



Nunavut Canada

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT

3rd Session

3rd Assembly

HANSARD

Official Report

DAY 39

Wednesday, March 7, 2012

Pages 2227 – 2319

Iqaluit

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

Hon. Hunter Tootoo

(Iqaluit Centre)

Hon. Eva Aariak

(Iqaluit East)

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

Joe Enook

(Tununiq)

Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Allan Rumbolt

(Hudson Bay)

Hon. Fred Schell

(South Baffin)

*Minister of Human Resources;
Minister responsible for the
Nunavut Housing Corporation;
Minister responsible for
Homelessness; Minister responsible
for the Workers' Safety and
Compensation Commission*

Hon. James Arreak

(Uqqummiut)

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

John Ningark

(Akulliq)

Johnny Ningeongan

(Nanulik)

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk

(Arviat)

*Minister of Justice; Minister
responsible for Nunavut Arctic
College*

Moses Aupaluktuq

(Baker Lake)

Hezakiah Oshutapik

(Pangnirtung)

Louis Tapardjuk

(Amittuq)

*Deputy Chair, Committee of the
Whole*

Tagak Curley

(Rankin Inlet North)

Hon. Keith Peterson

(Cambridge Bay)

*Minister of Finance, Chair of the
Financial Management Board; Minister
of Health and Social Services*

Hon. Peter Taptuna

(Kugluktuk)

*Deputy Premier; Minister of
Economic Development and
Transportation; Minister of Energy*

Monica Ell

(Iqaluit West)

Ron Elliott

(Quttiktuq)

Jeannie Ugyuk

(Nattilik)

Officers

Clerk

John Quirke

Deputy Clerk

Nancy Tupik

Clerk Assistant

Stephen Innuksuk

Law Clerk

Michael Chandler

Sergeant-at-Arms

Simanek Kilabuk

Hansard Production

Innirvik Support Services

Box 1200

Iqaluit, Nunavut, X0A 0H0

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

Website: www.assembly.nu.ca

Table of Contents

Opening Prayer.....	2227
Ministers' Statements	2227
Members' Statements	2229
Returns to Oral Questions	2234
Oral Questions.....	2235
Written Questions.....	2251
Petitions.....	2251
Tabling of Documents	2251
Notices of Motions	2252
Revert to Item 13: Tabling of Documents.....	2252
Motions.....	2253
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters	2254
Report of the Committee of the Whole	2318
Orders of the Day	2318

A.

Daily References

Wednesday, March 7, 20122227

B.

Ministers' Statements

142 – 3(3): Minister Absent from the House (Kusugak)2227

143 – 3(3): Total Knee Replacement Project (Peterson)2227

144 – 3(3): NHC Releases Revised Maintenance Management Program Manual for Local
Housing Organization (Schell)2228

C.

Members' Statements

222 – 3(3): 2012 Tourism in Nunavut Conference (Ell)2229

223 – 3(3): Arctic Winter Games Standings (Ningeongan)2230

224 – 3(3): Congratulations to John Arnalukjuak Students and Teachers (Shewchuk)2231

225 – 3(3): The Passing of Jacoopie Panikpak (Arreak)2231

226 – 3(3): National Social Work Week (Elliott).....2232

227 – 3(3): Not Satisfied with Nunavut's Leadership (Curley)2233

D.

Returns to Oral Questions

Return to Oral Question 282 – 3(3): Climate Change (Arreak)2234

Return to Oral Question 289 – 3(3): Fire Safety Inspections (Kusugak)2234

E.

Oral Questions

324 – 3(3): Equipment Replacement for Hunters (Tapardjuk).....2235

325 – 3(3): Providing Support for Women (Ugyuk)	2238
326 – 3(3): Income Support Case Management System (Oshutapik)	2239
327 – 3(3): Social Worker for Sanikiluaq (Rumbolt).....	2240
328 – 3(3): Permafrost Monitoring (Ningark).....	2241
329 – 3(3): Federal Position on Nunavut Housing Corporation Operations (Curley).....	2243
330 – 3(3): Infrastructure Planning for Quttiktuq (Elliott).....	2245
331 – 3(3): Total Knee Replacement Operations (Ell).....	2247
332 – 3(3): The Effects of Climate Change (Enook).....	2248
333 – 3(3): Total Allowable Fish Harvest at Igloolik (Tapardjuk)	2250

F.

Written Questions

016 – 3(3): Fuel Distribution Service Contracts (Curley)	2251
--	------

G.

Petitions

002 – 3(3): Staffing at the Igloolik Health Centre (Tapardjuk).....	2251
---	------

H.

Tabling of Documents

172 – 3(3): 2010-2011 Annual Report of the Nunavut Status of Women Council (Aariak).....	2251
173 – 3(3): Suicide and Attempted Suicide in Nova Scotia - 1995-2004 - A Report (Elliott)...	2252
174 – 3(3): Inuit Participation in Determining the Future of Lancaster Sound (Elliott)	2252

I.

Motions

023 – 3(3): Extended Adjournment – Notice (Ningeongan)	2252
024 – 3(3): Legislative Assembly Appointments – Notice (Elliott).....	2252

023 – 3(3): Extended Adjournment (Ningeongan).....	2253
024 – 3(3): Legislative Assembly Appointments (Elliott)	2253

J.

Bills

Bill 24 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2012-2013 – Justice – Consideration in Committee.....	2254
Bill 24 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2012-2013 – Nunavut Arctic College – Consideration in Committee	2282
Bill 24 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2012-2013 – Finance – Consideration in Committee.....	2301
Bill 24 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2012-2013 – Culture, Language, Elders and Youth – Consideration in Committee.....	2315

Iqaluit, Nunavut
Wednesday, March 7, 2012

Members Present:

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

>>*House commenced at 13:31*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. Hunter Tootoo): *Qujannamiik*, Sergeant-at-Arms. Before we get started, I would like to ask my good friend, Mr. Ningark, to lead us off with a prayer, please.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker: Good afternoon, members. Moving on in our orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Government House Leader, Minister Kusugak.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements**Minister's Statement 142 – 3(3):
Minister Absent from the House**

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to advise members that the (interpretation ends) Hon. Peter Taptuna (interpretation) will be absent from the House from March 6 and 7, 2012. Minister Taptuna is attending the mines training strategy meeting in Toronto. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

**Minister's Statement 143 – 3(3): Total
Knee Replacement Project**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share news of an innovative project at Qikiqtani General Hospital in partnership with the Ottawa Hospital and the Ottawa Health Services Network.

Mr. Speaker, since 1997, the Ottawa Health Services Network has been working with the Department of Health and Social Services to provide specialized medical services at the Qikiqtani General Hospital. As part of this project, a team of orthopaedic surgeons has been visiting patients at the hospital and their home communities.

Although minor operations are performed in the north, larger surgeries like total joint replacements are referred to the Ottawa Hospital. As our waiting list for knee replacements has grown significantly, the Ottawa Health Services Network and the Ottawa Hospital collaborated in identifying an opportunity for Nunavut patients needing total knee replacement surgery to be moved up on the waiting list.

Mr. Speaker, patients were identified and screened with the assistance of a new pre-screening tool, which included community nurse assessments, lab work, and X-rays and assessments by doctors at the Ottawa Hospital. Our rehabilitation staff received the Ottawa Hospital patient instruction booklets for knee surgeries and knee exercises, translated into Inuktitut and their patient

teaching package. This enabled our medical professionals to thoroughly prepare the patients.

Mr. Speaker, we are hopeful that this project will improve patient screening and preparation while reducing travel and stress leading to improved recovery time.

Mr. Speaker, thanks to this innovative project, 12 Nunavummiut will be able to undergo this surgery in Ottawa during March break at no additional cost to the Government of Nunavut.

>>Applause

Thank you. I would like to express my thanks to Dr. Allan Giachino, Dr. Robert Feibel, Dr. Sylvain Gagné, Ms. Paula Doering, and Mr. Kent Woodhall from the Ottawa Hospital; Ms. Wilma Greenley from the Ottawa Health Services Network; and Dr. Michelle Barrington, Ms. Rhose Harris-Galia, and Ms. Katie Bellefontaine from our Iqaluit team for their excellent team work in making this project happen. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Schell.

**Minister's Statement 144 – 3(3): NHC
Releases Revised Maintenance
Management Program Manual for
Local Housing Organization**

Hon. Fred Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to announce that the Nunavut Housing Corporation is

delivering on its objective to provide more support to Nunavut's local housing organizations with the release of a revised Maintenance Management Program Manual to assist them in administering the Public Housing Maintenance Management Program.

Mr. Speaker, this manual is a tool used by our LHOs to properly budget and plan for the critical maintenance that is so necessary to ensure we get the most out of our seriously needed public housing. This revised edition of the manual improves the support to our LHOs by ensuring the two electronic maintenance software systems acquired by the NHC, the Maintenance Management Operating System and the Condition Rating System, are properly referenced and explained.

This manual also includes updates on the best practices to address issues such as mould remediation and the proper operation of the heat recovery ventilation systems in our units. With the proper and regular maintenance of our HRV systems, internal air quality will improve.

While this new and improved manual goes a long way to ensure our LHOs have the right tools for the job, the completion of this revised manual represents more than just a new document. What this manual demonstrates is a renewed and ongoing commitment on the part of the Nunavut Housing Corporation to improve its oversight of the public housing portfolio. This manual is only a small portion of the new approach adopted by the corporation to increase its support of our LHOs.

With new positions dedicated to the proper implementation of the revised Maintenance Management Program at each district office and a new maintenance coordinator at the corporation's headquarters, the NHC is getting back to basics and rebuilding the districts' capacity to ensure the long-term care of Nunavut's public housing stock.

Mr. Speaker, the NHC realizes that the staff at each of the territory's local housing organizations are at the frontlines of fulfilling the NHC's public housing mandate. Their efforts are recognized and valued by the NHC. Updating the Maintenance Management Program Manual will strengthen the partnership between the NHC and local housing organizations and will improve service delivery to our tenants.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to point out that NHC's work on providing better support to our LHOs is yet more evidence that the corporation continues to put in place measures to ensure it will be ready for the next round of much needed federal investment in housing in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Schell. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit West, Ms. Ell.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 222 – 3(3): 2012 Tourism in Nunavut Conference

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "hello" to my constituents in Iqaluit West, especially one of my constituents. I know that our elder is watching our proceedings in Iqaluit. Rita Paniloo Nashook is now 79 years old today, so I wish her a happy birthday.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform the Members of the Legislative Assembly about an exciting event that will take place later this month in Iqaluit.

Mr. Speaker, the 2012 Tourism in Nunavut Conference will take place from March 19 to 23. This event will bring together a number of stakeholders to discuss the challenges and opportunities of this important sector of our economy. In Nunavut, this sector is also one of the pillars of our economy.

Mr. Speaker, many individuals and organizations have been working hard to make this conference a success. Nunavut Tourism, the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency, First Air, Canadian North, and our own Government of Nunavut are the presenters and sponsors of this event, just to name a few.

Mr. Speaker, a number of important topics will be discussed at the conference. I am very pleased that participants and speakers will be coming to Iqaluit from across Nunavut and as far away as Greenland to share their experiences and insights.

Mr. Speaker, a healthy and vibrant tourism sector benefits all of our communities.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ell. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude her statement. Are there any nays? There being none. Please proceed, Ms. Ell.

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleagues for giving me the opportunity to conclude my statement.

It creates sustainable economic and employment opportunities and can be an important force in promoting our language and culture.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in wishing the organizers and participants of the 2012 Tourism in Nunavut Conference a very successful event. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ell. I do wish to join you in saying “happy birthday” to Rita as well as one of our interpreters from Pangnirtung, Naimee. It is her birthday today too. Last but not least, my daughter, who is in Whitehorse right now, I wish her a happy birthday.

Moving on to Members’ Statements.
Member for Nanulik, Mr. Ningeongan.

**Member’s Statement 223 – 3(3):
Arctic Winter Games Standings**

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to offer my encouragement and best wishes for the

continued success of Nunavut’s Arctic Winter Games athletes.

Mr. Speaker, first and foremost, I want to encourage all of our athletes to participate to their fullest and to enjoy the competitive spirit of the games while making new friends and new rivals in their individual sports.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to note how well Nunavut’s athletes have been doing at the Arctic Winter Games so far. As of lunchtime today, 10 ulus had been won for Nunavut.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, on the first day of the games, the CBC website reported on Nunavut’s first ulu, which was won by James Qajaaqjuaq Tautu from Chesterfield Inlet. James earned a bronze ulu in the arctic sports kneel jump event.

Mr. Speaker, I know that I share with my constituents’ great pride in our athletes and their achievements. Our investment in this and other sporting events is well worth it. The experience alone strengthens our youth and helps to prepares them for future challenges in sport and life.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that my colleagues will join me in wishing continued success for Nunavut’s Arctic Winter Games athletes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Item 3. Members’ Statements. Member for Arviat, Mr. Shewchuk.

**Member's Statement 224 – 3(3):
 Congratulations to John
 Arnalukjuak Students and
 Teachers**

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say “good afternoon” to all the fine people of Arviat and all the communities across this beautiful territory of Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today again to congratulate students and teachers of the John Arnalukjuak High School in Arviat.

Mr. Speaker, under the Skills Canada project funding, the school has had the formation of six different clubs this year in the fields of cosmetology, hairdressing, cooking, baking, photography, and TV/video production. Arviat students are going to be competing in all of these categories in Iqaluit on April 24 at the territorial competitions. They will also compete against all other schools in Nunavut and gold medal winners will go on to national competitions in the event that the area is represented at the nationals.

Last year, Mr. Speaker, students from the John Arnalukjuak High School brought home six medals from the territorial competition: Sherilyn Sewoe, gold in aesthetics; Vayda Kaviok, gold in baking, she went on to the nationals; Keith Alikut and Patrick Sulurayok, silver in TV and video production; Seepa Aulatjut, silver in aesthetics; Delen Alareak, bronze in carpentry; and Joni Okatsiak, bronze in baking.

Mr. Speaker, I wish these students all the best of luck in the upcoming competitions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Shewchuk. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Arreak.

**Member's Statement 225 – 3(3): The
 Passing of Jacoopic Panikpak**

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Prior to standing, I would like to wish Rita, my paternal cousin, a happy birthday today.

Mr. Speaker, usually I am uncomfortable speaking about deceased people as we seem to celebrate their life only when they are deceased. Unfortunately I have to make that announcement as well. There was a person who just passed away earlier this week from my community. This person started working in 1959-1960 as a custodian with the high school and also as a mechanic. He was the very first person to attend courses to acquire skills in his chosen career.

During the same period in the 1960s, Commissioner Stuart Hodgson used to travel around to the communities and at that time, he said that the community would require settlement councils. This person was the very first one to partake in the settlement council and he was involved for many years.

During the 1960s, Clyde River had no airstrip and this person constructed the airstrip using an amalgamation of various kinds of heavy equipment. He would fix up leftover machinery and he began to construct the airstrip with no pay. We have tried to speak about his accomplishments during the NWT days as well as after the creation of Nunavut,

but he still has never been paid. That airstrip is still functional to this day, although improvements have since been made to it. It is one of his many accomplishments.

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

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Arreak. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There being none. Please proceed, Mr. Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleagues.

From the 1960s to 1978, this person worked with the Government of the Northwest Territories and as community mechanic. From 1978 onward, once the community became a hamlet, he became the hamlet mechanic until he retired due to old age.

This person wasn't always perfect in his life, just like the rest of us. He went through difficult times and like everybody else, he had his ups and downs. In the latter years of his life, he was involved with the Anglican Church in various capacities. Whenever a person required assistance with prayers or when families were grieving or when people needed advice, he never hesitated to be there.

He wasn't loath in speaking about his experiences and wisdom over the local radio or CB or when people approached him. He provided advice about life and other matters to everyone who asked. Whenever he brought home animals that

he caught, he invited people on the radio to come over and get some meat.

He leaves behind his wife, his adult children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren in our community. He became one of our elders. He was also my paternal cousin and friend. The person I was talking about was Jacoopie Panikpak. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Member's Statement 226 – 3(3): National Social Work Week

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to acknowledge and applaud the hard work and dedication of social workers across Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, the week of March 18 to 24 is National Social Work Week. As most of us will be back in our constituencies at that time, it is important that we show our support for the important work done by our social workers.

Mr. Speaker, until our legislation changes and until there is a fundamental shift in how the people of Nunavut address social issues, we need social workers to perform certain legislated duties. Social workers take on a number of critical roles. Social workers get involved with children, youth, adults, elders, families, and communities as a whole. They work with addictions, child welfare issues, justice and corrections, schools, health centres, wellness centres, government and municipal services, and so much more.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that we remain aware of the tremendous burden that is put on the social workers who are employed within our government today. The level of stress they face in doing their job is remarkable. In many cases, they handle many additional duties, cover more than one community, and face unexpected increases in their caseloads.

Mr. Speaker, we owe it to our social workers as well as to our constituents to provide our recognition and support for the work they do. Mr. Speaker, I recognize that our entire system of providing child and family services is under review, but in the meantime, our social workers have a job to do. National Social Work Week would be a great time to show your support and I encourage all members to do so. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

Member's Statement 227 – 3(3): Not Satisfied with Nunavut's Leadership

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, want to concur with the statement that many civil servants everywhere are very dedicated and work really hard to provide services, including regular employees, emergency response, or in drafting up policies. However, Mr. Speaker, I want to make a comment on a concern about priorities and the direction that we have to follow.

We have to take more pride in our government. Over the past three years, our government has undertaken many initiatives, some of which were quite challenging and difficult to resolve. Some of the issues include these items: the Nunavut Housing Corporation trust fund fiasco and budget shortfall; Health and Social Services' comprehensive review of health-related legislation, as well as tendering the medevac or air ambulance contracts, which were extremely complicated and difficult for Nunavutmiut. Further, we are starting to see the departments being changed, especially their mandates, which are also all demanding tasks. There were also many issues that had to be dealt with on an emergency basis.

Regarding the contracting requirements and the NNI Policy being complied with, we raised a number of questions. So now it means that our government leader has to concentrate harder and focus on the many issues that require resolution. At this time, we need stronger leadership to resolve these matters.

Last week, we were informed of a matter that was quite shocking to hear, as the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation stated that the audit that had been completed wasn't adequate, even though the Assembly submitted recommendations to that effect to require the Auditor General to complete an audit of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, including an independent audit. The minister then stated that this audit was inadequate and therefore, it requires another audit.

Our leader has to become more involved in these matters as it seems that there is no direction being provided. The board

is no longer fulfilling its mandate since the Premier stated that the minister was tasked to complete this duty and blamed the government in Ottawa instead. Our leader has to be more responsive to these issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Item 3. Members' Statements. Moving on in the orders of the day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Minister of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return to Oral Question 282 – 3(3): Climate Change

Hon. James Arreak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to provide a response to an oral question posed to me on February 29, 2012 by the member from Akulliq. The question was: can the hon. minister update us today on when he expects this action plan will be completed and tabled in the Legislative Assembly?

Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the members that we anticipate that the action plan will be completed in fiscal year 2012-13, and then subsequently tabled.

I trust this answers the member's question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Minister responsible for Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

Return to Oral Question 289 – 3(3): Fire Safety Inspections

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Return to Oral Question No. 289 – 3(3), asked by the Member for Iqaluit West, Ms. Ell on March 1, 2012, in regard to fire safety inspections. Mr. Speaker, the response is quite detailed and I ask that it be deemed as read.

Mr. Speaker, in response to Question 289 – 3(3), I offer the following response:

The Office of the Fire Marshal (OFM) does not have the authority to inspect privately owned apartment buildings without the consent of the owner or occupant or a warrant. As the OFM has no authority in this area, it has no knowledge of inspection frequency.

The landlord has an obligation to meet the code adopted by the city. The lessee also has obligations within the terms of the lease. The Office of the Fire Marshal is not privy to these documents.

