project website. Again I commend residents of our territory for taking the initiative to make a difference. I encourage all members to review this list.

Would you like me to keep going? I have a couple more.

In following with what Mr. Ningark has done, Mr. Speaker, and further to my Member's Statement, I wish to table the prices of the items on the grocery list from the two retail outlets in Arctic Bay.

Mr. Speaker, you will note that some information is not available because items were not in stock on the shelves. This has been one of the big concerns of my constituents: the idea of variety, selection, and choice.

Again I commend residents of our territory for taking the time to work towards initiatives and make a difference. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Tabling of Documents. Member for Quttiktuq.

**Tabled Document 010 – 3(3): From Food Mail to Nutrition North Canada: Report of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a copy of the Report of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development titled *From Food Mail to Nutrition North Canada*.

Mr. Speaker, this report was presented to the House of Commons a few hours ago and I encourage all members to review it with care as it contains what appear to be some constructive recommendations concerning such issues as the transportation of country food. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) I look forward to my country food. (interpretation) Tabling of Documents. There are no more hands up. (interpretation ends) Item 16. (interpretation) Notices of Motions. (interpretation ends) Item 17. (interpretation) Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. (interpretation ends) Item 18. (interpretation) Motions. (interpretation ends) Item 19. (interpretation) First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance.

**Item 19: First Reading of Bills**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request consent of this Assembly to waive the two-day notice requirement to allow for the first reading

of Bill 1, *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2011-2012*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The minister is asking to waive the two-day notice requirement to allow for the first reading of the bill. Members, do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Speaker** (interpretation): The members agree. Minister, you may proceed.

**Bill 01 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2011-2012 – First Reading**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and colleagues. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 1, *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2011-2012*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. Question has been called. All those in favour. Opposed. Abstained. The motion is carried.

First Reading of Bills. There are no hands up, so we will go to (interpretation ends) Item 20. (interpretation) Second Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance.

**Item 20: Second Reading of Bills**

**Bill 01 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2011-2012 – Second Reading**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 1, *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2011-2012*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill authorizes the Government of Nunavut to make operations and maintenance expenditures for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2012. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour. Opposed. Abstained. The motion is carried. Bill 1 can now be referred to the Committee of the Whole.

(interpretation ends) Item 20.  
(interpretation) Second Reading of Bills.  
(interpretation ends) Item 21.  
(interpretation) Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 1 with Mr. Tapardjuk in the Chair.

Before we proceed, we will take a 20-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:22 and Committee resumed at 15:58*

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

**Chairman** (Mr. Tapardjuk) (interpretation): Thank you for coming to the Committee of the Whole. In Committee of the Whole, we have the

following item to deal with: Bill 1. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Mr. Aupaluktuq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to start the review on Bill 1 and commence with the Department of Health and Social Services. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Are we in agreement to deal with Bill 1?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Bill 01 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2011-2012 – Consideration in Committee – Health and Social Services**

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health, we would like to hear your opening comments during our committee meeting.

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I am ready to begin with my opening comments, if that is okay with you. First of all, I am proud that you are now the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to take this opportunity today to present the 2011-12 main estimates and business plan for the Department of Health and Social Services.

Mr. Chairman, the 2011-12 operations and maintenance budget for Health and Social Services is again the result of tough decisions during which the department had to balance financial reality with the health and social service

needs of Nunavutmiut. However, I can assure the members that we remain committed to supporting and sustaining an effective and efficient publicly funded health care and social services system without a reduction in quality of care.

The proposed 2011-12 operations and maintenance budget is \$296,998,000. This is a net increase of \$32,571,000 over our 2010-11 main estimates of \$264,417. Some of the more significant increases are as follows:

- **Out-of-Territory Hospital Services**

As of April 1, the department is requesting \$10,677,000 for increased costs experienced in the Out-of-Territory Hospital Program. Canada's national health insurance system is designed to ensure that all Canadian residents have reasonable access to medically necessary hospital services on a prepaid basis. All jurisdictions currently participate in a reciprocal billing arrangement which guarantees cost recovery for services delivered to clients from other jurisdictions. My department has experienced both increased volume and cost pressures in this program and requires additional budget.

- **Residential Care**

The requested increase for residential care in-patient services is \$6,840,000. Treatment for mental health disorders requires highly specialized staff and a safe residential setting. A residential setting allows for both therapeutic intervention and recovery for the client, as well as safety for the family. My department faces both increased volume and cost pressures for this program as well.

- **Medical travel**

The department is requesting \$5,474,000 for increased costs experienced in the medical travel programs; both scheduled medical travel as well as emergency air ambulance. During the past several years, the department has controlled costs through negotiated contracts with the airlines, increased facilities and physician services, and through the provision of telehealth services, which has enabled health care providers and clients to meet in real time over large distances in Nunavut. While helping to mitigate the cost increases, medical travel is still driven by many factors, including birth rates, population demographics, contract and price increases, and pandemics. There is an increase of TB in the Baffin region.

- **Out-of-Territory Physician Services**

Out-of-territory physician services, like out-of-territory hospital services, are client driven. The department ensures that all residents have access to medically necessary physician services on a prepaid basis. Annual jurisdictional rate increases are averaging approximately 4 percent per year and the department has not had an adjustment for more than four years. The requested increase for this program is \$3,332,000.

- **Nunavut Physician Services**

Providing an adequate number of physicians is critical to maintaining stability in the supply of physician services and guaranteeing Nunavutmiut access to necessary medical services. The Nunavut system of health centres run by community health nurses is dependent on adequate physician resources to support the nurses so that they can stay in Nunavut. In Iqaluit, the

physicians provide primary care, run the hospital, and provide sophisticated medical services to the population of Nunavut. The department requires an increase to the Nunavut Physician Services program of \$2,146,000.

