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Iqaluit

Speaker: The Honourable Hunter Tootoo, M.L.A.

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

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(Iqaluit Centre)

Hon. Eva Aariak

(Iqaluit East)

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Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister
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Minister responsible for Immigration;
Minister responsible for the Status of
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Minister responsible for the Utility
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Table of Contents

Opening Prayer.....	1248
Ministers' Statements	1248
Members' Statements	1252
Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.....	1254
Oral Questions.....	1255
Tabling of Documents	1271
Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills	1271
Second Reading of Bills	1271
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters	1274
Chairman's Ruling	1279
Report of the Committee of the Whole	1305
Orders of the Day	1305

A.

Daily References

Monday, October 24, 20111248

B.

Ministers' Statements

078 – 3(3): Nunavut Prospectors Program and Prospector Training (Taptuna)1248
079 – 3(3): Commemorative Plaque for Louis Anakanerk (Kusugak).....1249
080 – 3(3): Council of the Federation Literacy Award (Aariak).....1249
081 – 3(3): Suicide Prevention (Curley)1250
082 – 3(3): Polar Bears Range States Meeting, October 24-26 (Shewchuk)1251

C.

Members' Statements

126 – 3(3): Congratulations on Weekend Soccer Tournament (Elliott).....1252
127 – 3(3): High School Graduates of Arviat (Shewchuk)1253
128 – 3(3): Appreciation for the Kivalliq Inuit Centre in Winnipeg (Ningeongan).....1254

D.

Oral Questions

182 – 3(3): School Attendance Tracking System (Ugyuk)1255
183 – 3(3): Public Housing Rent Scale Review (Aupaluktuq).....1257
184 – 3(3): Carving Stone Quarry Near Proposed Iron Mine (Enook)1258
185 – 3(3): Prospector Training Program (Tapardjuk).....1259
186 – 3(3): Update on Baffin Correctional Centre Incident (Ell).....1261
187 – 3(3): Implications of New Federal Legislation on Crime (Elliott)1264
188 – 3(3): Filling Social Worker Positions across Nunavut (Ningeongan)1265

189 – 3(3): Lack of Students at the Piqusilirivvik Cultural School (Ugyuk)	1266
190 – 3(3): Reducing the Costs of Medical Travel (Enook)	1268

E.

Tabling of Documents

104 – 3(3): NTI News Release: NTI Board and Staff to Participate in ASIST Training (Elliott)	1271
105 – 3(3): Northern FrontLine 2011: Canadian Rangers: Eyes and Ears of Operation Nunaliut 11 (Elliott).....	1271

F.

Bills

Bill 22 – An Act Respecting the Constituencies of Nunavut – Notice.....	1271
Bill 16 – Annual Reporting Validation (Liquor Licensing Board) Act – Second Reading.....	1271
Bill 17 – Write-off of Debts Act, 2011-2012 – Second Reading	1272
Bill 18 – An Act to Amend Several Acts for Constitutional Validity (Spousal Benefits and Obligations) – Second Reading	1272
Bill 19 – Family Support Orders Enforcement Act – Second Reading	1272
Bill 20 – An Act to Amend the Judicature Act (Court Rules) – Second Reading.....	1273
Bill 21 – Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2011, No. 3 – Second Reading	1273
Bill 23 – An Act to Amend Public Colleges Act – Second Reading.....	1273
Bill 15 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2012-2013 – Nunavut Housing Corporation – Consideration in Committee	1274
Bill 15 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2012-2013 – Economic Development and Transportation – Consideration in Committee	1280

**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Monday, October 24, 2011**

Members Present:

Honourable Eva Aariak, Honourable James Arreak, Mr. Moses Aupaluktuq, Honourable Tagak Curley, Ms. Monica Ell, Mr. Ron Elliott, Mr. Joe Enook, Honourable Lorne Kusugak, Mr. Johnny Ningeongan, Mr. Hezakah Oshutapik, Honourable Keith Peterson, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Honourable Fred Schell, Honourable Daniel Shewchuk, Mr. Louis Tapardjuk, Honourable Peter Taptuna, Honourable Hunter Tootoo, Ms. Jeannie Ugyuk.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. Hunter Tootoo): Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. Before we get started, I would like to ask Mr. Shewchuk if he could lead us off with a prayer, please.

>>Prayer

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Shewchuk. Before we move on to Ministers' Statements, I would just like to inform members to please be patient this afternoon. We have one page here right now. She is probably going to be handing out the statements for members, Ministers' Statement and that, so please bear with her and have patience.

Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

**Minister's Statement 078 – 3(3):
Nunavut Prospectors Program and
Prospector Training**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues and Nunavummiut. Mr. Speaker, thank you for this opportunity to inform my colleagues about the Nunavut Prospectors Program and prospector training. The Nunavut Prospectors Program encourages Nunavummiut to apply their knowledge of the land through mineral exploration and to become independent prospectors and entrepreneurs.

An introductory prospecting course is delivered by the Department of Economic Development and Transportation to provide people with the basic skills to begin prospecting. This year, it was offered in six communities, Gjoa Haven, Rankin Inlet, Baker Lake, Cape Dorset, Arctic Bay, and Cambridge Bay, and a total of 48 people are expected to complete the course this year. Mr. Speaker, next year, it is being planned for Kugluktuk, Resolute Bay, Grise Fiord, Pangnirtung, and Qikiqtarjuaq.

Since the inception of the program, which is now in its 13th year, approximately 750 people have completed the introductory prospecting course. Many of the graduates of the introductory course have gone on to apply for funding under the Nunavut Prospectors Fund, which provides financial support for prospecting activities by independent Nunavut prospectors. This year, 24 prospectors from 10 communities received support totalling \$150,000.

The department's resident geologists provide hands-on support to prospectors throughout Nunavut, administer the Nunavut Prospectors Fund, and deliver

the introductory prospecting courses. The department also coordinates property visits for community prospectors to provide advice on prospecting methods and help advance their skills. Mr. Speaker, this year, property visits included the Meadowbank mine, the Doris North deposit, the former Nanisivik mine, as well as the former Rankin Inlet nickel mine.

The development of grassroots prospectors will lead to economic and societal rewards for Nunavummiut and we will continue to support the Nunavut Prospectors Program and prospector training initiatives. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Minister Kusugak.

**Minister's Statement 079 – 3(3):
Commemorative Plaque for Louis
Anakanerk**

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to the residents of Rankin Inlet and Whale Cove, as well as the people watching our proceedings today.

Mr. Speaker, this past June the Member for Nattilik informed the Legislative Assembly about the passing of Louis Anakanerk, who was a QEC plant superintendent in Gjoa Haven for 19 years.

Mr. Anakanerk had just recently retired from his position due to failing health

and was looking forward to his retirement party with friends, family, and co-workers when, unfortunately, he then passed away at home surrounded by his loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this summer, members of QEC's operations department visited Gjoa Haven to unveil a plaque in memory of Mr. Anakanerk. The memorial ceremony was attended by Mr. Anakanerk's wife, siblings, children, co-workers, and by the MLA for Nattilik, our colleague, Jeannie Ugyuk. I am very pleased that I was able to be in attendance. This memorial plaque will be placed in the Gjoa Haven power plant to commemorate a wonderful man, a dedicated employee, and a devoted public servant of the community of Gjoa Haven.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to send my thoughts and prayers to Mr. Anakanerk's family and friends. I hope that their pride in Louis will help them overcome some of the grief felt within the community due to his passing. Furthermore, we will remember the man whenever the plaque is viewed at the office. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

**Minister's Statement 080 – 3(3):
Council of the Federation Literacy
Award**

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to

congratulate someone who has made a significant contribution to our society. I am proud to announce that Louise Flaherty has been awarded the 2011 Council of the Federation Literacy Award for Nunavut.

The Council of the Federation Literacy Award was established in 2004 to honour the valuable contributions made by Canadians in all areas of literacy.

The 2011 Council of the Federation Literacy Award recognizes the work Louise Flaherty has done to promote Inuktitut and the support and encouragement she has given by sharing with others ways to strengthen their Inuktitut language skills.

Mr. Speaker, when Louise was young, her grandparents instilled in her a passion for Inuktitut and an understanding that speaking Inuktitut is a fundamental part of Inuit identity. This passion for the promotion and preservation of Inuktitut literacy has stayed with Louise throughout her career as a teacher and now as a founder and owner of Inhabit Media, an independent publishing house dedicated to the preservation and promotion of Inuit knowledge and values and the Inuit language.

(interpretation ends) The work Louise has done promoting Inuktitut literacy will help Inuit develop strong literacy skills, preserve their unique culture and social values, and contribute to the prosperity of Nunavut and Canada.

Mr. Speaker, the Council of the Federation Literacy Award publicly recognizes leaders from across Canada

in the field of literacy and rewards remarkable achievement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me this afternoon in the Legislative Assembly lobby as I present Louise with her Council of the Federation Literacy medallion. Congratulations, Louise!

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. I apologize. I recognize you as the Minister of Education for that statement, for the record. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Health and Social Services, Minister Curley.

Minister's Statement 081 – 3(3): Suicide Prevention

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you. I say "good afternoon" to the residents of Rankin Inlet and my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, the subject of suicide was raised at a national level earlier this month when Liberal Members of Parliament called upon the federal government to develop a national suicide prevention strategy. This is timely and welcome news for Nunavutmiut.

Last month, the partners involved in the development of the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy released the action plan. The plan delivers the promise of the partners to provide more suicide intervention training, additional mental health services, culturally appropriate grief counselling, research, and more support for children and youth.

Mr. Speaker, since March 2009, close to 500 people in Nunavut have completed

the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), a nationally recognized program. Five workshops have already been delivered in Inuktitut. However, to make the ASIST training culturally relevant to Nunavutmiut, my department has been working to adapt the ASIST materials, which we will be calling *Uqaqatigiigluk! Talk About It!*, which has been completed by a program and I will be able to table it in the House in the near future.

In the coming months, my department has scheduled 13 sessions, including specific ones for trainers. Information about the upcoming sessions is now available on the HSS website and the information has been distributed to local health centres and regional offices. Groups and individuals who are interested in taking *Uqaqatigiigluk! Talk About It!* should contact their local health centre. A database of individuals who complete the training has also been developed to support those who have become registered trainers to stay current and connected.

Mr. Speaker, community members across the territory – from frontline health care workers, teachers, police, elders, and more – continually and consistently raised the need to have access to effective programs and services to prevent suicide in Nunavut. Talking openly about suicide has been encouraged by this government and our partners during the development of the strategy and action plan. We also encourage Nunavutmiut to consider taking a training session so that we learn to better help ourselves, our families, and our communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Curley. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Environment, Minister Shewchuk.

Minister's Statement 082 – 3(3): Polar Bears Range States Meeting, October 24-26

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to inform members that the five-nation signatory to the 1973 Agreement on the Conservation of Polar Bears will be meeting in Iqaluit this week from October 24 to 26, 2011 to discuss polar bear research and management issues throughout the circumpolar basin. I am very pleased that Iqaluit was chosen as the host city for this international meeting to acknowledge Nunavut's special role in polar bear conservation and the role of Nunavutmiut in that process. Nunavut has or shares about two-thirds of the world's polar bear populations.

About 65 participants from five range state countries are expected to attend the two and a half day meeting. Observers and media will also be in attendance. The total number of people attending the meeting may reach up to 80 people. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) will also be present at the meeting, including the World Wildlife Fund Canada (WWF). They will be given the opportunity to present materials outside of the main meeting time and space, either through posters or displays. NGOs with observer status will also be invited into meeting proceedings in the first day. The Canadian delegation is expected to include the director general of the Canadian Wildlife Service

(CWS), as well as the director of population and conservation management - CWS, one or two provincial/territorial government representatives (e.g. wildlife directors), representatives from several key Inuit organizations, and the chair of the Polar Bear Technical Committee or a research scientist from the Wildlife and Landscape Science Directorate, Science and Technology Branch. The director of wildlife management from the Government of Nunavut Department of Environment will be on the delegation representing the Government of Nunavut.

The primary focus of the meeting will include a discussion and development of the circumpolar action plan that is being collaboratively drafted by the range states, as well as the presentation of each nation's action plan. Canada's contribution is expected to be the Polar Bear National Conservation Strategy that is currently being finalized. Canada's strategy represents a non-legally binding memorandum of understanding-like agreement between jurisdictions with the aim of increasing coordination and collaboration on actions related to polar bear management and conservation in Canada.

Our staff has worked diligently to ensure that our mandate for polar bears and the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement decision process for terrestrial wildlife has been respected and has not been compromised by Canada's strategy. We believe that our wildlife co-management system is the best conservation system in the world and that polar bears continue to be an example of a conservation success story, not a conservation crisis.

