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Official Report

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Tuesday, February 26, 2013

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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 and Heritage;
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 Qulliq
Energy Corporation; 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 Workers'
Safety and Compensation Commission*

John Ningark

(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)

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*

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Iqaluit, Nunavut**Tuesday, February 26, 2013****Members Present:**

Honourable Eva Aariak, Honourable James Arreak, Mr. Moses Aupaluktuq, Mr. Tagak Curley, 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, Mr. Fred Schell, Honourable Daniel Shewchuk, Mr. Louis Tapardjuk, Honourable Peter Taptuna, Honourable Hunter Tootoo, Ms. Jeannie Ugyuk.

>>House commenced at 13:31

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>>Prayer

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. (interpretation ends) Before we proceed, I would like to read the following letter that I received from the Commissioner of Nunavut. It says:

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 47, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2012-2013*;

- Bill 48, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 1, 2013-2014*; and
- Bill 49, *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2013-2014*.

Signed sincerely,

Edna Elias
Commissioner of Nunavut.

I would like to welcome everyone back to the Assembly. I hope you had a good break.

Again, before we proceed with the orders of the day, I wish to make a statement.

As members will recall, the 2012 recipients of the Order of Nunavut were Mr. Charlie Panigoniak and Ms. Kenojuak Ashevak.

Mr. Panigoniak's investiture ceremony took place in this Chamber on September 20.

Following the adjournment of our recent fall sitting, I had the honour of travelling to Cape Dorset with Commissioner Elias to preside over the investiture ceremony for Ms. Ashevak.

I can advise the House that the ceremony was a moving experience for me and all who were in attendance.

As the House is aware, Ms. Ashevak passed away shortly after her investiture. I know that all members join me in paying tribute to her many accomplishments, and I am confident that the Member for South Baffin will be offering further

reflections on Ms. Ashevak's life and career at the appropriate time.

I am pleased to take this opportunity to announce that nominations for the Order of Nunavut reopened last month. Information concerning the nomination process is available from the offices of Members of the Legislative Assembly and can be downloaded from the Assembly's website. Nominations close on May 17 of this year. I encourage all Nunavummiut to consider nominating a deserving individual.

My colleagues and I on the Order of Nunavut Advisory Council look forward to considering the nominations of distinguished Nunavummiut and I look forward to announcing this year's recipients later this year.

We will now proceed with the orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 223 – 3(3): Notice of Budget Address

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to Nunavummiut, especially my constituents in my Cambridge Bay riding.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the House that on Wednesday, February 27, 2013, I will be delivering the Budget Address. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Education, Minister Aariak.

Minister's Statement 224 – 3(3): Pathway to Adult Secondary School Graduation

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would like to welcome my constituents in Iqaluit East and all Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, there is a shortage of skilled workers in Nunavut. We are preparing to welcome billions of dollars in investment in our mining sector. Will it be Nunavummiut who will fill the jobs of building and operating these mines or will we be forced to import skilled workers from elsewhere?

We know there are Nunavummiut in every one of our communities who want to work but who lack the skills they need to land a job. As we take action on *Tamapta*, this government is helping more Nunavummiut to graduate from high school. My department is developing a new method for adults to achieve the Nunavut secondary school diploma called the Pathway to Adult Secondary School Graduation, or PASS for short.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, PASS is a process that will be unique to every individual. Depending on a person's background and experiences, it may include recognition of prior learning assessment, literacy training, adult basic education, and completion of high school courses. PASS will enable adult learners to meet Nunavut's high school graduation requirements and earn their diploma. With their diploma in hand, more Nunavummiut will have access to university and college programs throughout Canada, opening up a world of possibilities.

Mr. Speaker, the PASS initiative is an important achievement of this government. It will make a lasting contribution to our efforts to reduce poverty. It will qualify more Nunavummiut for jobs in our public service so that we achieve our land claims commitments on Inuit employment. And it will strengthen our made-in-Nunavut workforce so that we can build a strong economy on prosperity for future generations of Nunavummiut. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Aariak. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister with responsibility for Homelessness, Minister Ell.

**Minister's Statement 225 – 3(3):
Raising Awareness around
Nunavummiut Experiencing
Homelessness**

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, people of Iqaluit West, and welcome. Thank you. I want to welcome my fellow MLAs who had travelled to Iqaluit.

Mr. Speaker, the number of individuals experiencing homelessness in Nunavut is alarming. More than 1,200 Nunavummiut are in need of shelter and acute overcrowding presents an additional challenge to those individuals who are housing vulnerable.

I invite you and my fellow members to the Qayuqtuvik Soup Kitchen during lunch hour on Thursday, March 7, to help raise awareness around the

challenges faced by at-risk and homeless Nunavummiut who live in Iqaluit, and how essential the various services and agencies are to their well-being and to the health of our communities.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the Qayuqtuvik Soup Kitchen opened in 2009 and, since that time, has served more than 60,000 meals to individuals experiencing food insecurity and who are at risk or homeless. The soup kitchen serves approximately 60 to 80 people per day for lunch five times a week and dinner on the weekends.

Mr. Speaker, community-based organizations, such as the soup kitchen, Niqinik Nuatsivik Nunavut Food Bank, Tukisigiarvik Society Friendship Centre, and the other two homeless shelters, the Sivummut House for women and children and the Oqota Men's Shelter, cannot survive without the support and commitment of our community members.

I encourage you to join me on this day to show our support to the agencies whose existence is crucial to providing assistance to Nunavummiut experiencing homelessness and to recognize the Government of Nunavut's commitment in helping our partners in the fight against homelessness.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, these organizations also accept any cash donations. Currently, they are selling raffle tickets, so I further urge my fellow MLAs to purchase these raffle tickets to assist the food bank charities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Ell. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister

responsible for Culture and Heritage,
Minister Arreak.

**Minister's Statement 226 – 3(3): Keep
Our Language Strong – Speak
Inuktit Inuit Language Week
2013**

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say “good
afternoon” to my constituents in Clyde
River and Qikiqtarjuaq. Mr. Speaker,
from February 18 to 22, Nunavummiut
celebrated Inuit Language Week
throughout the territory under the theme
“Keep our language strong, speak
Inuktit!”

I am proud to report that the Department
of Culture and Heritage coordinated a
number of activities, including the
production of a colouring book about an
Inuit legend and the launch of a birthday
song CD. The goal is to foster the use of
Inuktit among our children, particularly
in the home, and promote pride in our
Inuit culture and identity.

The department also collaborated with a
number of stakeholders, including the
Office of the Languages Commissioner
and the Inuit Language Authority, on a
special CBC broadcast on traditional
terminology.

Mr. Speaker, although language week is
now over, I urge all Nunavummiut to
keep our language strong by speaking
Inuktit every day. Thank you, Mr.
Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak.
Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Item 3.

Members' Statements. Member for
South Baffin, Mr. Schell.

Item 3: Members' Statements

**Member's Statement 367 – 3(3):
Tribute to Kenojuak Ashevak**

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I
rise today to pay tribute to Kenojuak
Ashevak.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin this
tribute by expressing my appreciation to
you and the Commissioner for having
travelled to Cape Dorset last November
to preside over Kenojuak Ashevak's
investiture into the Order of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, Ms. Ashevak
passed away earlier this year in the
company of her family.

Mr. Speaker, Kenojuak Ashevak was
one of Canada's most distinguished
artists. During her many decades of
accomplishments, Kenojuak Ashevak
received numerous awards in recognition
of her work.

In 1967, she was made an Officer of the
Order of Canada. In 1982, she was
promoted to Companion of the Order of
Canada, which recognizes the highest
degree of service to the nation or
humanity.

Mr. Speaker, Kenojuak Ashevak was an
inspiration to many generations of young
artists in Cape Dorset and other
communities. Her work, which is
recognized around the world, represents
the best of Inuit culture, creativity,
imagination, and inspiration.

Mr. Speaker, I had the honour of being in attendance at the memorial service for Kenojuak Ashevak that was held last month in Cape Dorset. The community came together to share their memories of her countless contributions and to honour her remarkable legacy, which will endure for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in paying tribute to the memory of Kenojuak Ashevak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 368 – 3(3):
Congratulations to Father Toni
Krotki**

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My constituents in Amittuq, particularly in Igloolik, are probably viewing the televised session; however my constituents in Hall Beach can't view the channel.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to thank my *Annuraaqatik*, the Minister of Environment, for being able to come to Igloolik and Hall Beach to meet with the wildlife officials. It's always pleasant to see the ministers when they come into our communities.

Mr. Speaker, the reason I rise today in the House is that in Igloolik, especially my constituents, there are over 700 Roman Catholic parishioners. We were very pleased that Father Toni Krotki was elected as bishop for the Churchill Hudson's Bay Diocese.

In Igloolik, people had a hard time dealing with the Roman Catholic Church, particularly with respect to past abuses to our fellow residents in our communities, especially for our community of Igloolik. It is clear that the new bishop will experience hardships since he will have to impact many of his followers here in Nunavut to try to overcome this hurdle of past abuse and problems. We will continue to support the new bishop and won't abandon his efforts to meet these challenges.

However, Mr. Speaker, what I want to voice now is to encourage Toni on behalf of my constituents. We call him Toni, not Father Toni or Ataataa Toni; just Toni. I urge him to work hard on behalf of his parishioners. I believe he is now in his 40s and I imagine he will work until he is 75, just like his predecessors, and become an elderly priest, as he is quite young.

We are quite aware that his duties will be quite difficult, but I want to express our pride in his appointment on behalf of my constituents in Igloolik and Hall Beach. Further, we want to provide assistance to heal these past abuses here in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Member's Statement 369 – 3(3):
Reflections on Democracy in
Baker Lake**

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to offer some reflections on democracy in Baker Lake.

Mr. Speaker, residents of Baker Lake and other Nunavut communities exercised their fundamental democratic rights last year on the occasion of the territory's 2012 municipal elections.

Mr. Speaker, over 500 ballots were cast in Baker Lake for the position of mayor. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the candidates who had the courage and the commitment to stand for election in the community.

Mr. Speaker, the privilege of public service is a responsibility that cannot be taken lightly. I want to express my support for the new leadership of Baker Lake's municipal council and to reiterate my longstanding commitment to working with the community to make Baker Lake a better place for all of its people.

Mr. Speaker, I have risen in this House on a number of occasions to address the needs of the community in such areas as infrastructure enhancements, economic development, environmental protection, social progress, financial transparency, and political accountability.

Later today at the appropriate time, I will be tabling an important resolution that was passed by the municipal council one week ago concerning the issue of community infrastructure.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to vigorously representing the community's priorities, goals, and aspirations in the months ahead.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating the members of Baker Lake's new municipal council. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Nattilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Member's Statement 370 – 3(3):
Women's World in Nunavut**

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To my constituents in Taloyoak and Gjoa Haven, I wish you a good day. My dear son and my granddaughter celebrated their birthdays recently. I hope they have a joyous birthday and I love them very much. I wish them a special day.

I'm going to be speaking about women's world in Nunavut. Women in the Nattilik area feel that these statements are part of their lives and this is the meaning of these words.

(interpretation ends) The reality of a life of a typical woman in Nunavut is astounding.

A woman usually outlives a spouse and takes care of grandchildren and adult children.

A woman usually has to be a peacekeeper for her adult children who are in an abusive relationship.

A woman is usually the main go-to when things get tough on family issues.

A woman is usually a victim of sexual abuse as a young child or teen and carries on with scars to be the heart and soul for her family.

Too often, a woman is murdered in Nunavut by a partner or spouse.

A woman is the caretaker for her children, parents, etcetera, when the abusive spouse is incarcerated and no support is given or mandated.

As an MLA for Nattilik, I applaud the strength of the women in Nunavut and urge you to voice your concerns to your respected MLA for programming and services for future generations to come. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 371 – 3(3): Polar Bears Are Not Endangered

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to the residents of Rankin Inlet. I believe they're experiencing good weather at this time, as well as here in Iqaluit.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reiterate our position on polar bears issues. In particular, I don't want this aspect forgotten in the debate. Here in Nunavut, our culture is an ancient culture which has depended on animals for their survival. We do have legislation pertaining to wildlife, but Inuit have further customary laws related to respecting all animals, especially polar bears. It is part of our Inuit culture with associated laws and Inuit will continue to practise their culture, especially our hunters who depend on animals.

Qallunaat continue to maintain that certain species are in decline, predominantly the polar bears, and that we ought to provide food to them.

However, in our lives, our elders have advised us from centuries ago, "Please do not feed wildlife." We will continue to abide by this customary law since Inuit have many traditions and laws related to wildlife. If Inuit were to try to provide food for this species, it would actually endanger Inuit.

Mr. Speaker, I wanted to state this fact: polar bears are not threatened here in Nunavut. (interpretation ends) This is not about science; it's a fact. (interpretation) Many polar bear populations are increasing. Due to this reason, I want to make my statement on this issue. Although animal rights activists maintain that polar bears are threatened and that meat should be provided to ensure their survival, in accordance with Inuit customary laws, we will follow what we have practised from time immemorial. Wildlife should never be fed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Members' Statements. Member for Kugluktuk, Mr. Taptuna.

**Member's Statement 372 – 3(3):
Gathering of Women in
Kugluktuk**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues and Nunavummiut, and good morning to Kuglukturmiut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the Kugluktuk Women's Group in their initiative of hosting a local planned gathering titled, "The Three L's: Live, Laugh, and Love." This event brought together the women of Kugluktuk, with ages ranging from 13 and older.