- **Child and Family Services Act Review**

The department is requesting an additional \$900,000 in 2011-12 to continue the comprehensive review of the *Child and Family Services Act* as set out in *Tamapta*, with the intention of introducing new legislation within this term of government. Changes to the Act will ensure that Nunavut's children and youth are provided with appropriate and responsive services.

- **Supplementary Health Benefits**

The supplementary health benefits program is designed to provide assistance to eligible persons in Nunavut who require health insurance services beyond those covered by the Nunavut Health Care Plan. Improving the overall standard of living in Nunavut in regard to health and well-being is a priority of this government. The department expects the new website with detailed information on supplementary health benefits to be operating in March 2011. Once the site is live, we expect increased use of this program. The department is requesting an additional budget of \$811,000 for supplementary health benefits.

- **Laboratory Services**

Additional funding of \$682,000 is required to manage laboratory services. Lab tests are one of the few essential diagnostic tools that clinicians use to determine the type and severity of many illnesses. Volumes tend to fluctuate



based on outbreaks of certain infectious diseases, such as tuberculosis.

- **School Breakfast Program**

My department is the lead in a project to enhance and support the breakfast programs in our communities. This initiative will be implemented in partnership with the interdepartmental Poverty Reduction Working Group. New funding of \$665,000 is required. Reducing the effects of poverty on those most at risk, including our youth, is one of the priorities set out in *Tamapta*.

- **Food Insecurity**

Food insecurity is a crisis in Nunavut that cannot be addressed by Health and Social Services alone. Many factors affect food insecurity and a collaborative and comprehensive approach is needed. The Quality of Life Committee and Anti-Poverty Secretariat have agreed that food security is a critical priority in Nunavut and new funding of \$494,000 is required to begin work on this important initiative.

- **Maternal and Newborn Care**

The *Midwifery Profession Act* and supporting regulations are now in place. In June 2009, the department released the Maternal and Newborn Health Care Strategy, which sets out the action plan to integrate new maternal and midwifery services into the health system and enhance prenatal care and parenting skills. The department requires \$560,000 to support the implementation of this strategy.

Mr. Chairman, with the approval of the additional funding of \$32,571,000 added to the base of the department's budget, this will certainly help to address the increased expenditures the department

has been experiencing over the years. It will also ensure that the department will be able to continue to provide essential care and treatment to our most vulnerable residents in our territory.

Over the course of the coming year, my department will continue to protect and improve the health of Nunavutmiut in order to ensure that individuals, families, and communities are leading healthy lives. Meeting the growing needs and expectations of Nunavutmiut while balancing my department's fiscal reality will be challenging. This committee's continued support is essential to the advancement of our work.

We will be responding to your questions at the appropriate time, Mr. Chairman. That is it for now.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Curley. Just prior to requesting that the witnesses be brought to the witness table, I would like to direct a question regarding the information on page 2 of the English version. In your opening comments, you stated that the figure for that item is \$264,417. I wish to ask if this is indeed the correct amount or if you wish to revise the figure that is currently on record. Can you clarify that for us, Minister Curley?

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you. I didn't realize that I made a \$2 figure. On page 2, the amount that we are requesting is actually \$264,417,000. Thank you for correcting me.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Curley, do you have witnesses that you wish to bring to the table? Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Yes and I will introduce them once we go down to the witness table.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Members, do you agree to bring in the witnesses?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

Thank you. Minister Curley, please introduce your witnesses for the record.

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right, I am very pleased to introduce Deputy Minister Alex Campbell, and this is going to be his last appearance before the Committee of the Whole for he will be relocating in the middle of March. He has worked very hard and we are sorry to see him go. I am pleased that he is here to appear before the committee. Also, to my left is Executive Director of Corporate Services Debora Voth.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome, Deputy Minister Alex Campbell. Since this is your last appearance before the Committee of the Whole, I'm sure that there will be a lot of questions for you. I also welcome you, Debora Voth, to the Committee of the Whole. I'm sure that you will be of assistance to the minister.

Perhaps the Co-Chair of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness has opening comments. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness have reviewed the

2011-12 main estimates and business plan of the Department of Health and Social Services and I am pleased to provide you with opening comments.

The standing committee notes that the 2011-12 operations and maintenance budget for Health and Social Services is \$296,988,000. While this amount is \$32.5 million more than the 2010-11 main estimates that were approved in this House a year ago, the proposed budget is only just over \$4 million more than the department's revised 2010-11 O&M budget which includes amounts allocated through supplementary appropriations. Members note that supplementary appropriations for the Department of Health and Social Services continue to be brought forward by the government, with the most recent one approved just last week being over \$12 million.

Mr. Chairman, given the department's ongoing pattern of over-expenditure, the standing committee is of the view that the department's projected budget for 2011-12 is very much an estimate. The committee recognizes that the Department of Health and Social Services faces a number of challenges in providing consistent and high quality health care across the territory. A number of factors that drive costs upwards are not entirely under the department's control, such as costs for fees, treatment, and services, many of which are provided out of territory, the unforeseen costs of health outbreaks, and the cost of meeting necessary staffing requirements.

Mr. Chairman, the committee also recognizes that the basic formulas used to determine base funding for health and

social services needs in the North are inadequate to start with. Our unique characteristics, such as population size, the geographic expanse covered by our territory, and the linguistic and social challenges, are simply not taken into account by financial formulas based on statistics and in competition with other jurisdictions across Canada. Our unique position has been recognized to some extent by additional federal funding, such as the Territorial Health System Sustainability Initiative, which provides additional funds under the Territorial Health Access Fund and the Territorial Medical Travel Fund. These additional funds are not guaranteed to continue indefinitely. The standing committee will support the minister in any efforts to access additional and sustained federal funding for health and social services across Nunavut.