The City of Iqaluit has a by-law regarding building permits and inspections. They also have a building inspector who does inspections.

Authority of the Fire Marshal:

- The fire marshal's authority comes from the Nunavut *Fire Prevention Act*
- The fire marshal and assistant fire marshals have jurisdiction throughout Nunavut
- Duties of the fire marshal
 - From time to time, inspect any structure, premises, or property with a view of determining

whether precaution against fire and the spread of fire and the means of exit in case of fire or the alarm of fire are adequate and satisfactorily maintained and with a view to directing alterations or additions to be made and precautions to be taken that the fire marshal considers necessary for the safeguarding of person and property.

Inspections:

- Inspection of structure, premises, and property
 - An assistant fire marshal may, on the complaint of any interested person or without complaint where the assistant fire marshal considers it necessary, enter in or on and inspect any structure, premises, or property for the purposes of assessing fire safety.
- Entry to private dwelling
 - An assistant fire marshal shall not enter in or on any structure or premises that is a private dwelling without the consent of the owner or occupant or a warrant.
- Inspections by the Office of the Fire Marshal include:
 - Critical community infrastructure and high life safety risk buildings (schools, health facilities, arenas, community centres, daycares, power generating facilities).
 - Public and higher fire hazard potential buildings (hotels, restaurants, hamlet buildings, retail stores, maintenance workshops, warehouses).

- Multi-family housing units (duplexes and up – mechanical rooms and common areas only).

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Tapardjuk.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 324 – 3(3): Equipment Replacement for Hunters

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, my constituents in Igloolik and Hall Beach. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Environment.

We heard in Igloolik that there were a couple of hunters who got drifted away on the sea ice. I believe it was yesterday. It's not the first time that has happened. Every year, hunters lose their equipment when they are out hunting.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Environment: what kind of assistance program is available for hunters who lose their expensive pieces of equipment, whether it's a snow machine or other equipment that is expensive to replace? Mr. Speaker, I would like the minister to inform me if there's any type of assistance program for hunters. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister responsible for the Department of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my *Annuraaqatik* for raising that issue. In those situations where hunters have lost their equipment due to situations which are beyond their control, there are programs that provide assistance from the Department of Environment, but you have to fill out forms which, when approved, would be applied on the replacement costs. Application forms are available from the Department of Environment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the Minister of Environment, my *Annuraaqatik*, for that response. Mr. Speaker, can the minister provide more detail on the parameters of the assistance program and how equipment can be replaced or what kind of assistance can be provided?

If a hunter lost their equipment through the ice or if the ice drifts away and it becomes obvious that their equipment cannot be recovered... Perhaps I'll rephrase my question, Mr. Speaker. What kind of limitations does this assistance program have for hunters who lost their equipment? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister responsible for Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for raising that question on

what kinds of limitations these programs have.

If the hunter intentionally lost their equipment due carelessness or just simply abandoned them, the hunter would not be eligible. There aren't many who make a claim, but I believe the limit is \$10,000 per claim under this program. I know that pieces of equipment lost due to drifting ice have been replaced. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is no question that the minister is keeping the hunters and trappers organizations informed about who will be involved in these things.

Mr. Speaker, we are well aware in Nunavut that hunters are assisted through NTI's Hunters Support Program and they set aside some assistance for hunting equipment. Mr. Speaker, equipment gets lost and breaks down, often long before their useful life has been filled.

Does the minister, under the various programs for equipment, provide insurance or is there any possibility of providing assistance so that hunters can get insurance coverage or are they encouraged to get insurance for their equipment? I would like to ask, Mr. Speaker, if his department is responsible for that or whether they can help to assist in this regard. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my *Annuraaqatik*, Mr. Tapardjuk. There are various programs that the HTOs are quite aware of that have been utilized in the past. Although some of them are approved and denied, all requests have to be submitted through application forms.

We don't look after insurance, so it would be much better if the harvesters themselves paid for insurance to look at that. What we do have is the equipment replacement program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak. Your final supplementary, Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like a very clear response, perhaps in writing. If the \$10,000 is the correct amount, it falls far short for covering the costs of lost equipment because the replacement costs, such as for skidoo and other hunting equipment, are now very high.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question with respect to hunters, whether they are hunting by boat, snowmobile or other means. I know for a fact that outfitters were provided with insurance in the past. I'm not sure if that's the situation today. Mr. Speaker, has the Department of Environment discussed this matter either with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated or other organizations to look at trying to provide

an overall insurance package for hunters?

It's very difficult to obtain insurance, whether it's through the HTOs or other means. Hunters are very important to our community and there are cases where they have lost their equipment, which is essential to their livelihood. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will be able to provide more information via a letter on the amount of compensation that they may eligible for. However, under that application form, they would have to list all the equipment that they lost and provide a replacement value.

I'm not sure as to whether there have been any discussions with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, but I know from a personal perspective that it's very difficult to try and get insurance. Most people should try to learn how to obtain insurance. Some people prefer insurance and others don't. I would like to encourage all hunters to apply.

Even if hunters don't get approved, they will be told as to why their request is denied. There are forms that are available. I know for a fact that our department is not responsible for insurance coverage other than the lost equipment replacement program. That is all I can state. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak. Oral Questions. Member for Natilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

Question 325 – 3(3): Providing Support for Women

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say “good morning” to the people of Nattilik. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

Mr. Speaker, recently, a very informal survey in one of my constituency communities showed that there were approximately 65 parents and almost 165 children. So on average, each parent was looking after two or three children. For some, especially those who are single, this responsibility can be very difficult.

Can the minister describe what kinds of supports, assistance, and programs are provided through his department to parents who are struggling with their parenting situation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Ugyuk for the question. Mr. Speaker, I wish that Ms. Ugyuk could share that information with us. It’s very good information.

Mr. Speaker, in many communities, there are a lot of young mothers who, for one reason or another, didn’t receive the parenting skills necessary to help work with young children. Our department does provide some training and some support to the parents if requested. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Ugyuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reason why we did this informal study was we got it from Stats Canada that the Kitikmeot region has the highest [number of] single parents. We started talking in our community, “Is this true in our community?” So we did an informal study, a bunch of us ladies. I’m sorry that we didn’t inform you.

My question is: occasionally, a woman becomes pregnant and it may not be a situation that she expected. Can the minister update this House on what kinds of counselling and guidance are provided to expecting mothers? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Ugyuk for the question. Mr. Speaker, in our communities, we do have community health centres that have nurses. We also have social workers. In most communities, we’re trying to staff all of those communities across Nunavut, as per the Auditor General’s report.

We do have other staff who can provide that. If an individual goes to them for seeking advice, they can provide advice. However, I can’t give the explicit details of what type of counselling is provided, but counselling is available if an individual is seeking it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) When a woman is pregnant, she can become more emotional than usual and experience life's challenges much more intensely. Can the minister clarify what programs are in place to ensure that expecting mothers receive appropriate care and support during their pregnancy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Ugyuk for the question. I think that most of us would agree that having a baby is a life-altering experience, particularly if it's for the first time. There are a lot of emotional and other changes that go through for a woman.

Mr. Speaker, I can't clarify at this time what's specifically available. I can make that information available to Ms. Ugyuk at a later date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Moving on. Oral Questions. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Oshutapik.

Question 326 – 3(3): Income Support Case Management System

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, my constituents and fellow residents of Pangnirtung. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Education is responsible for the delivery of the income support system. I

understand that a new computerized system for income support case management has been under development for some time and that it will soon be used in my constituency, the community of Pangnirtung.

Can the minister provide an update on the status of the new computerized income support system and indicate which communities are currently using the new system? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Minister of Education, Madam Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is a relevant question and I thank the member for asking about when the computerized system will go online. We're starting it here in Iqaluit first before expanding the computerized system across Nunavut. As to the exact timing of when it will become available in Pangnirtung, I don't have that information at this time. Once I have been informed, I will pass it on to my colleague. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Minister. Your first supplementary, Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for that response. Can the minister advise this House of how and when her department plans to roll out this system across all of Nunavut's communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Minister of Education, Madam Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is being organized and decisions are still being made on which communities will be the first to have this system installed. I still don't have its completion date, but I will ensure the information is made available as soon as the distribution plan has been completed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Minister. Your second supplementary, Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Oshutapik: The income support case management system has been in development for a number of years. Can the minister tell this House how much the development of this system has cost the government to date and what she anticipates the final cost of the system will be? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Minister of Education, Madam Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is another fine question. Once our officials have completed the cost estimates and the timeframe, I will ensure that the member is provided with the full details. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 327 – 3(3): Social Worker for Sanikiluaq

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services, the Hon. Keith Peterson.

Mr. Speaker, the community of Sanikiluaq currently does not have a social worker or a mental health worker. It is very unfortunate when certain types of incidents occur, but when they do, it should not be left solely to the RCMP to deal with them.

Can the minister update this House on what measures are in place to ensure that when Nunavut residents are at risk, the government will have the personnel and resources available to assist them? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister of Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for asking the question. I appreciate him raising that issue on behalf of his constituents. Mr. Speaker, I believe that if there is a vacancy in a social worker position, the regional operations would ensure that there's a casual or temporary social worker provided to the community. That's my understanding. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The government's 2012-15 business plan states that "As of December 2011, the Department has qualified candidates ready for hire to fill all vacant Community Social Services Worker (CSSW) positions." It is now March 7,

2012. Can the minister clearly explain why the community of Sanikiluaq does not currently have a social worker?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister of Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I again thank Mr. Rumbolt for the question. Mr. Speaker, the department has made a very concerted effort to recruit and make offers to social workers in all communities where there are vacant positions. I personally spoke to the lady who is conducting that recruitment exercise. Mr. Speaker, on several occasions, offers were made and offers were declined.

I can assure the member that in the case of Sanikiluaq, there is an eligible candidate who is interested. We hope to have a person in the community within the next 30 to 40 days. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his response. Mr. Speaker, it is well known that many critical situations can be avoided if we take the time to be proactive and preventative. A key resource for helping individuals to learn to lead healthy lifestyles is the mental health worker. Currently, the community of Sanikiluaq does not have a mental health worker. Can the minister update this House on what efforts are being made to provide and fill a mental health worker position

in the community of Sanikiluaq? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister of Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for that question. Mr. Speaker, I can't give any specific information on why that position is vacant. I do know, again, that the department is making a very concerted effort to provide, recruit, and offer positions to mental health workers where they're vacant. We do have 12 individuals who are in the Nunavut Arctic College Mental Health Diploma Program who will be offered jobs in Nunavut on April 1.

With respect to his specific community, I'll have to ask my officials to give me some details that I can provide to Mr. Rumbolt. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Oral Questions. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

Question 328 – 3(3): Permafrost Monitoring

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the Hon. Minister for Environment. He responded to the question I asked on February 29, 2012 regarding the development of the Nunavut Climate Change Adaptation Plan.

Mr. Speaker, I have a follow-up question. This one is for the minister on a project. The Minister of Environment's office has developed a network of permafrost monitoring stations across

Nunavut. They have one in Repulse Bay and another one in Kugaaruk. These monitoring stations will be useful for community land use planning. These are existing projects.

My question to the hon. minister, Mr. Speaker, is: would the hon. minister be willing to share the results of these projects with the Members of this House? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister responsible for the Department of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague, Mr. Ningark, for raising that issue. At this time, I'm unable to report on that. As I had said earlier, a lot of these reports will become available in this new fiscal year, 2012-13. When they are available, we will be tabling them in the House. Once the information becomes available for public release, we will be able to share that information with the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak. Your first supplementary, Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On February 29, I had asked what kind of preparations they had for Nunavut in light of global warming. Now I would like to raise this question with the minister. When you're talking about research projects in the communities, there are quite a number of projects underway in Nunavut. I would like to ask how much is known about these projects.

There are projects happening in Kugaaruk and Repulse Bay. Have these research projects just sprung up or are they actually producing detailed results of global warming in Nunavut? Are they not monitored or visited? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister responsible for the Department of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to the research projects that the member is talking about, I can't even begin to picture what they are. What I said earlier is that once the reports are available, we will be able to table them.

What I can tell the member is that there is a website now available if you want to check the results and it's called the Nunavut Climate Change Centre. I believe the acronym is NCCC. You can check that website and we will try to keep the site updated on every research project report that comes into Nunavut. It's available to the general public. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak. Your second supplementary, Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Second supplementary, Mr. Speaker, I am talking about the existing network of monitoring stations to see what effect permafrost is having in Nunavut. I'm not talking about one, two, but a network of these stations. The hon. minister has stated that he has no idea of these projects. Will the hon. minister inform the House if his department knows that we have these monitoring stations across Nunavut,

including Repulse Bay and Kugaaruk?
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark.
Minister of Environment, Minister
Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to
monitoring stations that the member is
referring to, I'm aware of them, but I
was truthful in stating that I couldn't
even imagine what they look like. With
respect to permafrost, we have been
informed that it has warmed up by only
one degree, but this is a major change.

With respect to the impact on the
environment, more research projects are
being concluded and reports produced
on the website. Even if we don't know
how to use computers, the younger
generation is exposed to it and we can
turn to them for assistance. NCCC,
which I referred to, is available. At this
time, I can't provide a report and I
sympathize with the member, but the
research results are now available.
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak.
Your final supplementary, Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank
you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister of
the Environment for his response. Mr.
Speaker, when we talk about research in
the communities, it can help
communities to become better prepared.
If I were to state it in English, it is
community land use planning.

I don't want the communities of Repulse
Bay and Kugaaruk to just be treated like
guinea pigs. Perhaps prior to travelling
to my home community, the minister can

speak to me about the usefulness of the
monitoring stations on permafrost to
date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark.
Minister responsible for Environment,
Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I can
provide the information that we have
now. There are various research projects
on the rising sea levels, the isostatic
rebounding of lands as the glaciers melt,
and also going back into the past history
and what we may expect in the next 100
years. We're working with our
colleagues in partnership with Inuit
organizations and the federal
government.

With respect to his question, information
is available that includes Kugaaruk. It
appears that Kugaaruk is experiencing
isostatic rebounding of its land where the
land is rising despite rising sea levels.
That is why changes to sea levels and
rising land don't seem to be noticeable.
Some land is affected by rising sea
levels while there's no change in other
areas. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak.
Oral Questions. Member for Rankin
Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

Question 329 – 3(3): Federal Position on Nunavut Housing Corporation Operations

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you.
Good afternoon, Rankin Inlet residents.
(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, my
questions today are for the Premier.

During our sitting of February 23, the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation told the House, and I quote, “Every time the Premier has met with her [federal] counterparts, it has always been the first thing that has been brought out is the mismanagement, they call it, of the housing trust...”

Mr. Speaker, the Premier’s federal counterpart is the Prime Minister of Canada. Can she confirm to the House today if the Prime Minister has actually raised this issue with her? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Canadian Prime Minister has never made that statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Your first supplementary, Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has been suggested that additional federal support for the construction of new housing units for Nunavutmiut will not be forthcoming unless the Government of Nunavut takes certain actions in relation to additional audits of the Nunavut Housing Trust. Can the Premier confirm if the Prime Minister of Canada has actually set out conditions for obtaining new federal support for housing? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Every time I meet with the Prime Minister, we

usually discuss matters where we need each other’s support. With respect to the issue of housing, I usually say that we need more housing and talk about the shortage of housing. He hasn’t spoken about other issues.

Yesterday, my colleague spoke with the Minister responsible for Housing. However, I haven’t spoken with the Prime Minister of Canada concerning the question that the member asked about. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Your second supplementary, Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I am tempted to indicate that this data is stunning. The minister responsible told the House that “Every time the Premier has met with her federal counterparts, it has always been the first thing that has been brought out is the mismanagement, they call it, of the housing trust...”

And once again, Mr. Speaker, the Premier’s counterpart is the Prime Minister of Canada. Now, my question is: can the Premier indicate if the federal government has put its position on this issue in writing and, if so, will she commit to tabling this information in the House? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have never seen anything written coming from the federal government with respect to that issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Your final supplementary, Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. The Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation did indicate “every time.” It assumes that there has been more than one time that the issue has been brought up.

The federal government has made its share of mistakes, Mr. Speaker, as can be confirmed by reading any number of reports of the Auditor General to Parliament. Is it the Premier’s position that we should order new audits of our own territorial corporations simply because the federal government would like us to do so, as indicated by the Nunavut housing minister? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Nunavut Housing Corporation is responsible for that issue and they now have established a committee. The functioning of that committee is being looked after by the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 330 – 3(3): Infrastructure Planning for Quttiktuq

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are directed towards the Minister of Community and Government Services. I would like to ask questions today about infrastructure updates in Quttiktuq.

With having three communities and with members asking so many good questions, sometimes I don’t get to ask three questions for three separate communities. So I’ll hopefully try and conquer it in one.

As we’re aware, we passed the capital budget in October and now in terms of the normal process, tenders go out for different buildings and capital projects that have been passed here in this House, obviously to order supplies and get them on the ship to be able to come up to the communities.

In terms of Grise Fiord, I know the community is very excited about receiving the materials for probably a two-year project in constructing their hamlet and new community complex. I was wondering if the minister could update the House on what’s happening with that project. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the question, Mr. Elliott. I did have similar questions from the mayors when I was at the Baffin mayors’ [meeting] and I’m glad to share those with you today.

As for your question, the tendering call is being put out and we’re hoping to have a contract award set by April so that they could begin construction this summer, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that reply. In Resolute Bay, I know the community is very excited about the government's decision to continue on with replacing the current utilidor to provide water for the community. I know, in terms of a fairly sizable commitment by the federal government as well as the Government of Nunavut, we had a power outage in Resolute Bay and the power being off for over ten hours, the need for an emergency generator has actually been accelerated. I'm wondering if the minister could update the House on those two projects. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was glad to be able to be in Resolute Bay when we were talking with the community on the replacement of the old utilidor system.

Mr. Speaker, the awarding of the planning or the design development, I guess, that portion of it should be done in the coming weeks. In terms of the Resolute Bay utilidor, it's going to be a massive project replacing the old system. We're anticipating that construction won't start until 2013 on that project, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Next, travelling to Arctic Bay, in 2014, we have a replacement health centre, which unfortunately, today, we haven't

been able to convince the government to change the shifting or the numbering of the order for the health centres.

We have a new sewage lagoon that has been sitting not being used. I know there's still funding that's in the project for the reclamation of the old sewage lagoon. I was hoping to get an update as to what's holding that project up, why it's not completed, and when the department anticipates having that completed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. His constituency appears to be doing very well for infrastructure, which is good. We need as much infrastructure as we can in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, in terms of the lagoon that he asked about, that is complete now. We're waiting for approvals from the water board and we're hoping that those approvals will be coming through so that the use of that lagoon could begin by as early as this summer. That depends on how quickly the agencies can approve the use of that lagoon. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Kusugak, for your answer. In terms of the water licence, I know it has actually taken quite a while to have it processed. Is there anything or any particular reason why the process has been taking so slow? Is there something in terms of what the hamlet

needs to provide or is it just the natural process of how it transpires? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That whole issue with water licensing and stuff is taking longer than we would like it to and hopefully things will speed up as we go along. I'll keep my colleague and his constituents informed on its progress. It is taking long. It's one of these processes that do take longer than we want it to, Mr. Speaker. I will keep him informed on it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit West, Ms. Ell.

Question 331 – 3(3): Total Knee Replacement Operations

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) My question is to the Minister of Health and Social Services and it's in regard to his statement earlier. I, too, would like to thank all the medical professionals that he mentioned in his statement.

