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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*

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(Quttiktuq)

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(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)

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Whole*

Hon. Peter Taptuna

(Kugluktuk)

*Deputy Premier; Minister of
Economic Development and
Transportation; Minister of
Energy; Minister responsible for the
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**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Friday, March 1, 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 9:01

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. Hunter Tootoo):

Qujannamiik, Sergeant-at-Arms. Before we proceed with today's sitting, I would like to ask Mr. Elliott to start us off with a prayer, please.

>>Prayer

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. (interpretation ends) We will move on with our orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Minister Ell.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements**Minister's Statement 233 – 3(3): QEC Obtains COR Accreditation**

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Good morning. I say "good morning" to the residents of Iqaluit East. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to announce that on January 8, 2013, the Qulliq Energy Corporation was awarded certificate of recognition

accreditation after successfully passing an external audit of its safety program by the Northern Safety Association.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the Northern Safety Association is the only certifying body in the territories from which a certificate of recognition can be obtained and QEC is the first company in Nunavut to achieve this accreditation.

The certificate of recognition is an occupational health and safety program accreditation for industry employers aimed at reducing the human and financial costs associated with workplace incidents and injuries.

The Northern Safety Association is a Yellowknife-based operation funded by the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut (WSCC).

Mr. Speaker, to achieve certificate of recognition accreditation, QEC has made significant improvements to the existing health and safety program.

To ensure QEC's safety program is based on continuous improvement and to maintain the certificate of recognition accreditation, QEC shall undergo an [external] audit of the program every three years and must also successfully pass an internal audit of the entire health and safety program on an annual basis.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, QEC's participation in the development and operation of the Certificate of Recognition program with the Northern Safety Association and the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut will

substantially contribute to reducing workplace accidents, ill health, and their associated costs both to QEC and, more importantly, to our employees and the public.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the health and safety team at the Qulliq Energy Corporation for all their hard work in this accomplishment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Ell. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Minister Aariak.

**Minister's Statement 234 – 3(3):
Iqaluit Students Attend Toronto
Student Film Festival**

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Good morning, Mr. Speaker. I say "good morning" to all Nunavummiut. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the Aqsarniit Film Club in Iqaluit is an inspiring example of how our younger generations are bringing Nunavut to the rest of the world.

Twelve students from the Aqsarniit Film Club have produced eight short films and submitted them to the annual Toronto Student Film Festival competition. The students and film club instructor Mark Caine will travel to Toronto for the screening of their films on Friday, April 26, at Innis Hall, University of Toronto.

Mr. Speaker, the Aqsarniit Film Club is an exceptional filmmaking education program offered after school for the last four years. The club helps students

develop the skills needed for filmmaking. It exposes them to the wide variety of career opportunities in the film and television industry and broadens their understanding of the social issues that affect their culture, community, and environment.

In the past, students in the Aqsarniit Film Club have produced powerful films dealing with the issues of drug and alcohol abuse. This year, they have focused their filmmaking efforts on the subject of bullying. They will be able to showcase their work at this important international film festival in Toronto thanks to the generous support of First Air, CISCO Canada, Virtual Researcher On Call, and the Iqaluit District Education Authority.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to wish the filmmakers from Aqsarniit Middle School in Iqaluit great success at the competition. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Minister. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Department of Environment, Minister Arreak.

**Minister's Statement 235 – 3(3):
Inaugural Delivery of the
"Nunavut Environmental
Assessment Course" in
Partnership between the
Department of Environment and
the Arctic College's
Environmental Technology
Program**

Hon. James Arreak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to inform this

House about how the Government of Nunavut is helping to prepare Nunavummiut to have a greater say in managing the development of our lands and resources, an important commitment that this government made in *Tamapta*, the Government of Nunavut's action plan. To do this, the Department of Environment has partnered with Nunavut Arctic College to deliver training and capacity building in environmental assessment.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavut holds significant deposits of mineral, oil, and gas resources. The development of these resources has the potential to bring investment and tax revenues, as well as jobs and business opportunities to Nunavut. However, Mr. Speaker, large-scale development projects also bring significant social and environmental issues that Nunavut must address through the environmental assessment processes that were created under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. This year, the Department of Environment developed a brand-new course to train Nunavummiut on how decisions are made to allow companies to develop Nunavut's resources.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that this month, the first group of students has completed the "Nunavut Environmental Assessment Course." This unique course is now part of the curriculum of the Nunavut Arctic Colleges' flagship Environmental Technology Program, and will continue to prepare Nunavummiut to participate in the decisions that are being made for a wide range of new development projects being proposed in the territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Department of Culture and Heritage, Minister Arreak.

Minister's Statement 236 – 3(3): Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Katimajit

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will put on a different hat. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to recognize the 11 members appointed recently to the *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Katimajit*. They will serve as an advisory on *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* to the Government of Nunavut and its agencies. The appointments are for three years

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to read the names of the appointed members:

Saul Qirngnirq - Gjoa Haven
Ovide Alakannuark - Kugaaruk
Annie Napayok - Whale Cove
Gamailee Kilukishak - Pond Inlet
Josephine Kublu - Igloolik
Daniel Qattalik - Igloolik
Okpik Pitseolak - Iqaluit
Martha Michael - Iqaluit
Martha Tikivik - Iqaluit
Adamie Veevee - Pangnirtung
Levi Evic - Pangnirtung

Mr. Speaker, I am looking forward to receiving recommendations, advice, and support from the new *Katimajit*. Their work will contribute to the implementation of Inuit societal values and *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* within all aspects of the Government of Nunavut operations and its public agencies. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Arreak. (interpretation ends)
Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Department of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Minister's Statement 237 – 3(3): 2013
Frozen Globe Awards**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Ullaakkut*, colleagues, Nunavummiut, and Kuglukturmiut. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to the Nunavut businesses which were honoured at the inaugural Frozen Globe Awards ceremony held in Yellowknife on February 21.

Al and Joyce Lahure of Baker Lake Contracting and Supplies came home with the Best Nunavut Entrepreneur Award, and Dr. Leia Cunningham's NunaVet Animal Hospital won the Business on the Rise Award.

>>Applause

Organized by Up Here Business, the Frozen Globe Awards recognize northern businesses and entrepreneurs for achieving excellence in their industry.

The development of our business sector goes hand in hand with the development of our economy and improving standards of living. So it is important that we continue to recognize innovative businesses who offer competitive goods and services in Nunavut's communities.

The next Frozen Globe Awards ceremony will be held in Whitehorse in 2014, and we can look forward to Iqaluit hosting the awards ceremony in 2015. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

Item 3: Members' Statements

**Member's Statement 392 – 3(3): Safe
Housing in Nunavut**

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about the importance of safe housing in our communities.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, many of our constituents live in public housing units. I have been a strong supporter of the government's efforts to obtain additional federal funding with which to construct much needed new public housing units in Nunavut.

However, Mr. Speaker, we need to be realistic and recognize that our housing shortage will not be solved overnight. In the meantime, it is important that we make every effort to ensure that the homes in which our constituents presently live are safe and in good condition.

Mr. Speaker, it is a well-known fact that mould in homes can contribute to significant health problems. A number of my constituents have raised concerns that their units, including ones that were

constructed relatively recently, are suffering from such problems as mould.

Mr. Speaker, I call on the Nunavut Housing Corporation to make every effort to ensure that our public housing stock is in good condition and that such issues as mould are addressed as a matter of priority. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 393 – 3(3): 2012
Frozen Globe Awards**

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Along the lines of my colleague, Minister Taptuna, I rise today to congratulate Nunavut's winners of the 2012 Frozen Globe Awards.

Mr. Speaker, the Frozen Globe Awards is organized by Up Here Business magazine. Its partners include the three territorial governments. The gala awards ceremony was held in Yellowknife, as indicated, in late February.

Mr. Speaker, three dynamic businesses were recognized in the category of "Nunavut Entrepreneur of the Year." The winners were Al and Joyce Lahure of Baker Lake, who own Baker Lake Contracting and Supplies Ltd. The Lahures are well-respected residents of Baker Lake who have been in business for many years.