The standing committee is, however, of the view there are a number of areas where our government could do more towards planning for costs and controlling costs. For example, over 30 percent of Health and Social Services staff positions are consistently vacant, resulting in expensive agency contracts and inefficient financial management practices, such as transferring amounts originally budgeted for compensation and benefits to contract services. The standing committee will be closely monitoring the success of initiatives such as the revised pharmacy program, the development of electronic health records, and the management of the Non-Insured Health Benefits contract, as these are areas where significant cost savings could be achieved over time.

The standing committee recommends that the department refocus its efforts on

filling full-time positions on a timely basis and continue to work with partners, such as Nunavut Arctic College and other departments, to help train and qualify Nunavummiut for jobs and careers in the health and social services fields. Committee members anticipate receiving detailed information on the number of graduates from Nunavut Arctic College health career programs who have been employed by the department in recent years.

The standing committee fully supports initiatives such as the Nursing Program, including the newly proposed licensed practical nurse course, as well as the Midwifery Program, which will provide more maternal and midwifery services closer to homes and families. Members were pleased to hear of the recent agreement to bring family medicine residents from Memorial University to train and practice at the Qikiqtani General Hospital. It is promising to note that physicians under this contract will remain to practice in Nunavut under a return-of-service agreement.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee notes that the department is looking at reviewing its service delivery models and members look forward to the future scrutiny of proposed changes to program delivery practices. Committee members stress the need to incorporate more *Inuit Qaujimaqatuqangit* and Inuit societal values into the way that programs and services are delivered.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee has previously noted that a number of GN departments have shared or overlapping responsibilities. For example, both the departments of Health and Social Services and Justice play a

role in addressing domestic violence and situations of abuse. In some communities, social workers are caught between their legislated responsibilities for child welfare and their assumed duties as probation officers, which put additional stresses on a job which is already very demanding. Committee members have further noted that issues relating to elder abuse often seem to be lost between departmental mandates and recommend that the minister work with his departmental colleagues to further strengthen support and protection mechanisms for Nunavut's elders.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee recognizes that one of the department's key initiatives for 2011-12 continues to be the comprehensive review of the *Child and Family Services Act*, with the introduction of new legislation in the future. While the care and welfare of Nunavut's children is the primary focus of the legislation, members have suggested that issues relating to elders and Inuit societal values also be integrated into the review.

Committee members recognize that the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs' Social Advocacy Office is also working towards addressing issues of concern relating to the more vulnerable groups in Nunavut society. The committee encourages the minister to work closely with his colleagues, especially the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, as the consultation process unfolds.

As members will note, the copy of the opening comments that I have been reading are kind of out of date because one of the concerns and one of the

examples that the committee was going to use was the role of the child advocate's office or the child and youth representative and how that group would work together, and this had been addressed in the Budget Address today where Minister Peterson said, and I quote, "... we are advancing towards the establishment of an independent child and youth representative."

Mr. Chairman, following the dissolution of the divisional health boards, community health committees called Committees of Council were established under municipal authorities and funded by the Government of Nunavut. The standing committee encourages the minister in his efforts to strengthen the role of these committees and to consider ways in which they may support the effective delivery of health care services at the community level.

Mr. Chairman, it is clear that the cost of medical travel is one of the most expensive expenditure areas for the Department of Health and Social Services. Standing committee members were interested to learn that a significant percentage of medical travel costs, nearly 40 percent, are accounted for by travel and accommodation of escorts to support medical clients. While the committee is of the view that appropriate levels of support must be provided to individuals who need to travel far from their home and culture to receive care, members also recognize that the current levels of expenditure are unsustainable. The standing committee recommends that the Medical Client Travel Policy be reviewed accordingly. Members are also aware that levels of expectation from both clients and the families of Nunavut clients receiving health care continue to

rise. While it is noted that the Department of Health and Social Services has made many efforts to meet the demand, standing committee members are of the view that a new dialogue needs to take place to identify what levels of service are acceptable and reasonable.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee is pleased to note that the Department of Health and Social Services has taken steps to ensure that Nunavummiut who are not covered by existing health insurance plans are able to access the necessary health benefits. Members encourage the minister and his officials to ensure that the relevant information is made accessible to the public as soon as possible. Members look forward to the unveiling of the department's new website.

Mr. Chairman, the committee recognizes the department's ongoing need to invest in electronic health information systems for data collection, case management, and evaluation. Members encourage the department to use these systems to analyze and communicate trends in the health status of our population to effectively plan resource and program delivery. For example, with the passing of the government's *Tobacco Damages and Health Care Costs Recovery Act*, reliable historical statistics in such areas as lung cancer, heart disease, and respiratory disease will be necessary to support legal actions to recover the relevant health care costs. In addition, members urge the department to analyze information specific to medical travel costs in order to better anticipate and plan for trends in this area.

Mr. Chairman, access to nutritious food is a critical component of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Members were pleased to note that the department continues to focus resources on addressing food insecurity. Committee members look forward to further scrutiny of the new federal Nutrition North Canada Program, which will have a profound impact on the ability of Nunavummiut to afford good and nutritious food.

Mr. Chairman, as I noted at the beginning of my comments, the standing committee is concerned that the proposed budget for the Department of Health and Social Services for 2011-12 is not a realistic one. The committee supports the minister in his efforts to improve financial management within his department and encourages him to take the necessary steps to control expenditures.

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

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

I suggest to members that wherever possible you ask your detailed questions during the page-by-page review. Are there any general comments to the opening comments? Mr. Fred Schell.

