



# **NunavutCanada**

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT**

**3rd Session**

**3rd Assembly**

## **HANSARD**

Official Report

**DAY 42**

**Tuesday, May 29, 2012**

**Pages 2450 – 2492**

**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*

**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*

**Moses Aupaluktuq**

(Baker Lake)

**Tagak Curley**

(Rankin Inlet North)

**Hon. Monica Ell**

(Iqaluit West)

*Minister of Human Resources;  
Minister responsible for Homelessness;  
Minister responsible for the Status of  
Women*

**Ron Elliott**

(Quttiktuq)

**Joe Enook**

(Tununiq)

*Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole*

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak**

(Rankin Inlet South – Whale Cove)

*Government House Leader; Minister of  
Community and Government Services;  
Minister responsible for the Qulliq  
Energy Corporation; Minister  
responsible for the Workers' Safety and  
Compensation Commission*

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(Akulliq)

**Johnny Ningeongan**

(Nanulik)

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

**Hezakiah Oshutapik**

(Pangnirtung)

**Hon. Keith Peterson**

(Cambridge Bay)

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

**Allan Rumbolt**

(Hudson Bay)

**Hon. Fred Schell**

(South Baffin)

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk**

(Arviat)

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

**Louis Tapardjuk**

(Amittuq)

*Deputy Chair, Committee of the  
Whole*

**Hon. Peter Taptuna**

(Kugluktuk)

*Deputy Premier; Minister of  
Economic Development and  
Transportation; Minister of  
Energy; Minister responsible for the  
Nunavut Housing Corporation*

**Jeannie Ugyuk**

(Nattilik)

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut**  
**Tuesday, May 29, 2012**

**Members Present:**

Honourable James Arreak, Mr. Moses Aupaluktuq, Honourable 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 Peter Taptuna, Honourable Hunter Tootoo, Ms. Jeannie Ugyuk.

>>*House commenced at 13:30*

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Speaker** (Hon. Hunter Tootoo): *Qujannamiik*, Sergeant-at-Arms. Before we proceed, I would like to ask Ms. Ugyuk if she could lead us off with a prayer, please.

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker:** Thank you again. I welcome all members and the public to the legislature. Before we proceed with the orders of the day, I wish to read the following communication from the Commissioner of Nunavut:

**Money Message**

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

- Bill 36, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2012-2013*; and

- Bill 37, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2012-2013*.

Signed sincerely,

Hon. Edna Elias  
Commissioner of Nunavut.

Moving on in the orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. House Leader, Minister Kusugak.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements****Minister's Statement 145 – 3(3):  
Minister Absent from the House**

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Good day, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues. I am happy to be here and meet once again. Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise members that the Hon. Eva Aariak will be absent from the House from May 29 to 30 to attend the Western Premiers' Conference in Edmonton, Alberta. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Item 3: Members' Statements****Member's Statement 228 – 3(3):  
Kiggavik Uranium Mine Project**

**Mr. Aupaluktuq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to send my greetings to the people of Baker Lake as well as the elders.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the status of the Kiggavik Uranium Mine Project. Mr. Speaker, as you may be



aware, the Nunavut Impact Review Board is currently holding a series of public meetings across the Kivalliq concerning this project.

Public meetings were scheduled to be held in Baker Lake on May 22 and 23. Other meetings have been scheduled for Arviat, Whale Cove, Rankin Inlet, Chesterfield Inlet, Coral Harbour, and Repulse Bay.

Mr. Speaker, I have consistently encouraged all of my constituents to participate in these important consultations and information sessions.

Mr. Speaker, as the MLA for Baker Lake, I recognize that the issues surrounding this project and natural resources development in general are very complex. I have spoken on a number of occasions about the importance of ensuring that natural resources development is balanced with maintaining environmental integrity.

Mr. Speaker, I have encouraged community groups, including our hunters and trappers organization, to voice their concerns.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will be tabling a copy of the Nunavut Impact Review Board's updated Review Process Map and Anticipated Timeline for the Kiggavik project.

Later at this spring sitting, I will have questions for the minister responsible concerning the Government of Nunavut's submissions to the Nunavut Impact Review Board on this project and the status of its Uranium Mining Policy. Mr. Speaker, I will also be seeking public clarification on the GN's position

concerning the issue of the chairmanship of the Nunavut Impact Review Board. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Members' Statements. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

**Member's Statement 229 – 3(3):  
Congratulations to Sanikiluaq  
Graduates**

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to all of my colleagues and the people of Sanikiluaq.

Mr. Speaker, it always gives me great pleasure to rise to congratulate my constituents for the successes they achieve.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the six graduates of Nunavut Arctic College's Office Administration Certificate Program. This course was taken over a full academic year. If approved, the program could extend another year and the graduates may have the opportunity to continue and complete their diplomas in office administration.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the hard work and effort made by:

Shoapik Emikotailuk,  
Johnny Manning,  
Frank Audla,  
Elizabeth Novalinga,  
Sarah Tookalook, and  
Ann Marie Arragutainaq.

They should be very proud of their success.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Congratulations to them all. Members' Statements. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

### **Member's Statement 230 – 3(3): Food Security**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address the issue of food security in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, the issue of food security has attracted a considerable amount of attention in recent weeks. The visit to Canada by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food has encouraged a vigorous discussion to take place at the national level concerning the issue of how to measure and address food insecurity.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, Members of the Legislative Assembly and the Government of Nunavut have recognized the importance of this issue to our constituents and communities. Over the past year, we have undertaken a number of initiatives in this area.

The appearance in this Chamber of representatives from the federal government and the Nutrition North Canada Advisory Board provided an opportunity for a number of concerns to be raised by ministers and regular members with respect to this critical program. As members will recall, I subsequently wrote to the federal department that is responsible for

administering the Nutrition North Canada Program.

Later today, at the appropriate time, I will be tabling the formal response that I received to my correspondence, which contains important information that affects the life of every resident of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I will also be tabling today the initial report made by the United Nations Special Rapporteur, as well as the joint submission that he received from the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and the Inuit Circumpolar Conference.

Mr. Speaker, I was personally disappointed that the UN's Special Rapporteur did not travel to the north during his time in Canada. I was pleased, however, that he met with our Member of Parliament and other northerners, including representatives from the Government of Nunavut and other organizations.

I would like to take this opportunity today to make it clear that any follow-up work conducted by the UN's office needs to include time in the north. I would like to make it clear that such work would be warmly welcomed by me and many others.

Mr. Speaker, in order to effectively address problems, we must openly acknowledge their existence.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would like to request unanimous consent to continue with my Member's Statement today. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. The member is seeking unanimous consent to

conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There being none. Please proceed, Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleagues.

In recent years, we have seen a more open approach to discussing such difficult issues as suicide and family abuse. This has led to progress. Mr. Speaker, poverty and food insecurity are no different. Openly acknowledging that we face these problems is a healthier and more productive approach than personally attacking those who raise concerns.

Mr. Speaker, it is, however, also important to recognize and acknowledge that the most effective solutions in response to the challenge of food security in the north will be solutions that are developed by northerners themselves. We are in the best position to determine what actions are appropriate and realistic to our needs, circumstances, and resources.

Mr. Speaker, as you will recall, our Premier and the president of NTI co-chaired last fall's poverty summit which took place in Iqaluit. As the MLA representing the communities of Arctic Bay, Grise Fiord, and Resolute Bay, I actively participated in this summit's important deliberations, which led to the development and release of The Makimaniq Plan on poverty reduction. Mr. Speaker, this plan presented a number of themes for action, including the issue of food security. One of the actions that are flowing from this plan is the establishment of a Nunavut food security coalition.

Mr. Speaker, as I noted earlier in my statement, our government's Department of Health and Social Services invested time and resources to ensure that our government's concerns and views on the issue of food security were brought directly to the attention of the UN's Special Rapporteur.

Later today, I will have questions on this issue for the appropriate minister. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Member's Statement 231 – 3(3):  
Congratulations to New President  
of the Nunavut Association of  
Municipalities**

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish a good afternoon to my constituents in Hall Beach and Igloolik. On behalf of my constituents, I extend my sincerest condolences to the families who lost loved ones this weekend, the families of Mr. Jonah Kelly and Mr. Jim Currie. Many of my constituents knew these two individuals quite well and the families suffering their loss are in our thoughts and prayers. I know many of my constituents will remember them in their prayers.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Hall Beach Mayor Paul Hauilli on his election last week to the presidency of the Nunavut Association of Municipalities. Mr. Speaker, I have worked with Paul for many years. I am confident that his energy and

commitment will be of great benefit to the association.

Mr. Speaker, many of us in the House today have also served as mayors or members of municipal councils. We appreciate and understand the challenges facing municipalities as they work with limited resources to deliver essential frontline services to our constituents.

Mr. Speaker, a healthy working relationship between the municipal level of government and the territorial level of government is extremely important. I encourage the Nunavut Association of Municipalities to work closely with the Government of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, as you will recall, I asked a detailed written question earlier this year concerning the GN's formal responses to the resolutions that were passed by the Nunavut Association of Municipalities at its 2011 annual general meeting.

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

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

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, my colleagues, for not making a nay.

In one of the resolutions, a concern was raised with dead corpses during the summer not being kept in a morgue for lack of space, particularly in my constituency of Hall Beach. I can say to the government that I won't stop raising

this issue until these are resolved as a need for space is an important issue.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating the new president of the Nunavut Association of Municipalities and to wish him well as he begins his important responsibilities on behalf of our territory's communities. Mr. Speaker, let us now express our pride in the new president of the Nunavut Association of Municipalities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. I'm sure Mr. Haulli is up for any challenges that he may face. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Tununig, Mr. Enook.

**Member's Statement 232 – 3(3):  
Community and Marine  
Infrastructure in Pond Inlet**

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about the issue of community infrastructure in Pond Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin with some good news.

On March 23, I had the honour of welcoming Premier Eva Aariak, Minister James Arreak, and Member of Parliament Leona Aglukkaq to Pond Inlet on the occasion of the opening of the community's new arena.

**Speaker:** I'm sorry, Mr. Enook. We seem to be having technical difficulties. We will get that fixed before you continue with your statement. We will allow you to [continue with your

statement] once we get our technical difficulties fixed.

It's fixed? Okay. Mr. Enook, if you would like to start your statement again or continue from where you were, please proceed.

**Mr. Enook:** *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Speaker. I'm not quite sure where the technical difficulties started. So with your permission, I would like to start my statement again.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Laughter*

(interpretation) I rise today  
(interpretation ends) once again  
(interpretation) to speak about the issue of community infrastructure in Pond Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin with some good news.

On March 23, I had the honour of welcoming Premier Eva Aariak, Minister James Arreak, and Member of Parliament Leona Aglukkaq to Pond Inlet on the occasion of the opening of the community's new arena.

Mr. Speaker, let me apologize to Minister Kusugak. Although we had invited him, he was unable to attend due to weather. I'm just hoping that if there is another event in Pond Inlet, the minister will be able to attend, whether it's for a harbour or airstrip. Hopefully it will be soon. We understand why he wasn't able to attend.

We were joined at this event by a number of Pond Inlet residents,

including Mayor Jaykolasie Killiktee and former MLA James Arvaluk.

Mr. Speaker, thanks to the use of innovative technology at the new facility, our youth will be able to enjoy an extended playing season. Mr. Speaker, it is important that we maximize the use of our limited resources. The new arena is an excellent example of doing just that.

Mr. Speaker, now for some bad news.

As members will recall, one of the issues that I have been raising in this House concerns the continued lack of adequate marine infrastructure in Pond Inlet. Last year, I tabled photographs in this House that clearly illustrated the conditions facing my constituents in Pond Inlet with respect to the lack of adequate marine infrastructure in the community.

