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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

Hon. Hunter Tootoo

(Iqaluit Centre)

Hon. Eva Aariak

(Iqaluit East)

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Minister of Executive and
Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister
responsible for Aboriginal Affairs;
Minister responsible for Immigration*

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(Tununiq)

Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

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(Hudson Bay)

Fred Schell

(South Baffin)

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*

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk

(Arviat)

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

Hon. James Arreak

(Uqqummiut)

*Minister of Culture and Heritage;
Minister of Environment; Minister of
Languages; Minister responsible for the
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(Akulliq)

Louis Tapardjuk

(Amittuq)

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Moses Aupaluktuq

(Baker Lake)

Johnny Ningeongan

(Nanulik)

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Committee of the Whole*

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(Kugluktuk)

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

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(Rankin Inlet North)

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(Pangnirtung)

Hon. Keith Peterson

(Cambridge Bay)

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

Jeannie Ugyuk

(Nattilik)

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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**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Monday, March 4, 2013**

Members Present:

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

>>*House commenced at 13:31*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. (interpretation ends) Good afternoon, everybody. I hope you all had a good weekend. We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Government House Leader, Minister Kusugak.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

**Minister's Statement 238 – 3(3):
Minister Absent from the House**

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Good day, Nunavummiut. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise members that the Hon. James Arreak will be absent from the House from March 1 to 9, 2013 to attend CITES

meetings in Bangkok, Thailand. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Minister's Statement 239 – 3(3):
Nunavut Early Childhood
Education Conference**

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon. Mr. Speaker, preparing the next generation to face the challenges of tomorrow has been this government's highest priority.

The Department of Education plays an essential role through its support for early childhood education programs in each of our communities. As part of our efforts, my department is hosting a Nunavut-wide early childhood education conference in Iqaluit from March 8 to 11. Delegates from licensed child care facilities, parent & tot groups, early literacy programs and kindergarten teachers from each community in Nunavut have been invited to attend.

Mr. Speaker, high-quality early childhood care and education provides our children with good learning-related skills and the physical, social, and emotional benefits to be ready for school.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, at the conference, we will discuss how to strengthen the connection between early childhood and kindergarten. We will also consider how to reach out to stay-at-home parents so that every child can participate in early childhood

development activities that will make them competent and eager learners.

Delegates will learn how to incorporate the new bilingual curriculum units we have developed for 4- and 5-year-olds into existing programs. These units focus on Inuit language, culture, values, and traditional knowledge and provide activities that develop pre-literacy skills.

Mr. Speaker, with more than 100 early childhood educators and kindergarten teachers in attendance, this conference will be an important investment in improving the educational achievements of the next generation of Nunavummiut. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Aariak. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Minister's Statement 240 – 3(3):
Prospectors and Developers
Association of Canada Annual
Meeting, 2013**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues, Nunavummiut, and Kuglukturmiut. Mr. Speaker, this week marks a major annual event on the national mining calendar, being the annual meeting of the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada in Toronto.

PDAC is the largest and most internationally important mining conference in the world. Now 80 years running, the meeting draws 30,000 delegates. Six hundred mining companies and 400 service companies

will be exhibiting. The meeting is where the main mining business of the world is done and showcased. The stature of the event is a testament to Canada's role as a minerals producer and global exporter of expertise.

Over the last decade, the minerals industry of Nunavut has grown 20-fold and now represents close to 30 percent of our gross domestic product. It is important that we showcase Nunavut and its natural resource potential to the worldwide investment community. One hundred and twenty-five other countries will also be selling their potential, and to remain competitive, we have to be just as visible.

Since many Nunavummiut have a stake in our growing mining industry, many residents will be in Toronto next week. Since 1999, representatives of the Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada will be there to represent the mineral exploration and mining opportunities in Nunavut. We wish them well in their ongoing work of promoting a rewarding and responsible minerals sector in our burgeoning new territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Minister Ell.

**Minister's Statement 241 – 3(3):
Iqaluit Hydro Project Update**

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this time to update Nunavummiut about the status of the much anticipated hydro development project in Iqaluit. Approximately 30 percent of all the power created by QEC is currently used by Iqaluit alone.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, hydro power will help reduce the impact to Nunavut from fluctuating fuel costs and assist us in stabilizing rates across the territory.

Mr. Speaker, on the 10th of June in 2010, cabinet directed QEC to proceed and identify outside funding sources to complete a feasibility study of the Jaynes Inlet Hydroelectric Project.

CanNor has agreed to fund \$110,000 in 2012-13 and \$80,000 in 2013-14 for hydrology studies. (interpretation) Mr. Speaker, they have also agreed to fund \$500,000 towards the Qikiqtarjuaq Power Plant as a means of offsetting capital expenditures committed to this hydro project.

Mr. Speaker, QEC has produced a comprehensive development report for the Iqaluit hydroelectric projects. This hydro report will be used to seek federal funding for the feasibility studies and Nunavut Impact Review Board's environmental process for this project. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the report recommends a phased development of Jaynes Inlet and Armshow South.

The Jaynes Inlet project is sized to match current electricity demand. Mr. Speaker, the Armshow South project would be constructed when demand exceeds the supply from Jaynes Inlet. Staged development reduces risk in that less initial capital expenditure is required and there is no risk of building excess generation capacity which may not be used for years to come. Another advantage to staged development is that it extends the periods of skilled labour employment for these projects.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, QEC has hosted community presentations and consultations in Iqaluit, Kimmirut, and Pangnirtung and will be holding Inuit knowledge workshops in Iqaluit to gain a greater understanding of the traditional uses of the proposed hydro site.

Mr. Speaker, I will continue to provide updates as the project progresses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Ell. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Minister's Statement 242 – 3(3):
Nunavut Economic Development
Strategy 2014-2024**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased today to update this Assembly on progress towards the renewal of the Nunavut Economic Development Strategy for the period 2014 to 2024. The original strategy was released in 2003 and has guided the growth and success of our economy for the last ten years.

The creation of the new Nunavut Economic Development Strategy is a multilateral effort between the Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency, and other organizations working through the Nunavut Economic Forum.

Work on the new strategy began last fall and will span almost two years. During this time, the Nunavut Economic Forum will hold round tables in each region of Nunavut to ensure the strategy is as comprehensive as possible. By engaging Nunavummiut and Nunavut's business sectors, the strategy will focus on the economic needs and issues Nunavummiut are facing today and will face over the next decade.