**Mr. Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question to the minister is in regard to medical travel. As he indicated in his opening statement, up to 40 percent of the cost of medical travel is for escorts and their accommodation. I have heard complaints in both Kimmirut and Cape Dorset where people say that certain people get escorts that don't need them and in other cases, they need escorts and they don't receive them.

I know of one case in Cape Dorset where this gentleman, who is over 55 years old but was capable of travelling on his own, didn't need it as far as the language barrier, but the nurse said that he was entitled to an escort because he was over the age of 55. So my question is if you're over the age of 55, you are entitled to an escort through medical travel. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Schell. Minister Curley, do you wish to respond?

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. I think the preamble that the member just outlined is true that there are different ways of applying medical travel. Like my colleague from CGS, I'm not in tune with the day-to-day decisions that are made by the managers, but each region appears to operate differently in applying the provisions of medical travel and escort policies that we have. I suppose it's sometimes a judgment call by the local nurses as well as the other health care individuals.

The rules are clear and why they are applied differently is something that I don't immediately have a response to. It could be true that some managers would

like to oblige strictly based on the age, not necessarily, as he's indicated, on the basis of whether or not the client in question is unilingual or not. It differs from region to region and that is why we have ongoing departmental reviews.

We have not formalized a formal review yet, but I think, during the course of the last four years that it has been operating, it may be time and I have indicated to my officials that it is something that we're going to have to do before too long. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Curley. Mr. Schell.

**Mr. Schell:** Thank you. I appreciate your answer on this one. I guess the biggest issue now is if somebody figures that they should be entitled to an escort and they're not, who they can go to? Obviously the head nurse is the one who makes the decision in the community. Who can they go to and complain about that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Schell. Alex Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I thank the member for that question. Just to restate what the minister indicated earlier, the current policy on client travel is that elders who are unilingual who are 60 years of age and over automatically qualify for an escort, so I just wanted to clarify that as well, unless that particular elder says, "I don't want an escort."

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, Deputy Minister Campbell. Mr. Schell.

**Mr. Schell:** Thank you. For the deputy minister, basically what I asked is if they have an issue with it and they won't allow them an escort, who they can complain to. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Schell. (interpretation ends) Deputy Minister Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is an appeals process there. The office of the regional director of the region is in Pangnirtung. They appeal to the regional director for an escort if they are denied an escort and that's supposed to be the final appeal. The practice has been that people appeal to me directly and also to the minister on an ongoing basis. So it's just a matter of the implementation and the enforcement of the policy itself. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, Deputy Minister Campbell. (interpretation) Do you still have questions, Mr. Schell?

**Mr. Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In your main estimates, the estimates are going up by \$32 million. Every year, we always have supplementary appropriations brought in by the health department. Do you really think that this \$32 million is going to cover you this year without having to come to supplementary appropriations? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Schell. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will try and answer the question. I think it will likely be in more than one part because the whole

budgeting process of the government is really quite, in a way, very involved. It goes through various stages throughout the year and all of the departments normally put forth their spending targets for the coming year.

Knowing very well the guidelines with respect to the target set by the Department of Finance and the FMB allows all of the other departments to compete for that pot of money. Therefore, our department, which is probably the largest public expenditure department in terms of services and critical services, is normally, I think, the most underfunded at the end of the process, not as a result of our choice.

We have normally, historically now, budgeted pretty close, accurately, but it's normally cut back by close to the amount that you indicated, \$32 million or so, and that pot of money has historically been set aside by the FMB and the Department of Finance as a contingency. Instead of directly applying it to our request to meet the actual budget we submitted, that percentage is normally reduced close to that amount and Finance, through the budget process, sets it aside especially for the health care contingency, but we know there is a condition to that.

We have to apply through the supplementary estimate process. So that's one reason that we have become obviously subject to a lot of review and evaluation of the Assembly. Some cost pressures that we have seen involved the union related salary increases that were not established. During the last number of years, we have had to update them in the fall to account for the actual

requirement of our compensation and benefits.

So I'll leave it at that and I'm sure that if there are further questions, our finance officials will respond to that. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Curley. Mr. Schell.

**Mr. Schell**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My next question is: what steps has the Department of Health and Social Services taken to try to keep within that budget? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Schell. Ms. Voth.

**Ms. Voth**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The steps that the department has been taking to try and control costs within the department, one of the major steps would be our nursing strategy to try and reduce the agency nurse costs and we have been successful in that this year.

Another strategy that we have been undertaking recently is the electronic health record. We don't have a full analysis, of course, but we're hoping that that's going to help us reduce costs with regard to having a quick turnaround of diagnostic services. So therefore, we're not sending people south if it's not necessary because we're getting diagnostic information back more quickly.

These are the type of initiatives that the department is undertaking to try and control costs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Voth. Mr. John Ningark.

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the comments are quite understandable, but there is no mention of these other programs, albeit they may already be stated elsewhere. I'm talking about food insecurity, laboratory services, and school breakfast programs. Yes, I am thankful for these programs and they can be offered. However, I don't see any mention of preventative measures. As an example, we should be looking at health care and prevention of sicknesses prior to requiring medical attention.

Whenever members visit their communities, and this may apply to all of the MLAs, there are cases where our constituents have experienced issues with health centre visits. When they go for an appointment, they often ask why they didn't receive the proper treatment. They often feel that they aren't receiving the service that they require. Many people have commented on these issues and this applies to most of the members here.

Maybe the Department of Health and Social Services is getting too large. Perhaps it is due to its size, but quite a few communities request more nurses and doctors to service their health needs. We hear of too many cases where a patient was misdiagnosed and by the time the illness or disease has been properly diagnosed, it is often in the late stages and too late for treatment.

Perhaps we should split the Department of Health and Social Services into the Department of Health and the Department of Social Services as it seems too large. Perhaps if we made health a standalone department, then the people who require medical attention



would be better serviced and looked after with one minister. Social services should also be a separate department.