Please join me in welcoming the range state delegates from around the world to the polar bear capital of the world.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 126 – 3(3): Congratulations on Weekend Soccer Tournament

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to congratulate all the participants and organizers of this past weekend's under 18 soccer tournament here in Iqaluit.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot over-emphasize the importance of sport for our youth and the role it plays in their well-being. Participating in a sport contributes to good physical health and good mental health. These are solid foundations for a healthy life and future.

Mr. Speaker, I welcome and appreciate the government's role in providing opportunities for our youth to participate in events such as this weekend's tournament. Medals and trophies aside, all the participants win in the areas of self-esteem, lifestyle, sportsmanship, and teamwork.

Mr. Speaker, the community of Arctic Bay had two teams attending this event. Unfortunately, due to the high cost of the airfares, the communities of Resolute

Bay and Grise Fiord are often unable to participate. There were boys' teams and girls' teams from the communities of Igloolik, Hall Beach, Pangnirtung, Cape Dorset, and Iqaluit, as well as Arctic Bay.

Mr. Speaker, I was very impressed with the level of teamwork and the sense of fair play exhibited at this event. I would also like to congratulate the organizers of the event for a very successful tournament.

Mr. Speaker, the Arctic Bay teams did extremely well with the boys' team placing fourth overall and the girls placing third. I would like to congratulate Wesley Attagutsiak, the coach of the boys' team and the players Steven Taqtu, Jaypeetee Olayuk, Kyle Inutiq, Veevee Kilabuk, Bruno Attagutsiak, Aaron Kilabuk, Ricky Iqaqrialu, and Chris Kalluk. I would also like to congratulate Leone Eecheak, coach of the girls' team and the players Anabelle Eecheak, April Eecheak, Sheena Kilabuk, Inga Muckpa, Patty Levi, Louanne Iqalukjuak, and Napasie Joseph. Unfortunately team member Carla Oyukuluk was unable to attend the tournament.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy trip home. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Arviat, Mr. Shewchuk.

Member's Statement 127 – 3(3): High School Graduates of Arviat

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to say "good afternoon" to the residents of Arviat.

Mr. Speaker, on August 27, 2011, I had the privilege of attending and speaking at the 2011 graduates of the John Arnalukjuak High School in Arviat. This was indeed a wonderful day for 27 graduates, their parents, and their families to celebrate their accomplishments of graduating and moving forward into the next phase of their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize every graduate and wish them all the best with their future endeavours and encourage them to continue with their post-secondary education. They are, Mr. Speaker: Daniel Alagalak, Gabriel Alagalak, Delen Alareak, Keith Alikut, Dorean Arloo, Rhea Gavin, Alex Gibbons, Rochelle Illnik, Andrea Kablutsiak, Jackson Kablutsiak, Anthyme Kadjuk, Dana Kalluak, Chelsea Kaludjak, Kirsten Kaludjak, Samuel Karetak, Peter Komak, Michelle Malla, Ivan Mamgark, Jimmy Napayok, Rebecca Nagiyak, Terri Nibgoarsi, Jamie Okatsiak, Douglas Ollie, Patrick Pingushat, Sylvia Suluk, Patrick Sulurayok, and Mary Ulimaumi. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Shewchuk. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Nanulik, Mr. Ningeongan.

**Member's Statement 128 – 3(3):
Appreciation for the Kivalliq Inuit
Centre in Winnipeg**

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to extend my thanks and appreciation to the management and staff at the Kivalliq Inuit Centre in Winnipeg.

Mr. Speaker, I have been fortunate to have the opportunity to visit the Kivalliq Inuit Centre with some of my colleagues on a yearly basis. I have been favourably impressed with the quality and level of services provided in the areas of transportation, appointment scheduling, and accommodation and even in the food that is offered to clients staying at the facility. That is not to say that there haven't been any glitches along the way. I have been impressed with the high level of service despite how heavy the traffic can become at times.

Mr. Speaker, I have found that the management and staff have been very open to the suggestions made by myself and my colleagues. The contractor in charge of the centre was willing to work closely with us and was very receptive to making changes to improve the level of services.

Mr. Speaker, it would be very nice of similar levels of dialogue and working relationships could be established for the out-of-territory services provided to Nunavummiut from the other regions. Having good communications with an ongoing review of the changes made since our last visit goes a long way to supporting the well-being of Nunavut's medical clients. It is important to be able to communicate back to the communities

the changes that are being made for their benefit.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to complement the staff, management, and contractor of the Kivalliq Inuit Centre for their hard work and the level of service that they provide to Nunavut residents in their care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Item 3. Members' Statements. We will move on in the *Orders of the Day*, Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Madam Premier.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize individuals in the House. Ms. Louise Flaherty, who just won the Council of Federation Literacy Award, is here with her husband, William, and her relatives. In just a little while, I will be giving her an award and I hope that you will join us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize people from my community. The first person I would like to recognize works with the Baffin Fisheries Coalition, Jacobie Maniapik, who is behind me. The person sitting

next to him is also part of that fishing organization. I believe he has retired, but his name is Manasie Audlakiak from Clyde River.

I also want to recognize individuals who are not in the Gallery, our interpreters behind the glass, because they allow us to communicate in either language. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also want to recognize some visitors here. First of all, I would like to recognize my assistant who allows me to sit in this seat, Martha Arreak, my wife, and her niece, who was recognized already, Louise Flaherty, which is her older sister's daughter, Louise's spouse, William Flaherty, and Janet Joanas, who is also my wife's niece.

I believe Manasie Audlakiak was already recognized and he lives in our community. He has been involved with the hunters and trappers organization for a very long time and he has been involved as a lone maintainer in our community for many years as a heavy equipment operator. That person is Manasie Audlakiak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Moving on to Item 6 in the *Orders of the*

Day. Oral Questions. Member for Natilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 182 – 3(3): School Attendance Tracking System

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

Mr. Speaker, one year ago, I asked questions in this House regarding the attendance rates across Nunavut's schools. At that time, the minister of the day indicated that the department was developing a new student records system that would be able to track attendance rates on an ongoing basis. I believe this system could be very useful in keeping parents aware of attendance patterns in their community's schools.

Can the minister update this House on the current status of the student records tracking system so that we could know how many students are attending? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Education, Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for asking that question. At this time, we're collecting that data under the student records directive in the Department of Education so that all schools can start collecting that information at the same time. It is scheduled to be implemented by the year 2012. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Your first supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I expect that 2012 will be the year when we will see this. Since I asked the question last year, it has taken about a year to implement that.

(interpretation ends) Can the minister provide an update on how often the student records system produces attendance reports for Nunavut's schools and if these reports are distributed to communities across Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Education, Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. They're now working on the record system with the DEA and the principals are also involved. In English, it's called the "Stay in School" initiative. That's what they're working on and it is still a work in progress. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Your second supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Having a specific and regular report on how many students are attending school on a day-by-day, week-by-week, or even month-by-month basis could be an excellent tool to encourage more parents to send their students to school. Will the minister commit to providing these reports to all communities across Nunavut at the earliest possible opportunity and to continue providing

them on a regular basis? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Education, Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know for sure that each school maintains their own attendance records. They know who is tardy and I'm sure that during the parent/teacher meetings, they talk about the attendance of their children. All this information is available in each of the schools.

I believe you are asking me whether we could provide those reports to all communities across Nunavut. Whether that can be done is something I cannot agree to because the issue of truancy rates is in the process of being worked on. It's also very important for students. Once we get that information, I'll be very pleased to provide that information to Members of the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Aariak. Your final supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last year, I also raised another question with respect to the DEAs. When would they be attending a workshop about the *Education Act*? Apparently the communities don't want to be rushed into a workshop. I'm wondering whether or not these workshops have been prepared and when they would be presented. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Education, Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. District education authorities and schools continue to work on school improvement plans as one approach to improving attendance. Of course, this is a continuing initiative that is being done by principals, DEAs, and the Department of Education. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Minister Aariak. Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Question 183 – 3(3): Public Housing Rent Scale Review

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A couple of years ago, I had posed a question to the Minister of the Nunavut Housing Corporation about rent scales. My questions are for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Hon. Tagak Curley.

The current business plan for the Nunavut Housing Corporation states that, and I quote, “A review of the current Public Housing Rent Scale as part of NHC’s *Tamapta* Action Plan objectives is currently underway. The NHC expects to have the review completed by Spring 2011.”

Mr. Speaker, we’re heading into the fall season; it’s almost November. I want to ask the hon. minister: can the minister update the House today on the status of the public housing rent scale review? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I certainly will be glad to do that. I can tell the member that our corporation staff has been doing an extensive evaluation of the whole rental scale. The work is obviously lagging behind, but this is not at all to suggest that the work is not being done. It is being done. I have yet to present the whole document and the recommendations for changes to my cabinet colleagues. Once that has taken place, I will be quite happy to table that report and I certainly feel that, by the winter session, it will definitely be completed.

From the corporation’s side, I know that there were minor issues but complex issues that have been dealt with. They had to be dealt with other departmental coordination, which is in place within the whole review process. Once these have been worked out, I intend to take the whole document to my cabinet colleagues before too long and certainly by the winter session, the policy document should be completed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the response. I’m sure the rest of Nunavut will be eager to get an update on that.

Mr. Speaker, almost two years ago, on October 26, 2009, all MLAs met in the Chamber to develop our priorities for the Third Legislative Assembly. At that

time, we announced that, and I quote, “comprehensive reviews of the public housing rent scale and the income support program are required. Caucus noted that these reviews should focus on identifying and removing disincentives to entering the workforce.” Can the minister indicate if the Nunavut Housing Corporation has been coordinating its review of the public housing rent scale with the Department of Education’s review of the Income Support Program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, that is precisely what I meant when I said there is interdepartmental coordination that had to further consult with the department. Very importantly, the income support workers and the office of that must concur with the changes that we’re making. It was that very issue that the corporation had to consult further with our partners and the whole review process. The income support group is very much part of that consultation and that will be reflected. Whatever the changes are will be an improvement. Also the fact that once the review is done, in consultation with the other department, I will be bringing it forward to the cabinet. From then on, we will make it public. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Curley. Your second supplementary question, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister indicated that he looks forward to tabling it in the

House, I’m sure all members will have the opportunity to consider the proposed changes to the public housing rent scale prior to their implementation.

With that, I would just like to leave it and indicate that all members and the rest of Nunavut will be looking forward to seeing it tabled. It’s just a comment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. It was just a comment. Moving on to Oral Questions. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Enook.

Question 184 – 3(3): Carving Stone Quarry Near Proposed Iron Mine

Mr. Enook: *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Last week, the minister made a statement on carving stone deposits. We all know that Mary River might have a very large deposit of carving stone. In the Baffin region, we also know that this deposit is one of the best that have ever been found in Nunavut. It is located at the proposed mining site. I would like to ask if the minister has spoken with Baffinland as to the status of the carving stone deposit to ensure its integrity and how they could ship it to nearby communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister responsible for Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that excellent question. Mr. Speaker, we keep

in close contact with the mining and exploration companies to identify unknown soapstone deposits. I appreciate the fact that some of the companies, exploration companies plus the mining companies, assist in that.

Mr. Speaker, for quarrying of any kind of deposits, it depends on where the deposit is located. If it's on Inuit owned land, we do have to abide by the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement where only a certain amount can be quarried according to the land claims agreement. I don't have that information with me at this point on the tonnage and amount of soapstone that could be quarried on Inuit owned land, but I surely will get that information to the member from Tununig. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Oral Questions. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Tapardjuk

Question 185 – 3(3): Prospector Training Program

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to wish a good afternoon to my constituents in Igloolik and Hall Beach. I would like to refer back to an item that was just spoken to by the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation. I believe the title is the Nunavut Prospectors Program, including training in the communities.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the minister. I think it's a very good course involving the training of our residents. He stated that there have been approximately 750 graduates of the introductory prospecting course. He stated that 24 students in 10

communities will be offered more advanced prospecting courses.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation this question: what happens after the participants have completed the prospecting program? What else can they do if they come across base metals and precious minerals? I would like to know if there are any other programs available to assist these graduates. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister responsible for Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I want to thank the member from Amittuq for that excellent question. At the department, we are very proud of the program that assists Nunavummiut, and I know the folks in the small communities take advantage of the knowledge of the land they have. These courses are short in duration, but the students and the folks who take the course are knowledgeable, they know the land, and that's exactly what we're trying to encourage.

When they go out there prospecting, the first step is to actually get a \$5 prospecting licence. Our geologists or even the EDOs are there to help them out in preparing the prospecting licence. Once that happens, once you get that, you're qualified to apply for funds in our program. It's up to \$8,000 per applicant. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Your first supplementary, Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to raise this secondary question. In the past 13 years since the program was commenced, you've had 750 participants who have completed this program. To date, how many graduates have been involved in prospecting or found deposits and applied to develop a claim on their own?