So far, two round tables have been held, one in Cambridge Bay in October and one in Iqaluit at the beginning of February; another is scheduled for Rankin Inlet in the fall of 2013.

These round tables bring together 22 organizations, including business sector organizations, Inuit organizations, economic development groups, and government bodies.

Mr. Speaker, this is not a speedy process and it will not be concluded before the end of the Third Assembly, but I am proud of the work that has been accomplished so far and I look forward to the release of the new Nunavut Economic Development Strategy in 2014. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

**Minister's Statement 243 – 3(3):
Condolences on Tragic Events in
Kuujjuaq**

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to share my deepest condolences on the tragic events that took place Saturday evening in Nunavik, our neighbours to the south.

My thoughts go out to the families, loved ones, and the community of Kuujjuaq during this difficult time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Arviat, Mr. Shewchuk.

Item 3: Members' Statements

**Member's Statement 399 – 3(3):
Arviat – This Year's Winner of the
2013 Avataq Cup**

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say "good afternoon" to all of my constituents of Arviat. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pride to congratulate the Arviat Starts Men's Hockey Team in winning the prestigious Avataq Cup in Rankin Inlet this past weekend. I understand it was a very exciting game, with Arviat winning 5-4.

Mr. Speaker, the team consists of the following players:

Jackson Arualak;
 Greg Gibbons;
 Joe Jr. Karetak;
 Savik Kowmuk;
 Gary Jr. Kuksuk;
 Yvonne Mamgark;
 Douglas Ollie;
 Gleason Uppahuak;
 Harry Kuksuk;
 Hunter Tattuinee;
 Tyler Tattuinee;
 Jordan St. John;
 Robert Karetak;
 Kelly Owljoot;
 Charlie Karetak;
 Billy Ollie;
 Joshua Tartak;
 Connor Fudge;
 Leo Karetak; and
 Ryan O'Connor.

Mr. Speaker, it is also worthy of noting that Joe Jr. Karetak was the first star of this wonderful game and that Kelly Owljoot was the MVP for the tournament.

Again, Mr. Speaker, my congratulations to this great group of hockey players for a job well done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Shewchuk. Congratulations! Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Schell.

**Member's Statement 400 – 3(3):
 Tribute to Joe Taukie**

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to pay tribute to the late Joe Taukie.

Mr. Speaker, Joe Taukie from Cape Dorset passed away earlier this year following a courageous battle with illness.

Joe was a long-time teacher in Cape Dorset with over three decades of experience. Joe began his career as a classroom assistant. Over the years, he gained a well-earned reputation as a committed educator and dedicated mentor to countless students and young people. Mr. Speaker, Joe also served as a senior school administrator.

Mr. Speaker, Joe's contributions to the community of Cape Dorset were significant. During my tenure as mayor, I had the privilege of working closely with Joe in his capacity as deputy mayor. Joe served for a number of years on the municipal council. His skills, insights, and dedication will be sorely missed.

Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity to visit Joe when he was at the Baffin Larga home in Ottawa. As always, his courage and humour in the face of challenge was inspiring.

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

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 401 – 3(3):
 Preventing Violence against
 Women**

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about the

importance of preventing violence against women.

Mr. Speaker, recent figures released by Statistics Canada concerning violent crime in Canada's provinces and territories are very disturbing. According to Statistics Canada, the rate of violent crime against women in Nunavut was nearly 13 times higher than the rate for Canada.

Mr. Speaker, these figures only covered police-reported crimes. I am concerned that there are incidents of violence that are not reported, so the real magnitude of the situation may be even greater.

Mr. Speaker, preventing violence against our residents must be a high priority of the government. We clearly have our work cut out for us.

Mr. Speaker, during our recent fall sitting, one of my colleagues asked important questions to the Hon. Minister of Health and Social Services concerning the status of his department's *Ilagiitsiarniq* Family Violence Prevention Strategy. At that time, the minister informed this House that work was continuing on this strategy.

I urge the minister to update the House and all Nunavummiut on the status of the government's work to prevent family violence and violence against women. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 402 – 3(3): The Buddy Fund and the Importance of Veterinary Health Care

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize and applaud the good work being undertaken by a committed group of Baker Lake residents who ensure that appropriate and adequate animal care is available in our community through an initiative called The Buddy Fund.

Mr. Speaker, as you will recall, last week, I posed a number of questions to the Minister of Environment regarding the importance of providing a robust vaccination program in all of Nunavut's communities to ensure that the pet and working dog populations are healthy and disease-free.

Mr. Speaker, until such time as the government recognizes and acts upon the need to support and guarantee that such services are available across the territory, it is up to volunteer groups such as The Buddy Fund group to help provide them.

Mr. Speaker, The Buddy Fund has been involved in providing an annual veterinary visit from the Canadian Animal Assistance team, spay and neuter clinics, public presentations to schools and other groups, as well as assisting with year-round inoculation and well-dog programs. In addition to the annual vet visit, the group helps to provide doghouses, chains, clips, dog food and straw, as well as emergency medical funds and assists in the placement of dogs into new homes.

Mr. Speaker, the work of this locally-based group is an example of how

community members can contribute to the overall health and well-being of their community. In fact, Buddy Fund members have been contacted by groups from other communities, such as Cambridge Bay and Arviat, for advice and assistance in implementing programs similar to The Buddy Fund.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time later today, I will be tabling a short description of the activities of The Buddy Fund in Baker Lake. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 403 – 3(3):
Arctic Fisheries**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address the important issue of arctic fisheries.

As the Member of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut representing the constituency of Quttiktuq, I have been a strong supporter of the good work performed by the Arctic Fisheries Alliance and the Nunavut Fisheries Training Consortium.

Shortly after I took office, I met with Nunavut's Senator and other senior elected officials in Ottawa concerning the need for an increase in the fishing quotas off the shores of Baffin Island.

I have spoken in the Legislative Assembly on a number of occasions about the importance of economic development and employment

opportunities in non-decentralized communities.

The Arctic Fisheries Alliance is an excellent example of what our communities are doing to work towards greater prosperity and self-reliance. The Arctic Fisheries Alliance is a partnership between the hunters and trappers organizations and residents of the communities of Grise Fiord, Resolute Bay, Arctic Bay, and Qikiqtarjuaq.