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

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I would remind the House that the 2005 Nunavut Small Craft Harbours Report indicated that, and I quote, "Lack of Nunavut harbour infrastructure has resulted in at least two documented cases of loss of life in recent years. In 2002, a Pond Inlet fisherman drowned while paddling his dinghy from shore to his fishing vessel

moored offshore. A Rankin Inlet fisher died under similar circumstances in 2005.”

Mr. Speaker, I continue to urge the government to undertake feasible and affordable improvements to Pond Inlet’s marine infrastructure with a focus on the safety of boaters and protection of equipment, and which can be undertaken with available resources.

Mr. Speaker, Pond Inlet cannot wait forever for the federal government to provide funding which may or may not be forthcoming. We need action now.

I will have questions to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation on this issue during our spring sitting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Enook. Item 3. Members’ Statements. Member for Natilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Member’s Statement 233 – 3(3):  
Thanks to Minister of Education  
for Visiting Constituency**

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister of Education left for Gjoa Haven this morning and we traded places.

I know for a fact that the Premier is experiencing considerable hospitality in the community, as well as by the DEA. I thank the minister for travelling to Gjoa Haven as residents expect ministers or their deputies to attend to various functions in the smaller communities. Residents of the smaller communities have expectations of important visitors when new facilities are being opened.

I appreciate the minister for travelling to the community, although I’m not there to welcome her. I know that she is committed to her department as she is representing the government on her trip to Gjoa Haven to open the new facility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Item 3. Members’ Statements. Member for Iqaluit West, Ms. Ell.

**Member’s Statement 234 – 3(3):  
Anglican Synod and the Grand  
Opening of St. Jude’s Cathedral**

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say “good afternoon” to my constituents in Iqaluit West. Ever since this winter’s session, a lot of events have occurred in my constituency. I will just speak to more recent events.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, this morning, I attended the opening of the Anglican synod to welcome the delegates who are meeting here in Iqaluit. Since our Premier was not available, I went on her behalf to make that presentation. The Anglican synod is holding their AGM this week and one of their duties this week is to select a new bishop.

Additionally, the synod will have a grand opening on Sunday, June 3, for the new Iqaluit cathedral. We expect many people to attend to this opening ceremony and to attend church services at the new facility.

The Anglican synod is attended by representatives from all over the Eastern Arctic Diocese. We welcome them to Iqaluit and their AGM. We hope they are

able to complete all of their duties and we wish them success at the AGM.

Mr. Speaker, I also have some news that is kind of shocking with respect to two matters. First, a well-known businessman, Jim Currie, passed away this weekend. A lot of people in Iqaluit and Nunavut knew Mr. Currie. He was a private business owner who ran his business, Iqaluit Enterprises, which sold country food, such as fish, turbot, clams, and other seafood. I'm only mentioning some foods he offered to the public.

I also want to inform my colleagues that the funeral procession will be held at the Cadet Hall this Thursday. His family and friends are in our thoughts.

Another matter, Mr. Speaker, that I want to speak to will put me over my time limit, so I would like to ask for 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.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Many people in Nunavut may have already heard this news. However, our most iconic CBC host as well as a representative of Iqaluit recently passed away this weekend. I wanted to provide some background on my association with Mr. Jonah Kelly, whom I knew quite well, as we worked together for 18 years at CBC.

While I was still a youngster around the age of 18, I used to drive a taxicab. Mr. Kelly happened to be my passenger one day and encouraged me to apply for a position at CBC. I told him that I didn't have the skill set to apply and unable to do that. I was unable to work with computers. I was not fluent in Inuktitut. On top of that, I had absolutely no knowledge of any kind of technology.

Jonah encouraged me to submit my name and I did. I ended up being at CBC for 18 years. Mr. Kelly taught me for about half an hour on the tape recorder as well as the microphone and how to fix the levels. He also gave me a little piece of paper and I immediately started doing the news.

So I just want to express my heartfelt thanks to Mr. Kelly because he allowed me to progress. I also remember that when I was doing the news one time, he came in with a fire extinguisher while I was doing the news and he used to play a lot of jokes. We recall those times.

I'm sure Mr. Kelly will be missed by a lot of people here in Iqaluit and in Nunavut because he was such an expert in Inuit culture. Let us give Mr. Kelly and his relatives our thoughts and prayers, as well as those who knew Mr. Kelly, particularly his wife and children. It is obvious that we will miss Mr. Kelly's tremendous character. We are sympathetic and we regret his passing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 235 – 3(3): High Cost of Living in Nunavut**

**Mr. Ningeongan:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) I say “good afternoon” to the people of Coral Harbour, Chesterfield Inlet, and the people of Nunavut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the high cost of living in Nunavut.

Earlier this month, a number of my constituents in the community of Coral Harbour took action to publicly express their frustration at the high cost of feeding their families and children. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to state very clearly that I stand with my constituents.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, I have made a number of statements in this House concerning the cost of living for my constituents. I have also expressed concerns regarding the impact of the federal Nutrition North Canada Program.

Mr. Speaker, Inuit are known to be patient people. However, it should be clear to all of us that the patience of our constituents has limits.

Mr. Speaker, addressing the issues of poverty, food insecurity, and the high cost of living is going to require commitment and cooperation between different organizations and levels of government.

Mr. Speaker, I'm going to suggest three challenges today.

The first challenge is to the major retailers that operate across Nunavut. It

should be very clear that there is a need for retailers to be significantly more transparent about their food pricing. It is not enough to say that the transportation subsidies provided through the Nutrition North Canada Program are being passed on to consumers. Rightly or wrongly, many Nunavummiut believe that the prices charged by retailers for basic foods are excessive and go far beyond a reasonable profit margin.

The second challenge is to the Government of Canada. We need to see that the Nutrition North Canada Advisory Board is accomplishing its mandate. As of today, the board still does not have a full-time chairperson. As of today, Nunavummiut have still not seen this board's first annual report and recommendations to the federal minister responsible for the program. We need assurances that this critical program will be implemented in a manner that accomplishes the goal of not simply making food less expensive than it would be without a transportation subsidy, but that it is actually affordable for our constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my Member's Statement.

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

**Mr. Ningeongan:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Members.

The third challenge is to ourselves, the elected leaders of Nunavut. We need to continue to seek ways of working together to address poverty and enhance



self-reliance. The recent development of a poverty reduction strategy between the Government of Nunavut and NTI is a good first step. We also need to ensure that we take every opportunity to provide the means for our constituents to provide for themselves.

For example, I support efforts on the part of the government to work with the community's HTO to ensure that there is a long-term future for the sustainable harvesting of caribou on Southampton Island. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

**Member's Statement 236 – 3(3):  
Changes to Old Age Security  
Program**

**Mr. Ningark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about the issue of the federal Old Age Security program.

Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues will be aware, the recent federal budget announced changes to the federal Old Age Security program. The Government of Canada has stated that it will increase the age of eligibility for the old age security pension and the Guaranteed Income Supplement between the years 2023 and 2029 from age 65 to age 67.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is very important that elders in our communities who are currently receiving old age security understand that these changes will not affect them. I call on the Government of Canada to ensure that information concerning this program is

provided in the Inuktitut language to our elders in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, while I understand that the federal government wishes to ensure that this important program is financially sustainable, I urge it to recognize that circumstances in the north are not the same as they are in the south.

Mr. Speaker, one of the federal government's reasons for making changes to the program is that Canadians are "living longer and healthier lives." However, according to recent statistics from the Canadian Institute for Health Information, life expectancy in Nunavut is shorter. On average, life expectancy is a full five years shorter in the north than it is in the south.

Mr. Speaker, as with many things in life, one size does not necessarily fit all. I urge our national government to ensure that its programs fully reflect the needs and circumstances of our people. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, Mr. Kusugak.

**Member's Statement 237 – 3(3):  
Congratulations to Whale Cove  
High School Graduates**

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to be in the House. In particular, I wish a good afternoon to the residents of Whale Cove and Rankin Inlet.

I was in Whale Cove this weekend to attend a graduation ceremony. Although Whale Cove is the smallest community in our region, there were at least seven graduates this weekend. I am proud of these graduates and they are:

Mitchell Oolooyuk Angootealuk;

Joey Ijakak Arualak;

Irma-Joy Atuarajjuk Voisey;

Jashua Olayuk Ussak;

Joachim Nataqquq Angoo; and

Nathan Aqaaruaq Sammurtok.

They just graduated and we were very proud of them. I wish them a very good future. Let's express our pride of these graduates, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Kusugak. Item 3. Members' Statements. Moving on in the orders of the day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Mr. Clerk.

#### **Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions\***

##### **Return to Oral Question 304 – 3(3): Bilingual Education Models**

**Clerk** (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the Return to Oral Question 304 that was taken as notice during the winter 2012 sitting. Thank you.

\*See Appendix for full text of Returns to Oral Questions 304 – 3(3) filed with the Clerk.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Elliott.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a group of visitors who are in the Gallery today. Joining us today is a group of parliamentary interns from the House of Commons. These young Canadians from across the country are participants in the national Parliamentary Internship Program. They are in Iqaluit this week for their annual study tour to Nunavut.

Their names are:

Andrew Cuddy;

Samuel Gregg-Wallace;

François Plante;

Alexis Dubois;

Maxim Legault-Mayrand;

Grant McLaughlin;

Meghan Lawson;

Anna Laurence;

Ariane Wylie; and

Dominique Biron-Bordeleau

I would ask all members to join me in extending a warm welcome to our guests. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Welcome to the Gallery, and I look forward to meeting with you guys after the close of session today. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this time I want to take the opportunity to recognize two of my constituents from Pond Inlet. Many people in Nunavut and outside of Nunavut know these two individuals, but for me personally, they are even closer as they are my close relatives.

I would like to welcome these two Inuit who are active in healing circles and meetings throughout Nunavut and elsewhere, my older brother and his wife. Please welcome Mr. Thomas Ootook and Regilee Ootook to the Gallery. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Enook. Welcome to the Gallery. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Moving on in the orders of the day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

### Item 6: Oral Questions

#### Question 334 – 3(3): Fuel Supply Situation in Sanikiluaq

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

As the minister is aware, the community of Sanikiluaq is currently facing a shortage of diesel fuel until this year's

resupply can arrive by ship. Can the minister update me today on his department's plans to airlift fuel into the community until the annual resupply arrives? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the question. I could confirm that we have done dips in the fuel tanks in Sanikiluaq. It appears that we will have enough fuel in the community until about July and we are planning to fly in a fuel supply. Approximately 120,000 litres will be airlifted in June. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last fall, the Legislative Assembly approved \$100,000 in capital funding to increase Sanikiluaq's bulk fuel storage capacity during the current 2012-13 fiscal year. An additional \$300,000 is projected to be allocated in the 2013-14 fiscal year for this project. Can the minister indicate to me if this essential project is on track to be completed on schedule? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The community of Sanikiluaq is starting to run into an inevitable problem of no storage facility for fuel tanks. It's unfortunate, but we will begin

to run into this kind of issue throughout the territory as communities grow and people gain more mobile equipment, and so on and so forth.