With the current set-up, the officials are trying to deal with health issues, as I imagine we have many of our residents requiring medical attention, and I believe that the minister recognizes this situation as they have created a complaints office. For those people who have complaints, they have a number that they can call and I believe they also have a fax number. The minister has recognized that there is a need.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, most complaints that I get under the Department of Health and Social Services are those that relate to health rather than social services. I think the good office of the hon. minister recognizes that fact. He has a complaints office under his department, under his domain, so he must know that. If we make the Department of Health a standalone department, perhaps we can start dealing with the shortage of the health profession in the community and start doing our preventative measures in the health sector.

My question to the hon. minister is: do you feel that the government can handle the Department of Health and Social Services under one department? Why do you think, Mr. Minister, that you put the complaints office in your department? Why did you put in a complaints office? If there were no complaints, I don't think you would have that. Do you think that the Department of Health and Social Services is too large to focus on health rather than social services? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. I believe that was just a comment, but if you would like to comment on that, Minister Curley, I give you the floor.

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you. First of all, I would like to respond to his comments. With respect to the first item related to the funds that I mentioned in my opening comments, they are specifically for the new allocations. The funds will be used for developing initiatives to provide more benefits in light of the price increases, as per our comments.

With respect to ongoing programs and services, such as public health and the Community Wellness Program, these already exist in most communities and they can request funding for their programs. We want to continue this program by having \$600,000 allocated for foster homes, family relations, and proper nutrition, which form part of the Community Wellness Program.

Many communities are utilizing the Community Wellness Program. As an example, we visited Igloolik near the end of the fall season, and the program administrators were extremely busy providing various services. I also know that the program is quite well used in Pangnirtung and they are focused on transportation of those residents to outlying camps. They are focussed on healthy living initiatives as well as healthy bodies.

With respect to the issue raised here, I cannot answer at this time. As our Premier noted, we have to pay attention to these issues as they form part of the list of items that need to be reviewed

under our comprehensive operational review. We have to determine what needs to be revised or improved in order to have proper services as many people feel that it could be improved by segregating Health and Social Services into separate departments. However, they don't offer any suggestions on improvements that would occur if the department was split into two separate departments.

Perhaps the costs for providing these services will escalate and we will suffer from inadequate funding. Further, they would each require their own deputy minister, which also requires funding under their operations. With all of the associated offices and staff, it would require an additional fund of approximately a million dollars as it would also require a separate minister.

Our population base in Nunavut is not very large, with only 25 communities stretched throughout Nunavut. If there are concerns about the way certain departments are being operated, does this mean that we need to split into more departments? These are the types of issues we have to address when contemplating changes to a department.

Some of the programs could be administered more effectively and areas that cause problems can be massaged, such as our social services that have always had issues related to their divisions, such as child protection and family services. These types of services need to be improved. A member mentioned crime prevention measures and that we should also have counselling services available in our department and once that service is provided, it would alleviate a lot of the issues.

In thinking about these issues, as a department, we have looked at various options that we can pursue down the road. Perhaps by virtue of having an agreement with the regional organizations, we can look at merging programs so that there is no overlap. Services, including the healing circle programs that are currently used in some communities, have resulted in quite a number of residents who are now capable of providing these services, including counselling. We have quite a fair number of qualified individuals that we could enlist to provide these services collaboratively.

We should be looking at preventative measures, not providing services after the fact, such as when an individual commits a crime. We have to start deliberating on our options in these areas. If we were to brainstorm on resolving our existing issues, then we can move forward. At least, that is my expectation.

With respect to the issue of segregating the department, the Premier already provided a response to that question, so I will just leave it at that for the time being. This also applies to the items in the Minister of Finance's Budget Address that relate to the priority items and future plans and whether we ought to be contemplating changes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Curley. John Ningark.

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to the complaints we hear on occasion from patients who have experienced these incidents, most members are usually

uncomfortable about mentioning specific cases or incidents that cause concern to our residents. If the communities could better utilize their community health committees to voice their concerns and problems related to health centres and nursing, then they could be tasked to deal with these local concerns.

The most pressing concern is related to the shortage of nurses in our communities and due to the shortages, I imagine that the nurses suffer from stress and work overloads. Some are on call during the evenings and they have to deal with emergencies during the nights.

Perhaps if the Department of Health became a standalone department, then they would be better able to handle the myriad of local complaints and concerns in our communities. In my opinion, it would allow the department to concentrate solely on health issues and disease prevention rather than deal with all of the concerns of our residents. That would also apply to the Social Services Branch as they could just concentrate on providing social services to our residents.

I believe that the programs are listed here and to mention a few listed under the combined Department of Health and Social Services, it lists health benefits, food insecurity issues, school breakfast programs, medical travel, and others. I'm unsure as to who is exactly responsible for medical travel, either Health or Social Services. I believe that we have to start looking at our options since these services are provided to our residents in our communities.

Many of us have been informed about the statistics related to the social

problems faced by our people. We have all heard about the many social problems in Nunavut. If we separate these into two departments, then we can start to make improvements in our service provision.

When we review the other pages, I will make further comments. I thank you for the opportunity to speak my mind.  
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. This was just a comment, but I'll give you a chance to respond to his comments. If you would like to respond, you may do so, Mr. Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I understood the comments he made with respect to the various issues faced in our territory. I will ensure that we include them in our comprehensive review, and I will include it in my notes to the cabinet.

We will have to keep these issues in mind, especially as we are looking at improving our programs and services. We will look at our options to improve the programs provided in our department as has been requested by various members. We will keep them in mind.