Mr. Speaker, can the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation tell me how many of these 750 graduates have benefited in being able to become self-sufficient as a result of their courses? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister responsible for Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I thank the member for that excellent question. Mr. Speaker, out of the 750 applicants, I am not 100 percent sure; I don't have those numbers in front of me. We know in Kimmirut, we have some locals there who partnered in with other southern exploration companies to work on the discoveries that they had made. Also, in the Kitikmeot area, there are a couple of folks there from Kugaaruk who are working with other companies.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, prospecting is very difficult. The reason why we encourage this within our department is because our northern folks know the

land, they know what they see out there, and it's more natural for them to identify and remember some of these landmarks that they come across daily. Of course, our program is to make sure that they know what they're looking at, geological deposits out there, to make sure that if the prospector knows that these properties are out there, they have a pretty good chance of finding some sort of deposit.

Prospecting is very difficult. As you know, we've got a couple of famous prospectors in the NWT who actually made it big. It's not very often that prospectors get rich, but as you know, Mr. Speaker, the one person whom we all know about is Chuck Fipke, who discovered the Ekati diamond mine. He was just a prospector doing some exploration work and he eventually found a deposit. At the end of the day, he sold that deposit for \$850 million.

Exactly what we're trying to do is find some of these key people who want to become prospectors and entrepreneurs on their own. Of course, Mr. Speaker, once a discovery is made, there has to be some assistance and we're willing to do that with our geologists and outside help from the experts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Your second supplementary, Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also appreciate the minister's response with respect to my questions. Would there happen to be any kind of report with respect to the 750 graduates from this prospecting course and what assistance the government has

provided to them? Exactly how many of these prospectors were able to find a job after completing the course?

Mr. Speaker, perhaps I'll ask a question in this manner. Has this provided tangible benefits to these 750 graduates that can be presented in a report and that could be tabled in this House? How many have been assisted? Furthermore, are there any additional courses that these prospectors could take, for example, to help Inuit be business owners and entrepreneurs? Mr. Speaker, I would like to see a report when it's available, not immediately but when the department is able to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister responsible for Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Absolutely, to be accountable and transparent, we do have to report on our findings. There were 750 people whom we assisted in the prospectors training program. I've got to mention that 48 of them were trained this year in several communities and 24 of them were funded with the Nunavut prospecting assistance fund.

Mr. Speaker, we intend to be accountable and transparent. We will come up with a report. We're going back through the 13th year and the number of folks we have assisted in this program. It may take a little bit of time to get all the data together, but surely, to be open, transparent, and accountable, I will surely get a report prepared for that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit West, Madam Ell.

Question 186 – 3(3): Update on Baffin Correctional Centre Incident

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish a good afternoon and say "hello" to my constituents of Iqaluit West watching our proceedings.

My question is directed to the Department of Justice. We have heard on the news that the BCC facility experienced an incident this past weekend. Apparently there was a fire that occurred in the facility. Can the minister elaborate further on exactly what occurred at the Baffin Correctional Centre, how much damage was caused to the facility, and whether any of the inmates got hurt? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Ell. Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Ell for the question. Mr. Speaker, there was an incident Thursday night. A fire was lit by three individuals who are in custody at the RCMP. They are being investigated. The fire was lit, I believe, in the washroom. The prisoners in the area who were affected were safely evacuated, as per the protocols for the facility. The RCMP assisted. The fire marshal investigated and gave the all-clear. There were no injuries. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Your first supplementary, Ms. Ell.

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) What actions has the BCC management taken in the last couple of days as a result of this incident to prevent it from happening again?

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Ell for the question. Mr. Speaker, it's impossible to say if it will happen again or another incident. These are correctional facilities. It occurs in many facilities across Canada. When you get people together in large gatherings, you can never guarantee that there won't be an incident.

The staff at BCC has put the Baffin Correctional Centre into a lockdown condition, where there are no visitors. They're investigating the incident to determine how it occurred, as indicated in my previous answer to the first question. The RCMP is also investigating. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Your second supplementary, Ms. Ell.

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Having just recently been elected a member, I thank the minister for his response on what occurred at the Baffin Correctional Centre.

Based on my understanding about the Baffin Correctional Centre, I feel that it's too old and it's chronically overcrowded. Can the minister elaborate further on what the government's plans are for the future and whether or not they will replace the facility? I imagine it

would be too expensive. I would like to know what kind of plans the Department of Justice has with respect to the correctional centre. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Ell for the question again. Mr. Speaker, it's no secret that the Baffin Correctional Centre is an old facility. It was opened as a minimum-security facility and originally designed for 42 inmates; it has expanded to accommodate 56. In the last many years, it has sometimes fluctuated as high as 100. I have personally toured the facility a couple of times. I have seen the inside and the conditions. The gymnasium is oftentimes used with cots to accommodate overcrowding. We are building the new facility in Rankin Inlet, which we hope will address some of the overcrowding. It's now anticipated to be opened before next spring. There will be some movement of prisoners, I'm sure.

As members will recall, in December 2009, I did actually ask for some assistance to look at renovating, upgrading, or expanding the facility and asked for \$300,000 for that help, and we got a clear message from the House that investing in prisons in Nunavut is not something that is important. Unfortunately schools, gymnasiums, and community halls are a high priority. There is limited funding available as well from our capital planning.

I'm concerned with Bill C-10, the federal government's omnibus crime bill that they're coming up with. This bill may place more burdens on Nunavut's

correctional facilities to accommodate the individuals that we may be required to accommodate. There are no immediate plans to build a new major facility in Iqaluit. The cost could be as high as \$150 million to \$200 million. The facility in Rankin Inlet is coming in at about \$40 million. So it is very expensive.

I have asked my officials to look at alternatives. They're actually looking at a unique facility that's in use elsewhere in Canada called a sprung structure, where it can accommodate minimum-security prisoners in a temporary method. It may allow us to accommodate our medium- and maximum-security facility prisoners in the Baffin Correctional Centre. We're looking at alternatives and any support we can get from Members of this House for funding for looking after our facilities, upgrade them, and it's greatly appreciated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Your final supplementary, Ms. Ell.

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very appreciative that he's fully divested the information on what occurred today. He just stated that the federal government is about to introduce Bill C-10. Once this bill is introduced, has the minister started preparing to speak with his federal counterparts and initiate discussions on the impact and consequences of this bill in the Canadian Arctic, especially if we look at the correctional centres down the road? Can he negotiate for further funds to accommodate the additional facilities that may be incurred due to this new bill? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Ell. That's a very good question and a very timely question. Mr. Speaker, the government in Ottawa has promised that that bill will proceed through the House of Commons in the first 100 days of their sitting. There has been quite a lobby effort across Canada from all provinces and territories that that bill is going to put pressure on all of our jurisdictions.

I recently spoke with the president of the Canadian Bar Association, who was here in Iqaluit last week, and I expressed my thanks to her and her organization for lobbying quite strenuously at the Canadian Bar Association AGM in Halifax this past August. Again, last week, they were presenting a paper and lobbying a position paper in the House of Commons to point out that this is going to put a lot of stress on our facilities across Canada. I explained to her how much more stress our facilities will be under.

I certainly hope to have an opportunity to speak to my colleagues in Ottawa at some point to discuss how they could support Nunavut to develop or expand facilities to accommodate the expected uptake in prisoners as a result of the omnibus crime bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 187 – 3(3): Implications of New Federal Legislation on Crime

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my questions to the Minister of Justice. Mr. Speaker, my questions will overlap with those of Ms. Ell regarding the proposed new federal legislation on crime.

In his earlier response, the minister had noted that the new legislation will have a significant impact on the number of individuals who will be required to spend time incarcerated. Can the minister advise the House what steps he and his officials have taken to analyze the financial impact that this new legislation may have on the cost of providing correctional services in Nunavut? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Mr. Speaker, our department is monitoring the progress of the bill through the House. Obviously we believe it is going to have some additional costs for Nunavut and it would be premature for me to speculate at this point exactly what those costs will be. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Nunavut's correctional system also includes such programs as on-the-land camps. Can the minister update the House on how the proposed new federal legislation will impact the delivery of

important programs, such as on-the-land camps? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott again for the question. As I indicated earlier, it's premature for me to speculate on what the impacts will be, but I can tell the member that we do have five outpost camps. We do try to encourage our prisoners to participate in those camps. Unfortunately it's a voluntary program. The inmates do have to volunteer to go on the on-the-land camps. They're good programs, but you have to voluntarily go on them and we can't force people to go on them.

We have talked internally in the department about creating a government-owned outpost camp, where we could have our own corrections officers and officials working at the camp, and then we could place more prisoners out there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that answer. Just for clarification, though, I think I would like to rephrase my question to focus a little bit more on the new proposed legislation. Will it eliminate on-the-land camps for our residents? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I hope the new proposed legislation doesn't eliminate our need for the camps. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Many of Nunavut's clients of the justice system are victims themselves. Can the minister describe what supportive and rehabilitative programs are currently offered within the correctional system and whether these programs will be able to continue with the anticipated increase in the number of Nunavut inmates? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. As I indicated in my answers to Ms. Ell, our facility at BCC is quite small for the number of inmates we have, but we do endeavour to offer programs. We have a counsellor out there. We have an adult educator who offers programs. Of course, we have the on-the-land camp. It's quite popular with our young offenders. We have elders who work with the young people. In the Rankin Inlet facility, we're going to have people from the community who will work right in the facility with inmates. So there's a broad range of programs.

Our belief is that you can't just lock individuals up. You do have to offer rehabilitative programs to the individuals so that when they do serve their time, they can reintegrate into their

communities. It's very important from that perspective.

We're going to monitor this legislation very carefully. We anticipate that when it is passed, we're going to look at all the potential impacts it will have on all of our Nunavut corrections operations. I assure the members that we're not ignoring it. We will very carefully monitor it and take the necessary actions to continue to work with our inmates. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 188 – 3(3): Filling Social Worker Positions across Nunavut

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

Mr. Speaker, the minister is probably well aware that the community of Coral Harbour currently does not have a social worker. I have heard from my colleagues that this is a problem for other Nunavut communities. Can the minister clarify when Coral Harbour can expect to have the position of social worker filled? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his very good question. I believe there are 43 social worker positions, 28 positions are filled and 15

are vacant. We had made this a top priority.

I have spoken to my cabinet colleagues, especially my colleague at Human Resources, with respect to the social worker positions and the fact that we've had to keep these positions open for a long time. Whenever someone leaves the position, we put out job competitions. Whenever candidates are available, we bring them in and interview them right away. Some of the successful candidates are unable to fly into the communities.

Once we have a candidate available for the social worker position in Coral Harbour, we will begin the process, but I can't tell you exactly when that position will be filled and I haven't heard anything new on that. Once I do, I will be able to inform the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me just make this preamble. It's very good to have social workers who come in to visit for a tour because I have seen a social worker, who I believe comes from Rankin Inlet, who comes and visits Coral Harbour.

I would like to ask if the minister is working on solutions to the social worker problem in order to reduce the time it takes to address this issue. I believe he just said that there are still 15 vacant positions. I wonder if we can make any progress in filling some of these positions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is indeed a priority issue which our officials are working on. With respect to an update on the advertisements in the newspaper, it has been advertised for a number of weeks. We have kept that open throughout this time and we have been collaborating with the Department of Human Resources to try to fill these vacant social worker positions.

We are all aware of every community that requires social workers. There are some positions that are not even being applied for, although we're urging people to apply for them. We have tasked our officials to continue to make this a priority and to try to ensure that the communities that are most at risk get the social workers as fast as we can hire them.

I may be able to provide an update this week or before the end of the session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Curley. Oral Questions. Member for Nattilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

Question 189 – 3(3): Lack of Students at the Piqqusilirivvik Cultural School

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I tend to forget, so I would like to wish my constituents in Nattilik a good afternoon. Also, to my grandfather, I wish him a good day and say "I love you."

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth.

Mr. Speaker, recent stories in the media have suggested that the newly built multi-million dollar cultural school in Clyde River is having difficulties attracting students. Can the minister clearly describe what steps have been taken to advertise openings and recruit students to the school? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That was the situation when we had difficulty attracting students at the end of September. That was the official opening date, so it had to be deferred. The lack of students wasn't the only reason why it got deferred, but it was also due to the fact that the sealift supply arrived late. It did, however, bring all the materials for the classrooms as well as the equipment.

Based on the numbers at the end of last week, there have now been 25 applicants to the Piqqusilirivvik Cultural School. Further, because we delayed the start-up date, we have set it for the end of this particular month or at least the beginning of November. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Your first supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Yes, I was going to raise more questions, but he answered some of them in his response.

(interpretation ends) Can the minister describe what factors are affecting the number of students applying for the cultural school programs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for those questions and I'm sure a lot of people want to hear about it. Yes, there were a number of reasons and being completely new where this is the first time this kind of school is being tried in Nunavut. It is widely known that it will provide a variety of courses in the Inuit culture. Unfortunately many of the courses were not fully prepared.

