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Iqaluit

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

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(Iqaluit East)

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(Pangnirtung)

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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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(Cambridge Bay)

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

Hon. Tagak Curley

(Rankin Inlet North)

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Thursday, March 10, 2011

Members Present:

Honourable Eva Aariak, Honourable James Arreak, Honourable Tagak Curley, Mr. Ron Elliott, 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. Good afternoon. I would like to ask Mr. Elliott to say the opening prayer.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. (interpretation) Good day. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements**Minister's Statement 030 – 3(3):
NunaFam**

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand today as the Minister of Health.

Nunavut has faced ongoing challenges to recruit and retain family physicians. Thanks to a new partnership between my department, Health Canada, and Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador, that is about to change.

In mid-February, the federal government committed \$4.9 million to the Nunavut Family Physicians Resident Project, otherwise known as NunaFam. The funding will be used to train eight new physicians to practice family medicine in Nunavut and to establish a new family practice training centre at the Qikiqtani General Hospital in Iqaluit.

Memorial University established a family medicine training program almost 40 years ago to help get more physicians practicing in rural areas. Their experience and knowledge will greatly benefit the Nunavut physicians during their training, along with assistance and support they will receive from the local physicians at the Qikiqtani General Hospital.

Mr. Speaker, at the same time these physicians are being taught valuable skills to practice family medicine they will be learning about our communities. This combination of training will be rewarding for these physicians as it will help them develop strong community connections and a genuine understanding of the health concerns of Nunavutmiut. These physicians will be caring for families they know, which is an important component of providing quality health care, especially in our remote communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

**Minister's Statement 031 – 3(3):
Piqqusilirivvik**

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I would like to inform my colleagues about Piqqusilirivvik, our Inuit Cultural Facility in Clyde River. I am very pleased to announce that the construction phase on this building has been successfully completed on schedule.

As the Piqqusilirivvik building was being constructed so too was the program curriculum. CLEY staff has been working with elders to develop and test programs on the land. Much of the learning will involve cultural activities, including travelling, hunting, making items, learning Inuit values and oral history skills, and practicing them on a daily basis.

Mr. Speaker, the completion of this new and very attractive facility signals the real beginning of the work for Piqqusilirivvik. Staffing is still underway and applicants with a minimum age of 18 and with the ability to take instruction in the Inuit language will be invited to apply later this year for the start of programming in fall 2011. Information about Piqqusilirivvik, including the application process, will be available on the Piqqusilirivvik website to all Nunavut communities.

I would like to inform all of the members and our constituents throughout Nunavut that an official opening of the Piqqusilirivvik facility will take place in Clyde River on May 4, 2011. Don't forget that date, May 4. I look forward to keeping my colleagues up to date on the final stages of

development of this exciting new program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. If you could change the date to May 26, then I would be able to celebrate my birthday in style, but that is fine.

Minister of Human Resources.

**Minister's Statement 032 – 3(3):
Occupational Training Program
Designations Award**

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Minister of the Department of Human Resources, it is a great pleasure for me to rise today to congratulate all of our 125 Occupational Training Program participants and especially recognize 15 from the Qikiqtaaluk and Kivalliq regions, 5 of whom are beneficiaries. These 15 employees have, through their continued pursuit of professional development, for the first time within the Government of Nunavut, received the Canadian Professional Supervisor (CPS) designation. This initiative demonstrates the commitment by the Government of Nunavut to continual learning.

Since October 2009, we have been in partnership with Think Training from Nova Scotia for delivery to Government of Nunavut employees of the Supervisory Development, Human Resource Development, and Administrative Professional Diploma programs. Both new and existing administrative, human resource and supervisory staff have been given the opportunity to strengthen their

leadership, management, and communication skills. The job specific knowledge and hands-on practise received from these excellent training programs have given them confidence and the working knowledge to perform more effectively in their current positions and advance in their careers.

In 2011-12, it is our goal to continue this Canadian Professional Supervisor designation opportunity and further expand our professional capacity through offering to our occupational training administrative professionals the opportunity to receive their Canadian Administrative Professional (CAP) designation.

Building on the achievement of our newly designated professionals, we would like to offer continued support and encouragement to all of our Occupational Training Program participants to continue their educational pursuits, including completion of their Canadian Professional Supervisory and Canadian Administrative Professional designations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 044 – 3(3): Happy Anniversary to Ollie and Lizzie Ittinuar

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I want to express my wishes for a good afternoon

to my fellow Nattilingmiut. I hope you have a good day today.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform the House of a momentous occasion of which I am quite proud and pleased to announce regarding a close family member originally from Nattilik who now lives in the Kivalliq. I would like to state that Peter Ittinuar and his wife are celebrating their 62nd anniversary. They have been married longer than I have been alive. I genuinely love them.

Mr. Speaker, the couple were married in Chesterfield Inlet by Father Quqtama, who was a Roman Catholic priest. Ittinuar and his wife currently have 14 children, all grown, although some of them have been adopted. They currently have 58 grandchildren as well as 42 great-grandchildren.

The couple have contributed much towards Nunavummiut, especially with respect to *Inuit Qaujimaqatuqangit*, and we are extremely grateful for their tremendous assistance in this regard as Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, my mother, Arnangujaq, is related to the person I am speaking of and our family considers them our relatives. We wish them the best on this special day and this is also coming from my maternal aunt Ivviaq.

Oh! I made an error in my reference. I stated that it was Peter Ittinuar when I should have mentioned Ollie Ittinuar. I apologize.

To reiterate, my relatives wish them well and these include my maternal aunt Ivviaq and our uncle-in-law Iola, along with my maternal uncle Igutsaq and all

of their relatives, as well as my maternal aunt Mangak and Uhuniq, as well as from my grandfather Alukie and his wife, Alice. We celebrate their momentous anniversary with them and to remind the couple that Nattilingmiut hold much love towards them. We wish to see many more years where they celebrate their anniversary.

We wish a happy anniversary to Ollie and Lizzie Ittinuar. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. We celebrate with the couple on their longevity. Let's now move from Nattilik to Nanulik. Member for Nanulik.

**Member's Statement 045 – 3(3):
Nutrition North Canada Program**

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to rise on the subject of the Nutrition North Canada Program.

Mr. Speaker, I was also glad to hear yesterday that the federal government has demonstrated a willingness to listen to the concerns of Nunavummiut. My mother always told me that listening is always a good thing.

Mr. Speaker, as you will recall, I made a Member's Statement on this program earlier in our sitting. In my statement, I expressed concern that smaller retailers may not be participating in the new Nutrition North Canada Program. In the Kivalliq, we have already heard that Safeway is pulling out. Mr. Speaker, reducing choice will not benefit our

constituents. I also continue to have questions and concerns about how personal orders will work under the new federal program.

Mr. Speaker, as you will recall, I strongly supported the motion that we passed in this House to invite retailers to appear before us in the spring sitting of the Assembly. It is my hope that we will hear testimony from both larger retailers and smaller businesses and I am certain that this will be a very productive dialogue.

Mr. Speaker, I am also sure that the federal government had gotten that important message from us over the past few months. We are paying attention, we are asking questions, and we are standing for our constituents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 046 – 3(3):
Congratulations to High Arctic
Graduates**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With this being the last day, usually there is good humour shown.

Before I actually start my Member's Statement, I just wanted to mention about my godson Dominic Qaqqasiq, who is from Arctic Bay and is currently living in Ontario. I spoke with his mother last night, who is a proud hockey mom. Hockey moms are kind of unique in how they support their children in what they do. She was explaining to me very proudly how happy she is that this

coming Saturday on Hockey Night in Canada, which I'll be watching, his hockey team from Gravenhurst is actually going to be highlighted on that, so I'll be watching that with interest.

>>*Applause*

Interestingly enough, she had mentioned that when they were interviewing and asking who your favourite hockey player was, he proudly said that it was Mr. Tootoo, not the MLA or the minister, but the hockey player.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to our High Arctic high school graduates. Mr. Speaker, I feel it is important that we recognize this significant achievement. A high school graduation certificate is a stepping stone to other opportunities. It also represents much hard work and effort. Our graduates are community role models, a title they have earned and should be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate graduate Daniel Flaherty from the Umimmak School in Grise Fiord. Well done, Daniel.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate graduate Valerie Amarualik from the Qarmartalik School in Resolute Bay. Congratulations, Valerie.

Mr. Speaker, there are eight potential graduates from the Inuujaq School in Arctic Bay. I would like to acknowledge them and encourage them to keep working hard so that they get their final credits to graduate at the end of the school year. They are:

Lionel Willie
Mason Pauloosie
Lorraine Kilabuk
Carrie Uttak
Susan Kalluk
Jonathan Reid
Jennifer Pauloosie, and
Qajaaq Qamanirq

Mr. Speaker, parents and family members often play a big role in supporting and encouraging our youth to succeed at school. Congratulations to the parents and families of our graduates because part of this success is theirs to celebrate as well.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the High Arctic high school graduates on their achievement and in wishing them continued success in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. We celebrate with you. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove.

**Member's Statement 047 – 3(3):
Happy 62nd Anniversary to Ollie
and Lizzie Ittinuar**

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am glad today that we have reached the end of the session. My grandson arrived last night and I believe I slept with a smile and it was so enjoyable to have our grandson arrive.

I believe that the person referred to is one of the oldest people in Nunavut and the Ittinuars have been married for 62 years, as my colleague mentioned. I

rarely ever like mentioning names, but I celebrate with Ollie and Lizzie Ittinuar. I am very proud of their milestone anniversary.

Every time we go to Rankin Inlet, we try to visit them. When we return to Rankin Inlet, I will come and visit you. I am very proud of your milestone and I imagine that my fellow residents of Rankin Inlet will go on the local radio when it opens to celebrate your anniversary. I am so proud to have a couple married that long. I thought that I have been married for a long time, but it's nothing compared to the longevity that they are celebrating.

Although this issue is a very good item to speak about, Mr. Speaker, I also want to express my pride with respect to the residents of Whale Cove. Even though they are one of the smallest communities, they rarely sit back and let their size stop them in their efforts. It is very enjoyable to represent the community since they don't let obstacles stop them.

I wanted to mention their youth, from the bantam level all the way up to senior men's hockey, as they are always involved in various hockey tournaments. They always attend these tournaments and don't let their small population stop them. The community sends a hockey team to pretty well all of the tournaments. The community is very big on sports and they are amongst the most active communities in Nunavut. I wanted to let them know that I am proud of their untiring efforts.

I also wish to thank the parents in Whale Cove who have fundraised to ensure that their kids can attend these tournaments.

They ensure the success of their hockey teams, either through hockey tournaments or other kinds of tournaments.

It's pretty hard to fundraise in the larger communities and it's even harder in the smaller communities. So when a smaller community is successful, we should be proud of them when they are that good. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 048 – 3(3): End of Current Sitting

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity, understanding that perhaps tomorrow we will all be heading back home, and I wish every Member of this House a safe trip.

Mr. Speaker, although I'm not able to address every need of my constituents, it is an honour serving them.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the Clerk, office, and staff. I would also like to acknowledge the hard work and never-ending work of the interpreter/translators in this House...

>> *Applause*

... and the pages.

I would also like to acknowledge the presence of our friend, the media. They keep us and the public informed, and we can't do a thing without them.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to also acknowledge the work of the Sergeant-at-Arms in this House. During the budget session, he's always busy bringing in people and bringing them out, and so on.

I would also like to tell my wife that if everything goes well, I'll be home a day after tomorrow. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Member for Rankin Inlet North.

**Member's Statement 049 – 3(3):
Happy Anniversary to Ollie and
Lizzie Ittinuar**

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, would like to rise to celebrate the anniversary of our elderly couple that was mentioned in Rankin Inlet. I am very thankful to Ollie and Lizzie from my heart because I have adopted a child from one of their children. When you adopt a child, you will find that they are very loveable. I am so grateful to the couple because they have been married for that many years.

I also wanted to state that Ollie's house sits just in front of the constituency boundary. My colleague and I used to kind of argue about the boundary and state that the couple was either in my constituency or his. Apparently the constituency boundary was put just behind his house, so the couple is represented by my colleague, even though we live right across from them.

I am very thankful that the Ittinuars are always willing to call us, both Ollie and

Lizzie, my sister. I am very proud of you on this special day and I imagine that many people will be on the radio celebrating your anniversary. I am very impressed and slightly envious to see someone married that long. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 050 – 3(3):
Upcoming Square Dance
Competition in Kugluktuk**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to rise today to congratulate again the volunteers of Kugluktuk who strive to make life better for the less fortunate and the young folks of our community.

On April 8 to 10, there is a square dance showdown happening in Kugluktuk, and I want to invite other community members. I understand that there are going to be a lot of teams going to Kugluktuk for the showdown, including the Kitikmeot communities. I understand that the estimated prizes for the showdown are around \$30,000, so it's going to be a huge event. It's for the youth. It's a family show. It's a sober show.

Of course, I want to congratulate the volunteers who put in a lot of time and effort in making this happen. That's Mavis Adjun, Millie Kuliktana, Helena Bolt, and Margo Nivingalok, the teachers of the youth square dancers which are called the Ukaliit Youth Square Dancers. For the most part, these efforts by the volunteers make good

things happen in the communities and within families in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. (interpretation ends) I am glad that there's something nice about my name again. (interpretation) Member for South Baffin.

**Member's Statement 051 – 3(3):
Government/Municipal Vehicle
Usage Policies**

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak on vehicle abuse at the government and hamlet level. Mr. Speaker, I'm not talking about stopping at the grocery store on the way home, I'm talking about blatant abuse. In some instances, if the employee could receive one air mile for every mile driven, they could fly around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all Nunavummiut to become familiar with the GN vehicle policy and the hamlet vehicle policy, and if they see any abuse, I would encourage them to take pictures, date them, list the community, which department, and send them to me. I'll be putting a scrapbook together which will be called, "Driving Pleasure at Taxpayers' Expense." Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. There are no more hands up. Going back to our orders of the day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Minister of Health.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

**Return to Oral Question 048 – 3(3):
Health Situation in Sanikiluaq**

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Rumbolt on March 4, 2011, and the number is 48 – 3(3). On March 4, the Member for Hudson Bay asked an oral question in the legislature in relation to the status of medical supplies in the community of Sanikiluaq.

The Department of Health and Social Services attempts to ensure that all of our health centres have the necessary supplies to deal with medical emergencies as they arise.

During the recent outbreak in Sanikiluaq, as supplies ran low, the health centre staff made arrangements for the delivery of necessary medications and supplies by arriving flight crews when they picked up patients for medevac. This ensured that the health centre had the supplies needed to operate effectively.

Mr. Speaker, since the outbreak in December, supplies at the health centre are being replenished and needed items being sent in on the next available plane. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Return to Oral Question 063 – 3(3):
Feasibility Study for New Airport
in Kimmirut**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to an oral question that was asked by the Hon. Member for South Baffin, No. 63 – 3(3) asked on March 7, 2011.

Question:

When will the minister commit to actually doing a feasibility study as to the relocation of the airport in Kimmirut?

Response:

Mr. Speaker, the department will be undertaking work on the runway surface and on the airport electrical system in this coming year and the next one, but there are no studies currently planned for relocating the airport.