The purpose of the gathering was to bring women together to share and take pride in the skills and in the knowledge that the women of Kugluktuk community have, and to acknowledge that as a community, change must start and begin with those living there. So, Mr. Speaker, the foundation of the gathering was on the belief that change begins with us at the community level.

Mr. Speaker, each day began with shared lunches prepared by volunteers and group sessions were led by a community resident sharing her knowledge and experiences that led into group discussions on such topics as how families live and other aspects of living in the community.

Mr. Speaker, each day, the discussions were recorded and then developed into a strategic plan for the Kugluktuk Women's Group for the next five to ten years of planning.

On the last day of the gathering, it finished off with a banquet.

I would like to take this time to thank everyone who participated in the discussions. I would also like to thank the women of Kugluktuk who took the time to arrange and organize this special event. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Taptuna. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit West, Ms. Ell.

**Member's Statement 373 – 3(3): New
Constituency Office in Building
723**

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good afternoon" to my constituents as it is heading towards coffee in Iqaluit West.

Mr. Speaker, many of my constituents took the opportunity to attend the grand opening of my new constituency office here in Iqaluit. To my constituents who haven't visited yet or who haven't heard about this move, I want to let you know that my constituency office has now been moved to the middle of Iqaluit West in the house numbered 783.

I welcome all of my constituents to come and visit my office at any time, as I am able to represent them at any time whenever this service is required. I also thank them for this opportunity to represent them. Furthermore, I want to remind my constituents that I am available at any time, that they can call my office at any time or visit my office personally and present their issues or if they need information on programming from the different levels of governments. There are information pamphlets available in our office as well.

I want my constituents in Iqaluit West to feel free to visit me to speak about their issues or if they have any concerns about any aspect of the Nunavut government. If you would like to visit in person, the house number is 723. I'm sorry for stating the wrong house number, as I'm not wearing my glasses, but the constituency office for Iqaluit West is located at house number 723 and the phone number is 867-979-5807. I thank the people who came by. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 374 – 3(3):
Allocation of Five Narwhal Quotas
for Arviat**

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, would like to say "good afternoon" to all of my constituents in Arviat.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and congratulate the HTO of Arviat for working very hard on a successful situation.

Mr. Speaker, the community of Arviat has been begging and borrowing narwhal tags from all other communities in the Kivalliq and other communities from the Baffin.

Last week, Mr. Speaker, finally with the hard work of the HTO and the assistance and support of the Kivalliq Wildlife Board, the community of Arviat was allocated a quota of five narwhal tags. Mr. Speaker, now Arviarmiut can be assured that their citizens and hunters will have the quota to harvest five narwhal annually and to share and provide to the community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 375 – 3(3):
Inuktitut Calendar Terminology**

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, my colleagues in the House. Earlier today, the Minister of Languages and Culture and Heritage, Hon. Arreak, made an announcement. I thank him for that announcement to "Keep our language strong." Indeed, let us do exactly that. Here in this world, Inuit have to be recognized, especially those of us from Nunavut.

When a month is marked in the English calendar like September, the Inuktitut version says, "Sittimpa" in syllabics. Also for October, the book marker says "Uktuupa" in Inuktitut. Inuit have their own terminology for the months of the year following hunting seasons in order to prepare for the harvests ahead. For example, *Qavaavik*, I believe, is in May. Mr. Speaker, there are different ways of saying the months of the year in Inuktitut instead of just phonetically writing them into syllabics.

When we get to question period, I will be asking Hon. Minister Arreak to see whether the Inuit language can be put into the months of the year in accordance with *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*. For instance, it should not just be "Sittimpa" for September or "Maatsi" for March, but they should be called the way Inuit call them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 376 – 3(3):
Congratulations to High Arctic
Recipients of the Queen Elizabeth
II Diamond Jubilee Medal and
Commissioner's Awards**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is with tremendous sense of pride that I rise in this House to pay tribute to a number of my constituents from Grise Fiord, Resolute Bay, and Arctic Bay.

Mr. Speaker, in preparation for our winter sitting of the Legislative Assembly, I had the opportunity to recently travel from Arctic Bay to spend time in the communities of Grise Fiord and Resolute Bay. As always, this was an excellent opportunity for my constituents to raise issues of concern with me in person, a number of which I will be addressing during this sitting.

Mr. Speaker, this trip was particularly special, as I had the honour of hosting Commissioner Edna Elias on the occasion of her official visit to the High Arctic to present a number of Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medals and Commissioner's Awards.

Mr. Speaker, as you are aware, a number of distinguished Nunavummiut throughout the territory have been awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal over the past year for their contributions and achievements in a variety of fields of endeavour. I am pleased to note that these awards have been made based on nominations from Nunavut organizations and individuals.

Mr. Speaker, ten remarkable residents of the High Arctic received the Diamond Jubilee Medal:

- Qaapik Attagutsiak of Arctic Bay;
- Larry Audlaluk of Grise Fiord;
- Piuyuq Enoogoo of Arctic Bay;
- Samson Ejangiaq of Arctic Bay;
- Simon Idlout of Resolute Bay;
- Frank May of Arctic Bay;
- Aksarjuk Ningiuk of Grise Fiord;
- Lottie Pijamini of Grise Fiord;
- Ludy Pudluk of Resolute Bay; and
- Jimmy Qaapik of Grise Fiord.

Mr. Speaker, as I noted earlier, a number of my constituents also received Commissioner's Awards this month. They are:

- Nancy Amarualik;
- Pauloosie Attagootak;
- Inootiq Manik;
- Matthew Manik;
- Philip Manik, Jr.;
- Saroomie Manik;
- Matthew Nungaq; and
- Samson Simeonie.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating the High Arctic recipients of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal and Commissioner's Awards. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 377 – 3(3):
Successful Search and Rescue in
Qikiqtarjuaq**

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to extend my gratitude to the people who

partook in the emergency search in Qikiqtarjuaq, especially the organizers who initiated the search party, as well as the search and rescue personnel, and the community coordinators for the local search and rescue committee. I wish to thank all of the people who were involved in this event. I am ecstatic that the two hunters who were the subject of the search were found in good health prior to them experiencing any difficulties, so I am extremely grateful for the good turnout.

Additionally, I want to take this opportunity to remind all Nunavummiut that if anyone is planning any trips to go hunting to ensure that they bring radio communication gear. Furthermore, SPOT locator devices are now available in all communities and hunters should remember to pick up one of them prior to going on their trips. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions*

Return to Oral Question 462 – 3(3): School Community Counsellor Training

Return to Oral Question 474 – 3(3): Government of Nunavut's Legislative Agenda

*See Appendix for full text of Returns to Oral Questions 462 – 3(3) and 474 – 3(3) filed with the Clerk.

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am tabling the returns to oral questions 462 and 474 that were asked during the fall 2012 sitting of the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Item 5 in our *Orders of the Day*. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Madam Premier.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am quite delighted to acknowledge and recognize visitors in the Gallery today. I want to start off by thanking all the visitors to the Gallery today, especially the people sitting over in that section that I wish to recognize.

I wish to recognize the board members of Nunavut Sivuniksavut, as well as the teachers who teach the program. They are: Christie Sinclair, Bernadette Dean, Rita Strickland, and Emily Qarpik. Pujjut is apparently now the chair, so congratulations are in order. Stacey MacDonald and Cecil Lyall are the others. These two individuals are longstanding teachers of the program from its inception, Morley Hanson and Murray Angus. Welcome to the Gallery and thank you for visiting the Legislative Assembly.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you and welcome to the Gallery. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last night, a number of us attended a reception of an announcement

that was made between the partnership of Nunavut Sealink and Supply, Sakku Corporation, Qikiqtaaluk Corporation, and the Arctic Co-operatives. I would like to recognize today Mr. Waguih Rayes, François Royer, Bill Lyall, and Mary Nirlungayuk that are in the Gallery with us today. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you and welcome to the Gallery. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say “good day” to the people of Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, as well as our audience in the other communities.

I would like to recognize two individuals from Rankin Inlet. Bernadette Dean, I welcome you to the Gallery. I also recognize my nephew, Pujjut Kusugak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Welcome them to the Gallery.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Kusugak. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize a person from Kugaaruk who is now living in Winnipeg and works for ACF. Mary Nirlungayuk, welcome to the Gallery. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you and welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq (interpretation): I send my greetings to the people of Baker Lake, young and old.

Mr. Speaker, I finished high school in 1992 in Rankin Inlet and I took the Nunavut Sivuniksavut program. I am very thankful for that because I learned a lot from Nunavut Sivuniksavut since 1992. This person has been recognized already, Morley Hanson, who taught me what I know today. As you know, I am a Member of the Legislative Assembly now because of this fine program and a very good teacher. Murray Angus was on a sabbatical, but he has always said “hello” to me.

I would like to encourage the young people of Nunavut to take advantage of the training with Nunavut Sivuniksavut. I would like to welcome the council to the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to recognize Cecile Lyall. She is a board member of Nunavut Sivuniksavut. I would like to welcome her to the Gallery. Her uncle Uqitsuq and Christine Sinclair are related to me and I love them. I would like to welcome them to the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize my good friend Bill Lyall. Welcome to the Gallery. I am recognizing a lot of people, but I would also like to recognize the two individuals from Desgagnés Transport Incorporated, Waguih Rayes, who is the general manager, and the vice-president and finance manager, François Royer. I'm sorry if I'm not pronouncing his name properly.

(interpretation) I would also like to recognize my cousin Bernadette Dean.

This individual is not from my constituency, but I would like to recognize Sandra Inutiq, who is behind me.

I recognize most of the people over here, but I will not say their names. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ell. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say "good afternoon" to the people of Pangnirtung and Nunavummiut who know me.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would also like to recognize individuals who no longer live in my community, but who are originally from Pangnirtung. Firstly, I would like to recognize Emily Qarpik and I think the other person's name is Rita Strickland. I'm sorry if I mispronounced her name. I would like to recognize these individuals who used to

live in Pangnirtung and they're the only visitors that I know personally, but I welcome all of our visitors in the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although this individual has been recognized twice, I would like to recognize him again, Mr. Bill Lyall, President of Ikaluktutiak Co-op in Cambridge Bay. I think it has been around for well over 40 years, one of the strongest Co-ops in Nunavut and the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to mention that Bill has also received the Order of Canada and he's a former MLA. He has represented Nunavut and the Northwest Territories. As well, he has been recognized for his services to Canadians and to northerners. Welcome to the Gallery.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Peterson. I, too, would like to recognize you, Bill, being here in the Gallery. The first time I met you was when we served together in the Arctic Co-operative Business Development Fund Board of Directors back in the early '90s. Welcome.

Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. According to our rules, we can only recognize individuals once in

the House, but I would like to thank all the people who are here, especially ACL.

I would also like to recognize Mr. Bill Lyall. Even before we got to the Legislative Assembly of the NWT, he was elected to ACL. I would like to welcome him.

I would also like to recognize the individual beside him, Gabriel's sister.

My constituency assistant from Rankin Inlet is also here. I would like the people of Rankin Inlet to know that if you have any questions, you can ask Bernadette Dean.

I would like to recognize all the people of Nunavut Sivuniksavut. There has to be people in the Legislative Assembly for the people of Nunavut and I would encourage them to participate. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to recognize the people who used to be in my community since they haven't been recognized by any of the Iqaluit MLAs and they are Louise Flaherty, Susan Enuaraq, and Sandra Inutiq, who was recognized already. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.

Moving on in our orders of the day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 483 – 3(3): Liquor Regulation in Nunavut

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Finance.

During our recent fall sitting, the minister tabled the final report and recommendations of the Nunavut *Liquor Act* Review Task Force. This important report provided many thoughtful recommendations concerning the issue of liquor regulation in the territory.

Mr. Speaker, one of the key recommendations in the report was for the government to introduce a brand-new *Liquor Act*. Will the minister be acting on this recommendation before the current Legislative Assembly dissolves in September of this year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Aupaluktuq for the question. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to again thank the members of the task force who undertook this huge challenge to travel to all 25 communities and have input from everybody who wished to have input.

Mr. Speaker, there are a considerable number of recommendations that are being reviewed by a committee to determine which recommendations we

can support and which ones we have to review further. Mr. Speaker, there are some recommendations that we can easily act on. Unfortunately, if there's an expectation out there that there will be a new Nunavut *Liquor Act*, it would not be possible within the life of this Assembly. It may be possible to make some amendments to the *Liquor Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My constituents in Baker Lake wanted an update on that, so the people of Baker Lake will be pleased to hear.

Mr. Speaker, under the current *Liquor Act*, alcohol education committees may be established in circumstances where residents choose by way of plebiscite to form them. These committees sometimes charge fees from residents to process applications to purchase or import liquor. In the interest of financial transparency, can the minister indicate how the accounts of alcohol education committees are audited? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Aupaluktuq for the question. Mr. Speaker, as Mr. Aupaluktuq had indicated, the communities themselves determine whether to establish alcohol education committees through a plebiscite. They are always under the auspices of the local hamlet council.

The Department of Finance does not have control over their activities or the monies that they raise to fund their activities. I would suggest that Mr. Aupaluktuq speak to the mayors of the communities that have alcohol education committees to determine how they monitor or audit use of funds that the AECs raise. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As noted already that communities are responsible for the alcohol education committees, in many cases, the members of alcohol education committees are elected at the same time that municipal elections are held. In the interest of democratic accountability, I believe that it is important for the results of these elections to be made public and tabled in the Legislative Assembly. Will the minister commit to ensuring that any new *Liquor Act* that is introduced in the Legislative Assembly addresses this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Sorry, Mr. Speaker, we're all actors in this legislature, so we can't speak until the light comes on.