Mr. Speaker, I could assure my colleague that we have three fuel tanks that will be sent into Sanikiluaq this summer to provide additional storage facility until such time that the permanent infrastructure could be completed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his response. As the minister is aware, our community's local co-operative was recently awarded the contract to act as the fuel delivery agent for Sanikiluaq. As the minister will appreciate, it is important that the Petroleum Products Division of his department maintains effective and open lines of communication with local fuel delivery agents. Will the minister commit to ensuring that his Petroleum Products Division officials keep in regular contact with the Co-op and the municipality to ensure that the community is kept informed on issues related to fuel supplies and delivery in Sanikiluaq? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the question, Mr. Rumbolt. Of course, our workers at the Petroleum Products [Division] of CGS will be and are in full communication with the head of the

delivery of fuel service in Sanikiluaq. As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, our staff from the PPD office in Rankin Inlet will be positioned in Sanikiluaq to make sure that the repositioning of fuel into Sanikiluaq goes as smoothly as possible. Between now and then and throughout the rest of the year, we will ensure that we have good communication lines open with Sanikiluaq until this is resolved. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Two years ago, I asked a detailed written question in the Legislative Assembly concerning fuel purchases and supplies in Nunavut. I will likely be asking a similar question before the end of the current spring sitting. The return to my written question indicated that in 2008 and 2009, the government was required to airlift over 900,000 litres of fuel to eight different communities. Can the minister indicate how many communities will require similar airlifts before this year's resupply takes place? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank you for that question. As this information becomes available, I will provide it to my colleagues so that any of the affected communities and their MLAs will be notified if such thing and such event happens this year other than that of Sanikiluaq. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 335 – 3(3): Pressures in the Justice System**

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure how to ask this question, which I feel on a personal level. Many Nunavummiut feel that we're keeping this issue alive, but we require a response. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Justice.

When the minister appeared before the Committee of the Whole earlier this year to present his department's proposed budget and business plan, concerns were raised about the impact that long delays in going to trial have on the mental health of people who are facing charges.

Mr. Speaker, according to information provided by the minister's department, almost 10 percent of the people who committed suicide in Nunavut since 1999 were facing charges at the time of their death.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Department of Justice: what work has the department undertaken to examine and understand the relationship between delays in the court system and the rate of suicide in the territory? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Minister Shewchuk.

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the Member for Amittuq for bringing that

very valid and serious concern to my attention. As we all know, suicide is a very difficult thing in Nunavut and the rates are much too high for our liking.

Suicide is an issue that has a lot of core roots. A lot of them, I think, are mental issues. Unfortunately, approximately 70 to 80 percent of crimes that are committed in Nunavut are alcohol and drug related. So I think the onus is upon all of us as a government, as the RCMP, as communities, and as parents to struggle, to deal, and to educate young people on the very disastrous causes of alcohol and drug abuse.

The department is always working with the RCMP and the Department of Health and Social Services to provide services and programs that will assist people who do have a need for mental health counselling. We will continue to do that. We do offer programs in our corrections facilities that address these issues to a degree. We need to do better.

So for all of us combined, I think, the onus and responsibility lies upon all of us to try and do a better job. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for that response. A lot of us look for reasons and the usual reasons are drugs and alcohol, but do we actually know why they turn to drugs and alcohol? Partly due to these reasons, people are always looking for something, even though it's short of their goals.

Addressing the issue of lengthy delays in the court system will require more resources in our legal aid system. In recent years, provincial and territorial ministers of justice have consistently called on the federal government to provide more resources for legal aid programs. Mr. Speaker, can the minister update the House today on the status of this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister of Justice, Minister Shewchuk.

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, as recently as six months ago, the federal government has appointed two additional judges to Nunavut, which brings our total of judges to six. In the Department of Justice, we have increased our court services staff by eight, which I believe will deal with the backlog in our court system and with our corrections overcrowding issues in the long term. Having these extra resources available to us hopefully and we expect will speed up court processes and trials taking place in our courts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. Indeed, I am not going to argue with you on this matter as I believe you're aware of the fact, minister, that when people are awaiting trial in the communities or even if they're not going to court, they try to use the RCMP as a means to deal with their problems and issues, but the police are

not trained to deal with mental health issues.

I believe what's happened in Igloolik is that a person with a mental disability suffered a bad experience. Has the Department of Justice tried to work with the Department of Health and Social Services to find a way to resolve some of problems these mentally handicapped people have, particularly in the smaller communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister of Justice, Minister Shewchuk.

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I have mentioned before, we do offer programs in our corrections facilities. We will be offering more programs in our new correctional facility in Rankin Inlet when people are being held for remand in court. We are also aware of the need for more programs in communities.

At present, communities, through their community justice committees, can submit proposals to offer assistance to both victims of crime and also people who are charged with crimes. There is a process that can be followed and proposals can be submitted to the Department of Justice.

This is a very sensitive and serious issue. Again, in conjunction with social workers working with the Department of Health and Social Services, we need to find ways to provide better services to the people who need them in our communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The response I just heard from the minister relates to people already in the present court system that are experiencing mental health issues and that there are programs available for them. Mr. Speaker, what I was trying to question was this: a person who is not in prison but who knows they're going to court at a certain date starts feeling frustration and anger, especially men. The reason that I want to understand and why I raised the question was that when people are on the court docket, they start suffering mental stress and problems.

Are there any programs or services available from the Department of Health and Social Services to provide counselling and whether it would be through the churches? Is the Department of Justice pretty well throwing the people who are supposed to go to court out to the wolves? The way it stands now, it seems like they're just left to deal with their own issues by themselves. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister of Justice, Minister Shewchuk.

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again a very serious issue and I do understand the member's concern. Mr. Speaker, I think that somebody who needs help, mental help, or needs help in other ways needs to identify that to somebody, to family members, to people. There is help through Health and Social Services, social workers, and community justice outreach workers who can assist people in need of those services. However, that individual or family member of that individual needs to identify that need. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 336 – 3(3): Status of New Conservation Officer for Coral Harbour**

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my questions to the Minister of Environment.

In April of this year, the conservation officer who was assigned to Coral Harbour departed from his position. As the minister is aware, conservation officers play a very important role in our communities and it is important that these positions not remain vacant for extended periods of time. Can the minister update me today on the status of his department's efforts to hire a new conservation officer for the community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. James Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Ningeongan for raising that question. Mr. Speaker, at this time, the advertisement for the position of a conservation officer in Coral Harbour is not out yet as we have a shortage of conservation officers in the community. It will be going out soon. We were looking for staff housing and we asked the local housing authority if housing can be provided in that community before we put the advertisement out.

Just like in any other community, there is a shortage of housing in Coral

Harbour. So at this time, the reason the ad is not out yet is also because of lack of housing. We have yet to decide whether we're going to advertise it without housing provided or if we should wait until we get housing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said earlier, we no longer have a conservation officer and this position has been vacant for quite a while. This means that most harvesters who want to sell their sealskins have to wait a long time. Can the minister indicate how his department will be providing services to the community of Coral Harbour until such time as a new conservation officer is hired? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Minister of Environment, Minister Arreak.

**Hon. James Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we have considered those scenarios, especially in communities that have not had a conservation officer for a while. Officers serving in other communities are asked to visit these communities for a period of time to provide these services and this is how we are dealing with this issue.

We can task other officers to make a trip to Coral Harbour to undertake these duties as required. This also happens in other communities in the same type of circumstance. Alternatively, when a position has been vacant for too long or if the community requires these services,

we can also hire temporary employees in the communities. That is another option. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. Can the minister update the House on the status of his department's Conservation Officer Trainee Program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Minister of Environment, Minister Arreak.

**Hon. James Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time, I cannot provide the exact number of students taking that course. I see that someone just gestured to me, but with respect to students taking the conservation officer courses, the officials at Nunavut Arctic College can provide that information as that is under their purview. I cannot provide the actual numbers at this time. Perhaps I have that information now.

>> *Laughter*

I just got this. There are three students currently taking this course. One conservation officer who graduated from the program was just hired. At this time, we have three students taking this particular course. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Arreak. It's good to see cooperation in the



government. Your final supplementary, Mr. Ningeongan.

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps I should be raising my question to the Minister of Justice.

Mr. Speaker, I would like some clarification. Can the Minister of Environment elaborate on whether or not there will be a temporary hire? Since his department is among the departments that hire summer students, does he agree that this can occur in Coral Harbour with the vacancy in that position? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Minister of Environment, Minister Arreak.

**Hon. James Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister of Human Resources is too far away, so I cannot get that information readily.

>> *Laughter*

I cannot answer that at this time as I do not have the information.

Mr. Speaker, these types of programs are handled by the local offices, and the programs offered by the government will be available if there is funding to operate the programs. If the position is able to be filled, it would most likely occur, but if there is no employee to administer this program, then it will not proceed in his community or in others in the same situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 337 – 3(3): Replacement of Taloyoak Air Terminal Building**

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Taptuna.

(interpretation ends) As the minister will recall, I asked questions in June of last year concerning the urgent need for a new air terminal building in Taloyoak. At that time, he indicated that the project is a priority for his department and that it “will be initiated as soon as the funding is available.”

Last fall, the Legislative Assembly approved \$50,000 in capital funding towards this project during the current 2012-13 fiscal year. Can the minister update me today on how his department plans to spend this funding? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Natilik for that very important question. Mr. Speaker, as you know, we have been working on planning and designing. We do have a planning and design budget for the ATB which will be undertaken in the next fiscal year. I will not quote the amount at this time, but as you know, Mr. Speaker, we have been having some issues with the lighting of the Taloyoak Airport’s airstrip. We have also been taking precautions to make sure that these airstrip lights are in working order. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Your final supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had asked this question: (interpretation ends) can the minister update me today on how his department plans to spend this funding?

(interpretation) I don't believe I got an appropriate answer. So therefore, I would like to ask the minister again. Yes, the airstrip lights are really bright now in Taloyoak because the airstrip lights have been on continually. However, how is his department planning on spending the funding? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, the initial funding is for the planning and design of the air terminal building and that's ongoing at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is: (interpretation ends) can the minister confirm that this project is at the top of his department's priority list for new ATBs in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As you know, in Nunavut, we

do have a major infrastructure deficit. In most communities, there's a real need for any type of infrastructure related to transportation, airports and ATBs being some of them. We do have many priorities and Taloyoak's ATB is one of them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Your final supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for the responses. (interpretation ends) Can the minister confirm that his department's 2013-14 capital estimates will include funding for the construction of a new air terminal building in Taloyoak? I think that's one of the Hamlet of Taloyoak's biggest questions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As you know, this government, including my department, has very limited access to infrastructure funds. There are many priorities, as I indicated, and very few resources to complete some of the major priorities that we're hoping to accomplish throughout Nunavut when it comes to infrastructure, marine facilities, airport infrastructure, and other things.

Mr. Speaker, I will commit to working on this issue once the planning and design for that is done. I will commit to working on getting the construction funds needed for Taloyoak's new ATB. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Oral Questions. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Oshutapik.

**Question 338 – 3(3): Dust Control of Community Roads**

**Mr. Oshutapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to wish a good afternoon to my fellow community residents. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Community and Government Services. At this time, my question revolves around an annual problem season. I imagine it is for all of Nunavut, but in our community, we're now starting to experience the road dust hazard.

I can never get used to the dust and if you meet anybody from Pangnirtung, they will probably ask the same questions that I have. I just want to remind you that dust can exasperate any existing respiratory problems. At the end of April this year, following the early melting of the snow, the roads started to pose dust hazards.

If the minister could provide a response, what has his department done to date to try to implement dust control methods that can be used in the communities for dust suppression and doing further road maintenance? What is the status of the plan that he alluded to in the past? Can he provide some details on how our community can best deal with the dust hazard through the dust suppression program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for raising that question. I don't think the dust issue will disappear any time soon among the communities. As communities increase their capacity and as residents become able to buy more equipment, such as four-wheeled ATVs and vehicles, I don't think they will be able to keep up with the maintenance required. That's the reason why we're still looking for dust suppressants and other methods.