Mr. Speaker, after we have completed the required resurfacing of the airport over the next two years we will consider allocating funds to a preliminary study on the feasibility of relocating the airport. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize one of the pages in the House today, Jessie Ningiuk. He is the son of Geoffrey Qaunaq, the

conservation officer in Grise Fiord. I was speaking with Geoffrey last night. Again talking about proud parents, he was watching his son working here yesterday. I would like to say “hello” to Geoffrey who I know is watching from Grise Fiord and I also welcome Jessie to the House. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I stand here today to recognize a young individual from my riding and if he follows his father’s footsteps, one day he could be sitting here as an MLA, Pakak Picco.

>> *Applause*

He has been working hard. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Welcome. I would like to recognize him as well. I told him before that he’s like his dad in a lot of ways. He promised me a rice crispy square about four years ago. I’m still waiting for it by the way.

>> *Laughter*

I look forward to chow down on it.

(interpretation) Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. (interpretation ends) I want to recognize the rest of the pages. Thank you for doing a wonderful job once again and keep it up. They have set a new standard again. (interpretation) Thank you.

Going back to our orders of the day.
Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Akulliq.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 075 – 3(3): Status of Utility Rates Review Council's Consideration of General Rate Application

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Hon. Minister Arreak. We have been informed about utilities and I believe the minister is responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council.

Mr. Speaker, last year, the Qulliq Energy Corporation submitted its General Rate Application to the Utility Rates Review Council. I understand that the Utility Rates Review Council is an independent body. When is the deadline for the URCC's report and recommendations to be submitted to the minister? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council. Minister.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for his question. It's the first time I have ever been asked a question with respect to the URRC.

The Utility Rates Review Council reviews all requests for increasing the rate and they used to be independent. However, in 2009, there was a revised mandate and at this time, they are currently just an advisory council. They have submitted their rate review report

and they have included recommendations. When the due date for their report arrived, they submitted the rate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to the report that was submitted by the Utility Rates Review Council, has the minister submitted it to the Executive Council for review? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The report submitted by the Utility Rates Review Council is being reviewed and they also have submitted a report to the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation. He can speak about the details. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now that I understand that the report was already submitted to the responsible minister, perhaps it could be tabled in this House at our next session this spring. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We haven't

completed a review of the report and we haven't set a date for when we would submit it, so I can't single out a date at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the hon. minister for his response. Mr. Speaker, even though the utility rate increase may be a small marginal increase, a lot of us have difficulty paying the electrical bills, especially the homeowners who no longer have a source of revenue.

Can the minister commit to submitting this report as soon as he is able or perhaps after the Executive Council or the cabinet has completed its review? Can the minister table this report as soon as possible so that we can disseminate the information? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As per my response that it is the way it stands, we are still reviewing the utility rates report. We have been requested to review the rates to see if there can be an increase, but with respect to the actual rate increases, the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation can provide a response. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 076 – 3(3): Medical Travel with No Heat on Airplane

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was mistaken in my naming of the individual, so I apologize; I regret that mistake. When I tried to say Ollie, I made an error and I said Peter, so I would like to apologize, but I want to let them know that they are well loved in Nattilik and Taloyoak.

I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health, Hon. Tagak Curley.

In the Nattilik region, medical patients go through Canadian North and I am starting to hear concerns about the aircraft and its heating. Apparently during the winter, it gets quite cold. I'm wondering whether or not the minister can look into this matter about the heating. Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the concerns. I believe the Member for Akulliq referred to that. I think there is one question that he raised and I thanked him for that.

With regard to the contracts and the review of the medical contracts, I want you to know that all of your comments and concerns are very useful. We aren't sure who will be the winning bidder, but we are starting to review the proposals with the committee and we will make a decision when we undertake that review. I still can't determine or respond as to which airline would be successful.

As a department, we have made the position that the elder medical patients should be allowed flexibility. If we were to come to an agreement with the contractors, this will be taken into consideration prior to signing off the new medical travel contract. We do know that some of the patients undergo extreme difficulty. I feel for these patients. I occasionally see that in Rankin Inlet. For example, the person who is celebrating an anniversary today had a very long trip right after he had major surgery. We are very concerned about these issues as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 077 – 3(3): Multiple Options

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed towards the Minister of Education, the Hon. Hunter Tootoo.

In his Minister's Statement of the other day, he spoke about multiple options and I just wanted to ask some questions for clarification. He spoke about the multiple options at different streams and before, it was my understanding when you went through school, you would receive an academic graduation certificate or a general graduation certificate. With the streams that he was mentioning the other day for the multiple options, is that an academic graduation diploma with a stream attached to it or is it just a general stream? Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Mr. Speaker, the multiple options approach is something that the department has been working on for a while. We are looking at ways to try and attract and retain students in the school system. We are also looking at the graduation requirements. There is a review underway right now and it's being analyzed to look at what the different requirements would be.

It's my understanding, Mr. Speaker, that there would be your current graduation requirement for specific academic programs. If an individual chose to participate in one of the multiple options programs, there would still be some of the core courses that are required for graduation but it would be a different type of certificate relating to the stream that they're in. Hopefully that clarified it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again just for clarification, so if I am a grade 9 student who wants to go through and eventually my goal is to attend university, I would decide to take the academic stream and therefore, get the qualifications to be able to graduate with the credits required to move on to university. If I was not so inclined, if I was interested in getting involved in the trades, I would follow that stream and not necessarily receive my academic certificate. Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My understanding is that that would be correct. Right now, pretty much what's offered across the board is just simply the academic requirements. Like I said, we're looking at their graduation requirements.

If an individual chooses to go into the multiple options program, say for example, if they go into community caregiving and family studies, it could help gear them towards employment. If you look in the two communities where we're opening the continuing care centres to be able to help them be able to move into having employment opportunities in that area or in the introductory to trades and engineering, it would gear them more towards the trades programming if they wanted to move into that area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I don't want to seem that I'm not in favour of what's happening in terms of what the Government of Nunavut and your department is doing, where you provide more options and hopefully have more students involved in the school and in the classroom. But again, at a grade 9 level, when you're a young teenager, making a decision for your life could be affected by choosing a stream instead of the academic, and then the ability to go back might not be there.

My next question is: what type of counselling is received? What counselling will the students receive to make that huge life decision or career

decision? I know that in some of our meetings, you had said that there are only two guidance counsellors who are actually hired across the territory. Who will help the students make these decisions? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Education.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my understanding that at each school, the staff in the school will be counselling the students, ensuring that they understand and are fully aware of the implications of the decisions they make and the courses that they choose to take in the high school program.

Mr. Speaker, as a matter of fact, we have developed a pamphlet to go out to the middle school ages, grades 7 and 8, to get them thinking about the choices they need to look at as they go into the high school as far as where they want to go and what they want to do with their future. It's something that we're taking and we're actually starting it now at an earlier level because, as the member points out, if you wait until it's too late... I think the more advance notice that these young people get to think about what they want to do will ensure that they're aware of the implications of program choices that they decide to take and the effect that they would have in any opportunities that they choose to pursue in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister was talking about how the

program is being worked on and it will eventually roll out. When do you anticipate everything in place to start the students on these different streams? Will it be the next school year or are there a couple of years? Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my understanding that we're hoping to be able to have this rolled out in the 2012-13 year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 078 – 3(3): GN Vehicle Use Policy

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

I asked the minister a question on October 29 of last year about the GN's vehicle use policy. In December of last year, there was a death in a community involving a GN vehicle. My question for the minister is: were there any memos sent to GN employees from the time I brought the issue up of vehicle abuse to the minister in October prior to the death in this particular community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Mr. Speaker, I don't know the particular details to that particular community, but as I had mentioned to the member, we advised all

of our staff to adhere to the Motor Vehicle Policy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My next question is: how does the department enforce compliance with its own vehicle use policy in the communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Mr. Speaker, as I had stated in these very discussions we had on the dates that my colleague said we had these discussions in the House previous, we go by those. I will reiterate that we advise our staff that they have to follow the Motor Vehicle Policy.

In fact, our department has vehicle tracking sheets. They have been sent to other departments so that the proper departmental heads can put out the motor vehicle tracking sheets. So they sign out and sign back in the vehicles as they use them for government purposes and we track them that way. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Has any disciplinary action been taken over the past two years against GN employees for abuse of the vehicle use policy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The vehicles that the government employees use, you have to realize in our department in particular, in many of the communities, we are the first call in line of emergencies, be it for search and rescue or there are government buildings that need immediate attention. Day or night, whether they're at the store or wherever they may be, they are the first line of defence. In those cases, they have to use the motor vehicle where they are. Otherwise, they would have to go all the way back to wherever the shop is and then attend to the emergency. In situations, sometimes it would be a bad thing to not have the vehicle with you wherever you may be.

We have people in our department who are on call 24 hours day. In those cases, they have the vehicle and disciplinary action isn't needed. In terms of using the government vehicle, we do have a sign out form. Our department adheres to the sign out form, and I am not knowledgeable of any disciplinary action that had to have been taken from my department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is still a lot of confusion about who is responsible for enforcing municipal policies on the use of municipal vehicles. Does CG&S monitor the hamlets to ensure that they are

following their own policies? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Mr. Speaker, I don't know how much clearer I could make this. The municipalities have their own by-laws, they have their own policies, they administer their own government, and that governs everything. They have their own municipal vehicles. On those vehicles is the hamlet logo; it's not the Government of Nunavut logo on those vehicles. It's the municipality's vehicle.

We as a government will not, under my leadership of the department, begin to try to dictate who and how the municipal equipment will be used. I have said that before and I repeat it again. The municipalities are responsible for municipal equipment and infrastructure, and this includes the hamlet vehicles. The hamlets are responsible for adhering to and writing their own municipal vehicle [policies].

If it's not clear enough, I would be more than happy to try to clarify it again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 079 – 3(3): Taloyoak's New Municipal Building

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of CGS.

In Taloyoak, the hamlet council is trying to construct the municipal office and when it is completed this spring, it would be open, but the furniture and equipment for the building have not arrived yet. When I asked the minister about it, he said that the furniture and equipment will arrive on the ship this coming fall. What is the reason why they have not received the furniture and equipment? Is there not funding for the Hamlet of Taloyoak? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you. I am very happy that you raised that question. With regard to the new units that are constructed, they don't include any of the furniture or required equipment.

However, we did assist the Hamlet of Taloyoak. I believe it was during the fall of 2010 when they ordered all of the furniture but the order was placed after the sealift season was over. That is the reason why the furniture and equipment is not in the community. In the meantime, they will be using the hamlet furniture that can be spared. Once the sealift season starts again, the ordered furniture and office equipment will be delivered when the ship arrives. So in the meantime, they're using the hamlet equipment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker

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

Question 080 – 3(3): School Breakfast Program

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed towards the Minister of Health and Social Services.

Before returning home to my constituency, I would really like some clarification just so I could report back. In terms of the breakfast program and the \$500,000 that will be allocated or has been allocated in the House to roll out that program, we had the Minister of Education say that his department, while supporting the program, is not administering the program. My first question would be: how will your department engage the schools to offer a breakfast program in the schools? Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the deputy minister did indicate that the rollout will likely not occur until the fall. To be honest with you, I think that was his line. In view of the fact of what we're dealing with, the finances will not kick in until April 1, so the school will likely be ending.

The department historically has worked with the school and held consultations with the school officials and every school in Nunavut where the program was being carried out previously have had the involvement of school officials as well as the local EIAs, which are consulted. I will do my very best to try and see that the consultation is carried out. The local EIAs' and education officials' advice is really crucial to us, so we will have to consult with them. Once that is in place, it will be formalized by way of either an MOU or letter of agreement or something.

I don't think it's a grant program or it could be, but I need to check that further. What I will assure the member is that we will ensure that the local EIAs are quite informed of the whole nature of the program once completed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time, there is no official application process. If a body wanted to operate a breakfast program in the school, there's no application process at this time to follow through on. Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you. Again to confirm what the deputy minister indicated to the Committee of the Whole the other day, we have at least a leeway to finalize all of the details, whether or not there will be an application process or whether it will be based on the critical needs of the communities, whether there is more requirement to ensure that the young children have their breakfast program. So we will work with the officials. We will need advice from the departmental education officials as well as the EIAs throughout. Once the departmental officials have worked out the consultation as well as establishing a program, it will be widely circulated to communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the answers to the last two questions that

I have raised, the minister has mentioned EIA. Are you referring to the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs? Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, in some ways, we do, but just a moment. My reference may have confused the member; I'm trying to talk about our local education committees that are also an important part.

Also, the departmental allocation that the committee approved the other day was a component of the Quality of Life Committee that the Department of Health and Social Services commit itself to contribute that as a whole. EIA, along with all of the other departmental committees, made the recommendation to all of us and therefore, their advice has been useful, mainly to set some priorities for the department. Our contribution towards that is to continue to provide a school breakfast program in some small way.

To be correct, Mr. Speaker, I was referring to DEAs. We will be sending notice, no doubt, about the kinds of programs that the department is working on at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that clarification because that does help. My final question in terms of the rollout and the way it is rolled out: who actually makes the decisions on the program? Is it the

Department of Health's decision? You had mentioned EIA and you also mentioned the Quality of Life Committee. Is it a combined effort decision or is it your department's decision? Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This government has made a number of commitments through the *Tamapta* program and *Qanukkanniq*, subsequently laying out more detailed initiatives of all of the departments.

I said that the Quality of Life Committee that was established through the mandate by our cabinet recommended that the school breakfast program is important and that it should be enhanced, as my deputy minister indicated the other day to the Committee of the Whole. Therefore, the department is responsible for administering and rolling out the program.

The deputy minister had not long ago indicated that we have until likely the fall to work out the details of the program. I assure the member once again that in doing that, we will be seeking advice of the Department of Education, who were very helpful. I'm sure that they have already been talking to each other because they are also members of the Quality of Life Committee, amongst other departmental officials. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 081 – 3(3): Capital Projects for Repulse Bay

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of CGS.

First I wish to thank him, Mr. Speaker, for the facility that was long requested, which was a community hall/recreation centre and skating arena. I tagged along on the trip to Repulse Bay when they opened the facility. With respect to what they call capital projects in English, I would like to thank the minister for the facility that was provided to the community.

What about the rock crusher, as well as the capital project item list at the hamlet? Can the minister look back on the previous capital item requests and provide a report, perhaps not immediately but to have his officials respond to where these projects are at? The hockey arena is completed and I know that, but I would appreciate a report to the residents of Repulse Bay about the status of these projects. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you. I also thank you for raising that question. It was quite an honour to open that new facility in Repulse Bay. From what we heard, the residents told us that there were clouds of mosquitoes, but while there for the opening ceremonies, I believe I saw only three mosquitoes.

Yes, if you or the hamlet representatives would like to find out more about the capital projects that they have previously requested, that is possible but it may take a bit of work. We will look at the prior correspondence from the municipality. When the time is right after we have completed the review, we will send correspondence with an explanation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for his response. The only mosquito that I saw in Repulse Bay I swatted because it landed on my face.

>> *Laughter*

When the minister submits his response to the Hamlet of Repulse Bay, will he commit to including a copy for my records? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Chairman? That's okay. Minister of Community and Government Services.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): I apologize on the member's behalf for his inadvertent mistake of calling you Chairman when he tried to call you the Speaker. I know for a fact that it was unintentional.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, when I reply to the hamlet, I will ensure that I copy the member. I don't know if the member is expecting a response tomorrow, but I will respond

when I have the time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): That is acceptable because everybody makes mistakes. Member for Akulliq.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will not forget the term. Thank you.