Mr. Speaker, there are a number of recommendations in the liquor task force report with respect to the alcohol education committees that we're considering. We will take Mr. Aupaluktuq's suggestion under consideration as well when we are reviewing amendments to the existing

Liquor Act or the new *Liquor Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the minister's acknowledgement of the fact that they will take it into consideration to ensure that the new *Liquor Act* is introduced and making sure that any of the issues that are related to it are addressed adequately. One such area is one of the functions of the alcohol education committee is to educate residents concerning the responsible use of alcohol for the purpose of preventing alcohol abuse. In the interest of social progress, can the minister explain what resources and training, if any, are currently being provided to alcohol education committees in Nunavut to help enable them to fulfill this responsibility? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Aupaluktuq for the question. Mr. Speaker, it's no secret that there are concerns from many of the alcohol education committees that the Nunavut Liquor Commission does not provide any or adequate resources. That was one of the concerns that came up during the task force consultations that we hope to address. Currently, the Nunavut Liquor Commission does not provide any financial resources to the alcohol education committees. Many AECs raise funds for their activities through local fundraising initiatives. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 484 – 3(3): Inuktitut Calendar Terminology

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier today during my Member's Statement, I referred to this issue about the months, or should I say I referred to the 12 moons?

Inuit have different terminology based on their hunting practices, their traditional nomadic ways of moving with the animals, and the breakdown of seasons, such as preparations for the fall, spring, and summer. Here I talk about traditional Inuit practices which depended on the proper nomenclature for the moons and the animals that would be available.

Nowadays, if I wanted to speak of a period, I would state the month, such as "Sittimpa" for September, "Auguusi" for August, which is just a phonetic copying of the month as stated in the English language. I want to raise this question to the minister. As the Minister of Culture and Heritage, as well as languages, can he initiate the process to rename the months in Inuktitut?

It can provide part of our argument for our way of life, especially to people in the European Union. It can showcase the Inuit practices and of our hunting cultural lifestyle that we are still dependent on. We have to look at the big picture and consider these matters. Can the minister undertake this initiative? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank
Mr. Ningark for asking a very relevant
question. The months are given different
names, especially if you look at the
regional breakdowns. For example, the
term used in Qikiqtaaluk would be
different if it was stated by people in the
Kivalliq or Kitikmeot as they have
different names depending on their
regional seasons.

The government can provide an
initiative to convert the anglicized names
to regional terms, especially if the proper
process is followed, such as the
terminology committee process. If the
members submitted a request to the
Minister of Languages to initiate this
process, the terminology committee
would be tasked to undertake this work
to start the naming of the months into
Inuktitut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank
you for answering the question, hon.
minister. Now with the fact that our
dialects are different in the Kitikmeot,
Kivalliq, and Qikiqtaaluk communities,
perhaps we ought to try to standardize
the terms since Inuit want to be
recognized, to illustrate our different
culture, way of life, and language. I
wonder if the minister can work towards
standardizing the terms for the months
so that we share the terms in Nunavut
and show our differences. Thank you.

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

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the members
provide that direction to work on this,
the terminology committee can initiate
that work on the months and present
their recommendations to the Minister
responsible for Languages. They can
submit a request stating that they want to
undertake certain matters. This
committee can identify when they want
to work on this issue. This work can be
done when direction is provided from
this House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank
you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the hon.
minister for his response. Perhaps, in
conjunction with the elders from the
Kivalliq, Qikiqtaaluk, and Kitikmeot,
they should identify their terms for these
months. I know they can agree on terms.
As we have to assist our own people, I
wonder if the minister can involve the
elders or interview them about these
issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Inuit
Language Authority can undertake this
initiative. We try to have representatives
on the committee from the regions, such
as Qikiqtaaluk, Kivalliq, and Kitikmeot,
and the regional Inuit associations.

With the committee involving Inuit from
every region, the dialects are quite

varied, but we can task the committee with this work. We also have the elders' advisory committee and we can consult with the communities to research the terminology for these months here in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the hon. minister for his response. Perhaps we will be spending several Sundays here, actually three or four weeks for this session. I wonder if the minister would communicate with the committee on this issue and have this direction identified. If this has been dealt with by this committee, can the minister provide an update prior to our return home? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The chairperson, who is continually busy in Iqaluit, is usually working on their list of items for the committee, but I don't know if a meeting is scheduled in the short term as I haven't been briefed on it.

Further, I can't state that the terms for the moons will be completed within this three-week period. Once I find out that they are able to work on this matter, I will respond back to the member raising this question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak. Oral Questions. Member for Nanulik,

Mr. Ningeongan.

Question 485 – 3(3): Status of Wildlife Damage and Compensation Programs

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

On June 6, 2012, the minister informed the Legislative Assembly that his department would be introducing two important new programs: a Wildlife Damage Prevention Program and a Wildlife Damage Compensation Program. These new programs were formally introduced on October 15, 2012.

Can the minister inform the House how many applications under these new programs have been received by his department to date and how many have been approved? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have received two applications in 2011-12 and they both have been approved. To date, in 2012-13, we have yet to receive applications. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. Can the minister

inform the House what the annual budget is for each of these new programs and how much the department has spent to date on them?

Although the minister just stated that there haven't been any applicants for these programs, what is the annual budget for each of these programs? This information is for the benefit of our fellow Nunavummiut if they were interested in submitting applications to these two programs. I would like that information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I didn't say that there weren't any applications. So if there have been any proposals written, we have yet to receive them as of this date to our offices. There are two programs, indeed, that you can submit your applications towards.

The Wildlife Damage Prevention Program is either for supplies or cabins or for meat caches. There is a manager running this program and they are currently communicating the program to the communities and HTO boards. The budget for this program is \$60,000 per year for all of Nunavut.

The other program is the Wildlife Damage Compensation Program, which is specifically for damage by polar bears or grizzly bears. This program is to assist hunters. Even if they have put barriers to their goods and they're damaged by animals, then they can submit an application to the Department of Environment. This program is allotted

\$40,000 annually for all of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank the Minister of Environment for his response. I want to ensure I understand this correctly, so I want to ask if the conservation officers we refer to can be the middlemen or provide a report or pictures of the damage inflicted on their materials. Can the conservation officers provide assistance to people who want to apply for these programs? 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. Yes, these application forms are readily available through the conservation officers working in the communities. The conservation officers report to regional managers, such as in the Qikiqtaaluk region for North Baffin and South Baffin. There are employees who tour the communities to provide the services, with a chain of command, and they are also available to provide assistance with applications.

The conservation officers in the communities have been directed to provide assistance to hunters in their communities. They also investigate cases where damage has occurred. They check the damaged goods of the applicant. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For my final supplementary question, I want to ask about the minister's statement that the conservation officers can conduct investigations on the damaged goods and would write up a report. Now, do they include their commentary on the application as to whether the applicant is ineligible or if the applicant won't be able to be completed? Are they involved in this decision-making? If it were to reach your offices, are there other parties who can submit their recommendations and not just the conservation officers' recommendations? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the conservation officers will provide as much assistance as they are able to. This isn't another barrier or hurdle we're trying to place before the applicants. They are there to provide support and assistance. The applicants also submit their report in the application when requesting compensation. So when they are filling out the forms, the conservation officers would assist them to complete this application and they would include their investigative report. They are just there to assist applicants who want assistance. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 486 – 3(3): Update on the Qullit Nunavut Status of Women Council

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Qullit, the Status of Women Council.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavut's Status of Women Council is an organization dedicated to developing public awareness of issues affecting women across Nunavut and to bring about changes in attitude in order that women can have equal opportunities in life. As you will know, I am very concerned about the lack of services to support women and their families and the high rates of domestic violence across Nunavut. A recently released Statistics Canada report on violence against women notes that Nunavut's rate of intimate partner violence is more than 13 times the overall Canadian rate.

Can the minister provide an update on what support the government currently provides to the Qullit Status of Women Council and what specific support is directed towards addressing domestic violence? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for the Status of Women, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's a very good question. The Qullit Nunavut Status of Women Council works at arm's length

from the government. They also deal with recommendations that would go to me as the Minister responsible for the Status of Women. Currently, I haven't received any information as to what the activities are within this council, so I will have to provide an answer once I have the information, probably directly to your attention.

I will work with my fellow ministers from Justice and Health and Social Services since their mandates are quite different and they both apply to the topic you raised. Once I have that information, I will provide that update to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Can the minister indicate whether the Qullit Status of Women Council is working with the government to develop its long-awaited family violence strategy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for the Status of Women, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the Qullit Status of Women Council has employees to do this work. Their previous staff turned over, so they have new employees recently hired. At the upcoming spring meeting of the council, they will be identifying further hires as they are still understaffed. However, I can tell the member that the council has to work with the government on these issues and that is how they can be resolved. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for her responses. (interpretation ends) According to a recent public service announcement, the minister will be accepting nominations for membership on the Qullit Status of Women Council from February 18 until this Thursday, February 28. Can the minister indicate how many members are already on the council and who is the current president? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for the Status of Women, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, this issue is something I should be familiar with. Although I know of it offhand, the documentation outlining the issues hasn't been provided yet and I don't want to err on the names of the members.

There are quite a number of vacancies for this body and we're currently looking for two women to fill these positions. This coming Thursday, the nomination period will lapse and I want to urge all the women who are listening to these proceedings to fill out the nomination forms, to either go to the Qullit Status of Women Council offices and request the forms if they are interested in filling the vacancies on this board.

I was informed recently that there were quite a few women interested in filling these two vacant positions. The committee that will undertake the review for the Qullit Status of Women Council

will start after Thursday to review which two candidates will be recommended for approval for the council and this will be forwarded to my attention. I will also ensure that we pass these names on to the Executive Council for approval as they have to be approved at that level.

We look forward to very capable individuals to fill those two positions on the Qullit Status of Women Council. I further urge women to apply for these positions and I want many women to put their names forward. When there are lots of applicants, it makes the process more interesting. We will provide the names once they have been approved. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I urge women to apply for any vacancies in the various boards so that they can provide more assistance and support to their fellow community residents.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, our neighbouring territory, the Northwest Territories, also has a status of women council. Over the past decade, government funding for the NWT Status of Women Council has increased by over 30 percent. Can the minister explain why Nunavut's Status of Women Council has not received any increases in funding or support over the same period of time? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for the Status of Women, Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, that is quite truthful. That has occurred in other territories, as the member stated. The Qullit Status of Women Council originally had excellent staff working with the Executive Council. However, over the past year, there was a high turnover of staff. They are currently looking for new staff. Right now, an interim executive director is working at their office. They also had no quorum, so I believe that is part of the problem.

We have urged the council to look at the coordination of similar councils in other jurisdictions to try and find out how they have dealt with these issues. We can look at their practices and try to emulate them. However, this requires a strategic direction and plan. They also have to provide direction as to what they will work on and a plan of action to present for approval. They have to submit their recommendations on what type of changes they would like to see within their council to our department.

It's a slow process. We're not going to see results overnight, but they have indicated that they have started to make the plans. However, the requirement to lay out their plans will still require quite a bit of time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 487 – 3(3): Activities of the Office of the Chief Coroner

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Justice, whose

department is responsible for the territorial *Coroners Act*.

In September 2012, a tragic incident took place in Igloolik when a resident of the community died while in police custody.

Mr. Speaker, under subsection 21(2) of the *Coroners Act*, an inquest is required by law to be held in circumstances when a death occurs in a jail, lockup, or correctional facility. Under the *Coroners Act*, inquests must be held in public.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister advise the Legislative Assembly when the inquest will begin into this incident? 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 Mr. Tapardjuk for the question. It is a very tragic situation that happened in Igloolik, and our thoughts and prayers are with the family and citizens of Igloolik.

In the incident that he's talking to, as the member well knows and I will tell the House again, there has been an outside investigation conducted on this incident overseen by the Ottawa Police Service. To my knowledge, that report is complete, it has been turned over to the federal Crown prosecutor's office for review, and that is where the stage of that report is right now.

As far as the coroner and the inquest, once that report is completed, the coroner will review it and decide whether or not there's an inquest to be

held in that case. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't think he understood my question. In September 2012, a resident in the community died while in police custody. I asked when there's going to be an inquest. In his response, he referred to deaths occurring in a jail or lockup or correctional facility. Let me ask this again: when will they begin an inquest into the tragic incident of September 2012? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize to Mr. Tapardjuk. I was referring to the wrong incident that took place in Igloolik. He's absolutely right. There was an incident that involved a death in police custody in the cellblock in the RCMP in Igloolik. That situation is still under investigation, on my briefing note here, and there will be an inquest held into that situation, but I cannot state at this time when that will begin. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank Minister Shewchuk for that response. If there should be an inquest, can the minister indicate how the family of the deceased will be kept informed of the

status of this situation? It has to be an open inquest. Will they be involved in the process? Based on the legislation I referred to, if you follow how it is outlined, inquests must be held in public. I have raised this issue so that my constituents in Igloolik will know whether to have any expectations on this matter. I am again asking the minister, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Tapardjuk for that question again. Once the report is completed, it will be released and the first ones that it will be released to is the family. During the time when that report is released, I'm not sure whether there will be a timeline of an inquest to take place, but they will be advised and kept informed by the RCMP and by the Department of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reason I expected this action was due to section 21 of the *Coroners Act*, inquests must be held in public and the community has to be informed. Your response seemed to indicate that once the inquest is completed, the family will be informed. Your response and what the legislation lays out are not the same since the requirement for a public inquest with the witnesses being interviewed is set out.