At the appropriate time, we will be able to present it to the cabinet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Curley. Any more general comments? Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you to the minister. You say by the discussions we've been having this afternoon, it sounds like everybody is

ready for a structural review of the government departments.

Getting away from that, I think I'm feeling a little generous today because I find the health care that we have in our territory, I think, is excellent. For the number of people that we have travelling, I think it's something like 32,000 people, I know you're going to have.... If you ask any travel agent whether they have any problems with people coming and going when they ship 32,000 people, I'm sure you would find that people get stranded or lost.

I think with this being Mr. Campbell's last appearance, I would like to say and thank him for all of the hard work he has done over the past few years. I think it's a very difficult portfolio to have. You're dealing with people who are either grieving or facing treatment that's scary; a lot of unknowns, a possibility of death. That brings up a lot of emotion that either tends to be coming out as anger or fear. I just want to thank Mr. Campbell for all of the hard work that he has done over the years, and I'm sure we will miss you. At the same time, I don't want to let you off the hook totally in terms of not asking any questions or making comments.

You mentioned the idea under laboratory services in your opening comments, and this is for the minister, where it talks about the testing for infectious diseases and tuberculosis. I know that our MP announced \$800,000 for Taima TB and you had made a Member's Statement. Is that money to be spent in this fiscal year or is it going to be incorporated in what we're talking about now with this budget for next year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. (interpretation ends) Deputy Minister Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The funding that we were receiving from Health Canada was a specific proposal submitted to their office last summer or fall. It's a project that's going to be reviewing the situation here specifically in Iqaluit and taking a survey on what are the causes of TB and doing a bit more work on promoting and trying to prevent TB from occurring. So it's a separate process, a specific project or proposal that we submitted. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, Deputy Minister. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of the school breakfast program for communities that already have the breakfast program, which I think all three of my communities are involved with breakfast programs... They access funding through Brighter Futures dollars and whatnot. Instead of having the school breakfast program, will they be able to possibly provide lunch to the students since they already have the breakfast program? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. (interpretation ends) Deputy Minister Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What we're trying to do this fiscal year is trying to do a bit of an assessment of the school program itself. The \$165,000 will be directed for an environmental scan to determine what the best fit of that program should be for

Nunavummiut in each of the communities that are presently doing the program. \$500,000 of the funding will be to enhance the existing breakfast programs during the year, during the environmental scan as well. As a department, we haven't been thinking of providing a lunch program at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, Deputy Minister Campbell. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So then there will be some consideration put into the communities that already have the breakfast program as to what's going to happen in terms of pulling their funding to combine it all as one. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. (interpretation ends) Deputy Minister Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Yes, it's always a good practice to try and pool our resources at the community level to identify some external funding sources like the federal government to contribute to the process.

The \$500,000 that I spoke of to enhance the program will include some small capital purchases as well that communities may be interested in purchasing for that program, such as refrigerators and dishwashers, but those are just examples that we're trying to be flexible with the \$500,000. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, Deputy Minister Campbell. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do have more questions on that, but I think I'll wait until we go to the page by page to do more detailed questions on this specific program as to how it's actually going to roll out. Hopefully with April 1 and the introduction of the new Nutrition North Canada Program, the funding will come up before sealift orders so that they don't have to purchase items and have them flown up, which would be more expensive.

In terms of food security, this is a big issue in terms of a lot of discussions that have been going on in the recent weeks. This is actually the first time that I have heard anything called the Quality of Life Committee. I was just wondering if the minister could explain what that committee is, whether it's intergovernmental within Health and Social Services or what that committee actually is. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the member will recall that during the *Tamapta*, an action plan, there were various initiatives that were announced by cabinet. One includes poverty reduction, as well as dealing with food insecurity. The Quality of Life Committee is one committee of a number of committees that were struck down to deal with action plans following the *Tamapta* announcement, *Qanukkanniq* statement.

I know that it's not a Health and Social Services committee, but I believe it's guided by the EIA and it involves interdepartmental committees that have the responsibility of social and economic

aspects. I believe it's quite a large one. I may be right if I say that you are the Chairman of that group, so the deputy is quite able to do so. It's not health initiated, but the cabinet as a whole. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Curley. Mr. Elliott, are you finished? Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, I wasn't finished. My light wasn't on, so I couldn't say anything.

I was wondering then maybe this is a question I could put out to the minister and then he could talk to all of the other bodies involved. In my mind, it's getting a little confusing but I want to get a grip on it. There is the Poverty Reduction Working Group; there is the Anti-Poverty Strategy, which there are committee members on that; there is the Quality of Life Committee; there is the Anti-Poverty Secretariat; there is the social advocate's office; and then there is the Social Advocate Secretariat; and then we learned the other day that within EIA there is a committee that's working on monitoring Nutrition North Canada.

Is there a list of these committees? Just to keep it a little bit straight in our minds, is it possible to get a list like that from...? Again I don't know which department to ask for it because it's scattered all over the place, so maybe Mr. Curley could help. Thanks.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Curley, I'm not sure if your department is the appropriate department, but I'll give you the opportunity to respond. Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of the mandates of the committees, I'm sure that can be provided as well as a list of committees. My colleagues on the cabinet are sitting right there and I'm sure they would be glad to table that information.

In terms of trying to clarify why we're linking the Quality of Life Committee, each department taps into all of these various committees when announcing a specific amount of their contributions through the budget process. Ours is related to preschool and children. In that regard, we are asking for that specific amount that I stated in my opening remarks. I'm sure the other departments and the department will have certain contributions as well. So it's a team effort and we're all sharing in that regard.

In terms of supplying you with further information, the appropriate minister, no doubt, will table the list of committees that resulted out of the *Qanukkanniq* Action Plan, and so on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Curley. Thank you, Mr. Elliott. At this time, we will take a 7-minute break. We will be back shortly.