>> *Laughter*

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

Question 082 – 3(3): NunaFam Program

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

In his Minister's Statement about the NunaFam, it's great and wonderful that the federal government is making a commitment of \$4.9 million to the Nunavut Family Physicians Resident Project. I was just wondering: when will this project start and when will these residents start training? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The announcement jointly made not long ago, last month, indicated that the program would start this summer by July. The information that I have is there would be at least six students who will begin to take advantage of the program. The good news is that that will carry on for a number of years, which is really quite crucial to us, and I try to assure the federal member that we would

like to have it permanently in place rather than the short-term one. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that answer. With the possibility of six new physicians in the territory, I think that's amazing. Hopefully they will be bringing families with them too and potentially stay for a long period. As well, one of the concerns I had with the program, as with any of the programs and positions that we have across the territory: is housing going to be a problem for these eight individuals and their families? Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At the moment, the department has a number of units in place, particularly assigned to the medical doctors in place. To date, that has not been raised as an issue, and Iqaluit has been a pretty good market for housing supplies. I'm sure the level of commitment made by the federal government, \$4.9 million over six fiscal years, no doubt will be part of that funding to cover that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that answer. Again it's just great having new physicians and hopefully they will stay. I think with what we have been promoting with the

Language Act and the new *Inuit Language Protection Act*, will there be Inuit language training provided for the positions as well if they are interested in learning the Inuit language? Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I personally don't know that. We would have to consult with Memorial University. They have a very committed professor, a doctor involved in supervising the program. We can communicate that, but it would likely be an extra expense if that were to take place. At the moment, our only contribution towards the program is to make use of the space available for the students and doctors, and that is what we have committed to the federal government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for committing to speaking with Memorial University about including that. I'm sure unilingual medical clients would appreciate some level of service in Inuktitut or the Inuit language.

My final question, Mr. Speaker, is in regard to the return of service. How many years of return of service will they provide to the Territory of Nunavut? Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is specifically alluding to exactly how many years they committed to. It's not in my briefing notes, but I will somehow get back to the member on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 083 – 3(3): Remainder of Housing Trust Units

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

Have all of the remaining housing units in the housing trust and the incentive program been tendered out and awarded? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The information I currently have is that about 90 percent or so of them are committed. There were some outstanding contractual bids that were still being finalized. Due to the fact that there were some bids that were high, there are still discussions going on that. I can only indicate to the member that they will likely be finalized before the June session, but at this time, I don't have the detailed information. There were not many contracts that were sort of gone above the budget, so the department went back and tried to ensure that they come in within the budget allocated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My next question is: what is the status on the two experimental units that were delivered to Arviat? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would have to get back to the member on that and provide the details. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Assuming that the other 10 percent will be awarded in June, what is the expected final date for completing these two projects? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If he's talking about the SIP units, they won't take very long to complete if they are SIP units. The main delay last year was that some materials were coming in late, but I think we will have a pretty good starting date this spring. I would assume that if they are SIP units, it won't be long before they are completed. No doubt about it, they will be in place before the end of the summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, I'm speaking in regard to all of the units and that includes the five-plexes and duplexes, and whatever that has been involved in these two programs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Mr. Speaker, I will get back to the member on that, but the target dates that have been negotiated with both projects, housing trust remaining houses as well as the Affordable Housing Initiative, hopefully by the end of the year or early next year, we would like to definitely have them completed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 084 – 3(3): Auditor General's Report on Children, Youth and Family Programs

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed towards the Minister of Health and Social Services.

I wanted to ask a question in regard to the report of the Auditor General of Canada that you had tabled on March 8 in regard to children, youth, and family programs and services in Nunavut. I was wondering if the minister could briefly describe what his department is doing to address some of the deficiencies found in the report. Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a very timely report of the Auditor General, which is a very important subject. The report was tabled by the Speaker of this House.

The department is responding and has responded to all of the recommendations also contained in the report. The department is ready to respond to every action required. We will have an action plan in place before too long and there is an interdepartmental committee that is working with us, with the departmental staff, which involves Education, Justice, and so on, because they are overlapping some of the services for the youth programs throughout Nunavut. We are taking this report seriously and we are prepared to deal with it. As I said, we will have a clearly set out action plan.

We are also probably ahead in some ways with respect to the review of the legislation with regard to family and child services. That's progressing well and the final report will likely be submitted to me as the minister shortly. The cabinet is prepared to see the legislation change. I know we are working with the Department of Justice to deal with the actual details of the changes required, but the consultations with all of the groups throughout Nunavut have been completed, particularly 12 communities. As well, we have been consulting with the Inuit organizations. They have been actively involved.

So I think that we are ahead in some ways, but what is contained in the Auditor General's report is really quite

serious and the department has established a working committee to respond, to formulate an action plan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regard to the community consultation that the minister was speaking about and changes with legislation and speaking with the Department of Justice, he didn't specifically say it but is he referring to the review of the *Child and Family Services Act*? Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you. Yes, that's correct, the *Child and Family Services Act* has been a concern to many Nunavutmiut and we are responding. The project managers that I introduced in the House near the end of the month have concluded their report pretty well and we are now awaiting the final recommendations. Once they are in place, the drafting of changes will be made with the help of the Department of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that reply. I know we will probably get more detailed information when the Office of the Auditor General and your department's officials are here in April when we review this.

In particular, one of my concerns that I have raised in a number of occasions,

either by oral questions or through Members' Statements, and I know other MLAs have raised it as well, is the concern of social workers. I have three communities at this time that do not have social workers living within the community. I'm wondering: what's your department doing to get social workers in the communities? Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's a very good and important question. The department is preparing an action plan, which will include advertising and trying to fill the remaining vacant positions. At the moment, I can say to the member that we are working with Human Resources. They have already indicated the screening out number of applications for the various locations and social workers. That will not be the end of it. They actually have a multi-year plan to continue to advertise the positions that are vacant because the positions become vacant almost every month throughout or whatnot.

In terms of the broader plans, we have a plan to engage within our department that we need to establish better training programs for our social workers because they do work in a very complex and isolated location. So these are the kinds of things that we are looking at right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I just want to ask the question

specifically: when do you actually anticipate or when does your department actually anticipate having the positions filled? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Health.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With the help of Human Resources, I believe there are about 18 or 19 social worker vacant positions throughout Nunavut. Our plan is that it will be a multi-year step because, like I said before, sometimes the social workers retire and they leave, so it's never permanently 100 percent filled in any given year, but we are working hard to address the very importance of filling these positions. It is urgent that we do so.

Right now, as we speak, there are position applications that are being screened by our friends from Human Resources and we will respond to them. No doubt about it, some of the offers and final offers after screening the interviews will begin as early as next month. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 085 – 3(3): Bonus Payments to Senior Managers

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed towards the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

I wanted to thank the Premier for quickly tabling the document that I had asked oral questions about. In viewing the tabled document from yesterday, one

of the questions that came up with me is in terms of the way the division of how performance based salary bonuses or merit pay is not totally clear to me. Well, the document actually had a backgrounder in it and it talks about how the government is trying to bring down the... .

With the fiscal restraints and as the minister had mentioned last year in terms of prudence, these senior officials were held back to 4 percent. I guess there are deputy ministers and assistant deputy ministers, and then there are senior managers. My understanding is there are three levels of payment that go out.

In the document, it talks about a cutback of a cap at 4 percent. I was just wondering if the Premier could clarify: was that 4 percent for all of them? In terms of deputy ministers, assistant deputy ministers, and senior managers, were they all at 4 percent? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) In the background, it states what the senior managers are and it is applied to senior managers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So is a deputy minister a senior manager? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. There are no more hands up. (interpretation ends) Item 7. (interpretation) Written Questions. There are no hands up. (interpretation ends) Item 8. (interpretation) Returns to Written Questions. (interpretation ends) Item 9. (interpretation) Replies to Opening Address. (interpretation ends) Item 10. (interpretation) Petitions. (interpretation ends) Item 11. (interpretation) Responses to Petitions. (interpretation ends) Item 12. (interpretation) Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. (interpretation ends) Item 13. (interpretation) Tabling of Documents. Minister of Finance.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 034 – 3(3): Family Abuse Intervention Act Implementation Evaluation

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the *Family Abuse Intervention Act Implementation Evaluation* done by the Genesis Group, February 2010. Thank you.

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

Tabled Document 035 – 3(3): Editorial Kivalliq News

Tabled Document 036 – 3(3): INAC News Release on Nutrition North

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have two documents to table, so I'll do them at the same time.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to table the copy of Darrell Greer's editorial from the *Kivalliq News* posted yesterday. It is in regard to the new Nutrition North Canada Program. Mr. Speaker, the editorial strongly encourages people in Kivalliq communities to take the time to keep food prices in the region up to date on Tony Rose's Nutrition North review website. Mr. Speaker, this is excellent advice and I encourage all Nunavummiut across the territory to closely monitor food prices over the coming months.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to table a copy of yesterday's press release from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada entitled, "Ministers Duncan and Aglukkaq Take Action to Ensure Successful Transition to Nutrition North Canada."

Mr. Speaker, I would like acknowledge the very positive step forward that has been taken by the federal government. It is important, however, that we continue to keep careful watch on the progress of this program and ensure that we continue to provide input and feedback to the Nutrition North Canada Advisory Council on the program's effectiveness. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Tabled Document 037 – 3(3): Nunavut
Emergency Management Annual
Report for 2008**

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Nunavut Emergency Management Annual Report for 2008. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Education.

**Tabled Document 038 – 3(3): 96th
Advisory Committee of Deputy
Ministers of Education and the
98th Meeting of the Council of
Ministers of Education**

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the 96th Advisory Committee of Deputy Ministers of Education and the 98th Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Education. The meeting was held in Winnipeg Manitoba, September 22 to 24, 2010. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. There are no more hands up. (interpretation ends) Item 14. (interpretation) Notices of Motions. Member for Nanulik.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

**Motion 004 – 3(3): Suspension of the
Member for Pangnirtung from
Sittings of the Legislative
Assembly and Meetings of its
Committees and Caucuses – Notice**

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Monday,

March 14, 2011, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for South Baffin, that Mr. Adamee Komoartok, Member for Pangnirtung, be suspended from sittings of the House and meetings of its committees and caucuses until such time as the House reviews the status of this matter at the spring 2011 sitting of the Legislative Assembly and makes a determination as to whether it should extend the suspension, end the suspension, or take other action.

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. Notices of Motions. (interpretation ends) Item 15. (interpretation) Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. (interpretation ends) Item 16. (interpretation) Motions. Member for Nanulik.

Item 16: Motions

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. The member is seeking unanimous consent to deal with his motion today. Are there any nays? There are no nays. You may proceed, Member.

Motion 004 – 3(3): Suspension of the Member for Pangnirtung from Sittings of the Legislative Assembly and Meetings of its Committees and Caucuses

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues.

WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut, by virtue of parliamentary privilege, enjoys the sole prerogative to regulate its own proceedings and internal affairs, including the discipline of members;

AND WHEREAS section 18 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act* provides that the Legislative Assembly has the power to discipline its members;

AND WHEREAS the Member for Pangnirtung has been charged with an offence contrary to the *Criminal Code of Canada*;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly has adopted a motion stating that domestic violence in our homes and communities is unacceptable;

AND WHEREAS the Member for Pangnirtung has already been censured by the House on one occasion for his conduct;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly affirms the right of a member charged with a criminal offence to be presumed innocent until proven guilty according to law;

AND WHEREAS it is the judgment of this House that public trust and confidence in the Legislative Assembly

and the dignity and reputation of the institution are best served if the Member for Pangnirtung does not take part in its proceedings;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for South Baffin, that Mr. Adamee Komoartok, Member for Pangnirtung, be suspended from sittings of the House and meetings of its committees and caucuses until such time as the House reviews the status of this matter at the spring 2011 sitting of the Legislative Assembly and makes a determination as to whether it should extend the suspension, end the suspension, or take other action;

AND FURTHER I MOVE that the Management and Services Board of the Legislative Assembly impose such deductions on the member's indemnities and recoveries of his allowances as it deems appropriate as a consequence of his non-attendance at sittings of the House and meetings of its committees and caucuses;

AND FURTHER I MOVE that the Management and Services Board of the Legislative Assembly impose such restrictions on the member's use of his constituency budget and Legislative Assembly funds as it deems appropriate during the member's suspension.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that a recorded vote be taken on this motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. The motion is in order. To the motion. The member asked for a recorded vote. All those in favour, please stand. We will start off with those in favour of the motion.

Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Kusugak.

Mr. Arreak.

Madam Aariak.

Mr. Taptuna.

Mr. Curley.

Mr. Shewchuk.

Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Schell.

Mr. Elliott.

Madam Ugyuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Ningark.

(interpretation ends) It is a unanimous vote, so the motion is carried.

(interpretation) Thank you.

Motions. (interpretation ends) Item 17.

(interpretation) First Reading of Bills.

(interpretation ends) Item 18.

(interpretation) Second Reading of Bills.

(interpretation ends) Item 19.

(interpretation) Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. The committee will deal with Bills 1, 3, 4, and 5, and Tabled Documents 248 – 3(2), 249 – 3(2), 251 – 3(2), 274 – 3(2), and 275 – 3(2) with the Member for Amittuq in the Chair.

In accordance with the authority provided to me by Motion 1 – 3(3), the Committee of the Whole will stay in session until it reports itself out.

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

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>House recessed at 15:04 and
Committee resumed at 15:38

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

Chairman (Mr. Tapardjuk)

(interpretation): It's good to see you come back. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bills 1, 3, 4, and 5, and Tabled Documents 248 – 3(2), 249 – 3(2), 251 – 3(2), 274 – 3(2), and 275 – 3(2). What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to continue with the review of Bill 1 and commence with the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, followed by the Legislative Assembly, and then we will commence the review of Bills 3, 4, and 5. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Are we in agreement that we will deal with those items?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 01 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2011-2012 – Consideration in Committee – Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. I would now like to ask the Premier to make her opening remarks.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to have this opportunity to present to Committee of the Whole the budget for the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs for 2011-12.

Mr. Chairman, the role of the department includes providing support to cabinet and overall coordination of the work of the public service, including the implementation of the priorities we, as Full Caucus, set out under *Tamapta: Building Our Future Together*. In addition, the department coordinates intergovernmental, circumpolar and aboriginal relations. The department ensures that our responsibilities under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement are implemented.

The department's main estimates total for fiscal year 2011-12 is about \$20 million. This amount is comprised of approximately \$14.1 million for salaries and benefits and \$5.9 million for other operations and maintenance costs. It is an increase of \$2,364,000 from 2010-11.

The most significant change to the department's budget is an increase of \$1,880,000 for the Government Liaison program. This will be used to ensure that all of the government liaison offices are established and functioning across the territory. The staffing of that division

has now begun. A director is now in place and actively working on staffing regional supervisor and the first government liaison officer positions. Those officers will improve our communication with communities and provide increased access to government services for Nunavummiut.

The other major increase of \$297,000 is for the Devolution Division. The funding will be used to create senior research analyst and communications coordinator positions.

Mr. Chairman, devolution is a priority for our government. The process has been stalled for some time and we will continue in our pursuit to get the federal government to appoint a chief negotiator and approve a mandate. In the meantime, my discussions with the Prime Minister and the Minister for Indian and Northern Affairs have focused on beginning negotiations of a non-fiscal agreement in principle as soon as possible.