The Office of the Chief Coroner exercises many important

responsibilities. To date, our government has not provided any annual or tabled annual reports to the Legislative Assembly. With the importance of this issue, at times, we think that there's miscommunication between the government and the public.

Mr. Speaker, this will be my last question. Will the minister commit to beginning the practice of tabling an annual report in the Legislative Assembly concerning the activities of the Office of the Chief Coroner? 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'm not committing to tabling an annual report from the chief coroner's office. I'm not aware that we are statutorily obligated to do that, so I cannot commit to that right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 488 – 3(3): Status of Nunavut Development Corporation's Divestment of Majority Ownership of Pangnirtung Fisheries

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Development Corporation.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, as the minister is aware, the Nunavut Development Corporation holds 51

percent of the voting stock of Pangnirtung Fisheries. The other 49 percent is held by Cumberland Sound Fisheries.

The Nunavut Development Corporation's current business plan indicates that one of its priorities is to "Pursue divestment of majority ownership at Pangnirtung Fisheries." Can the minister provide an update today on the status of this initiative? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Development Corporation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that excellent question. Mr. Speaker, as everybody in Baffin knows, there has been a real influx of good weather and good ice conditions in Pangnirtung and the fisheries have been excellent over there. I commend all the hard-working fishermen from Pangnirtung.

As the member knows, the fisheries are subject to world market prices. Mr. Speaker, as the member knows, the prices of turbot have been going down due to some unforeseen circumstances in other parts of the world. NDC is paying attention and looking at this very issue.

Once the statistics and the data are gathered for how the process is going to be dealt with on the ownership or ownership structure, I'll certainly make that data available to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) The minister's 2012-13 letter of expectation to the chairperson of the Nunavut Development Corporation's board of directors was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on June 6, 2012. The minister's letter asked the corporation to provide quarterly updates on its priorities, including divestment of majority ownership at Pangnirtung [Fisheries]. Can the minister indicate if the corporation has been providing quarterly updates and, if it has, will he commit to tabling copies of them to this Legislative Assembly? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Development Corporation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Development Corporation has, in other words, been trying to divest some of the subsidiaries. The Nunavut Development Corporation is not going to rush into some of the divestment of subsidiaries. Mr. Speaker, we have to be careful in that the subsidiaries do not run into unforeseen problems. The last thing we want to see are subsidiaries actually being divested and running into operational problems.

Mr. Speaker, once the Nunavut Development Corporation and Pangnirtung Fisheries have come up with scheduling a timetable on

negotiations of the divestment, I'll certainly let the member know. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Oshutapik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On March 2, 2005, the Nunavut Development Corporation's Investment Policies and Guidelines were tabled in the Legislative Assembly. These guidelines outlined the corporation's divestment procedures. Can the minister confirm if these guidelines remain in place? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Development Corporation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In 2005, I'm not certain if the guidelines have been amended, but I'll certainly check with my officials to determine whether they're the one and the same, and I'll get back to the member on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Will the minister commit to ensuring that the issue of the Nunavut Development Corporation's divestment of majority ownership at Pangnirtung Fisheries is addressed in his next letter of expectation to the corporation's board

of directors? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Development Corporation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Nunavut Development Corporation will work closely with all boards. In the past, they have done that with all subsidiary boards and the Nunavut Development Corporation intends to do that and be open, fair, and transparent to the divestment procedures and protocols that are within the guidelines. I'll certainly let the member know once there's any movement on the divestment of Pangnirtung Fisheries. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Question 489 – 3(3): Application Process for Social Insurance Numbers

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, whose department administers the Government Liaison Office program.

During my recent visit to Grise Fiord, a number of residents raised concerns with me regarding the federal government's new rules concerning the application process for social insurance numbers.

Mr. Speaker, Service Canada indicates that "all applications for a Social Insurance Number made within Canada, must be processed in person at a Service

Canada Centre.” Applications may no longer be submitted by mail.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when the federal government has made the passport renewal process much easier, it is extremely frustrating that applying for a basic social insurance number has become much more difficult. As you know, Mr. Speaker, only three communities in Nunavut have a Service Canada Centre: Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, and Cambridge Bay.

Can the minister advise the House if this issue has come to her department?
Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This issue has been discussed previously as a concern. Federal government programming or services provided by Service Canada are not available at the smaller communities. This has been brought up as an issue and is currently being reviewed to see if it can be added to the GLO’s list of duties. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess it doesn’t help constituents right now who are seeking to get a social insurance number or having one renewed. Again, I think it speaks to some of the concerns of offloading services onto the GLO. I know, in Grise Fiord, a lot of residents were upset and couldn’t understand, if the federal

government can’t provide the service to us in the communities, why the service from the federal government being offloaded onto the Government of Nunavut as a responsibility.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear!

Mr. Elliott: I know constituents in the High Arctic would be upset with that, but obviously we want to be able to get social insurance numbers.

My second question would be Service Canada comes under the responsibility of the federal Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development. Can the Premier advise the House if she has asked our Member of Parliament to raise this issue with her federal cabinet colleague? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This government considers communications a very important aspect of our operations. That is the reason why the positions of GLOs were created, to ensure that communication would ensue between government and the communities. Further, when community members require assistance with forms or letters, the GLOs are available as they are to provide this service to those people who need it. They assist with income tax forms, English-only correspondence, and other areas.

As per my previous response, we are still in discussions with our federal counterparts to determine which federal

government services can be added to the positions. It is obvious that this will proceed as discussions are already underway. I will be keeping the people informed as to what is happening with this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister didn't actually answer yes or no whether she has spoken to our MP who represents us as a territory in Ottawa.

My next question is the issue clearly impacts not only the people of Nunavut, but residents of the Northwest Territories and the Yukon, many of whose people also live in small, isolated communities. Will the Premier work with her territorial counterparts to raise this issue with the federal government? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member asking a very important question. Within the Government of Nunavut, we have created the GLO positions to be the liaison between government and the communities. Most communities have a position and all communities requesting the GLO position will receive this position.

The federal government has their own discretion if they want to be part of this initiative, but we doubt that they would be able to fund that many positions into

Nunavut to liaise with our communities. (interpretation ends) It's up to the federal government to deploy the number of Service Canada workers into all the communities.

As the GLO offices are open in communities, they are there to help communicate between the Government of Nunavut and the communities. Sometimes they are also taking the responsibility of addressing some of the correspondences that are received from the federal government, such as social insurance number applications and other things.

It is important that there are proper services to all the communities from all levels of government, and this is something that I can bring forward to my counterparts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Hopefully, with my final question, I can make my thoughts definitely clear. The point that I'm trying to make is that we are given money from the federal government and we're constantly told that we need to provide services to all our communities.

Service Canada has funding and they're supposed to provide service as a federal entity to our communities and they can't do it. So now, we're just rolling over and having it dumped on us, and we're going to say we're going to do it because it has to be done. I think the message that I'm trying to get across, especially in the High Arctic, is we have to get by with whatever we're given. We don't have

the luxury that people have in Ottawa and whatnot.

My constituents in the High Arctic have often expressed their frustrations with federal decisions and policies that are made thousands of kilometres away in Ottawa and which do not take into account the realities of our circumstances. Although they strongly believe that the federal government needs to live up to its responsibilities, it is important that we consider every option to make life better for my constituents.

For Canadian residents outside of Canada applying for a social insurance number from another country, it is allowed to have it mailed in, yet within our own country, we're not allowed to mail it in. My final question to the minister is: will the minister commit today to writing a letter to our federal Member of Parliament asking for an exemption which will allow the mailing of social insurance applications through our Canadian, federally regulated postal carrier, Canada Post? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As you noted earlier, I explained that there is a dialogue going on with what kind of arrangement can be made to accommodate some of the services that are provided by the federal government, and this is part of the answer to the member's question. Of course, after finding the situation that the communities are experiencing, as the

member illustrated, I certainly will commit to writing the correspondence and find out exactly how and when the initiatives will be carried out. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

Question 490 – 3(3): Complaints Procedure for the Department of Health and Social Services

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister of Health and Social Services.

As the minister will recall, a motion was passed last year by the Committee of the Whole calling on the department to review its patient/client complaints procedure. Concerns were raised by a number of my colleagues regarding the need for a clear procedure by which Nunavutmiut can formally raise concerns regarding their treatment by departmental personnel. What has the minister done to respond to this motion? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Curley for that question. Mr. Speaker, there's no Member of this House or this government who would like to see this patient relations position processed and approved. On a good day or a bad day, depending on how you look at it, I get five to six complaints from around Nunavut and they're all serious. On a

slow day, it's two, and that includes all hours of the day and night. I know there's a demand and issues out there. I forward those concerns to my officials and I know that consumes their time.

There has to be a tracking system. I am very pleased to say that we're close. It's like building a house. You get 90 percent of it built and there's that 10 percent you just can't finish. We have identified a very well-qualified individual in the Department of Health and Social Services who is going to lead this new process. We have created a three-step process.

It's got to be the patient first. We want to set up a system where, if a patient has a concern, they will get results. I don't want to put a system in place that's just going to be one of those processes where everybody gets frustrated and upset. I think it's very important that we put the proper process in place so that we can get the results and the patients will know that they're being heard. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. (interpretation) Mr. Speaker, our expectations are that the new process will be forthcoming. Although the minister stated that the preparations are underway, it is only after the details have been provided that it will become clear as to whether it can be used in all of Nunavut.

Additionally, I have a question I want to raise based on this reasoning. A number of my constituents have recently raised concerns with me regarding derogatory comments made by a visiting physician

in the Kivalliq. Although I am not going to identify any individuals by name, I believe that a clear message needs to be sent that our residents are entitled to be treated with respect at all times. Can the minister advise the House if his department has a zero tolerance policy in place regarding unprofessional conduct on the part of the departmental staff and contracted personnel? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Curley for the question. Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier, our patients come first. I believe, in Nunavut, we offer a high standard and quality of care. There are many opportunities for miscommunication between health officials and our patients, and where we receive those concerns and complaints from patients or escorts or whoever represents them, we work very hard to resolve those issues. Where appropriate, individuals have made apologies.

Our patients come first. We know, in Nunavut and likely just about anywhere else in Canada, the most important thing to an individual is their health or the health of their family members or their friends. It's a very stressful time for them, so we have to be sensitive to their concerns. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister is well aware of this issue, as I copied him when I sent correspondence about the matter to his

deputy minister, which is quite disconcerting.

As an example, during our sessions here, whenever we take pride in a minister's actions, we are proud of the minister, whether or not they're an Inuk. This is common courtesy and I feel that health professionals should also be beholden to those ideals when they are dealing with their clients or visiting clients here in Nunavut.

It is essential that contractors who are hired to work in Nunavut respect our people, our language, and our culture. I believe they ought to be given directives by the Nunavut government to treat Inuit and their culture with the respect they deserve, especially since this principle of respecting Inuit traditions underpins the values of the Nunavut government mandate. Can the minister clearly explain what training and orientation is provided about the need to respect and accept the unique Nunavut culture? Are new employees and contractors provided training and orientation about these cultural differences before they arrive in the territory? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Curley for the question. Mr. Speaker, I can't speak with certainty, but I believe that many of the nurses and other health professionals and physicians who come to Nunavut have been here several times before over the years. I believe most of them have or will receive orientation when they either go into the hospital or the health centres in the various communities. It's

important that they understand their communities and the people who they may treat and provide medical service to. I believe that is a high priority as well for the department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm alluding to the fact that I did send him a note, as well as the deputy minister. It appears that there was a bitter statement alluded to by medical personnel that it was really clearly inappropriate to identify a group of people in a derogatory form.

Can the minister outline the process by which his department currently investigates incidents of unacceptable conduct on the part of employees or contractors? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Curley for the question. Again, the incident that Mr. Curley is alluding to, I did receive his concern on the comments posted on the social media, Facebook. I really wish that the individual who had posted those comments would have put their comments in writing in a formal letter either to me or the deputy minister or to the Kivalliq executive director. That way, we could initiate a follow-up to see what happened. I don't believe social media is an appropriate outlet to express concerns about medical difficulties or challenges in Nunavut.

I did receive the concern and I instructed my deputy minister or asked if the deputy minister was following up. I believe there's follow-up. It would be appropriate if Mr. Curley could talk to that individual and put it formally in writing, and we will have it on our record and then we can pursue it in more detail. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Members will note that the time allotted for the first question period of 2013 has expired. We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 7. Written Questions. Mr. Rumbolt.

Item 7: Written Questions

Written Question 023 – 3(3): Annual Fuel Purchases by the Government of Nunavut

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a written question today for the Minister of Community and Government Services concerning the issue of fuel purchases. The questions are very detailed, so I ask that they be entered into the record as read.

1. Expressing the data in the same format as that which the Government of Nunavut provided in Return to Written Question 17 – 3(3), what quantities of fuel were purchased and delivered in 2012?
2. As of February 26, 2013, what is the current bulk fuel storage capacity in each of Nunavut's communities?
3. From January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012, which communities in Nunavut received fuel deliveries by airlift?

4. What policies and/or procedures does the Government of Nunavut currently follow with respect to the rationing of fuel supplies in communities in circumstances where shortages exist?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The member is asking that the question be entered into the record as read. Do members agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: It shall be entered in the record as read.

Written Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Written Question 024 – 3(3): Development Partnership Agreement between the Government of Nunavut and the Meadowbank Mining Corporation/Agnico-Eagle Mines Limited

Mr. Aupaluktuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a written question today to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation concerning the issue of development partnership agreements. The questions are very detailed, so I ask that they be entered into record as read.