*>>Committee recessed at 17:11 and resumed at 17:24*

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, my committee colleagues. We now have quorum and we are ready to start again. We are now on general comments. Johnny Ningeongan.

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to this

matter, I am unsure as to where it is situated but it is in the opening comments which I want to direct a question towards. I believe it is on page 5, near the title under the heading of food security.

I believe that it was last fall when I directed a question regarding this matter. As per that question, in the Kivalliq, we used to have a laboratory which was located in Rankin Inlet. They conducted trichinosis tests on walrus meat to ensure that it was edible and didn't constitute a hazard.

The minister may recall my previous question as it related to the conservation officer in Coral Harbour. There was supposed to be a new building constructed for their use and I had asked whether or not it was possible to include a laboratory. I had directed my question to the Minister of Environment and the Minister of Health and Social Services, Mr. Tagak Curley. I had asked if the laboratory would comprise part of this project and, if it is included within the project, where would it be located. I would like to get this clarified and I'm directing this to Minister Curley. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to that very important question, it is indeed a challenging matter as many people consume the meat and in particular, the walrus meat prior to the testing of the meat. That has formed the problem, at least with respect to our department.

We have been faced with difficulties for approximately two years now with respect to the laboratory in Rankin Inlet. With the problems we face in that situation, we've had to ship the meat out of Nunavut in order to have it tested. At this time, my deputy minister could provide more details on the issues we face and if we are to resolve the problems we face in Rankin Inlet.

We need to work with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in order to provide the proper testing on meat as per their requirements. We were able to provide the testing at that time due to the arrangements we made with respect to the testing. However, at this time, we are considering all of our options, including working with Nunavut Arctic College so that they can offer training for laboratory technicians. I believe that is something we can support if that is the best option.

I directed my deputy, Alex, to look into the matter and to try and provide more assistance as per the requests of the members. Last summer, after your correspondence on the matter was received, I asked him to look into the options we may have had. Mr. Chairman, I would like my deputy minister to respond, if you can provide him the opportunity to do so. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Curley. (interpretation ends) Deputy Minister Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you to the member for the question. The Deputy Minister of Environment and I have been having some discussions on how we need to

approach this so that we can have these tests done in Nunavut. That's the only update I can provide, but we are taking the questions from last fall seriously and we are trying to facilitate a process to get that done as soon as possible. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, Deputy Minister Campbell. Mr. Ningeongan.

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. During the minister of Finance's Budget Address, he referred to country food and the possibility of trading country food between regions and communities. If this initiative does proceed, it is vital that priority be given to food inspection as Inuit prefer to trade country food that may not be available in their community.

Some communities have larger walrus populations versus others, and I would prefer that if a laboratory is established that it be established near these communities. It would be easier to offer this service if the testing was done adjacent to the communities that depend largely on walrus meat. This would be the most effective manner of providing this service.

Although the meat may not necessarily be inspected by the federal government, we do need to have proper country food in order to trade it. It would allow more trust amongst the communities in Nunavut and due to that reason, it would be ideal to get a laboratory in Nunavut somewhere in the middle like Coral Harbour because it is right smack in the middle of the Nunavut territory. This is not a question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Although this was a comment, I'll give you the opportunity to respond, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I understand his comment. When the cabinet was discussing land related issues, we spoke about the meat testing laboratories as they would allow people to eat their foods without concerns. The meat can then be placed in the community freezers.

I'm working with my colleagues from the Department of ED&T and the Department of Environment to start planning on this initiative. As the Minister of Finance stated in his Budget Address, we will use the *Tamapta* Mandate to try and provide more assistance. We need to make community freezers available. We believe that there will be more intercommunity trade on country food. I want to urge the other department as they will be the lead department on the country food initiative.

However, with respect to the federal legislation, I don't really understand the federal legislation that pertains to this issue. Once they have identified the issues related to this matter, we would like to advocate our need for laboratories to test our country foods. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Curley. I have no more names on my list for general comments. I believe we can now begin with the page-by-page review and we will start off with page H-4. Do we agree that we are ready to do the page-by-page review starting with page H-4?



**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. During Christmas of this year, you probably know that there was a pretty extreme illness that was going around in the community of Sanikiluaq.

Our nurses were working like 24/7 and they seemed to get pretty exhausted from the amount of work they had to do. Did the nurses, at any time, request any additional nurses to come into our community and help at this time? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. (interpretation ends) Deputy Minister Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Yes, we have been getting requests from the nurse in charge in Sanikiluaq to get additional support services in the community. We have been reacting to those requests. I understand Sanikiluaq has been experiencing some outbreaks of influenza-like symptoms there, so we are trying to be on top of that as a department to make sure that we do have the adequate nursing staff there at the community level. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, Deputy Minister Campbell. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the ever-increasing populations in the communities, will staffing levels in the communities and health centres be reviewed, and when will residents see an increase in the

number of full-time health professionals in the communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. (interpretation ends) Deputy Minister Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thanks to the member for that question. Yes, as a department, we are currently reviewing the level of services that we're providing in the communities. We're also taking an inventory of exactly what's out in each of the communities in respect to both capital infrastructure and human resources in the communities. As the minister indicated earlier, we will be preparing a recommended model of health care delivery for Nunavut in the coming year. So that's something that we have been working on over the past two years.

With respect to having full capacity at some point with health services in the communities, that's going to be a bit of a challenge. We are challenged right now in trying to recruit the existing positions that we do have in the department. Currently, as we speak, we have a vacancy of about 24 percent in the department. Those are some of the realities we are facing right now. We hire people, they come in, and others leave. So this is an ongoing circle of recruiting, orientating, and training new staff to get to Nunavut.