The other significant change to EIA's budget for this year is the restoration of the Corporate Services Division within the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. With low capacity across the GN, we feel this will be the best way to ensure the effective administration of the department and solid information for management. This is a cost-neutral change as it involves the move of four positions from Finance back to EIA.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening remarks. I welcome your comments and look forward to answering your questions on the EIA business plan for 2011-14 and the main

estimates for 2011-12. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Do you have witnesses that you would like to bring to the table?

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Yes, I do, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Does the committee agree to bring in the witnesses?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Thank you for appearing before the committee. For the record, Premier, please introduce your witnesses.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my left is Markus Weber, Deputy Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, and to my right is Letia Obed, (interpretation ends) Director of Aboriginal and Circumpolar Affairs. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome, Mr. Weber and Ms. Obed. Does the Chair of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts have any opening comments? Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts on its

review of the proposed 2011-12 main estimates and 2011-14 business plan of the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

The standing committee notes that the department's proposed 2011-12 operations and maintenance budget of \$20,020,000 has increased by approximately 10.7 percent since the introduction of the department's 2010-11 main estimates. The number of positions in the department is increasing from 114.5 PYs in 2010-11 to 120.5 PYs in 2011-12.

During the Premier's recent appearance before the standing committee, members took the opportunity to raise a number of issues and concerns.

Mr. Chairman, the department's 2010-11 main estimates included \$2.0 million in new funding for the creation of a new Government Liaison Office. A total of 25.0 new PYs were allocated to the division. The division's proposed budget for 2011-12 is \$3.88 million. The division has been transferred to the department's Intergovernmental Affairs Branch. During the Premier's appearance before the standing committee, members were informed that the department has lapsed most of its 2010-11 budget for the Government Liaison Office, but that efforts are underway to begin the process of filling the government liaison officer positions in communities.

Mr. Chairman, the Commissioner's Address of April 1, 2009 announced the creation of a new Social Advocacy Office, which has been established as a division in the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Two of

the office's priorities for 2011-12 are to "contribute to government initiatives to address issues of gender inequality, homelessness and poverty reduction" and to "Draft legislation necessary for the establishment of a Child and Youth Representative which is relevant to Nunavut's unique culture and changes anticipated to the child protection program." During the Premier's appearance before the standing committee, members received confirmation that the government's intention is that this position will be an independent one.

The standing committee also notes that the department's proposed business plan indicates that "the Social Advocacy Office will provide on-going implementation support to the Department of Health and Social Services" with respect to the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy.

In November of 2010, the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs awarded a contract to the Genesis Group in response to the department's request for proposals to conduct a review of the government's social safety net programs. The standing committee also notes that the Department of Economic Development and Transportation has established an Anti-Poverty Secretariat.

Although the committee recognizes the occasional necessity of engaging external consultants for highly specialized or technical projects, it stresses the importance of ensuring that the subsequent development of core government policy in such fundamentally important areas as poverty reduction be led by individuals who will ultimately be accountable for

its implementation and who live in the jurisdiction where its results will be measured. The standing committee also stresses the importance of ensuring that the final reports and recommendations emerging from the work of consultants in such areas be tabled in the Legislative Assembly so that all members have the opportunity to review their work.

Mr. Chairman, the 2006 Report of the Auditor General to the Legislative Assembly recommended that the GN review aspects of its decentralized financial structure. On January 14, 2011, the GN issued a request for proposals for a "Functional Review of Decentralization." The request for proposals for this review indicates that a final report is due by June 15, 2011. The standing committee again emphasizes the importance of ensuring that the final reports and recommendations emerging from the work of consultants in such areas be tabled in the Legislative Assembly so that all members have the opportunity to review their work.

The standing committee also notes that both the recent Commissioner's Address and the Budget Address announced that the government will undertake a review of its structure. The Budget Address indicated that the review will consider "the number of departments and agencies, their mandates and organizational designs." Members support this initiative and note that a number of specific suggestions have been raised in the House and other forums concerning priority areas for review.

The standing committee notes the importance of the government resuming the practice of tabling an annual report

in the Legislative Assembly on the administration of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Mr. Chairman, there is still no formal system in place for the registration of lobbyists in Nunavut. A recent annual report of the Integrity Commissioner suggested that “The value of lobbyist regulation, introduced by other jurisdictions, might be considered.” Further work in this area could complement the government’s plans to introduce a new *Public Service Act* and a Code of Values and Ethics.

Mr. Chairman, the department’s proposed 2011-12 budget for the Energy Secretariat is \$690,000. Although the department’s proposed 2010-13 business plan indicated that the implementation plan for the Government of Nunavut’s Energy Strategy was to have been completed and approved before the end of the 2009-2010 fiscal year, it has not yet been tabled in the Legislative Assembly.

The standing committee looks forward to the government clarifying whether it will move forward on the potential initiatives that are included in its Energy Strategy, including “a five percent reduction target for government-related travel, the testing of hybrid vehicles, public transportation in Iqaluit, and graduated registration fees based on the size of vehicle engines.”

On November 1, 2007, the provisions in the *Qulliq Energy Corporation Act* providing for the creation of an Affordable Energy Fund came into force. Its purpose is to “subsidize the cost of energy or otherwise make energy

more affordable.” The Government of Nunavut’s Energy Strategy, which was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on October 30, 2007, indicates that this fund is to be managed by the Department of Finance. However, none of the GN’s 2011-14 departmental business plans make any reference to the Affordable Energy Fund. The standing committee looks forward to the government clarifying its plans in this area.

On September 5, 2009, the governments of Nunavut, the Northwest Territories, and the Yukon released a joint communiqué announcing the renewal of the Northern Cooperation Accord for a five-year term. Members support the Premier in her efforts to effectively represent Nunavut’s priorities with respect to arctic sovereignty and pan-territorial initiatives.

Mr. Chairman, the Clyde River Protocol between the Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated was signed in 1999. A new agreement was signed between the parties in early 2004. The department’s 2010-13 business plan indicated that “Based on direction from the NTI board and the Government of Nunavut’s *Tamapta*, drafting is well underway for a new protocol for working together. The protocol is expected to be signed in the 09-10 fiscal year.” Members continue to look forward to this document being tabled in the Legislative Assembly and note that the department’s proposed 2011-14 business plan indicates that one of its priorities for the upcoming fiscal year is to “renew a GN-NTI protocol.”

The standing committee supports a positive working relationship between

the GN and NTI. At the same time, it is incumbent on the government to be clear and candid with MLAs and the general public concerning the rationale for its own position in areas where the two parties may have disagreements on specific issues.

The standing committee supports ongoing efforts on the part of the government to challenge the European Union ban on the import of seal products. Last year, news media reports indicated that the Premier had opposed granting observer status to the European Union at meetings of the Arctic Council. During the Premier's recent appearance before the standing committee, members asked whether this strong and praiseworthy stance was still the official position of the government. The Premier indicated to members that she had not indicated otherwise to date. Members urge the Premier to remain firm in this matter.

The standing committee notes with approval the recent establishment of the GN's Interdepartmental Nutrition North Canada Subsidy Monitoring Committee and encourages the Premier to update the Legislative Assembly on the status of its work at the spring sitting of the House.

Mr. Chairman, this month's Budget Address stated that "A devolution agreement would bring us royalty payments on our natural resources, but it may be many years before we can bank that money." Although the department's business plan indicates that one of its priorities for the 2011-12 fiscal year is to "Finalize a devolution Agreement in Principle (AIP) with the Government of Canada and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, pending the conclusion of

negotiations," members recognize that the federal government has not yet appointed a devolution negotiator and question how realistic this goal actually is. Members also note that NTI's ongoing lawsuit against the Government of Canada in relation to the implementation of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement further complicates devolution negotiations.

In 2009-2010, there were five positions in the department's Devolution Branch. An additional two positions were added in 2010-11. Two more positions are proposed to be added in 2011-12, which will increase the size of the branch to nine positions. The department is projecting to add an additional three positions in 2012-13, bringing the total size of the branch to 12 positions. The budget for the branch is proposed to be increased from \$1,219,000 in 2010-11 to \$1,516,000 in 2011-12. It is projected to increase to \$2,404,000 in the 2013-14 fiscal year, which represents an increase of almost 100 percent from its 2010-11 budget. Given that formal devolution negotiations have not yet commenced, it is not immediately clear why this branch requires such significant increases in its budget and staffing at this time.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2011-12 main estimates and 2011-14 business plan of the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Schell. Before we go to the page-by-page review, are there any general questions on the opening comments? Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask Madam Premier if she can give us her definition of what devolution is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Schell. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member for the question. Devolution means to give more authority to Nunavut. At the present time, the provinces have more authority over how they run their finances and programs. We don't have that kind of authority like the provinces. Devolution would mean that we would have similar programs that provinces deliver and the resources our land that come from through royalties would be paid to the Nunavut government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. I don't have any names. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to refer to the amounts listed on page 2. It states that this line item will be funded to the tune of \$297,000 for the Devolution Division. Is this based on the premise that the federal government will be appointing a chief negotiator?

Furthermore, we hear the position of the government that the reason why this process is stalled is because the federal government has not appointed a chief negotiator. Now, with respect to this \$297,000 budget line item, is it not a little premature to fund this line item when the federal government has not even appointed their chief negotiator? Is our government basing this upon a future

appointment of a chief negotiator for this process? Is the appointment expected very soon? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member for asking about this issue. It is quite important, especially as a government, to try to work towards self-sufficiency via devolution of powers as it would give this government more powers to provide more benefits to Nunavummiut. Furthermore, we want to make this a priority and to lobby the federal government to appoint a chief negotiator.

As the Nunavut government, we have already appointed a chief negotiator for this process. Additionally, with respect to the whole devolution process, we are collaborating with our partner, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. They are very supportive of our efforts to start up this process and they have already appointed their negotiator for devolution talks. Both this government and NTI are already prepared for the start-up of this process, but we are waiting for our third party. The federal government has yet to appoint a chief negotiator, and we continue to urge and lobby them to appoint a chief negotiator so that we can move this file forward.

At this time, we are making preparations so that we are ready with funds allocated and employees hired to look after this process. We are lobbying the federal government to appoint a chief negotiator, which could happen anytime, and we would want to be ready as soon as that appointment is made. We don't

want to initiate our preparations at the time when the appointment is made, as it would take some time to get everything ready if we didn't do some preparatory work. Funding allocations take time to get approved and it has to be tied into the legislative approval process. We want to be ready to immediately start once the appointment is made.

With respect to my discussions with the federal government on this file, we will continue to lobby them to finalize their appointment. My expectations are that the federal government will eventually hear our wishes to move forward, especially if they want to see Nunavut succeed. If they wish Nunavut to be a successful partner in confederation, then our wishes to become a larger partner via this devolution file becomes very important. I will continue to work on our attempts to make devolution a priority for this government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the Premier for her statement as we are asked to approve almost \$300,000 for the Devolution Division. You mentioned that you are in continuing dialogue with your federal counterparts and I imagine this includes the INAC department.

Do you have an approximate timeframe for the federal government to appoint a chief negotiator for the devolution process? Are we talking about less than five years that the federal government will be appointing their chief negotiator for devolutions talks? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We want to see them appoint a chief negotiator in less than five years, but this government is already prepared for this process to begin. However, the federal government is still dragging their feet on this issue simply by not appointing a chief negotiator. We expect that by continual lobbying on our part, the federal government will make their appointment in less than five years. I can only have expectations at this point since there is no chief negotiator that can initiate the process.

I have held discussions with the INAC minister as well as the Prime Minister on this issue. They have both given their initial approval to jumpstart this file by approving the budget item. Even prior to the start of negotiations, we are discussing ways on jumpstarting this file. Even though the federal government has not appointed a chief negotiator, we are looking at ways to initiate the process without the negotiations. A checklist to jumpstart the process seems to be something they can commit to. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank Madam Premier for her response. I would like to ask about this other issue. With respect to the GLO position, we are pleased that this position is being created as it creates a new position in the communities and we look forward to these positions being filled. What about the MLO positions?

I believe that most of the MLO positions will remain, but my question is this: do you already have identified office space for the GLO positions in the communities? We really want to get these GLO positions, but I wonder if it will be at the expense of the MLO positions. Will you be replacing the MLO positions with these GLO positions or will they share offices? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is another very pertinent question. Here in Nunavut, we have 25 communities that are eagerly expecting the establishment of these positions. In the *Qanukkanniq* Report Card, it was identified as a very strong need that the communities wanted established, especially based on the past experiences of the people when this position used to be part of the government operations in the communities. Many people reminisced about the benefits of this position when it was previously maintained by the government.

Our expectations are that this position will provide a good service to our residents, communities, and indeed this government. At this time, we are working on the preparations for establishing these positions. Our coordinator is extremely busy with the work. At this time, I have coined these positions in Inuktitut as “Tuqqaqtarviit,” which means grassroots positions. We will have to eventually come up with a proper Inuktitut term for the GLO position, but the director has already been hired and that person is extremely

busy with all of the work required to get this process underway.

Furthermore, the job descriptions and the job advertisements have been completed. It will be structured in this manner: each community will have the GLO position, which is the main point of contact between the government and its residents. We will also have three regional coordinators responsible for each region. The Kitikmeot, Kivalliq, and Qikiqtaaluk regions will have these coordinator positions and we will have the headquarters based here in Iqaluit. This position has already been filled and the person is working to complete the procedural paperwork, including the job descriptions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): The Chairman stated that we should wait until we get to the page-by-page review to ask detailed questions with respect to the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, so I'll wait until then, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. That was just a comment. He will ask questions during the detailed review. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. He sort of asked this question. The RFPs will go out this week and the RFPs will go to the smaller communities first concerning the office spaces. Also, for office equipment, such as furniture and computers, all of these resources are being sent to the communities as they become available.

You mentioned something about MLOs, or municipal liaison officers, Mr. Ningark. I would like to say that I am very grateful to the hamlet councils in the communities. They have wholeheartedly supported our process and they have even worked with the government to set aside an office space for the GLOs. The previous offices of the MLOs will be set aside to be used for the GLOs. Every single community will have a specific job description according to their needs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. When we go to the page-by-page review, we will have more questions. I have no more names on my list. B-4. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Directorate. \$3,553,000. Do you agree? Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Premier: who picks the deputy ministers for the departments? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Schell. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have a (interpretation ends) Senior Personnel Secretariat (interpretation) comprising of the Premier, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Human Resources, and the Government House Leader. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Who decides which deputy minister goes

to which portfolio? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Schell. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): The (interpretation ends) Senior Personnel Secretariat (interpretation) discusses amongst each other and decides. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Has the Premier or the secretariat or whoever decides on the deputy minister ever discussed with the minister when he received the deputy minister if that particular deputy minister is compatible for the portfolio? Have they ever discussed it with the minister if he was happy with it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Schell. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Supplement to my comment earlier, the deputy ministers who are appointed to their positions... (interpretation ends) The ultimate decision is by the Premier, but I prefer working with the Senior Personnel Secretariat, and we discuss the suitability and so on with the Senior Personnel Secretariat. (interpretation) Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know. The reason I'm saying that is I think it would be of great help if the

Premier would discuss it with the minister. If there's an issue with it, why should the minister work with the deputy minister who is not suitable for that department? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Schell. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have never been told or complained to about a minister not being happy with their deputy minister. The only thing that I have heard complaints about is the deputy minister not happy with their staff, but I have never had complaints from ministers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Thank you, Mr. Schell. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just had some questions in regard to the social advocate's office. I believe there are supposed to be four positions filled for that office. I'm wondering if all positions are filled at this time. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The three PYs are in place and the fourth is on as a casual. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe one of the mandates of the social advocate's office is to work towards

setting up the independent child and youth representative. I'm just wondering if you could explain in terms of a timeline and how you see that rolling out in terms of when you see the policy set up and the independent body actually established. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I can backtrack a bit to part of Mr. Schell's question, I stated it was four positions, but it's just three and the third one is casual, just to amend my response.