To date, as per my previous statement last year related to dust suppression, I can only say the same thing. Hamlets are provided funding for this particular service. Once they receive this funding, they purchase salting equipment. I believe they looked for the best dust suppression methods the year before and they were identified to every hamlet.

Last year, there was a training course on applying this dust suppressant to ensure that it stayed on the roads. If the hamlets have road maintainers who took that course, then they would start applying these dust suppressants in the upcoming summer months. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Oshutapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. It's not a problem that's new to the department. At the current time, the dust suppressant application, in my opinion, just seems to be a money-wasting venture. Although you said there's funding allocated specifically for dust suppressant to the

hamlets, if this problem keeps recurring every year, it's just going to continue to eat away at our funding.

However, what I'm trying to raise with my question is that if we put asphalt on all the roads, it would remediate the dust problem once and for all. Iqaluit is a very good example. Once they paved the roads, it really suppressed the dust problem. Now, in Iqaluit, there is hardly ever any dusty days.

What I'm trying to prod the minister about is let's look at a more permanent solution rather than dealing with a recurring dust problem. So my question is: has his department considered this? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you. We have to keep looking for better solutions. I continually hear from the members about the best method, but if we were to pave all hamlets, we would have to set aside large amounts of funding. Paving is not a simple matter. You need to have the correct type of gravel and the proper drainage because the underlying ground can wash away.

Iqaluit is a good example. We have less dust problems, but now, when you're driving on the paved road, the problem is potholes. Over the past two or three years, that has already started to affect the paved road. Although it may look very easy to apply on the surface, you have to wait two or three years before you can actually start seeing other problems that result from paving the road.

The idea is very good, but paving every road in Nunavut would be an exorbitant cost and that's what is holding us back. So prior to making the decision about paving every road, we have to look at all alternative methods for suppressing dust. There aren't perfect solutions and we have tried to use the best methods to suppress dust. We're still looking for better ways in the communities.

Perhaps we may find something better that can help suppress dust. I believe, to say it in English, everybody is still looking for a "better mousetrap," but no one has succeeded. We will continue to look for better solutions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Oshutapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for that response. This is something we experience every year. Because it has such a very real impact, we have to look at alternative methods or even better solutions. Even in winter, we hardly get any snow covering the ground due to high winds. That's why I brought up the fact that at the end of April, we start to experience dust hazards.

The salt is not just salt; it is calcium chloride and contains other substances. So when it dries, the dust suppressant itself is included in the dust and may contribute to respiratory problems if it's inhaled. We know that money is the limiting factor here, but we have to also balance that with our lives because you cannot put monetary value on life. Although their cost may be exorbitant,

we have to look at more permanent solutions, especially where it can alleviate our constituents' respiratory systems.

I'm wondering if the minister has identified a number of communities that experience dust hazards more frequently than other communities and whether or not he has the number of pilot projects that he could provide to the House. Has he looked into this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Minister of Community Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to calcium chloride and whether it could affect people's health, I believe that is understandable. I'm not trying to get into every little detail and I believe the purpose is already noted. At this time, I don't have any information on whether calcium chloride presents a health hazard.

What I can say is that the product we're currently using, which is sent to practically every community, is considered the best dust suppressant outside Nunavut. Even in the south, not every road is paved. Where they have gravel roads, different solutions to dealing with dust have been looked at and that's what we're trying to use. What they have found is a result of many experiments in trying to deal with dust problems. It does assist the communities to resolve the dust problem and it does keep down the dust a lot.

We will continue to provide training courses, especially to people who apply

dust suppressants on community roads, and to try to further the application of this product to keep dust at a minimum. I know people have respiratory problems as I, too, have experienced that. I know it's especially the case for elders and children.

So with that being the case and based on your statements, we will continue to look for better dust control products. Even if it's not better, at least we will look for ways of applying this product better on the roads so that it does control the dust. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Oshutapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also like to thank the minister for that. We will expect that there will be more research to look at better dust control solutions.

Now, my question is with respect to the hamlets. Have you provided a list of options of products that communities can obtain? Perhaps you have a list of products that have been used and provide a recommendation as to the best product. Is this currently the practice?

Since it's generally windy in our community, it takes the product off the road very quickly and, with the sun and the wind, the product dries out quite quickly. If this is the best product that's available, then we will try to use it, but that's what I'm trying to ask.

What I would like to ask the minister is this: this product that can be used by other communities, do you believe in the effectiveness of this product, that if it

can be applied in one community, without looking at the environmental factors, it would also be good for another community? It doesn't work in our community, but maybe it will work in another community. Has the department looked into that, Mr. Minister? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, last year or the year before, I did provide this information. We also conducted a study on which product is the best dust suppressant and how we could provide this to all Nunavummiut.

There was research undertaken on this issue and the recommendation was that this product was the best, that this product was second, and that product was third. When they identified their effectiveness in this community, they didn't include any environmental factors. I understand your comments about windy spots because I live in a windy spot in Rankin Inlet.

So we looked at a product that could be applied in every community throughout Nunavut. That is the situation where we find ourselves. We have the best product currently available, but we will continue to look for new products and methods to suppress dust because everyone is always looking for a better solution to this problem.

It's quite obvious that communities outside of Nunavut also experience dust control issues. As I stated earlier, not every road is paved, even in the south.

So there are a lot of people looking for better methods and we will join those initiatives in looking for better dust control. We will also collaborate with local hamlets as we strive to control the dust in our communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Oral Questions. Member for Tununig, Mr. Enook.

### **Question 339 – 3(3): Airport Security**

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to follow up today on the issue of security at Pond Inlet's airport. As the minister will recall from our winter sitting, I drew his attention to concerns regarding vandalism of aircraft. Since that time, it is my understanding that his department has taken actions to address this situation. Could the minister update the House today on the status of this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the hon. member from Tununig for that question. Tampering with aircraft while they're parked overnight in some of these smaller communities, such as Pond Inlet, we take these issues very seriously where there's damage done to aircraft, vandalized, and theft.

Mr. Speaker, we're putting an alarm system in some of these Nunavut airports where aircraft are parked overnight. Of course, Mr. Speaker, as a department for Nunavut airports, we're footing the bills at this time and we're constantly talking and trying to improve the situations and concerns that these communities have. We're meeting and talking with the mayors and hamlet councils at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Enook:** *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Speaker. My question, Mr. Speaker, to the minister was: can you update as to exactly what has taken place since I raised the issue during the winter sitting in regard to securing the airport and aircraft that overnight in Pond Inlet? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I thank you for the clarification. Mr. Speaker, we have put in place a security guard in a couple of locations, for which the department is paying the bill. At this time, we're putting in security cameras and security alarms in communities, such as Pond Inlet, Igloolik, and Cape Dorset. At this time, there are ongoing discussions with the hamlets on how better to address the situation because for the most part, it's a very serious situation that we have to work together in addressing, not just as a department but with the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Enook:** *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Speaker. When I initially raised this issue in February, the minister indicated that his department "will be installing camera security systems in more airports in the upcoming fiscal year." I am sure that many of my colleagues in the House today will appreciate the minister's actions. Can the minister update the House today on which airports in Nunavut will be receiving security upgrades over the coming year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Tununiq for that excellent question. Mr. Speaker, as I indicated, Cape Dorset, Pond Inlet, and Igloolik, that's all within the Baffin region, there is more work to be done, but at this time, these are the three communities that were identified where airline carriers have selected for overnight parking. So we're concentrating on these three specific communities at this time in the Baffin region. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 340 – 3(3): Food Security**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Health and Social Services.

As I noted in my Member's Statement, the minister's department ensured that the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food had the opportunity to hear our government's concerns on the occasion of his recent visit to Canada. I applaud the minister for his commitment to this issue.

News reports have indicated that the UN Rapporteur received a presentation from his department titled "Achieving Sustainable Food Security in Nunavut." Will the minister commit to tabling a copy of this important presentation in the House during the current spring sitting? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for asking that question. Mr. Speaker, yes, I can commit to that. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, minister, for that commitment. As I also noted in my Member's Statement, the GN is working with a number of partners to establish the Nunavut Food Security Coalition. I applaud the government for recognizing that the concept of security for our communities and constituents must take into account human needs, and not simply military procurement. Can the minister indicate what role his department is playing in this coalition? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Health and Social Services' role in the coalition is to provide policy, advice, expertise, and leadership to the folks who are working on it, primarily the Poverty Reduction Group. So we're involved that way. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate what resources the government is investing into the issue of food security during the current fiscal year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Government of Nunavut, through Vote 4 funding, will be investing approximately \$483,000. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The issue of food security cannot be addressed by the GN alone, and I am very glad that the minister's department works very closely with the federal Department of Health on a number of issues, even as recently as May 23. It would appear that our MP, in a *National Post* issue, had resented being told how to fix things by an outsider who has no first-hand knowledge of the north. I



would like to know what our federal Minister of Health and federal MP is doing with her first-hand knowledge to help us in the north.

So my specific question to the minister is: can the minister indicate what resources and commitments have been made by the federal Department of Health to help us address food security in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This whole UN Special Rapporteur visit to Canada has raised very important issues, not just in Nunavut but across the north and across Canada. Food security is a top priority for the Government of Nunavut.

I recall, when I was a mayor of Cambridge Bay, one of the first items we raised was food security. It wasn't a buzzword at the time, but it became a buzzword over the years. We raised food security in the community and established a food bank. That was 10 to 12 years ago. Then when I became an MLA, of course, obviously similar to Mr. Elliott, I was very concerned about the food shortages and high prices in Nunavut.

I did a lot of research across Canada, with the support of some of my colleagues, and identified that half of the folks in Nunavut were living under the poverty line, the national poverty line, never mind in Nunavut. We know the cost of living in Nunavut is very [high].

In Cambridge Bay, I went on the research trail there and I found that the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs had done some research on food prices in Cambridge Bay. They identified that the cost for a food basket in Cambridge Bay was two to three times the cost in Edmonton. That was five or six years ago.

Mr. Speaker, near the end of the term of the First Assembly, we all talked about what Nunavut is doing to help people who have food security issues. We talked about starting a poverty reduction strategy. I am very proud to say that in this Assembly, in the term of this government, we have made that commitment. We are working on it. Although it's not happening overnight, it is happening. We've had all the round table discussions and debates.

When the UN Special Rapporteur visited Canada, I thought it was great because he raised awareness and helped focus some attention on Nunavut, which can only help us.

Mr. Speaker, in my earlier answer, I indicated to Mr. Elliott that the funding that we're using, Vote 4 funding, \$483,000, it would be funding that would come from the federal government through Health Canada, so we are working together on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Peterson. I see that you finished just in the nick of time. Members will note that the allotted time for question period has expired. We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Mr. Clerk.

**Item 8: Returns to Written Questions\***

**Return to Written Question 010 –  
3(3): Vacant Staff Housing Units**

**Return to Written Question 012 –  
3(3): Correctional Facilities,  
Recidivism Rates, and  
Rehabilitation Programs**

**Return to Written Question 013 –  
3(3): Government of Nunavut  
Responses to Resolutions Adopted  
at the 2011 Annual General  
Meeting of the Nunavut  
Association of Municipalities**

**Return to Written Question 014 –  
3(3): Suicide Prevention Activities**

**Return to Written Question 015 –  
3(3): Southern Hudson Bay Polar  
Bear Population Management**

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

**Clerk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the returns to the following written questions that were asked during the 2012 winter sitting. They are numbers 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, and No. 16. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Mr. Clerk.

\*See Appendix for full text of Returns to Written Questions 10 – 3(3), 12 – 3(3), 13 – 3(3), 14 – 3(3), 15 – 3(3), and 16 – 3(3) filed with the Clerk.