For the past couple of years, the Arctic Fisheries Alliance has pushed hard for higher fishing quotas off Nunavut's coastal waters, researched inshore fishing opportunities in the High Arctic, purchased a fishing vessel, and put a down payment on a second vessel. The model followed by the Arctic Fisheries Alliance is a good one, and I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the leadership of Lootie Toomasie and Harry Earle.

The alliance is 100 percent Inuit-owned, creates jobs and training opportunities for Inuit in our communities, and ensures that the dividends from profits go back to the hunters and trappers organizations and the community.

Mr. Speaker, a significant number of my constituents have been receiving training through the Nunavut Fisheries Training Consortium. Some of the programs that are being offered include small vessel operator proficiency and inshore fisheries training. I want to take a moment to thank the consortium and congratulate my constituents for working hard to build skills and acquire training that will help them to participate in this exciting, emerging, and sustainable sector of our economy. They are:

Jonathan Neely of Grise Fiord.

Murray Balsam, Nathaniel Kalluk, Randy Nungaq, Tommy Salluviniq, and Ludy Pudluk of Resolute Bay.

Pauloosie Shappa, Jamie Oqallaq, Maggie Kilabuk, Shawn Oyukuluk, Simeonie Attagutsiak, Shawn Oyukuluk, Sila Akikuluk, Gerald Iqaqrialu, Peter Tatatuapik, Peter Koonoo, Titus Eecheak, Joshua Ejangiaq, Angus Hughes, Randy Olayuk, and Joelle Qaunaq of Arctic Bay.

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

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

It is through hard work from all community members that we can work together to continue to grow.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating my constituents, the Nunavut Fisheries Training Consortium, and the Arctic Fisheries Alliance. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 404 – 3(3):
Tribute to Donald Anguyoak**

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to send greetings to my fellow residents and constituents in Gjoa Haven.

Mr. Speaker, this young man named Donald Anguyoak was part of the Junior Rangers. Last Saturday, they buried him in Gjoa Haven. According to the information I received, he was buried following Ranger protocol and they wanted this information publicized.

I wish to thank all of his relatives, those who are grieving over this loss and those who are providing support for the family. On behalf of our constituents, I thank his wife, Leetia, their children, and his in-law.

I also wish to extend our thanks to all the people who made the preparations for the burial, including the Taloyoak Junior Rangers, their relatives, as they were there to show their last respects.

This young man who just passed away and was buried worked at the nursing station in Gjoa Haven. He was also a long-serving member of the Hamlet Council of Gjoa Haven, and we are grateful for his efforts. This person was not shy to speak his opinion at the meetings.

In memory of the late Donald Anguyoak, I want to state that the Members of this House will keep him and his family in our thoughts and prayers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit East, Ms. Aariak.

**Member's Statement 405 – 3(3):
Congratulations to Stacey Aglok
MacDonald**

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reason I rise today is to share my praise of an individual from my constituency who was just recognized for her filmmaking prowess.

Nunavummiut who are involved in filmmaking are ever increasing, with quite a number of films being produced, particularly on subjects that need to be aired and which the residents of our communities need to be aware of. Filmmaking is becoming a popular medium to showcase issues and this is a good thing.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize one of my constituents who is a young, up-and-coming producer, who is already making ways in the Canadian film industry.

Stacey Aglok MacDonald is an independent producer whose short film, *Throat Song*, won a Canadian Screen Award yesterday in the category of best live-action short drama. The film premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival and has travelled to many world film festivals. The film also won best short drama and best indigenous production at the imagineNATIVE Film and Media Arts Festival in 2012.

I would also like to recognize executive producers Qajaaq Elseworth and Alethea Baril.

I would like to congratulate Stacey on her award and wish her continued success in her future endeavours. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Aariak. Congratulations go out to those individuals. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, Mr. Kusugak.

**Member's Statement 406 – 3(3): A
Successful Avataq Cup in Rankin
Inlet**

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, would like to congratulate the Arviat Stars for winning the Avataq Tournament in Rankin Inlet, 2013.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the teams that participated in the tournament for making it to Rankin Inlet and I hope they start making plans for next year's 2013, when Rankin Inlet will take the trophy home.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I also want to give special thanks to the referees, whom these tournaments are not doable without. They endure a lot of pressure and I'm sure a few choice words during the tournament. Thank you, referees, for being there.

Most importantly, Mr. Speaker, all the volunteers it takes to put together such a big tournament. Rankin Inlet is blessed with many volunteers and the Avataq

volunteers did another super job. Job well done!

I hope to see all the people who went to the Avataq Tournament this year come back next year. Congratulations again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Kusugak. I join you with a “thank you and congratulations” to all of those individuals. Item 3. Members’ Statements. Moving on in our orders of the day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return to Oral Question 505 – 3(3): Nunavut Food Security Symposium

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question was asked by the hon. member from Quttiktuq on February 28, 2012, Question No. 505 – 3(3), on the subject of the Nunavut Food Security Symposium.

Question:

In terms of the strategy, since so much collaboration was done in the meetings and whatnot, leading up to this point, who is actually writing the strategy? Is it a combined collaborative approach with NTI or is it from government officials in his Poverty Reduction Secretariat?

My response to the hon. member:
As I stated in the House in response to the member’s question, the Nunavut Food Security Strategy is being prepared

by the Nunavut Food Security Coalition. Therefore, it is being prepared collaboratively with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. The preparation of the strategy for the coalition is provided leadership and oversight by the territorial nutritionist, the Department of Health and Social Services, the directors of the Nunavut Anti-Poverty Secretariat, and the Department of Social and Cultural Development at Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated.

Question by the hon. member:

Is there a list of partners that would be able to be made available so that the public would know in a good way of publicizing all of the partners that are involved in the writing of this?

The response:

The members of the Nunavut Food Security Coalition are Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, the Kivalliq Inuit Association, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, the departments of Culture and Heritage, Economic Development and Transportation, Education, Environment, Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, and Health and Social Services, and the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

A draft of the strategy will be provided to all participants in the Food Security Symposium for review and comments prior to publication. A complete listing of participants will be included at the appendix to the strategy.