We hired a temporary worker and the principal of the cultural school worked with certain staff to complete their plans for the year. We now have a new start-up date. The real reason was because the residents of Nunavut didn't know what courses would be offered. They have now been able to go on the local radios in every community and speak about the Piqqusilirivvik Cultural School. As a result, the number of applicants for the school has increased. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Have the teacher positions been filled at the school? I believe they were still looking to fill all the positions so that all the courses on Inuit culture will be offered. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time, as I said earlier, we hired a temporary employee to work on the curriculum. We still haven't completed the hiring of all the teachers. Some courses are available now at Clyde River, even though we don't have the full complement of teachers, but they will offer specific courses. At this time, we have a temporary employee. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak. Oral Questions. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Enook.

Question 190 – 3(3): Reducing the Costs of Medical Travel

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

Mr. Speaker, in reviewing documentation on the budgets and expenditures of this government, I am shocked at the ever-increasing costs for medical travel. I recognize that in the case of an emergency or an outbreak or a sudden illness, then we have no choice but to ensure that patients have access to the medical care that they need and deserve and as soon as they can get it. However, Mr. Speaker, not all medical concerns are of an urgent nature. I am confident that with good planning and the effective use of resources that we have in place, such as regular visits by

specialists, the use of telehealth and online communications, and other proactive programs, medical travel costs can be reduced.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister if he can clearly describe what specific steps have been taken by his department to reduce the costs of medical travel. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's a very important question. I think the public as well feels the cost of medical care is very important, not only Nunavutmiut and our hon. member but Canadians as a whole. I know my colleague, the Minister of Finance, faces practically every meeting he has with the Minister of Finance and his colleagues that the cost of providing medical care to Canadians is not decreasing but, as a matter of fact, increasing.

In this instance, Mr. Speaker, the Canadian ministers, particularly all the ministers of finance, are taking the lead in this area that they're going to have to negotiate a better deal with the federal government. The health care transfer agreement will expire within about four years from now. My colleagues are working hard to try and find ways to reduce the costs. The indicators say that the cost of services are not decreasing and therefore, increasing, particularly in isolated places like Nunavut. We don't have much means of alternative medical care.

Not only is medical air travel an indicator in terms of rising costs but also residential care for people who have disabilities as well as major individual patients who have to be treated outside of the territory. These rates are not decreasing, which the provinces supply to us. Out-of-territory residential care is increasing constantly and therefore, the rates that we get have a major impact on our health care. So I don't think it's as simple as reducing medical travel. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for his response. I would like to raise this further question. Over the years, the Government of Nunavut, with funding from the federal government, invested in the installation of the telehealth system in all of Nunavut's communities. Can the minister provide an update to this House on the status of the telehealth system across Nunavut and how often it is being used for medical diagnostics? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) I can state at this time, Mr. Speaker, that the telehealth system is indeed being utilized. The health centre nurses are utilizing the telehealth system. These proceedings are being watched by our residents, including our health centres. There are on-call medical physicians, some of whom are in Vancouver. They are available to be conferred with, such

as to announce there is this certain sickness spreading in the community and indicate what medication is appropriate.

We expect that the telehealth system will continue to provide more improvement in our overall health service delivery. We believe that the telehealth system is becoming an essential service in all communities, just like we now must have satellite phones in our back pockets. This is how important this tool is now to the nurses who are working in the health centres. I am very proud of this system and we will continue to use it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Curley. Your second supplementary, Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Minister. Can the minister advise this House on whether any analysis has been undertaken on the cost savings that have resulted from the use of the telehealth system since its installation across Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can't say exactly how much money we saved, but I can tell you that it has provided a lot of assistance to the nurses in the communities and they have saved quite a bit of money. When bad weather has postponed flights, the nurses are able to consult with the doctors through the telehealth system.

The telehealth system will continue to be offered as a service and we will make it

available in all communities. At this time, we can't say how much we will save or how much the system will cost, but it has provided a lot of benefits and assistance already to the nurses in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Curley. Your final supplementary, Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated in my line of questioning last week, I feel certain that further cost savings could result from better planning of patient visits to doctors and specialists outside of the territory. Will the minister commit to reviewing the current policies and practices relating to long and expensive trips for medical travel with a view to reducing expenditures in this area? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't think we're taking this into consideration.

If we were sick less, then we would save a lot of money. That's why public health officials try to promote preventative care and healthy lifestyles so that the government doesn't spend as much. This is specifically related to prevention strategies. If you don't drink so much, if you don't commit so many crimes, if you don't smoke as much... We're trying to prevent these. That way we could lower the costs. If everyone followed these preventative strategies, then it would lower costs.

There are some illnesses that we can't prevent which are not visible to the eye. When we submit our annual budget estimates, we try to make them as accurately as possible, but sometimes we have to request for supplementary appropriations to the House. So any over-expenditure we face has to be submitted to the House for approval before the end of the fiscal year.

Provinces are quite slow with their billing processes after the treatment of patients from Nunavut. Some of the bills that we receive from the provincial health departments come in after the fiscal year-end and these also add to our spending cycle, so we have conducted a review of the whole system.

The Minister of Finance has advised us to be fiscally disciplined. All departments have been advised that they have to be very observant of their expenditures. This is the only way we can control our expenses and not have another deficit. We are very careful about that, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Curley. Members will note that the allotted time for question period has expired. We will move on in the *Orders of the Day*, Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 104 – 3(3): NTI News Release: NTI Board and Staff to Participate in ASIST Training

Tabled Document 105 – 3(3): Northern FrontLine 2011: Canadian Rangers: Eyes and Ears of Operation Nunavut 11

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have two items to table today.

I wish to table a copy of a news release issued today by Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. The release indicates that members of NTI's board of directors will be provided with the opportunity to participate in the ASIST suicide prevention training. Mr. Speaker, I encourage the Minister of Health and Social Services to make the same training available to all MLAs and I commit to him that I would be very happy to participate.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to table a copy of an article from *Northern FrontLine* magazine titled "Canadian Rangers: Eyes and Ears of Operation Nunavut 11." Mr. Speaker, the article once again points out the valuable service and expertise of our Canadian Rangers in providing support to the Canadian Forces during sovereignty exercises in the north. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Mr. Elliott.

Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

Bill 22 – An Act Respecting the Constituencies of Nunavut – Notice

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, October 26, 2011, I will move that Bill 22, *An Act Respecting the Constituencies of Nunavut*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Minister of Justice, Minister Peterson.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills

Bill 16 – Annual Reporting Validation (Liquor Licensing Board) Act – Second Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 16, *Annual Reporting Validation (Liquor Licensing Board) Act*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill deems annual reports of the Nunavut Liquor Licensing Board for certain years to have been submitted and tabled in accordance with section 9 of the *Liquor Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 16 has been read for the second time and is referred

to the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills.
Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Bill 17 – Write-off of Debts Act, 2011-2012 – Second Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 17, *Write-off of Debts Act, 2011-2012*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill authorizes the write-off of debts in accordance with section 82 of the *Financial Administration Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 17 has been read for the second time and is referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills.
Minister of Justice, Minister Peterson.

Bill 18 – An Act to Amend Several Acts for Constitutional Validity (Spousal Benefits and Obligations) – Second Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 18, *An Act to Amend Several Acts for Constitutional Validity (Spousal Benefits and*

Obligations), be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill amends certain enactments of Nunavut relating to spousal benefits and obligations to ensure their compliance with judicial decisions recognizing constitutionally protected rights; it makes corollary amendments to ensure consistent terminology in the Acts of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 18 has been read for the second time and is referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills.
Minister of Justice, Minister Peterson.

Bill 19 – Family Support Orders Enforcement Act – Second Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 19, *Family Support Orders Enforcement Act*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill establishes a family support office to be administered by the family support manager and sets out procedures to collect and, where necessary, enforce payment of support orders in Nunavut. The bill repeals and replaces the former *Maintenance Orders Enforcement Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 19 has been read for the second time and is referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills.
Minister of Justice, Minister Peterson.

**Bill 20 – An Act to Amend the
Judicature Act (Court Rules) –
Second Reading**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 20, *An Act to Amend the Judicature Act (Court Rules)*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill streamlines the procedure for the making of court rules. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 20 has been read for the second time and is referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills.
Minister of Justice, Minister Peterson.

**Bill 21 – Miscellaneous Statutes
Amendment Act, 2011, No. 3 –
Second Reading**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and

Whale Cove, that Bill 21, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2011, No. 3*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill corrects inconsistencies and errors in certain enactments in Nunavut, clarifies the citation of the enactments of Nunavut, corrects references to the Northwest Territories, and repeals provisions that have ceased to have effect. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? None. The motion is carried and Bill 21 has been read for the second time and is referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills.
Minister of Education, Madam Premier.

**Bill 23 – An Act to Amend Public
Colleges Act – Second Reading**

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, who has been very busy, that Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Public Colleges Act*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill amends the *Public Colleges Act* to empower the college to grant prescribed university degrees and applied bachelor degrees and to update the Act in light of the establishment of Nunavut. The name of the Act is changed to *Nunavut Arctic College Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? No. The motion is carried and Bill 23 has been read for the second time and is referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 13, 14, and 15 with Mr. Ningeongan in the Chair.

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

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:13 and Committee resumed at 15:44*

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

Chairman (Mr. Ningeongan) (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bills 13, 14, and 15. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would like to continue with the review of the capital estimates for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, followed by the Department Economic Development and Transportation. Mr. Chairman, if time permits, we would like to proceed with the capital estimates of the Department of Health and Social Services. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Are we in agreement that we first deal with the capital estimates of the Nunavut Housing Corporation?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 15 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2012-2013 – Nunavut Housing Corporation – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister and his officials to the witness table.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is the President of Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Alain Barriault, and to my left is the Chief Financial Officer of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Lori Kimball. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Curley. Welcome. We didn't finish the review of the Nunavut Housing Corporation's capital estimates and I still had names on the list. We left off on page J-3, which includes pages J-4 and J-5. On my list I have Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I would like to ask the minister and his officials a question. Many of my constituents have asked me about the capital plans for Nunavut's public units. Some of the ovens and refrigerators in the units are getting old, suffer issues, and are not repaired. These

appliances are utilized as part of a unit's essential equipment. Additionally, the public units of the housing corporation are getting rather old. Can the minister provide information as to what kind of policies you follow to replace these ovens and refrigerators in the public units of the Nunavut Housing Corporation? Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you. Okay, I understood the reference to refrigerators in your question. When you referred to *Innirviit*, are you referring to dryers? Did you mean a dryer? Some appliances within the public units do get rather old. If I was correct in understanding that you wanted to hear about the replacement of these appliances, then the M&I retrofit fund, which is around \$6 million for all of Nunavut, is used for replacing appliances.

We have to work in conjunction with the LHO in the community to cooperate with the tenant to replace appliances if they are faulty. However, the tenant has to inform the LHO that their appliances are not working properly. The funding is usually available immediately to the LHO and they can apply to their district office. That is how this system is set up for the replacement of appliances, if I understood the gist of your question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): When I said *Ingnirviit*, I meant the stove/oven, where you cook your food. I believe that these

household appliances come with a warranty; however, these appliances are used for a long time and not replaced even when they are problematic. In my constituency, the communities have issues with these appliances. I thank the minister for his clarification. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. We would like clarification. Are you talking about stoves?

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Yes.

Chairman: Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Yes, okay, those appliances are eligible for that funding. If it is an urgent need, then they can apply for emergency funding for repairing faulty parts, especially during the winter months. These essentials are part of the social housing units, so they have to inform their local housing authority and apply for funding at their district office.

We try to have replacement appliances in every community that can be used to replace appliances in an urgent matter. However, these appliances are limited and sometimes there is more demand than available units, especially in larger communities with many units. I want the members to know that they can get assistance in this area if they are unable to meet the needs of their clients. Thank you.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to ask our witnesses this question. We are in dire straits due to the shortage of staff

housing, particularly in Taloyoak. Can you inform me as to what your plans are to resolve this challenge? We have limited staff housing in Gjoa Haven, particularly in Taloyoak. I am talking about GN employee staff housing. Thank you.

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

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): I would like the President of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Barriault, to provide her with a detailed response. Thank you.

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

Mr. Barriault: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are aware that there are shortages of staff housing in a number of communities and we are working with our GN departments to identify where the needs are and to plan for either construction of new houses or acquisition of new leases. In Taloyoak, for example, we're now in the process of obtaining a lease for one of the staff for the Department of Education. So we are working with our fellow departments to identify those needs and to find means of solving the problems. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barriault. Ms. Ell.