**Item 11: Responses to Petitions**

**Response to Petition 002 – 3(3):  
Staffing at the Igloodik Health  
Centre**

**Clerk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the response to Petition No. 2 – 3(3). Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills and Other Matters. Mr. Elliott.

**Item 12: Reports of Standing and  
Special Committees on Bills and  
Other Matters\***

**Committee Report 017 – 3(3): Report  
on the Review of the 2010-2011  
Annual Report of the Languages  
Commissioner of Nunavut**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have the honour today of presenting the report of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts on its review of the 2010-11 Annual Report of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Alexina Kublu is the Languages Commissioner for Nunavut. She assumed her duties as Languages Commissioner in January of 2009, and is now more than halfway through her term.

\*See Appendix for full text of Committee Report 17 – 3(3) filed with the Clerk.

The Languages Commissioner of Nunavut has three main areas of responsibility: the investigation and resolution of complaints relating to language rights, providing guidance and support to various bodies and institutions, and the administration of her office.

As you will recall, Mr. Speaker, the Languages Commissioner's annual report for 2010-11 was tabled in this House on October 18, 2011. The standing committee held its hearings on the Languages Commissioner's report from November 22 to 23, 2011.

I would like to thank the Languages Commissioner and her staff for appearing before us.

Mr. Speaker, I will take this opportunity for the benefit of all Members of the House and the listening public to highlight the recommendations that emerged during the standing committee's review of the Languages Commissioner's reports.

Mr. Speaker, the duties, responsibilities, and authority of the Languages Commissioner are established in legislation. Nunavut's new *Official Languages Act*, which was passed in this House in 2008, is not yet in force. The *Official Languages Act* that is in force today was inherited upon division from the Northwest Territories.

The *Inuit Language Protection Act* was also passed in this House in 2008, and some sections of the *Inuit Language Protection Act* are also not yet in force.

The status of the various pieces of legislation has led to some confusion

with respect to the current mandate of the Languages Commissioner and the extent to which she is able to pursue certain activities.

The standing committee's first recommendation is that the Languages Commissioner takes the opportunity provided with the presentation of her annual reports, during appearances before the Legislative Assembly and in other formal appearances to clearly express the current status of her mandate with respect to Nunavut's language legislation.

The standing committee maintains the view that in order to gain a greater appreciation of the workload and focus of resources within the Office of the Languages Commissioner as well as the effectiveness of her role, a significantly greater level of detail regarding the activities undertaken by the Languages Commissioner's office should be included in the annual report.

The standing committee's second recommendation is that the Languages Commissioner records, measures, and analyzes the nature, type, and number of activities conducted by her office on an annual basis and provides a clear and detailed summary of these, including detailed statistics as well as other supporting information, in her annual reports.

The standing committee's third recommendation is that the Languages Commissioner and her staff work to create benchmarks with specific objectives and establish criteria with which to evaluate progress towards meeting those objectives as they support language rights, and to report on her

office's progress towards those benchmarks in her annual reports.

With respect to the investigation and resolution of concerns relating to language rights, the standing committee's fourth recommendation is that the Languages Commissioner include in her annual report a detailed summary of the application and results of the procedures followed for each investigation conducted by her office.

Mr. Speaker, the standing committee's fifth recommendation is that the Languages Commissioner includes a detailed explanation of criteria used to determine the requirement for systemic investigations, the proposed process for conducting the systemic investigations, and the results of any systemic investigations undertaken in her next annual report.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that the Languages Commissioner clarify her working relationship with entities, such as government departments and institutions, Inuit organizations, language stakeholder organizations, as well as with the Minister of Languages.

Mr. Speaker, during the Languages Commissioner's appearance before the standing committee, committee members were pleased to note significant progress in providing assistance and support to the private sector in anticipation of upcoming language service requirements.

During the Languages Commissioner's appearance, standing committee members continued to raise a number of issues with respect to language services provided by federal entities and/or

federally-regulated agencies which deliver services in Nunavut, such as banks, airlines, and post offices.

The standing committee's sixth recommendation is that the Office of the Languages Commissioner be prepared to substantively address issues relating to the delivery of services in the territory's official languages by federal and federally-regulated entities.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I conclude the standing committee's report. I now move that the report of the standing committee be received by the House and entered into the record as read. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. It has been moved that the report of the standing committee be received by the House and entered into the record as read. Do members agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Speaker:** Thank you. The motion is passed. The report has been received by the House and shall be entered into the record as read.

Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

### **Item 13: Tabling of Documents**

#### **Tabled Document 175 – 3(3): Nunavut Impact Review Board's Review Process Map and Anticipated Timeline for the Kiggavik Project**

**Mr. Aupaluktuq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I noted in my Member's

Statement today, I wish to table a [copy] of the Nunavut Impact Review Board's updated Review Process Map and Anticipated Timeline for the Kiggavik Project. I encourage all members to review this document with care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Tabling of Documents. Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council, Minister Arreak.

**Tabled Document 176 – 3(3): 2012  
Annual Report for the Utility  
Rates Review Council**

**Hon. James Arreak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the 2012 Annual Report for the Utility Rates Review Council. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Arreak. Tabling of Documents. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

**Tabled Document 177 – 3(3):  
Statement of May 16, 2012 by the  
United Nations Special  
Rapporteur on the Right to Food**

**Tabled Document 178 – 3(3): Inuit  
and the Right to Food: Submission  
to the United Nations Special  
Rapporteur on the Right to Food  
for the Official Country Mission to  
Canada**

**Tabled Document 179 – 3(3):  
Correspondence of February 29,  
2012 to the Member for Quttiktuq  
from the Department of  
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern  
Development**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have three items to table, so I'll do them concurrently.

As I indicated in my Member's Statement, I wish to table today a copy of the statement made on May 16, 2012 by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food. I encourage all members to review this document with care.

As I indicated in my Member's Statement, I wish to table today a copy of the submission made by the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and the Inuit Circumpolar Council to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food for the Official Mission to Canada. The submission is titled "Inuit and the Right to Food."

As I indicated in my Member's Statement, I wish to table today a copy of the response that I received from the federal Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development concerning the special meeting that took place with Members of the Legislative Assembly in this Chamber on October 25.

I encourage all members to review all documents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Please send those documents up to the front.

Tabling of Documents. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Enook.

**Tabled Document 180 – 3(3):  
Photographs of Pond Inlet Marine  
Conditions**

**Mr. Enook:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) I wish to take this

opportunity to table another collection of photographs that clearly illustrate the conditions facing my constituents in Pond Inlet with respect to the lack of adequate marine infrastructure in the community. I strongly encourage the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation to review these with care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Enook. Item 13. Tabling of Documents.

**Tabled Document 181 – 3(3): 2011-2012 Annual Report of the Integrity Commissioner of Nunavut**

**Tabled Document 182 – 3(3): 2012-2015 Business Plan of the Office of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut**

**Tabled Document 183 – 3(3): Report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut on the September 12, 2011 By-Elections for the Constituencies of Iqaluit West, Pangnirtung, and Tununig**

**Tabled Document 184 – 3(3): Funding Valuation of the Retiring Allowances Fund as of April 1, 2011**

**Tabled Document 185 – 3(3): Funding Valuation of the Supplementary Retiring Allowances Fund as of April 1, 2011**

Thank you, Members. I have a number of documents to table today:

- The 2011-2012 Annual Report of the Integrity Commissioner of Nunavut;

- The 2012-2015 Business Plan of the Office of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut;
- The Report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut on the September 12, 2011 By-Elections for the Constituencies of Iqaluit West, Pangnirtung, and Tununig;
- The Funding Valuation of the Retiring Allowances Fund as of April 1, 2011; and
- The Funding Valuation of the Supplementary Retiring Allowances Fund as of April 1, 2011;

Thank you.

Moving on in our orders of the day. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Item 14: Notices of Motions**

**Motion 028 – 3(3): Extended Sitting Hours and Days – Notice**

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, May 31, 2012, I will move the following motion:

I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that the Speaker be authorized to set such sitting hours and days as the Speaker deems fit to assist with the business before the House during the spring 2012 sitting of the Legislative Assembly.

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

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

**Motion 029 – 3(3): Legislative  
Assembly Appointments and  
Revocations – Notice**

**Mr. Ningeongan:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, May 31, 2012, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Nattilik, that the Legislative Assembly make appointments and revocations to its standing committees and other positions.

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

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

**Item 15: Notices of Motions for First  
Reading of Bills**

**Bill 36 – Supplementary  
Appropriation (Operations &  
Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2012-  
2013 – Notice**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, May 31, 2012, that Bill 36, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2012-2013*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Peterson. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

**Bill 37 – Supplementary  
Appropriation (Capital) Act, No.  
2, 2012-2013 – Notice**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, May 31, 2012, that Bill 37, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2012-2013*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Peterson. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Item 16: Motions**

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

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

**Motion 028 – 3(3): Extended Sitting  
Hours and Days**

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that the Speaker be authorized to set such sitting hours and days as the Speaker deems fit to assist with the business before the House during the spring 2012 sitting of the Legislative Assembly.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Item 16. Motions. Mr. Ningeongan.

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

**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 029 – 3(3): Legislative  
Assembly Appointments and  
Revocations**

**Mr. Ningeongan:** Thank you, Members.

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 section 38 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act* provides that the Legislative Assembly shall appoint members to the Management and Services Board;

AND WHEREAS the Member for Iqaluit West has been selected to serve on the Executive Council;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Natilik, that the Legislative Assembly make appointments and revocations to its standing committees and other positions;

AND FURTHER I MOVE that the Member for Pangnirtung be appointed as member of the Management and Services Board;

AND FURTHER I MOVE that the appointments of Ms. Monica Ell as a member of the Management and Services Board, a member of the Standing Committee on Legislation, a member of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts, a member of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development, and an alternate member of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness be revoked.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. The motion is carried. Thank you.

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

**Item 17: First Reading of Bills**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request consent of this Assembly to waive the two-day notice requirement to allow for first reading of Bill 36, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2012-2013*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** The minister is seeking consent to waive the two-day waiting rule so that Bill 36 can be read today for the first time. Do members agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.



**Speaker:** Please proceed, Minister Peterson.

**Bill 36 – Supplementary  
Appropriation (Operations &  
Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2012-  
2013 – First Reading**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, colleagues. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 36, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2012-2013*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Peterson. The motion is in order. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 36 has been read for the first time.

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request consent of this Assembly to waive the two-day notice requirement to allow for first reading of Bill 37, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2012-2013*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Peterson. The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried. Oh! I'm sorry. I got a few of you guys, though, eh?

The member is seeking consent to waive the two-day waiting rule so that Bill 37 could be read for the first time. Do members agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Speaker:** Please go ahead, Minister Peterson.

**Bill 37 – Supplementary  
Appropriation (Capital) Act, No.  
2, 2012-2013 – First Reading**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It appears that a long layoff has made some of us a little rusty today on the first day. It is to be expected.

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 37, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2012-2013*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** I'm getting like a déjà vu moment here now.

The motion is in order. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? This time the motion is carried and Bill 37 has been read for the first time.

Moving on to Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

**Item 18: Second Reading of Bills**

**Bill 36 – Supplementary  
Appropriation (Operations &  
Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2012-  
2013 – Second Reading**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 36, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2012-2013*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes supplementary appropriations to defray the operations and maintenance expenses of the Government of Nunavut for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2013. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Peterson. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 36 is referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills.  
Minister Peterson.

**Bill 37 – Supplementary  
Appropriation (Capital) Act, No.  
2, 2012-2013 – Second Reading**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 37, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2012-2013*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes supplementary appropriations to defray the capital expenditures of the Government of Nunavut for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2013. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Peterson. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 37 is referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 21, 36, and 37 with Mr. Tapardjuk in the Chair.