Mr. Speaker, the other Nunavummiut who were recognized in this category were John Hickes and Page Burt of

Rankin Inlet, who own and operate Nanuq Lodge, as well as Sandi Gillis of Cambridge Bay, who owns and operates Qillaq Innovations.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, I have spoken in this House on a number of occasions about the importance of a dynamic and healthy business sector in Nunavut. The businesses that were recognized at the Frozen Globe Awards are all excellent examples of locally owned and operated enterprises. The entrepreneurial spirit demonstrated by these companies is complemented by their commitment to being fully a part of the communities in which they operate.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating Nunavut's winners of the 2012 Frozen Globe Awards. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

**Member's Statement 394 – 3(3):
Sanikiluaq's First Responders**

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to pay tribute to Sanikiluaq's first responders.

Mr. Speaker, as the House is aware, a tragic incident occurred in Sanikiluaq shortly before Christmas when a Perimeter Aviation flight from Winnipeg crashed on approach to the community.

Mr. Speaker, a young infant died in this incident. I know that you and other members join me in extending our sympathies to the family.

Mr. Speaker, the community's response to this incident was inspiring. I want to express my appreciation to the municipality, the local search and rescue committee, the RCMP, the health centre staff, the Canadian Rangers, airport staff, housing association staff, local businesses, and community volunteers who worked quickly and tirelessly in the aftermath of this incident.

Mr. Speaker, officials from the federal Transportation Safety Board arrived in Sanikiluaq shortly after the incident occurred. I am confident that the investigation into the incident will be comprehensive and that recommendations will come forward to help improve aviation safety in and around Sanikiluaq.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in paying tribute to Sanikiluaq's first responders. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 395 – 3(3):
Appreciation to Interpreters**

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good morning" to my constituents, especially those in Hall Beach, as they were finally able to watch the proceedings via television the day before yesterday.

Mr. Speaker, the reason why I rise today is to identify and to extend my gratitude, as well as to recognize the interpreters here in Nunavut, including the translators who provide language

interpretation into the other languages. We tend not to recognize the interpreters who go through some very hard training and who connect unilingual people. The interpreters manage to connect these people.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday, we were informed by the Minister for Languages, my *Annuraaqatik*, that the *Official Languages Act* will come into force on April 1. I'm assuming our interpreter/translators will have a lot more duties to perform to ensure that the people of Nunavut understand the laws.

Mr. Speaker, right now, our current interpreters in this House are legal interpreters and they also interpret at other meetings. I want your support to thank and recognize the interpreters. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. I thank the interpreters. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Oshutapik.

**Member's Statement 396 – 3(3):
Queen Elizabeth II Diamond
Jubilee Medal Recipients from
Pangnirtung**

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to my fellow residents in Pangnirtung and Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to thank my fellow MLAs.

I also rise today to recognize my constituents in Pangnirtung, the three recipients of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. In Canada, we have a sovereign queen. They were

proud of their achievements and also for the work they performed to be recognized for the medal.

I want my colleagues to join me in congratulating the three people and they are: a young person, Jenna Kilabuk, for her work with assisting youth through recreation and other matters; Jayco Ishulutak, who is a carver and tries to help his fellow Inuit; and thirdly, Meeka Arnaqaq, who is a lay minister and helps out people in any way, and she got recognized for her work.

I ask my fellow MLAs to join me in congratulating the recipients of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 397 – 3(3): The Success of the Northern Youth Abroad Program

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I begin my Member's Statement, I would like to apologize to one of my constituents. During my Member's Statement on Tuesday honouring the recipients of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medals, I neglected to name Susan Salluviniq from Resolute Bay who was honoured with one of the medals.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the ongoing success of the Northern Youth Abroad Program which, over the past 15 years, has provided opportunities to more than 225 Nunavut youth to live and

work in southern Canada and sub-Saharan Africa.

Mr. Speaker, youth involved in the Northern Youth Abroad Program earn high school credits and gain work experience and life skills during their participation. This, in turn, has an immensely positive impact on educational achievements and career opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to inform you that four youth from my constituency have been selected for the 2013 Northern Youth Abroad Canadian Phase of the program. They are:

- Andrew Iyerak;
- Napassi Joseph;
- Donathon Kigutikakjuk as an alternate; and
- Stacy Shappa as an alternate.

Mr. Speaker, Jaqueline Arnayumayuq is also an alternate in the international phase of the program as she participated and completed the Canadian phase last year.

These youth are all from the community of Arctic Bay.

Mr. Speaker, the Northern Youth Abroad Program has a longstanding and supportive relationship with the Government of Nunavut and I am pleased to note that the government's proposed budget for 2013-14 includes a significant increase in contribution funding for the Northern Youth Abroad Program.

Initiatives such as the Northern Youth Abroad Program help to enhance the confidence and worldview of young

Nunavummiut, which can lead to higher levels of education and skill attainment. Mr. Speaker, programs of this kind help prepare our youth of today to become the leaders of tomorrow.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating all the participants who have been selected for the 2013 Northern Youth Abroad Program and to the program as a whole for over 15 years of success in supporting and encouraging our youth. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 398 – 3(3):
Avataq Hockey Tournament**

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you and good morning, Mr. Speaker. I also pass along good morning wishes to residents of Rankin Inlet and Whale Cove. It is Friday and I am happy it is, as there weren't many Fridays where the Montreal Canadiens were in first place. Today, they are in first place, so I am quite happy.

I am from Rankin Inlet, so I want to share my pride in an upcoming event. Over the weekend, there is an annual hockey tournament around this time. The Avataq Hockey Tournament will once again be run, and Rankin Inlet will have a large number of transient people watching the tournament. I envy those who will witness the tournament, but I have duties to attend to here, so I unfortunately can't attend.

I am proud of this tournament and hockey players playing in the tournament have a good weekend playing in the tournament. Please note that the residents of Rankin Inlet will be very hospitable, as is their norm, and I know there will be many recreational activities planned. Some fans rarely seem to leave the hockey arena during this event and they will once again be found at the arena, Mr. Speaker.

We tend to hear about certain people who are asked to return home since they seemingly abandoned their children during the tournament. So you will hear on the radio about certain elders to go home, such as Tuaji, Misiraalaaq, Tattuinee, Aliyak, and Tullit. They usually go to the arena in the morning and don't return home until the last hockey game is over. Our elders in the community totally get immersed in the hockey games and they enjoy this time, so I can just envision them there.

I wish all the hockey teams a good tournament that are travelling to Rankin Inlet. You will be welcomed in Rankin Inlet and I hope it is an injury-free tournament. So I welcome all of the hockey players and fans who will attend this tournament in Rankin Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Kusugak. Item 3. Members' Statements. We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Madam Minister of Education, Minister Aariak.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned earlier, I was proud of the young filmmakers at the middle school. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the Iqaluit Aqsarniit Middle School Film Club whose work I have mentioned earlier today and the names are:

Hope Carpenter, if you can stand up as I call you;
Christie-Ann West;
Sarah Kuutiq;
Catherine Suklan;
Sadie Pincett;
Sheldma Niuresz;
Daniel Kaziz-Calamayin;
Kundai Andre Makaika;

Excuse my pronunciation here.

Emily Grace Matthews;
Malaya Idlout Mullin;
Faith Twerdin;
Ben Qaqasiq;
Kunuk Rojas;
Malaya Aqatsiaq;
Misuma Umiunva-Nuvas;
Emily-Ann Niego;
Nicole Amagoalik; and
Their grade 7 teacher, Mark Caine, and the principal is Don Peters. Give them a big hand.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Minister. I welcome you all to the Gallery and hope you have a great trip to Toronto and learn lots.

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 511 – 3(3): Conduct of Recent Municipal Elections

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services, Hon. Lorne Kusugak, who is responsible for the administration of the *Local Authorities Elections Act*.

As I noted earlier this week, Nunavummiut went to the polls last fall to elect new municipal councils and mayors in a number of communities. Can the minister advise the House if any significant problems were reported to his department regarding the conduct of the recent municipal elections? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, there were no significant problems reported. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier this week, you tabled the most recent annual report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut. These annual reports include the official voting results of territorial general

elections and by-elections, which then become matters of public record.

However, under the *Local Authorities Elections Act*, there is currently no legal requirement to table the official results from municipal elections.