1. With respect to the Development Partnership Agreement (DPA) between the Government of Nunavut and the Meadowbank Mining Corporation/Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd. that was signed on February 17, 2007, what is the current status of the

corporation's compliance with the terms of the DPA in relation to:

- a. Socio-economic planning, monitoring, reporting, and mitigation;
 - b. Education, training, and employment;
 - c. Business development; and
 - d. Other matters as provided for in Article 7 of the agreement?
2. Within the meaning of Article 9 of the DPA, what were the contents of the 2010, 2011, and 2012 annual reports that were required to be produced under the agreement?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Do members agree that the question be entered into the record as read?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: It has been agreed to and it will be entered into the record as read.

Item 7. Written Questions. Mr. Enook.

Written Question 025 – 3(3): Direct Appointments under Section 18 of the Public Service Act

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a written question today for the Minister of Human Resources concerning the issue of direct appointments we need under the *Public Service Act*. The questions are very detailed, so I ask that they be entered into record as read.

1. Broken down by department, Crown agency, occupational category,

gender, and Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiary status, how many direct appointments to the public service were approved by the Executive Council of Nunavut for each of the following fiscal years:

- a. 1999-2000
- b. 2000-01
- c. 2001-02
- d. 2002-03
- e. 2003-04
- f. 2004-05
- g. 2005-06
- h. 2006-07
- i. 2007-08
- j. 2008-09
- k. 2009-2010
- l. 2010-11
- m. 2011-12
- n. 2012-13 (to date)?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Do members agree that the written question be entered into the record as read?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: It shall be, along with the other ones.

Item 7. Written Questions. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Written Question 026 – 3(3): Government of Nunavut Responses to Resolutions Adopted at the 2012 Annual General Meeting of the Nunavut Association of Municipalities

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a written question directed to the Premier, Eva

Aariak. My question is very short, so I'm just going to read it, but the responses will probably be very long. It reads:

1. What were the Government of Nunavut's responses to the resolutions adopted at the 2012 Annual General Meeting of the Nunavut Association of Municipalities?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Written Questions. Mr. Elliott.

**Written Question 027 – 3(3):
Correctional Facilities, Recidivism
Rates, and Rehabilitation
Programs**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a written question today for the Minister of Justice concerning the issue of correctional facilities and other matters. The questions are very detailed, so I ask that they be entered into the record as read.

1. As of February 26, 2013, how many adult and young offenders are serving sentences in territorial custody at the Baffin Correctional Centre, the Rankin Inlet Healing Facility, the Ilavut Healing Centre, and the Iqaluit Young Offenders' Centre?
2. As of February 26, 2013, how many individuals are incarcerated in territorial correctional facilities awaiting trial?
3. As of February 26, 2013, what is the average period of time before an individual on remand in territorial custody goes to trial?
4. As of February 26, 2013, what is the rate of recidivism for male adult offenders in territorial custody?
5. As of February 26, 2013, what is the rate of recidivism for male young offenders in territorial custody?
6. As of February 26, 2013, what is the rate of recidivism for female adult offenders in territorial custody?
7. As of February 26, 2013, what is the rate of recidivism for female young offenders in territorial custody?
8. As of February 26, 2013, what rehabilitation, counselling, and education programs are offered to adult offenders in territorial custody?
9. As of February 26, 2013, what rehabilitation, counselling, and education programs are offered to young offenders in territorial custody?
10. As of February 26, 2013, how does the Department of Justice measure the effectiveness of its rehabilitation, counselling, and education programs for adult offenders?
11. As of February 26, 2013, how does the Department of Justice measure the effectiveness of its rehabilitation, counselling, and education programs for young offenders?
12. From April 1, 2012 to February 26, 2013, what percentage of adult offenders in territorial custody participated in rehabilitation,

counselling, and education programs?

13. From April 1, 2012 to February 26, 2013, what percentage of young offenders in territorial custody participated in rehabilitation, counselling, and education programs?

14. As of February 26, 2013, what rehabilitation, counselling, and education programs are offered to former adult offenders who have completed sentences in territorial correctional facilities?

15. As of February 26, 2013, what rehabilitation, counselling, and education programs are offered to former young offenders who have completed sentences in territorial correctional facilities?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Do members agree that the question be entered into the record as read?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: Thank you. It's agreed to. A lot of entering today.

Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Mr. Clerk.

Item 8: Returns to Written Questions*

Return to Written Question 019 – 3(3): NAC Courses to Support Early Childhood Education

Return to Written Question 020 – 3(3): Government of Nunavut Staff Housing and Public Housing Units Equipped with Hurricane Strapping

Return to Written Question 021 – 3(3): Status of Decentralization

Return to Written Question 022 – 3(3): Allocation of Conservation Officers

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am tabling the returns to written questions 19, 20, 21, and 22 that were asked during the fall 2012 sitting of the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 299 – 3(3): 2011-2012 Public Accounts

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the 2011-12 Public Accounts.

*See Appendix for full text of Returns to Written Questions 19 – 3(3), 20 – 3(3), 21 – 3(3), and 22 – 3(3) filed with the Clerk.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to note that this is the second year in a row that we have tabled the public accounts on time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Congratulations, Minister Peterson.

>> *Laughter*

Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Elliott.

Tabled Document 300 – 3(3): Letters of Support Concerning Bill 46, Donation of Food Act

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table today copies of the letters of support that I have received concerning Bill 46, the proposed *Donation of Food Act*. I am pleased to note that letters of support have been provided by “Feeding My Family Nunavut,” the Skills Nunavut/Skills Canada Cooking Club, the Qayuqtuvik Society, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, the Frobisher Inn, the North West Company, and Arctic Co-operatives Ltd. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Education, Minister Aariak.

Tabled Document 301 – 3(3): Department of Education Annual Report 2009-2010

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to table the 2009-2010 Annual Report of the Department of Education. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Aariak. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Tabled Document 302 – 3(3): Correspondence Concerning Relocation of Graves in Hall Beach

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a collection of recent correspondence concerning the longstanding and unresolved issue of the relocation of graves in Hall Beach. To date, nothing has been resolved. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Justice, Minister Shewchuk.

Tabled Document 303 – 3(3): Community Justice Annual Report on Victims Assistance Committee April 1, 2011 - March 31, 2012

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the 2011-12 Annual Report on Community Justice Victims Assistance Committee. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Tabled Document 304 – 3(3): Baker Lake Municipal Council Resolution Concerning Community Infrastructure

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have the honour today of tabling a recent resolution passed by the municipal council of Baker Lake concerning the community’s

infrastructure requirements. I encourage all members to review the document with care. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Minister responsible for Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Tabled Document 305 – 3(3):
Transportation of Dangerous
Goods Annual Report 2011-2012**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the 2011-12 Annual Report for the Transportation of Dangerous Goods. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission, Minister Kusugak.

**Tabled Document 306 – 3(3): 2010
Annual Report - Workers' Safety
and Compensation Commission**

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the 2010 Annual Report for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Item 13. Tabling of Documents.

**Tabled Document 307 – 3(3): 2011-
2012 Annual Report of the Chief
Electoral Officer - Elections
Nunavut**

Thank you, members. I have one document to table today. As required by

the *Nunavut Elections Act*, I wish to table the 2011-12 Annual Report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut.

We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. Oshutapik.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

**Motion 039 – 3(3): Appointment of the
Languages Commissioner of
Nunavut – Notice**

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, I give notice that on February 28, 2013, (interpretation ends) I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that the Legislative Assembly recommends to the Commissioner of Nunavut that Ms. Sandra Inutiq be appointed as Languages Commissioner of Nunavut, effective this day.

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

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

**Motion 040 – 3(3): Legislative
Assembly Appointments – Notice**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, February 28, 2013, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Natilik, that Mr. Fred Shell be appointed a member of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development, the Standing Committee on Legislation, and the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts.

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

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

Motion 041 – 3(3): Extension of the Review Period for Bill 32, An Act to Amend the Legal Services Act – Notice

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, February 28, 2013, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Amittuq, that the period of time for the standing committee to report Bill 32 back to the House be extended by a further 120 days.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Motion 042 – 3(3): Extension of the Review Period for Bill 44, An Act to Amend the Justices of the Peace Act – Notice

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, February 28, 2013, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Amittuq, that the period of time for the standing committee to report Bill 44 back to the House be extended by a further 120 days.

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 47 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2012-2013 – Notice

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, February 28, 2013, that Bill 47, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2012-2013*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: For the record, we will note that Bill 47 is *Supplementary Appropriation (O&M) Act, No. 3, 2012-2013*. I believe you accidentally said “Capital.”

Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

**Bill 48 – Supplementary
Appropriation (Capital) Act, No.
1, 2013-2014 – Notice**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess we're having our first day gremlins and hiccups, and I'm sure we will iron the kinks out in the coming days.

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, February 28, 2013, that Bill 48, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 1, 2013-2014*, 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 Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

**Bill 51 – An Act to Amend the Child
and Family Services Act – Notice**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, February 28, 2013, that Bill 51, *An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services Act*, 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 Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

**Bill 53 – An Act to Amend the Medical
Care Act – Notice**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, February 28, 2013, that Bill 53, *An Act to Amend the Medical Care Act*, 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 Education, Minister Aariak.

**Bill 55 – An Act to Amend the Student
Financial Assistance Act – Notice**

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I give notice that on Thursday, February 28, 2013, that Bill 55, *An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Aariak. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Oshutapik.

Item 16: Motions

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

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

**Motion 039 – 3(3): Appointment of the
Languages Commissioner of
Nunavut**

Mr. Oshutapik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS section 18 of the *Official Languages Act* provides that the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut is appointed by the Commissioner of

Nunavut on the recommendation of the Legislative Assembly to hold office for a term of four years during good behaviour;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly's Management and Services Board has undertaken a merit-based selection process for this position;

AND WHEREAS Ms. Sandra Inutiq has been serving as the Acting Languages Commissioner for Nunavut since January 14, 2013;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly is prepared to recommend the appointment of this position;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that the Legislative Assembly recommends to the Commissioner of Nunavut that Ms. Sandra Inutiq be appointed as the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut, effective this day.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried.

>>Applause

Congratulations, Ms. Inutiq.

Item 16. Motions. Mr. Elliott.

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

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

Motion 040 – 3(3): Legislative Assembly Appointments

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly is prepared to make appointments;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Natilik, that Mr. Fred Schell be appointed a member of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development, the Standing Committee on Legislation, and the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts.

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried.

Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Mr. Elliott.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

Bill 46 – Donation of Food Act – First Reading

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit West, that Bill 46, *Donation of Food Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and the bill has had first reading.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Mr. Elliott.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to Rule 62(2), I request the consent of this House to waive the one-day notice requirement to allow for the second reading of Bill 46, *Donation of Food Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. The member is seeking consent to waive the one-day waiting rule so that Bill 46 can be read for the second time today. Are there any nays? There are none. Please proceed, Mr. Elliott.

Bill 46 – Donation of Food Act – Second Reading

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit West, that Bill 46, *Donation of Food Act*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill provides that a person who donates food or distributes donated food is not liable for disease, injury, death, or other harm resulting

from the consumption of that food unless the person intended to harm the recipient or acted recklessly in donating or distributing the food. Similar provisions apply to the directors, officers, agents, employees, and volunteers of corporations involved in the donation or distribution of food. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. 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 46 has had second reading. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to Rule 67(2), I request unanimous consent to order Bill 46 into the Committee of the Whole for consideration. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. The member is seeking unanimous consent to have Bill 46 ordered into Committee of the Whole. Are there any nays? There are none and hence Bill 46 will be and is referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 46 with Mr. Enook 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 15:52 and Committee resumed at 16:25*

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

Chairman (Mr. Enook)(interpretation): Good afternoon. I would now like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following item to deal with: Bill 46, *Donation of Food Act*. Do members agree to deal with Bill 46?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Bill 46 – Donation of Food Act –
Consideration in Committee**

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. I would like the sponsor of Bill 46, Mr. Elliott, to go to the witness table to make comments regarding the bill.

Mr. Elliott, do you have witnesses that you would like to bring to the table? Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: No, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Elliott, please proceed with your opening comments on Bill 46. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do have opening comments.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to have the opportunity to appear today before the Committee of the Whole on the occasion of its consideration of Bill 46, the proposed *Donation of Food Act*.

I would like to begin by thanking all of my colleagues for the supportive comments that I have received concerning this important issue. I was

happy to provide information to all members in January and a proposed bill, which you will have a copy of now in the white binder. It was great getting feedback from everyone on our little part of what we can do to help with food insecurity in the territory.

As members will recall, I have raised the issue of donation of food legislation on a number of occasions in this House. Currently, Nunavut lacks legislative protection for individuals, volunteer groups, or other organizations that donate food. As a consequence, good Samaritans, those who unselfishly volunteer to help others in need, may be civilly liable and at risk of facing lawsuits if another individual becomes sick as a result of consuming food that has been donated.

As members are aware, every jurisdiction in Canada except ours has passed legislation that protects individuals, volunteer groups, or other organizations that donate food in good faith and for charitable purposes. A number of these statutes, including those in Ontario and the Northwest Territories, were originally introduced as private members' bills.

As members will recall from the Legislative Assembly's sitting of March 5, 2012 and November 5, 2012, I tabled copies of the legislation that has been recently passed by the Yukon and Northwest Territories legislatures. These statutes closely mirror the legislation that has been proposed in Canada's 10 provinces.

Bill 46, Nunavut's proposed *Donation of Food Act*, is very similar in structure and

form to legislation that has been passed in other Canadian jurisdictions.