In regard to the patients who travel for medical reasons to a southern institute, this one in particular to Ottawa, I am happy to hear of the progress that has been made. In regard to this, I'm asking the minister, with the notice that he put in here on the statement, if such collaboration and commitment by other medical professionals in other fields are being worked on to translate either

booklets or brochures for patients travelling to Ottawa. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Ell for the question. Mr. Speaker, I will look into that and get back to her. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Patients who travel for knee surgery usually have to go to Ottawa for surgery. He is saying here that there will now be no additional costs. Normally they would have to have gone down a week or two before they actually have the surgery. With his statement, does this mean now that they will be going down perhaps a day before their surgery? If he could elaborate more on what he means by no additional costs to the government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned in my [Minister's] Statement, patients are identified and screened with the assistance of new screening tools, which include community nurse assessments, lab work, and X-rays. Presumably, the work is done here, sent down there, the doctors would review the information, and then they would contact the Qikiqtani General Hospital here. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Are the 12 Nunavut patients that are listed in your statement going down in March over and above the number that would have probably travelled down for knee surgery anyway? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister of Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the very good question. Mr. Speaker, I believe this will be a special day for these individuals during the March break. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 332 – 3(3): The Effects of Climate Change

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, people of Pond Inlet and my fellow Nunavummiut. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Environment.

I want to continue that thought as the residents in Pond Inlet and I imagine the rest of Nunavut and the circumpolar regions of the world are being impacted by global warming.

Mr. Minister, if you have been to our community, you would know that Pond Inlet is a huge land, part of which is inhabited and part of which is multilevel.

Last year, Mr. Speaker, there was a landslide just past the community. There was little doubt that global warming had something to do with that event. Pond Inlet has various hilly areas, which result in some housing being above other sections of town.

It's becoming noticeable that some communities are being affected by global warming. Can the minister inform this House which department is responsible for being aware of these changes? Who has to keep track of how communities are being affected? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister responsible for Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have been to Pond Inlet on several occasions, so I can still picture the layout of the community. Perhaps all of us involved in the community through the various organizations and the municipal government have to be aware of the changes to the lands within municipal boundaries.

Additionally, those of us within the Department of Environment, although we deal with environmental changes occurring throughout Nunavut, are trying to be aware of melting landscapes and are being monitored via various studies. This is something we have to collaborate on and we should try to keep tabs on the environment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for that response. It's clear that we all have to try to be aware of these changes. Even if we're not paying attention, it's becoming so obvious that we have no choice but to notice these changes.

I would like to raise this question based on your response about municipal governments that also have to be observant about the changes. Has the department provided any kind of information to allow them to do that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister responsible for the Department of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The officials in the department have that information, but I don't have what the member is asking for at this time. Once it has been provided to me, I will be able to update the member.

With respect to municipal governments, there are seven monitoring stations in seven communities that monitor the impacts on infrastructure by environmental changes in partnership with the municipal governments and which Mr. Ningark asked about.

This is part of our initiative, guide for good environmental standard practice from mining. There are various other initiatives that we're taking. You can check the website I mentioned earlier or you may contact our office directly. Practically every community has a conservation officer and they are very good sources of information.

As I stated, looking after the environment has to be a shared responsibility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Residents of Pond Inlet have different names for other places, just like residents from Iqaluit and I suppose every community. There are Mittimatalik, Qaaraaluk, Tasiilaq, and Qaiqsuarjuk.

The people in Qaaraaluk are on top of the hill. Directly underneath is the old town of Pond Inlet. If that hill ever slid down, the houses directly beneath would be completely buried. Who would make the warning that the endangered houses have to be moved? If the Nunavut government states that the municipality should have these homes moved, who would pay for their relocation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague representing the Tununiq region. That is a very good question that it leaves me kind of baffled on who should pay. Once we do have an answer, we will be able to provide that information to him, perhaps in writing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 333 – 3(3): Total Allowable Fish Harvest at Igloolik

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Environment, Minister Arreak, whom I coin my *Annuraaqatik*.

In Igloolik, fishermen are allowed to fish arctic char in nearby lakes for commercial purposes with a total allowable harvest of 30,000 lbs. I believe that's from the three lakes. Mr. Speaker, who decides how much char is harvested and how is that done? I would first like to have the specific number that can be fished commercially, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Amittuq. It's my understanding that Igloolik fishermen can fish commercially for shipment to the Kivalliq. We're pleased to see that they have been able to do that to this point. If they wanted to increase that catch, research would have to be conducted on the lakes and the char, after which the catch can then be negotiated.

The HTO board in Igloolik, in conjunction with the Department of Environment, could discuss this. The federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans is responsible for all fisheries, so we need to include them and the NWMB. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have been led to understand that the commercial harvest starts on April 1 every year.

Mr. Speaker, does the minister know if the commercial harvest limit had been reached prior to April 1 and that they cannot fish until April 1 has passed? Who sets the start of the commercial fishing season? It states here that April 1 is when the commercial harvest will start if the fishermen prematurely reach their limit before they can resume fishing. Mr. Speaker, I would like to know who determines those issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister responsible for the Department of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated earlier, some things are negotiable. This basically just follows the fiscal year that starts on April 1. That is for a period of 12 months, starting from April 1 until March 31 of the following year. We're open to explain why April 1 is a problem. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you. I seem to understand to change the date; he is asking why it should be changed. It's too close to the spring season. In Igloolik, we are island people and we travel only to Baffin Island to

fish commercially. That means we have to wait for the ice to form solidly enough to cross, usually around the end of December or early January. The current quota is quickly used up long before the fishing season is finished.

One of the reasons why the fishermen wanted to change the date from January 1 to December is because it starts to get too warm by April 1. This affects the quality of the fish, which have to be frozen thoroughly. Can I ask that this idea be considered, Mr. Speaker?

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister responsible for the Department of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak. Members will note by the clock flashing that time is up, that the allotted time for question period has expired. We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 7. Written Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

Item 7: Written Questions

Written Question 016 – 3(3): Fuel Distribution Service Contracts

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Hon. Lorne Kusugak, Minister of Community and Government Services.

1. As of March 7, 2012, broken down by community, with which entities has the Petroleum Products Division of the Department of Community and Government Services entered

into a local delivery contract for the delivery of fuel products?

2. What is the commencement and expiry date of each contract?
3. With respect to the request for proposals issued for each contract, what entities submitted proposals?

(interpretation) Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Item 10: Petitions

Petition 002 – 3(3): Staffing at the Igloolik Health Centre

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to present a petition today signed by 185 residents of Igloolik concerning staffing at the Igloolik Health Centre. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. 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. Minister responsible for the Status of Women, Madam Premier.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 172 – 3(3): 2010-2011 Annual Report of the Nunavut Status of Women Council

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to

table the 2010-11 Annual Report of the Nunavut Status of Women Council, Qullit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. Ningeongan.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Motion 023 – 3(3): Extended Adjournment – Notice

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Friday, March 9, 2012, I will move the following motion:

I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that pursuant to the provisions of Rule 3, that when the House concludes its winter sitting, it shall be adjourned until May 29, 2012.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ningeongan. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. Elliott.

Motion 024 – 3(3): Legislative Assembly Appointments – Notice

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Maybe we have been working too hard, but I have two tabling of documents that I was trying to get your attention for. I do have a notice of motion, so thank you. I give notice that on Friday, March 9, 2012, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Natilik, that Mr. Tagak Curley be appointed a member of the Standing Committee on

Community and Economic Development.

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

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. At the conclusion of one item, if you wish to go back to Item 13, you may ask for unanimous consent of the Assembly to go back to that item on the order paper once we have concluded with the item that we are on.

Item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to seek unanimous consent to go back to Item 13 on the *Orders of the Day*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. The member is seeking unanimous consent to go back to Item 13 on the *Orders of the Day*, Tabling of Documents. Are there any nays? There are none. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Elliott.

Revert to Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 173 – 3(3): Suicide and Attempted Suicide in Nova Scotia - 1995-2004 - A Report

Tabled Document 174 – 3(3): Inuit Participation in Determining the Future of Lancaster Sound

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess we are getting a little tired, so I'll take a little stretch while I stand here.

Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in my Member's Statement on Monday, I will

be tabling a number of items this week concerning the kind of work that needs to be done to effectively implement our territory's suicide prevention action plan.

The item that I am tabling today is a publication from the Province of Nova Scotia's Department of Health Promotion and Protection.

The second item that I'll be tabling is a publication that was released yesterday by the Qikiqtani Inuit Association entitled "Inuit Participation in Determining the Future of Lancaster Sound."

As members are aware, I have raised the issue of the proposed Lancaster Sound National Marine Conservation Area on a number of occasions in different forums. I encourage all members to review this document with care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Moving on in the orders of the day. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Ningeongan.

Item 16: Motions

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

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. The member is seeking unanimous consent to deal with this motion today. Are there any nays? There being none. Please proceed, Mr. Ningeongan.

Motion 023 – 3(3): Extended Adjournment

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that pursuant to the provisions of Rule 3, that when the House concludes its winter sitting, it shall be adjourned until May 29, 2012.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried.

Item 16. Motions. Mr. Elliott.

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

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. The member is seeking unanimous consent to deal with his motion today. Are there any nays? There being none. Please proceed, Mr. Elliott.

Motion 024 – 3(3): Legislative Assembly Appointments

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS section 17 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act* provides for the Legislative Assembly to appoint such committees to aid and advise it as it considers necessary;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly is prepared to make appointments;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Natilik, that Mr. Tagak Curley be appointed a member of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried.

Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 34 with Mr. Enook in the Chair.

In accordance with the authority provided to me by Motion 22 – 3(3), the Committee of the Whole will stay in session until it reports itself out.

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

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:15 and Committee resumed at 15:48*

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

Chairman (Mr. Tapardjuk) (interpretation): Thank you. I would now like to call the committee meeting to order. Thank you. Good afternoon, my colleagues. In Committee of the Whole, we have been given the following items to deal with by the Speaker: Bills 21, 24,

25, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 34. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to continue with the review of Bill 24 and commence the review of the Department of Justice, Nunavut Arctic College, followed by the departments of Finance, CLEY, Human Resources, and Environment. Mr. Chairman, if time permits, we will proceed with EIA and the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Are we in agreement to deal with those items in Committee of the Whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 24 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2012-2013 – Justice – Consideration in Committee

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: I would. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses to the table.

Thank you, Minister Shewchuk, Minister of Justice. For the record, please introduce your witnesses. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. On my right, I have the Acting Deputy Minister of

Justice, Norman Tarnow. On my left, I have the Director of Corporate Services, Christine Bens. Also, Mr. Chairman, in the Gallery, I have with me the ADM of Justice, Rebekah Williams, and the Director of Corrections, J.P. Deroy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Welcome, Mr. Tarnow and Ms. Bens. If you require further witnesses from amongst your staff, it is clear that you will request their inclusion and once they have been escorted in, we can commence with the introductions.

Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. The minister already made his opening comments and so did the Chair of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness, Ms. Ugyuk. The floor is open to any member for general comments. I suggest to members that wherever possible you ask your detailed questions during the page-by-page review. At this time, the floor is open for general comments. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can you clarify if we can now make general comments on the opening comments of the Minister of Justice?

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. We're now on general comments. It would be best if you could ask your detailed questions during the page-by-page review so that we don't keep going back and forth. We would like to hear general comments at this time. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to

comment on the minister's opening comments for the Department of Justice yesterday. The minister mentioned that there have been two judges appointed for Nunavut.

I think we're all aware, particularly in the smaller communities, that court hearings are constantly deferred to a later date due to capacity restraints placed on the court system. I occasionally hear about cases, even outside of our sessions, where people who become so anxious that they start becoming suicidal due to the continual deferment of their court cases. I know that this has an impact on the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy, which was drafted by Nunavut Tunngavik, the Nunavut government, the Embrace Life Council, as well as the RCMP.

People become worried and it leads to what I hate to say: suicide. I hear about it all the time and it reaches alarm over suicide. It is my hope, Mr. Chairman, as elected members, that we have the insight into the thought processes of any individual, whether they are youth, adults, female, or male, and become aware if they're have thoughts of suicide. Mr. Chairman, it is unfortunate that we can't peer into anyone's mind. Even though we want to help, it is impossible to help in those cases.

Many of us have been personally affected, elected officials, along with our relatives and children by this issue. I truly wish we could look into a suicidal person's mind so we could help. Unfortunately, we cannot. So therefore, when we see our relatives or their friends who seem troubled, we should give advice to try and turn their minds back towards life. Yes, this is true

because only through working together, whether it is one person, their parents, their friends, the community, the populace in the 25 communities, the hamlets, the Nunavut government, as well as the federal government, can we provide the proper assistance to those in need.

I just wanted to make that comment. When we proceed to the page-by-page review, I will ask questions at the appropriate time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. The floor is open for general comments at this time. I have no more names on my list. Branch Summary. Directorate. \$13,346,000. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like direction from you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know if it would be an appropriate question to ask or whether I should ask it on another page, but under Directorate, it states the "Directorate, Corporate Services and Policy and Planning," and "Also, the Directorate liaises between the Government of Nunavut and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police."

When we go to the next page, we go to Law Enforcement. I would like direction from you, Mr. Chairman, as to whether I should ask my question under Directorate or Law Enforcement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. Under Directorate, it states here that they deal more with the territorial policing agreement between the government and the RCMP. Under

Law Enforcement on the next page, it deals specifically with the RCMP and it would be more appropriate if you ask your question then. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for that direction. I will ask my question when we go to the next page. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is with respect to the Human Rights Tribunal. Minister Shewchuk may recall during one of our standing committee meetings that I used an example and tried to provide clarification about the situation in Coral Harbour, where the tribunal is, along with its staff.

They have faced constraints when people have requested assistance to deal with their complaints. When the tribunal's staff meet with the people, however, due to the way it was set up, various areas are lacking and this is causing the tribunal to be unable to provide assistance.

I have noted, Mr. Chairman, that the Human Rights Tribunal is scheduled to undergo a comprehensive review and that the findings would be tabled in 2012-13, this new fiscal year. The area that seems to be missing, as per my earlier comments to the minister, is if the findings have been submitted to the department. I wonder if it can now be responded to at this time. Based on my understanding, I wonder if the missing content has been included in this review. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that very important question too. When I became the Minister of Justice a few months ago, in a detailed briefing, I was brought up to speed on the Human Rights Tribunal in Nunavut. The member is right that at present, there are three full-time employees. They are located in Coral Harbour and there is a Human Rights Tribunal board.

Looking into the history of this, when the *Human Rights Act* was enacted in 2004 and the tribunal was formed, I think there were some key pieces of the puzzle left out because things have been brought to my attention that the tribunal is not functioning as it should be in our territory. With that understanding, we did a review. We have expert people who reviewed our tribunal system. That report has just been completed. We are under review of it right now. There are some recommendations in there that I know already.

One of the pieces that were missing out of the tribunal when it was formed was there was no Human Rights Commission formed along with the tribunal. It was a body within its own. Within that body, the staff that is in it, I believe, is lacking some direction. They are lacking support and they are lacking exposure to the public and to the communities across the territory.

So we need to look at these and this report has addressed those issues. Like I say, it's preliminary. I am committed to table that report at our next sitting, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for that response. During our standing committee meeting, I stated that when people say they want to make complaints to a lawyer, the present staff has been unable to take further action and I told the minister that. People have learned that plaintiffs are supposed to be made to feel welcome, but once the word "lawyer" is mentioned, staff become agitated and cause plaintiffs to feel like dropping their complaints. I believe that has happened too many times now.

I related that to the minister, that people would be informed that if a complaint comes forward, they are missing staff who are welcoming at the tribunal office. You mentioned that you have a staff of three. I suggested that a fourth member be hired whose role would be to assist with complaints. Plaintiffs are sensitive to the way they are treated and easily intimidated from going further. The reason why I asked the question, Mr. Chairman, is because that seems to be the missing link that people notice. The three employees, in trying to carry out their duties, are made unable to be accommodating.

Mr. Chairman, I want to make this last comment. The people of Nunavut are just beginning to comprehend the process of submitting complaints to a body that can assist them. This body is very much in demand and should not be a barrier. I wanted to comment on it and direct it as a question as to whether what we discussed will be made available. This is basically just a comment, Mr. Chairman. That is all.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. That was just a comment, but would you like to respond, Minister Shewchuk? Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for voicing his opinion and thoughts. As I said before, this tribunal definitely needs to be looked at and reviewed, and input from all members and all interested parties are very much accepted. It's going to take some time to review it and put something that is user-friendly and a system that works and serves a purpose of what the tribunal is for.

In the meantime, however, though, we do have what we have and I know one of the issues is that people do not know what the tribunal is and what the purpose of it is. We can do a better job of getting information out to the communities and part of that is through, hopefully, our GLOs that we will have hired in all communities too. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. I wanted to ask this question, but I want to start by thanking the minister for having travelled to Ottawa last winter to speak to Bill C-10 and its possible impacts. It has already passed through the Senate committee. Can the minister elaborate as to the timeframe when the government will have to implement it? That is my first question.

If the minister could speak to some of the reports that have surfaced indicating

that it will have a negative impact on our correctional facilities causing overcrowding upon implementation of the legislation. I want him to speak to this due to the reason that there were inter-jurisdictional consultations. If the minister can update us, I would appreciate it. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would be pleased to do that for the member. Bill C-10 is an omnibus bill which includes nine distinct Acts. It was considered by the Conservative government and brought forward to the Senate committee on December 16.

In January, we voiced our concerns about C-10 and the consequence it would have on Nunavut and our justice system. Prior to that, in January, I attended the justice ministers' meeting, F/P/T, of all jurisdictions in PEI and spoke about C-10 with both the federal Minister of Public Safety and the federal Minister of Justice.

I think, on February 1, I appeared before the legislative Senate committee in Parliament and I would be pleased to table my presentation to all members too. I spoke about Bill C-10 and the effects it would have on our territory and spoke in-depth on it. There was great reception to hear what we had to say and we left that room voicing our opinion and feeling good that they would have an understanding of Nunavut.

That Senate committee reviewed and listened to 110 witnesses in total. I

believe it was around there anyway. The Senate committee now has reviewed the bill and they have turned it back to Parliament.

So yes, we have voiced our concerns and our opinions and I'll just briefly state some of them, Mr. Curley. We have concerns about the mandatory minimum sentencing here that's going to take place with C-10 and the challenge it would give us in our correctional facilities and how we handle that. We have concerns about the Gladue Supreme Court case, which allowed for flexibility in decision in sentencing. We have concerns about funding for victims of crime and crime prevention and rehabilitation programs that we have in our territory.

So those were the highlight main issues too, but we spoke as much as we can speak. I think whatever comes out of it comes out of it, but we are going to be prepared and have to be prepared for the consequences and there's no question that the federal government knows somewhat what those consequences are going to be to Nunavut.

In regard to implementation, part of our presentation was that we want to see this implemented, if it is implemented, over five or six years. It cannot happen right away and most jurisdictions are in agreement with that too.

I hope that provides information for you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask an

additional question on the example that the minister used in English about minimum sentencing. Once the bill is implemented, it means that people who commit crimes would stay longer in the correctional facilities.

Can the minister elaborate further using more than one example? We have only one correctional facility here and it's way overcrowded. When we don't have other facilities, what are we going to do if the bill is passed and implemented? Have you discussed this matter with the federal government as to whether they would support getting another correctional facility? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll try and give a little bit more clarity to the times of sentencing we're talking about for certain crimes. With C-10, the minimum sentencing is going to be mostly for severe crimes. I'll go through a list quickly. Crimes like prison breach, criminal harassment, sexual assault, trafficking in persons, kidnapping, abductions of persons, assaults on children, motor vehicle theft, breaking and entering a place other than a dwelling house, arson, and things like that that they plan on having no leeway on sentencing. So on minor crimes, we're still going to have that flexibility.

However, I want this to be clear to all the members and the committee and people across Nunavut watching this. In C-10, we cannot forget about the victims of crime and serious crime needs to be dealt with in serious ways. That's very important to understand. Along with those serious crimes, I think what we

have to focus on is that these crimes don't happen and we need to put some focus on crime prevention. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that is clearer now. Also, I'm in support of the minister's last comments. We're sensitive to victims of crime, especially children, to respect them in our community and in homes. Victims of crime go through sad times, especially when children have been victimized. They need support; long-term support when it is child victims. We will always want to be updated by the minister and we offer our support to him.