Will the minister commit to tabling the official voting results from the 2012 municipal elections in the Legislative Assembly before the end of the winter sitting? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is no requirement to table the local municipal elections results in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the response as well. Federal and territorial elections do follow such as Acts. I want to ask the minister if he will commit to bringing forward an amendment to the *Local Authorities Elections Act* to require municipal voting results to be tabled in the Legislative Assembly for the benefit of the permanent public record. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The municipal election results

are always available through the municipalities and through the media and other means. Therefore, I don't have any intentions and our department has no plans either to amend the Act to make a requirement to do such. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Canadians and Nunavut Canadians, we have the fundamental right to perform civic duties. The *Local Authorities Elections Act* prohibits such things as intimidation of voters and corrupt practices. These rules are essential to ensuring that Nunavummiut have confidence in the integrity of the democratic process. Can the minister indicate how many complaints and/or investigations concerning breaches of the *Local Authorities Elections Act* have been undertaken in the last five years? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We don't have that level of detailed information before us. We would have to go back five years to look into that, Mr. Speaker. I'm not able to respond to that at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Oral Questions. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Schell.

Question 512 – 3(3): Meeting with Nunavut MP

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for Madam Premier and it's in line with the questions that I have been asking the last couple of days.

She had quoted during the week of February 14 that she had met with Prime Minister Stephen Harper and had requested \$500 million for two projects in Nunavut. Also, she had stated or it had been stated in the media report that she had met with our local MP, Leona Aglukkaq, also John Duncan, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, and Peter Penashue, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and President of the Queen's Privy Council of Canada. My question for the Premier is: did she meet with Leona Aglukkaq during the week of February 14 and what issues and concerns did she discuss with her? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate my fellow colleague's sudden interest in my affairs with my dialogues with Ottawa and I thank him for that.

On February 14, I did not meet with Ms. Leona Aglukkaq, but prior to that date, I was on a telephone conference with her. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Then I'll ask: did she meet with John Duncan or Peter Penashue during that week of February 14? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During that week, I met with Peter Penashue and it was a very good meeting and I thank him for accommodating me for that day. Again, I did not meet with Minister Duncan that week, but I was on a telephone conference with him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, according to the media report, it states in here that she had met with all of these individuals during that week. Did she see the media report and, if that wasn't correct, why didn't she correct it or make comments on it? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, I did not see the media report. Media reports sometimes come out with certain things that may not be totally accurate in terms of the dates and whatnot. Just to reiterate, I did not see the media documents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I find it hard to believe that neither her nor staff have seen the report because I'm sure they read the *Nunatsiaq News* online at all times there, but I'll have to take her word for it. I find it hard to believe that she has not seen that report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: No question there, just a comment. Oral Questions. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Tapardjuk.

Question 513 – 3(3): Exemptions in Official Languages Law

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

It has been a long wait, but I was pleased to finally hear the minister's announcement yesterday that Nunavut's new *Official Languages Act* will come into force on April 1, 2013. I noted, however, that he specifically stated that subsection 12(7)(c) of the Act will not be coming into force.

For the benefit of the listening public, section 12 addresses communication with and services to the public by a territorial institution. It states, in part, under subsection 12(7), "The administrative head of a territorial institution shall take appropriate measures consistent with this Act, including posting such signs, providing such notices or taking such other measures as are appropriate..."

(c) to implement this section with respect to its communications and services to the public, including communications or services that are delivered through contract with a third party."

Can the minister clearly explain why subsection 12(7)(c) of the *Official Languages Act* is not coming into force and can he clarify if the government plans to bring it into force at a later date? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my *Annuraaqatik*, Mr. Tapardjuk, for asking a very good question which needs to be known by the public.

The new Nunavut *Official Languages Act* will be coming into force on April 1, however, section 12(7)(c) will not be enforced. The reasoning for this section not being implemented is that the third party contracts listed in there are quite numerous. I believe there are over 1,000 contracts listed, such as the RCMP contract which is quite lengthy and it includes many other contracts, quite long and numerous.

Due to these reasons, although we will be enacting the legislation with all languages being used that are recognized as official languages within Nunavut are coming into force, however, they are not all on the same starting point, especially with the new sections and that is why we have to use all three official languages when we introduce any documentation.

When the Act comes into force, we will let the members know when the other sections noted will become law. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For the unilingual people, we are left out and I'm not sure when the other Act will be coming into force.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Culture and Heritage is responsible for administering federal funding under the Canada-Nunavut General Agreement for French and Inuit Languages. Last year, the federal government made \$2.7 million in funding available for language programs. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister if he can provide an update on how much of this funding has been used to address Nunavut's language needs in the current fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is because we don't want to screw it up and that is why this has been deferred. It is not abandoned, as we will have to introduce it afterwards. However, even if we were to await the start date that was mentioned, perhaps 12, so rather than have one section late, we prefer to initiate them together on the same date, especially for the recognition of official languages and these Acts.

At that time when I had wanted to

introduce the Uqausivut report on the language issue, I wanted to table that and strengthen our arguments to negotiate the language issues with the federal government, especially when speaking about Inuktitut and Nunavut's official languages. I also stated that we would be able to reintroduce the report. Once it was completed, we would be able to garner more funding for this initiative.

At this time, the status hasn't changed. We are still expecting further funding for Nunavut down the road, specifically for languages in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I should have gotten some clarification first about the \$2.7 million that is going to be used for official languages. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister if he can provide an update on how much of this funding has been used to address Nunavut's language needs in the current fiscal year. Has the money been spent and where did it get spent? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time, I don't have a breakdown of how that money has been spent. We get \$2.45 million for Inuktitut and French languages and this money is used for programs related to those languages. At the end of the fiscal year, I don't have a breakdown of how that money has been

spent, but we use it in every Nunavut community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Also I thank the minister for those expectations I will now hold onto as to when they will come into force.

In his Budget Address that was delivered earlier this week, the Minister of Finance indicated that \$7 million would be allocated to Culture and Heritage for the Official Languages Program, with \$5 million for the Language Implementation Fund. Can the Minister of Culture and Heritage clarify how departments, agencies, municipalities, and private sector organizations will be able to access these funds as they seek to meet their obligations under the new *Official Languages Act*? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank Mr. Tapardjuk for wanting public awareness about this issue.

Yes, the \$5 million is assistance funding for the departments to have government documents converted into Inuktitut and to ensure that they are using the language. Whenever departments require assistance, the department of Heritage and Culture will administer the funds, as well as the action items required that would qualify.

The question the member posed about the fund will be distributed in that manner. Further, the expectations the members alluded to, will be released once we have completed the work and when they are able to be implemented. For section 12(7)(c), once it is completed we will be tabling it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 514 – 3(3): Medical Boarding Homes for Rankin Inlet and Cambridge Bay

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my questions to the Minister of Health and Social Services. He's probably feeling my heart beat since he's so close to me.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, medical clients from the Baffin region who travel to Iqaluit for appointments and medical treatment at the Qikiqtani General Hospital have a well-supported boarding home to stay in. Their medical appointments are coordinated, food and transportation is provided, and they are well looked after. I am happy for them. By contrast, medical clients travelling for medical services at the regional health facilities in Rankin Inlet and Cambridge Bay have no such boarding facility to go to and nowhere near the same level of support for food, transportation, and coordination of appointments.

Can the minister clearly explain why the communities of Rankin Inlet and Cambridge Bay do not have medical

boarding facilities for medical clients travelling from communities within the region? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Ningeongan for his question. Indeed, I felt his heart beating. He's that close, or is it the heat from his heart?

Mr. Speaker, it's a very difficult question to answer. I know, in the Government of Nunavut, in the early days of this territory, they planned for two regional health centres, one in Cambridge Bay and one in Rankin Inlet. They had good intentions. I don't think the planning was complete.

As we all know, in most communities in Nunavut, housing is in short supply. When they planned the regional health facilities, there was oversight in planning for housing to support the facilities and that has been a serious issue in Cambridge Bay. I'm well aware, from my days when I was mayor, I used to ask the government, "Where's the housing so we can house the nurses and doctors?" So it's a real issue.

If we are to build facilities and provide facilities, we would have to have discussions with Health Canada because they pay for the services under the Non-Insured Health Benefits Program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister Peterson, for your response. Currently, medical clients travelling to Rankin Inlet from outlying communities have to find relatives to stay with or stay in hotels. It is often difficult to find accommodation with relatives who, in addition, are often not compensated for what they provide. This arrangement also results in a loss of communication about appointments and travel. Can the minister explain why medical clients travelling to the Kivalliq regional centre are expected to rely on the support of their relatives while in places, such as Iqaluit, Ottawa, or Winnipeg, such services are provided? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I again thank Mr. Ningeongan for the question. Mr. Speaker, to address one comment in his question, we rely on billets in Cambridge Bay and Rankin Inlet. So if the billets feel that they're not being compensated, then they should talk to our regional office. I believe they're entitled to \$100 a day for providing accommodation and meals to their billets. If they're providing private accommodations, then they're entitled to \$50 a day. We're not expecting free service for medical patients.