Bill 46 will provide that a person who donates food or who distributes donated food is not liable for disease, injury, death, or other harm resulting from the consumption of that food unless the person intended to harm the recipient or acted recklessly in donating or distributing the food. Similar provisions will apply to the directors, officers, agents, employees, and volunteers of corporations and organizations involved in the donation or distribution of food.

I would note that Bill 46 will not incur any direct expenditures to the government. I would also note that Bill 46 will not amend any existing provisions in other legislation, such as the territorial *Public Health Act* or regulations made under the territorial *Public Health Act*, concerning food safety and inspections.

In preparing Bill 46, I took the opportunity to consult directly with a number of individuals and organizations in Nunavut that are actively involved in charitable activities and initiatives concerning the donation of food and food security.

I would also note that support for Bill 46, the proposed *Donation of Food Act*, was formally identified as a priority for action at the recent Nunavut Food Security Symposium.

As members will recall, I tabled copies of the letters of support concerning Bill 46 that I have received from “Feeding My Family Nunavut,” the Skills Nunavut/Skills Canada Cooking Club, the Qayuqtuvik Society, Nunavut

Tunnigavik Incorporated, the Frobisher Inn, the North West Company, and Arctic Cooperatives Ltd. I am very pleased to have the opportunity to pay tribute to the work of these organizations in helping to address the issue of food security in Nunavut. As the letters of support point out, the passage of Bill 46 will encourage more donations of food to those in need.

I would also note the potential benefit that the passage of Bill 46 will have with respect to the sharing of country food in our communities. Earlier this month, one of my constituents in Grise Fiord, who is an active hunter, commented publicly on the recent approval of a new narwhal management plan for Nunavut. He indicated that the community is looking forward to an increase in the amount of country food that will be shared as a result of the increased quota.

I would like to conclude by again expressing my personal appreciation to all members for their commitment to addressing issues related to food security in Nunavut. I believe that the passage of Bill 46, the proposed *Donation of Food Act*, will make a difference in the lives of our constituents and communities, and I respectfully ask for all members’ support in ensuring that it becomes law.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments. I look forward to responding to any questions that my colleagues may have. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. (interpretation) Before we proceed with discussions on the bill, I would like to remind you of our rules, two in particular. 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. This is just a reminder. Are there any general comments? Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the seconder to Bill 46, the *Donation of Food Act*, I would like to make a brief statement.

(interpretation ends) At first glance, this Nunavut *Donation of Food Act* may be seen as not needed given that food sharing is an integral part of Inuit culture. In fact, many Inuit I spoke to could not understand upon first hearing a scenario where a food donator might be sued if someone had become sick from eating donated food. It is just not our way.

Inuit have survived in our homeland all of these years by sharing food. Our ancestors could not have lived without the tradition of sharing food. There are many benefits to this traditional practice. By sharing food, you show respect to your elders, to your parents, as well as to others. Also, lifelong kinship ties are established between food sharing families and communities and of course, nothing ever gets wasted.

Frankly, one of the traditions that I am most proud of in my culture is that of sharing food within our community. Those who could not hunt for whatever reason were never in need, as we all shared. However, recently, an elder and a hunter mentioned at the Nunavut Food Security Symposium that times have changed. Now it seems that elders no longer get as much food as they used to,

as hunters sometimes sell their catch for upkeep of their hunting equipment, their gas, bullets, and to pay their household bills.

Inuit are famous for their adaptability to new circumstances and for being able to blend the best of Inuit societal values into the reality of today's life and in some ways, so does this bill. This private member's bill will bring Nunavut into line with many other jurisdictions which have already enacted similar bills. This bill will permit retailers, hotels, and businesses that have foodstuffs which are fit to eat to donate it without fear of possible legal action.

I know many of us have attended events and functions that have leftover food that could have been donated, but without the protection of a *Donation of Food Act*, the leftovers were just thrown away. Currently, leftover food cannot be donated because of some possible legal action if someone got sick. It just seems like common sense to send the food to be used by people who need it as long as the food is fit to eat. It certainly is the Inuit way to share it with everyone. This private member's bill permits the good faith donation of prepared foods in good condition.

While our ancestors, especially mine, may look upon the necessity of this bill with bewilderment, at this moment, I'm thinking of my dad, who used to always share his traditional food catch. It is common sense in our current circumstances to pass this bill and ensure that the hungry obtain an extra source of food.

I thank the Member Quttiktuq for bringing this private member's bill

forward and I'm happy to second it.
Thank you. *Nakurmiik*.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ell. Are there any general comments? Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It gives me great pleasure to speak to this bill. Cambridge Bay opened our food bank in the year 2000 and it has grown to be a very vibrant, active, and essential facility in our community. It supports 70 to 80 individuals and families every month. So I know how urgent it is to support food banks and help people to get an adequate amount of food.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank MLA Elliott for his work on this initiative and moving it through the legislative process so quickly. Since he raised it with me in question period last fall sitting, I immediately saw the potential for this bill. I would like to thank my colleague, Minister Ell, for seconding it.

Mr. Chairman, I have spoken to my health and social services department. We will offer our promotional support to best communicate the Act to Nunavut and help roll it out in Nunavut.

Mr. Chairman, I support the passing of Bill 46. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Peterson. (interpretation) Are there any general comments? Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This legislation is fine, but I feel that we have to strengthen it a bit more. The goods previously

purchased by donors and donated to the food bank will be free, but there won't be a whole lot of meat and that is obviously because mostly cans are donated.

With respect to country food donated by the hunters of the community, Inuit cultural values dictate that they announce that meat is available for pickup at their homes. This is part of the Inuit way of sharing and this won't change in the immediate future. It will continue. With respect to the food bank, based on my experiences and understanding, it isn't part of the Inuit culture to go to a building to pick up extra food. The merchandise donated also tends to have a lot of expiration dates surpassed.

As an example, I can provide a personal event that we went through. When my wife and I awoke one morning, we had a lot of eggs the previous evening. (interpretation ends) One minute later, (interpretation) they were gone. My son saw the expiry date, stated that they were way past due, and threw them in the garbage.

(interpretation ends) So my question is: (interpretation) are the volunteers going to be taught to look at the expiration date on the food that is donated? Will this be part of the work? I don't want to see anyone put in danger due to expired foods, so I wonder if the volunteers will be trained to inspect the dates. I feel that they should be trained since we sometimes have banned foods or food recalls by the big manufacturers. We have heard about big food companies sending food to the north that should have been thrown out, as we sometimes see notices about certain products.

Will this bill include a section on required inspections? If it were to include this, then I would be in support. I feel we can put some teeth into the bill so that it includes such a provision as this: "No person should donate food that is past its expiry date in cases where the food has the expiration date listed." I would prefer that this section be included, so I would ask our Law Clerk provide a written response on this issue. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. I want to remind the members that we are on general comments at this time. Mr. Curley, when we get to clause-by-clause review of Bill 46, you can ask your question. At this time, are there any general comments? Mr. Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I, too, am glad this bill was introduced and I will be in support of it.

In communities, especially those that host a lot of meetings perhaps, it becomes noticeable that when there are preparations for a community feast or when catering is involved and the participants aren't able to arrive on the dates, many prepared foods have to be thrown out. You can't just leave it outside of the meeting venue sometimes due to the regulations.

There is an awful lot of food that could have provided sustenance to hungry people that ends up being thrown out. Again, it's due to regulations they have to follow, especially caterers. I hope that this bill will provide more benefits. I support the caterers who cater these meetings and hope they can provide

more food to the hungry people in their communities if there is an opportunity to donate the food instead of throwing it away.

We should not be afraid to donate food to people who need it, whether we are just regular people or a company. The purpose of this bill is to allow donations to alleviate some of the hunger that exists in our territory and I support it for these reasons. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank Mr. Elliott for introducing this bill, along with Madam Ell, for remembering the fact that sometimes our residents face hunger without enough food at home.

First of all, when you have travelled to many communities, you note this practice, especially in Repulse Bay, which is one of my constituent communities. I have really seen this practice there, which I believe Mr. Kusugak is well aware of, along with others who have travelled to Repulse Bay. If you go to Repulse Bay, you can hear people on the local radio making announcements about extra food at their homes, such as, "I just returned from fishing and whoever needs arctic char is welcome to pick some up at this house." Another example is "I just caught a caribou recently and whoever wants some fresh meat can pick up some meat." Also in spring or summertime, someone will say, "I have just caught a narwhal and people are welcome to pick up some mattaaq." This is our ancient Inuit tradition, which is still practised in

Repulse Bay and is evident in the community.

I fully support this bill, so let us ensure we pass it. We have to try to enact it. I wanted to return to a comment made by my good friend, Mr. Curley. Indeed, it can have a dangerous side when you speak about recalled foods. We have to be concerned about these products, especially since Inuit have a very different lifestyle and are now largely community bound with rising populations. Our culture is slowly changing with new practices, but we should never forget our ancient customs and practices. We have to develop new legislation to that effect, so I will be supporting Bill 46.

I don't want to speak lengthily about this subject. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Are there any general comments? Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I, too, will support this bill introduced today. We're now all aware that many Nunavummiut go hungry. Some people visit other homes to try and provide food for their families, especially country food. Some people are perpetually hungry.

I want to voice my support for this bill. Our Inuit culture is still strong and practised in many communities where hunters share their harvests with those less fortunate. This practice continues in our communities and it will not be affected. I believe this bill is geared more towards our food banks and donations to them. I fully support this bill. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Are there any general comments? I have no more names on my list. We will now proceed to clause-by-clause review of Bill 46. Do you agree to proceed clause by clause?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): We will be doing a clause-by-clause review of the bill. Bill 46, *Donation of Food Act*. Clause 1. Do you agree? Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to have the legal counsel draft up the following under section 1, subsection (a) and (b), to include a new subsection (c) with the following wording: "Not to donate any food way past the expiration date or out-of-date products." I would like to have that included as subsection (c) and I will be making a motion to that effect shortly. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. (interpretation ends) Legal counsel, I'll ask you to comment. Mr. Elliott, do you want to comment on it? Okay. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was just waiting for the light to come on.

If I could respond to Mr. Curley's question, it's one of the things that was discussed and thought about in terms of the terms of best-before and expired, and it was not determined that it was something that should be put in the bill. Across other jurisdictions, it's not included in the bill. I guess one of the things in terms of the thought process and their thinking of why we do this, as he was speaking in his opening

comments, I thought maybe one of the expressions is we should “back the truck up” mainly because I’m really happy that the Minister of Health and Social Services is going to provide assistance with publicizing this Act once it’s passed.

If members are aware, I find with Nutrition North, I have done a lot of research... .

>>*No audio from 16:51 to 16:56*

Chairman (interpretation): I wish to apologize to my fellow committee members and Nunavummiut for the ongoing technical problems and difficulties we are experiencing. Now that these technical problems have been resolved, we can reconvene our meeting. I believe it was Mr. Elliott who was speaking when we got cut off. Please continue with your statement, Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, before the alarm went off, we were talking about best-before dates and expiry dates. A lot of times, I think there needs to be consumer awareness when you go into Northern stores and Co-op stores and checking labels and checking dates. I see that happening a lot more, as some of the members talked about stuff being taken off the shelf and whatnot.

In terms of the intention of the bill and the best-before dates and the expiry dates, there’s a difference between if it’s an expiry date, that’s the drop-dead date, and there are different products that have different dates. In terms of the way it is expressed on packages like bread, for example, just because it passes the best-before date does not necessarily mean

that it’s not fit for human consumption, which is what the bill actually expresses. Bill 46 does not provide protection for liability for persons or organizations that knowingly or recklessly donate food which is unfit for human consumption. I think that speaks to what Mr. Curley is talking about.

In terms of food that passes its best-before date, it’s not necessarily unsafe, and that’s why I thanked Mr. Peterson with his assistance with his department in terms of public awareness that Health Canada and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency have published helpful guidelines for consumers on the subject of date labelling and food safety. Definitely, I would encourage potential donors of food to refer to this information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you, *Iksivautaaq*. (interpretation) Yes, that is quite concise and clear. Also, when Mr. Elliott made his initial comments, he stated that in the provinces where the legislation already exists, they don’t draft up standards nor are they required to put expiry dates on the products. That is why we have to be wary of such issues since most products don’t immediately putrefy. However, some of the issues he noted that require dates should be looked at and recommended, such as for certain dairy products.

What I wanted to reiterate was this message: if we are going to enact legislation here in Nunavut, it has to be tailored to our needs. Even if the legislation is similar to Ontarian legislation, it would not be the same as

in their case. The supplier is in close proximity to the vendor; some are less than an hour away from where they are bought.

Here in Nunavut, we experience other issues, especially with canned foods that arrive already past their expiry date. That is the reason why I wanted to move a motion to amend the bill with additional wording to ensure we note the best-before and expiry dates. I want these dates to be included as notable items and if it is written into the bill, it would make it easier. That is the motion I wanted to move, if the language can be drafted up.

I personally don't want to get a notice stating that the Minister for the Department of Health will be responsible for monitoring this aspect. Personally, I don't like that option. So I would like to introduce that motion if the sponsor doesn't mind. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Do I understand that you would like to propose a motion? Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Yes, I wish to propose a motion to include a section (c) because the draft bill states that if the product is slightly past the expiry date, it is edible, but it doesn't read that they consider it inedible. For some products, it is easy to see the expiry date, especially perishable items that can wilt and become inedible after a certain time, such as milk or cheese and other products.