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question, first of all, is with respect to the contents of page J-5, Various Nunavut Fire Damage Replacement with a budget set at \$1 million. Can you identify what the actual uses of these funds are? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This line item is part of the \$16 million fund. When buildings catch fire, sometimes it only damages part of the unit, such as a bedroom damaged or when it is a multi-plex, it only damages part of the unit. Sometimes it can be as little as \$10,000 or less to repair the fire damage.

These types of fire damage line items are for repairing fire damage in public units. The LHOs apply to the department for these damage repair funds and they do not use their own funds. We disburse the funds to the LHO if they have used funds to repair fire damage repairs. Sometimes it can be an urgent issue, especially when a unit catches fire. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Curley. Ms. Ell.

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Damage by fire to units are quite different, some completely gutted while others are only partially damaged and can be repaired with varying amounts of funds required. It seems to be occurring more frequently every year. Although it is unfortunate to have anyone experience this, people do go through that type of event. What plans are required and what priorities are there with respect to the repairs? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, if the

unit is salvageable, this program can be used to make the repairs.

In cases where the unit suffers mainly smoke damage and the odour is too strong after the fire has been doused, then the tenants are placed in another unit while the repairs are being made. This could be due to the heavy smoke odour and we have to ensure that there are no health risks after a fire. Therefore, it is only after the unit has been repaired properly and inspected that the unit can be inhabited again by the tenants. That is usually the case where the tenants have to wait until the building is repaired.

To answer your question, setting priorities is not the issue. However, if a unit is uninhabitable, then they have to repair the building. These funds are mainly allocated for repairing the building. In cases where the building is a total loss, the LHOs would use the insurance program to replace it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Curley. Ms. Ell.

Ms. Ell (interpretation): It seems that more and more units are being damaged as a result of fire or are a complete writeoff. What exactly has your department undertaken to teach tenants about fire safety and fire prevention? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is the responsibility of the tenant relations officer. In cases where there are criminal activities taking place, that complicates

the tenant relations officer's duties. This is also the case where tenants are behind in their rents. The tenant relation officers have to meet with the tenants and the LHO. Part of their responsibility is ensuring that tenants are aware of fire safety.

As an example, children ought not to be close to any areas that may be a fire hazard. Unfortunately not all risky behaviour is caught by the officers. We sometimes hear that children playing with matches cause these fires. There are many different ways that fire can occur, and ever since the public housing units arrived in the north, this has continued to be an issue that is dealt with. However, not all tenants listen to the information that is presented to them, much like us. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Curley. Ms. Ell.

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, as I am new to the procedures of this House, if my questions are out of line, you may reprimand me if I go off on a tangent. This question is towards the same page we are reviewing, J-4. This is with respect to repair funds that are applied for.

During my campaign, I visited many elders in their units. Many of these units have no porches and the doors are drafty and during the winter, snow blows in through the cracks. I doubt that this is part of the responsibility of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, but if you could expand on what programs are available, which body has to be approached, or how these maintenance repairs are dealt with. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to ensure that all members understand this issue, Iqaluit has the largest number of public housing units in Nunavut and the largest number of private homes.

We had to replace the local board of directors, although we retained some of the previous members. Further, we have requested names from the public for those people interested in serving on the board and the closing date is at the end of December.

With respect to the program itself, we are looking at those units that don't have porches. Perhaps I can get Mr. Alain Barriault to explain the program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Barriault: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If an elder is a homeowner, they can apply through district offices of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, which are located in Cape Dorset, Arviat, and Cambridge Bay.

For assistance under the Seniors and Disabled Persons Preventative Maintenance Program, which addresses items such as weather stripping, leaky doors, and things like that, if the elders are in public housing and similar to anyone in public housing, if you note any repairs that need to be done on your housing unit, you are encouraged to contact your local housing organization and report the repair that needs to be done. At that point, a work order is

issued and the unit is repaired. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barriault. Ms. Ell.

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I thank you for clarifying that. What if the people don't own their own private homes and they weren't renting a public unit? As an example, here in Iqaluit, we have an elders' facility that includes housing units for the elders. Who is responsible for the maintenance of these units? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister Curley, do you have a response to that question?

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Barriault will answer that question. Thank you.

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

Mr. Barriault: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my understanding, the seniors' facility in Iqaluit, similar to other seniors' buildings throughout Nunavut, is managed by the local housing organization. As such, they should contact the Iqaluit Housing Authority. If, for some reason, they're not the ones responsible, they will know who is and they will put them in contact with the appropriate person. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Barriault. (interpretation ends) J-3. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Branch Summary. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Total Capital Expenditures.

\$16,004,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Go to page J-2. (interpretation ends) Department Summary. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Total Capital Expenditures. \$16,004,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Are we in agreement that we have concluded with the Nunavut Housing Corporation?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister, you may proceed if you have any closing remarks.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am quite happy with the questions that were raised and we will keep them in mind. Whenever a member raises a question, it is quite clear and further, we will work to move them forward. We also know that we need to work on our communication and that is something we take to heart. We will keep trying to remediate that.

My colleagues, if you have any questions even outside of this House, we will be available to answer them. I also thank you for supporting our departmental allocations for this fiscal year. I will stop there for now, Mr. Chairman. I also thank you as well, Mr. Chairman.

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

Committee members, I will have Mr. Louis Tapardjuk take the Chair while the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation prepares for his presentation. I have quite a few questions for the minister. Thank you.

Chairman (Mr. Tapardjuk) (interpretation): Thank you. Let's continue on. The committee will now deal with the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. Before we proceed with the opening comments, a point of order was raised on Friday by a member and I said that a ruling will be issued today. We will deal with that before Minister Taptuna begins his opening comments. Thank you.

My eyes are not getting any younger.

Chairman's Ruling

I am now prepared to rule on the point of order that was raised by the Member for Rankin Inlet North during the proceedings of the Committee of the Whole on October 20, 2011. The point of order was raised in relation to comments made by the Member for Tununiq during consideration of the motion that was before the Committee of the Whole at the time.

I would like to begin by taking this opportunity to remind all members that the purpose of raising a point of order is to draw the attention of the Chair to a departure from any written or unwritten rule or custom of the Legislative Assembly. When raising a point of

order, it is important to clearly state what rule or custom has been breached, and to clearly state what remedy is being requested.

In speaking to his point of order, the Member for Rankin Inlet North suggested that comments which he had made during the previous day's proceedings of the Committee of the Whole had been inaccurately rendered in the daily *Blues*.

I note that in speaking to the point of order, the Member for Tununig indicated that he had reviewed both the Inuktitut and English versions of the *Blues*.

Having had the opportunity to review the audio recording of the proceedings in question, I am satisfied that the Inuktitut version of the *Blues* accurately rendered the comments made by the Member for Rankin Inlet North on October 19, 2011.

I further note that in raising his point of order, the Member for Rankin Inlet North did not ask the Member for Tununig to withdraw his comments, nor did he suggest that the Member for Tununig had used unparliamentary language or otherwise committed a breach of the Rules, nor did he ask the Chair to take any specific action.

In essence, the Member for Rankin Inlet North used the mechanism of a point of order to offer additional clarification of his remarks in relation to the debate that was being undertaken at that time on the motion under consideration.

Accordingly, no action from the Chair is required and the matter is closed. Thank you for your attention. I hope that was clear enough.

We will then go back to the Committee of the Whole and deal with the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. Minister Taptuna, you can proceed with your opening comments. We will then open the floor for questions. Minister Taptuna.

Bill 15 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2012-2013 – Economic Development and Transportation – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, colleagues. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to be here today to present my department's 2012-13 capital plan to the Committee of the Whole.

The Department of Economic Development and Transportation is proposing a \$14.4 million capital plan for the fiscal year 2012-13.

Airports

This budget contains two large airport projects which address major issues contained in the Nunavut Transportation Strategy. These projects are improvements in two of our hub communities, Rankin Inlet and Cambridge Bay. I am pleased to say that both of these projects effectively will leverage funding from the federal Building Canada Fund, and both will improve the long-term efficiency of all passenger and freight operations in the Kivalliq and Kitikmeot regions. Our contribution to these two projects is \$6 million and the total budget for these improvements is \$24 million, including the \$18 million of federal contribution.

We have also included \$3.5 million to advance the Iqaluit Airport Improvement project. This funding will be used to develop comprehensive documentation and planning to successfully deliver this project under a private-public partnership model.

Mr. Chairman, our transportation strategy also addresses the need to rehabilitate and improve our community airports. We have included \$350,000 to conduct engineering design for a surface overlay and airport lighting upgrades at the Hall Beach Airport; we have allocated \$1.5 million to advance the design of a new airport for Pangnirtung; and we have \$50,000 to begin planning for a new airport terminal in Taloyoak.

Mr. Chairman, these are the major airport projects we will be undertaking in the 2012-13 fiscal year. There are also some other projects under \$250,000 which are grouped together under the heading Small Capital Projects. We have allocated \$800,000 to complete these projects, which will include new runway inspection vehicles for four communities, as well as an airport sweeper and a vibratory compactor. In addition, our small capital plan includes \$100,000 to upgrade visitor centres in the territory and \$147,000 for tenant improvements to our offices across the regions.

Several larger equipment purchases will be made under the Minor Capital Project heading. Under this project, we have allocated \$1.7 million, which will be used to purchase plow trucks for Sanikiluaq, Arviat; three loaders for Pangnirtung, Taloyoak, and Iqaluit; and a snow blower attachment for the

wheeled loader we purchased for Kimmirut this past summer.

Small Craft Harbours

Mr. Chairman, we have included \$500,000 in this capital plan to make minor improvements to community marine facilities and to contribute towards our lobbying effort of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. We propose making the majority of the funding under this project available to communities under contribution agreements so they can facilitate some of their own changes.

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

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

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

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

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Do members agree to bring in the witnesses?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Thank you. Minister Taptuna, please introduce your witnesses. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my left is Director of Planning and Policy Mr. John Hawkins and on my right is Deputy Minister Long. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Welcome Deputy Minister Long and Mr. Hawkins. Welcome to the House.

Does the Chair of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development have any opening comments? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide you with opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development concerning its review of the proposed 2012-13 Capital Estimates of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation.

Members note that the department's proposed capital budget for 2012-13 is \$14.4 million. The department's capital budget was \$3,925,000 in the 2011-12 fiscal year and \$5.55 million in the 2010-11 fiscal year.

The department's proposed 2012-13 capital budget is focused primarily on transportation-related infrastructure.

The Department of Economic Development and Transportation's proposed 2012-13 capital estimates include \$500,000 in funding for the GN's contribution towards the construction of small craft harbours in Nunavut communities. This amount has been included in the department's annual capital estimates since the 2009-2010 fiscal year. The department has indicated that this funding is to be used to "undertake studies, obtain permits, undertake design work, undertake minor marine improvements and partner with the [federal] Department of Fisheries [and Oceans] on funding major works if the opportunity arises."

Members are pleased that the minister tabled the GN's updated Nunavut Transportation Strategy in the Legislative Assembly on June 5, 2009. Some of the objectives of the strategy are to "Implement the federal Small Craft Harbours Program in Nunavut," "Act on the *Nunavut Small Craft Harbours Report*," and "Extend the Small Craft Harbours program to other communities."

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

The standing committee notes that the Government of Canada's response to the

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

During the June 2011 sitting of the House, the Legislative Assembly approved \$376,000 in capital carryovers for the department's small craft harbours project. The standing committee continues to encourage the minister to table an annual report in the Legislative Assembly concerning the department's actual expenditures in this area, including a detailed list of which communities have received funding.

Mr. Chairman, members engaged in a comprehensive dialogue with the minister concerning the issue of small craft harbours during his recent appearance before the standing committee. Although members are supportive of efforts to obtain federal support for investments in this area, it is recognized that construction costs for major marine facilities can be in the millions of dollars. For example, the 2009 federal budget provided \$17.0 million towards the construction of the new harbour in Pangnirtung.

The standing committee encourages the department to examine options for feasible and affordable improvements to existing community infrastructure that focus on the safety of boaters and protection of equipment, and which can be undertaken with available resources. I would note that the *2005 Nunavut Small*

Craft Harbours Report indicates that "Lack of Nunavut harbour infrastructure has resulted in at least 2 documented cases of loss of life in recent years. In 2002 a Pond Inlet fisher drowned while paddling his dinghy from shore to his fishing vessel moored offshore. A Rankin Inlet fisher died under similar circumstances in 2005."

In June of 2009, the Legislative Assembly approved \$925,000 in capital funding for the planning and design of the Iqaluit Regional Marine Facility to "meet the needs of marine re-supply as well as local boat owners and operators." In June of 2010, the Legislative Assembly approved a \$532,000 capital carryover for this project. Members look forward to ongoing updates on the status of this project.