With respect to why the facilities are in the south, in Ottawa or Iqaluit or Winnipeg or Edmonton or Yellowknife, for that matter, it gets back to lack of housing. If we don't have housing for nurses and physicians who can offer specialized services, then we do have to send the folks south. Until we have

facilities like boarding homes, we will likely continue to rely on billets. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, minister, for your response. As I stated earlier, at times, there appears to be some problems with communications if and when patients coming out of Coral Harbour, for example, to Rankin Inlet, there's nobody really there to support services for these patients, especially if they're unilingual members of the community. They have trouble trying to figure who is supposed to pick them up from wherever the accommodation is to the health facilities.

Can the minister commit to looking at Rankin Inlet facilities or accommodation issues and Cambridge Bay to see if there could be some form of improvements so as to make it easier for medical clients that are presently travelling to these regions or central locations? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Ningeongan for the question and I share his concerns for our patients. It's very stressful to travel. It's stressful to go to another community. If you don't have someone to pick you up or take you to your appointments, it can be a very stressful situation.

Mr. Speaker, my staff has advised me that they're reviewing the potential for a

Rankin Inlet facility. Again, we have to have conversations with Health Canada. I have instructed my staff also to look at options for the old boarding home in Cambridge Bay. That facility is right across the street from my office, so I see it every day when I go to the office. It has some good potential to offer use for something, whether it's a boarding home or a mental health or addictions facility. We're looking at different options to improve our health services in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister Peterson, for your responses. If the government is unwilling or unable to commit to making capital investments in medical boarding homes for the Kivalliq and Kitikmeot regional centres, will the minister commit to addressing the issue and consider partnerships with organizations, such as the development arms of the regional Inuit organizations, or other potential investors to provide this much needed service? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Ningeongan for the question. Mr. Speaker, I believe the department would be willing to entertain any proposals from the private sector. Again, it's a function of available capital and O&M as well. So if there are developers out there in the private sector, I think our department would

seriously consider any proposal they put to us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 515 – 3(3): Liquor Regulation in Nunavut

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

In his responses to questions asked earlier this week by my colleague from Baker Lake, the minister informed the Legislative Assembly that it will not be possible to introduce a brand-new *Liquor Act* within the life of this Assembly but that it “may be possible” to make some amendments to the current statute. Can the minister clarify why it will not be possible to introduce a new statute at this time and can he provide some indication as to what specific changes to the current law may be possible to make before the current Assembly dissolves? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for his question. Mr. Speaker, the life of the Assembly will come to an end on September 22, I believe the date is. We have quite a legislative backlog to deal with and the standing committees, the Department of Justice, and the Department of Finance have a significant amount of work in order to create an entirely new *Liquor Act*. So

we’re just being cognizant and transparent about that.

We don’t want people to get their expectations up that there will be an entirely new *Liquor Act*, but we can look at amendments to the *Liquor Act*. Some of the amendments might deal with heavier fines for bootleggers. There’s some indication that opening up a beer and wine store is something that might be possible under the legislation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In his responses that he provided earlier this week, the minister made reference to a “committee” that is apparently reviewing the recommendations contained in the report of the Nunavut *Liquor Act* Review Task Force. Can the minister clarify who sits on this committee and when it is expected to complete its review of the task force’s work? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. The committee consists of senior officials within the Government of Nunavut, and they have completed their review. I may be tabling their responses to the liquor task force report later in this Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The final report of the Nunavut *Liquor Act* Review Task Force states that, and I quote, “We strongly support the view that communities, with appropriate assistance, are in the best position to determine their alcohol status, to monitor consumption, and to design and implement harm reduction strategies.” However, it has also been argued that the territorial *Liquor Act* should provide that the rules concerning access to alcohol are the same in all of Nunavut’s 25 communities. What is the government’s position on this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Mr. Speaker, we live in a democratic country. The Government of Nunavut respects the wishes of the local communities. For example, earlier this week or last week, the Hamlet of Kugaaruk held a plebiscite and they chose to remain a dry community. Any major decisions on whether to open up liquor and make it freely flowing in the communities would be in consultation with the local community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Another key recommendation in the report of the task force to help reduce the harm caused by alcohol abuse is to better control the supply of alcohol by establishing a new Crown corporation to be called the Nunavut Liquor Corporation. This new entity would

combine the present functions of the Nunavut Liquor Commission, the Liquor Enforcement Division, and the Liquor Licensing Board. Does the government support this recommendation and, if it does, when will the new Crown corporation be established? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Liquor Commission is doing a fine job currently. I don’t think we are in a position right now to alter the current structure. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 516 – 3(3): Problems with Mould in New Houses in Kugaaruk

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier this morning, I spoke to this issue. I was referring to the new units that were constructed in earlier years affected by mould. I want to ask the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation why fairly new units are experiencing mould issues shortly after their construction in our communities. Has the minister been apprised of this situation occurring in the communities, particularly from Kugaaruk? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, there are several different types of mould that affect houses. If there is such mould that's found in a unit, the tenants can report that to the local housing authority or the LHOs.

Mr. Speaker, the reason why there's mould in units is because it's the lifestyle or the air circulation within the unit itself. Most of the new units have air circulation equipment and once that equipment is turned off or malfunctioning, that's the reason why some of the mould is forming, but a tenant can go to the LHO and report those immediately to the managers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, here in Nunavut has the minister been apprised of newly constructed buildings, especially buildings less than five years old and in Kugaaruk some of them are already affected by mould. Has this been passed on? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Nunavut Housing Corporation is aware of some of the situations and it's incumbent upon tenants to report the mould infestation in some of these new units that the member is talking about.

As you know, the new units have air circulation equipment in them and the air circulation equipment has to be working properly to prevent mould formation. If the tenants report that to the LHO and if there's not any action taken, the tenants have the right to report that to the district offices. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I also thank the minister for his response. Perhaps, during the construction phase, Mr. Speaker, when inspections are being conducted for phases 1, 2, and 3 of the construction projects; do they identify possible places that could become mouldy? Can this be included in the consideration of issues during inspections of the construction projects? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As years go by, the buildings for staff housing and public units are getting more airtight, the so-called more efficient types of units, and at times, we believe that causes a problem. The maintenance people and the Nunavut Housing Corporation are aware of that. Most times, if a tenant reports a mould infestation, we investigate that immediately.

As the member is well aware, Mr. Speaker, mould is a serious problem. It's not only in Nunavut; it's throughout the nation. We're quite aware and our

maintenance folks at the LHOs are informed to keep an eye on this new air handling equipment in the newer units. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, with respect to housing it would be better to have warmer buildings, but I believe that more emphasis has to be placed on health effects from shoddy building practices.

I urge that these residential units be properly inspected, especially those that will be inhabited by the public, by our elders and children. We don't want to see any health hazards posing risks in our rental units. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The LHO division maintenance department does inspect the units. Again I've got to reiterate that the tenants who are within the units are responsible to report any abnormalities, whether it be equipment malfunctions, including mould, to report these to the LHOs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 517 – 3(3): Marine Infrastructure in Chesterfield Inlet

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

On June 5, 2009, the minister tabled the Nunavut Transportation Strategy in the Legislative Assembly. One of the objectives of the strategy is to “act on the Nunavut Small Craft Harbours Report,” which was released in 2005.

As the minister is aware, the Small Craft Harbours Report identified Chesterfield Inlet as a priority community for new marine infrastructure. Can the minister update me today on what progress has been made to address the situation in Chesterfield Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, although we do our best to bring the information down of our infrastructure, especially marine infrastructure shortages in Nunavut, it's an ongoing dialogue with Transport Canada and DFO.

Mr. Speaker, in Chesterfield Inlet, we do have class “D” estimates for the proposed construction and design and that amounts to \$22 million. As the member is well aware, once a class “A” estimate is design and structural design is completed, those amounts usually go up. At this time, we're still talking to DFO and Transport Canada and our MP to move these infrastructure deficits

forward for Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to make it very clear that the community of Chesterfield Inlet is not expecting a \$40 million facility for large-scale commercial fishing nor is it looking to accommodate aircraft carriers or nuclear submarines.