Has the federal government indicated or do you expect to see another agreement on this issue for a year or many years? I wonder if there might be some possibility because we do need support and it will be expensive. Our correctional centre here is deteriorating because of age. I wonder if the minister can add some comment because we know that our own resources are not going to be adequate in Nunavut when this legislation applies uniformly across Canada. Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Curley. I have and I will continue to lobby the federal government at all levels with all contacts that I have and through our MP on what this bill is going to do to us. We do have some figures that I can give you,

maybe when we get to the corrections side of things, on what we foresee our future growth and our correction needs. We have forecasted some numbers. It will grow and we are going to need different facilities, newer facilities. There is no question about it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, and I am very happy to hear that. Nunavutmiut need to be updated once the federal government starts to implement that. We will also have to assist the federal government because the correctional centre here is overcrowded and obsolete and we have to rectify that. That will be one of our questions.

What I would like to hear is about the Inuit Employment Plan. I believe that the new correctional facility in Rankin Inlet is going to be completed this year. With the job openings that will be created, have you considered including it in the Inuit Employment Plan? If so, will training be included as part that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That has absolutely been thought out. We will be recruiting for Rankin Inlet very shortly and we will hire as many beneficiaries that we can and train those people. As long as they can have the basic skills to come to us with entry-level qualifications, we will provide training to people there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. Our Chairman should make the statement that Inuit customs are to be respected. At least that is our stated position. When defining Inuit qualifications, one should look at their knowledge of the Inuit culture, their ability to speak Inuktitut, and their respect of the Inuit culture. Will this be part of their qualifications? I'm referring to the Inuktitut language and being a resident of that community where the government employees are working. That is the question I want to ask. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. They absolutely will. Skills can be relevant and as long as there are equivalencies, I assure you that in the new correctional centre in Rankin Inlet, there will be a number of beneficiaries hired because of the need for Inuktitut and programs we will provide. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Minister Shewchuk, I would like to remind you that I am not the Speaker but that I'm the Chairman, for your information. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, that is quite a clear response. I have another question. I want to know if the Rankin Inlet healing centre that is to be created will be just geared towards men. Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it is just men's correctional facility/healing facility. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): This is my final question at this time. In my view, I believe that this healing centre will be full, but that cannot be helped. Can the minister tell me how many spaces are set aside in the facility? Additionally, in the eventuality of the centre being opened, I would want to know what the timeline is for the opening of this facility. Upon its opening, will you be transferring some inmates to the facility in Rankin Inlet? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The facility is built and is going to house 48 inmates. Yes, some of the Kivallirmiut will be moved back there. Just to break that down a little bit, as the bedrooms are broken down by risk of offenders, there are 32 medium-risk, 14 low-risk, and 2 segregation cells. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. The facilities are nearing completion based on my understanding, so I would like to know what the status of the accommodation facilities is. Can the minister briefly provide an update as to

whether the construction is complete?
When can we expect the facility to start providing these services? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will be taking possession of both of the buildings, the actual facility and the residential building, at the end of this month and we plan on moving in and providing inmate services there within six months of that date. As soon as we get our hands on the facilities, hiring action is in the process right now, competitions will go out, and we are actually going to assist HR in the hiring process as the department of Corrections so that we may ensure it gets done. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. It seems the expectation is that the facility will open this summer and that it can house inmates prior to the fall season. Will you start transferring inmates to this facility prior to that time? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't think that's going to be possible just due to the fact of hiring staff and there is going to be a huge amount of training going and a huge amount of training in just the protocol of the facility itself. So I don't think that can happen by this summer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish to thank the minister and his officials for being here to answer our questions. Thank you. I believe that we're on page E-4. This contains a statement about an issue that I believe most Nunavummiut don't always think about. We all know that one day, we will face death. Not all of us are prepared for what would happen in the case of death in the form known as a will. Am I being correct when I say that many Nunavummiut don't have their wills drawn up? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Ms. Ell for a very good question too. This point has been brought out to the Department of Justice before, previous to me. It has been taken very much into consideration. In fact, a will kit has been established. It's ready to go and it's going to be available to all individuals of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's good news. I wonder if you have an idea of when that might happen. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would hope it's going to happen very soon. As I say, it's

complete. What we're waiting for is the translation of the kit to happen and it will be distributed as soon as that is done. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank the minister and we will be expecting that soon. At this time, everyone is aware that we have to fill out income tax returns. In the past year, however, many people have loved ones who passed away. They are now starting to receive forms and when they do, what do surviving widowers and widows have to do with these returns and where would they go? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They wouldn't come to Justice, but I think we could find out the answer for you, Mr. Chairman. I think they would probably go to the Public Trustee or somebody who could provide those services, but we could provide that answer to Ms. Ell later. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. I would like to remind the members that if there are less than 10 members, there is no quorum. We almost had no quorum. Let's remember that we need quorum. If you need to leave the Chamber, please make sure there are 10 members in the House so that we have quorum.

We are on page E-4. Directorate. \$13,346,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Branch Summary. Law Enforcement. Mr. Enook wanted to ask a question when we reached this page. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question might be too detailed, but my constituents have asked me to raise this question. Let me first ask this question.

I believe there is an agreement between the RCMP and the Nunavut government to provide police services in Nunavut. The question I would like to ask relates to problems experienced by my constituents in Pond Inlet about having to call the police in Iqaluit for assistance. It has caused a lot of problems in Pond Inlet. How big of a problem is this in Nunavut? What kind of solutions have you looked at with regard to this issue, Mr. Chairman? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for that question. Yes, I have had discussion with Mr. Enook about this. It's as much a concern for all communities, not just Pond Inlet. I think it's an important one that we need to try and address as best as we can.

I would like to advise Mr. Enook that I have talked about this issue with the commanding officer of the RCMP in Iqaluit. I'll just outline some of the things that have come from the RCMP. The RCMP has a protocol in place that they will provide as much Inuktitut services as they can in the communities

during their regular hours. After hours, for any calls that come into the telecom centre in Iqaluit, they do have three full dedicated Inuktitut serving people there if needed. For the language of Inuktitut to be used in that call centre, they're available for that to happen. They are trying to address the issue as best as they can.

I think that Mr. Enook brings up a good point and the fact that when a unilingual caller calls in and there is nobody there who can respond back to them, it's very difficult and it could be very important that somebody does respond back to them because there could be something very severe going on. I'm sure that when a call does go into the call centre in Iqaluit from any community, from any person, if they can understand, even to the basics of what's going on, the RCMP in the local community is dispatched to the information that they received to the best of their capabilities at the call centre.

We understand that it's an issue and the commanding officer of the RCMP understands that it's a concern. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the things that pop into people's minds and which is often discussed is that when a person makes a call to the call centre... . Perhaps I'll rephrase the question. When a call is answered here, how long does it take from when a call is made to when the police officer responds to the call? Let me ask that first so I can understand. Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My understanding is that if there is a call made into the call centre in Iqaluit, there is Inuktitut staff available to speak right now, immediately, to that person who needs to be spoken to. As soon as the information is found out that there is something taking place and the location of that something taking place, immediately if it's severe, RCMP in that local community are dispatched. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you. I thank the minister for that response. Another common concern is that when a person calls, the person is drilled about who they are, where they are, what the problem is, what year they were born, whether they are female or male, and whether they are telling the truth. Callers start to think they will always face time-consuming questions when they're calling out of extreme urgency.

When people are endlessly questioned, something can happen very quickly. Has there been much thought given to improve that situation? It is thought to be so prevalent that people start to believe there will be no response. They are forced to make a long-winded story before they accept and agree to respond to the call. Has that been something that is misunderstood or is that the way it is? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have never called the call centre, but I have been assured by Commander McVarnock that as soon as they know a call comes in and there's something taking place, something drastically severe taking place, that the local detachment will be dispatched. There may be information gathering going on after that as the call continues, but as soon as they know that something is happening that needs RCMP attention, the local RCMP will be contacted as soon as they can and dispatched to that call.

I would just like to say too that I think what's important here are the concerns that the member is bringing out too, but I think it's also very important that if there are any situations like this that have happened that are documented, the RCMP are notified as soon as possible also. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I love to agree with the minister, but there's this one problem and that's with the last part of his remark that only if there's a problem do the police have to be involved. It becomes a problem when we also have to talk about the problem to these people. Perhaps there should be a person who is familiar with people who feel they're being victimized or some organizations they can appeal to. I see that as being cumbersome.

Let me return to the community concerns. Once I call the RCMP, the officers are called at their home. I understand that part. Once I make the

call, are the police officers in the community immediately called or is it until the call is determined not to be a prank call, is it an emergency call or can we categorize it as a non-emergency? As minister said, it would follow the urgency of the call. Who determines whether it's an emergency? If it's not considered an emergency, will it then take a while for the police officer to respond? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe that is the case. When somebody calls the RCMP, there is basic information they would need. They would need information of what is taking place, what crime is being committed, where it is being committed at; they need that information to respond to a call. So there's going to be a requirement for basic information. If they find out that information, get that information, and assess the call, I'm not sure how they assess their calls and what protocol they have, but they must have a system in place. If it's an emergency and it needs responding to right away, I'm sure they will respond as soon as possible. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for his response and for further clarity of his response. Let me ask you this question instead. At this point in time, based on what we know, is there any other way to call somewhere else other than the call centre here in Iqaluit? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe, during the day, there is the RCMP in the local detachment that you can contact at local numbers. Even in some communities, there are probably day shifts, night shifts, and maybe a round of shifts that you can call local numbers. In some communities, I think a lot of people do try to call that local number. Even if you do and they're not there, you will get diverted to Iqaluit, to the RCMP telecom centre here. I believe those are the avenues that are available. If you cannot connect with them in your local community, the call will automatically be transferred to Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't think anyone would call the RCMP just to make small talk and say, "You can come by my house when you feel like it." It's only during an actual emergency that requires an immediate response that we try and call the police.

A lot of people believe that this whole system has to be reviewed and make it much more responsive. I apologize to the minister because I don't have an alternative to recommend. I would if I did to make a contribution, but my question is whether this whole system can be reviewed. I know I cannot order you to do something, but I'm wondering if this could be contemplated further. Is this the best system we have?

At the end of the day, the police are serving the public here in Nunavut. Nunavummiut have an expectation for prompt and appropriate service. I don't have a question, but if I could ask the minister if this call centre system for the Baffin region can be reviewed. At least if there could be a report afterwards explaining why it is the best possible system. I'll stop there for now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate Mr. Enook's comments. I think we can always try and improve protocols and standards that are in place. I'm sure that Mr. McVarnock will be listening to what I'm saying and I can keep on relaying that message too. I would really like to encourage all members too. I would like to hear actual complaints of what's happening out there so that we really understand what the issues are too. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. I think you said you were done. Thank you, Mr. Enook. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We see the RCMP members in our community every day in uniform around town. Their visible presence is comforting and brings a sense of security to community life.

The Member for Tununig, Mr. Enook, touched on an issue that causes a rift between residents and the detachment, especially when people try calling them at night, Mr. Chairman, long distance all

the way down to Iqaluit while a crisis is unfolding.

Mr. Chairman, we know that if there should be a problem with the satellite, such as if it turned and faced the sun instead, like it happened before, we had a problem with the communications system. If that can happen, it can happen again. I believe it was during one of our sessions when I couldn't make any calls to my community. It became stressful because you want to know what is happening. It could be a lot harder for people who call the RCMP because they're in a dangerous situation in the middle of the night. They call the RCMP to ask for assistance.

Should the satellite break down again, does the department have a preparedness plan when there's a cry for help in the community? Does the RCMP have a backup plan in place to ensure the local detachment can respond immediately to calls during the night? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not sure if the RCMP has a plan in place for something like that happening. However, in community emergency plans, there may be some protocol that addresses your issue that I'm unaware of.

However, you know, in all communities, if there is a problem in communication with getting a hold of the RCMP, however it may be through phones that aren't working or you can't get a hold of somebody, anybody and everybody in all communities, we will do whatever it

takes to get a hold of those RCMP. Usually, everybody in our communities knows where they live and you can go and knock on their door. You can try and find them and get them for whatever situation you may need them for.

As far as what protocol and plans that the RCMP has in place, I am not aware of anything like that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We all know that we had a communication breakdown when the satellite developed a glitch. I believe we must be prepared as elected members in the House. I would like to urge the government to make preparations for another breakdown of the communication system and ensure the RCMP in the communities be available on a 24/7 basis in that eventuality.

I have no other comments to make. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Although I didn't hear a question, you can respond if you wish to do so, Minister Shewchuk. Go ahead, Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I need to respond. That's a very good point that Mr. Ningark brings out. I'm sure that the RCMP has a plan in place and we will attempt to get that plan provided to you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. We are on page E-5.

Law Enforcement. \$29,606,000. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): I have a question under Law Enforcement. In the Second Assembly, we dealt with a similar situation. We had questions at that time and as we heard that during regular hours... . Could the minister elaborate what the regular hours are for making calls? We have different time zones here. What do regular hours mean? (interpretation ends) Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I mean by regular hours is anywhere between seven o'clock in the morning and six o'clock at night. I think a lot of RCMP offices are two-man detachments. They work during the day and are called during the evening, so they work regular government time hours. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): It seems clear that if it is regular hours, then there would be a response to emergency calls in the community. Do I understand that correctly? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe I'm not understanding the question properly too. I would think that if they are in the office during the regular work day and they get a call in their local detachment,

they're going to respond, yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. They all have telephone numbers. With regard to the call centre here in Iqaluit, could the minister tell us when... ? There are 24 or 25 communities that have to use the call centre. I think it would be good to know what time the call centre becomes available. Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My understanding of the call centre is that it's there 24 hours a day. I visited it here and it's quite an operation. When I was there, there were three staff working there full-time. I think, in the evening shift, there are probably at least two staff that work there. So it's open 24 hours a day for availability for all communities. Just in case the members might be on a callout in a community and if the phone rings in that office and nobody answers it, it's diverted here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, that is good news. A few days ago, it was obvious and the minister was quite clear that they have to ask to determine if it is an emergency situation and what is happening. The information can only be taken if you ask an individual about it and they give it.

There was a situation here at college facilities where the RCMP weren't called when there was a standoff. I suppose they didn't ask if the person was armed with a gun. We support the RCMP and we all were shocked because it was in a nearby area. It's good to get information to lock your doors and to be watchful in such situations. I want to ask the minister a question. The person who called the detachment is likely not to blame. Maybe they didn't ask him if someone is carrying a gun. Is that the minister's understanding? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Curley brings up a very important point, I think, is that the RCMP, first of all, they do a wonderful job in Nunavut and we all need to commend them for keeping our communities safe. Secondly, they do need to know specific information before they enter into circumstances to know whether it is safe or not to go into a place or a dwelling or house or whatnot. There is specific information that is required for the safety of everyone. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. I just wanted to make it clear because we were shocked as well that they were not aware that the person may be using a firearm during that incident. What was clear from the press report that I read about it is that they were not provided with that information. So if there was any blame, the blame was sort of put on the caller.

I understand that the purpose of asking questions is to see whether or not there is danger and whether there is an emergency. So my feeling is the call centre probably did not ask the proper questions when they were responding to the incident at the college facility the other day. Would you concur that they may not have asked the proper questions? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I do agree with is that there was an issue that happened there. I would hate to speculate on what happened there, but I am sure that the RCMP is looking into that type of situation to see how they can do business better. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. We're on page E-5. Law Enforcement. \$29,606,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Turn to page E-6. Lawyer Support Services. \$3,180,000. Do you agree? Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. I have a question. Yes, that is very helpful in terms of two divisions, Legislation and Legal and Constitutional Law. I would like a little bit more information. I believe the whole legal system is under the mandate of the Department of Justice. To a degree, this is under Constitutional Law. Is there a constitutional law division or is there a lawyer there or do you have lawyers

outside of Nunavut who are on contract who deal with constitutional law? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just quickly, what this Lawyer Support Services is, it's to provide legal advice for the government on all matters, lawyers who work for us, and also for drafting bills and creating bills.

Specifically in regard to Mr. Curley's question, I'll have my deputy minister respond. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Mr. Tarnow.

Mr. Tarnow: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The Legal and Constitutional Law Division of the Nunavut Department of Justice consists of ten legal counsels, including the director. These lawyers are involved in providing advice to the various departments, senior officials, and to the Executive Council.

It's called the Legal and Constitutional Law Division because some of our advice is of a constitutional law nature. As we all know, we have a land claims agreement which has constitutional protection. So we often are looking at the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, which is a constitutional document, in giving our advice to the government.

We are all members of the public service. We're all what you would call in-house counsel. We're not people hired from outside. We're all permanent legal

advisors who develop expertise in advising on the affairs of the Government of Nunavut, what we call public law and government law. Thank you.

Chairman (Mr. Enook): Thank you, Mr. Tarnow. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. I appreciate that. I think this government, like I always say, is a creature of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. It is created under the land claims agreement under Article 4. I believe the Nunavut government should have the best or one of them at least at all times, an expert on the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. Not iffy, maybe it doesn't apply, maybe it's not binding. Why is it that the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement doesn't appear to have a serious profile within the justice department? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll pass that question on to Deputy Minister Tarnow.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Tarnow.

Mr. Tarnow: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement is very important to every one of the legal advisors in the Legal and Constitutional Law Division. It's a foundation document for every one of the legal counsels in the advice that they give to the Government of Nunavut and to the Executive Council. It's taken very seriously indeed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tarnow. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. But when it comes to some of the applications of the territory or the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, often though, the justice department is asked to seek outside legal counsel with respect to dealing with some provisions of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. I'm not going to any specific stuff, but why not develop or hire someone who is at least full time and has some understanding of the whole important document? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate Mr. Curley's concern. I think it's very important that we have lawyers on staff with the Government of Nunavut in our Department of Justice who look into legal and constitutional law. However, I do think that some of the problems we have in justice is the high turnover of lawyers sometimes, that we have staff always coming and going too.

I think, when we need to seek legal advice outside the government, we do go and look for expertise in that field, which is very important too. I also think that when it comes to the land claims and dealing with the land claims too, NTI has their own legal people and legal advice that they get. I think we share information back and forth with lawyers in regard to the land claims agreement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. He used some of the examples that I want to get. For instance, on the wildlife issues, I think that the government is perhaps a lot more in tune with Article 5 in implementing the obligations as set out in the agreement. But when it comes to the other stuff like the Inuit employment plans and everything that requires setting targets in compliance with the provisions to comply with the population, no one really seems to be serious about it. And that is evident throughout. Whose responsibility is it? Should the Department of Justice, in some ways, take the lead in ensuring that compliance is important, even though you're not specifying exactly what the priorities should be? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think it's a good point. I think that all of us, all departments, have to understand that the land claims agreement has targets and those priorities should be set by all of us to try and reach those targets. I do get where Mr. Curley is going in the fact that somebody, and maybe it should be Justice, should take the lead to ensure and push people to get there.

I'll pass on the question to DM Tarnow. I think he has some comments to add. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Mr. Tarnow.

Mr. Tarnow: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Like all lawyers, we give advice to our clients but our clients are

the ones who decide whether they're going to follow our advice at times.

I don't know if that answers your question, Mr. Curley. Thank you.

Chairman: *Qujannamiik*, Deputy Minister and Minister. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. I understand what you're saying. That's a common lawyer's excuse, that you only give advice. It's up to the minister or whatnot or the cabinet to support it, right? That's the way I understand it.

What I'm trying to get at is once the law has been established and agreements are in place, that only then, compliance is important to all affected departments in pushing it. Some of the officials will not automatically understand the managers or DM. They won't have any interest in discussing some of the provisions in the agreement that may affect their departments.