Question by the hon. member:

At the meeting, were the two major airlines or were all airlines in Nunavut participants in the food security meeting?

Response:

Mr. Speaker, no, the airlines clearly play a critical role in the distribution of market foods in Nunavut, but this activity is carried out under private contract with the retail stores. Representatives of two major retail stores were participants in this symposium. The airlines also support the distribution of country foods by providing favourable freight rates for country food shipment, which is arranged privately.

Again, while airline representatives were not present at this symposium, several participants at the symposium take advantage of these favourable rates, and these were discussed during the symposium's sessions on country food access.

Mr. Speaker, I include my return to oral [question.] Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Minister of Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

**Return to Oral Question 504 – 3(3):
Status of Health Technology
Initiatives**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to return to Question 504 – 3(3), Status of Health Technology Initiatives, dated February 28, 2013.

I wish to correct the inadvertent statement I made in response to MLA Hezekiah Oshutapik where I said, “I believe the plan is to purchase the CT scanner and ship it up via ship later this year.” What I meant to say was, “ship it

up by airplane later this year.” Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you for clarifying the record, Minister Peterson. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Iqaluit West, Ms. Ell.

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

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of my constituents is here in the House. I want to recognize Rosemary Twerdin because she used to be a teacher of my children. I also would like to recognize a representative for *Nunatsiaq News*, Jane George. They were not really mentioned, so I welcome them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ell. I welcome both of you to the Gallery. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Nanulik, Mr. Ningeongan.

Item 6: Oral Questions

**Question 519 – 3(3): The Distribution
of Medical Travel Contracts**

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services. I hope you are listening.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, the other day, my colleague from Hudson Bay asked the

minister about the status of medical travel contracts. The minister indicated that the department is using the same medical travel airlines that they have used in the past, but he did not specify which airlines he was referring to.

Some of my constituents have been asking why, when they are travelling as medical clients, they are only being put on Calm Air flights when First Air also provides medical travel services. Can the minister clarify why this may be the case? 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 can't offer specific details, but we know that when there are RFPs issued for medical travel or medevacs, the successful airline is awarded the travel contract. If there are scheduled airlines into different communities, there is a ratio of sharing between the two airlines. It's higher in some communities and lower in other communities. I can't give you specific details of why an individual would go on one airline or another on a particular date. It could be subject to weather. It could be mechanical issues or overbooking. There are many variables. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although I understand in some cases weather and whatnot may be the reason behind making changes to that

effect, to the different service providers, can the minister provide an update on how medical travel services in the Kivalliq are split between the airlines and what percentage is allocated to each airline? 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 the level of detail. Unfortunately, I don't have that level of detail with me today. I can provide that information to the member when it's available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister has just indicated that he will provide me the information when it's available. Will the information be available during the winter sitting? 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 will endeavour to make it available during the winter sitting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 520 – 3(3): Status of New Marine Infrastructure for Cape Dorset

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Mr. Speaker, the community of Cape Dorset has been lobbying hard for a new breakwater for many years. This is a project that was on the GNWT's capital plan at one time, but which fell off after division of the two territories. Can the minister indicate if his department is considering funding a new breakwater for Cape Dorset? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, as I have indicated in the past, there has been some lobbying down in Ottawa to bring to light the critical marine infrastructure shortages in Nunavut.

I have seen the document that the hon. member is referring to, going back to, I believe, 1988, in the NWT days, where there was a feasibility and a plan done up for \$10 million. As I indicated a couple of years ago, the study is outdated, old, and the cost for that infrastructure has more likely doubled or tripled as forecasted in the early days of the NWT.

Mr. Speaker, there's ongoing work. Of course, Cape Dorset was one of the communities identified in the DFO

preliminary phase of looking at what communities would be a priority, but there has been no work done on that front for Cape Dorset. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my understanding that the Department of ED&T has allotted some funding from its 2012-13 small craft harbours capital budget for various small marine infrastructure projects in Arviat, Iqaluit, Pond Inlet, and Sanikiluaq. Would the minister be willing to allot funds for an updated or needs assessment for the Cape Dorset marine infrastructure? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As you well know, it involves a lot of factors that we've got to put into place to plan a study like that. Usually, the first step is a user and assessment needs and the feasibility.

For a small boat launch, it's quite different. We initiated that in Pond Inlet and we're hoping to build that within that community. For major infrastructure that the member is asking about, which go into the \$20 million and \$30 million, we will have to possibly speak to the hamlet there and come up with an alternative plan to discuss either a boat launch or a breakwater or what type of infrastructure they're actually looking at. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the past, I know the minister has mentioned about alternative financing for three communities. I know one community was Cape Dorset, the other one was Arviat, and I can't remember the third one for alternative sourcing for building breakwaters. Has the minister been able to find alternative funding for these types of projects? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe the member is referring to some of the partnerships that we're hoping to create with resource developers. At this time, no, we haven't found any other alternative sources of funding for such infrastructure that he's referring to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister was correct when he had stated that in the 1980s, 1988 or 1990, there was a study done and putting a breakwater into Cape Dorset. Actually, the breakwater was supposed to go ahead to be built in 1998, but unfortunately, with the change in government, like you say, it fell by the wayside.

Now, Cape Dorset does not have a commercial fishery, but in regard to the art industry, it is very important for collecting soapstone. It was mentioned

here, like you say, in 1998 that we have a major issue. We have large tides in Cape Dorset. We've had the dock that was supplied there in the last year or two and it has never been put in the water because, unfortunately, it doesn't do any good, except only in high tide. So we are in dire need of getting a breakwater there. There have been many boats damaged over the years.

So I would urge the minister to look seriously at trying to get alternative funding for a breakwater in Cape Dorset. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Schell. There was no question there, I believe; just a statement to urge the minister to look into it. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

Question 521 – 3(3): Status of the Ilagiitsiarniq Family Violence Prevention Strategy

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good afternoon" to Celine back home in Kugaaruk. Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Hon. Minister of Health and Social Services. I know the hon. minister works harder than most of us to ensure that violence against women in the territory is reduced. I know that from my heart.