I would like to add this language so that you list the best-before date and the expiry date listed in the bill and to

ensure that the expired products as outlined in this bill are not donated. That would be much better in my opinion. So I'm proposing to make an amendment to the bill so that that would be included. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. I know that everyone would like to make a contribution. Mr. Curley is proposing a motion to amend the bill. If you are going to make an amendment to the bill, it has to be in writing. So we will have to take a break if that is going to be the case. Before we approve clause 1, we will take a break so that we can write up the motion. I will give the opportunity for other members to make comments. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know Mr. Curley had mentioned if he thought that I felt there was a need for an amendment and I would disagree. I don't feel there is a need for an amendment. He mentioned about Ontario and southern jurisdictions, and I recognize the transportation system is a lot faster in the south in terms of moving food in and out of the supply chains. I would recognize that potato chips are a good example of how there is kind of a best-before or kind of false date on them.

Our sister territories of the Northwest Territories and the Yukon did not feel that there was a need to add the extra clause. I'm talking specifically about best-before or expired food. My interpretation of what we're trying to accomplish here is to have more people make donations.

So the idea is if food is donated after its best-before date, then the donor would take the responsibility as to clause

1(b)(ii). I'm saying expired; I'm not saying best-before. If you're putting expired milk or eggs, as the member was referring to, and you're actually serving that to people, then, to me, the way that the legislation is written, part 1(b)(ii) comes in, where you're acting with reckless disregard and safety for others. So it's built into the legislation already that if people are not following the rules... There are different rules set out in the *Public Health Act* how to handle food and how to treat food. There are food safety courses that are available as well. As I pointed out earlier, Health Canada has material that's available and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency has published material which talks about the difference between best-before and expired.

The intent would be the donor, who is doing the good will act, is checking before they start serving it to individuals. So I don't feel there would be a need to actually add an amendment because it's built into the legislation already. So that was going to be my point, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. (interpretation ends) I have to admit that there's another new one for me as your Chair. Please bear with me. I'm going to take a 10-minute break, and I would strongly urge Mr. Curley to talk with our legal counsel. When we come back, hopefully we will be able to finish off with clause 1 with or without an amendment. So with that, I will take a 10-minute break. (interpretation) Thank you.

>>Committee recessed at 17:06 and resumed at 17:25

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We can resume our meeting. I'm sure that Mr. Curley and our Law Clerk had a discussion. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, *Iksivautaaq*. (interpretation) This will be quick. Mr. Chairman, (interpretation ends) just to be very quick, I am aware, to a certain extent, the onus is on the donor to provide food that is safe for consumption. The bill gives that responsibility to a donor to make sure that whatever they give is safe and so on.

I think many of us know that a majority of the people in Nunavut are not aware of best-before dates and expiry dates. Unlike the southern consumer-conscious people, we're far from that yet. Even with the nutritious foodstuff that is promoted, a lot of it is good work done by the health officials. A lot of people, including myself, don't have a clue of what nutritious food is other than traditional ones. So merchandise-wise, many of our people really need more help in making them aware.

I was trying to ensure that we be a little more specific rather than being very general. I must admit that I don't know about this bill and it really was quite evident during the break that I don't know anything about this bill. So I will withdraw my intent to introduce a motion. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Clause 1. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I would like to ask a question. I would like to get the Inuktitut copy of the *Donation of*

Food Act so that I can ask the appropriate question.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Tapardjuk, while you're waiting for a copy to ask your question appropriately, can I go to another member? Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. While we wait, Mr. Ningark has the floor.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): I was going to make a suggestion following Mr. Curley's comments. (interpretation ends) I was going to suggest that Mr. Curley has every right, every privilege to amend a motion, but since he withdrew his intention to make an amendment, I have nothing else to say. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Are there any other comments on clause 1 while we wait for Mr. Tapardjuk to get the Inuktitut copy? Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you. When this button is pressed, the bells go off.

>> *Laughter*

My question specifically is how *Igunaq* was translated into Inuktitut when it comes to adulterated, rotten, or otherwise unfit, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. I cannot assist you right at this moment although I'm the Chair since I haven't even seen the Inuktitut copy of the bill. Mr. Elliott says that he can help. You may proceed, Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not sure why. The bill was translated into French and Inuktitut. In terms of the terminology, back in January, when the

bill was distributed to all members for comments and feedback, it was actually Mr. Tapardjuk who raised the concern about the wording in terms of *Igunaq*, in terms of rotten, and the terminology, so there was a lot of thought put into how that was going to be handled.

I would like to note that there are many different foods from many different cultures that are served in an aged or fermented state and which are eaten in Canada, including aged cheeses, meats, and fermented soybeans in Asian cuisine. I would note also that the term rotten or spoiled is not synonymous with aged or fermented. I would emphasize that fermented and aged foods can be perfectly fit for human consumption. That was, like I said, in response to Mr. Tapardjuk's concerns back in January, when it was first represented to him. I thank him for presenting that.

The way it was handled with the interpreter/translators, when they were actually... I'll talk about the process, like the mechanical process in terms of interpretation. The interpreter/translators that we use within the Legislative Assembly sat down and there was a discussion because I wanted to make sure that, in the Inuktitut translation, it didn't have the "Igunaq" reference to confuse people. It's not the intent of the bill to confuse people, so the translation should be worded to the effect that it's not fermented and it's not the intent of fermentation, but it would like something that was left out, rotten, and not able to be consumed by a person who was eating it.

So I hope the translation lives up to that because I know our interpreter/translators do an amazing job.

So if Mr. Tapardjuk has the Inuktitut copy and he approves of it, it would be great to know before we go a little bit further. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Mr. Tapardjuk and colleagues, I apologize first of all for not providing the Inuktitut copy of the bill and I will make sure that there are copies in both languages before being presented to the House. I know that Mr. Tapardjuk now has the copy in Inuktitut. If you would like to make further comments, the floor is yours, Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you. Reading it carefully, if the food was adulterated, rotten, or otherwise unfit for human consumption, it's perfectly fine, but in English, it says that rotten means "Igunaq." In Inuktitut, it says "Suruq," which is spoiled. This is specific. Reading this, it seems to be specific for merchandise like canned foods or imported products. As one of our colleagues was saying, sharing food is an Inuit custom. So I would like to ask the sponsor if this bill is specific to our imported foods, not country foods. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, the bill and the intent are for all foods, whether it be country food or whether it be food brought up from the south. As I mentioned before, in terms of rotten and spoiled, in my interpretation of the way the bill reads, it is different from aged. The example I had used initially was the idea of blue cheese. If we're talking about blue cheese, people

don't call it rotten cheese, but it is aged cheese and same with *Igunaq*.

The way I say it, and maybe I'm doing it wrong, I don't say it is rotten walrus meat or rotten narwhal; it's aged narwhal and it's done through a process. That's where it talks about it here, the last part of 1(a). When you ferment it and when you age it, it is fit for human consumption. When it's rotten or spoiled, it is unfit for human consumption. That's the key point that I think the bill was trying to emphasize there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Clause 1. Are there any further comments? Clause 2. Are there any comments? Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to raise this question that probably pertains to walrus hunters especially. Sometimes they harvest walrus that have a sickness or a disease, not by choice, and most walrus meat is tested. However, with other animal species harvested by Inuit hunters, they can physically see the sickness or disease most of the time, but this issue seems to be particularly affecting walrus.

Now, if a hunter harvests a diseased walrus without any testing done on the meat and donates it, would that hunter be liable for causing people to get sick? Has it been included in this section, that there has to be protection for hunters since they can't always physically determine if the animal is sick? Are they liable in this case? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again that's a very good question and a very good point because one of the things that we find and with what some members have said in terms of people donating food, when I was explaining the intention of the bill in Grise Fiord, Resolute Bay, and Arctic Bay, most people said... Well, what Member Ell was saying is we don't understand why we would do something like this. If we go to a feast and there was something that was wrong with it, you're eating traditional food and you get sick, you went to the feast and you got sick, and there is no flipside to it in terms of civil liability. At least from the conversations I had in the High Arctic, it was mainly people felt that it would be the bigger centres in Iqaluit where something would actually end up happening.

In terms of donating food, the bill is intended to shield a person who donates food from civil liability unless they intended to harm another person or who acted recklessly in regard to the safety of others. The person would not be acting in disregard unless they knew that it was. There are already processes in place through the *Public Health Act*. I know you raised it in the House many times about testing of... We're getting into a totally different area which is not the responsibility of the bill, but the testing of walrus and local testing of walrus.

I hope that answers the question, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Clause 2. Are there any questions? Clause 3. Are there any questions? Does the committee agree to Bill 46 as a whole? Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you. I want to refer to clauses 1 and 2. I didn't hear approval for these two clauses and I'm unsure as to whether or not we approved them. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. I also thank you for that reminder. With the different versions I am hearing from our staff here, for the sake of clarity and to ensure that it is properly housed in the record, let me instead note the two clauses independently. Let us return to the sections here. Clause 1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Again, does the committee agree to Bill 46 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Do members agree, pursuant to Rule 62(2), that Bill 46 can immediately be placed on the orders of the day for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Elliott, I would like to thank you for sponsoring the bill. If you have any closing comments, the floor is yours now, Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a few closing comments. I want to thank everyone for the first time I have sat in this chair. It's fine sitting as a regular member and asking the questions, so it's kind of a different perspective when you actually have to answer the questions.

At the same time, I appreciate the questions from Mr. Curley in terms of best-before and expiry dates. By our little extended time in the House dealing with it, maybe that will bring some more public awareness and inspire people to go to some of the websites we talked about or ask Public Health about what does the difference between expiry dates and best-before dates mean. I think we're starting to become more aware that consumer awareness is something that everyone is responsible for, whether we're going to be consumers of goods and services in the community or outside the community.

At the same time, I would like to thank all of the individuals and organizations, "Feeding My Family Nunavut," Skills Nunavut/Skills Canada Cooking Club, the Qayuqtuvik Society, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, the Frobisher Inn, the North West Company, and the Arctic Co-operatives Ltd. for their letters of support. I actually will have a few more letters of support coming that I will table as the sitting goes on.

Thank you to the seconder for seconding the motion, and also our Law Clerk and the Legislative Assembly staff for helping with the hours and hours it does take.

It's amazing in terms of a three-clause bill thinking how it could actually affect

and it's nice that we have the scrutiny in the House as well. I really appreciate Mr. Tapardjuk's questions around country food. I spent quite a bit of time in talking to the HTO chairpersons in all three of my communities just to get different ideas from them as to how this bill will affect them.

Thank you, everyone. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. (interpretation) What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to move a (interpretation ends) motion to report progress. (interpretation) Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. There is a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion, raise your hand. All those opposed. The motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress to the Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. We will continue on with our orders of the day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Enook.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Enook: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 46 and would like to report that Bill 46 is immediately ready for third reading. And, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Thank you, Mr. Elliott. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Mr. Elliott.

Item 21: Third Reading of Bills

Bill 46 – Donation of Food Act – Third Reading

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit West, that Bill 46, *Donation of Food Act*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Any opposed? There being none. I declare the motion passed and Bill 46 has had third reading and is now ready for assent.

Item 22. *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for February 27:

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

8. Written Questions
9. Returns to Written Questions
10. Replies to Opening Address
11. Replies to Budget Address
12. Petitions
13. Responses to Petitions
14. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters
15. Tabling of Documents
16. Notices of Motions
17. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
18. Motions
19. First Reading of Bills
20. Second Reading of Bills
21. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
22. Report of the Committee of the Whole
23. Third Reading of Bills
24. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Clerk, for the first *Orders of the Day* for 2013. This House stands adjourned until Wednesday, February 27, at 1:30 p.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 17:49*

Appendix – February 26, 2013

Return to Oral Question 462 – 3(3): School Community Counsellor Training

Asked by: Joe Enook, MLA (Tununiq)

Asked of: Hon. Eva Aariak, Minister of Education

Date: November 1, 2012

Question:

Mr. Speaker, I would like ask a question. There was a school community counsellor training program from October 15 to 25, which I am very happy to hear. My question is: why were unilingual Inuktitut-speaking people not invited to the school community counsellor training program?

Response:

The school community counsellor training course was instructed in English. There were two bilingual instructors for parts of the training. The Department of Education plans to have a professional development opportunity for Inuktitut speakers in 2013-14 which may be provided by the bilingual instructors.

Return to Oral Question 474 – 3(3): Government of Nunavut’s Legislative Agenda

Asked by: Ron Elliott, MLA (Quttiktuq)

Asked of: Hon. Lorne Kusugak, Government House Leader

Date: November 5, 2012

Question:

Can the House leader indicate what the government’s legislative agenda is for the remainder of our term of office?

Response:

The Government of Nunavut’s legislative agenda is as follows:

- *Public Service Act*
- *An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services Act*
- *Youth Criminal Justice Act*
- *An Act to Amend the Legal Profession Act*
- *Annual Reporting Validation (Nunavut Law Foundation) Act*
- *An Act to Amend the Jury Act*
- *An Act to Amend the Nunavut Teachers Association Act*
- *An Act to Amend the Liquor Act*
- *An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act*
- *Collaboration for Poverty Reduction Act*
- 2 Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Acts

Return to Written Question 019 – 3(3): NAC Courses to Support Early Childhood Education

Asked by: Jeannie Ugyuk, MLA (Nattilik)

Asked of: Hon. Daniel Shewchuk, Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College

Date: October 29, 2012

Question:

1. Broken down by community, what Nunavut Arctic College courses have been delivered to provide education and training to daycare operators and early childhood educators from the 2004-05 fiscal year through to 2012-13 (to date) fiscal year?

Response:

1. Program Delivery

Early Childhood Education courses have been delivered in the following communities in the years indicated. The number of participants is also listed.