>> *Laughter*

I also want to make it very clear that we should be lobbying the federal government to make the case that support for new marine infrastructure not be based solely on commercial entity considerations.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear!

Mr. Ningeongan: Chesterfield Inlet is simply looking for reasonable infrastructure that will protect the boats of constituents. Can the minister convey this message to his federal counterpart? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. I wasn't thinking about nuclear submarines or naval ships for Chesterfield Inlet but as the member is well aware we did have allocate 165,000 dollars for a small floating dock for Chesterfield Inlet as a start for the

residents to protect their boats and provide better launching for their equipment and boast.

The floating dock is usually just to help the harvesters get in and out in inclement weather. So, Mr. Speaker, the department did spend 165,000 on a floating dock for Chesterfield Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to mention that the floating docks have been provided to Nunavummiut are only good when the tide is high. When the tide is low, they are of no use whatsoever, and the current causeway in Chesterfield Inlet is very dangerous because it has worn out over the years, uncompleted. When people come back from hunting, they have to try and utilize that because there is no access to the land near the community.

For that reason, I have been adamant about trying to get a more scaled down version of infrastructure, causeways or windbreakers that these communities require. Will the minister commit to doing an update assessment on Chesterfield Inlets' needs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is not a laughing matter. We do not have a division within the department that controls the tides and

whatnot. As the member is well aware, we do make our best efforts, and at this time, we have been looking for any kind of proposal from the communities to see if there is an alternate way to develop and come up with a solution that is suitable for the community. We did that for Pond Inlet, and one of the things that we did very closely with the hamlet is consult with each other and came up with a solution that will rectify some of these boat launches that the member is talking about.

It is very difficult at time with a shortage of money, shortage of funds to develop something that is suitable for what the community wants, but at this time we are looking for short-term solutions that we can bring forth, possibly build and bring forward down to Ottawa saying that we are doing our part in using our own funds to help the communities develop their marine infrastructure to make it better for the community harvesters and whatnot. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his responses. I for one have not been laughing at over the last little while when I am trying to talk about these issues since 2009.

The communities that we represent, when they have been provided with expectations, no wonder we would like to see some followed through. If I am not mistaken, I think I hear the minister stating that if the community provides some form of application to look at

another option or another means of getting windbreakers or whatever we may call it, did you say that you were prepared to talk with the community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Absolutely, we are prepared to talk to any community that puts in a proposal to alleviate some of the marine infrastructure deficits we have in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I am not talking about building a \$22 million causeway or dock for Chesterfield Inlet, this government does not have those kinds of funds to build such mega projects, including Pond Inlet. We do not have \$44 million to build a dock there. We came up with an alternative way of providing some assurance to the community that yes, we are talking to Ottawa to get the marine infrastructure that is needed, which costs at least, anywhere from \$22 million to \$44 million. As you know, Mr. Speaker, the small craft harbour in Pangnirtung is slated for completion next summer and the cost is well over \$44 million on that.

I want to assure the member that if the hamlet is proposing an alternate smaller boat launch, we will certainly talk to him and assist him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 518 – 3(3): Status of Devolution Negotiations

Mr. Curley: Thank you, *Uqaqtittijii*. (interpretation) Good afternoon to the people of Rankin Inlet. My questions today are for the Premier.

Earlier this month, the Premier met with the Prime Minister of Canada in Ottawa. Can the Premier inform the House what commitments, if any, the Prime Minister provided to her concerning the issue of devolution? Thank you.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for asking that question. When I had the meeting with the Prime Minister, I was quite thankful that they are always accommodating whenever we request a meeting with the Prime Minister.

At that meeting, I brought up the issue of devolution and that it was a priority for this government, and I am pleased to note progress is happening. All the parties now have negotiators, which include negotiators from the federal government, NTI and our territorial government.

I have just recently been informed that the federal chief negotiator is currently drafting up a report on this matter. I am happy to note that some progress has been made on this file. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On May 18, 2012, the Government of Canada announced the appointment of its chief federal negotiator for Nunavut devolution. In its announcement, the federal government indicated that an important element of his mandate “will be to engage key stakeholders on their views with respect to devolution to identify the next steps required to advance negotiations and to examine how land and resource management capacity can be improved in Nunavut.” What specific actions has the government taken to improve land and resource management capacity in Nunavut? Thank you.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Within this field of devolution issues, the teams are continually meeting and caucusing to draft up positions on each area under negotiation, as each section has to be completed for the devolution negotiations mandate. That is what they are drafting up, and it would be quite interesting to review the draft report. As the preliminary report has been drafted by the chief federal negotiator and submitted to the Minister of Northern Affairs. I look forward to seeing that preliminary in spring and that would be the final report.

I believe there are recommendations in there also. (interpretation ends) The final report to the Government of Canada from the Government of Canada’s negotiator is greatly anticipated in the next coming months. There are ongoing

discussions on the devolution negotiation mandate and I am forever hopeful that the progress will continue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think it's quite important that there be a distinction between formal meetings and negotiations.

Mr. Speaker, as of today, how many formal meetings have been held between the devolution negotiators for the GN, NTI, and the federal government? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the letters, there are a number of documents. Up to now, there have been five meetings on devolution negotiations, the first one being on June 18 here in Iqaluit 2012, the next one being on September 19, 2012 in Ottawa, on October 18, 2012 in Rankin Inlet, December 4, 2012 in Ottawa, and January 2013 here in Iqaluit. These are the meetings that they had so far. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Yukon signed its devolution agreement a number of years ago and the Northwest Territories is moving ahead towards its agreement.

Can the Premier tell us today when the Government of Nunavut realistically expects to sign a devolution agreement-in-principle with the Government of Canada? Thank you.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also would like to say that in the Yukon and in the Northwest Territories, they have been way ahead of us dealing with this issue and they had worked on devolution issues before Nunavut. They have helped us along this line, but Nunavut is unique, so we have to add some more things to the agreement for Nunavut.

As I said, the preliminary report has been given to the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development and once it has been received and according to their response, we will know where we're going. At this time, I cannot state when we will be starting. The report is now in. It will have to be given to the Government of Canada as well as the ministers. It has to be approved by the ministers to see when it can start. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Members will note that the allotted time for question period has expired. We will move on in our orders of the day. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to seek unanimous consent from my colleagues to go back to Item 5 on the order paper. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Kusugak. The member is seeking unanimous consent to go back to Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Are there any nays? There being none. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Minister Kusugak.

Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Good morning. Thank you, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, for allowing me to go back to Item 5.

This morning, I am very pleased to recognize two people from Rankin Inlet who are here in the Gallery. They are members of the Co-op board of directors, who are my friends, Noah Atangalaaq Tiktaq and Mr. Koono Tattuinee. Welcome to the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to add to my colleague's recognition. Welcome to the Gallery. I welcome my nephew Kunuk Tattuinee. Welcome to the Gallery.

I would like to note that Noah Tiktak has been a volunteer for a long time. He helps a lot with anything when he wants to. There used to be an office supply store called Tiktak, and they are named after his father's name. He has passed away, but he was a friend of ours. That is why there is a Tiktak Office Supply

here in Iqaluit. It was named after his father.

Please welcome them. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Welcome to the Gallery. Also, I would like to recognize your colleague with the co-operative movement from the NWT that was here to participate in the opening of the Marketplace. I welcome all three of you to the Gallery.

>>Applause

Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Replies to Budget Address. Item 11. Petitions. Item 12. Responses to Petitions. Item 13. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 14. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Ningark.

Item 14: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 312 – 3(3): Correspondence from Kugaaruk Education Authority

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table today a letter from the Kugaaruk District Education Authority concerning the need for a heated school bus shelter in the community. I encourage the Hon. Minister of Education to review this document with care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Item 14. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Ningeongan.

**Tabled Document 313 – 3(3):
Chronology of Exchanges between
the Standing Committee on
Legislation and the Minister of
Justice Concerning Bill 32, An Act
to Amend the Legal Services Act,
and Bill 44, An Act to Amend the
Justices of the Peace Act**

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table today a chronology of exchanges of correspondence between the Standing Committee on Legislation and the Minister of Justice concerning Bill 32, *An Act to Amend the Legal Services Act*, and Bill 44, *An Act to Amend the Justices of the Peace Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Item 14. Tabling of Documents. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Taptuna.