In my Member's Statement, I spoke about the need to take action against family violence in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, can the hon. minister update this House today on the status of his department's *Ilagiitsiarniq* Family Violence Prevention Strategy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Ningark for the question and comments. In his Member's Statement, I appreciate that he read through this 120-page Stats Canada report, "Measuring Violence Against Women: Statistical Trends," which speaks to the very serious issue of violence against women across Canada in all provinces and territories. It's very discouraging. I encourage everybody out there to read it. If you want copies, I can certainly make copies available with all of my notes.

Mr. Speaker, as I have indicated before to the House, that I'm not the kind of person just to put a strategy out there with a lot of flash-and-dash style and no substance.

In my community of Cambridge Bay, we have been dealing with violence against women for many decades and we have a crisis shelter in Cambridge Bay. When I was mayor, we used to meet with many of the groups representing women in that community. So I know firsthand what it's like to have a crying mother or lady or victim in your office.

I'm not prepared to put out a strategy that's not going to get results. When I read the first draft, I wasn't encouraged by it. I wanted to ask them to rewrite it. I wanted a strategy that would actually help people. The way I see the strategy, we're going to have to put some major and significant resources into the strategy. We've only got six crisis shelters in Nunavut. We don't have enough social workers. If we're going to

address this issue, we have to put the resources, funding, and support behind it.

I know, in the Second Assembly, all the MLAs in this House got up on November 30, 2005 and talked about violence. The Second Assembly introduced the *Family Abuse Intervention Act* and threw \$2.3 million worth of funding behind it and 23 PYs. We saw that it got off to a bad start; the consultants said it wasn't working. There is a big issue out there.

I'm prepared to table a draft copy for Mr. Ningark and ask all of my colleagues, if they want some input, to provide me with their recommendations. They are the guys and gals on the front lines in the communities who can offer some insights on how this government can develop a strategy that will generate some meaningful results and curb the violence against women, not just women, but families in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you kindly, Mr. Speaker. I thank the hon. minister. We know that we don't have enough resources. We may not have the PYs in the system, but we know that family violence up here is unacceptable. We all know that. We also know that it should be a priority of this government, according to every other strategy, every other statistic that we read from the country.

Now, the hon. minister has indicated that he is willing to table the strategy. Can the minister indicate when he will table

the *Ilagiitsiarniq* Family Violence Prevention Strategy in this Assembly? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank my hon. colleague from the Kitikmeot. I know he has done a lot of lobbying over the years in our region, particularly in his community of Kugaaruk, to get a family shelter in his community. I know the community is working very hard to get that facility up and operational.

Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned in my earlier answer, I will table that document in this [sitting]. I just can't give you a date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 522 – 3(3): Government of Nunavut Submissions to the Nunavut Impact Review Board Concerning the Kiggavik Project

Mr. Aupaluktuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, whose department has been coordinating the Government of Nunavut's submissions to the Nunavut Impact Review Board concerning the proposed Kiggavik uranium mine near Baker Lake.

(interpretation ends) In June of last year, the Government of Nunavut submitted a number of comments and information requests to the Nunavut Impact Review

Board concerning AREVA Canada's draft environmental impact statement. In January of this year, AREVA released its responses to the GN's comments and information requests. Can the minister advise the House if the government was fully satisfied with AREVA's responses? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Currently, I don't have the pertinent documentation on the matter available and perhaps the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation is better able to speak to more recent departmental information. It would be easier if the question was directed to the minister responsible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Are you redirecting the question to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation? Okay. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member from Qamanittuaq from the question. Mr. Speaker, on February 6 of this year, all the involved parties were notified that a commencement on a 60-day technical review period had begun for the project. All the parties have until April 8 to submit comments on the completeness and quality of information provided to NIRB. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Possibly with your assistance, either minister would be able to answer as well. The government's sustainable development function is being transferred from the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs to the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. Can the minister confirm that responsibility for coordinating the GN's submissions to NIRB regarding major mining projects will become the responsibility of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation after April 1, 2013? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. The question has been redirected to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, the evaluation and the committee that evaluates these projects as a full-time participant, what we call interveners, is not being moved to Economic Development and Transportation. We did have a person who came over to Economic Development and Transportation as an associate deputy minister. He himself has been the lead during the EIA days and he will continue to do that from the Department of Economic Development and Transportation.

Mr. Speaker, as the member is well aware, it's not just EIA and Economic Development that participate in these discussions. Most of the departments

within the government do have a say in a project like this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the responses as well from the hon. minister. Just for the public record and for those in Baker Lake, I would like to clarify for the record that last month, NIRB began the technical review and public comment period for AREVA's draft environmental impact statement for the Kiggavik project. Can the minister indicate how the Government of Nunavut will be participating in this process? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I thank the member for that question. As a government, we do not participate in the project. We evaluate the project, as legislated through our mandate. We respond to the line of questioning and issues that are out there pertaining to the project itself. Mr. Speaker, in our participation throughout the process, we don't take a pro or con outlook on the project itself. We just abide by what's regulated to us or what we're legislated to do, and we respond to that through NIRB. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For the benefit of Baker Lake residents who are following our proceedings today, can the minister summarize the GN's main concerns to date with respect to AREVA's draft environmental impact statement? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, I do not participate in an evaluation with the project itself. We do have our officials who do that. As the member is well aware, the Minister responsible for Mines does not actively participate in and comment on the projects.

Mr. Speaker, AREVA has been working in northern Saskatchewan for over 30 years and they have demonstrated a good track record both environmentally, safety-wise, and overall reclamations of their projects.

Again, Mr. Speaker, all the information that does go to NIRB is posted on their website. All the comments, all the concerns, all the letters are posted on Nunavut Impact Review Board's website. If any member is looking for what's happening out there, whether there are comments or questions being asked of a project, all of that information is available on Nunavut Impact Review Board's website. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Oral Questions. Member for Natilik,

Ms. Ugyuk.

**Question 523 – 3(3): Emergency
Medevac Services in the Kitikmeot**

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to Nauyaq if he's watching in Taloyoak.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my questions to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

Mr. Speaker, I understand that the government continues to face court challenges with respect to the current contract for emergency medevac services for the Kitikmeot region and I will, therefore, not be asking specific questions about that contract. However, as a result of stories in the media, my constituents and other Kitikmeot residents have some serious concerns about these services. For the benefit of the listening public, I would like to ask the minister to clarify some aspects of the emergency medevac service delivery to the Kitikmeot.