I'll give you an example. Minister, I'll ask you a question. For instance, is Article 24 binding on local governments or hamlets? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't think I'm qualified to answer that question. I might have an opinion about it, but I don't have the legal expertise to answer that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, what I'm getting at is there must be a pact somewhere. If that obligation or at least a requirement in terms of the DIOs is, in fact, real and if there is any confusion about it, isn't there a way to try and resolve whether or not some of the provisions are binding to get that blockage out of the way? Is there such a system that it can be applied through? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think if there are differences of opinion, like in anything, there is a body that looks at all the opinions and may come up with a course of action or a decision. I would think that in this case, it would either be a court or a court's opinion and that's where it would happen. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's what I was getting at. It's not about conflict or taking a DIO or anything to court, but it's just to get an interpretation. If there are ongoing disagreements, politicians will never agree to that.

I have tended to believe that any of the provisions, for instance, with Article 24 requirements for contracts, in my view, are binding on local governments or hamlets. That's my view because of this Article 2.12.2. I'm going to read the whole thing. Mr. Tarnow is a lawyer. He can interpret why I think it's binding on local governments or municipalities.

“Where there is any inconsistency or conflict between any federal, territorial and local government laws, and the Agreement, the Agreement shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency or conflict.” It says all laws. It probably includes municipality law, yet the legal advice understood by the department has always been that municipalities are not bound by Article 24.

If that is the view, should that be cleared up by the court? Rather than going through confrontations just for the interpretation of it, like asking the constitutional court or something whether it's binding or not, I think that is the way to do it, unless there is another tribunal established somewhere. So I need advice as well. Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand somewhat what Mr. Curley is saying too, but I think where there are any disagreements or conflict of opinion, I think there needs to be a system for voices to be heard. I know, as he says, it's his own personal opinion. There may be others out there that interpret the same thing that Mr. Curley is interpreting the same way.

However, for a decision to be made, I think it needs to go to a body. In this case, it may be a court to decide what is right, what is legal, and what is binding under the land claims agreement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, the only other point I want to raise is that for issues of this kind where the government department is in charge, assumingly responsible for complying with the particular provisions of the agreement, I believe there needs to be a bit more training with all aspects of that particular article, whether it would be 24 or Inuit employment provisions or whatnot. Would you agree that is the kind of thing that our public service should be at least encouraged to do so annually? You indicated already that there is a high turnover, for instance, of lawyers. Would you support such an opportunity if that were to happen? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would support any educational avenues that we have to help our lawyers understand the land claims agreement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wholeheartedly concur with my colleague, Mr. Tagak Curley, on these issues. As regular members, we discuss many issues, particularly my colleague, Mr. Tapardjuk. Here in Nunavut, *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* and Inuit societal values should be visible in legislation and regulations and during the legislative process.

Page E-6 speaks to the legislative process. If we start bringing these matters up as we draft legislation and

Acts, we read the drafts and debate the issues. Can the minister speak to whether he supports this idea since he is also representing his constituents in Nunavut? We have to incorporate certain concepts of *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* and societal values that are positive and do no harm within Nunavut. These can be of benefit. Does the minister recognize that fact? I believe Inuit customs and values have to be incorporated into all of our legislation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that very good question. Inuit societal values are incorporated into legislation. We do have a couple of examples where they have been incorporated to some degree and, that is, in the new *Education Act*. It's also in the new *Wildlife Act*. I would like to explain the process to the members.

From draft legislation through the review stages and for legislation coming back to us to take forward to the House, there are a couple of processes that take place that heavily involve Inuit values and Inuit societal values. The first step is through the Tuttarviit Committee. It's a GN committee that provides input on Inuit societal and cultural values. It then goes through another committee when it gets to EIA, and forgive me if I pronounce this wrong, Maligaksanik Qimirrujiit Committee. So there are avenues that input can be provided. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. (interpretation ends) Because you asked, I forgive you.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we understand what the minister is saying. In regard to social issues in Nunavut, we believe that the Government of Nunavut is not being sensitive to *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit*. I have no doubt whatsoever that my colleagues in this House can contribute more comments to this. Those ideas are recognized and some are incorporated, but I will want more clarification on that. We are glad about it. I'm saying that what is being incorporated is still not enough. This is just a comment on legislation in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. (interpretation ends) Minister Shewchuk, did you want to comment on that?

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Not at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question on this page of the business plan. I hope I'm on the correct page, page 66. I don't have the Inuktitut version. In the business plan, it says, "Lawyer Support Services." Am I on the correct page, Mr. Chairman? I need your direction before I ask my question. Secondly, I have a question under Lawyer Support Services

and the main estimates. Are these items together, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman (interpretation): We are talking about the same issue. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you. In the priorities for 2011-12 under the French and Inuktitut language, that priority will be made for an Inuktitut translator. In 2011, they had hired an Inuktitut translator and that this will carry over in 2012-13. For 2013-14, on page 67, it states that more work will be done on the Inuktitut language. I would like to get an update on where exactly that is at, Mr. Chairman, if I can ask the minister. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Tapardjuk for that question. At present, we have two beneficiary translator positions working in the justice system. We have no French translator right now; however, we're working towards getting that. I think it is quite a challenge we've had at Justice that after training translators and getting them involved, they're scooped up by other agencies. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Let me get further clarification, Mr. Chairman. Do you already have an interpreter/translator or was that person you trained taken over by another entity or organization? Perhaps the minister

can clarify what this is trying to say, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For clarification, these are legal translators, legal interpretation translators, so that's their job and their position at the Department of Justice. As I said, it's very specialized training to do that type of work. You're quite a commodity when you do get that type of training and we have lost people to Ottawa. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you. It's better when you can speak fluently in the language of the people. It makes them feel comfortable and at ease. The minister was right when he said that interpreter/translators should be fully trained and fluent.

My last question in regard to this is: have you spoken to the Department of Education or Nunavut Arctic College about the need for specialized training for legal interpreter/translators? Has the minister approached the Minister of Education on that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, I haven't spoken to the education minister, but I can and I will commit to do that. These are very specific translator positions, as I say, that need to be trained. Speaking to the

minister at Arctic College, he agrees that we need to do more training in translation, period, in our Arctic College programs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. (interpretation ends) I am very glad you have a good working relationship with the Minister responsible for Arctic College. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, it's evident that it would require funding. I haven't seen any line items for funding this program. Perhaps when the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College appears before the committee, I'll be asking that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. I don't think there was a question there. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): When the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College appears before the committee, I'll be asking that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. (interpretation ends) We will wait for the Minister responsible for Arctic College and you can ask your questions then. (interpretation) Thank you. We're on page E-6. Justice. Branch Summary. Lawyer Support Services. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$3,180,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Turn to page E-7. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It also mentions Justices of the Peace. Do all the communities have Justices of the Peace or are we short on Justices of the Peace? I need that clarification. Are there enough Justices of the Peace? I have been asking in regard to Justice of the Peace training and their roles and responsibilities. I do wish to find out where the Justice of the Peace program is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to advise Mr. Tapardjuk that all communities do have Justice of the Peace. Some have more than one and we do have and are intensifying training for Justice of the Peace. I believe there are four levels of training that they can receive and progress on their responsibilities as they work up. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. We are on page E-7. Ms. Ell.

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask this question in English. (interpretation ends) The 2007-08 Annual Report of the Nunavut Liquor Licensing Board was not tabled in the Legislative Assembly until June 9, 2010. Its 2008-09 and 2009-2010 annual reports have not yet been tabled. Why are the board's annual reports consistently late, and will you be tabling its 2008-09, 2009-2010, and 2010-11 annual reports in the Legislative Assembly? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have Deputy Minister Tarnow answer that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Tarnow.

Mr. Tarnow: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have been experiencing some delays in tabling reports due to auditing and translation issues. The Internal Audit Division of the Department of Finance had been indicated as the auditor for the liquor licensing board and some of our public agencies. As it turned out, they declined to do the audit after we had thought that they were going to do it. They actually were appointed auditors, but they discovered that they couldn't do it, much to our dismay, actually.

So what we have had to do is retain chartered accountants outside of the government to audit the liquor licensing board's books. They really don't have any books as it turns out, Mr. Chairman. They have very few financial transactions. There isn't any income. They just have per diems for the members, but by law, we have to have an audit of their financial statements.

All of their finances go through the government books and are audited by the Auditor General of Canada, but we have to do this extra step, unfortunately. We will be doing that and those reports will be tabled hopefully before the end of this calendar year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Deputy Minister. Ms. Ell.

Ms. Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is three years of annual reports. Why has it taken that long for your department to resolve the issue? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Mr. Tarnow just explained, I think there were some capacity problems for this happening. However, we have clarified that and we know what we have to do to get these reports done. As Mr. Tarnow also stated, we know we have legislative responsibilities and the real information that is going to be in these reports is rather minimal also. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. We are on page E-7. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Justice. Registries and Court Services. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$10,172,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Turn to page. E-8. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. Could the minister elaborate on the state of the Iqaluit correctional centres and give us full details on the status and other matters? He keeps saying that they're overcrowded and the infrastructure is aging, and so on. So I

would like an update on that for the record, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would be pleased, for the record, to talk about our Baffin correctional facility.

BCC, our men's facility, is an old facility. I believe it was constructed in 1984. Is that right? It was never meant to be the facility that it is today. It is built for 46 to 48 inmates. At times, we have over 100 inmates in there. It has outlived its lifecycle and its use. It's overcrowded. I invited members, as Mr. Curley knows, to take a tour of the facility just to see what it's about and to see what the conditions are and how inmates have to handle those conditions over there.

So in my personal opinion, it's in a dire strait. We need to do something for the safety of the inmates and the safety of the people who work there. I really would like to commend the Corrections Division here for handling the situations they deal with over there. A lot of our correctional officers are very dedicated and do a lot of volunteering and do some counselling work on their own and a lot of good things over there.

I say that it's a deteriorating place. It's what we have. We're doing the best that we can. Of course, the pressures will be alleviated somewhat once Rankin Inlet opens. However, we still will be over capacity at BCC. With Bill C-10 coming in, we are expecting, with our forecasts, in the next couple of years, we're going

to probably increase our inmate count by 30 people.

We have, at present, as men inmates across the territory approximately 190. We have the ones that we have at BCC. We have our Kugluktuk facility. We have inmates in facilities in Ontario. We have inmates in facilities in the Northwest Territories. We have some on-the-land camp programs going. So we're over capacity on how we're going to deal with future numbers of inmates that we get. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister, for that update and that information. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. (interpretation) It seems to be clear that something has to be done. If the minister has an action plan, when are solutions to that issue going to be tabled? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. We do have some plans on the go. We have immediate plans in place that this House and Committee of the Whole is going to see in the very near future of a supplemental bill to move forward on a temporary structure that we're looking at alleviating our immediate problems here for the short term in Iqaluit with BCC.

We also are also putting together a long-term plan that's going to alleviate the problem for years to come in Nunavut. I think it takes some proper planning to have that facility, what we really needed done in Nunavut. I think that when we

became Nunavut, we inherited the facility that we have with some planning that was not done to continue to the year 2012, where we're at. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. (interpretation) In regard to the action plan, some of the regulations that would be amended, as the minister just mentioned, would it be possible to table those in the spring or fall session? I'm sure it has to be included in the capital plans. Do you have an estimate of how much it will cost to build a facility and when the tendering would go out, if we can put it in the capital estimates? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll be very candid with Mr. Curley here. We do have an action plan coming forward and his suggestion is very good. As I said, you are going to see a supplemental bill coming to this House during this sitting to move forward with a plan for a planning and design phase of a temporary facility. We want to initiate, with the support of all members, to try and get this done as soon as possible. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. We are still on page E-8. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question under this particular Branch Summary, E-8, Corrections. My question is pertaining to

community corrections. My question is: how many probation officers do we have in our communities in Nunavut? I think we have 25 communities. Does every community have a probation officer? I think it's very important to ensure that we have these positions filled in every community across Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My correction staff advises me that we have 18 correctional officers across the territory in various communities, not in all communities, though. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the hon. minister. You have 18 probation officers across Nunavut. If that is correct, what about other communities that don't have the positions filled in their community? What happens to people who are under probation? Do you have travelling probation officers who deal with the other communities that don't have a position? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So that we can provide the proper answers and very good answers with our expert here, I would ask at this time if I could bring another witness to this table. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Does the committee agree to bring in another witness?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

While we await the witness, I would like to remind everyone that when you enter the Chambers, please put your cellphones on silent so that people who are speaking can be heard and understood. Thank you.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Minister, will you introduce your witness for the record? Thank you.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have the right person at the table now. His name is J.P. Deroy. He is the director of corrections for Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. If possible, Mr. Ningark, please ask your question again for the benefit of the witness. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I can also rephrase my question.

In response to my first question to the minister of the judicial branch of the Nunavut government, he indicated that there are 18 probation officers across Nunavut. I wanted to know what is happening in the other communities in Nunavut that don't have the luxury, if you will, of having a probation officer. Who deals with offenders who are under the probation of the government? Does

the social worker become the probation officer or a mental health worker, or do you have a travelling probation officer dealing with these communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. (interpretation ends) Mr. Deroy, if I may.

Mr. Deroy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just going to read off a statement I prepared earlier.

As of April 1, 2011, eight new positions have been approved for implementation over the next three years. That's probation officers. This is because Health and Social Services put us on notice that they wanted to be out of the probation services because of conflicts, of course. It's been a conflict for a long time.

The first four communities were selected based on the number of clients in each community as follows:

- One CCO for Iqaluit, bringing the CCO count up to three. Iqaluit has the highest caseload, up to 300 at some points. The Iqaluit office also provides clients from various other communities as they meet via telephone.
- One CCO for Arctic Bay. It took time to negotiate office space in Arctic Bay, but the hamlet has agreed to supply GN with office. This position is advertised and will be closing on March 30.
- One CCO for Taloyoak. We are looking for office space currently. The community is being supervised

currently by Cambridge Bay. We are still looking for office space in that community. We believe that once the hamlet moves into their new hamlet building, one office in the old hamlet will be reserved for our CCO. From what I have been informed, this will be in there probably five to six months.

- One CCO for Sanikiluaq. We're also waiting for office space. The community is being supervised currently by Rankin Inlet while we look for an office. CGS is actively looking to find office spaces in this community. Nothing is currently available, but we are still looking and working with CGS for this.

The next communities, based on the number of clients, will be Qikiqtarjuaq, Kimmirut, Clyde River, Coral Harbour, and possibly Hall Beach, if we can get the supplemental funding for this.

Our biggest issue for placing probation officers in communities is not so much the staffing; it's to find office space. I'm sure the member from Arctic Bay can testify to how difficult it is. We have been trying to work very actively with CGS to be able to find some office space. So any assistance we can get from the members on this would be appreciated. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Deroy. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to know what is happening. As we were told by the Minister of Justice, there are 18 probation officers across Nunavut. That leaves seven more hamlets or

communities that don't have their probation officer. Now, in the absence of the probation officer, what happens to the offender that is on probation? Under the law of the judicial system or branch of the government, where does he or she go to talk to someone when there is no probation officer? Does the social worker or mental health worker become the probation officer where there is an offender who is under the program of probation? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have Mr. Deroy answer that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Deroy, proceed.

Mr. Deroy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Depending on the community, yes, social workers will supervise clients. We're trying to change that. We do agree that it's a conflict. It has always been a conflict. A social worker cannot counsel the victim and the accused in a sense. So yes, in some instances, it is.

In some other instances where social services are opting out, we do supervise by phone. One of the reasons we added a position in Iqaluit is because they do supervision of Kimmirut. They sometimes do supervision of Pangnirtung when people are not there. We will supervise Pond Inlet and Qikiqtarjuaq. Cambridge Bay is supervising by phone.

We had the Kugluktuk probation officer recently travel to Taloyoak to supervise people directly over there and to meet the clients. So we do have some of our

probation officers travelling as much as they can to supervise clients in other communities, yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Deroy. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you. I thank the office of the Minister of Justice, understanding and recognizing that there is an effort to fill these positions in seven communities. I don't have any further questions. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. We are on page E-8. (interpretation ends) Justice. Branch Summary. Corrections. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$31,157,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Moving on to page E-9. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Justice. Community Justice. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$4,624,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We will go back to page E-3. (interpretation ends) Department Summary. Justice. Detail of Expenditures. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$92,085,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Are we in agreement that the Department of Justice is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Mr. Shewchuk, do you have closing comments? Mr. Minister.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I do. I just want to thank you, Mr. Chairman, and all the members for the input that we have in the business plan for 2012-13 of the Department of Justice. I think Justice, and I'm learning this department, is quite a complex department with a lot of issues and sometimes not very good issues, but I appreciate the committee and all the concerns.

What I really appreciate is the staff at Justice, all the staff of all the divisions, for their very hard work in providing people with the services they need in the justice system in Nunavut. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. I would also like to thank all your officials.

At this time, we will take a half-hour break. Thank you.

>>Committee recessed at 17:59 and resumed at 18:31

Bill 24 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2012-2013 – Nunavut Arctic College – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (interpretation): We can now resume the meeting. We have quorum. Thank you for coming back. I would like to ask the Minister responsible for

Nunavut Arctic College to make his opening comments. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to be here today to present and discuss the 2012-13 main estimates and business plan for Nunavut Arctic College. I look forward to the opportunity to work together in advancing *Tamapta*, especially as it applies to Nunavut Arctic College.

The Vote 1 Main Estimates account for the base contribution from the Government of Nunavut to Arctic College. The increase from the 2011-12 estimates is \$641,000. This is primarily to deliver more foundational training for the Nursing Program students through a pre-nursing program. Increased offerings in chemistry, mathematics, physiology, and anatomy type courses will strengthen the academic preparedness of students and increase the number of northern graduates.

The main estimates include the base contribution of \$25.6 million, \$3.9 million from tuition fees and other sources, and third party revenues of \$8.5 million. The main estimates are organized on the basis of our headquarters, Nunavut Research Institute, and the regional campuses. Our business plan describes how the main estimates are applied in the college's operation.

The *Tamapta* Action Plan sets out two specific goals for Arctic College under the priority of improving education and training outcomes. "*Through Nunavut Arctic College and its partners, we will increase post-secondary opportunities in all occupational categories, from career training to professional education.*"

Partnerships with government departments, educational institutions, and industry are especially important at Arctic College in meeting these goals.

Arctic College continues to build university capacity in Nunavut. The college received financial support from the Royal Bank of Canada and our Municipal Training Organization and is working with Grant MacEwan University, Algonquin College, and the Certified General Accountants Association toward completing the Bachelor of Applied Business Administration. Arctic College has also been successful in seeking matching funding from Baffinland Resources for the delivery of the diploma year of the Environmental Technology Program in Pond Inlet.

Arctic College continues to expand the delivery of the NTEP program at the community level in partnership with the Department of Education. Based on the current student enrolments at the community level, in the next two and a half years, there will be 62 new Bachelor of Education graduates from the Nunavut Teacher Education Program. In this partnership with Education, work is also underway for program development on the middle school teacher training requirements. In adult basic education, the college continues to work with the Department of Education and has received federal funding to support the development and delivery of a Nunavut Mature High School Graduation program. In the health field, a new program for licensed practical nurses has been developed and will be delivered in September 2012 in Iqaluit.

Following the establishment of the Nunavut Trades Training Centre, Arctic College has solidified delivery in trades preparation programs and apprentice programs related to construction. These main estimates seek the further development and delivery of mine training and heavy equipment training programming as the college continues to expand its partnerships with industry and government. The old training facility in Rankin Inlet will be used as a transition facility until an equipment training centre is completed some time in the future. Currently, Arctic College is working with CGS for the purchase of the training simulator which will be installed and ready for training in 2012-13.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to be here today to discuss Arctic College's 2012-13 main estimates and business plan. This is a critical government investment in reducing "the gap between unemployed people and job opportunities." Workforce development is a continued priority with Nunavut Arctic College.