With respect to the independent child and youth representative in the question posed by Mr. Elliott, we are still working on the issues related to this office. As I stated previously, the Social Advocacy Office would be in place by 2014 and this is still following our timeline. The position that we stated would be filled by 2013 is still ongoing according to our plans. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again I had a little confusion in terms of the way it was explained. So there are three people working in the office, which is fine, and that was another question.

Specifically with child and youth representative, in *Tamapta* and the Budget Address, it was talking about an independent child and youth representative away from the

department. When do you foresee that established? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's going to be the same year, 2013. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. I have no more names on my list. We're on B-4. \$3,553,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We're now on B-5. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Statistical Services. \$814,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Policy and Communications. \$2,929,000. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have some questions about the functional review that's happening within the department. There will be an implementation of it, I think, in May. In your department's business plan on page 20, I believe it's the first bullet, it says, "Coordinate the implementation of improvements in response to the functional review of decentralized offices." The first question would be: has that review been completed? Again, there is no sense in asking how the implementation is going if it hasn't been completed. Has that been completed? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to this issue, we have identified the successful candidate for this position and they will be working on the preparations for initiating this process. We expect to have it completed by June 2011 or some time this spring.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So then again, the implementation for this would not start probably until September of 2011. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to these issues that need to be studied, once the issues have been detailed out, we will be able to start identifying the timeframe, the action items that need to be completed, and other requirements. We expect the action plan will be nearing completion by this fall. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, what types of things...? Obviously, if the review is not completed yet, you can't tell us what the results are, but if a contractor was contracted to do the job of performing the functional review, you must have gave them some type of marching orders to tell them what to look at and what

they should be working towards. What did you actually tell this consulting firm to do and look at as part of the functional review? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This government received its advice through the consultations with the general public on the *Qanukkanniq* Report Card process. We asked for the comments from the public as to what this government ought to be working on and to see what other services the public wanted offered. We also canvassed the decentralized communities to find out what was working, what required improvement, and what needed to be revised. That is what we requested from our residents.

The questions posed by the *Qanukkanniq* Report Card revealed what the public wanted in terms of the programs and services offered by this government. These recommendations will be similar to some of the comments made here, but it identifies what priorities this government should be working towards to improve government operations and which areas of programs and services need to be improved or changed. We're going to be working on that review this spring. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So does this functional review actually look at the structure of the different departments of the Government of

Nunavut? Some of the things that were suggested over the past couple of weeks were the idea of the separation of Health and Social Services to have Health in one department and Social Services in another department, as well as there was the idea of CLEY being divided up, and if you're looking at Education, maybe the Income Support Division being put somewhere else. Is this part of it as well or is that a totally separate issue? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. All of them are within the review. The functional review is to improve the programs and services of the Nunavut government, especially in decentralized communities. As Iqaluit is the capital, we're going to be reviewing everything that is in reference to the capital. After the functional review, we will understand what needs to be changed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Premier talked about everything being in the capital. My understanding is that possibly what the review could have done is look at positions and where the positions are, and whether they're scattered across the territory or centralized, like what the Nunavut Housing Corporation has already done in terms of announcing that seven positions were being removed from Arviat to be brought here to Iqaluit. Is that part of the review as well? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) That is the case. I was talking about decentralization. What is working? What is not working? Decentralization is very much in line with what *Qanukkanniq* report was requesting for the government to do. We have initiated Oliver Wyman Limited as the consulting group. I will be happy to provide updates to the House as progress occurs. (interpretation) Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The GN has approximately 459 decentralized positions. I would like to know how many of these positions are vacant as of today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Schell. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We don't have the information that the member is requesting. I'm sorry. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In January of this year, the government announced that NHC's finance division will be relocated from the corporation headquarters in Arviat to its directorate here in Iqaluit. I would like to know how many positions are currently filled by Arviat beneficiaries. Will the

government transfer new positions to Arviat from other departments to compensate for this move? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Schell. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have that information with me. It's also included in the transfer of positions to anywhere. They will be included in the functional review of decentralization review.

I can tell you now that the decentralized positions in the communities have gone beyond the number of positions. Once the decentralization review has been completed, it will become clear as to how many positions are vacant. I hope I'm coming across, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. I have no more names on my list. B-6. Policy and Communications. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. \$2,929,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Nunavut Cabinet. \$4,698,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Commissioner of Nunavut. \$292,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We will go to B-9. Intergovernmental Affairs. \$5,730,000. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When Mr. Ningark was questioning the Premier on the GLO and MLO positions in the communities, she didn't fully answer his question. He asked if the GLO positions were replacing the MLO positions in the community. Can the Premier confirm which way it will be? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's going to be at the discretion of the municipality. With regard to this issue, I believe there are four communities that would like to change that. Markus Weber can make a supplementary response as to how many they are. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Weber.

Mr. Weber: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The community gets to make the decision as to whether they want to keep the municipal liaison officer in addition to the government liaison officer or whether they want to give up the MLO position in favour of the GLO. We have a director of the Government Liaison program who is actively going to communities, meeting with the hamlet councils, and providing further information.

To date, we have received four letters from four communities that have confirmed that their councils have

resolved to not keep the municipal liaison officer, but that's four communities so far out of all of them and we don't have a decision yet from the other councils. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Weber. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Which four communities have confirmed that they will remove their MLO positions? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Mr. Weber.

Mr. Weber: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The four communities that have confirmed so far are the communities of Qikiqtarjuaq, Repulse Bay, Coral Harbour, and Kugaaruk. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Weber. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know when your department first introduced the idea of GLOs back in the communities, one of the concerns we had was the fact that we did not want to lose any positions from our communities. I thought at the time you reassured us that we would not be losing any positions in our communities and the GLO would be an additional job in our communities. So now, in reality, we are actually losing a half-time position that the municipalities already have. So I'm wondering if the Premier can explain why this has changed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank you for the question. We have left it at the discretion of the community hamlets and each municipality has the opportunity to set it up in that manner, but the recommendations just state what the wishes were. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So if a community is giving up the position of their MLOs and replacing them with the GLOs, are you taking away the funding from the municipality that they presently have for the MLOs or is the municipality allowed to keep that funding? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the duties are parallel to those of the GLO, as listed in the job descriptions, then they would assume those duties. Based on what I know, this is the case. If Mr. Weber wishes to supplement my response, I welcome him to do so.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Weber, would you like to make a supplementary?

Mr. Weber: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our position has been throughout that the community would decide whether to keep the municipal liaison officer or have both positions.

It really does vary by community because the amount of funding is varied as well. I don't have the exact numbers, but it's in the range of \$30,000 to \$70,000 per community that was being provided for the municipal liaison officer position. The duties of that individual have also varied, as has the person who was in the position, and because of that, this really is a decision for the community to make.

We have enough services for government liaison officers to deliver in addition to an MLO. It's just that the duties of an MLO really do vary by community as well. In most communities, the issuance of driver's licences is part of those duties, but other than that, it really does vary. Some are doing duties primarily for the hamlet and less Government of Nunavut work, so that is the reason that this decision has been left with them.

We can provide the job description for the government liaison officer to the members if they're interested to see the difference between the two, but ultimately the decision has been left with the community. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Weber. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not sure if I got the answer or if I missed it. I'm sorry if I did miss it, but I asked if the communities will be keeping the dollars for the MLO position if they decide to go with the GLO only. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Markus will respond to that question. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Weber.

Mr. Weber: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The funding to the communities is not provided through the Government Liaison Office, it's provided through the Department of Community and Government Services.

Our understanding when the question was being proposed to the hamlets was that the funding would be given up if they decided not keep the municipal liaison officer. Not in these four communities that I mentioned but in at least one other one, that decision had been made before the government liaison officer position was proposed simply because there were some difficulties as well with the administration of a position that was providing primarily Government of Nunavut services being administered by the hamlet and they had chosen, in any event, to give up the MLO.

We haven't looked behind the hamlet's decision on this, but essentially yes, the funding would be given up at the time that they decide to give up the position. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Weber. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Being from a non-decentralized community where every job counts in your community, it's probably in our best interest to just advise your department that we don't

want to give up our MLO and that way, it keeps another half-time job in our communities, the way we originally thought this program was going to work. So I'll be advising my municipality to make an additional position. Thank you. That was just a comment.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. That wasn't a question, it was just a comment, but I'll give you an opportunity to make a comment, Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The concern expressed by the member is quite relevant in this situation. We are concerned about the smaller, non-decentralized communities and every job that can be created in them ought to be looked at, especially when we have a number of positions. The communities would be able to retain the MLO positions, but again, it is at their discretion. We are also interested in increasing the number of positions in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to these four hamlets that have already identified that they will be giving up their MLO positions, were they apprised of the job description of the GLO position?

Similar to Mr. Rumbolt's comments, I thought that the GLO position was a GN position and separate from the hamlet. That is what I thought I understood with respect to this position when we first started hearing about the GLO positions.

The reason why I was satisfied with the creation of this position was because this would create a GN position that would benefit the non-decentralized communities. Even a half-time position really benefits the smaller communities.

It makes me wonder whether or not the municipalities totally comprehended the status of the GLO position. It raises some questions. Since the GLO position will be established by the GN, it is set to be the liaison between the GN and the communities, and it would also be the basis for communicating information to the communities. That is how we envisioned the position, that it would be a liaison between the GN and the communities and this was based upon the information we were given.

Did you ensure that the communities had a copy of the job description for the GLO position prior to them removing their MLO positions? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The person I mentioned who had been hired as the director is already working at their position. As I mentioned, that person is quite busy and he will be touring the communities to divulge the information related to this process. The director will negotiate with the communities in order to come to a complete understanding on the position and the job description.

As I stated, the job description for the director as well as the regional supervisor positions have been completed. The director will be bringing

the GLO job description to the communities to facilitate the discussions and to meet with municipal officials and their councils. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That was the reason why I raised that question. With four communities already confirming their decision to remove their MLO position, isn't it a bit late to be sending the director to explain the GLO position to the communities? That doesn't seem sensible to me. In my estimation, it would have been better for the communities to fully grasp the job description of the GLO prior to making their decision to remove the MLO, especially when they are debating how the position will be structured in their community.

The entire matter is becoming more confusing since one of the hamlets I represent within my constituency was mentioned. I'm not questioning the judgement of the hamlet council and of their decision to remove their MLO position. However, it raises a red flag and more questions. I wonder if the hamlets were hoodwinked into making their decision to remove the MLO positions without actually reviewing the GLO job description. It seems that so far, only a paper exercise has been undertaken, without any real debate or discussion on the matter. It makes me wonder whether or not they made a fully informed decision with respect to this issue. Was that indeed the case? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As we continue to maintain, this government takes the position that communication is the most important aspect of our work. The director of GLO positions continues to discuss this matter with the municipalities. I believe that the director for GLO positions has discussed the issue with the four communities that you referred to. I'm sure he has already communicated with them.

With respect to the member's concern about whether the municipalities made a well-informed decision on this matter, as per his previous assessment, I will have to look into that to see if that was the case. However, based on my belief, I know that the director has started communicating with the communities. With respect to the discussions with the hamlets, they had confirmed to remove the MLOs. I will have my officials look into it to make sure that the community understood fully and that they have the full information. Just like the member, I do want to find that out too. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One other thing that I don't fully understand right now too has to do with Mr. Weber mentioning that it will vary community by community. My original understanding of the GLO position was to be equal to all communities, having the same job description to serve for the purpose of being a communicator between the

community and the government. Why would they vary in pay and job description when they're mandated to be the communicator? I just don't get it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The pay level will not vary. The main functions will be the same, but because of unique circumstances in each community, we have allowed some sort of custom need services to address the needs of the community. The main functions and the pay levels will be the same. I have indicated to all of the members before that that's how it was going to be, that it will be tailored to each community. I have mentioned that before. This is to make sure that the needs of the communities are met through the GLO. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the record, can the Premier tell me that this GLO position will be a government position, not a hamlet position? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) It will be 100 percent Government of Nunavut employee. (interpretation) Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On that basis, I was one of the ones who were heavily supporting this concept believing that was a new position for the community without deleting any other positions that would be affecting the community that it's going to serve. So my belief the moment the Premier introduced this job, the GLO position concept, had been that, believing no position was going to be eliminated, and then this position would be put in place.

So I'm hoping that the communities that we serve would have that understanding as well and make adjustments, if necessary, to properly incorporate this position into the community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. I didn't hear a question, but if you wish to respond, Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
(interpretation ends) As I said before, the decisions were made by the hamlets. We did not ask them to delete the half-time position. It was the decision by the hamlet and if the hamlet wishes to reconsider their decision on that, they're more than welcome to do so as well.
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the idea of

reintroducing MLOs to the communities, I was very reluctant to take part in it and I think Mr. Ningeongan knows about that. When I finally understood what was happening, to me, it meant a new position, an extra job in the community. It sounded like a good idea at the time, but today, I feel used and misled. If my language is inappropriate, I stand corrected, Mr. Chairman.

We were never told that the decision would be up to each community. We knew at the time the decision and the idea was coming from Intergovernmental Affairs. Today I don't know. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. I didn't hear a question and it was just a comment, but I give you the floor if you want to make a comment, Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe I ought to try to provide more information so that it can be clearer. The GLO position was expressly recommended as part of the *Qanukkanniq* Report Card process and based on that, the GN moved to create the GLO position in every community.

However, in following the principles of collaboration, cooperation, and partnership, we provide the municipalities with a voice on issues that impact them. We don't arbitrarily force anything on the hamlets and we don't want to impose this position on them. We are working in partnership with the hamlets; at least that is our goal and intention. Based on what I have heard from the municipalities, some of them are very grateful for the creation of the

GLO position. Based on my expectations, we will continue to push forward the partnership with the municipalities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): I'm not trying to belittle the hamlets that have made their decision on this matter as they operate in the best interests of their residents.

If our esteemed Madam Premier had bothered to inform us on the details that she has provided today when this issue first surfaced, it would have led to less misunderstanding and everyone would have been on the same page. I wonder why the Premier didn't speak to these issues when the GLO position was first debated with the information she has provided today to the members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would hope that the member recalls my previous remarks about how the process would be laid out. I stated that we would work closely with the hamlet councils and that the hamlets would have full discretion with respect to this position. I have stated that in the past and I continue to voice my position that we have to work with the hamlet councils. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank Madam Premier. I recall the statements that this new position would be created, but not at the expense of the MLO position. We were told that the MLO would not be removed, that their offices would not be taken over, but that the GLO was a new position that would work alongside the MLO position. That is how the regular members recall the previous information that was provided to them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. I don't believe you raised a question in your comment, but I give you the discretion to respond if you wish, Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to the concern expressed by the member, I'm trying hard to understand the basis for the concern.

In the communities, every position in their municipality is an important one. With the four communities that have expressed their desire to remove their MLO position, it was left at their discretion and I would like to note that all the rest did not take that position. The communities have decided that they will get that one position to look after the duties of the liaison officer. This still stands at this time.