Can the minister clearly indicate how his department monitors the length of time it takes for an emergency medevac flight to arrive to pick up a Kitikmeot patient in their home community and how long it takes to deliver them to their destination? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Ugyuk for the question. Mr. Speaker, I almost feel like I should be the manager of a lot of these things because they're always asking me

these very detailed and technical questions.

I want to assure my colleagues that we have officials in the Department of Health, regional directors, and we have officials in the health centres who prepare reports that are analyzed by our staff. There are quarterly meetings with the contractors and vendors to review all the statistics and timelines to ensure that there is compliance. In fact, there's an annual compliance evaluation going on this month.

There's no one in Kitikmeot who is more concerned about air ambulance travel in the Kitikmeot than me because I come from Cambridge Bay and many of my constituents are medevaced. I take it quite seriously.

I want to comment while I have the chance. People should not believe everything that they read, that there are always two sides to a story.

The health care of our people of Nunavut is a very high priority for our Department of Health and Social Services. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Thank you. (interpretation) We do not believe all of the correspondence. Sometimes we hear things through the media.

(interpretation ends) A year ago, the minister indicated in this House that emergency medevac aircraft for the Kitikmeot would be positioned in Cambridge Bay, which is in the

Kitikmeot region. Can the minister update this House as to when exactly he anticipates emergency aircraft to be permanently positioned in Cambridge Bay? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Ugyuk for the question and again her concerns about air ambulance travel in the Kitikmeot. Mr. Speaker, I believe the primary aircraft for the Kitikmeot is a Learjet 35A and I believe it is based in the Kitikmeot. It is backed up by a King Air 200 out of Yellowknife. Depending on what the situation is with the weather, planes, and available flying time for pilots and other personnel, a plane could be dispatched from Cambridge Bay or from Yellowknife to the other communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Can the minister indicate what measures have been taken by his department to ensure that emergency medevac services in the Kitikmeot have not been reduced or downgraded as a result of a change in contractor? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Ugyuk for the question. Mr. Speaker, [in October 2011], the former Minister of the

Department of Health made a Minister's Statement and assured all Kitikmeot folks that there would be no decrease in the level of service. I have stepped in and endeavoured to ensure that that does not occur.

I regularly communicate with my officials in headquarters about services in the Kitikmeot. I get complaints as well from my constituents, which I take very seriously. I communicate to the officials in headquarters and they communicate to the other people who are responsible for overseeing the contracts.

I have been assured that there has been no decrease in the level of service. As I have indicated earlier, there are quarterly meetings with the contractor. There are officials from the Department of Health who meet with the contractor to go over issues. We recognize that it's a transition year from the former contractor to the new contractor. There are some issues to be ironed out, but I want to assure the folks in the Kitikmeot that there has been no decrease in the level of service. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: You're welcome, Minister Peterson. Your final supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his responses. (interpretation ends) What steps have the minister and his officials taken to ensure that Kitikmeot residents will not have to wait unnecessary lengths of time in their communities for emergency medevac services to reach them, pick them up, and carry them to their destination for urgent medical treatment? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I had mentioned in my earlier answers, the department meets quarterly with the contractor. They hear the concerns from the health centres and review the reports for every medevac. There are, of course, concerns from clients who submit complaints. They review those.

As I said, it is a transition year. The priority is to improve the service to ensure that there are no unnecessary delays. Unfortunately, there could be delays, weather delays, and problems with runways. There are many areas where there could be delays in getting a medevac and a patient out of a community to a hospital in Yellowknife or Edmonton. We don't have control over all of those things, but we will do the best we can to ensure that, while the patients are in the care of our health centres and our nurses and doctors, they will receive top medical care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 524 – 3(3): Status of Pond Inlet Community Arena

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, residents of Pond Inlet and Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services, (interpretation ends) Hon. Kusugak.

(interpretation) In March of 2012, the residents of Pond Inlet celebrated the opening of our new community arena. The event to mark the opening of the new arena was attended by the Premier, a number of ministers, and our Member of Parliament.

Mr. Speaker, although the community is very pleased to have a new arena, concerns have been raised with respect to a number of physical deficiencies with the facility that have come to light. Can the minister confirm if his department has been made aware of these concerns? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member from Pond Inlet for posing that question. Once large buildings like community halls, arenas, and so on, are completed, we can't give any more money to fix the deficiencies like lighting, doors, or other deficiencies. It was the same case with the Pond Inlet Arena and we had to do some minor repairs. Just this past week, from what I understand, there was going to be a review done on the arena with both my staff and hamlet council employees. I'm sure that review has been done already. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The government's current *Capital Planning Process Handbook* indicates that systems are to be

"inspected and tested" and the contractor is to "complete any minor deficiencies" following the construction of a new building. Can the minister confirm if all of these steps took place before the new Pond Inlet community arena was turned over to the municipality? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we followed all of these steps. Prior to it being utilized, we made sure that the deficiencies and safety issues were corrected before we handed over the community arena. That should delay the opening of the arena. We did take all of the steps that are required. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is important for municipalities to be fully involved in the process of inspecting new facilities before they assume responsibility for them. I definitely believe that they should be involved. Can the minister confirm if municipalities are provided the opportunity to sign off on final inspections of new buildings before the GN turns them over to them? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Prior to any building being turned over, all requirements under the building standards and equipment required is laid out in the legislation. However, I don't have it in front of me, so I can't respond to that question. Once I have the information available, I will be able to provide a response further on in our sitting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This will be my last question. In circumstances where significant deficiencies are identified with a new facility after it has been turned over to a municipality, can the minister confirm if it is his department that is responsible for covering the costs of repairing them? Who is responsible for that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before it is handed over to the municipality, we make sure that all the deficiencies are repaired. That is the responsibility of the contractor and so are the costs. For example, in Arviat, there was concrete put in and then it had to be taken out. That was the responsibility of the contractor and the contractor was responsible for the costs. They have to fix all the deficiencies and that's under the contract. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 525 – 3(3): Oil Drilling Around Cameron Island

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Mr. Speaker, recently, the federal government announced that it plans to hold a call for bids for oil and gas discovery licences for the Brent Horne Island off Baffin Island on Cameron Island in Nunavut. I would like to know: is the minister's department aware of this activity? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Mr. Speaker, my departmental officials may be aware of this, but I'm not [aware of it] at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the minister's not aware, I'm not sure whether... I didn't hear him say that he was taking it as notice, so I'll keep asking the questions.