Mr. Chairman, some of the objectives of the updated Nunavut Transportation Strategy are to "Assure the integrity of the Nunavut transportation system by ensuring every community has infrastructure adequate for its needs within that system" and to "Enhance the current airport systems." Other objectives are to "Rationalize government use of the transportation system" and "revisit the government Air Services Study."

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

can provide and can also increase the cost of providing services.

Members note that the department's proposed 2012-13 capital estimates include \$11.4 million in funding for six significant airport projects, including the relocation of the Pangnirtung Airport and planning for a new Iqaluit International Airport, which is to be undertaken as a public-private partnership. Members look forward to ongoing updates on the status of these projects.

Members also encourage the department to be mindful of the potential impact of major economic development projects, such as the Mary River mine, on the development of new regional hub airports.

Mr. Chairman, a major transportation infrastructure project with which the GN has been involved is the development of a Manitoba-Nunavut Road. On September 1, 2010, the Government of Nunavut and the Government of Manitoba jointly announced that the two jurisdictions would be undertaking "initial consultations on a cost-benefit study on a Manitoba-Nunavut all-weather road." Members look forward to ongoing updates on this important initiative.

The department's 2010-11 capital estimates included \$700,000 in funding for a new Kivalliq Regional Visitor Centre. In June of 2011, the Legislative Assembly approved a \$697,000 capital carryover for this project. The department has indicated that "the design of the visitor centre is anticipated to be complete in July 2012" and that "the project is expected to be built

adjacent to or attached to the Rankin Inlet Air Terminal Building." Members also note that the department's proposed 2012-13 capital estimates include \$100,000 in funding for renovations to existing visitor centres.

The department's proposed 2012-13 capital estimates include approximately \$2.25 million in funding for the acquisition of mobile equipment for Nunavut airports, including runway inspection vehicles, loaders, and a vibratory packer. The standing committee emphasizes the importance of ensuring that the standards and criteria for such equipment are appropriate for our jurisdiction's conditions in relation to such matters as ease of maintenance and repair.

Mr. Chairman, in June of 2011, the Legislative Assembly approved \$10,456,000 in capital carryovers for the department, including projects for new airport equipment shelters and airport improvements. The standing committee emphasizes the importance of the department keeping Members of the Legislative Assembly and municipalities fully informed on an ongoing basis of the status of capital projects that are carried over and/or delayed.

The department's proposed 2012-13 capital estimates do not include any funding for projects such as new meat or fish processing plants. While members recognize that federal investments may be essential for realizing a number of long-term capital projects, the department is encouraged to not lose sight of its economic development responsibilities. The standing committee also recognizes the role of the Nunavut Development Corporation in this area.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2012-13 Capital Estimates of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

I suggest to members that wherever possible you ask your detailed questions during the page-by-page review. Are there any general comments? You have your opportunity at this time. Are there any general comments? Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. While we were at the standing committee meeting, we were talking about small craft harbours. We were told that they would be considered, including breakwaters, only if they were financially feasible.

I could use an example where, in Newfoundland, they have breakwaters, docks, and so on. I know that many of them are financially able to stand on their own and, in fact, are commercially valuable. There's a connection with economic development and a lot of support for the private sector. We also have to look at the Nunavut communities where the demand isn't for commercial gain as much. We do have hunters and trappers up here who need those kinds of

infrastructure, and I have wanted to make these comments.

Privately owned boats, snowmobiles, and other modes of transportation, especially boats, are very expensive to purchase. Our government should be more sensitive, even though the boat or snowmobile owners are not looking at venture development or something. It seems like if you're using those for recreational purposes, hunting and trapping, then they are deemed to be of no value.

We have to consider a provision of service of these types to the residents of Nunavut. They use a large amount of money to purchase those vehicles and they provide food to the community. This is no small thing in the communities and that should be considered. That is why I wanted to speak to this issue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the minister appeared before the committee, we spoke about an issue and in particular, I spoke to the complete lack of infrastructure in the community of Pond Inlet. With the details in the minister's notes, it mentions funds of approximately \$500,000 that are used for repairs. When can Pond Inlet expect assistance? Pond Inlet has absolutely nothing.

I believe that you are aware, Mr. Chairman, that we lost a resident of Pond Inlet who was trying to reach his boat. We have nothing to use in Pond

Inlet for boats. We don't have a dock, breakwaters, floating docks, or even a place for sheltering boats and we don't even have a long peninsula either. We have absolutely nothing in Pond Inlet. This results in people having to rush whenever a storm breaks or when the winds pick up to drive their boats to the mouth of Salmon River, which is perhaps two miles and that distance is very long when the waves are breaking.

My colleague's comments seem to have included a reference to the ability of communities receiving this infrastructure if there is a commercial opportunity. It seems to me that the minister is insinuating that economic development is the priority and that safety is secondary to the department. That seems to be the underlying message, at least to me. It is very hurtful when a community has absolutely no infrastructure and we are stuck with it.

In looking at these reports and specifically the November 18, 2009 Senate report that is specific to the fisheries, it states that there is a need for small craft harbours. Here in Nunavut, there was a June 5, 2009 report titled "Let's Get Moving" and it states that we also need harbours in the communities. I am unsure of the exact Inuktitut term, but the November 2005 *Nunavut Small Craft Harbours Report* speaks to the need for small craft harbours here in Nunavut, especially for offshore fisheries. This is also included in the Senate's report on fisheries, which was presented in June 2009. It speaks to the need for these small craft harbours.

When will the minister be able to report to the residents of Pond Inlet that progress has been made with respect to

the Small Craft Harbours Program? It indicates here that there is \$500,000 available per fiscal year. We have absolutely no marine infrastructure in Pond Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. I have no more names on my list for general comments. You still have an opportunity to ask your questions during the line-by-line review. You will note that we will begin with page I-5. I-3 and I-4 don't have figures. The figures start on I-5. (interpretation ends) Transportation. Economic Development and Transportation. Branch Summary. (interpretation) The details for I-5 are on I-6. \$13,400,000. Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want clarification on this one item as it is noticeable that planning will be undertaken for the Taloyoak Air Terminal Building. I want to ask the minister whether or not the line item in I-6 refers to the planning cycle. I first want to know how long the planning cycle is in terms of years from when they initiate the planning to when they initiate the construction, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. At this time, Taloyoak is one of the communities with the old freezer-style ATB, or air terminal building, and the process of planning and design is going to be taking place throughout this fiscal year that we're in, 2011-12. For a smaller community like that, the planning usually takes about a year and another year to design. After that, the

design and the plan determine the overall cost and that's usually in the third year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Even though it is not listed here, I believe the minister understands that I was referring to Chesterfield Inlet when I raised that question to him. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. I didn't hear a question. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to raise this question first and it's regarding the \$500,000 fund for small craft harbours. I believe it refers to docks in Inuktitut. The terminology used for these facilities are all so different, so it becomes difficult to determine which term I should use in raising questions.

Now, with respect to this \$500,000 small craft harbour fund, I believe that it's available every fiscal year. Can the minister report on what these funds were used for last year or outline what are eligible for this \$500,000 fund? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. I fully understand his frustrations and the people of Pond Inlet. It's very difficult to get marine infrastructure such as that with only a small line item of \$500,000.

We use this line item of \$500,000 to prepare our geotechnical work on subsurface for potential breakwaters or even docking facilities. We conduct fish habitat studies, which is a requirement to do any kind of work, and preliminary site selection and engineering. That also includes identifying construction sources and quarry sources for building such infrastructure like that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps if my question was not clear, I will rephrase it. This \$500,000 fund, as per the page, is allocated for small craft harbours. Perhaps I am misunderstanding the terminology used in English. I seem to understand that it is geared towards these small craft harbours, but the response seems to be referring to another matter. Can the minister clarify or let me understand exactly what this is referring to? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister Taptuna, please provide a clarification.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll try and do that. For that purpose, we also use the \$500,000 line item for proposals and actual site landing cleanups and that's usually based on community proposals that we get and whatever the community wants to do.

For the definition of a small craft harbour, we know that one is being built in Pangnirtung and when we say "small craft harbour," that is a large project. That is for boats up to 30 metres, I

believe. I'm going to let my policy planner elaborate more on the definitions of small craft harbour, port, and wharves. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Hawkins.

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Small Craft Harbours program that some of the members have been talking about is a program that DFO runs and it is specifically for commercial fisheries' harbours, so there is a bit of confusion.

Obviously we would like to see a harbour. A harbour is a safe place for boats. We would like to see those in every community. There is an opportunity, through the Small Craft Harbours Program, through the federal Small Craft Harbours program, and through the *Nunavut Small Craft Harbours Report*, which some of the members have also spoken about, to potentially access funding under that Small Craft Harbours program, the federal one, and those would be commercial harbours.

We do recognize the need for a harbour of some description, a safe place to put boats, in every community and I think we have tried to make some of the funding available in the small craft harbours funding that we are speaking about in our capital plan. We have tried and will continue to try and make some of that available to the communities on a proposal basis. So if they have a good plan and wish to propose it and bring it forward, we would certainly consider them under that program, but it's quite a small harbour compared to the one that the Small Craft Harbours program, such

as the one that's being built in Pangnirtung, is supporting. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hawkins. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In Pond Inlet, we're very proud of Pangnirtung's commercial fisheries harbour. We envy them as Nunavummiut and at the same time, we're very proud of them.

The issue at hand that I have been trying to raise is that in Pond Inlet, there is nothing. How can we get some support in order to get some kind of marine facility so that it will be safer for the public to go out to their boats when the water is so rough? How can we reach that following the process laid out in here? Mr. Chairman, we're told that we have to write a proposal. At the same time, the proposal would have to be acceptable. If Pond Inlet requests it and it is deemed not to be a good plan, then they would not be approved. Who decides if a plan is good or not? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The responsibility of building harbours is under DFO. I envy Pangnirtung; they're getting a small craft harbour.

In the east coast, there are over 300 marine facilities: docks, harbours, and small craft harbours. Some of them were negotiated through the land claims that some of these organizations have, but in Nunavut, we don't. We have 26

communities that want a small craft harbour. Even for Iqaluit, we don't have that. We've got four hours of offloading time, which is unacceptable. We all know that. It drives the costs up of our community members for getting resupplied.

For Pond Inlet, although some of the work has been complete in the fish habitat study and the geotechnical work, the overall cost is going to be about \$40 million just for the small safe harbour in there, including a breakwater. It's very difficult with this government. We don't have the resources, so we continue to lobby the government.

We do have a file that we're working on. We understand community food security is critical for our poverty reduction file, country food harvesting, and we aim to push that forward to Ottawa to actually allocate more money for such marine infrastructure in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Do you have any additional questions, Mr. Enook?

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Minister. In regard to the question that I just posed, perhaps I missed it and the minister didn't seem to respond to my question. Who decides a proposal is good if there is a request from Pond Inlet for a harbour? On what basis is a proposal considered acceptable?

As I had stated, they did a study in Pond Inlet where the dock would be and it would cost \$40 million to construct a harbour. As I stated before, Mr. Chairman, we don't mind getting a

facility that costs way less than \$40 million since we have nothing at all. If it's \$35 million, we would like it. If it costs \$55 million, we will be satisfied with it because we have completely nothing in Pond Inlet.

My question is: who says the plan is good if they're requesting for such and who decides the plan is good? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I probably misunderstood the question, but at the end of the day, our department helps the communities in developing proposals. Not only that, but we help in doing the fish habitat studies, fund that, and geotechnical studies as required. At the end of the day, it's DFO that approves the overall construction and funding for marine facilities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Minister. That clarifies my question. I also would like to ask: is the Department of Fisheries and Oceans the one who decides on proposals or denies a request for a harbour or small craft harbour? *Tulattarvik* is the Inuktitut term I use for a small craft harbour or dock.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans is responsible for making decisions. All the correspondence from the Nunavut government, all the correspondence from the federal government, all the studies, all the correspondence, and the reports

have said that Pond Inlet requires some marine infrastructure.

I know that there has to be commercial viability prior to any commercial fisheries being developed, for example, turbot fishing. Does that mean the Department of Fisheries and Oceans will never approve the request if there are no commercial fisheries in our community? That is what I'm asking the minister. How difficult is it to get an approval for a facility if it's not a commercial fishery or harbour so that we can lead safe lives? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that very important question. It will be great if we can get the safety marine facilities in every community, but at the end of the day, DFO just funds some of these programs, especially the small craft harbours, for a specific value for money. They make a business case to the politicians in Ottawa so they can fund a marine facility.

It's very difficult at times to talk about some of these marine infrastructures when it's not necessarily based on a business case or a fishery. We all know that safety is a number one priority and we talk about tourism too. We want to expand our tourism activities with better economics for our communities through cruise ships, and whatnot.

Again, I've got to say that we continue to talk with Ottawa. We do have these reports and recommendations from the Senate and the parliamentary standing committee on infrastructure. We

continue to talk with these folks to actually build more infrastructures for Nunavummiut, especially marine infrastructure. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Minister. We need to have a commercial component in order to construct marine facilities, but I honestly believe that we would be eligible for a marine facility if a commercial component wasn't a requirement.