However, each hamlet council had to make their own decisions based on their negotiations with the GN, and that is how they arrived at their decisions. As I stated earlier, these communities can rescind their earlier decision if they wish to do so. They have full discretion on the decision.

I certainly hope that my message is coming across. If the member would like a more detailed response, I can meet with the member outside of the session. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): If I understood it in the beginning when it was first introduced, I would be in a better position to accept it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. I believe that was just a comment. Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question in regard to the Northwest Passage. Taloyoak is right on the Northwest Passage and we hear that the Northwest Passage is in international waters. Is that true? If the Northwest Passage was in international waters and we are informed that they would analyze the seabed to make sure where the boundaries are... I think it was last year that Pond Inlet residents were very much in opposition to the seismic testing. Do you know if they are going to do any seismic testing for looking at the seabed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to this issue, many Nunavummiut have been concerned about these initiatives. However, the question arises as to who owns the oceans as it is under the

jurisdiction of the federal government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): I apologize. The issue relates to the proposed research on seabed geology, especially the boundary that delineates the Nunavut territory. We know that the Northwest Passage belongs to Canadians, but the international position is that the Northwest Passage is international waters. Even Russia and the European Union are interested in the Northwest Passage. So I just wanted to get that clarification. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Canadian government really wants ownership of the waters, but it's up to the federal government how they deal with sovereignty in the Northwest Passage. That is an ongoing discussion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do you have discussions with the federal government? Is there going to be any seismic testing going on to see how far the seabed goes or how it is connected to our land? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm wondering what you're talking about, the seabed. Can you clarify what your question is? I didn't quite understand what you're saying. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Can you rephrase your question, Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I understand from the media or that they need to do mapping of the seabed and how it's attached to Canada. They want to do some seismic testing. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, it is under the jurisdiction of the Canadian government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Again, it's under the jurisdiction of the Canadian government. They are responsible for the testing, if they have to. Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you. I want to be a Canadian as well as a Nunavummiuq. Since they are fighting over the Northwest Passage, we want to stay in Canada. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you for the clarification. We will get more information as it evolves. That wasn't a question. Ms. Ugyuk, anything else? Ms. Ugyuk, go ahead.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My other question is on devolution.

Chairman (interpretation): We are not yet on the devolution page. We're going to talk about devolution on page B-11. We're now under (interpretation ends) Intergovernmental Affairs, B-9. (interpretation) You can ask your question on devolution when we get to that page. We're now dealing with (interpretation ends) Intergovernmental Affairs. (interpretation) Is that it, Ms. Ugyuk?

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): I apologize. I made a mistake since I seem to be ahead of everyone. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> *Laughter*

Chairman (interpretation): Indeed, everyone has to go through a learning process as a member and only by participating can you learn, so you don't have to apologize. I wanted to tell you that, Ms. Ugyuk. Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to go back to these MLO positions that Mr. Rumbolt and Mr. Ningeongan brought up. I do remember in a committee meeting when we brought the issue up that if the hamlet wanted to eliminate the MLOs, if they were still going to be able to keep the money and at that time, the answer was yes.

I'm assuming these four communities that have made the decision to get rid of the MLOs assumed that they could keep the money. So my suggestion is if the Premier could write to all four of these communities that rejected their MLOs

and to everybody else and explain to them that if they eliminate their MLOs, they lose the money because I don't think they understood. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Schell. I didn't hear a question but just a suggestion to the department. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank you for your suggestion and we will look at it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again I have maybe a couple of questions on the MLO positions.

Mr. Weber mentioned that one of the functions of the GLO was going to be the issuing of driver's licences. One of the biggest issues in the communities right now is driver's licences and obtaining them. It's not the municipalities' fault. It's not the employees' fault. It's the process of getting a driver's licence in a community and right now, it's taking up to a year. I know people who are still waiting since May of last year and still don't have their driver's licence or their ID cards. With the introduction of this GLO position, how do you anticipate that it's going to improve the process of obtaining a driver's licence? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for your question. The position will be under the Nunavut government. All of the resources and equipment will be made available to the position. They can also refer their questions about licences to the GLO. Since they will be our employee, I think they will be able to get faster access to information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The biggest issue with the driver's licence is getting the photo from the municipality to Iqaluit for verification that the photo is actually good. If it's not good, they use the mail system in order to return the disc back to the community so a new picture can be taken. Will the GLO be able to take the picture in the community and send it electronically to Iqaluit so that the process can be sped up? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) That is a very good suggestion, and we are always looking for best possible efficient means of doing our business with our communities and the government. I'm sure the department responsible for the issuing of licences and perhaps the GLO position can work something out to make sure that... I think the department responsible is already looking into improving and speeding that up anyway, but that is a very good issue to deal with

as well with the GLO. (interpretation)
Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did present this same question or one of my colleagues, I'm not sure if it was me or one of my colleagues, to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation. I think he said that he was hoping, when the GLO position was introduced, that we would be able to send the files electronically, which would hopefully speed up this process. So I would encourage the two departments to look into doing this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. I didn't hear a question, but if you would like to respond, Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I will commit to do that. (interpretation) Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Rumbolt, is that it? Thank you. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to go back to some of the questions that Ms. Ugyuk was asking in terms of internal waters and international waters. I think one of the things that Ms. Ugyuk was getting at was the fact that Intergovernmental Affairs, your department, works with the federal government on sort of promoting whether the Northwest Passage is considered international waters or

whether it's considered internal waters. One of the things that we were curious to find out is: what is your department doing to promote the fact that it is internal waters within Canada in your discussions with the federal government at the table when you're talking to Minister Duncan or the Prime Minister? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I think that devolution is so important to us because it is in the protocol to discuss those things. Canada asserts its Canadian waters. I mean it's something that is very important for our government, for me, to speak to our counterparts with Government of Canada and it would certainly be part of the devolution protocol. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott, just to remind you, we're going to talk about devolution on page B-11, so you can refer your questions to that time. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I could, but still again I'm confused because I'm not actually talking about devolution, I'm talking about the minister's department going to the federal government under Intergovernmental Affairs and talking to other agencies or federal bodies or even circumpolar issues. That's not all based on devolution. To me, that's something separate in terms of what the Government of Nunavut and her

department does on a day-to-day basis. So I still would like an answer as to whether this is something that the Premier and her department does. Maybe not specifically the Premier but within her department, do they talk about this in terms of discussions when they're dealing with the federal government? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Certainly, and devolution is a way that Canada can exercise its sovereignty in the Arctic. That's why I mentioned devolution. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My light wasn't coming on. I guess then at the other... .

>> *Laughter*

Again getting back to the idea of internal waters and international waters, I know there was a delegation from Greenland here and the Premier from Greenland was here as well. When the delegation came back in February from Greenland, I had a discussion with them. It was comforting to know that they, and they being the delegation from Greenland, said that they support Nunavut and Canada's claim that it is internal waters.

I'm just wondering: is there some type of agreement between your department and Greenland with the talks that you

have been having in terms of a shared directional statement on that fact, that we as the Government of Nunavut and them as Greenland recognized that this is internal waters?

I think one of the things that the Government of Canada is doing, in the reading and research I have done, is trying in every way to show sovereignty and the fact that it's internal waters by the activity of DND and the military exercises that go on, and a lot of this stuff that we see happening in the High Arctic is part of that. It would be nice to see the Government of Nunavut working alongside with another country as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I don't know the level of discussions between Canada and Greenland in regard to that, but this is certainly something Greenland and Canada agree with, the fact that the shared waters are important and has direct connections to both sides. I will continue to illustrate to our government that it is important and we should be taking part in those discussions.

The governments between Greenland and Canada, I know it's their role to discuss those, but we also have a responsibility as the Government of Nunavut to portray our position to Canada, which is in line with, I think, what the Greenland delegation discussed when they were here. (interpretation) I hope that was understandable. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to shift and ask questions now back about the GLOs. Originally, about a year ago, we approved a budget and there was some controversy over whether approving or not approving it. \$2 million was given to your department to hire 15 people and we were led to believe that by this time this year, 15 Government of Nunavut employees would be in 15 communities across the territory. At this point, there are zero Government of Nunavut employees across the territory. First, I would like to know how many people have actually been hired under the GLO mandate for the \$2 million. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This year, we will use \$319,000 for the GLO positions. We now have a director of GLO and (interpretation ends) three supervisors for the three regions are almost completed in staffing. One is in a staffing process and the other two are not yet on strength. The director of GLO is very actively working with staffing the non-decentralized communities first before we take on the decentralized communities. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again it was asked before, but I don't think it was actually totally clarified. I know, through the Speaker, last year we

had requested a number of times the job description for the GLO. Is the job description for the GLO now complete and will we be getting a copy? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Yes, the job description for GLOs is complete. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the other things that you had said when you were answering some of the other MLAs' questions was special regulations or special exceptions for different communities. I'm just wondering: what are some of the special exceptions or regulations for communities? In terms of Grise Fiord being a smaller community, is one of the special exceptions the fact that it's a half-time position instead of a full-time position? What did you mean by that? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't really work on every detail of completion. (interpretation ends) As far as I understand, Grise Fiord has one full-time position. All of the positions are full-time positions. Thank you, *Iksivautaaq*.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again changing the subject, I was curious to find out in terms of... I guess this is the wrong area to ask the question. With all of the information that has been flying around and the announcement from yesterday with Minister Duncan and our MP, is this the department or the area that you deal with Nutrition North, that committee that was set up to monitor and watch the program? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am happy to say that the federal government is listening to Nunavummiut. The committee that you just mentioned will be working on this program. This Nutrition North Canada Program is very important to Nunavummiut. There was a press release yesterday that it will stay in place until 2012. Eventually things will start to change after that time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of that committee, one of the things that I was wondering: what's the actual mandate of that committee? Is it a broader mandate for the whole entire committee or has it just specifically been set up to react to what has happened with Nutrition North Canada? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The Government of Nunavut established the Niqittiavak Committee to monitor the implementation of the program and that committee will remain in place to coordinate input into the federal government's program as it develops. So it's mainly to monitor the program. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again you said to provide input. Who does it provide input to? Is it providing input to the federal government, to Minister Duncan's office for specific changes, or is it the advisory board that it provides input to? Who exactly does it provide input to? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I tabled a document yesterday for the members, actually it was an application form, I loath saying that in Inuktitut, "to fill out," but it was a form to fill out related to the local prices in the retail stores in the communities. The forms will be sent to the Niqittiavak Committee for review via the minister's office. These price lists will be sent to Minister Duncan's office and there is also a federal government advisory board that will review these price lists. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to the GLO positions, you had said the job description was completed and you're excited about hiring people. When exactly will the GLOs be hired or when do you see them starting work in the communities? I know, again, when we talked about it last year, there was an emphasis on training as well. So if you could possibly give us a start date for these jobs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think it was yesterday or the day before that I sent you a copy of the job descriptions, so I'm sure you have received or will receive a copy. The start date of these GLOs will vary by community. The staffing process is slow and the applicants will fill out the applications for the job. We will have to do some screening and interviews.

(interpretation ends) It depends on the staffing process and we are hoping to have the staffing process completed by the fall. Around September is our target, but again it's entirely dependent upon the staffing process that will take place. Again, it also depends on the number of applicants and all that. (interpretation) Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. We're on Intergovernmental Affairs. \$5,730,000. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): At this time, I have only one question. At the initial stage of this process, I'll be monitoring in regard to the GLO

position. We keep telling our young people to stay in school and complete their education so that they could get a good job and they still can't find jobs even though they have completed or graduated from grade 12. The qualification for the GLO position is a completion of grade 12. Are you going to be following that job description? It dropped to my desk. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the application forms, it will define as to what qualifications that they would require and experience. Once the job advertisements are set out, it will be included in there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I have a job description in front of me. What I have looks like a GLO job description. Some grade 12 graduates can't find jobs and when they're not hired, they end up giving up and thinking that grade school is not important when they are not followed. Are you going to be following the qualifications, such as a grade 12 graduation, for the GLO? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The staffing officers and the directors will be

following the job descriptions as to what kind of qualifications, experience, or education these positions will require. They will be included in the job advertisements. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. We're on page B-9. (interpretation ends) Intergovernmental Affairs. \$5,730,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Aboriginal and Circumpolar Affairs. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs on page B-10. \$488,000. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 25 of the business plan for the priorities, it's the sixth bullet down where it talks about continuing the partnership with NTI and renew the GN-NTI protocol. I was wondering if the Premier could update on how that's going and how that's working out. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member for the question. We are working closely with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. For many months, we have been available to sign the agreement, which is almost complete. Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated executive members have changed in the last election, so the executive members are now settling in. We expect to sign the agreement in the

near future on our working relationship. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. We are on (interpretation ends) Aboriginal and Circumpolar Affairs. \$488,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. B-11. Devolution. \$1,516,000. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of devolution, I know a lot of members have made comments so far and I have asked questions in the House. I think one of the things in one of the questions that I had asked about is what the federal government has said as to why they're not moving forward on devolution. It was capacity.

I just wondered if the Premier could expand on what is meant by capacity. Is it capacity within our Government of Nunavut to properly implement programs or is the capacity in other respects? So if she could expand on that. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We both need to address our capacity issues, including the Government of Canada. In the devolution negotiation protocol that was signed between the three parties, which includes NTI, the Government of Nunavut, and the Government of Canada, it stated in there that the

capacity issue will be addressed in parallel to the negotiations.
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Again, one of the reasons she also mentioned was the three partners, being the federal government, NTI, and the Government of Nunavut... . Is part of the reason the federal government is being hesitant because of the lawsuit that is currently before the courts regarding NTI and the federal government and the inability to implement the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement? Does that have any affect on what is happening in terms of the negotiations you are having with devolution? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to the lawsuit of NTI, the Government of Nunavut is not part of that lawsuit and this has no impact on the devolution process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: So the only issue that's holding us back for starting to move forward on devolution is capacity within the Government of Nunavut and capacity within the federal government. If that's the case, could you explain what specific capacity issues we have? If we're not going to move forward and we don't know what the capacity issues are, we don't know what to work on. So is it

capacity issues like what were brought forward in the Auditor General's report for the Department of Human Resources to fill positions and carry out functions of the government or is it the Auditor General's report talking about finance and not financially managing programs properly? What specific reasons are being given in terms of capacity? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
(interpretation ends) We don't have an issue with capacity. We feel that we are ready to start the negotiation process between Nunavut and the Government of Canada. NTI supports us in that that we are ready to start the process because it's not going to happen overnight, it's going to take many years. It has taken many years for our other territories to come to a final agreement with their devolution. In fact, with the Northwest Territories, they just signed the agreement in principle and it took them almost 10 years. With the Yukon, it was several years as well.

So we feel that we are ready. It's the Government of Canada that is stalling and I don't have a full understanding of what their issues are, but one thing that they have indicated is the capacity issue. They may have other issues that they are not communicating with us. I don't know, but as far as the Government of Nunavut and NTI is concerned, we are ready to negotiate. (interpretation)
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You had said that in terms of the Government of Nunavut's opinion about the federal government and capacity issues. What did you mean by that? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The number of employees. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: So the federal government should have more federal employees in the territory performing functions of the federal government at this time. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliot. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Again, it's come down to the administration of the lands. The federal government feels that the number of employees to administer the lands needs to be increased and this is something that again I will mention. In the protocol agreement that we signed, it is stated that the capacity issue will be addressed alongside or in parallel with the negotiations. So I don't know what exactly... I take it as a stalling tactic on their part, but as I said, I feel that it is important to at least start the process of negotiating with Canada. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, the reason why I'm asking the question is because we see the department growing and we want to see the division doubling within the next four years. We're being asked to approve almost \$300,000 more. As a regular member, I don't see this issue moving forward in the sense that how you can move forward on devolution talks and a devolution agreement when the federal government doesn't even have and hasn't had for the last two years anyone named in the position as a negotiator. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Back in 2003, at the time that the devolution protocol was signed by the three parties, obviously the Government of Canada felt that they do indeed want to move forward with that. Otherwise, they wouldn't have signed the devolution negotiation protocol. So the intent is there.