**Tabled Document 314 – 3(3): Nunavut
Housing Corporation’s 2011-2012
Annual Report – Innovation in
Action**

**Tabled Document 315 – 3(3): Nunavut
Housing Corporation’s
Contracting and Procurement
Activity Report for the Year
Ended March 31, 2012**

**Tabled Document 316 – 3(3): Nunavut
Housing Corporation’s 2013-2014
Projected Construction Report**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table three

items titled, “Nunavut Housing Corporation’s 2013-14 Projected Construction Report,” “Contracting and Procurement Activity Report for the Year Ending March 31, 2012,” “Nunavut Housing Corporation’s 2011-12 Annual Report, Innovation and Action.” Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Item 14. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Justice, Minister Shewchuk.

**Tabled Document 317 – 3(3): Nunavut
Minister of Justice – Nunavut
RCMP Commanding Officer –
Shared Directional Statement
2012-2014**

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Nunavut Minister of Justice and the Nunavut RCMP Commanding Officer Shared Directional Statement, 2012-14. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Item 14. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Elliott.

**Tabled Document 318 – 3(3): Article
from iPolitics Concerning Arctic
Search and Rescue**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In light of this week’s excellent discussions concerning the important issue of arctic search and rescue, I am pleased to table a recent article on this issue from iPolitics magazine. I encourage all members to read the document with care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Item 14. Tabling of Documents. Moving on in

our orders of the day. Item 15. Notices of Motions. Mr. Ningeongan.

Item 15: Notices of Motions
Motion 043 – 3(3): Extension of
Review Period for Bill 40,
Representative for Children and
Youth Act – Notice

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Monday, March 4, 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 40 back to the House be extended by a further 120 days so as to allow the standing committee to conduct public hearings on the proposed legislation.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Item 15. Notices of Motions. Item 16. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 17. Motions. Item 18. First Reading of Bills. Item 19. Second Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Item 19: Second Reading of Bills

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 47, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and*

Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2012-2013, be read for the second time.

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

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 47 is referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Item 19. Second Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 48, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 1, 2013-2014*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes supplementary appropriations to defray the capital expenditures of the Government of Nunavut for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 48 is referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Item 19. Second Reading of Bills. Minister of Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

Bill 51 – An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services Act – Second Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 51, *An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services Act*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this Act amends the *Child and Family Services Act* to provide that the Act be interpreted in accordance of Inuit societal values. It also provides for protecting children in case of child pornography and family violence and for spending support agreements for youth up to age 26.

In addition, it prohibits malicious and false reports. Mandates of the director of child and family services must respond to certain recommendations if the child in his or her care dies or is critically injured. It provides that the director's annual report be tabled in the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Petersen. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 51 has its second reading and is referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Item 19. Second Reading of Bills.
Minister of Health and Social Services,
Minister Peterson.

Bill 53 – An Act to Amend the Medical Care Act – Second Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that

Bill 53, *An Act to Amend Medical Care Act*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill provides for the health insurance members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police which becomes a territorial responsibility under the *Canada Health Act* from April 1, 2013. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 53 has had second reading and is referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Item 19. Second Reading of Bills.
Minister of Education. Minister Aariak.

Bill 55 – An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act – Second Reading

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit West, that Bill 55, *An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this Act will enable the Commissioner of Nunavut to make regulations that provide an affirmative action program within the scope of this *Student Financial Assistance Act* for persons who have a disability. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Aariak. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried. Bill 55 has had second reading and is referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Item 19. Second Reading of Bills. Item 20. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 49 with Mr. Ningeongan in the Chair.

Before we proceed to the Committee of the Whole, will have a break for 15 minutes.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>House adjourned at 10:49 and Committee resumed at 11:10

Item 20: Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

Chairman (Mr. Ningeongan) (interpretation): Thank you. We now have quorum. (interpretation ends) I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following item to deal with: Bill 49. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to commence with the review of the main estimates for the Department of Health. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Are we in agreement that we first deal with this O&M budget for the Department of Health?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 49 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2013-2014 – Health – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) I would like to ask the Minister responsible for the Department of Health, Minister Peterson, to go to the witness table to make his opening remarks.

You may proceed, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman and members, I am pleased to present the Department of Health's business plan and main estimates for 2013-14.

The Department of Health is seeking an increase of \$11.4 million from the 2012-13 main estimates for an increase of 4.25 percent. \$5 million of the \$11.4 million increase is for salary increases as a result of the new NEU Collective Agreement. Please recognize that these amounts do not include social services, which will now be part of the new Department of Family Services.

The department's total budget for 2013-14 is \$280.4 million, which provides for an increase of 20 new positions. The department is also expecting to bring forward a supplementary appropriation request of \$24.9 million in the winter sitting with respect to 2012-13. The remaining \$6.1 million increase is for:

- \$2.5 million to continue the implementation of the Tobacco Reduction Framework for Action;
- \$1 million to cover current shortfalls in implementing the Nursing Recruitment and Retention Strategy;
- \$860,000 to expand the Mental Health Program for Akausisarvik;
- \$600,000 to increase the staff compliment of community health nurses of three-nurse stations to four-

nurse stations in three communities in the Kivalliq region;

- \$500,000 to create four new community health centre administrative assistants in the Baffin region;
- \$460,000 to create four new community therapy assistants in the Baffin region; and
- \$163,000 to create a new biomedical technologist position in the Kivalliq Health Centre.

In addition, the department has a number of new policy initiatives which includes the development of an all-hazards health emergency management plan, the development and implementation of a patient relations process, and the development of policies, protocols, and standards for an integrated public health surveillance system.

The department would also continue to work on the Nunavut Interoperable Electronic Health Records Program, the Health Services Strategic Plan, possible revisions to the Nunavut Nursing Recruitment and Retention Strategy, planning for the next phase of the Public Health Strategy, and planning and possibly expanding mental service capacity outside of Iqaluit.

Mr. Chairman, the department has yet again set out an ambitious business plan for the upcoming year, one that will depend upon adequate fiscal and human resources. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I will be pleased to take questions.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Do you have witnesses that you would like to bring to the table?

Hon. Keith Peterson: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I do.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Does the committee agree to bring in the witnesses?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister Peterson, for the record, please introduce your witness.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My witness is Deputy Minister Peter Ma, Deputy Minister of Health. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Welcome, Mr. Ma. Does the Chair of the Committee on Social Wellness have comments? Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Members of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness have reviewed the 2013-14 main estimates and business plan of the Department of Health.

The standing committee notes that the 2013-14 operations and maintenance budget for health is \$280,427,000, which takes into account the transfer of social services to the newly created Department of Family Services.

With respect to the transfer of the Social Services Division to the Department of Family Services as of April 1, 2013, committee members have expressed some concerns with respect to the

transition process and what efforts are being made to ensure that no clients or staff members 'fall through the cracks' when it comes to redirecting requests for service and information. Members encourage Department of Health officials to work closely with Department of Family Services officials in this regard.

Committee members further encourage the government to more effectively use the positions of community-based government liaison officers (GLOs) to provide assistance to community residents in accessing services and support from the appropriate departments as well as in communicating policies and procedures related to service delivery for the public.

While the proposed 2013-14 budget for the Department of Health does represent a relatively minor increase over the restated main estimates for 2012-13 that were approved in this House a year ago, members are aware that the nature of service delivery in the health care field is driven by various demands which can be unpredictable and costly. The department has brought forward supplementary appropriations on a consistent basis over past years, with this year being no exception. However, the committee anticipates that with the department's revised mandate, Department of Health officials will be able to focus their efforts more efficiently and economically than ever before.

Mr. Chairman, Nunavut's unique population characteristics and geography, as well as the linguistic and cultural aspects of health service

delivery lead to significant cost drivers when it comes to delivering services.

While the federal government has recognized the impact of costs related to delivering health services in the north by providing additional funding through such initiatives as the Territorial Health System Sustainability Initiative for medical travel and other services, the funding agreement has already been extended twice and is set to expire in 2014. The standing committee strongly supports the minister's efforts to guarantee the permanence of such federal funding to ensure the ongoing delivery of adequate health care and medical services across Nunavut for the foreseeable future.

The standing committee recognizes the department's efforts to improve the delivery of health care services with the addition of a number of staff positions, such as administrative assistants, new nursing positions in the Kivalliq region, therapy assistants, and a new biomedical technologist position. The committee appreciates that many challenges are faced in maintaining staffing levels, especially for nurses and physicians, and encourages the department in its efforts to improve recruitment in these areas. In addition, the committee remains supportive of the department's initiatives within Nunavut Arctic College's health careers program and encourages Nunavummiut to consider pursuing training and education in these areas.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee continues to support the department's investments in initiatives, such as the Interoperable Electronic Health Records Program, and anticipates that once the system is fully implemented, it will

allow for improved analysis and planning for public health initiatives, as well as in addressing specific health care issues.