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

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>> *House recessed at 15:36 and  
Committee resumed at 16:03*

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

**Chairman** (Tapardjuk)(interpretation): Thank you for coming back. Welcome to the Committee of the Whole. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bills 21, 36, and 37. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Mr. Aupaluktuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Today, we would like to deal with Bill 21. Once that's finished, we will report progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. We have Bill 21 to deal with. Are we in agreement?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Bill 21 – Miscellaneous Statutes  
Amendment Act, 2011, No. 3 –  
Consideration in Committee**

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. During Committee of the Whole, we have Stephen Innuksuk as the Committee Clerk and Mr. Chandler, our Law Clerk. We will deal with Bill 21. Minister Shewchuk, do you have opening comments? Minister Shewchuk.

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Yes, I do. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am here today to discuss the *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2011, No. 3*.

This bill corrects inconsistencies and errors in certain enactments of Nunavut, removes references to the Northwest Territories, repeals provisions that have ceased to have effect, and redrafts certain provisions to improve the wording in order to bring it in line with modern drafting standards. The bill improves clarity and sentence flow, and will result in easier translation into other official languages. 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 do. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Thank you. Welcome, Minister Shewchuk and your officials. For the record, please introduce your witnesses. Minister Shewchuk.

Minister Shewchuk, once again, please introduce your witnesses. Minister Shewchuk.

(interpretation ends) Give us five minutes. Bear with us; we will fix the problem.

(interpretation) In trying to fulfil our duties as Members of the Legislative Assembly, we tend to run into various

issues and technical difficulties. Thank you. I believe our system is back up and running.

Minister Shewchuk, please introduce your witnesses. Minister Shewchuk.

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. That just adds a little spice to everything.

I would like to introduce to my right, Norman Tarnow, the Deputy Minister of Justice, and to my left is Phillip Grassie, Legal Counsel for the Department of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Welcome, (interpretation ends) Deputy Minister Tarnow (interpretation) and Mr. Grassie. Welcome to the committee. Does the Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislation have comments? Mr. Ningeongan.

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Yes, I have comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) As Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislation, I am pleased to make some brief opening comments as we begin consideration of Bill 21, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2011, No. 3*.

The standing committee recognizes that the purpose of bills such as this is to correct inconsistencies and errors in certain Acts of Nunavut. Accordingly, the standing committee was pleased to have worked with the minister to amend the bill to delete subclause 19(16), which proposes to amend existing provisions in the *Mental Health Act* concerning the disclosure of a patient's health records.

The standing committee was of the view that these proposed amendments constitute a rewriting of the section in question and change the nature of the legal test that a judge would apply when deciding whether or not to authorize the release of certain documents. The standing committee was of the view that these proposed changes warrant being introduced in a standalone bill, which members look forward to considering following its introduction.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments. The standing committee recommends the passage of Bill 21, as amended, to all members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Before we begin the clause-by-clause review of Bill 21, I will open the floor to general comments. Are there any general comments? There doesn't seem to be any general comments. We will go to Bill 21, which is in your white legislation binders. I believe you have Bill 21 in front of you. I don't have a copy. I do have a copy now. Thank you. We will start reviewing (interpretation ends) Bill 21, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2011, No. 3*. Clause 1. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 2. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 3. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 4. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 5. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Go from page 3 to 21. (interpretation ends) Schedule A. (interpretation) Do you agree? That's in Bill 21.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Clause 6. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 7. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 8. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 9. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 10. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Go to page 22. (interpretation ends) Schedule B. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Clause 11. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 12. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 13. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Go to page 23. (interpretation ends) Schedule C. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Clause 14. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 15. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 16. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 17. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 18. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Go to (interpretation ends) Schedule D (interpretation) on page 23. (interpretation ends) Schedule D. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Clause 19. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Go to page 24. (interpretation ends) Schedule E. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Clause 20. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Go to page 27. (interpretation ends) Schedule F. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you.  
(interpretation ends) Clause 21.  
(interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 22. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 23. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 24. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 25. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Go to  
(interpretation ends) Schedule G  
(interpretation) on page 27.  
(interpretation ends) Schedule G.  
(interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you.  
(interpretation ends) Clause 26.  
(interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 27. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 28. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 29. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Page 28. Schedule H.  
(interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you.  
(interpretation ends) Clause 30.  
(interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 31. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 32. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 33. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 34. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 35. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 36. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 37. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Clause 38. (interpretation)  
Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Pursuant to Rule 62(2), are you agreed that Bill 21 can immediately be placed on the orders of the day for third reading?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. We have concluded this bill. Minister Shewchuk, if you have closing comments, please proceed. Minister Shewchuk.

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Just for clarification, I think it was on clause 33. There's a schedule that goes with that. Did we approve that schedule? It was Schedule I, the very last.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Please hold on, Minister Shewchuk, we're having a look at it now.

Thank you. Of course, you're the minister, so you know exactly what's happening here.

>> *Laughter*

Clause 33 on page 29. (interpretation ends) Schedule I. (interpretation) Do you agree? Mr. Ningark.

**Mr. Ningark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to Schedule I, Schedule A, where it speaks to the 29 health centres, (interpretation ends) "Name of Hospital," some of them have their own names, so I would like that clarified. For example, in Kugaaruk, it's not called the Kugaaruk Health Centre; it's called by another name. So I would ask that these titles be researched as to their accuracy. I agree with everything else; I just wanted to point that out (interpretation ends) for correction. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. We will take that concern and we will review that further. Thank you.

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

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, in Taloyoak, we call it the Judy Hill Memorial Centre, so I would like to see that changed on that schedule. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister Shewchuk, I believe, has noted that. Minister Shewchuk.

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. We have noted both of those and we will note any other concerns or mistakes that may

have been made and we can change that through an amendment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Are there any other comments on page 29? (interpretation ends) Schedule I. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Bill 21 can now be placed on the orders of the day for third reading. We will make changes at the appropriate schedule and they are duly noted. Thank you. Minister Shewchuk, do you have any closing comments? The floor is yours, Minister Shewchuk.

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Very briefly, I thank you and your committee for reviewing Bill 21. I think it's very important, as we move and grow in Nunavut, that we update all of our legislation and keep current and on top of this all the time.

I would like to thank the Department of Justice, especially the Legislation Division, Phillip and his people that he works with over there. There were over 31 Acts and 7 regulations that we amended and fixed up here, so it's a big job to do that. I would like to thank them very much and thank you all. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. I'm sure it takes a lot of work, but it didn't take very long to get that through.

Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses out.

What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Ningeongan.

**Mr. Ningeongan:** *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Chairman. I move to report progress. (interpretation) Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. There is a motion on the floor to report progress to the Speaker and the motion is not debatable. I will now rise to report progress to the Speaker. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. I will now rise to report progress to the Speaker. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Moving on in our orders of the day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Tapardjuk.

#### **Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 21 and I wish to report that Bill 21 can immediately be placed on the orders of the day for third reading. 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. Tapardjuk. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Thank you, Mr. Enook. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Minister Shewchuk.



**Item 21: Third Reading of Bills****Bill 21 – Miscellaneous Statutes  
Amendment Act, 2011, No. 3 –  
Third Reading**

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the hon. member from Kugluktuk, that Bill 21, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2011, No. 3*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 21 is ready for assent.

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

**Item 22: Orders of the Day**

**Clerk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a reminder for meetings for tomorrow, May 30, at 9:00 a.m., a meeting of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts, followed at 10:30 by a meeting of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development, and at eleven o'clock, a meeting of the Regular Caucus. All of these meetings are taking place in the Nanuq Boardroom.

*Orders of the Day* for May 30:

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 36
  - Bill 37
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 Wednesday, May 30, at 1:30 p.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 16:28*

# **Appendix – May 29, 2012**

## **Return to Oral Question 304 – 3(3): Bilingual Education Models**

**Asked by:** Ron Elliott, MLA (Quttiktuq)

**Asked of:** Hon. Eva Aariak, Minister of Education

**Date:** March 5, 2012

### **Question:**

Can the minister update the House on whether her department has ever reviewed and evaluated how these bilingual education models are working for each of Nunavut's communities?

### **Response:**

We continue to work with District Education Authorities and school administration on the implementation of bilingual education (language of instruction). This includes ensuring District Education Authorities are provided in-service on the models, the consultation process with communities, and selection of model (s) choice. For example, when the Bilingual Education Strategy was tabled, staff from the Department of Education provided in-service to every school and District Education Authority on bilingual education and the three model choices.

The consultation on the new Education Act considered Language of Instruction. With the Education Act now in force, the Department is working on the Language of Instruction regulations. They include the model choices available and details about how to reach a decision on which model (s) to offer in the community. The Education Act regulations have a review mechanism including a specific review timeline for the Language of Instruction regulation.

The Department of Education has implemented the following activities related to Language of Instruction and obtaining feedback from District Education Authorities and school principals.

#### **1) Staffing Plans**

- a. There are two types of staffing plans that school principals have to submit, Annual and Long Term (3 year plan).
- b. The annual plans detail the amount of instruction (%) in each language at each grade level and whether staffing is in place. The long term staffing plans also require the principal to determine what steps can be taken to meet the requirements of bilingual education at higher grades.
- c. The Department of Education reviews the staffing plans when submitted and works with principals to ensure that the requirements for bilingual education are being put in place.

- 2) **Community Consultation Report on Language of Instruction**
  - a. District Education Authorities were required to submit a consultation report in March 2010 to show what they did to consult the community on what Bilingual Education model should be implemented at the school(s).
  - b. This will be redone when the reviews are required, potentially set for 2015/16 and every 5 years thereafter).
  
- 3) **School Program Plan**
  - a. Principals are now required to submit annual school program plans in consultation with school staff, community and DEA
  - b. For the past 3 years, language of instruction has been a mandated goal for schools.
  - c. The School Program Plan outlines what steps will be taken to improve Language of Instruction in the school during the following school year.
  
- 4) **2 Times Annual Reports on Effectiveness of the School Program**
  - a. Principals are required to complete two annual reports on the effectiveness of school programs in consultation with school staff. The reports are due in November and again at the end of the school year.
  
- 5) **Principal's Monthly Report**
  - a. Principals report monthly on successes and challenges related to Language of Instruction (and other topics).
  
- 6) **Feedback to District Education Authorities on Bilingual Education Model Choices**
  - a. Feedback from the Department of Education will be provided to District Education Authorities once the Education Act regulations are approved. The draft regulations for Language of Instruction will be going out for Phase II consultation by the end of March, 2012. Consultation will occur for eight weeks and once feedback has been considered and any adjustments incorporated, the regulations for Language of Instruction should be in place for the 2012/13 school year.
  - b. The feedback on their Language of Instruction Models provides District Education Authorities with information on what enhancements may be required based on the documentation provided to the Department of Education.

## **Return to Written Question 010 – 3(3): Vacant Staff Housing Units**

**Asked by:** Joe Enook, MLA (Tununiq)

**Asked of:** Hon. Fred Schell, Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation

**Date:** February 22, 2012

### **Questions:**

1. Broken down by community and type of unit, how many Government of Nunavut staff housing units were vacant for a period of three or more consecutive months during the 2009-2010, 2010-11, and 2011-12 (to date) fiscal years?
2. Broken down by type of unit and category of expenditure, what is the average monthly cost of maintaining a vacant staff housing unit?
3. In circumstances where a staff housing unit has remained vacant for a period of 12 or more consecutive months, what is the Nunavut Housing Corporation's policy concerning the temporary allocation of such units for other purposes, including but not limited to the provision of public housing?