Within the last year, the federal government is saying that they are willing to move forward with the non-fiscal phase of a negotiation. It's a good sign. In fact, when I was meeting with Minister Duncan, he asked, "Do we have the right representative?" I feel that they are. We did have an agreement between Minister Duncan and me to keep the dialogue, to keep discussing that, so I feel that we have moved forward.

In terms of number of people who would be engaged in employment within the Government of Nunavut, we are graduating more and more grade 12 students who are going on further to post-secondary school, which is a good sign. So if the trend is that way for the coming years, let's say for the next ten years, I feel that our capacity situation will greatly improve. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The protocol that you were talking about between NTI and the federal government, does that expire or does the protocol just keep going and going? So it could be like 15 to 20 years that you're working towards this mandate. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I don't recall the expiration date; I'm going to have to double-check on that for him. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again if the Premier could explain to me how her department can move forward on devolution file if the federal government is not setting up a negotiator or someone to even talk to or negotiate with. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Although the negotiations have not started, Canada cannot delay on this. We have our employees who are busy doing some research work and preparing for the commencement of negotiations. We cannot go into negotiations without being prepared, so there is a lot of preparation that is happening right now with our staff. We just have to keep the pressure on and continue our preparation on the assumption that the negotiations will begin shortly. So there's a lot of preparation work to be done and we need to be prepared at the time that all three parties are ready to negotiate. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Madam Premier. Mr. Elliott.

**Committee Motion 001 – 3(3):
Deletion of \$297,000 from the
2011-12 Main Estimates of the
Department of Executive and
Intergovernmental Affairs**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I'm not convinced, so I move that \$297,000 be deleted from the Devolution Branch from the 2011-12 Main Estimates of the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. Before we proceed with the debate on the motion, I have a few comments to make as to the

procedures. (interpretation) All members have the right to speak to the motion for a total of 20 minutes. The mover of the motion will speak first and has the right to the last reply. Mr. Elliott, you were the mover of the motion. Mr. Elliott, you may proceed.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again I don't think, in terms of devolution, I agree with the idea that we do need to move forward. I agree with the fact that we need to work with the federal government to work on the file of devolution and continue to build on that relationship with the federal government to work towards the devolution agreement. At this time, though, it seems like the department is continuing to grow and we don't seem to get the answers that we need.

If it's just the capacity and if the federal government is not naming a chief negotiator, I don't see how we can continue to support and continue to increase the funding. That's why my motion is looking at no increase so the department can maintain and keep operating the way it has over the last couple of years with the same amount of money that it has been operating with over the last couple of years. By not increasing it, I don't see the point in having it grow at this point or at least until there's a devolution negotiator named by the federal government. I can't see how we can move forward on the file until one is actually named. For that reason, I was putting forward this motion.

Again I want to stress the fact that I'm not saying devolution is not a good idea. Again, we've had other ministers make comments. At this time, I don't think it

is worthwhile expanding the entire division. At the same time, I don't think it is worth decreasing it. For that reason, I'm putting forward the motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Are there any comments to the motion? Mr. Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, *Iksivautaaq*. (interpretation) Thank you. This is very important and this is a recommendation from the Regular Members' Caucus. I would suggest that the cabinet meet and have their caucus. We need to take a 10-minute break to deal with this issue because we were not informed ahead of time about this motion. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. There is a motion on the floor and the Chair has the authority to take a break, so we will take a 10-minute break. For your information, there are some snacks out there. We will now take a 10-minute break. We will ring the bells to call you back.

>>Committee recessed at 17:46 and resumed at 18:01

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We will now resume our committee meeting. There is a motion on the floor moved by Mr. Elliott. Are there any comments?

I would like to remind the members that every member has the right to speak once to the motion for a total of 20 minutes. The mover of the motion has the right to the last reply. Are there any comments to the motion? Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When I talked about the opening comments of the Hon. Premier, I noticed \$297,000 in new funding and I spoke about it and I asked her: when do you expect the federal government's chief negotiator will be appointed? That was then. I wish that money was put under poverty reduction. I wish that money was put into social housing. Mr. Chairman, I wish that money was put into the breakfast program. I wish that money was put into search and rescue.

I realized that while we have all of the resources within Nunavut under the surface, while big companies are taking advantage of the renewable resources, and we are getting very little to help the people that we represent, I wish we could use that money to put money into the breakfast program and reduce poverty in Nunavut, and perhaps put some of that money into social housing and build shelters for women and children.

The only way that I feel, and perhaps I stand alone on this side, we can start to take advantage of renewable resources is by having province-like power up here. The only way we can attain that is to start negotiating devolution with the federal government. We have to send a strong message to the federal government that we are ready and we are willing to take on the business of dealing with what we have up here.

I hate to tell my colleagues here that I will not support that motion because every day we talk about now this is what we need at home; we need to reduce the poverty; we need more social housing; we need more money for breakfast programs. Let's get serious. Although I

do not agree with everything the Hon. Premier is trying to do here, this is the right direction. We have to show the federal government that we are prepared and we are ready to take on business. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. (interpretation ends) To the motion, please. (interpretation) There are no more comments to the motion. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, in terms of putting forward the motion, I'm saying that I believe in devolution. I believe that we are moving forward. I believe that from what the Premier has been saying, we have gone from a budget of \$461,000 to looking for \$1.5 million to run the Devolution Division, which is working towards devolution. But whether we're seeing any results, I realize, to what Mr. Ningark was saying, we have a lot of potential in terms of mineral rights. When you have a federal government that is not naming a chief negotiator for two years, then how do negotiations continue to move forward when you have no one to speak to?

To me, the fiscally responsible thing to do is continue to work with the number of people you have and the resources you already have, just like every other department within the Government of Nunavut having to work with the resources that they have and not continuing to grow and being cut back in certain areas to run programs. To me, this division can work with the number of people that they already have. In the questions that we have been asking to the Premier about what would happen when this division expanded, it doesn't

seem like the division will be doing anything more than it already has. So what's the point in increasing it and having it grow?

To me, the division is there, so we are showing the federal government that we are serious. We're showing them that we're willing to spend \$1.2 million at the end of this fiscal year. Out of our budget, \$1.2 million is going and that \$1.2 million could go to feed people in the communities, it could go to provide jobs, but we're setting that aside to work at a division that is looking at working towards devolution that isn't really going anywhere because there's no one within the federal government who is listening. Until they name that chief negotiator, that division is not going to go anywhere other than to continue to work to partnership and develop those networks that need to be in place once that chief negotiator is named.

I'm sure we all realize as regular members on this side that at this point in the game, the Government of Nunavut and cabinet can actually outvote us because of the number of votes that they have. To me, I'm hoping this will send a message out to the Government of Nunavut and also to the federal government that we're serious that we want to move forward on devolution. When are you actually going to show up to start negotiations? From what the Premier is telling us, it seems like the federal government is dragging its feet. It needs to name a negotiator and we don't have the dollars to continue.

To me, again, we're showing the federal government that we're fiscally responsible in saying that we won't expand this department, we will continue

to work with the resources we have, we will continue to negotiate, and hopefully the federal government will come and work with us. That's the message I want to send and that's the reason why I would like to have support in this motion to, like Mr. Ningark said, put \$300,000 into search and rescue efforts or what other efforts the department is willing to place it in.

With that being said, Mr. Chairman, I will just ask for a recorded vote, please. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. There is a motion on the floor and he requested a recorded vote. We are going to ask you to stand. Mr. Elliott moved to delete \$297,000 from the main estimates of the Devolution Branch of the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

All those in favour of the motion, please stand.

Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Schell.

Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Rumbolt.

Ms. Ugyuk.

Thank you. All those opposed to the motion, please stand.

Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Shewchuk.

Mr. Curley.

Mr. Taptuna.

through by introducing a motion to support us. Thank you.

Ms. Aariak.

Mr. Arreak.

Mr. Kusugak.

Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Ningark.

The motion is defeated. I would like to ask the Premier to go back to the witness table. Sergeant-at-Arms, could you please escort the Premier and witnesses to the table.

The issue of devolution is very important to us. We are looking ahead into the future to improve the quality of life of Nunavummiut to sustain ourselves and be able to stand on our own feet economically and this is going to be very important for our children and our children's children. We have to think about devolution as a tool for our next generations. Thank you for your support. I know that the funds or programs and services for social issues and other programs are very important for Nunavummiut. Devolution is important, and we have to prepare and plan ahead for the negotiation process. We have to look into the future.

Thank you. Devolution. B-11.
\$1,516,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

You had some very good questions. Thank you for asking those questions. We will keep your suggestions and recommendations in mind. We will listen to you.

Chairman (interpretation): We will go back to page B-3. Detail of Expenditures. Total Department. \$20,020,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Also last but not least, I would like to thank my staff for being here for us. They work very hard on behalf of the department so that Intergovernmental Affairs and the operations of the government can run smoothly. I am very grateful to the staff for that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Does the committee agree that the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Premier and your staff. Sergeant-at-Arms, can you please escort the Premier and her staff from the table.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Thank you, Madam Premier, for being at the witness table. Do you have any closing remarks?

Thank you. I would like to ask the Speaker to go to the witness table.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank you for the process that we just went

Thank you. Welcome, Mr. Speaker. You can now make your opening comments.

Bill 01 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2011-2012 – Consideration in Committee – Legislative Assembly

Speaker (interpretation): Good evening. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is a pleasure for me to appear before you today to present the 2011-12 main estimates and 2011-14 business plan for the Office of the Legislative Assembly.

The proposed 2011-12 operations and maintenance budget for the Office of the Legislative Assembly is \$16,935,000, which represents less than 1.5 percent of the government's total proposed operations and maintenance expenditures for the next fiscal year.

Members will note that the Assembly's size and budget remain relatively stable. The total number of positions in our organization has not increased in a number of years. Members will also note that the budget before you today has benefited from adjustments to ensure that recent enhancements to the constituency assistants' program and other initiatives, including the Page Program and activities related to the Order of Nunavut, are fully and transparently funded.

In addition to highlighting our operational priorities for the coming fiscal year, I would like to update members on the status of a number of our ongoing initiatives.

As members are aware, *The Order of Nunavut Act* is now in force. The legislation establishes the Order of Nunavut Advisory Council, which I chair in my capacity as the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. The council's

other members are the senior judge of the Nunavut Court of Justice and the president of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. Support to the council is being provided by the Office of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

In January of this year, I had the honour of announcing that nominations to the order are now open. Nomination forms and other information have been sent to all members' constituency offices and we are looking at providing information directly to Nunavummiut in coming weeks through such means as household mailings and notices on community radio and television. I look forward to working with my colleagues on the advisory council as we work towards holding the first investiture ceremony for recipients later this year.

The Electoral Boundaries Commission is scheduled to submit its final report to the Legislative Assembly in July of this year. The Office of the Legislative Assembly and Elections Nunavut will work collaboratively to implement the decisions that the Members of the Legislative Assembly ultimately make concerning the number of seats in the Legislative Assembly.

The third biennial Speaker's Youth Parliament was successfully held last fall. Later this year, I look forward to launching the *Bringing our House to your Home: Speaker's Parliamentary Outreach Program and Community Mace Tour*. It is my intention to visit schools and elders' facilities in a number of communities across the territory over the coming years and I would welcome invitations from my colleagues to visit their communities. I believe that these visits will help to improve awareness of

our Assembly's procedures and activities and contribute to a greater understanding of our distinctive style of consensus government.

Under the direction of the Management and Services Board, the Office of the Legislative Assembly continues to undertake improvements to the services and infrastructure supporting the work of members. These include upgrades to audiovisual and interpretation equipment, as well as a redesign of the Assembly's website, which was recently launched.

I am pleased to report that the Office of the Legislative Assembly continues to successfully meet our statutory deadlines for the tabling of annual reports and other documents that are produced under the authority of the Speaker and the Management and Services Board.

As members are aware, the budgets for the operations of our independent officers are funded through the appropriation of the Legislative Assembly itself. In recognition of the significant budget and staffing increases that have been provided to the Office of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut as a consequence of the passage of the new *Official Languages Act* and the new *Inuit Language Protection Act*, the Management and Services Board recently took the initiative to invite the Languages Commissioner to appear before the board to present her proposed work plan for the coming year prior to my appearing before you today. This provided members with an important opportunity to contribute to the process of ensuring that the Office of the Languages Commissioner's proposed expenditures and activities conform to

her statutory mandate and reflect our commitment to the wise use of financial and human resources.

That concludes my opening comments. I would like to thank my colleagues for their support and I welcome their comments, suggestions, and questions. That is all, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Do you have witnesses that you would like to bring to the witness table?

Speaker (interpretation): Please do so if that is possible.

Chairman (interpretation): I will ask my committee members for their permission. Do you agree to bring in the witnesses?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the officials to the witness table.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. Mr. Speaker, for the record, please introduce your witnesses.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You're quite familiar with my staff, but I would like to welcome them here. They have been of tremendous assistance. Our Clerk, John Quirke, is to my right and to my left is our Director of Corporate Services, Michael Rafter. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before we proceed to the page-by-page review, I would like to

inform the ministers that they will also have the opportunity to ask questions to the witnesses in front of us.

If any member has any general comments towards the Speaker's opening comments, you have the opportunity to do so prior to our page-by-page review. I don't think there are any general comments. Let us turn to page A-4. (interpretation ends) Assembly Operations. \$7,058,000. (interpretation) Do you agree? Mr. Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the fact that we have the opportunity here. In the second paragraph, you stated that improvements will be undertaken to "the services and infrastructure supporting the work of members. These include upgrades to audiovisual and interpretation equipment, as well as a redesign of the Assembly's website." With respect to this line item, will these upgrades only be conducted at the headquarters level? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, our main office of the Legislative Assembly is here and that is mainly what the line item is for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): This paragraph talks about improving the (interpretation ends) infrastructure supporting the work. (interpretation) In my opinion, I imagine that the

audiovisual equipment will be upgraded, including the interpretive equipment. Television broadcasts don't always get transmitted to the communities as they cannot watch the televised sessions. We know that even now, some communities are not able to watch today's proceedings. Will you also be considering the equipment used to broadcast our sessions?

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to that remark, we have been apprised of those problems and that is part of our attempts to resolve those problems in our near future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you. That is music to my ears.

Furthermore, with respect to other means of communication, it seems that no one is paying attention to the facsimile machines. However, these machines are still in use by many of our constituents, especially when they are sending issues to my attention. While electronic transfer of documents is worthwhile, we also experience problems with the Internet. In some constituency offices, it is sporadic.

If you're going to be upgrading communication equipment, you should be considering updating the equipment in the communities so that we can have equality in our equipment and to ensure all constituency offices have all of the same kind of equipment. We should look

at all of our needs and not just the headquarters' communication needs.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to hear suggestions from anyone, especially members, on how we can improve the communication systems in the communities. Some of your offices in the communities need to be upgraded. I think that that's a capital issue and when we get to our capital estimates, I'm sure we will bring this up again. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): The infrastructure support is under O&M. We're not talking capital infrastructure, we're talking about O&M infrastructure.