Committee members have noted that mental health problems continue to lie at the root of many other social and health issues. While the committee recognizes that mental health worker positions remain within the Department of Health, it will be important to maintain ongoing communications with social workers working within the new Department of Family Services to provide the full range of client support. Members fully support the ongoing implementation of actions and initiatives to address the issue of suicide in our communities. The committee recognizes that a review of the *Mental Health Act* is anticipated for the upcoming fiscal year and will be monitoring the consultation phase closely.

Issues relating to addiction and substance abuse are also of great concern across Nunavut. Committee members continue to support the concept of culturally relevant, community-based programs and encourage the minister to work with his officials to continue providing programs such as the one delivered in Cambridge Bay last year.

Mr. Chairman, members have noted that a number of *Tamapta* commitments, including plans for a Nunavut-based treatment facility, have not yet been brought forward and may not come to pass within the term of this Assembly. Members have noted that the new correctional centre in Rankin Inlet has been called a healing centre, which gives a somewhat misleading view of the kinds of programs that are being

delivered at that facility, and encourage the government to push forward on its original plan for a territorial treatment facility.

Mr. Chairman, medical travel is one of the most expensive expenditure areas for the Department of Health and the government as a whole. The standing committee recognizes that there is often no other option than to fly clients to regional centres or to other jurisdictions to receive the necessary care and services. Concerns continue to be raised regarding the policies relating to medical travel and the provision of escorts. With social services client travel being addressed under the mandate of the Department of Family Services, the committee encourages the minister to revise the Department of Health's medical client travel policies accordingly and to clearly communicate any changes to health professionals, service providers, and the public.

Members further note that the department has yet to introduce its new "Patient Relations Process" by which medical clients can bring forward complaints or concerns and have them addressed. Members encourage the minister to introduce the new process publicly and at the earliest opportunity.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening remarks. I anticipate that individual members will also have questions and comments as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. As the members are well aware of Rules 77(1) and (2), I want to remind members to leave your questions until we get to

the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates, please.

>>*Laughter*

Thank you. Do members have any general comments pertaining to the opening remarks from the minister? Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 2 of the Hon. Minister Peterson's opening comments, under "The department will also continue to work on:", bullet No. 3, "possible revisions to the Nunavut Nursing Recruitment and Retention Strategy;". I am hoping this will address our reliance on recruiting agency nurses from the south. I don't have any other comment except that I hope this will address this.

Perhaps when we review the department's branch summary page by page, then I may come up with a question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. I have no other names for general comments. So therefore, we will now proceed to the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates starting with page H-4. Health. Branch Summary. Directorate. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$23,373,000. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a few general questions before I get into some specifics.

I wonder if the minister can give us: what is the current status of scheduled

medical travel contracts for each region of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for the question. Mr. Chairman, I believe we have just signed medical travel contracts with all the airlines. The scheduled airline contracts have been signed and medevac contracts have all been signed. I think they're in place for another one to two years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under these medical contracts, have there been any changes? Are we seeing different providers for the medical contracts or are we going with the same ones that have provided it in the past? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for the question. Mr. Chairman, I believe we're using the same medical travel airlines that we have used in past years. The routes have changed a little bit, but we are essentially using the same airlines. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What is the current status of the emergency medical travel contracts for each region of Nunavut? Thank you,

Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for the question. Mr. Chairman, we have contracts in place with air ambulance contract vendors in each region. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The same question as before is: are we still going with the same carriers or the same airlines that provided the same service in the past? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for the question. The only air ambulance provider that has changed was in the Kitikmeot. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's my understanding that the contracts for the medical boarding homes are being reviewed or reissued at this time. Can the minister update us today on the boarding home contracts in Yellowknife, Edmonton, Winnipeg, and Ottawa? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The current situation with the contract in Ottawa is that the contract is in place. I think, in Winnipeg, there was an RFP that was put out. I can check on the date. There was an RFP put out for the provision of operating that facility. In Edmonton and Yellowknife, I believe the contracts are in place. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The department's three regional facilities in Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, and Cambridge Bay have all been operational for some time now. Have you seen any reduction in the cost for travel and treatment as a direct result of services being offered in the regional centres? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for the question, a very difficult question to answer. We are making some changes in the Baffin. We're now expanding or renovating the Qikiqtani General Hospital so that we can bring people from the outlying communities to Iqaluit for more sophisticated diagnoses and if we have to, we will send them to the south.

In the Kitikmeot, the health centre there can only provide a certain level of service. As I mentioned in question period, we don't have an adequate number of doctors and nurses to provide specialized services through the housing and the boarding home there.

In Rankin Inlet, I believe the health centre there is providing some outpatient service, but again, if we can't provide specialized services, we have to send folks down south. As we have mentioned in previous years, a lot of the medical travel is demand driven. If we have to send people outside Nunavut for very sophisticated diagnoses, it becomes quite costly because bed nights are expensive in hospitals and doctors charge more. It is costly, but a lot of it is demand driven. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the department's priorities for 2012-13 was to use the findings from its review of the Client Travel Policy to establish consistent guidelines in the area of medical travel, and that is on page 90 of the business plan. Did this review also examine the roles and expectations of escorts for medical clients and, if so, what kinds of issues were addressed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for the question. We found that a lot of the issues with the Client Travel Policy were behavioural. In other words, people would not show up for the travel or they missed their appointments. When people miss their appointments, it creates a domino effect in terms of rescheduling appointments and rescheduling air travel. That was one of the major issues we found. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In some cases, medical clients who are sent out for treatment end up spending long periods of time in the hospital. Can the minister describe what expectations exist for the escort of these patients, and will these expectations be listed under the revised guidelines? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for the question. The expectations are fairly general. The escort has to be there with the patient that they are accompanying, assist them to go to their appointments, and be there to assist with translation/interpretation. It is very general. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Some medical clients, especially our elders, who may end up in the south be in an unfamiliar environment and not understanding the languages being spoken around them increases their need for escort support. Can the minister describe what consideration is given to provide adequate escort services for those medical clients, such as our elders, who are most in need? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for the question. The primary services when the elders are unilingual and over the age 60, we do provide an escort unless they don't specifically require an escort. A lot of it would be a factor of age with the level of service we provide. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For anyone who has been an escort for an elderly parent or relative in the hospital, they will know that it can be a very tiring and exhausting experience. Can the minister indicate whether any consideration has been given to provide relief support to those escorts who end up spending days and sometimes weeks at the side of their ailing relatives? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for the question. I know it can be very challenging for an escort if they have to be in the hospital for a patient from eight in the morning until midnight and they probably need some relief. We can accommodate people in terms of they can switch them out with another escort after four weeks.

If we know up front or soon into the escort service for a particular patient that a second escort is required to relieve an individual who is in that situation eight until midnight, for example, if we know that early on, then we can review it and

look at how we can assist with a second escort. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Three of my next questions are kind of along the topic that I was discussing, but they tie into different departments under this budget item, so I'll ask them under Directorate because it involves support and the Client Travel Policy.

Funding for medical travel, accommodations, and escorts for beneficiary clients is provided through the Non-Insured Health Benefits Program. Can the minister indicate what discussions have taken place with respect to funding available to provide adequate escort services for medical clients? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for the question. Mr. Chairman, it's always ongoing with non-insured health benefits; we have quarterly meetings with Health Canada. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. I have Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a variety of questions and I assume they are going to be under H-4. If they're not under that page, you can provide me with direction.

Under the minister's opening statement on page 2, the department is going to be dealing with, and the last bullet states, "planning and possibly expanding mental health service capacity outside of Iqaluit." As Nunavummiut, can we get clarification on this?

I will have additional questions later.
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. If I understand him correctly, we're expanding our mental health services in Iqaluit through the Akausisarvik facility that we hope will be open in April. We're looking at using the existing facility in Rankin Inlet. Our staff is reviewing the possibility of a facility there and we're also looking at an existing facility in Cambridge Bay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Minister Peterson for his response. The need to help people with mental health issues is becoming more apparent within Nunavut and outside Nunavut as well. If they have concerns regarding mental health patients, I think it should be considered one of the most important issues because sickness affects the whole family, but mental health affects most as well. Additionally, once I joined this House upon my election, I have continually heard it mentioned that it has to be considered one of the most important

issues. However, nothing seems to be planned to meet this challenge.