### **Responses:**

1. A number of units are vacant at any given time in most decentralized communities while awaiting the completion of staffing competitions. The NHC and GN HR have been working with success to ensure vacant units are only tied to staffing competitions nearing completion. All communities have vacant GN positions; therefore units must remain available to allow for staffing to occur.
2. The NHC leases approximately 1,100 units and owns 270 units as GN Staff Housing. For all units, tenants do not pay heat directly, but in most cases they do pay for electricity and water/sewer/garbage. In the case of vacant units, the additional cost to the NHC/GN is to perform vacant units checks and to pay the minimal amount of electricity (approximately \$30/month) consumed by a vacant unit.

The NHC and GN HR have been working with success to ensure vacant units are only tied to staffing competitions nearing completion. This has reduced the number of units being held vacant.

Typically, there is one vacant unit held for every two active staffing competitions. Provision of GN Staff Housing as Public Housing would reduce the housing available to the GN for its recruitment efforts. Temporary allocations have proven problematic in some cases in the past, whereby the process to vacate a unit when a tenant is unwilling can require up to a year.

Temporary allocations can be made in accordance with the provisions of the GN Staff Housing Policy for government purposes with the support of the Allocation Committee and the sponsorship of a government department or agency.

**Return to Written Question 013 – 3(3): Government of Nunavut Responses to Resolutions Adopted at the 2011 Annual General Meeting of the Nunavut Association of Municipalities**

**Asked by:** Louis Tapardjuk, MLA (Amittuq)

**Asked of:** Hon. Eva Aariak, Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs

**Date:** February 28, 2012

**Question:**

1. What were the Government of Nunavut's responses to the resolutions adopted at the 2011 Annual General Meeting of the Nunavut Association of Municipalities?

**Response:**

Response:

Please find attached the requested responses:

1. June 29, 2011 from Minister of Education
2. July 5, 2011 from Premier
3. August 12, 2011 from Minister of Economic Development & Transportation
4. February 20, 2012 from Minister of Finance
5. March 1, 2012 from Minister of Community Government & Services





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Minister of Economic Development & Transportation  
Ministanga Pivalliyuliyikkut Ingilrayuliyitkullu  
Ministre du Développement économique et des Transports

Sakiasie Sowdloopik  
President  
Nunavut Association of Municipalities  
P.O Box 4003  
Iqaluit, Nunavut  
[nam2011office@gmail.com](mailto:nam2011office@gmail.com)

AUG 12 2011

Dear Mr. Sowdloopik,

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to respond to some of your association's 2011 resolutions. Many of the issues you have brought forward are high on my department's agenda, and I am pleased to provide the following updates. For the sake of clarity, I have included the resolution above the response:

**Iqaluit Airport:**

*Therefore be it resolved that the Government of Nunavut commit to addressing the upgrading and expansion of Iqaluit's airport as soon as reasonably possible.*

*Be it further resolved that the Government of Nunavut commit to hiring persons with specialized P3 expertise to ensure that any P3 agreement for the Iqaluit airport will not unduly result in excessive cost overruns during the lifespan of the project.*

I am pleased to inform the Association that the Government of Nunavut is very committed to expanding and upgrading the Iqaluit Airport as soon as possible.

To that end, in 2010 we hired Price Waterhouse Coopers to develop and assess the business case for undertaking the project as a Private-Public-Partnership (P3).

Following up on the assessment of that business case, the Government of Nunavut is in discussions with a provincial entity set up specifically to ensure that projects are developed in such a way that risk of cost overruns and other uncertainties are kept to an absolute minimum, and that the viability of the project is monitored and assessed prior to every decision point.

In addition, this project is being assessed and monitored by PPP Canada, a federal crown corporation developed to assist in the development of sound private-public partnerships.

No decisions on funding construction of the project will be made until the Government of Nunavut and the advisors that have been brought onboard to assist in developing in are satisfied that it can be delivered successfully.

#### **Nunavut Community Airports:**

*Therefore be it resolved that NAM urge the Government of Nunavut to commit to addressing the upgrading and expansion of Nunavut community airports.*

The *Nunavut Transportation Strategy*, which my department uses as guidance in setting transportation priorities, recognizes how critical airports are to all communities in Nunavut.

My department has worked very hard over the past several years to raise the profile of these projects, and to have airports prioritized among other essential infrastructure.

We believe that we are making progress, and that we are just at the beginning of seeing some results in the community airports. NAM's support in this regard, through considering the state of their airports in their community sustainability planning will be very valuable as we move forward.

Recent projects have included full construction of the airport in Arctic Bay and major rehabilitations of the Arviat and Taloyoak airports. In addition, there are expansions in the works for Baker Lake, Rankin Inlet, and Cambridge Bay. Other projects will continue to enter the planning phase as these mature and get completed.

#### **Food Security:**

*Therefore be it resolved that NAM urge the Government of Nunavut and the Government of Canada to take the issue of food insecurity seriously*

I assure you that the government takes the issue of food security seriously, and that it will be a priority for Nunavut's Poverty Reduction Action Plan, to be prepared during the Poverty Summit November 28-30, 2011. As you know, On May 9, 2011 Premier Aariak announced immediate measures to address poverty reduction, including enhancements to the Community Breakfast Program and Parenting Support Programming, increases to the Social Assistance Program's food and clothing allowances, and a new Country Food Distribution Program to improve the availability of country food in communities. In the delivery of these new programs, and the Country Food Distribution Program in particular, we are working with other departments, Inuit organizations and Nutrition North Canada to ensure food security is a priority objective and that Inuit harvesting rights are protected.

### **Marine Infrastructure:**

*Therefore be it resolved that NAM lobby both the Federal Departments of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) and Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CANNOR) as well as the GN Department of Economic Development and Transportation to pursue and plan for development and constructions of deep sea ports, small craft harbours and breakwaters as well as repairs to docks in Nunavut.*

My department welcomes the support of your association on furthering marine development in Nunavut communities. Similar to the airport situation, consideration of marine infrastructure in the community sustainability planning will be an important component of our success in the long term delivery of these projects.

In July of this year I provided a response to your very similarly worded resolution from 2010, and nothing has changed since that. The text of that response is provided below:

To date, we have not had the resources available to construct these facilities on our own. Nevertheless, we have several initiatives underway which we believe will eventually lead to improved marine infrastructure.

Through collaboration with the federal Department of Transportation, Infrastructure and Communities, EDT is undertaking feasibility studies on port facilities in Pond Inlet, Rankin Inlet, and Cambridge Bay. These studies are expected to be complete before the fall of 2011.

The department has also completed studies, including preliminary design, on a port in Iqaluit. This work has been made available to both DFO, INAC and Transport Canada for their consideration, and will be a significant point of discussion with any mining development in the immediate area.

Within our own limited funding, the department has contributed funding to many communities to purchase and install floating docks. A contribution program to complete these installations and make other minor improvements to community harbours will be available this fiscal year.

Finally, the department, in partnership with the Department of Environment, continues to lobby and work closely with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to secure federal commitment to the harbours identified in *The Nunavut Small Craft Harbours Report*.

**Resolution Title: INAC Community Water Testing**

*Therefore be it resolved that NAM urge Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and the Government of Nunavut to address this issue as an urgent priority and to report back to the NAM Executive so that water testing and compliance issues are addressed in a satisfactory manner.*

Water testing and compliance are conditions of exploration and mining permits, which are issued by the federal government. As such, my department does not have a direct role in overseeing these activities. I have forwarded your concerns to our Minerals and Petroleum Resources Division, and they in turn will present them to their colleagues in INAC.

Once again, thank you for bringing these resolutions forward. Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you need further information on these matters.

Sincerely,



Hon. Peter Taptuna  
Minister of Economic Development & Transportation

Cc: Robert Long, Deputy Minister, ED & T



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Minista Maniliqiyini  
Minister of Finance  
Ministre des Finances

FEB 20 2012

Saklasie Sowdloapik,  
Chairperson of the 2011 Baffin Mayors' Forum  
Mayor of Pangnirtung  
Hamlet Council of Pangnirtung  
P.O. Box 253  
Pangnirtung, Nunavut  
X0A 0R0  
[sowdloapik@hotmail.com](mailto:sowdloapik@hotmail.com)

Dear Mr. <sup>Saklasie</sup> Sowdloapik:


Thank you for your letter providing me with details of Resolution 2011-10 from the 2011 Baffin Mayors Forum. Resolution 2011-10 speaks to the high cost of living in Nunavut and requests that the Government of Nunavut and Inuit Organizations pursue the reduction of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in Nunavut.

As you are aware, the GST is a federal tax. The Government of Nunavut (GN) does recognize the high cost of living in the territory and we do take these costs into account when making decisions about our own tax system. We do not charge a territorial sales tax, as you are well aware. Any decision to reduce the GST would be a federal decision.

In our work with the federal government, the GN is very clear about the increased burden that the high cost of living places on Nunavummiut. In particular, we are working with the federal Department of Finance and others to ensure that Nunavut's higher costs are taken into account when we discuss the renewal of the Territorial Formula Financing agreement, as well as other federal transfer arrangements, in 2014.

I will continue to work to ensure that the federal government considers Nunavut's high cost of living when making fiscal decisions that impact us.

Yours sincerely,

  
Keith Peterson, MLA  
Minister of Finance

c.c. Timmun Alariaq, Department of Community and Government Services

Box 2410, Iqaluit, NU  
X0A-0H0, Canada

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## **Return to Written Question 014 – 3(3): Suicide Prevention Activities**

**Asked by:** Ron Elliott, MLA (Quttiktuq)

**Asked of:** Hon. Eva Aariak, Minister of Education

**Date:** February 29, 2012

### **Preamble:**

On October 21, 2010, the Coalition of Nunavut DEAs passed Resolution A10-21-07: Suicide Alertness and Intervention Training. The resolution stated:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Nunavut Coalition of DEAs urges the Department of Education as a matter of the highest priority to make suicide alertness and intervention training available to all staff in Nunavut schools who wish to take it, as soon as possible and on an ongoing basis.

### **Questions:**

1. As of February 29, 2012, what actions have been taken by the Department of Education to follow up on the Coalition of Nunavut DEAs' Resolution A10-21-07?
2. As of February 29, 2012, how many Nunavut teachers and support staff have been trained in suicide alertness and intervention training?
3. As of February 29, 2012, broken down by grade, school, and community, how many suicide alertness and intervention training programs have been delivered in Nunavut?
4. As of February 29, 2012, how many Nunavut teachers and support staff have been trained as trainers in suicide alertness and intervention training?
5. As of February 29, 2012, how many Nunavut students have been trained in suicide alertness and intervention training?
6. As of February 29, 2012, what steps has the Department of Education taken to establish a business case and budget for the development of a plan of delivery to act on the Coalition of Nunavut DEAs' Resolution A10-21-07?

Response:

<b>ASIST Training</b>	
<b>Community</b>	<b>Number of Educators</b>
<b>Qikiqtani Region</b>	
Arctic Bay	1
Cape Dorset	3
Clyde River	3
Grise Fiord	
Hall Beach	4
Igloolik	3
Iqaluit	58
Kimmirut	2
Pangnirtung	1
Pond Inlet	46
Qikiqtarjuaq	1
Resolute Bay	2
Sanikiluaq	2
<b>Kivalliq Region</b>	
Arviat	7
Baker Lake	26
Chesterfield Inlet	
Coral Harbour	2
Rankin Inlet	9
Repulse Bay	1
Whale Cove	2
<b>Kitikmeot Region</b>	
Cambridge Bay	16
Gjoa Haven	8
Kugaaruk	47
Kugluktuk	4
Taloyoak	3

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

**Asked by:** Tagak Curley, MLA (Rankin Inlet North)

**Asked of:** Hon. Lorne Kusugak, Minister of Community and Government Services

**Date:** March 7, 2012

**Questions:**

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?