Our long-range plan is for us to develop our own resources here in Nunavut and having more people from Nunavut, Inuit specifically, trained for some of these health care professionals. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, Deputy Minister Campbell. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Your business plan discusses the Nursing Recruitment and Retention Strategy. How many nursing positions are currently filled with agency nurses, how many are filled with indeterminate staff, and how many positions are still vacant? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. (interpretation ends) Deputy Minister Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I can provide the figures as of January 31, 2011. We had a total of 16 agency nurses as of that date. As of January 31, we had 242 nursing positions on our PY approved listing; 107 positions were filled, 63 were vacant, and 2 are currently what we call frozen in favour of other initiatives for hiring agency nurses in those communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, Deputy Minister Campbell. Allan Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Recent media reports show that Nunavut has one of the lowest doctor-patient ratios in the country, with only five doctors per 10,000 people, compared to the Yukon, which has 38 doctors per territory. What steps are being taken to address physician shortages in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. (interpretation ends) Deputy Minister Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We are taking a number of initiatives in the department. More recently, there was an announcement that we would have an agreement with Memorial University out of Newfoundland to have some of the doctors who are being educated down there to do their training up here in Nunavut. We had an agreement signed off with Health Canada to make that happen. We will have a return of service as well. That's one thing that we have done.

As I said earlier, we're preparing a more strategic action plan, if you want to put it that way, to make sure that we're attracting enough doctors here. One of the things that we have submitted is to increase that budget for the physician service program. That's in recognition of the challenges that we do have in attracting doctors. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, Deputy Minister Campbell. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This new strategy or action plan that you mentioned, when do you expect that to come into force? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. (interpretation ends) Deputy Minister Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We do have the tentative action plan already in the department, so it's just a matter of formalizing the approval process. Once we get the main estimates approved by the Assembly, we can do an

implementation plan to roll that out.  
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, Deputy Minister Campbell. (interpretation) Thank you. I have no more names on my list. Mr. Ningeongan.

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I spoke to a nurse just recently in Coral Harbour regarding the request for maintenance work. They had apparently requested assistance from various offices to see about maintenance work on the health centres, including painting and renovating the nursing station. It has been brought up numerous times that it needs to be renovated. It seems that the requests for maintenance are being set aside as nothing has been done with any of their requests.

I would like some clarification about the issue and when the nursing station in Coral Harbour will be repainted and maintenance work completed for the areas that need work. Can we expect any work to be done? The reason why I'm asking this question to Minister Curley or to his deputy, Alex Campbell, is that I would like a response. With the facility becoming fairly old, any maintenance work that is not undertaken only serves to exacerbate the problems with the facility. With this issue in mind, I would like this clarified.

I was led to understand by the head nurse that she had forwarded all of her requests to the regional offices in Rankin Inlet. As far as she was concerned, it was as if they were sent to a black hole since nothing has come out of those requests. What then do we have to do in order to have the maintenance work undertaken

in the nursing station located in Coral Harbour? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I think we all recall that we used to have a position in our department in Rankin Inlet which was entirely focused on capital projects and maintenance of the nursing stations throughout Nunavut. This position was responsible for all of Nunavut, but the worker prepared all of the capital projects and collaborated with CGS to determine all of the required work for the nursing stations. We haven't been able to fill the position that is responsible for that aspect of our maintenance and capital needs in our department. The director or manager position has been advertised, but we haven't filled it yet.

If there are urgent issues, we can deal with them by collaborating with CGS to complete the maintenance work. However, with respect to buildings that are too old, we have to complete a comprehensive condition rating on the buildings. Perhaps Mr. Campbell will be able to elaborate further. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Curley. (interpretation ends) Deputy Minister Campbell.

**Mr. Campbell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thanks to the member for the question. Just to add to the minister's input. We do have small capital projects under our capital program that was also approved earlier by the Legislative Assembly.

What will happen next is we will have the request going out to all of the regional offices to identify small capital projects that they want to carry out in the coming year. We do have a departmental committee established to review those requests, so we will be taking that. Now that I know that there is an official request from Coral Harbour, we will be following up to make sure that request is on the table as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, Deputy Minister Campbell. (interpretation) Thank you. I have no more names on my list. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make a motion to report progress at this time. Thank you.

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

I would like to thank Minister Curley and (interpretation ends) Deputy Minister Campbell, (interpretation) as well as Ms. Voth. Sergeant-at-Arms, if you could escort them out, please.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. Going back to our orders of the day. (interpretation ends) Item 22. (interpretation) Member for Amittuq.

### **Item 22: Report of the Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 1 and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Is there a seconder? The Member for Akulliq is the seconder. All those in favour of the motion. Opposed. Abstained. The motion is carried.

We are on (interpretation ends) Item 23 (interpretation) in our *Orders of the Day*. Third Reading of Bills. (interpretation ends) Item 24. (interpretation) *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

### **Item 24: Orders of the Day**

**Clerk** (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A reminder that there is a meeting of the Regular Caucus tomorrow morning at ten o'clock in the Nanuq Room.

*Orders of the Day* for March 2:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Replies to Budget Address

11. Petitions
12. Responses to Petitions
13. Reports of Standing and Special  
Committees on Bills and Other  
Matters
14. Tabling of Documents
15. Notices of Motions
16. Notices of Motions for First  
Reading of Bills
17. Motions
18. First Reading of Bills
  - Bill 2
  - Bill 3
  - Bill 4
  - Bill 5
19. Second Reading of Bills
20. Consideration in Committee of  
the Whole of Bills and Other  
Matters
  - Bill 1
21. Report of the Committee of the  
Whole
22. Third Reading of Bills
23. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Oh, is that so?  
Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House  
stands adjourned until tomorrow at 1:30  
p.m. Enjoy your evening.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 17:48*