Our constituency offices really need to have televisions to watch and listen to the proceedings. In a lot of the communities, the cable systems don't work at times. The homes in the communities have to use the satellite system to watch TV. When the cable goes down, they can't watch the proceedings of this Legislative Assembly. So when we don't have cable at home, we have no idea of what you are talking about. That's why I was wondering if you can make plans to include the outdated communication systems in constituency offices. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. My Clerk really wants to respond to that if that's okay with you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Clerk.

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What the Speaker mentioned about infrastructure was more to do with the day-to-day operation of our offices here in Iqaluit, plus the constituency offices in terms of getting them up-to-date fax machines, for example.

However, since this budget was prepared by MSB and part of the main estimates here now, there has been an issue that has come up with the television. Our biggest problem with the television I found out is that a lot of the receivers that we bought are breaking down. One of the main reasons they're breaking down is they get covered with dust, so we have to buy some new ones from time to time. These units cost at least \$3,000 each.

The other day I got a shocker from my staff. They told me that we only had these four or five years ago, but they're obsolete. So we're now looking at 25 plus brand new units at about \$3,000 each. That's about \$75,000 to replace. Although it's not reflected in this plan and it's not reflected in the present capital budget, we are committed to get that fixed internally.

At the same time, what has happened is that at our last training program for your CAs, they asked, "Well, why can't you give us a TV if you want us to monitor the television?" So now we're looking at buying 19" flat screen TVs for all of you, and the other thing about that is

now we're looking at what is the cost to get you hooked up and what is the monthly charge.

So why it's not in the plan is this is something that has happened very recently, but we're addressing it and we do plan to get it resolved by the fall sitting. If we can do it by the June sitting, we will do it by the June sitting. Thank you.

Chairman: *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Clerk. Mr. Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you. That's really good to hear. As I mentioned, when you don't have communication, it's almost impossible to do anything. We don't have any technicians in our ridings and it's really hard to get anything done right away in a remote community because we have to get somebody in to do them.

When MLAs have a lot of work to do with emergency issues and privacy issues, as well as we don't have very much protection with privacy issues when we use the computer, our computer system can be hacked. Perhaps we could consider an Intranet system connected to the Legislative Assembly. Perhaps you can consider working on an Intranet system. Our Intranet system is very outdated, including the servers that continually lose their connection. That's my last question, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. I sincerely appreciate your suggestions on the problems faced by our members and we will look into this matter when we

are deliberating our next set of upgrades in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We are on (interpretation ends) Assembly Operations. A-4. \$7,058,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We are now on page A-5. Expenditures on Behalf of Members. \$7,552,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Turn to the next page. Independent Officers of the Legislative Assembly. \$2,325,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Go back to page A-3. Detail of Expenditures. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Total Operations and Maintenance on A-3. \$16,935,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Are we agreed that we have concluded with the Office of the Legislative Assembly?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Speaker, do you have any closing remarks before we leave?

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman and my colleagues. I

thank you for the fact that there was no motion on the floor to reduce our budget estimates. I am quite relieved over that fact.

I wish to thank my officials from the bottom of my heart since they deal with a lot of the details that make my job easier to accomplish. I want to express my gratitude to all of our employees who work here in the Legislative Assembly. The staff ensures that our work is more productive and I want to ensure that they know that their efforts are appreciated. I wish them the best and hope that they are just as committed in the new fiscal year.

That is pretty well all I have to say. Thank you ever so much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the officials.

Bill 01 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2011-2012 – Consideration in Committee

Thank you. We have concluded with our review. Please refer to Bill 1 in your white legislation binder. We will now go to Bill 1, as I believe we all have it in front of us now. *Appropriation* (interpretation ends) (*Operations and Maintenance*) Act, 2011-2012. Definitions. Clause 1. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule on page 2. Schedule. (interpretation) Amounts Appropriated for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2012. (interpretation ends) Vote 1: Operations and Maintenance. \$1,194,397,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Total Appropriation. \$1,194,397,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): We will go back to page 1. (interpretation ends) Clause 4. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Do you agree to Bill 1 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Pursuant to Rule 62(2), do you agree that Bill 1 can immediately be placed on the orders of the day for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. It will now be placed on the order paper.

Before we go to the next item, we will take a 20-minute break.

>> *Committee recessed at 18:40 and resumed at 18:53*

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you for coming back to the Committee of the Whole. We still have Bills 3, 4, and 5. We will now deal with Bill 3. Our Law Clerk is here now. Welcome. Do members agree to bring in the Law Clerk?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 03 – An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson, do you have opening comments?

Hon. Keith Peterson: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Bill 3 will amend the Nunavut *Income Tax Act* to improve consistency with the federal *Income Tax Act*. This bill deals with several discrepancies between the wording in the Nunavut *Income Tax Act* and the federal *Income Tax Act*. These amendments will not only improve the uniformity of tax treatment for Nunavummiut from the Government of Nunavut and the Government of Canada, but will also protect Nunavut's taxation revenues.

The changes being made include updating payment thresholds to reflect changes being made by the federal government, adding anti-avoidance provisions, closing loopholes in the treatment of foreign tax credits, and updating Nunavut's income tax brackets.

These amendments are generally administrative in nature and will not compromise the spirit or intent of the Act. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Do you have witnesses that you would like to bring to the table?

Hon. Keith Peterson: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Thank you. Welcome, Minister Peterson. For the record, please introduce your witnesses.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Peter Ma, Deputy Minister of Finance, and to my left is Thomas Druyan, Legislative Counsel for the Department of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Does the chair of the standing committee have opening comments? Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislation, I am pleased to make some very brief opening comments as we begin consideration of Bill 3, *An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act*.

The standing committee recognizes that Bill 3 amends the territorial *Income Tax Act* to reflect recent amendments made to the federal legislation. The standing committee considers these amendments to be non-contentious.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments. The standing committee recommends the passage of Bill 3 to all members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Are there any general comments? I have no members on my list for general comments. We will now proceed to Bill 3, *An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act*. (interpretation ends) Clause 1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 4. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 7. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 8. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 9. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 10. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 11. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 12. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 13. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 14. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 15. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 16. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Do you agree to Bill 3 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Do members agree that pursuant to Rule 62(2) that Bill 3 can immediately be placed on the orders of the day for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Bill 3 will be placed on the order paper. Mr. Peterson, do you have closing remarks?

Hon. Keith Peterson: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the standing committee for their scrutiny of the bill.

I would like to thank my officials in both departments for their work on Bill 3. It's important to keep our Income Tax Regulations up to date and current with the Canada Revenue Agency.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to take an opportunity right now to thank Mr. Peter Ma, who is soon to become the Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services. This is his last appearance with me as Minister of Finance and it has been a great two and a half years, up and down. It's like a roller coaster in the Department of Finance, but Mr. Ma has done an excellent job and I wish him well in his new position as the Deputy Minister of Health. He will help Minister Curley and that department. We're expecting great things from Mr. Ma when he goes over there. Just thought I would take this opportunity to say that and wish him well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>Applause

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Ma, we wish you well in your future endeavours and I'm sure that we will be seeing you again.

Minister Peterson, you may remain at your seat as you wait for your other officials to join you, but Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort his officials from the witness table.

Thank you. Welcome, Minister of Justice. If you have any opening comments on Bill 4, the floor is now open.

Bill 04 – Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2011 – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to present Bill 4, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2011*. The purpose of the Act is to bring forward provisions of amending various Acts to bring them into conformity with Nunavut. The majority of these Acts focus on amending minor errors in Nunavut's statutes, including incorrect references resulting from the duplication of Northwest Territories Acts.

To be included in the process of a miscellaneous amendment, the proposals must meet the following criteria:

- Not be controversial;
- Not involve the spending of public funds;
- Not prejudicially affect the rights of persons;
- Not create a new offence; and
- Not subject a new class of persons to an existing offence

Bill 4 is much longer than our previous Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Acts. It corrects inconsistencies and minor errors in 40 Acts of Nunavut and has 41 clauses and 24 schedules. The vast majority of the clauses deal with correcting minor errors and replacing references to the Northwest Territories with references to Nunavut and repeals provisions that are no longer in effect.

I thank the Committee of the Whole for its careful consideration of this bill and look forward to the committee's assistance in improving the statutes of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Before we begin, do you have witnesses that you would like to bring to the table?

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I would like to bring another witness in.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Sergeant-at-Arms, if you could escort the other witness in.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. Minister Peterson, for the record, please introduce the officials who are accompanying you.

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

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Before we review the contents of the bill, do members have any general comments? I don't see any hands up. We will now review Bill 4,

(interpretation ends) *Miscellaneous Amendment Act, 2011*. Clause 1.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 4. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule A on page 14. Schedule A. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Clause 5?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule B. Page 16. (interpretation) Please turn to that page. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Clause 7. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 17. Column 1. Schedule C. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Clause 8. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 9. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 10. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 11. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 12. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule D. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 19. Schedule D (interpretation) was approved. (interpretation ends) Clause 13. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule E. Page 22. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 14. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule F. Page 23. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 15. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 16. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule G. Page 23. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 17. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 18. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 19. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule H. Page 24.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 20. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 21. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule I. Page 25.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 22. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule J. Page 25.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 23. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule K. Page 26.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 24. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule L. Page 26.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 25. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule M. Page 26.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 26. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule N. Page 28.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 27. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 28. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule O. Page 30.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 29. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 30. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule P. Page 30.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 31. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule Q. Page 31.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule R. Page 33.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 33. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule S. Page 35.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): I'm sorry.
Go back to (interpretation ends) clause
32. (interpretation) I missed it. Do you
agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you.
(interpretation ends) Clause 34.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): I think I
already asked for this to be approved.
(interpretation ends) Schedule S. Page
35. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 34. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 35. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 36. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule T. Page 36.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 37. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule U. Page 37.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 38. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule V. Page 38.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 39. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 40. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule W. Page 39.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 41. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Schedule X. Page 40.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Do you
agree to Bill 4 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Pursuant to
Rule 62(2), is the committee agreed that
Bill 4 can immediately be placed on the
orders of the day for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you.
If you can stay there, Minister Peterson,
so we can go on to Bill 5. Minister
Peterson, if you have any opening
comments on Bill 5, you may now
proceed.

**Bill 05 – Miscellaneous Statutes
Amendment Act, 2011, No. 2 –
Consideration in Committee**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr.
Chairman. I am pleased to present Bill 5,
*Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act,
2011, No. 2*. Bill 5 corrects errors in the
French versions of certain enactments of
Nunavut.

I thank the Committee of the Whole for
its careful consideration of this bill and
look forward to the committee's
assistance in improving the statutes of
Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you,
Minister Peterson. Before we proceed
with the review of Bill 5, are there any
general comments? If there are no
general comments, we will now go to
(interpretation ends) Bill 5,
*Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act,
2011, No. 2*. Clause 1. (interpretation)
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Part A in the Schedule on
page 2. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2. (interpretation) Do
you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Part B in the Schedule on
page 18. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Does the
committee agree to Bill 5 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Pursuant to Rule 62(2), are you agreed that Bill 5 can immediately be placed on the orders of the day for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson, do you have any closing remarks?

Hon. Keith Peterson: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the Committee of the Whole for its careful consideration of Bills 4 and 5 today. It's good for us to keep our legislation up to date, correct the errors and inconsistencies in the various Acts that we have inherited from the Northwest Territories.

I would like to thank the Legal Division for the hard work that they put into all of this. You can appreciate it; it's a tremendous amount of work. It takes a special kind of lawyer and support staff to go through this stuff, so I appreciate all of the work that they have done on this.

I would like to thank my officials today for appearing with me, and I look forward to continue working with the Committee of the Whole in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. We have finished dealing with all of the items that were referred to the committee. Sergeant-at-Arms, can you please escort the officials from the table.

Thank you. We're in the Committee of the Whole. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to report progress at this time, please. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion, raise your hand. Thank you. I will now rise to report progress to the Speaker. I thank our Law Clerk for being here. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Good evening. Going back to our orders of the day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Member for Amittuq.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bills 1, 3, 4, and 5 and we wish to report that Bills 1, 3, 4, and 5 are immediately ready for third reading. 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, Member. There is a motion on the floor and the motion is in order. Is there a seconder? Member for Rankin Inlet North. All those in favour of the motion. Opposed. The motion is carried. Thank you.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to request unanimous consent to go back to Item 5 in the *Orders of the Day*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The Member for Cambridge Bay is asking for unanimous consent to return to Item 5. Are there any nays? There are no nays. You may proceed.

Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It gives me great pleasure to welcome a constituent of mine from Cambridge Bay to the Gallery this late. Tonight's a very rare occasion. We have someone from Cambridge Bay here and we're just winding up. I would like to welcome Jeannie Ehaloak from Cambridge Bay. Welcome to the Gallery.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. We can now return to Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance.

Item 21: Third Reading of Bills

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

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

2011-2012, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Third Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance.

Bill 03 – An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act – Third Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 3, *An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Third Reading of Bills. Minister of Justice.

Bill 04 – Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2011 – Third Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 4, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2011*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Third Reading of Bills. Minister of Justice.

Bill 05 – Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2011, No. 2 – Third Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 5, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2011, No. 2*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Third Reading of Bills. There are no more. Before we proceed further, Deputy Clerk, will you ascertain if the Commissioner of Nunavut is prepared to enter the Chambers to give assent to bills.

Assent to Bills

Bill 01 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2011-2012 – Assent

Bill 03 – An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act – Assent

Bill 04 – Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2011 – Assent

Bill 05 – Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2011, No. 2 – Assent

Commissioner Edna Elias (interpretation): Thank you. Please be

seated. I got tired of waiting and got a bit sleepy.

(interpretation ends) Members, I am pleased, as Commissioner of Nunavut I am honoured to give assent to the following bills:

- Bill 1, *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2011-2012*;
- Bill 3, *An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act*;
- Bill 4, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2011*; and
- Bill 5, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2011, No. 2*.

The season of change is upon us, and I would say in more ways than one, as witnessed by the proceedings of the House this week and last, and the spring's light warms our land or will soon start warming our land. As you conclude your work here and prepare to return to your families and communities, I wish you all once again another safe journey home. Have a good spring, and I invite you to consider coming to Kugluktuk for the square dance showdown. (interpretation) Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Going back to our orders of the day. Item 22. *Orders of the Day* for the next session. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for May 31, 2011:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements

3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Responses to Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Tabled Document 248 – 3(2)
 - Tabled Document 249 – 3(2)
 - Tabled Document 251 – 3(2)
 - Tabled Document 274 – 3(2)
 - Tabled Document 275 – 3(2)
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills

22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Now that we have finished most of the work required during this sitting, this House will stand adjourned until the spring sitting.

It is becoming more scenic every day. As a matter of fact, I spotted some snow buntings today and that made my day. Spring is just around the corner and it's so refreshing to note that spring is almost here.

Further, I hope that all members will recuperate and rest during the interim between our sittings. We went through some difficulties during this sitting and I am appreciative of the fact that we were able to overcome them.

Our next meeting will commence on May 31 at 1:30 p.m. Please have a good evening. Thank you.

>>*Applause*

>>*House adjourned at 19:26*