Since 1999, my predecessors kept talking about the safety of the boat owners in Pond Inlet and that they need to have safe marine infrastructure or facilities. About 11 years have passed and nothing has been done for Pond Inlet. No one cares that we boat owners are subject to dangerous conditions.

As my predecessor kept saying in the House, we should at least get concrete on the beach so that we can bring our boats in safely. We don't want anything more or anything less because it's so difficult to try and obtain that marine facility through this. Therefore, we're requesting a concrete form. If I try to pull my 21-foot boat, I need two trucks to pull my boat in because the beach is all sandy.

We are required to have a commercial aspect in order for us to get a marine facility. In spite of that, perhaps the minister and the people of Pond Inlet can work together to resolve this situation so that we can at least make another proposal.

We know that in Pond Inlet, there is a glacier where tourists go. It's a national park and during the summer, more than one cruise ship arrives to that park. We're not looking for a big docking facility. I'll know we will never see such in our community. This can enhance our lives because there's an opportunity for economic development. I didn't want to talk about commercial opportunities, but I believe safety is a priority for us.

Perhaps we can discuss this matter with the minister and his officials and try to come up with a solution. Could the minister commit to discussing this matter to see if we need commercial activities in order to have harbours? We should start the discussion because we need that and it's a priority. Could the minister commit to that? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We continually try and improve our marine infrastructure. It's up to Ottawa and DFO to fund these projects and we continually ask for more funding. As you know, to build some of these marine infrastructure, it is well over \$20 million and \$40 million, and even for Iqaluit, it goes on up higher.

I totally agree that we should have marine facilities in every community, not just in eastern Canada or southern Canada. We should have that too up north here. For the most part, I totally agree with the member's opinion that safety matters too. But for the most part, we do have to come up with a business case to DFO, which in turn do have to come up with a feasibility plan and value for money to the funders in Ottawa. It's

a very difficult situation to be in at times. I agree 100 percent that we need more marine infrastructure in Nunavut, which is, for the most part, all coastal communities.

We're going to continue to do that, we're going to continue lobbying, but for the smaller communities where they put in proposals for such a cemented drive-in, drive-out ramp, that may be feasible for boat safety. That's more than likely better than nothing. So if any community that puts in a proposal like that, with a small \$500,000 budget, we will have to see if it's doable, which will actually benefit the communities. That's a start and we intend to do that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Joe Enook, your time is up. Once the members on my list have had the opportunity to speak, I will consider your request at that time. Ms. Monica Ell.

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Firstly, I would like an update on the proposed Iqaluit airport project and what stage it is at. It is very gratifying to see this project identified in the capital plans.

It becomes quite overcrowded at the existing air terminal as people arrive and depart on the various flights, but it is also problematic for the airplanes as they have to jockey for position taxiing for landing and take-off. This may become a bigger issue as we are starting to get larger planes arriving in Iqaluit. Sometimes they have to change the regulations in order to accommodate the number of planes.

Can the minister explain where this project is at? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that excellent question. With the Iqaluit airport, it's one of the busiest and most strategic pieces of public infrastructure we have in Nunavut. The amount of traffic that goes through the Iqaluit airport is four times the amount of our population in Nunavut. It is a busy hub.

Of course, the operations or the amount of activity that goes through the Iqaluit airport is beyond our capacity. We don't meet some of these aeronautical zoning regulations and the Canadian Aviation Regulations. It's very difficult to be within the regulations or to try and prevent the breaking of any kind of regulations.

Of course, through this P3 process, we're trying to get the best value for Nunavummiut money and to benefit the whole region and of course, the whole territory with better infrastructure in transportation, such as the Iqaluit airport. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Ms. Ell, do you have any more questions?

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This project will take many years to complete with a 30-year project life. Can the minister clarify exactly how this project will be completed with this timeframe? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe the discussions on the air terminal building have been ongoing for quite a while and in 2009, we did complete the master plan for the Iqaluit airport. We're going through the processes. We have undertaken a value for money analysis. Of course, Mr. Chairman, we have come up with a cost estimate for a 30-year period. We're looking at infrastructure that will last approximately 30 years.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I'll ask my policy director to elaborate a little more on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Hawkins.

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member is quite right that the project has been in various forms of fits and starts for many years now. The congestion and the overcrowding and that have been well recognized. The project has really come under a new focus in the last year or less than a year, I think, about eight months, when it got the serious examination of it as a P3 project started underway.

To date, the government undertook the value for money, which determined that this project could be delivered with a good value for money ratio. Since that time, a technical project team has been hired. This is a consultant engineering firm, but operational people look at the payments, look at the building, and look at the functional requirements. A legal team is being assembled to put together very intricate sort of legal agreements

that go into a P3 project. A financial team is coming together. I think that a contract is in award or very close to it to also look at the financial requirements.

This is an ongoing, long-term contractual arrangement that the government would have to enter if the project goes forward and there are very complex arrangements. I can say that there has never been that kind of push behind the project that there is now. It is developing. All the parameters of it are coming together very quickly on a very condensed timeframe. Many people from many departments in the government are working very hard on this project. For those of us who have been involved in trying to see the project go forward, it's quite an exciting time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hawkins. Do you have any further questions? Ms. Ell.

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you for the information. Are we facing a safety issue? Sometimes that airport is over capacity and it is hard to tell how long the planning process will be. Hopefully you can understand what I'm saying. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister Taptuna.

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

Chairman: Mr. Hawkins.

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The initial start to this project

is about safety. There are a lot of aircraft operating in that very confined space. There are a lot of people operating through that. There are a lot of vehicles. It's a bit of a mix and it's certainly too much happening in one place.

About a year and a half ago, the turboprop operations were spread out from the main terminal to give substantially more room to aircraft operating in the area. It has worked. It's quite an intensive management process to keep all that operating and there are additional costs to it. It should all be consolidated back into a larger area and that's one of the aims of the project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hawkins. Ms. Ell.

Ms. Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the Chair will allow, I'm going to ask a different question but on this topic as well of the capital.

In June of 2009, the Legislative Assembly approved \$925,000 in capital funding for the planning and design of an Iqaluit regional marine facility to meet the needs of a marine resupply, as well as local boat owners and operators. In June 2010, the Legislative Assembly approved a \$532,000 capital carryover for this project.

As of today, what is the status of the Iqaluit Regional Marine Facility, and why is there no funding in your department's draft 2012-13 capital estimates for this project? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. Again I mentioned that earlier on marine infrastructure. The design is complete and at this point, we just need the funding for the construction part of the project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (Mr. Ningeongan): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Ms. Ell.

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I see that we have a new Chairman.

>>*Laughter*

Can someone enlighten me? I apologize. Mr. Chairman, to be serious, has the study been made public to date and, if so, is it possible to get a copy? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again I thank the member for that question. We're still, at times, talking with our partners and stakeholders. For a smaller marine facility which has no real advantage for local boaters or harvesters, it's around \$25 million. At this time, Mr. Chairman, I can surely make the report available to all members that request it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Ms. Ell has concluded her questions. Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question for the minister on the relocation of the airport and the money that has been identified. Are they allotted just for climate study purposes? Are there going to be any additional funds for other projects afterwards? I'm sure that this money is not going to be for construction. Usually you have to do a feasibility study or some other type of study before going ahead with a project. What is it going to be used for? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. That money is for determining the design and to develop estimates for the construction of the airport terminal runway at the new location. The site selection is complete. The weather data collection over the last several of years has been completed. One of the things we're going to use the money allotted for that is for design and costing out the estimate for construction. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for your response. I have another question. What was brought up in the opening comments by the Chairman is that for the 2012-13 capital estimates, there would be \$100,000 set aside for visitor centres. I don't see it here. Is it just an information item? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have my deputy minister respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Long.

Mr. Long: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The \$100,000 is for maintenance work on existing visitor centres and there is money for planning for the new visitor centre in Rankin Inlet as well in the budget. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Long. Mr. Oshutapik no longer has questions. Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The department's draft 2012-13 capital estimates includes \$11.4 million in funding for major airport projects in Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, Cambridge Bay, Taloyoak, Pangnirtung, and Hall Beach. Your department's substantiation sheets for these projects indicate that the total cost of these projects over the next several years will be in the tens of millions of dollars. Will the projects in Pangnirtung, Hall Beach, and Taloyoak be eligible for federal funding? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister Taptuna.

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

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you for your response. Could the minister indicate which communities are going to be eligible for this funding? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's Cambridge Bay and Rankin Inlet at this time for the projects that we intend to do there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you. I think it states that \$50,000 is set aside for the air terminal building in Taloyoak and there are no additional funds in the 2013-17 Five-Year Capital Plan or prior budgets. I wonder why that seems to have changed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (Mr. Tapardjuk) (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. With this fiscal year capital plan, we have \$50,000 for the planning and design of the ATB and years going on from there, there are other amounts that are in the substantiation sheets which total \$3 million. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you. Why isn't it identified in the five-year capital plan? Can we make changes to it if we're not happy with it? That is my question. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister Taptuna.

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

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Hawkins.

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The amounts in the following years in the substantiation sheets are what we believe the number will be. However, because the vote is actually on this year's capital plan, if we don't know what that number will be in the substantiation sheet, if we don't have a firm, fixed idea of what that is, it doesn't normally show up in the capital estimates. There are some other projects in the capital estimates that have follow-on years because it's confirmed. That's part of the project in the phase that it's currently in. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hawkins. Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you. How come it's not itemized here? It's a little bit confusing and you have to guess sometimes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have my assistant respond to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Please specify if your deputy minister or the director of policy and planning is going to answer. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize. Policy and planning. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Hawkins.

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish I could give a more full answer, but what I can say is that the numbers that we identify in the substantiation sheets are our estimates. They're our best guess of what the project will be worth. When we submit those to the Department of Finance for inclusion into the budget, they put together the detailed capital document, the I-pages. That is their instruction that those numbers do not appear in there, unless they're in an approved phase of the project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hawkins. Do you have any more questions? Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you for that clarification. (interpretation ends) In June of this year, the Legislative Assembly approved a number of capital carryover projects related to airports, including projects in Baker Lake, Kimmirut, and Qikiqtarjuaq. Do you anticipate that any additional new major airport projects will be added to your department's capital plan in the next two or three years and, if so, which communities are they likely to be in? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have Mr. Hawkins respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Hawkins.

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do anticipate that there will be additional airport projects included in that. I don't know which projects they will be at this time. I know that there are several that are coming up. The airport staff will be out assessing those projects and prioritizing them this year for inclusion into next year's capital plan. Typically the regions sit down together with headquarters and bang it out a bit and decide which projects will go forward and which ones are in the most dire need. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hawkins. Do you have anything else? Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In Taloyoak, we don't have an air terminal, but we do have one that was renovated from a warehouse. The passengers getting off planes have to go through the very small terminal. Usually we are asked to go into the air terminal for safety. Will the inadequate capacity of the terminal be addressed as a priority? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. There are a number of communities that are in the same situation, including Iqaluit. It's one of those projects that we're desperately trying to catch up on because we know for a fact that a lot of these communities are in that same situation. I understand. I have been to Taloyoak. I have seen the air terminal building there. It's the same as some of the smaller communities that desperately need ATBs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Do you have any further questions, Ms. Ugyuk? Thank you. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again I just wanted to reiterate and go over what's on I-6 in terms of small craft harbours too. I know quite a few other MLAs have spoken to the fact that their communities do not have any type of infrastructure. I know Grise Fiord, again, is one that the community itself has been speaking with representatives from ED&T.

As different questions were answered, one of the things that came out was one of the officials had said something about other communities being considered. I know Pond Inlet was mentioned. Pangnirtung is already in the process. I was wondering if you could elaborate on some of the communities that are being studied. I think there are six in total. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. At this time, specifically for Grise Fiord, there have been no studies done. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll take that back to the community because I know they do have questions and concerns. We have been talking about that specific issue. I was thinking in terms of the six communities that are targeted, which I think are Qikiqtarjuaq, Clyde River, Pond Inlet, Repulse Bay, Chesterfield Inlet, and Kugaaruk.

Specifically I'm interested in Qikiqtarjuaq mainly because of the tie with my three communities and the Arctic Fisheries Alliance and the business case that they have been presenting over the last couple of years in terms of some type of a small craft harbour to assist with their plans. I think they have done a feasibility study and were working on a socio-economic impact study. I was wondering if the minister could update us on where that project is right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have my assistant, Mr. Hawkins, respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Hawkins.