**Responses:**

Please see following sheets.



<b>RFP#</b>	<b>Community</b>	<b>Entities that Submitted Proposals</b>	<b>RFP Results</b>	<b>Commencement</b>	<b>Expiry</b>
2011-30	- Arctic Bay	Arqvartuq Services Taqqut Co-operatives Limited	Successful Unsuccessful	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
2011-31	- Cape Dorset	West Baffin Eskimo Co-operative Limited	Sole Proponent	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
2011-110-2	- Clyde River	LeeLie Enterprises	Sole Proponent	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
2011-33	- Hall Beach	Hall Beach Co-operative Limited Savik Enterprises Ltd.	Successful Unsuccessful	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
2011-34	- Igloolik	Savik Enterprises Ltd. Igloolik Co-operative Ltd.	Successful Unsuccessful	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
2011-35	- Kimmirut	Kimik Co-operative Limited	Successful	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
2011-36	- Pangnirtung	Pangnirtung Eskimo Co-operative Limited	Sole Proponent	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
2011-37	- Pond Inlet	Tununiq Co-operative Limited	Sole Proponent	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
2011-38	- Qikiqtarjuaq	LeeLie Enterprises	Sole Proponent	November 1/2011	October 30/2016

<b>RFP#</b>	<b>Community</b>	<b>Entities that Submitted Proposals</b>	<b>RFP Results</b>	<b>Commencement</b>	<b>Expiry</b>
2011-39	- Arviat	Padlei Cooperatives Limited Suluk General Contracting Northern Networks/Eskimo Point Lumber Arviat Inuit Enterprises Panainaaq Construction Limited	Successful Unsuccessful Unsuccessful Unsuccessful Unsuccessful	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
2011-40	- Baker Lake	Sanavik Co-operative Association Limited 946557 NWT Ltd. (Arctic Fuel Services)	Successful Unsuccessful	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
2011-41	- Chesterfield Inlet	Pitsiualik Co-operative Limited Aulajuq Limited	Successful Unsuccessful	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
2011-42	- Coral Harbour	Katudgevik Co-operative Association Limited Sudliq Developments Limited JJ Auto Repair	Successful Unsuccessful Unsuccessful	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
2011-43	- Rankin Inlet	M & T Enterprises	Sole Proponent	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
2011-44	- Repulse Bay	Naujat Co-operative Limited	Sole Proponent	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
2011-45	- Sanikiluaq	Mitiq Co-operative Association Limited Serge Pagé	Successful Unsuccessful	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
2011-46	- Whale Cove	Issatik Co-operative Limited	Sole Proponent	November 1/2011	October 30/2016

<b>RFP#</b>	<b>Community</b>	<b>Entities that Submitted Proposals</b>	<b>RFP Results</b>	<b>Commencement</b>	<b>Expiry</b>
2011-47	- Gjoa Haven	Qikiqtaq Co-operative Association Limited	Successful	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
		Charlie Cahill/5186 Nunavuat Ltd.	Unsuccessful		
2011-48	- Kugaaruk	Koomiut Co-operative Association Limited	Sole Proponent	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
2011-49	- Kugluktuk	Kugluktuk Co-operative Limited	Sole Proponent	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
2011-50	- Taloyoak	Paleajook Eskimo Co-operative Limited	Successful	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
		Lyll Construction Limited	Unsuccessful		
2011-51	- Resolute Bay	953731 NWT Ltd.	Sole Proponent	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
2011-52	- Grise Fiord	Oogliit Sanavik	Successful	November 1/2011	October 30/2016
		Grise Fiord Inuit Co-op Ltd.	Unsuccessful		
		953731 NWT Ltd.	Unsuccessful		



# **Reports of Standing and Special Committees**

**Standing Committee on  
Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts**

***Report on the Review of the  
2010-2011 Annual Report of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut***

**Third Session of the Third Legislative Assembly of Nunavut  
May 2012**

**Ron Elliott, MLA  
Chair**

**Louis Tapardjuk, MLA  
Co-Chair**

**Moses Aupaluktuq, MLA  
Tagak Curley, MLA  
Monica Eil, MLA  
Joe Enook, MLA  
John Ningark, MLA  
Johnny Ningeongan, MLA  
Hezakiah Oshutapik, MLA  
Allan Rumbolt, MLA  
Jeannie Ugyuk, MLA**

**[www.assembly.nu.ca](http://www.assembly.nu.ca)**

Mr. Speaker, I have the honour today of presenting the report of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts on its review of the 2010-2011 Annual Report of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Alexina Kublu is the Languages Commissioner for Nunavut. She assumed her duties as Languages Commissioner in January of 2009, and is now more than halfway through her term.

The Languages Commissioner's responsibilities are established by two pieces of Nunavut legislation: the *Official Languages Act* and the *Inuit Language Protection Act*. It is important to note that Nunavut's new *Official Languages Act* is not yet in force in the territory. In addition, certain sections of the *Inuit Language Protection Act* come into effect at different times.

The Languages Commissioner of Nunavut has three main areas of responsibility: the investigation and resolution of complaints relating to language rights, providing guidance and support to various bodies and institutions, and the administration of her office.

As you will recall, Mr. Speaker, the Languages Commissioner's Annual Report for 2010-2011 was tabled in this House on October 18, 2011.

The Standing Committee held its hearings on the Languages Commissioner's report from November 22 to 23, 2011. Committee Members were pleased to have had the opportunity to discuss various issues relating the Languages Commissioner's mandate and the activities of her office. The hearings were open to the public and news media to observe and were broadcast on local cable television. Transcripts from the Standing Committee's hearings were posted to the Legislative Assembly's website.

Mr. Speaker, the Standing Committee reviewed the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 Annual Reports of the Languages Commissioner in September of 2010. The Standing Committee presented its report of this review on October 28, 2010 and brought forward a number of recommendations. Committee Members have noted that while some of those recommendations appear to have been taken into consideration in the 2010-2011 Annual Report of the Languages Commissioner, others have not.

Mr. Speaker, this was Ms. Kublu's second appearance before the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee's review builds on themes that emerged in its prior review of the Languages Commissioner's annual reports.

Mr. Speaker, the duties, responsibilities and authority of the Languages Commissioner are established in legislation. Nunavut's new *Official Languages Act* which was passed in this House in 2008, is not yet in force. The *Official Languages Act* that is in force today, was inherited upon division from the Northwest Territories. The *Inuit Language Protection Act* was also passed in this House in 2008, and some sections of the *Inuit Language Protection Act* are also not yet in force. The status of the various pieces of legislation has led to some confusion with respect to the current mandate of the Languages Commissioner and the extent to which she is able to pursue certain activities.

**Standing Committee Recommendation #1:**

The Standing Committee recommends that the Languages Commissioner take the opportunity provided with the presentation of her annual reports, during appearances before the Legislative Assembly and in other formal appearances to clearly express the current status of her mandate with respect to Nunavut's language legislation.

The Standing Committee maintains the view that in order to gain a greater appreciation of the workload and focus of resources within the Office of the Languages Commissioner as well as the effectiveness of her role, a significantly greater level of detail regarding the activities undertaken by the Languages Commissioner Office should be included in the annual report.

**Standing Committee Recommendation #2:**

The Standing Committee recommends that the Languages Commissioner records, measures and analyzes the nature, type and number of activities conducted by her Office on an annual basis and provides a clear and detailed summary of these, includes detailed statistics as well as other supporting information in her annual reports.

The Standing Committee appreciated the level of description provided for the various activities conducted by the Office of the Languages Commissioner in 2010-2011. For some activities, however, the intended purpose or objective of the initiative was left somewhat vague or unclear. Members further noted that certain statements made in the Annual Report were broad generalizations that did not appear to be substantiated by factual information or specific analysis.

**Standing Committee Recommendation #3:**

The Standing Committee recommends that the Languages Commissioner and her staff work to create benchmarks with specific objectives and establish criteria with which to evaluate progress towards meeting those objectives as they support language rights, and to report on her Office's progress towards those benchmarks in her annual reports.

With respect to the investigation and resolution of concerns relating to language rights, the Languages Commissioner's 2010-2011 report indicated that her office had received a total of 12 concerns during the year, two of which were inadmissible. While the report did provide some detail on the nature of the concerns it was not clear how the investigative process was followed for each case.

**Standing Committee Recommendation #4:**

The Standing Committee recommends that the Languages Commissioner includes in her annual report a detailed summary of the application and results of the procedure followed for each investigation conducted by her Office.

Mr. Speaker, the Languages Commissioner's 2010-2011 Annual Report indicated that systemic investigations into language services provided by the Department of Health and Social Services and the Department of Human Resources would be conducted once the new *Official Languages Act* comes into force.

Standing Committee Members expressed some concern that the 2010 – 2011 Annual Report of the Office of the Languages Commissioner did not provide any specific detail for which criteria were met in order to determine the need for such investigations and further, did not include any detail with respect to the focus or process for conducting the investigations.

**Standing Committee Recommendation #5:**

The Standing Committee recommends that the Languages Commissioner includes a detailed explanation of criteria used to determine the requirement for systemic investigations, the proposed process for conducting the systemic investigations and the results of any systemic investigations undertaken in her next annual report.

It is important that the Languages Commissioner clarify her working relationship with entities such as government departments and institutions, Inuit organizations, language stakeholder organizations as well as with the Minister of Languages. For example, Standing Committee members noted a number of references in the Languages Commissioner's Annual Report to the fact that the new *Official Languages Act* is not yet in force, however it was not clear what steps her Office had taken to engage the Minister of Language or other government representatives to address this issue.

Given that it is a part of the Languages Commissioner's mandate to provide advice to the Minister of Languages, government departments and institutions on language-related issues, the Standing Committee anticipates that the Languages Commissioner will increase her efforts in this area and report on them in the future.

Mr. Speaker, during the Languages Commissioner's appearance before the Standing Committee, Committee Members were pleased to note significant progress in providing assistance and support to the private sector in anticipation of upcoming language service requirements. In fact, Committee Members noted that the only recommendations in the Languages Commissioner's 2010-2011 Annual Report addressed the needs of the private sector. Standing Committee Members encourage the Languages Commissioner to continue to work with non-government entities regarding the requirements of the *Inuit Language Protection Act*. Members further encourage the Languages Commissioner to place a priority on assisting entities to meet legislated requirements in industries where public safety issues are critical, such as the mining industry and the airline industry.

During the Languages Commissioner's appearance, Standing Committee Members continued to raise a number of issues with respect to language services provided by federal entities and or federally-regulated agencies which deliver services in Nunavut, such as banks, airlines, and post offices. Mr. Speaker, the Committee encourage the Languages Commissioner to give thorough consideration to this issue and be better prepared to provide informed and evidence-based advice, direction and mediation in this area.

**Standing Committee Recommendation #6:**

The Standing Committee recommends that the Office of the Languages Commissioner be prepared to substantively address issues relating to the delivery of services in the territory's official languages by federal and federally-regulated entities.

Mr. Speaker, the mandate of the Office of the Languages Commissioner is supported by a budget which is approved by the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. In its report on the review of Languages Commissioner's 2009-2010 Annual Report, the Standing Committee on Oversight on Government Operations and Public Accounts had recommended that the Languages Commissioner prepare a detailed business plan and budget to support the mandate of her Office. The Standing Committee understands that the Languages Commissioner's 2012-2015 Business Plan and Budget much more closely conforms to current standards and commends the Languages Commissioner and her staff for significant improvements in this area.

Mr. Speaker, that concludes the Standing Committee's report. I move that the report of the Standing Committee be received by the House.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.