The oil field referred to is on Cameron Island, northwest of Bathurst Island, and was already the site to exploration and production. As we are all aware, Parks Canada, QIA, and the communities of the High Arctic have been working very hard on creating the boundaries and

setting up the IIBAs for the North Bathurst National Park. How will this activity that will be going on affect the park? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada is putting out a call for work permits, I believe that the park boundaries have already been discussed and agreed to between the participating partners within that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of the concerns with the proposed park is that the caribou, which is the Perry caribou, on Cameron Island... Part of the reason that they were actually working towards having it become a park was because of the caribou and that is where the calving grounds are. One of the huge concerns from the community of Resolute Bay was that Cameron Island, which is where these licences are being sold from, are used for the remainder of the year when the caribou are actually going out and seeking food. My question to the government is: what is the government's position on this? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not aware of these discussions that are maybe taking place

at the officials' level, but once I have that information, I'll surely let the member know. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The fields produced 2.8 million barrels of oil between 1985 and 1996 before it was abandoned. At this point, these sites are abandoned and with the call for the discovery licences, there is potential of development going on. Could the minister clearly state...? In terms of any work proceeding forward, to avoid confusion, will any company having to do work in this area have to follow the NIRB process to receive all of the certificates and qualifications to be able to work in this area? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, there is some participation from NIRB in all development, but for oil and gas development, it's the National Energy Board that reviews and makes the final recommendations to the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 526 – 3(3): Departmental Support for the Kugaaruk Crisis Shelter

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to the safe shelter in Kugaaruk, which is termed *Qimaavik* in Inuktitut, I have a question on it directed to the Minister of Health and Social Services. I know for a fact that this minister and his department, as well as the headquarters and his officials fully support this initiative. It seems quite obvious that they support these shelters.

Upon my election into this position, which is coming up on four years, I have continually brought up this pressing issue, but things are progressing too slowly. Could the minister direct his staff in Cambridge Bay, along with his staff in Kugaaruk, to give full support to the safe shelter in Kugaaruk? I don't know what the bottleneck is. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Ningark for the question. Mr. Speaker, as Mr. Ningark knows, the health department fully supports the project in Kugaaruk. We are providing funding for the operation of the building. Mr. Speaker, the hamlet there is aware that the facility has to meet the standards and criteria for operation as a crisis shelter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the hon. minister for his response. Yes, I know that headquarters fully supports the development of a safe shelter in Kugaaruk. Why has it taken us about four years to try to get it implemented? Perhaps the hon. minister can assure me, this House, and the people of Kugaaruk that community staff, regional staff is also fully supportive of the facility which is being planned for four year now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I again thank Mr. Ningark for the question. Mr. Speaker, the conditional contribution agreement was signed with the hamlet in November 2012 to fund the operations of the crisis shelter in Kugaaruk. I believe that the hamlet is working with Health Canada to fund the renovations to the facility. Of course, the community has the full support of our health staff in the regional offices and of course, our headquarters office staff here in Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark: My second supplementary, Mr. Speaker, as I get older, I am beginning to lose my hearing here. I want to make sure that the minister has indicated that he will tell his staff at the local level in Kugaaruk and the regional [offices] to give their 100 percent support for the development of

the shelter in Kugaaruk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Minister of Health and Social Services, I think he's asking you to speak up. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Ningark for the question. Mr. Speaker, about a month or a month and a half ago in Cambridge Bay, I actually met with the individual who is working with the Hamlet of Kugaaruk. He gave me a very in-depth, detailed briefing on what the situation is. I can assure Mr. Ningark that the health staff in the Kitikmeot is working with the hamlet in Kugaaruk.

We would love nothing better than to get that facility in Kugaaruk up and operational to serve the people of Kugaaruk. I thank Mr. Ningark for his efforts over the years to get that facility operational. If all the parties involved in this pull together, I'm sure we will get it operational very soon. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the hon. minister. The hon. minister has indicated in this House that we are having their full support. Now will the minister assure this House that his headquarters staff will communicate with the regional and community level staff to ensure that they get the message? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Ningark for the question. Mr. Speaker, by my watch, it's a little after 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time and it's a little after one o'clock Mountain Time, where Cambridge Bay is located. If the phones aren't already ringing off the hook, listening to Mr. Ningark asking his questions, I would be very surprised. If they're not ringing off the hook, they will be ringing very soon. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 527 – 3(3): Mental Health Services

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

Mr. Speaker, last week, I had raised several questions related to this facet of health services, but in order to ensure all Nunavummiut understand the issues, I tried to ask with that perspective. At this juncture, I will raise my questions specific to the community of Pond Inlet, which is my constituency.

Mr. Speaker, the community of Pond Inlet is one of the largest communities in the Baffin region and it continues to grow. As part of the growing pains, community residents often face serious social issues with individuals and families needing support and counselling.

The minister has indicated that approximately 12 mental health workers

are currently employed by the Department of Health and Social Services. Can he clarify where these positions are based? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. Mr. Speaker, I don't have that information in front of me where the 12 mental health workers are going to be positioned. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like my learned friend Mr. Ningark, with old age, I'm starting to have hearing issues and I take it that the minister has just indicated to me that he will provide me with that information as soon as he can get it.

Can the minister explain how mental health workers are assigned to support and services to communities across Nunavut? (interpretation) Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank your Mr. Speaker. Short of yelling, maybe being 6'1", 6'2", the microphones are not picking up my voice here in the House. Raise the mic up or I'm going have to lower myself down.

Mr. Speaker, I will try to get that information on the mental health workers. I know it exists because I had that information last year. I just can't remember. The Department of Health is such a huge department. We have over 1,000 employees and god knows how many programs and services, but it's all very important to Nunavummiut.

In terms of how we assign mental health workers to the communities, I leave that up to our officials. Depending on the population of the community, there are ratios, population to nurse ratios, for example, and similarly for mental health workers, psychiatric nurses, and that. They have some formulas that they use to establish where positions would be best located to serve the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have spoken on a number of occasions in this House of the need for full-time health professionals in the community of Pond Inlet. I have told the minister about this numerous times and I have reminded him. Can the minister provide an update on what consideration has been given to assigning a mental health worker position to the community of Pond Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I again thank Mr. Enook for the question. I am very well aware that Mr. Enook has spoken long and hard and raised that issue about mental health

workers and mental health services in Nunavut. I appreciated the support last year when we were discussing the funding for the new Akausisarvik facility that we're currently renovating that would serve the Baffin region.