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Qikiqtarjuaq is certainly one of the communities in the initial small craft harbours study. The community itself has done quite a bit of work in solidifying the case for the building of a harbour in that community. We support the work that they have been doing and we will be looking at studies that we can do that complement the studies of theirs. With the funding that we have proposed in this budget, we will also be looking at other studies that we can do to enhance the development or to speed along the development of any other harbours in the study. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hawkins. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that update. Again, I think Mr. Enook had pointed out some of the studies. There was a senate study that was complete and whatnot.

I remember going to a northern infrastructure meeting. I think it was two years ago. I was actually expecting to listen to presentations on the need for infrastructure, such as the transportation system using airports and development of different airports. I was surprised to find out that DND and other organizations were there talking about ports and whatnot.

Is there any indication from the federal government in terms of some of the responses you have given? Obviously with our budget and our reliance on the federal government for funding, is there any hope of further funding? Again, with all the talk of sovereignty, with the talk of search and rescue, and with the talk of the Northwest Passage opening up, is the

federal government thinking more about investing in Nunavut and the north and providing the funding that we need for these ports that we're talking about?

Obviously we're talking about five or six communities. We're talking well over the \$200,000 or the \$100,000 that we allocate in capital funding every year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. All I can say is that we're hoping too that the federal government, through DFO, can fund this marine infrastructure that is direly needed in Nunavut, especially throughout our communities. I'm talking about all the coastal communities and of course, our communities are all on the coast. We do see some light at the end of the tunnel at times. Our MP indicated that these are going to be looked at through her campaign before elections.

For the most part, Mr. Chairman, I'm working closely with other stakeholders and when I say other stakeholders, I'm talking about the mining companies that will need infrastructure, and I'm hoping that they would become our partner through the infrastructure needs such as that to Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer. Can you discuss how your department works with Nav Canada? Again, I'm going to swing away from ports and move more towards

the airports in terms of how your department works with Nav Canada and local communities to identify airport equipment needs, such as beacons and other navigational aids.

In meetings that we've had with different officials in terms of bringing down costs, the idea of airlines landing more frequently, GPS, landing instruments, and different types of instruments like that, they're saying that if our airports had this equipment, more planes would land and that would actually save funds. So if you could spend some time possibly talking about how the department works towards getting this type of equipment into the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not going to try and assume I know about some of these technicalities, but we do have radars and that's how planes fly into the communities.

As the member is well aware, a couple of weeks ago when we lost our satellite link, we did lose our radars. So at that time, some aircraft didn't want to fly. For the most part, we do work with Nav Canada in weather data collecting. We have our CARS operators that we administer for them. For the most part, the airports in Nunavut are accessible with radars from any location. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So does Nav Canada actually tell us what we need or do we follow different policies that Transport Canada lays out and then we provide the equipment that way? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not a technical person, so I'll have my assistant, Mr. Hawkins, respond to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Hawkins.

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Nav Canada has a statutory obligation under the Air Navigation Services Act to provide a level of service to communities that have aviation. That level of service was determined prior to Nav Canada becoming enacted and they are not allowed to reduce that level of service without a large-scale consultation. However, they don't really have to increase that level of service either.

Nav Canada's clients are the air carriers. We are not technically one of their clients. We do work with them on many initiatives and we do provide the observer/communicator program under a contract through Nav Canada. However, their obligation to provide navigational services is not something that we have much influence on.

They are improving their service overall. In the course of business and in the course of GPS approaches being easier to design, they are moving away from

land-based navigation aids to more and more of these other sort of satellite-based and computer-based. They want to intensively improve somewhere that has a lot of traffic. They won't intensively or very quickly improve, necessarily, more remote communities beyond the level of service that they committed to when they first came into being. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hawkins. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the capital estimates for this year, there is no funding allocated to this. I'm just curious to find out: with the new Arctic Bay Airport being opened and the Nanisivik Airport sitting there, is there going to be money allocated to decommission this airport? Does the Government of Nunavut own it or is it a Transport Canada asset? Maybe if you could give us an update on what's happening with that because I don't actually see any dollars allocated to that, unless it's under minor capital. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Mr. Hawkins.

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our intention is there is still some funding left in the Arctic Bay construction that we consider the decommissioning of the Nanisivik project to be an effect of that project. We don't actually know all the things that have to be done to decommission the Nanisivik Airport at this time. So there will be environmental studies and there will be some utilization and facility studies to determine what has to be done there. We will be undertaking those very

shortly, as soon as we can dedicate some people to it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hawkins. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again on I-6, under minor capital or small capital, there was talk about some airport equipment that was going to be purchased. The longer we seem to be in our term, we start to learn how different things work. I was just curious: in terms of mobile equipment that's purchased and used in communities where it's contracted out by a different contractor other than the Government of Nunavut, how do those types of purchases work in terms of...? Obviously, if a company needs a piece of heavy equipment machinery... .

For example, I don't understand all the workings of what is happening in Chesterfield Inlet. If they get an equipment shelter there, we're supposed to be getting an equipment shelter in Arctic Bay, and then there is a contractor that will put, I'm assuming, GN assets in there to store them. I'm just wondering: in terms of maintenance and care of them, is there something written into the contract in terms of how that works? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Mr. Hawkins.

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do prefer always to own the airport equipment. It's not always possible or we haven't always got the airport equipment that we require, but we do prefer to own it. In the contract, it is the contractor's responsibility to

maintain that equipment for us. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hawkins. Mr. Elliott, do you have any further questions? Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On I-6, it's referring specifically to the Iqaluit airport being a P3 project. I know this year, we're being asked to allocate \$3.5 million. I was hoping to flip through and go back to the back of the capital estimates in Appendix II. It's Appendix A-II-12, Projects by Department, Economic Development and Transportation.

Again, in reviewing all the different aspects of how the government spends its money, it's of interest to me in terms of being accountable for where we're assessing and putting dollars. Under this project... I'm not sure if you're there. Are you there yet? There has been \$4 million already allocated to the project. We will be approving \$3.5 million and then as you go along, in 2016-17, it looks like we will be, and again this is a future allocation, allocating \$135,200,000. I'm just wondering: what's the thinking...? Again, we're not approving it today, but that's way over the amount that we allocate in capital dollars on an annual basis. I'm just wondering what their thinking is for that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll try and respond to some of the questions. There are a number of things that are happening at this time. We're trying to secure a P3 and some

partners in doing that. Of course, one of the things that we're looking at too is the construction phase, so we're planning further ahead.

I'm going to let my assistant, Mr. Hawkins, supplement my response to the hon. member. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Hawkins.

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Unfortunately we don't have the entire capital plan with us; we have our department's piece of it in our briefing binders. I'm not quite sure if that is what the member is asking, if that is in future years or if that is in a single year, but I think the plan with the P3 project would be that that would be in future years, I believe. I'm wrong.

Chairman: Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For clarification, can we have clarity on the question? If we could get a clear question on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Elliott, please clarify your question.

Mr. Elliott: Yes, I can. I gave the minister my book. The question that I was asking, if you look on that page, I understand that the \$4 million from previous years would have been for studies and any repairs, and that's an allocation that we assess, depending on... So in previous years, there has been \$4 million spend on the Iqaluit airport P3 project.

As you go along, we have our budget 2012-13 and you're asking us, and it's highlighted, to approve \$3.5 million. As you continue along to 2013-14, \$9.2 million; 2014-15, \$10.2 million; 2015-16, \$4.9 million. Now, to me, I understand that those make sense. As we continue to go along, there's planning and design initiation, and then working out what I believe are fees and whatnot for the P3 project. In 2016-17, there's a huge jump and it looks like we will be asked to allocate \$139,200,000 in that fiscal year for the commitment to the Iqaluit project.

My concern is that we allocate on any given year \$100 million to capital projects, which would be one, over our annual allocation of capital projects, and two, it would leave no money for any other projects across the territory. I was just asking: what's the reasoning behind that and what's the thinking behind it or what is the rationale in terms of where we're going with this project? If that's the case, then we don't actually have enough money to approve this in future years.

So that's where I was going with my questioning and I'm sure there's a reasonable explanation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate that question from the member. Mr. Chairman, we're being quite optimistic. We plan these amounts. They're just estimates, as the member stated, to complete the project. In 2016-17, that's the amount for construction.

Mr. Chairman, the project is going to be under a P3, public-private partnership, so the total amount there is not necessarily reflective of the capital budget we have for the Government of Nunavut. Through the public-private partnership, we intend to get some money from P3 Canada and the private industry out there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that explanation. Again, just so I have it clear in my mind that that allocation of funding is sort of a general estimate and with P3 funding that would come along, it would be shared in terms of GN contribution partially and P3 contribution partially. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

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

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. I have no more names on my list. Mr. Enook, you may ask your additional questions now.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll just get back to my comments earlier on today. The proposed marine facility for Pond Inlet, which is what I discussed earlier, the \$40 million is for the study. We don't mind receiving \$55 million marine infrastructure, at least if we can get something to help us out, even though it costs \$55 million.

As I stated earlier on, currently the boat owners have safety issues. I was thinking about a drive-in, drive-out ramp to pull the boats in. I want everyone to understand so that no one can say that Pond Inlet is satisfied with only a small craft marine facility. I'm not saying that and I don't want to be quoted as saying that. What I'm trying to say is that there was a feasibility study done for \$40 million. In the interim, we would be happy to get something small so long as we know it would not be an alternative to the \$55 million facility. I just wanted to make that clear.

However, I would like to ask the minister in regard to the item on airports, Mr. Chairman, which will be dealt with. With your indulgence, Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a question. Not too long ago, they did a feasibility study to see if it's possible to move the airstrip in Pond Inlet. This was work done by the Hamlet of Pond Inlet with the assistance of the Co-op, which I am very proud of.

Our Nunavut government and Members of the Legislative Assembly and Nunavummiut are always looking for ways to live a lot cheaper. It's being thought that if Pond Inlet becomes the hub for the High Arctic communities, the surrounding communities could be serviced from Pond Inlet by smaller aircraft. If that becomes a reality, it would be cheaper for passengers to fly. It still would be very expensive if they start using bigger aircraft, but I believe that the costs would go down for cargo and passenger fares.

I would like to ask the minister. I hear various reasons why this didn't go ahead with the feasibility study that was done in the past. I had heard that there was no

opportunity for the Nunavut government to review that feasibility study by the Department of Economic Development and Transportation because apparently the hamlet didn't want to give the Nunavut government a copy of the feasibility study. Can the minister clarify that for me? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that very important question. Mr. Chairman, we're always looking for ways to try and improve our infrastructure, especially airports. We do not, at this time, have that study that was done by the hamlet. If we can actually get a copy of that for us to review, it would be great. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that answer. Once the feasibility study report is available to our community, I will ask them to give copies to the minister and his officials. If that report is given, it will probably be put on the shelf or file and start collecting dust. Once we are able to give a copy to your department for the feasibility study, we urge your department to review it so that Pond Inlet and others could benefit from that.

Should the Mary River mine project get the green light, Baffinland stated that Mary River will not become a city if the mining continues and that it would be just a work camp. If it's going to be just a work camp, perhaps we can provide

some service to the mine from Pond Inlet. There could be economic opportunities. If we had a proper runway, Pond Inlet would become a gateway for the High Arctic communities because of that tie in with Mary River. Pond Inlet is also the gateway to the Sirmilik National Park. We believe and know that these are very good reasons.

I would like to urge the minister and his officials, once I am able to get a copy of the feasibility study and provide the copy to your department, to review the document with care so that I'll be able to ask questions later on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. Although I didn't hear a question, Minister Taptuna, if you would like respond to that comment.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Just quickly, Mr. Chairman, it's not the Nunavut government that determines the hub of a region; it's the airlines that do that, depending on the amount of economic activity that's associated with a community. So with a mine possibly opening there, it's a good possibility that things will start looking up. We're going into partnerships with building better infrastructure within the community of Pond Inlet and I appreciate that. Once we get the report, we will certainly look into that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Are you done? Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make

a motion to report progress. I know that we will need more time to review the department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor and the motion is not debatable. The member made a motion to report progress to the Speaker. All those in favour, raise your hand. Opposed. Thank you.

Minister Taptuna, I thank you and your officials for appearing before the committee. I will now rise to report progress to our Speaker. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses out.

Speaker: *Qujannamiik*, Sergeant-at-Arms. Orders of the day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 15 and the capital estimates, and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Kusugak.

>>*Laughter*

The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A reminder that a special meeting of the Full Caucus will take place in the Chamber tomorrow starting at ten o'clock in the morning. Representatives of the Nutrition North Canada Advisory Board and the federal Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development will be making a presentation and taking questions from members at this meeting. The meeting will be televised across Nunavut and the public is invited to observe the proceedings of the meeting from the visitors' gallery.

Orders of the Day for October 26:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. 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
 - Bill 22
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 13
 - Bill 14
 - Bill 15
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. In accordance with Motion 15 – 3(3), this House stands adjourned until Wednesday, October 26, at 1:30 p.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 18:01*