I look forward to your questions, comments, and discussion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Yes, I would, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

(interpretation ends) Mr. Minister, for the record, will you please introduce your witness to the House. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am very happy to have with me here today, and I can say it is official now, and I think there was a press release today that Mr. Mike Shouldice is the permanent President of Nunavut Arctic College. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> *Applause*

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Minister. On behalf of the House, it is indeed our pleasure to welcome you as the new president. (interpretation) Does the chair of the standing committee have any comments? Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I, too, would like to welcome Mr. Shouldice and the minister. (interpretation ends) As the Chair of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness, I am pleased to make opening comments as we begin deliberations on the proposed 2012-13 budget of Nunavut Arctic College.

Mr. Chairman, the college's total budget is made up of a base contribution from the Government of Nunavut, third party funding, and revenue from other sources, such as tuition fees. The GN's proposed contribution of \$25,614,000 to the college for 2012-13 is approximately

\$716,000 more than the contribution funding amount approved for 2011-12.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the recently announced funding boost from the federal government for adult basic education programs at Nunavut Arctic College. Over the next five years, \$11 million in funding will be a significant investment in advancing the careers and opportunities of Nunavut's adult learners.

Mr. Chairman, the role of Nunavut Arctic College in preparing, training, and qualifying Nunavummiut for our economy, our public service, and our future continues to be important. The standing committee encourages the college to continue working closely with the government and other partners to identify and access opportunities for training and education, share information and resources, and to avoid duplication of effort.

The standing committee recognizes that Nunavut Arctic College delivers a wide range of courses and programs across the territory. Community learning centres play a critical role in the delivery of programs at the community level, enabling community residents to improve their skills, as well as to prepare for opportunities in further education or employment. Committee members have noted that opportunities and levels of support differ from region to region and recommend that the minister work with Nunavut Arctic College officials to address any perceptions that one region benefits more than another.

The standing committee is pleased to note the college's ongoing success with

such initiatives as the trades training program and in areas such as nursing and teacher education. Committee members encourage the college to look at opportunities for partnerships to deliver programs in smaller communities as well as in the regional centres.

Mr. Chairman, education is a critical and fundamental determinant of the well-being of Nunavummiut. While members give their full support for the growing use of technology, distance learning opportunities, and participation in such inter-jurisdictional initiatives as the University of the Arctic network, the standing committee also strongly supports investments in programs directed towards Inuit language and culture.

As the government and other entities fully implement the requirements of the *Inuit Language Protection Act* and the *Official Languages Act*, the need for language services will grow. The standing committee recommends that the college give consideration to increasing programs relating to language services.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening remarks. Individual members may also have questions and comments as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Before we proceed with general comments, I would just like to remind members of Rule 77(1) and Rule 77 (2). I'm sure you can recite the contents of these rules and that is why I'm not reading them. At this time, are there any general comments on the minister's opening comments? Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also welcome Minister Shewchuk and the new President of Nunavut Arctic College, Mr. Shouldice. Welcome. Nunavut Arctic College has been very beneficial to adults who wish to advance their learning and I fully support that. I am very appreciative for the work that is being done. I'm sure that Nunavut Arctic College doesn't provide funding to the sealskin preparation and sewing program.

In my community of Igloolik, I am very proud of our community learning centre. At the appropriate time during the page-by-page review, I will be asking questions if they will be provided with more funding or who would provide additional funding. There are various programs, such as the sewing program and the fur and design program, and these are very important for the future.

Mr. Chairman, as I peruse the minister's opening comments, it sounds as if Nunavut Arctic College will place a greater emphasis on the issues he mentioned with respect to the Nunavut Teacher Education Program as well as other courses, such as the Inuktitut language program currently under design, or even within the interpreter training program or in translation work.

When the Minister of Justice appeared before the committee, he spoke to the challenges they face with translator/interpreters who are trained in legal terms by the lawyers. Once they are qualified, they lose them to other organizations, probably because of their increased proficiency. The Minister of Justice, I believe, has to work harder and

has to be encouraged by the members to do that.

However, it is also apparent that more could be done through the college, just like it was done with the training of lawyers under the Akitsiraq Law School program. There were only a handful who completed the training and passed their bar exams, but whenever people are taught properly with respect to legal terms and in translating them into Inuktitut, it will enable them to provide this very essential service. We all know that currently, many Inuit are still unilingual and cannot function in English here in Nunavut. We will be required to provide this service for many more years to come.

Once the *Education Act* comes into force and graduates are fully bilingual, as that seems to be the vision, this endeavour will still take a number of years to complete. Prior to its enforcement, we have to be quite respectful and mindful of the need to provide services in Inuktitut here in Nunavut, particularly services that our government provides.

With these matters in mind, Mr. Chairman, I will direct my questions when we reach the page-by-page review. At this time, I am only commenting on the minister's opening comments. I don't see anything mentioned about these issues and I believe the minister has to respect them as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. General comments to the minister's opening comments. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Yes, I also have a short comment on the opening comments, Mr. Chairman. Here in Nunavut, many people are interested in starting up their own businesses, but due to the lack of funding geared towards... I forget what the term is in Inuktitut for (interpretation ends) general accounting and business administration. (interpretation) Due to their lack of training in these two areas, many Inuit who want to start up businesses face this barrier and furthermore, it is this barrier that holds back those who want to start businesses.

I am quite content with the opening comments of the minister, particularly on page 2 in the first paragraph, where it recognizes this need and that they will work in conjunction with universities on training, financial accounting, and perhaps business accounting and general accounting. I just wanted to comment on that. Therefore, I urge them to do just that. Thank you. This is just a comment, not a question.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. General comments. Ms. Ell.

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I am in error, you can correct me. I am very pleased that we have an institution such as Nunavut Arctic College, which many people attend to increase their capacity.

We also hear about hardships that these students experience while attending courses here in Nunavut. Some students have spouses who are able to provide financial assistance, but the majority of students face financial hardship as they try to improve their education and future

opportunities. We know that better educated individuals are able to get better paying positions.

A matter that I deliberate upon on occasion is that although we know that we don't always meet our students' financial requirements as they prepare for their careers, many people wonder whether or not the courses they are taking are relevant to the positions that will open here in Nunavut. Further, students have the discretion to choose the programs they want to enrol in and I am aware of that as well.

However, I wonder whether the college incorporates future career opportunities that may surface, whether it is in economic development, mining, tourism, or other sectors. Does the college make plans that incorporate future developments that are on the horizon? That is my first question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Ms. Ell for that question. Nunavut Arctic College is very proud of the programs it delivers. I can tell Ms. Ell that we do consult with communities on an annual basis on what programs are chosen and what programs they want offered in specific communities. So yes, we are. We are also working with private industry, the mining industry, and we're open to working with all industries to develop programs that will enhance career development for all Nunavutmiut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Do you have general comments? Ms. Ell.

Ms. Ell (interpretation): I don't know if the floor is open for general comments to the opening comments, but I did ask this question previously that I would like to ask. Sometimes when students go back to school, they face difficulties. The majority of the students know how to budget. Do you provide training on helping the students learn how to budget? That is my first question, Mr. Chairman, if I'm coming across clear.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again that is a very good question. I can advise Ms. Ell that yes, all students who come into the Nunavut Arctic College system are orientated with personal budgeting management. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. General comments or questions to the opening comments. Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't think we will have the opportunity after this. Being the member for Chesterfield Inlet and Coral Harbour, I would like to congratulate Mr. Shouldice for his new appointment as being the permanent President of Nunavut Arctic College. I just wanted to state that, Mr. Chairman. During the standing committee appearance, I told him that the position sure fits him. I am very pleased that he has been appointed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> *Applause*

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. We will go to page M-3. Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask them a question. (interpretation ends) Your business plan addresses initiatives to increase Inuit employment in management positions. Have you achieved any success in this area? Are any of the new positions at the regional campuses being filled by beneficiaries? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister Shouldice... Shewchuk. I'm promoting you already.

>> *Laughter*

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You're demoting me already. Mike, want to switch chairs?

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Shouldice: No, thank you.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. I am very happy to say that of the eight management positions we have at Nunavut Arctic College, we have one vacant but four of them are filled by beneficiaries. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The college funding for language programs include

interpreter/translator diplomas, which is projected to increase slightly from 2011-12. What additional support and resources will be provided to the interpreter/translator diploma programs and the Inuit language programs? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To get a very good perspective on this, I think I'll have President Shouldice answer this question. Could I have the member repeat the question? He never heard the question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Ugyuk, please.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The college funding for language programs, including interpreter/translator diplomas, is projected to increase slightly from 2011-12. What additional support and resources will be provided to the interpreter/translator diploma programs and the Inuit language programs? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: *Qujannamiik* for clarifying or repeating your question. Mr. Shouldice.

Mr. Shouldice: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm finding the page.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Mr. Chairman, could I please ask the member for what page she is looking at or referring to.

Chairman (interpretation): Ms. Ugyuk, please tell us what page it is on.

Ms. Ugyuk: Business plan pages NAC-8 to NAC-10.

Chairman: I believe Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation) meant to say NAC-9 and NAC-10. (interpretation ends) Did you get that, Mr. Minister? NAC-9 and 10.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll turn it over to Mr. Shouldice. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Shouldice.

Mr. Shouldice: I'm just looking at the figures. There is a minor increase stating that the increase is most likely just in terms of... There are no specifically identified increases in the department and those would be just the forced growth costs or increases to salaries and things like that. In the enhancements to the college, they were specifically for other tasks.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The Inuit Language Authority, which is an independent public agency established under the *Inuit Language Protection Act*, will be taking the lead on Inuit language issues. Your draft business plan proposed to "Conceptualize and develop an Inuit Language and Culture Centre" in 2012-13. How do you foresee the two entities working together? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have the president answer that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Shouldice.

Mr. Shouldice: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we are asked, as other departments, to prepare an implementation plan for increased services and training for the Inuktitut language. That's in the planning stage that we have submitted through to EIA at this stage.

The plan of the college in the future is to look at a centre of excellence for language and education. What we're looking at right now is taking the assets that already exist in the college, such as the Nunavut Research Institute, for example, the research capacity of that with students. There is an oral history project in Igloodik which would contribute to that. We have the Nunavut Teacher Education Program, which is training teachers to teach in Inuktitut.

In terms of putting that centre together, what we're trying to do is to develop a plan that would best coordinate all of those assets for us and then allow us to tie our publication section of the college with our research section and with our training section.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the witness for giving clear answers. I would also like to ask a question on adult learning at Arctic College. There are programs like the Nursing Program,

teacher training, hairdressing, lawyer training, and financial training.

We now hear that the government is using a lot of money for computers, telehealth, and informatics. We're going to be hearing more information on what is happening with the students and what their activities are. That kind of information, along with electronic documents, will be entered into computer databases. Can the minister explain fully why the college doesn't provide training on information technology? It could result in jobs for Inuit and is very important today. Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. We are absolutely committed to adult learning across Nunavut and at all levels, whether it is A/B learning or a college diploma or degree learning. I'm not sure where the member is stating that we don't involve computer training because we do. There is a computer introduction course that is involved with most courses. We also do have a separate entity on a computer course on its own. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Ugyuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe if I could clarify myself. Can the minister clearly explain why Nunavut Arctic College is not heavily promoting information technology programs when we will certainly need qualified staff to manage all of these major and important

computerized data systems, as I listed before? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to advise the member that we do have a one-year certificate course in informatics technology offered here in Iqaluit too. We are getting involved in more informatics technology learning in all of our centres with new online learning that we're developing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Will they be delivered in the two other regions, Kivalliq and Kitikmeot? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I stated before, it is offered in Iqaluit and the future plans are to expand it to other regions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank them for responding to my questions. (interpretation ends) The college has received federal funding to develop cyber-links so that our community learning centres can take advantage of distance learning over the Internet. Can

the minister update this House on how many community learning centres are currently able to access courses on the Internet? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am very happy to be advised by the president that, I believe, online learning is capable. The capability is there to offer in 24 of the 25 communities. I believe the only community that is not hooked up to have online learning is Sanikiluaq. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank them for their responses. (interpretation ends) As any present day parent will know, our children are learning computer skills and technology faster than we could ever imagine. Can the minister describe how he works with his counterpart, the Minister of Education, to promote future carriers in computer and information technology? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can only advise the member that Arctic College works very closely with the Department of Education, other entities, other private industry, and other stakeholders involved. Actually, I would like to get the president to expand on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Ms. Ugyuk. (interpretation ends) I'm sorry. Mr. Shouldice.

Mr. Shouldice: Thank you. There was a \$5 million grant from the federal government about three years ago to put fibre optics into all the communities.

At that same time, the college was able to purchase and put new sets of computers in all of the adult centres. We had a strategy where we replaced all of the computer systems in the community learning centres. We put in a new library package of learning materials in the community centres and some furniture that's necessary to go with that. Tied with the KIP money, or the Knowledge Infrastructure Program, we're now able to be on the community services network, which is what the Government of Nunavut has. All of the communities have the ability to do distance learning at some level.

The high-speed Internet that we now have is from the Canadian Space Agency and it is called the Ka-band. It's styled differently than the Qiniq system in the north in that Qiniq is very broad in its signal, but the Ka-band actually pops up to the satellite and then comes directly down to the community. I understand from them that it's because of the physical placing of the satellite that Sanikiluaq does not have that service yet, but all the other communities do. It's very much like stovepipes of information up and down. This network is working. We're testing it right now back and forth. You know, there are lots of bugs with it technically that we're just solving.

At the same time, the college is also developing online courses for delivery in a variety of areas. We have a consultant in right now working with this new federal money that's going to be able to describe what we are lacking technically, what we lack for in-house staff expertise. So we should be in good shape, I'm thinking, by the springtime to know what does that look like for us technically. The system with the Ka-band is extremely fast. Everything has its limitations. We're going to try and pilot several courses, such as the Nunavut teacher education project and adult basic education. We're going to try to pilot various things in the next couple of years.

We think that we should be able to start to move to have a division within the college that will be responsible for distance delivery. That is a necessity because we need to push more and more and more to the community level of programs at the certificate and diploma level because not everyone can come into the campus. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Shouldice. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome, Mr. Minister. I am very pleased with your opening comments. I would also like to welcome Mr. Shouldice, who had been in Rankin Inlet for a very long time. I have two specific questions, one regarding the trades school and if you could give us an update on that. It just opened not too long ago. It's a very beautiful building. It's got equipment and is a very modern facility. I am very proud of that building. It was just opened last year.

I would like to know how many trade sector programs are being offered and how well they are running or if the number of students have decreased, or if there have been any students who left mid-course. I would like an update on the students and how it's going. I'm sure Mr. Shouldice can provide a full response as the school has now operated a full year, I believe. I would very much love to hear how the students are doing. Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Curley for that comment and question. We are very proud of the trades school and the programs that are offered, the initiatives taken there, and the number of students who are taking different programs there too. The Government of Nunavut is very proud of establishing that trades school. There are specific programs that are being taken by many students. The industry is proud of it and is incorporated into it and has partnership into it.

As for the detailed number of students and their specific programs, I'll turn that over to the president. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Shouldice.

Mr. Shouldice: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Curley, for your kind comments. The centre opened up in 2010. This is the second year of operation. Capacity would be about 88 students. We run between 45 and 60 students. The four main areas are oil burner mechanic, housing maintainer,

electrical, and plumbing that we're working with right now.

One of the interesting things that we have been looking at is where the students are coming from. There's concern, of course, that they will be primarily from Rankin Inlet, but of these students who were registered this year in the permanent programs, half are from outside the Kivalliq region. Of those in the Kivalliq, one in five of them is from Rankin Inlet. So there's a cross-section of students from across Nunavut attending. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Shouldice. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. Since we expect more and more mining development in Nunavut, we would like to see more Nunavutmiut getting jobs in the mining sector. I'm sure some of the students who are taking the apprenticeship programs are going to be there for quite a while.

I wonder if the apprentices are given adequate support because when the ones taking carpentry return home... The Department of Education is in a distant location in Arviat and all of their documentation and paperwork have to be accurate and comprehensive. Some functions seem to need improvement, such as the FANS program that cause delays in payments to students. I wonder if the minister is well versed if the support people in education are up to the tasks. Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Curley, for the question. I believe that most Arctic College students are having no problems at all accessing their financial means that they need and through the FANS program. However, as the Premier has indicated before, there is going to be a review of the FANS program to deal with any issues that may be out there that Arctic College students face. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. Some of the students are sent out to distant places. Students in academic studies study in far away locations and experience difficulty with the transfer of money and they really need help on that. I really wanted to mention that.

I would like to touch up on another subject. In Nunavut, more and more people would like to get into colleges and higher education after completion of grade 12. There are those who want to get into more academic courses, such as to become teachers that you mention and those who want to get into environmental technology and nursing programs, which I am very proud of, and they are increasing in numbers. This summer or fall, we're going to start the Licensed Practical Nurse Program.

I think all of us here know that there has to be social workers. There are some communities that don't have social workers. I want to ask the minister: why is social worker programs not placed as a priority when we're lacking social workers? Why is he not trying to offer a degree program? If the minister will

indeed offer a degree program, what would Arctic College have to do so that Nunavutmiut can have the opportunity to learn to become social workers? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We may need clarification on the question, but I'll take a stab at it here. I think I understood it. To me, there were two questions in there: one is what we do about the needs of Arctic College students who need some form of counselling and then second to that was involving social work. So maybe I'll get clarification on the question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. (interpretation) I think Mike understood me because he understands Inuktitut.

(interpretation ends) The first set of comments were that I'm grateful, though, there are a lot of young people who are taking advantage of the academic training, including the NTEP and the Nursing Program, degree programs, the Environmental Technology Program, and other very important academic programs they're going through.

Everyone here agrees that social work is a very important essential service. Every question that is raised damns and hounds the government as to why there are no social workers in this community. The usual answer is, "Oh, we're advertising the position and we're going to have a

social worker in Sanikiluaq when the offer is accepted.” So why isn’t it taken as a priority that a social work degree program is important enough that Arctic College will take the lead in creating a program?

I don’t know why my clock is going. That was a clarification. Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I clearly understand the question now and it’s a very good point that you bring up. I think it has been discussed in this House that there is a lack of social worker support in all communities. Presently, you’re right, the only place we offer that program is in Cambridge Bay. I think Arctic College would look forward to working with the Department of Health and Social Services, other departments, and industry to expand that program and meet the needs that Nunavut has. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. I think the program that’s going on in Cambridge Bay is not a degree program. I’m specifically talking about a degree program because we shouldn’t be fooling around and giving half-baked credentials to such an important service needed for social work. So I really believe that Arctic College and the Department of Education, as far as I’m concerned, should take the lead. There needs to be leadership. Is there a lack of leadership in creating a degree program for social work? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don’t think it’s attributed to a lack of leadership. I think we need to get all stakeholders involved to develop this because I think you bring up a very good point and I think it’s much needed. We all know it’s much needed. We would like to have degree granting and expertise not only in social work but in a lot of things that we offer in Nunavut.

Just with that, I’ll ask Mr. Shouldice to expand. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Shouldice.

Mr. Shouldice: Thank you. There is a partnership committee between the college and Health. One of the items on that committee is the social work program. In my last meeting with them, we talked about the diploma and how it meets the needs of the social workers in terms of the classification of those positions.

There are two avenues right now. I’m sorry, I meant to keep my answers short here, but there are two avenues to this that the college has had the program reviewed with the exact same question you have. We have a report out that we could provide to you with that analysis. We need to one, tie it to a degree partnership and we’re thinking of working again with the University of Regina on that one, but two, we need to change some of the program so that we specifically train people for the entry level into social work.