As an example, many employees periodically visit our communities for short periods with brief examinations of their clients and then they leave again. I doubt that this is a best practice scenario when we are talking about services provided to our mental health patients. To analogize, when dentists go into a community, they extract their set amount of teeth and then they leave the community. I see this in the same vein, even though I think this is an extremely important matter.

I imagine that there is some sort of strategy to deal with this issue. That is my question. For example, after a two-year period, how many employees has Nunavut hired as mental health workers? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. Mr. Chairman, we don't have specific numbers on PYs. I do know where we can get that information, but I just don't have it here right now.

We have made some significant investments in mental health over the last couple of fiscal years, and we are doing an investment in Akausisarvik. In this budget, we're looking at seven new PYs. I recall mental health workers last year. We were talking 12 mental health workers last year, using grads from some of the Nunavut Arctic College courses and programs.

We are making investments. We do recognize that mental health is a high priority for the Government of Nunavut. We are making those investments. Unfortunately, we just can't make huge investments all at one time. There is just not enough funding, but we are making steps in the right direction. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want some clarification. The minister states that they are moving in the right direction. I like that answer, but what things are getting better? Is it because we are getting more PYs under this present provision? Are the communities getting more employees? How do you tell the communities that you can now have a mental health worker? Is there a law or policy in place saying, for example, that Pond Inlet is in a situation and now they need a mental health worker? Is there a policy in place? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for his concern in this area and I appreciate the question. It's a difficult question to answer.

As I answered earlier, it is a high priority for the government and for the Government of Nunavut. We are making steps. We are reviewing the *Mental Health Act*. We have the Mental Health Framework for Action. We created the new PYs in the last budget. We are expanding Akausisarvik, as I had

mentioned, and the other facilities. We are making steps in the right direction. The challenge is staffing, of course. With staffing, housing is a factor. You don't always have housing for the positions you want to staff. We're working on that.

I know, in the Kivalliq region, there were some issues. This fiscal year, we transferred our mental health director from the Kitikmeot down to the Kivalliq region and she's making great progress down there, increasing the mental health worker capacity down there without destabilizing the Kitikmeot.

It is a challenge, but we are working on it. Again, it comes down to budget availability, housing, other infrastructure, but we're putting in place these policies, the Acts, and the framework. I think that will help us, plus the research that we're doing in this whole area will support our future requests for mental health resources. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe I'm not clear with my question. When we apply for a job, there is usually a job description and certain educational requirements. If we meet the criteria, then we can apply for a certain position.

My earlier question was: for example, in Pond Inlet, how do you determine that there's a need for a medical health worker? Is it based on our population or the fact that we have adequate nurses or maybe is it based on lack of housing? What are the foundations that can state,

“Yes, these communities need mental health workers.”?

Also, I want to remind the minister what I have always stated. Since 1999, there are vacant government buildings in Pond Inlet. Even though no one ever mentions lack of housing, there’s an issue in Pond Inlet. There are a lot of housing units in Pond Inlet that have never been utilized.

On what basis do they determine that a certain community needs a mental health worker? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for clarifying his question. Again, housing is an issue in all communities, but the Government of Nunavut has... I’m not the housing minister, so I don’t want to say too many things there about how they decide.

It is a priority ranking process where the departments meet and determine which positions within the government or within the communities are the priorities for housing. Certain positions, I guess, in some of the communities are higher ranking than mental health workers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I totally don’t understand his comments. He’s saying that the government departments meet and determine which positions are given priority for housing. Is that my understanding?

I’m trying to ask: how is it determined that a community needs a mental health worker? Maybe someone can rephrase that question because I have no idea as to how I could clarify my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. Mr. Chairman, I believe every community has at least one mental health worker or mental health PY. Again, it’s a priority ranking system. I think nurses and teachers, for example, will have a very high priority in terms of provision of housing. At this particular moment, I’m not sure how high a rank the mental health position is in the community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you. Perhaps our time here is limited, and the employee whom the minister states works as a mental health worker doesn’t even reside in Pond Inlet. We share the worker with several other communities or perhaps we will lose that position. I totally disagree with the minister or perhaps we totally misunderstand each other. I will leave it for the time being and use other avenues to pursue it further to come to an understanding.

However, Mr. Chairman, if you will bear with me further, I have another question regarding a separate issue. Mr. Rumbolt’s line of questioning included references to medical escorts. Mr. Chairman, I believe it was last year when I raised questions or made

comments about the issue in the House regarding patients on medical travel who require medical escorts. That it is largely clearly written.

The one and seemingly most important thing is terminal patients with cancer. It states within the policy that as long as you are able to walk and can speak or write in English, you don't require a medical escort. When terminal patients with cancer have to go on medical travel, they are already burdened mentally with their sickness, but they have to travel.

I was urged to speak to this issue by a fellow resident who was in that situation and it is unfortunate that the person has now passed on without any progress on what he asked me to convey. However, he did pass along some thoughts and questions that he felt should be voiced or considered for others who may experience the same thing he was undergoing. He stated that whenever he left for medical treatment, he was always alone and he stated that he was always worried about the news that he had to face alone.

Based on the policy we followed at the time, our own government policy criteria stated that this patient wasn't sick enough to qualify for an escort, yet the patient himself was mentally anguished and extremely worried all on his lonesome. At the time when I raised these questions, I wonder if any consideration has been placed on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for the

question. I'm sorry for your constituent and that he has passed on. We never like to lose a loved one or a friend in our communities.

I completely understand how challenging and difficult it is for people to have to go down to the cities. I escorted a guy down last week to Edmonton, a young guy who is 16, but he hadn't been down to Edmonton for a couple of years, so it was an eye-opener.

Mr. Chairman, usually, if a client is medically incapacitated or the client has a mental or physical condition that he or she is not able to travel unassisted or when the escort needs to participate in the client's treatment program, there is an escort approved. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe this is the bottleneck where our problems arise, particularly with medically terminal patients who have cancer. Some patients with cancer don't look at all unhealthy and look capable. Even though their body seems fine, their mental state is in turmoil as they are worried about their illness and scared of what the doctor's prognosis will be. Although the medical travel to the south itself is stressful enough, they also must face this enormous problem individually with no support.

Even with all of the challenges of being sickly, it is the mental turmoil and stress that I imagine is the more difficult aspect to deal with, if you were to be in that person's shoes. That is what I tried to

raise in my questioning. This is an actual situation that occurred, yet the response I receive is that only if certain criteria are met will that person be able to be provided a medical escort.

As per my previous line of questioning, can't the department revisit this policy and include extraneous circumstances aside from the criteria? I am again raising this issue because we all know and have a problem with assessments made by those in charge of making these decisions. I would prefer that a new section be included specifically for this purpose. Is that too strenuous for the bureaucracy, Mr. Chairman? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook. Mr. Chairman, there are different kinds of cancer. Some are quite serious and some are less serious, not to say that all cancers aren't serious.

The practitioner in the health centres or hospitals are the best individuals to make the determination on whether an individual requires an escort. They would make that recommendation and then the regional directors would either approve or not approve the recommendation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. As per Rule 6(1), I now recognize the clock and will report progress to the Speaker. I would like to thank the minister and his official. We will see you again on Monday. (interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses out.

I will now rise to report progress.

Speaker: *Qujannamiik*, Sergeant-at-Arms. We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 21. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Ningeongan.

Item 21: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 49 and the main estimates, and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Item 22. Third Reading of Bills. Item 23. *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

Item 23: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for March 4:

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

8. Returns to Written Questions Sergeant-at-Arms.
9. Replies to Opening Address >>*House recessed at 12:06*
10. Replies to Budget Address
11. Petitions
12. Responses to Petitions
13. Reports of Standing and Special
 Committees on Bills and Other
 Matters
14. Tabling of Documents
15. Notices of Motions
16. Notices of Motions for First
 Reading of Bills
17. Motions
- Motion 43
18. First Reading of Bills
19. Second Reading of Bills
20. Consideration in Committee of
 the Whole of Bills and Other
 Matters
- Bill 47
 - Bill 48
 - Bill 49
21. Report of the Committee of the
 Whole
22. Third Reading of Bills
23. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you very much, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Monday, March 4, at 1:30 p.m. I wish everyone a nice, enjoyable weekend.