ECE Course Delivery-Nunavut Arctic College

2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Pangnirtung-11	Kimmirut-5	No deliveries	No deliveries	Kivalliq Regional delivery Rankin Inlet-7	Pond Inlet-25	Clyde River-16
Kimmirut-9	Iqaluit-10			Arviat-6		Pangnirtung-6
Iqaluit-8				Coral Harbour-3		
				Whale Cove-1		
				Chesterfield Inlet -1		

In 2005-2006 Board of Director Training was offered in the Qiqiktani in the following communities: Pond Inlet, Hall Beach, Arctic Bay, Clyde River, Cape Dorset and Resolute Bay. The training was funded by the Kakivak Association.

Question:

2. What considerations need to be met in order for NAC to decide to deliver community-based courses in early childhood education?

Response:

2. Considerations

- The Community Programs Division of the College conducts annual community needs assessments across the territory as part of the program planning process. Although the need for training in the ECE field is critical in many communities, the final program decision is influenced by two considerations: level of community support, including the availability of a cooperating Daycare facility (open or planned) to provide practicum placements and availability of third party funding.
- The Early Childhood Education program is not base funded through the GN contribution to the college. The program can only be offered when third party funding sources are found. Funding support is usually found through contributions from Regionallnuit organizations and/or the Department of Education.

Question:

3. Broken down by community, what Nunavut Arctic College courses are being planned to provide education and training to daycare operators and early childhood educators for the remainder of the 2012-13 fiscal year and the 2013-14 fiscal year?

Response:

3. Current and Future Plans

- In 2012-2013 Nunavut Arctic College is currently delivering Early Childhood Education Programs at three sites in Nunavut:
 - Baker Lake: A full certificate program (10 courses). This is funded through a partnership agreement with the Nunavut Department of Education.
 - Hall Beach: A full certificate program (10 courses). This is funded through a partnership agreement with Kakivak.
 - Pond Inlet: Two core courses are offered to students who have already had a background in Early Childhood Education. This is funded through a partnership with the Nunavut Department of Education.
- The Aboriginal Head Start Program, a Division of Childhood and Adolescence within the Public Health Agency of Canada have indicated a strong interest in supporting ECE training in Nunavut.
- The college has submitted a multi-year proposal to the PHAC to deliver ECE training courses across the territory, beginning with delivery of entry level ECE courses in six communities starting in January 2013 (Cape Dorset / Arviat / Rankin Inlet / Repulse Bay/ Coral Harbour and Taloyoak).

- Course delivery will expand to include other communities. Exact locations to be determined through community consultations.
- The proposal has reached the second level of evaluation.

Return to Written Question 020 – 3(3): Government of Nunavut Staff Housing and Public Housing Units Equipped with Hurricane Strapping

Asked by: Joe Enook, MLA (Tununiq)

Asked of: Hon. Peter Taptuna, Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation

Date: November 5, 2012

Question:

1. Broken down by community and type of unit, how many Government of Nunavut staff housing units and public housing units have been equipped with hurricane straps?

Response:

The Nunavut Housing Corporation had equipped public housing units with permanent steel cables as part of Modernization and Improvement projects in the 1970's. In May, 2012, staff housing units were equipped with metal tension straps to facilitate structural repairs.

A total of sixty nine (69) public housing single family dwellings in two (2) communities within Nunavut have been permanently equipped with steel cables. These cables are placed over the roof of the house and are tied to 45 gallon drums filled with rocks which are buried in the soil. This process is also referred to as hurricane ties, or hurricane tie-downs. See below the breakdown by community.

Grise Fiord	4 x public housing Single Family Dwellings
Pangnirtung	65 x public housing Single Family Dwellings

Twelve (12) Government of Nunavut staff housing 4-plex and 6-plex buildings have been equipped with metal tension straps that secure the structure to the steel pile foundation. This was done to compensate for the improper fastening of the roof assembly to the exterior wall assembly at the time of construction. The steel straps were designed and installed in accordance with the engineer's report and recommendations. See below the breakdown by community.

Pond Inlet	2 x 4-plex staff housing two-storey townhouse
	2 x 6-plex staff housing two-storey townhouse

Cape Dorset	2 x 4-plex staff housing two-storey townhouse
	2 x 6-plex staff housing two-storey townhouse

Pangnirtung 2 x 4-plex staff housing two-storey townhouse
 2 x 6-plex staff housing two-storey townhouse

Question:

2. Broken down by category of expenditure, what have been the total costs to date associated with equipping hurricane straps to Government of Nunavut staff housing and public housing units?

Response:

The costs of installing hurricane tie-downs in the sixty nine (69) single family dwellings located in Pangnirtung and four (4) single family dwellings located in Grise Fiord were absorbed by the Nunavut Housing Corporation (NHC) as part of Modernization and Improvement projects in the 1970's.

Northern Properties REIT, the landlord of the 4-plex and 6-plex buildings in Pond Inlet, Cape Dorset and Pangnirtung assumed all liability and structural repair costs to these buildings and the GN owned buildings of the same design. The installation of the metal tension straps and additional repairs to the buildings was at no cost to the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

Question:

3. Does the Nunavut Housing Corporation plan to equip every Government of Nunavut staff housing and/or public housing unit with hurricane straps and, if so, how many additional staff housing and public housing units require hurricane strapping?

Response:

The Nunavut Housing Corporation has no plans to equip any other Government of Nunavut staff housing or public housing with hurricane strapping or hurricane tie-downs.

Question:

4. What is the Nunavut Housing Corporation's timeline for equipping additional staff housing and/or public housing units with hurricane strapping?

Response:

The Nunavut Housing Corporation does not anticipate needing to equip any staff housing or public housing units with hurricane straps or hurricane tie-downs.

Question:

5. What are the Nunavut Housing Corporation's guidelines and/or criteria for determining whether staff housing and/or public housing units require hurricane strapping?

Response:

In Pangnirtung, most buildings built prior to 1975 were permanently retrofitted with hurricane tie-downs. These buildings are supported on wooden foundations and can shift from their supports when hit by severe winds if they are not tied down. The sixty-nine (69) public housing single family dwellings in Pangnirtung and the four (4) public housing single family dwellings in Grise Fiord were built prior to this time and are permanently equipped with hurricane tie-downs due to the extreme wind conditions regularly experienced in these two communities.

In newer buildings built to the standards of the National Building Code, hurricane strapping is not required.

As of 5 Nov 2012	GN Decentralized Positions									Government of Nunavut					
	Status of Positions					Beneficiary		Hire Location		Status of Positions			Beneficiary		
Pond Inlet	Commitment	Unidentified, unfunded or obsolete	Vacant	Overall vacancy rate (%)	Filled	Yes	Inuit employment rate (%)	Local Community	Nunavut	Outside Nunavut	Total	Overall Vacancy Rate (%)	Filled	Yes	Inuit Employment Rate (%)
	57	1	6	10.53%	50	26	52.00%	37	5	8	162	19.14%	131	80	61.07%

Chart, Page 140

As of 5 Nov 2012	Total GN Positions			GN Decentralized Positions			Balance of GN Positions		
	Total GN	Filled	Overall Capacity (%)	Commitment	Filled	Overall Capacity (%)	Balance of GN	Filled	Overall Capacity (%)
Pond Inlet	162	131	80.86%	57	50	87.72%	105	81	77.14%

Chart, Page 143

As of 5 Nov 2012	Total GN Positions			GN Decentralized Positions			Balance of GN Positions		
	Total GN	Vacant**	Overall Vacancy (%)	Commitment	Vacant**	Overall Vacancy (%)	Balance of GN	Vacant**	Overall Vacancy (%)
Pond Inlet	162	31	19.14%	57	7	12.28%	105	24	22.86%

**Vacant (overall) includes positions filled temporarily and identified, unfunded, or obsolete positions

Chart, Page 145

As of 5 Nov 2012	Commitment	Unidentified, unfunded, and obsolete positions by Department or Agency														Total	
		CGS	CH	EDT	EDU	ENV	EIA	FIN	HSS	HR	JUS	NAC	NDC	NHC	QEC	P-Y	%
Pond Inlet	57	1													1	1.75%	
Page 146																	
As of 5 Nov 2012	Commitment	Vacant positions by Department or Agency														Total	
		CGS	CH	EDT	EDU	ENV	EIA	FIN	HSS	HR	JUS	NAC	NDC	NHC	QEC	P-Y	%
Pond Inlet	57	4			2										6	10.53%	
Page 147		* not including unidentified, unfunded and obsolete positions															
As of 5 Nov 2012	Commitment	Vacant positions filled temporarily by Department or Agency														Total	
		CGS	CH	EDT	EDU	ENV	EIA	FIN	HSS	HR	JUS	NAC	NDC	NHC	QEC	P-Y	%
Pond Inlet	57	1			2										3	5.26%	
Page 148		*casual staffing actions fulfill roles identified temporarily by departments, and may encompass some or all of the duties of the job title provided															
As of 5 Nov 2012	Commitment	Vacant positions not filled by Department or Agency*														Total	
		CGS	CH	EDT	EDU	ENV	EIA	FIN	HSS	HR	JUS	NAC	NDC	NHC	QEC	P-Y	%
Pond Inlet	57	3													3	5.26%	
Page 149		*Incorrect former chart title "Filled Temporarily"															

As of 5 Nov 2012	Total GN Positions				GN Decentralized Positions				Balance of GN Positions			
	Total GN	Filled	Beneficiaries	Inuit employment (%)	Commitment	Filled	Beneficiaries	Inuit employment (%)	Balance of GN	Filled	Beneficiaries	Inuit employment (%)
Pond Inlet	162	131	80	61.07%	57	50	26	52.00%	105	81	54	66.67%

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Year	Total GN positions												GN decentralized positions											
	2004 (Dec 31)			2006 (Sep 30)			2010 (Sep 30)			2012 (Nov 5)			2004 (Dec 31)			2006 (Sep 30)			2010 (Sep 30)			2012 (Nov 5)		
	Total GN	Vacant	Beneficiaries	Total GN	Vacant	Beneficiaries	Total GN	Vacant	Beneficiaries	Total GN	Vacant	Beneficiaries	Commitment	Vacant (including unidentified)	Beneficiaries	Unidentified, unfulfilled, obsolete	Vacant	Beneficiaries	Unidentified, unfulfilled, obsolete	Vacant	Beneficiaries	Unidentified, unfulfilled, obsolete	Vacant	Beneficiaries
Pond Inlet	120	18	62	131	15	69	147	20	78	162	31	80	57	16	n/a	1	10	n/a	1	8	31	1	6	26

Chart, Page 153

Return to Written Question 022 – 3(3): Allocation of Conservation Officers

Asked by: Joe Enook, MLA (Tununiq)

Asked of: Hon. James Arreak, Minister of Environment

Date: November 5, 2012

Question:

1. Broken down by community and rank of conservation officer, how many conservation officers are currently employed by the Government of Nunavut?

Response:

The Government of Nunavut employs 30 Conservation Officers, broken down by rank and community as follows:

Community:	Rank:	Number of Positions:
1. Arctic Bay	Conservation Officer II	1
2. Arviat	Conservation Officer III	1
3. Baker Lake	Conservation Officer III & II	2
4. Cape Dorset	Conservation Officer II	1
5. Cambridge Bay	Conservation Officer III & II	2
6. Chesterfield	Conservation Officer II	1
7. Clyde River	Conservation Officer II	1
8. Coral Harbor	Conservation Officer II	1
9. Gjoa Haven	Conservation Officer II	1
10. Grise Fiord	Conservation Officer II	1
11. Hall Beach	Conservation Officer II	1
12. Igloolik	Conservation Officer III	1
13. Iqaluit	Conservation Officer III & II	2
14. Kimmirut	Conservation Officer II	1
15. Kugaaruk	Conservation Officer II	1
16. Kugluktuk	Conservation Officer III & II	2
17. Pangnirtung	Conservation Officer III	1
18. Pond Inlet	Conservation Officer II	1
19. Qikiqtarjuaq	Conservation Officer II	1
20. Rankin Inlet	Conservation Officer III & II	2
21. Repulse Bay	Conservation Officer II	1
22. Resolute Bay	Conservation Officer II	1
23. Sanikiluaq	Conservation Officer II	1
24. Taloyoak	Conservation Officer II	1
25. Whale Cove	Conservation Officer II	1

Question:

2. With respect to communities that are allocated more than one conservation officer, what are the department's guidelines and/or criteria for determining the allocation of additional conservation officers for the community?

Response:

The Department of Environment allocates Conservation Officers by community based on an assessment of Conservation Office's workload and other factors that include: level of wildlife harvesting activities in or near the community; wildlife monitoring needs; wildlife-human conflicts; general frequency of violations; and program delivery needs including the volume of fur/sealskin purchases. Size of community is not necessarily a determining factor as some smaller communities might require a greater presence of Conservation Officers due to the factors identified above.

Question:

3. With respect to communities that are allocated one conservation officer, what are the Department of Environment's guidelines and practices to ensure continuity of service in circumstances where the conservation officer is on approved leave?

Response:

When a Conservation Officer is absent for an extended period of time due to leave or other factors, the Regional Manager is responsible for ensuring continuity of service. A number of arrangements may be made in those circumstances, including: arranging for the Hunters and Trappers Organization to issue permits, assist in the purchase seal skins, and/or pay for harvest samples; sending in relief officers from another community; and hiring casual support staff. The frequency of sending an officer in and the length of stay for the relief officer are determined by the Regional Manager based on volume and urgency of issues that may need to be addressed.