When we did the Maternity Care Worker Program, we had an exit at the first year because there is a job in health called maternity care worker, and then you can go on to be a midwife. I think what needs to happen in discussion with our partner is that they need to create an entry level position within the social work area for new graduates, and then people who can have an exit and then return and go to university and pick up the other two years so they will get an advanced standing for their diploma program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Shouldice. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. Could the minister give the committee an update? I'm sure you're going to be having discussion with other departments like Education and Health that are leading in regard to some of the rules that have to be applied. Could the minister agree to give us an update on the planning for social work programs and other courses and how they're doing? Would we like to see Nunavut social work programs? There has to be a program. Could the minister give us an update on those issues? Of course, we will be asking those questions during your tenure as minister. Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I will keep the committee updated on any progress with our partners in developing all programs within Nunavut Arctic College. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. (interpretation) This is my last question. I believe that not only government can be turned to for support. There are other entities and organizations that can be asked to establish scholarships. I believe it would be good to form partnerships with them. We hear that social work is very important, but we don't provide adequate support. So I think there should be partnerships.

Through the reviews, we are learning that the federal government gives out huge amounts of money for social development to First Nations. We're falling behind in social work. Potential partnerships could be tried because there's large amounts of funding that's available, some for HR, but it's not a priority for social work and I don't know why. So I encourage you to work with our partners and include the federal government on this issue. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. (interpretation ends) Mr. Minister, comment?

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Quickly, I totally agree that we should develop all partners and explore all partnerships that we can have in delivering our programs through Arctic College. We have done that somewhat already in the mining industry and it's no reason we couldn't expand that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Based on the questioning from my colleague earlier, can you please explain in as much detail as possible why Sanikiluaq is the only community in Nunavut that does not have distance learning capabilities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. He sounded so disappointed about all that, but it's not as bad as it sounds. Sanikiluaq does have online learning. What we're talking about is the Ka-band that the president was referring to and Sanikiluaq does not have access to that at this time, but as for online learning, it does have that capability. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister please explain what the Ka-bandwidth that's required for the learning? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Mr. Minister, please provide an explanation.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have the president explain because he knows that issue well. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Shouldice.

Mr. Shouldice: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the best of my ability, it's two satellite systems. One that we use in

the territory, the current broadband that we all enjoy locally, is provided in a very broad pattern to the territory. This actual band that we have been offered to use right now is on a different satellite and it works like a stovepipe that sort of runs from Ottawa to the satellite and then down to the community directly. It's a very definite footprint. The explanation that I received is that it works everywhere, with the exception of Sanikiluaq as a community. I honestly don't know why or technically why, but that's the exception to the Ka-band.

For us in the college to deliver programming, we would go to the Qiniq system. We would just use an alternate for you. There's enough speed, even on the government network at times, that we can do online courses because we have tested it in various locations. It would not leave you without that capability, for sure. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In his explanation of the reasons why this won't work, is he saying that it will never work and we will always be using a separate system than the rest of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're not experts in that field for sure and we can't answer that question, but what I can tell the member is that I think we can explore an avenue of why it doesn't work and let him know

of why that is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you. In the business plan, NAC 9, I don't know whether a question was asked on it, but for 2012-13, it says, "Conceptualize and develop the Piqqusilirivvik Inuit Language and Culture Centre which will consolidate all language and culture programs offered by Nunavut Arctic College" and "Expand the reach and scope of the Inuit Oral History Project..." My question is: what is the Inuit Language and Culture Centre, Mr. Chairman?

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe that question was asked by another member. However, I think I'll get the president to answer that question for Mr. Tapardjuk. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Shouldice.

Mr. Shouldice: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The language and culture centre is just a concept for us right now.

We realize at the college that we have a great opportunity because we have a section where we have published a number of books in Inuktitut and English that you have seen, certainly. We have a research facility within the college that has, for example, the Igloodik Oral History Project. It's well known. We have a teacher education program where

we're actually teaching, as I said earlier, people to teach bilingual and bi-cultural.

So what we're trying to do is incorporate that, saying to ourselves, "What does our centre of excellence look like if we provide that leadership? What resources do we have so that we can make that the essence of what the college does?" We're trying very strongly to put our best foot forward in the area of language and culture and use the existing resources that we have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Shouldice. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): The Minister of Finance indicated that Piqqusilirivvik in Clyde River is going to be under Nunavut Arctic College. With this Inuit language and culture centre, you stated that it's just a concept right now. How different is the Piqqusilirivvik in Clyde River and the program that is planned to be run by Nunavut Arctic College? What would be the difference between the two and how would they operate? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The cultural school in Clyde River is an actual program delivery facility where there are going to be programs delivered. Nothing is going to change about that. Everything is going to stay identical to the way it is. When it is moved over to Arctic College, the college will give it more support and administration support and in operating. As far the centre is concerned, that's

more of a conceptual idea of drawing in all Inuit knowledge and culture, including the program in Igloolik. So there are two different things here and it will be a lead and part of the cultural school, but it is two different entities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (Mr. Ningeongan): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): How does Piqqusilirivvik operate? It is stated that there would be no change. What programs are at that facility, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're not there yet. It hasn't been transferred over to Arctic College yet. As far as the programs that are offered, we're not completely familiar with those programs. Once the transition takes place, we will definitely know more about that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you. Now I don't believe in it anymore. You said that there would be no changes to Piqqusilirivvik's programs and that it would be separate. What is he trying to say when the minister doesn't know what types of programs are offered at Piqqusilirivvik? I'm confused by the minister's response. Could the minister clarify exactly what he said, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Mr. Chairman, I'm confused now too. I think, for clarity, I'll pass it on to the president to try and answer that question for Mr. Tapardjuk. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Mr. Shouldice.

Mr. Shouldice: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Piqqusilirivvik is just coming over to the college. What we have seen is just the administrative portions of it so far. How would that look? How would those positions operate within the college? Quite comfortably because, if you look at the college's structure, there is a Nunavut Research Institute in it that has come over to the college. So things like that have happened in the past. We have a number of programs that would absolutely complement something like the cultural school in terms of the Inuit language, the teacher education program, and all of those types of things.

So what we're doing and as you see in the business plan, those plans for a centre of excellence have been there for a while and the moving of Piqqusilirivvik is relatively in the last few months. We are incorporating that into the planning stages at this point in time, but the word is that everyone is excited about it. We want to be respectful of it and we would really like to see the ability for that place of intellectual property of Inuit to really be something special and to be respected.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Shouldice. I have Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also would like to thank the minister for replying well to the questions that we pose. I do have a question and comment that I want to start with.

We mentioned the social worker program. We used to have a social work program in Cambridge Bay and it was quite lengthy. In my riding, there were a couple of people who went to Cambridge Bay to take that program and it seems like the training program wasn't career oriented because there was no job for them after they graduated. I found that to be problematic. If I was in their shoes, I wouldn't have been happy.

As stated earlier, we want to have career oriented training programs. Are we going to make sure the training programs, no matter what they are, are career oriented? I know that we lack social workers in the majority of communities. In spite of that, there were two individuals who went to take the training program for more than one year and they were never hired. I just want to speak to that issue. You can reply to my comment.

In regard to the Piqusilirivvik Cultural School that would be transferred to Nunavut Arctic College, Piqusilirivvik is not set up for students with children at the present time. There were two students in my riding who were accepted to attend courses at Piqusilirivvik, but since they couldn't take their family with them, they turned down the opportunity. There are many people who are interested in taking those programs. Will you be reviewing that to make sure that it is better organized if you take it over? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member very much for the two questions. He has identified something that we understand and need to fix. Mr. Curley has pointed out in the social work aspect of things that we would expect that when people graduate from a program that Arctic College puts on, they would have positions out in the workforce in Nunavut. There is a gap there with the graduation qualification certificate they receive when they graduate for specific types of social work needs, and then there's a diploma program, I believe, that addresses more education and more qualifications to get specific social workers that we're looking for in some cases.

As far as the cultural school is concerned, I think you will have the opportunity to get maybe more background information on what's there and the infrastructure from the Minister of CLEY as CLEY still has jurisdiction over that program. However, my understanding, in discussion with the president, is that there are vacant units up there right now for staff that are not being used that could be looked at being used for students. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you for providing that answer to my comment and question. I don't know if I received an answer because I didn't quite understand it. In your business plan, under priorities for 2012-13 on

page NAC-11, it states here, (interpretation ends) “Deliver the research curriculum to support and promote community based research in Community Learning Centres.” (interpretation) With that, how many communities are going to be delivering that curriculum? That’s my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I’ll pass that question on to the president. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Mr. Shouldice.

Mr. Shouldice: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the efforts that we’re looking at is involving our students of doing more of their own research as part of their curriculum in different programs. We’ve had discussions about how we would support that or finance that or do that with their curriculum. Part of what we want to look at is in the adult centres of allowing students to do research in their programs themselves, contributing towards the program that they’re taking. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Shouldice. I have no more names on my list. (interpretation ends) M-3. Department Summary. Nunavut Arctic College. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$25,614,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Are we agreed that Nunavut Arctic College is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Shewchuk, if you have any closing remarks, I welcome you to do so. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Very quickly, I would just like to thank again the committee for their interest in Arctic College and we will strive to deliver adult education to all of our residents of Nunavut.

Again I would like to thank President Shouldice for being here with me. It’s a good day for him to be here with me on his first official day as president. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk and Mr. Shouldice. (interpretation) Welcome again, Mr. Shouldice. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses out.

My colleagues, we will now proceed with the review of the Department of Finance. Does the Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson, have any opening comments?

Bill 24 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2012-2013 – Finance – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Keith Peterson: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I do have comments.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister Peterson, proceed.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Sorry, Mr. Chairman. I'm eager to get going here.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to discuss the 2012-13 main estimates and business plan of the Department of Finance.

Mr. Chairman, one of the Department of Finance's top priorities for 2012-13 is the fiscal transfer renewal negotiations with the federal government. We receive the majority of our revenues from the Government of Canada through fiscal transfers. The most essential of these transfers is the territorial formula financing arrangement (TFF). Other transfers include the Canada Health Transfer (CHT) and the Canada Social Transfer (CST). These three transfers are set to expire in March 2014.

We expect technical discussions to "ramp up" over the coming year. We continue to advocate for a transfer agreement that recognizes Nunavut's high expenditure needs. We would like a set of transfer agreements that allow the GN to offer the same quality and scope of services as other Canadian governments.

For 2012-13, the Department of Finance will continue to support the Government of Nunavut's return to balance promise. Finance will develop a meaningful fiscal management strategy for the GN that will include principles for long-term planning and budgeting to restore and maintain our fiscal resources. We will work with all GN departments to ensure that they have the financial tools and support required to balance their budgets

and to enable the Financial Management Board to balance the budget of the government as a whole.

The Department of Finance is continuing to support the Nunavut *Liquor Act* Review Task Force as it completes its final community consultations and deliberations. I expect to receive a final report from them in April and will consider its recommendations carefully before moving forward with any changes to Nunavut's liquor regime.

Mr. Chairman, I will now turn to a brief overview of the department's budget. Finance has five core lines of business: Corporate Management, Human Resource Management, Expenditure Management, Comptrollership, and Centrally Administered Funds.

For 2012-13, the Department of Finance has been allocated \$63.2 million in operations and maintenance expenditures, which is slightly over \$2 million more than was budgeted in 2011-12, primarily due to staffing increases of \$1.2 million and an increase to the Nunavut Electricity Subsidy Program of \$1.1 million.

The major components of the department's budget are:

- \$22.1 million for compensation and benefits;
- \$41.1 million for centrally administered programs and costs, including:
 - \$14.2 million for government-wide employee benefits, such as workers' compensation premiums and employee medical travel;
 - \$10.2 million for the lease costs of the Legislative Assembly

building and other office buildings constructed by the Nunavut Construction Corporation prior to April 1, 1999;

- \$8.6 million for energy subsidies and contributions;
- \$5.0 million for the Government of Nunavut's insurance premiums; and
- \$3.1 million for other operations and maintenance costs in the department.

Mr. Chairman, the department's focus for 2012-13 will continue to be the provision of central agency services in areas that include support for the Financial Management Board, managing the government's overall fiscal position, and overseeing the financial framework and accounting processes.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would welcome questions and comments from committee members.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Do you have witnesses that you would like to bring to the table?

Hon. Keith Peterson: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I have a witness. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Does the committee agree to bring in the witnesses?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

(interpretation ends) Thank you. Minister Peterson, please introduce your witness.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My witness is Mr. Chris D'Arcy, Deputy Minister of the Department of Finance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. (interpretation) Welcome, Mr. D'Arcy. (interpretation ends) Does the chair of the standing committee on oversight have comments? Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I do. Thank you.

Chairman: You may proceed. I'm sorry.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts on its review of the proposed 2012-13 main estimates and 2012-15 business plan of the Department of Finance.

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

The standing committee notes that the department's proposed 2012-13 operations and maintenance budget of \$63.2 million has increased by approximately 3.3 percent since the introduction of the department's 2011-12 main estimates.

Mr. Chairman, the number of positions in the department has decreased slightly to 207.0 PYs. This is the fourth consecutive year in which the department has not increased in size. The standing committee again applauds

the minister for demonstrating restraint in this area given the tendency of other GN departments to increase the number of positions in their organization charts each year, despite their not being able to fill a significant percentage of them.

It is also important to note that almost one-third of the government's total spending is on compensation and benefits for its own workforce. Every dollar that is added to pay new government employees is a dollar less that is available for other priorities, such as providing increased financial assistance for students to pursue post-secondary education or constructing new capital infrastructure in our communities.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Finance supports the activities of the government's Public Agencies Council, which has a number of important oversight responsibilities in relation to the governance of the GN's Crown corporations and agencies. The 2009-2010 annual activities report of the Public Agencies Council was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on June 10, 2010. However, its 2010-11 annual activities report has not yet been tabled.

The standing committee notes that ministerial letters of expectation for the 2011-12 fiscal year to the GN's five largest Crown corporations and agencies were not tabled in the Legislative Assembly until October 27, 2011. The standing committee urges the government to ensure that these are prepared and tabled earlier in the fiscal year.

Last year, the department's business plan indicated that the process of developing

formal memorandums of understanding between the government and its Crown corporations and agencies was underway. The standing committee looks forward to the timely tabling of these items in the Legislative Assembly, as well as the annual mandate letters to the chief executive officers of each of the GN's Crown corporations and agencies.

The standing committee also urges the minister, in his capacity as the Chairperson of the Public Agencies Council, to ensure that the corporate business plans and annual reports of all of Nunavut's major Crown corporations and agencies are tabled in the House on a timely basis.

The standing committee again repeats its call for the annual contracting, leasing and procurement reports of all of the GN's Crown corporations and agencies to be tabled in the Legislative Assembly in a timely manner. Although the most recent ministerial letters of expectation to the GN's Crown corporations and agencies instructed them to prepare such reports, not all of the government's Crown corporations and agencies appear to have complied with this direction.

Mr. Chairman, the timeliness of the tabling of the government's annual public accounts has been an issue of ongoing concern. The standing committee applauds the government for having backdoor tabled its 2010-11 Public Accounts in December of 2011. This marked the first time since the creation of Nunavut that the public accounts have been tabled in compliance with section 74 of the *Financial Administration Act*, which requires that

they be tabled on or before December 31 following the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Chairman, the 2009 Report of the Auditor General of Canada to the Legislative Assembly noted that “the underlying cause of the Government’s lack of progress on our previous recommendations is its limited human resource capacity. Simply put, there are not enough qualified financial staff to properly carry out basic financial functions.”

The GN’s 2008-09 annual report on procurement activities indicated that the Department of Finance awarded a \$303,000 contract in 2008-09 to an individual to provide consulting services to assist in the production of the public accounts. This was the largest contract awarded to a single individual by the government during the entire 2008-09 fiscal year. The same consultant received a \$205,968 contract in 2009-2010 and a \$204,985 contract in 2010-11.

The Department of Finance’s business plan indicates that one of its goals for the 2012-13 fiscal year is to “Continue to expand a professional training regime to enhance the financial expertise of the territory at all levels.” The business plan also indicates that “Discussions commenced with Nunavut Arctic College on the delivery of courses for an accounting diploma program to be delivered within the territory.” The standing committee supports initiatives designed to provide educational and training opportunities for GN employees, especially beneficiary employees, to pursue financial management and accounting courses that can lead to professional certification.

The standing committee notes that on October 27, 2010, the minister tabled a status report on the GN’s action plan in response to the 2009 report of the Auditor General and the standing committee’s own recommendations. Members urge the minister to continue providing regular reports to the standing committee on the status of the department’s strengthening financial management and network capacity initiative.

The standing committee also looks forward to the minister providing regular quarterly reports to the standing committee on capital adjustments, as required by Directive 302 in the Financial Administration Manual.

Mr. Chairman, during the minister’s recent appearance before the standing committee, members raised a number of concerns regarding the issue of liquor management, which falls under the administrative jurisdiction of the Department of Finance. Responsibility for support to the liquor licensing board was transferred to the Department of Justice in the 2007-08 fiscal year.

The department’s business plan indicates that the final report and recommendations of the Minister’s Task Force to Review the *Liquor Act* are expected to be completed by April 2012. The standing committee has urged the minister to table the task force’s report and recommendations in the Legislative Assembly at the earliest opportunity so that all Members of the Legislative Assembly have the opportunity to consider them.

The standing committee supports efforts to strengthen the working relationship

between the department and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police with respect to information-sharing initiatives that are intended to combat the illegal sale of alcohol by bootleggers. The standing committee also encourages the ministers of Finance and Justice to pursue the idea of introducing civil forfeiture legislation to address the issue of assets acquired through the proceeds of crime.

In communities where voters have chosen through plebiscite to establish alcohol education committees, the standing committee supports efforts on the part of the department to provide training and support for these bodies while recognizing the need to review whether their core mandate should be focused on controlling access to alcohol or providing counselling services that might be more appropriately delivered by other entities.

The standing committee notes that the idea of allocating revenues that are received by the government from fines imposed under the *Liquor Act* to alcohol education and treatment programs remains worthy of consideration, as is the idea of allocating profits from the government's sales of alcohol. The standing committee emphasizes that such allocations should be viewed as a supplement to existing funding, not as a replacement. The standing committee is mindful of the precedent set by the recent passage of Bill 35 in relation to the allocation of tobacco tax revenues to smoking prevention and cessation programs.

In March of 2010, the Legislative Assembly approved a motion calling on the Nunavut Liquor Commission to stop purchasing alcohol products from the

European Union until such time as the issue of the EU's ban on the import of seal products is resolved to Nunavut's satisfaction. The standing committee applauds the minister for having instructed the Nunavut Liquor Commission to respect the will of the House and encourages the minister to table in the Legislative Assembly a list of the products that the commission actually purchased during the 2011 resupply.

On October 28, 2011, the Minister of Finance tabled the annual government-wide report on grants and contributions made by all departments during the 2010-11 fiscal year. The standing committee applauds the minister for tabling these important reports and looks forward to future years' reports being tabled in a timely manner.

Between the 2004-05 and 2010-11 fiscal years, the government spent over \$1,871,000,000 in grants and contributions. The standing committee recommends that the minister, in his capacity as the Chairperson of the Financial Management Board, consider the establishment of a government-wide framework for measuring and evaluating the results of the government's grants and contributions expenditures.

In 2007, the Legislative Assembly passed a motion on the issue of the federal Northern Residents Deduction. The motion called on the Government of Canada to increase the residency portion of the Northern Residents Deduction and to ensure that the residency portion be adjusted on an annual basis to an inflation index that reflects the cost of living in Canada's Arctic. The 2008 federal budget announced a 10 percent

increase in the residency component of the deduction. The standing committee encourages the minister to pursue further enhancements to this benefit with his federal counterpart and notes the impact that such improvements would have in helping Nunavummiut address the high cost of living in the north.

Mr. Chairman, the department's proposed 2012-13 main estimates include \$8,577,000 in funding for the Nunavut Electricity Subsidy Program. On a government-wide basis, the GN plans to spend approximately \$36.16 million on utility costs during the 2012-13 fiscal year.

On November 1, 2007, the provisions in the *Qulliq Energy Corporation Act* providing for the creation of an affordable energy fund came into force. Its purpose is to "subsidize the cost of energy or otherwise make energy more affordable." According to the Government of Nunavut's Energy Strategy, which was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on October 30, 2007, this fund is to be managed by the Department of Finance. However, the department's business plan does not make any reference to the Affordable Energy Fund. The standing committee recommends that the department's future business plans provide significantly more detail on its activities in this area.

On September 17, 2008, the Government of Nunavut's new Public-Private Partnership Policy was tabled in the Legislative Assembly. The policy states that "The GN believes that a cooperative approach to building infrastructure through public-private partnerships (P3) can be an appropriate, efficient and effective use of Nunavut's resources to

deliver services." On October 26, 2010, the Premier tabled in the Legislative Assembly a document titled *Refined Direction from Cabinet Retreat 2010*. The document stated that one of the GN's priorities is to "explore financial partnerships (P3s and others) for major capital projects." However, the Department of Finance's business plan does not make any reference to the GN's P3 Policy. The standing committee recommends that next year's departmental business plan clarify the government's intentions concerning the use of its P3 Policy.

Mr. Chairman, amendments were passed to the territorial *Payroll Tax Act* in 2006 to increase the GN's payroll tax rate to 2 percent. The government raised \$19,803,000 in payroll tax revenues during the 2010-11 fiscal year. However, it is not clear what percentage of payroll tax revenues is raised from the government's own employees and what percentage is raised from workers in other levels of government and the private sector. The standing committee again recommends that the minister begin the practice of tabling an annual report in the Legislative Assembly on the administration of the *Payroll Tax Act* to account for such issues.

The Department of Finance is responsible for administering the territorial *Tobacco Tax Act*. The government raised \$13,058,000 in 2010-11 from tobacco taxes. Nunavut's tobacco taxes are among the highest in the country. However, given the inelastic nature of demand for tobacco products, it is unclear if increases in tobacco taxes have actually had any impact on reducing smoking rates in Nunavut. This is an issue that would benefit from

evaluation by the Department of Finance and the Department of Health and Social Services. The standing committee is also aware that the potential health benefits of increasing tobacco taxes must be balanced with the risk of creating a black market for illegal tobacco products as a consequence of excessive tax increases.

The department is responsible for administering the government's Fuel Tax Rebate Program. The most recent annual report on the administration of this program was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on October 27, 2010. The 2010-11 annual report has not yet been tabled.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments. Individual members may have their own concerns and comments as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (Mr. Enook)(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Are there any general comments on the Minister of Finance's opening comments? Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The majority of Nunavut's revenues come from the territorial formula financing arrangement, the Canada Health Transfer, the Canada Social Transfer, and others. According to the opening remarks of the hon. minister, we hope "to offer the same quality and scope of services as other Canadian governments." When we don't have the capability or power to raise our own revenue in Nunavut, I don't know how we can afford to offer the same services as other Canadians.

When the hon. minister talked about other Canadian governments, was he talking about the Yukon and the NWT, or are we basically talking about other Canadians in the southern provinces where they have the power to raise their own revenue through their own resources and royalties and what have you? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Ningark for the question. Mr. Chairman, when I made that statement, I was comparing us to all provinces and territories in Canada. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the hon. minister for that response. According to the statement, I believe that the Minister of Finance expects technical discussions over this coming year and I believe that we want to achieve our ability to offer the same quality and scope [of services] that he talks about. So have you had any discussions with the Government of Canada, our counterpart, perhaps Mr. Flaherty in this case, about our dreams and aspirations to get the same scope of services as other Canadians? How do we hope to achieve these qualities that other Canadians take for granted, especially the provinces in the country? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Ningark for the question. Mr. Chairman, I raised that issue with Minister Flaherty at the federal/provincial/territorial finance ministers' meeting as recently as December in Victoria. My officials continue to have discussions on a regular basis with his officials in Finance Canada. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the hon. minister for his response. When the Hon. Minister of Finance discussed what we wanted to see up here, was Minister Flaherty receptive to the idea? Was there any hope at all that we will begin to see a quality of life up here? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Ningark for the question. Mr. Chairman, there is always hope. Mr. Flaherty is a very busy man, but he did hear me out and I appreciate his listening to me. His officials indicated that they will continue talking to our officials. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. (interpretation ends) General comments. (interpretation) We will go to C-4. Finance. Branch Summary. Directorate. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$1,493,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Turn to page C-5. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Finance. Policy and Planning. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$3,660,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Turn to page C-6. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. (interpretation) I have a question to the minister on this page because it includes the FMB and the financial management and budgeting process. If FMB is going to conduct an audit on a matter of concern, do you initiate the financial audit if needed? That is my (interpretation ends) first question.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Chairman, it didn't quite come through clear. Could Mr. Curley repeat his question? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Curley, please.

Mr. Curley: I'll try to be clear. One of the responsibilities of the financial management, obviously, is to conduct audits and so on of any department or whatnot. FMB, for instance, requires departments' special audits. Is that done through this division? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Curley for the clarification. Mr. Chairman, through our

internal audit services, that would come under comptrollership. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Yes, internal audits for the finance department, but in some occasions, if this division is responsible for FMB, FMB occasionally does issue a directive for special audits. Would that be an appropriate place to ask questions on? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the FAA, or the *Financial Administration Act*, under section 78, it would be a ministerial directive and that would apply to a Crown corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. So under C-7, I'll be able to ask that question. Is that what the minister is saying? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): I didn't quite hear what you said, Mr. Curley. My apologies.

Mr. Curley: I want to ask some questions with respect to audits of major corporations. I'm trying to get into the appropriate... I'm taking up time here, so I need direction. So I'll ask him at C-7. Is that what you're saying, the next page? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. C-7 would be fine. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you. It states here that this department has 84 vacant positions as of March 31, 2011, which is a vacancy rate of approximately 40 percent. Out of those 84 vacant positions, do you expect to fill them, Mr. Chairman? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Tapardjuk for his question. Mr. Chairman, I was hoping to fill all the positions. We're actively recruiting all the time for finance positions. In fact, the other day, I was up at the Brown Building meeting a lot of folks and we did some vacant positions there and they advised me that there are recruitment activities underway. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As we had questions for the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, has the minister made decisions on the need for financial management courses and certification? What is the status of this initiative, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Tapardjuk for the question. Mr. Chairman, yes, we are working with Nunavut Arctic College to develop that program. I believe the plan is set for the fall of this year. In the meantime, we do continue to offer other training programs for financial employees. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. We are on page C-6. (interpretation ends) Finance. Branch Summary. Financial Management. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$2,886,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Turn to page C-7. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll be clear with this. I want to ask the minister: when the special audit was conducted with the Nunavut Housing Corporation, was that under the direction of your department? Was it the finance department that was responsible for the specific set of terms of reference for the independent audit? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Curley for the question. Mr. Chairman, I issued a ministerial directive, section 78, under the Nunavut Housing Corporation, following the issue with the housing projects. Under section 78, we assisted

with the development of the terms of reference for the audit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. The minister tabled the independent audit and members had an opportunity to comment on it as well. Was the finance department, including you as well as the minister, satisfied with the recommendations and action plans that were contained in that special audit? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Curley. The audit by the firm, Deloitte & Touche, was a clean audit. It indicated that there were no issue, no money missing, and it was tabled in the House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. During the review of the committee of the estimates for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, the minister responsible made it quite clear that he had authorized another audit and indicated to the committee that the Deloitte & Touche audit was a very limited audit. Why would the minister or the government now say, after the conclusion of the whole audit, that it is not satisfactory? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Curley for the question. Mr. Chairman, the Deloitte & Touche audit was a financial audit; it was not an administrative audit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. During the course of the evaluation of the various reports, including that special audit, as well as the recommendations from the standing committee of the legislature, as well as the Auditor General, it was never alleged or recommended that there be an additional audit in order to conclude whether the performance of the corporation must be examined further.

Has the minister spoken to the Minister responsible for Housing at all whether or not this particular audit is actually required? It might be a diversion again, as far as I'm concerned. When the federal budget was about to be announced shortly, there was a bit of hope that there might have been some funding for extra housing. Are you satisfied that the recommendation from the Minister responsible Housing is actually needed? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Curley for the question. Mr. Chairman, the minister of the housing corporation is the minister. If he requests some financial information to satisfy some of his concerns, that's his prerogative.

However, I talked to the Auditor General at the time and she indicated in her audit of the housing corporation that they didn't find anything amiss, maybe more down to basic things like over-budgeting and that. I think she indicated that in one of her earlier reports to the Legislative Assembly. The Deloitte and Touche audit, again, it was financial and it did not indicate that there were any monies missing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, what I'm getting at is I think there has to be coordination with government in terms of announcing policy or intent, that there be a bit of a strategy, whether or not it would implicate some or signal to the various partners and the whole thing whether or not there are underlying problems that have not been uncovered.

Does the minister at all feel that the strategy that the minister responsible has taken is really benefiting Nunavutmiut and that we now have to dig through the records and find out what went wrong when it could have maybe been announced in the House that special actions have been either looked into or will be corrected? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Curley for the question. Mr. Chairman, with the establishment of the new board of directors and the transfer of the accounting division from Arviat to Iqaluit, we were hoping that that would position the Nunavut Housing

Corporation to move forward to build houses. We were hopeful that they would take the lead on whether they required financial information. I would say at this point that it's up to the minister or the board of the directors of the Nunavut Housing Corporation to decide if they wish to proceed with an administrative audit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. I appreciate the minister responding. I think the minister is quite knowledgeable with how the major corporations do operate. As well now, a number of Crown corporations we have are arm's-length institutions or corporations.

What I'm getting at is I think I would like to suggest to the minister that his advice is important for a number of reasons. One is obviously financial, including the management of a Crown corporation, which could also be addressed through letters of expectation, and so on. That never appears to have been highlighted, that there are other management issues or whatnot that should be dug further to try and get to the bottom of anything. There might not be any.

What I'm getting at is: can the minister confirm to the committee that he will exercise his important position and provide advice occasionally to the new ministers that may not have had a long experience in managing those kinds of things? A strategy is important when dealing with the federal government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Curley for the comments. Mr. Chairman, I think it would be a good time to mention here that the Auditor General of Canada does the audit for the Nunavut Housing Corporation and her most recent audit allowed us to complete our public accounts and table them on time.

Also, I have been listening to the debate the last several days here in the House about Ottawa and houses and other stuff. I have to say, Mr. Chairman, I have never heard the Government of Canada say that they would not provide us with houses for the people in Nunavut.

When I was in Victoria, I did mention housing to Minister Flaherty and when our MP visited us here about a month and a half ago, I did talk to her and I asked for help with housing. She did not indicate there was an issue. Even as recently as last fall, I think she provided some funding for housing up here.

But I can assure Mr. Curley that I will talk to my colleague to seek clarification about the type of audit he is contemplating undertaking. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I think the Minister of Finance has been a very vital participant in putting the Crown corporation in proper footing, and so on, and I believe that the management and the governance

structures that are in place are serious about the work that needs to be done.

One thing that I wanted to indicate to the minister is that independent Stats Canada has concluded that Nunavut has serious issues still with respect to the major shortage of housing, over 3,000 additional housing needed, and that, I think, was an important signal, independently studied and confirmed that Nunavut seriously needs more housing. That should be the first priority of the minister responsible as well as the government.

So will the minister, with his assurance that he just indicated to us, continue to work hard along with his colleague, that housing development, the housing need is a very important priority of this government? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Curley for the comment. Mr. Chairman, I think everyone in this Assembly and across Nunavut knows that housing is vital to our territory. Shortage of housing leads to any number of social issues that we debate in this House all the time and read about it in the newspapers and hear on the radio.

I did indicate in my Budget Address a couple of weeks ago that housing is a top priority for our government and we will, as ministers and cabinet, continue to lobby and ask Ottawa for help with housing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Thank you, Mr.

Curley. We're now on page C-7. Branch Summary. Finance. Comptrollership. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$17,170,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Turn to page C-8. (interpretation ends) Finance. Branch Summary. Centrally Administered Funds. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$37,991,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We will go back to page C-3. (interpretation ends) Department Summary. Finance. Detail of Expenditures. Total Operations and Maintenance. \$63,200,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Do we agree that the Department of Finance is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Mr. Minister, do you have closing remarks? Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the members of the committee for their questions and their support of the Department of Finance. It is a very important department to the Government of Nunavut being a central agency department. We do strive to work hard to support the Government of Nunavut

operations, all departments, and Crown agencies.

I would like to thank all of our staff in the Department of Finance who work very hard day in and day out. With financial numbers, it's a very difficult department to work in. It's very challenging. There are a lot of opportunities. I would like to throw thanks out as well to all our regional operations across Nunavut that ensure that the regional operations of the departments are supported as well.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I would also like to thank, of course, Mr. D'Arcy, who works very hard to make sure it all works for us and for supporting me as the minister. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

I would now like to ask the Minister of CLEY if he has opening comments.

Bill 24 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2012-2013 – Culture, Language, Elders and Youth – Consideration in Committee

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I do.

Chairman (interpretation): Please proceed, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to have the opportunity to present the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth's 2012-13 business plan and main estimates. This

department plays a central role in preserving and enhancing Nunavut's culture, heritage, and languages and provides healthy active living opportunities for all Nunavummiut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, the Government of Nunavut is committed to implement the *Inuit Language Protection Act* and *Official Languages Act*. In the new fiscal year, the Official Languages and Services Division will increase its capacity to provide quality translation services to departments and agencies with the new hire of six additional staff and provide more support for community-based initiatives for the revitalization and promotion of Inuit language through its grants and contributions programs.

Mr. Chairman, the Culture and Heritage Division will continue to develop and support arts, culture, and heritage programs and services that preserve and promote Nunavut's unique cultural heritage. Special emphasis will be placed on enhancing community library programs and services, including increased distribution of Inuit language resource materials. The Culture and Heritage Division will also focus on enhancing heritage information management systems for the territorial archives and for Nunavut's archaeological site records.

Iksivautaaq, I am pleased to advise the members of the first successful intake of students taking cultural courses last fall at Piquisilirivvik. The first intake saw 24 students taking cultural courses. The courses were developed by Inuit instructors and based on seasonal traditional activities. The students of the first intake were so pleased in regaining

some of their lost cultural knowledge that 12 students have returned for winter courses that are running from February 13 to May 15, 2012. In addition to cultural courses, the students will also be taking firearm safety and wilderness first aid courses. This is to prepare them for the actual on-the-land program. Mr. Chairman, all courses and the language of teaching is all in the Inuit language.

Mr. Chairman, the department coordinates Team Nunavut's participation in major multi-sport games, including the 2012 Arctic Winter Games. This year, Team Nunavut will travel to Whitehorse, Yukon from March 4 to 11. Team Nunavut consists of 289 participants from 21 Nunavut communities participating in 13 sports and the cultural program. Participation in sport and recreation programs, including events such as the Arctic Winter Games, encourages Nunavummiut to enjoy a physically active lifestyle and pursue their goals.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to highlight the successful grants and contributions program the department administers each year. Funds are awarded to individuals, not-for-profit community-based organizations, and local governments for social, cultural, language, sport, recreation, and physical activity projects in Nunavut. Each year, the deadline for funding requests is March 31 and we anticipate that the funds will be awarded by the end of April 2012. I would like to encourage communities, organizations, and individuals to apply for this funding as applications are now available.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would be pleased to answer any questions you may have. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Arreak. Does the chair of the standing committee have comments?
Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I have comments.

Chairman (interpretation): Please proceed.

Ms. Ugyuk: As Chair of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness, I am pleased to deliver the standing committee's opening comments as we begin consideration of the 2012-13 main estimates and business plan for the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth.

Before I begin, I would note that the Minister of Finance recently announced in his Budget Address that the government is proposing to transfer sport and recreation responsibilities from the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth to the Department of Community and Government Services. In addition, Nunavut Arctic College will take over responsibility for the Piquusilirivvik Cultural School in Clyde River. Until such a time as the relevant supplementary appropriation requests to transfer these programs are approved in this House, the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth remains responsible for the proposed budget.

The Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth is proposing a budget of \$27,942,000 for 2012-13, which is \$50,000 more than the department's

approved budget for the 2011-12 fiscal year.

The standing committee has noted that there is an overall increase in compensation and benefits with the addition of eight new positions, mainly in the area of language services. The standing committee commends the Department of CLEY for achieving two significant milestones in 2011-12 with the opening of the Piqqusilirivvik Cultural School and the establishment of the Inuit Language Authority, the *Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit*, as an independent public body.

Committee members have noted that the minister, in his capacity as Minister of Languages, tabled a proposed implementation plan for Nunavut's language legislation in June of 2011 and the committee looks forward to the final version being tabled in the near future as well as the coming into force of Nunavut's new *Official Languages Act*.

Mr. Chairman, with the transfer of Piqqusilirivvik, the Inuit cultural school in Clyde River, to Nunavut Arctic College, committee members encourage the minister to continue working with the Minister responsible for NAC with respect to projects and initiatives relating to culture and heritage.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of CLEY distributes a significant amount of funding every year in grants and contributions. On October 25, 2011, the minister tabled his department's grants and contributions report for 2010-11. Committee members noted that the information in that report differed from that provided in the government-wide grants and contributions report for 2010-

11 tabled by the minister on October 28, 2011 and raised this issue with the minister during his appearance before the committee. The standing committee is somewhat disappointed that the minister has not yet provided an update and clarification of the information to members and looks forward to receiving that information at the earliest opportunity.

Committee members stress the importance of ensuring that the process for distributing public funds for community or group-based initiatives be seen as a fair one. The committee recommends that greater efforts are made to assist communities and groups in the funding application process. Members are aware that the Department of CLEY also distributes funding on behalf of the federal government for French language initiatives and Inuktitut language initiatives, and encourages the minister to provide details in this area as well.

Mr. Chairman, through the Department of Culture, Languages, Elders and Youth, the government provides financial support through its grants and contributions process for sport and recreation across the territory. As members will recall from the 2009 review of Bill 3, the *Western Canada Lottery Act*, section 4 of the Act requires that "profits accruing to the Government of Nunavut from the Western Canada Lottery shall be used for the purpose of promoting sport and recreational opportunities for Nunavummiut." The 2009-2010 and the 2010-11 annual reports required under section 5 of the *Western Canada Lottery Act* have not yet been tabled and it is unclear to members whether this requirement has

been met to date. The standing committee recommends that the minister identify how lottery funds have been specifically earmarked or allocated to sport and recreational opportunities across Nunavut.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee recognizes that the department has a number of programs, initiatives, and services for Nunavut elders. However, members remain concerned that the issues of elder abuse and support for elders are not being given adequate attention. Members encourage the minister to work with his counterparts in the departments of Justice and Health and Social Services to ensure that Nunavut's elders are protected and supported.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my opening comments. I am confident that members will have their own comments and concerns as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark: Mr. Chairman, I would like to move a motion to report progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. (interpretation ends) We have a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour. Those opposed. The motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress.

Speaker: Members, we will move on in our orders of the day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Enook.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Enook: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 24 and the main estimates, and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Thank you, Mr. Kusugak. 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. *Orders of the Day* for March 8:

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

12. Reports of Standing and Special
Committees on Bills and Other
Matters

13. Tabling of Documents

14. Notices of Motions

15. Notices of Motions for First
Reading of Bills

16. Motions

17. First Reading of Bills

18. Second Reading of Bills

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

- Bill 21
- Bill 24
- Bill 25
- Bill 26
- Bill 27
- Bill 28
- Bill 29
- Bill 34

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. This House stands adjourned until Thursday, March 8, at 10:00 a.m. in the morning. I'll just remind everyone and all the officials that, who knows how quickly things will go, we could go into

Committee of the Whole earlier. So I'll just make sure that all officials are potentially ready to roll when the time comes for us to go into Committee of the Whole.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 21:02*