Mr. Speaker, I must apologize as well to Mr. Enook. On Friday, I inadvertently said that there were mental health workers in every community. It is a plan to put mental health workers in every community. We have psychiatric nurses in some communities and they're being shared. Our officials are well aware of the demand in Nunavut for mental health workers in every community; they're very important. We are working hard to find the funding for mental health workers or psychiatric nurses.

Again, it is a function of available funding for a lot of priority type programs and services in Nunavut. Sometimes we're restricted by the availability of housing, office space, and a number of other factors. While we would like to put positions in communities, sometimes we can't or we're limited by the amount of services we can provide, but we're well aware of the community of Pond Inlet's need for a mental health worker. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister has indicated on more than occasion to review the need for mental health support services across all of Nunavut's communities and revising his department's service plan so that it specifically addresses the needs

that are identified. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Enook for those comments. Mr. Speaker, yes, mental health is a top priority for our department. We are getting resources that we utilize across the territory. We have funding through the Territorial Health System Sustainability Initiative helping us. We are reviewing the *Mental Health Act*.

We're limited by what we can do at this time. It's not going to happen overnight, but I believe, over the years, with the support of this House, that we can put more mental health services and programs in all the communities across Nunavut. I thank you for the support and encouragement, and we will continue to make it a high priority. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Members will note the expiration of the time allotted for question period. 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 Committee on Bills and Other Matters. Item 14. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

Item 14: Tabling of Documents**Tabled Document 319 – 3(3): FPT
Ministers Responsible for Sport,
Physical Activity and Recreation**

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the federal/provincial/territorial ministers responsible for sport, physical activity and recreation meeting in Inuvik, June 26 to 28, 2012 report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Tabled Document 320 – 3(3):
Correspondence Concerning
Health Centre Staffing in Repulse
Bay**

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table today copies of correspondence concerning health centre staffing in Repulse Bay. I am pleased to note that the Minister of Health and Social Services' letter to me indicates that the community's health centre will gain two additional positions in the new fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Item 14. Tabling of Documents. Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

**Tabled Document 321 – 3(3):
Correspondence from NTI dated
June 1, 2012 regarding the
Representative for Children and
Youth Bill**

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table a letter received from the president of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated on the Representative for Children and Youth Bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Item 14. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Tabled Document 322 – 3(3): The
Buddy Fund**

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier today, I spoke of a commendable community initiative called "The Buddy Fund." The Buddy Fund helps to provide veterinary health care to animals in the community of Baker Lake. I wish to table a short description of the activities of The Buddy Fund. I encourage my colleagues to share this information with interested groups and organizations in their own constituencies. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Tabled Document 323 – 3(3):
Government of Canada's
Response to the Report of the
United Nations Special
Rapporteur on the Right to Food**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last week, I tabled a copy of the Report of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food concerning his mission to Canada. I wish to table today the Government of Canada's response to this report, which was released today in Geneva on the occasion of the Special Rapporteur's

presentation of his report. I urge all members to review the document with care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Tabled Document 324 – 3(3): 2011-2012 Pension Administration Report

Tabled Document 325 – 3(3): Report of Members' Absences from Sittings of the House and Meetings of Committees and Caucuses for the period October 1, 2012 and December 31, 2012

Members, I have two documents that I wish to table today.

As required by the *Legislative Assembly Retiring Allowances Act* and the *Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act*, I wish to table the 2011-12 Pension Administration Report.

I also wish to table the Report of Members' Absences from Sittings of the House and Meetings of Committees and Caucuses for the period October 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012.

Item 14. Tabling of Documents. Item 15. Notices of Motions. Item 16. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Item 16: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

Bill 54 – An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act – Notice

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on

Wednesday, March 6, 2013, that Bill 54, *An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Item 16. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Bill 56 – Write-off of Assets Act, No. 1, 2011-2012 – Notice

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, March 6, 2013, that Bill 56, *Write-off of Assets Act, No. 1, 2011-2012*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Item 17: Motions

Motion 043 – 3(3): Extension of Review of Bill 40, Representative for Children and Youth Act

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS Bill 40, the proposed *Representative for Children and Youth Act*, received second reading on June 7, 2012;

AND WHEREAS Bill 40 has been referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation for consideration;

AND WHEREAS Rule 68(1) provides that bills referred to a standing committee shall not be proceeded with

until the Assembly receives the report of the committee or 120 calendar days pass from the day the bill was given second reading;

AND WHEREAS Bill 40, the proposed *Representative for Children and Youth Act*, has been in the public domain for a number of months;

AND WHEREAS the standing committee is of the view that this has allowed Nunavummiut time to consider the proposed legislation;

AND WHEREAS the standing committee desires to hear directly from Nunavummiut on the proposed legislation;

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. The motion is in order. Before we go to debate on the motion, I would just like to remind you that all members have a right to speak to the motion. The mover of the motion gets an opportunity to speak first and the seconder. Once I have no more names on my list, the mover has the right to the last reply and that closes debate on the motion. To the motion. Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the mover of the motion that is before the House today, I am pleased

to have the opportunity to speak in favour of its passage.

Mr. Speaker, as I noted in the preamble to my motion, Bill 40, the proposed *Representative for Children and Youth Act*, was referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation for consideration following its second reading. Since that time, the standing committee has met with the sponsoring minister on a number of occasions to discuss the bill. As chairperson, I have also been exchanging correspondence with the sponsoring minister.

Mr. Speaker, Bill 40 has been in the public domain since June 6, 2012. The standing committee believes that sufficient time has passed for members of the public to have had the opportunity to read and carefully consider Bill 40, the proposed *Representative for Children and Youth Act*.

Mr. Speaker, it is the intention of the standing committee to hold public hearings in a number of communities over the coming months. A detailed schedule for these hearings will be released in the near future. I anticipate that the comments and submissions that we receive from Nunavummiut will assist members in their deliberations concerning Bill 40.

This process will enable all Members of the Legislative Assembly to make a final determination concerning Bill 40 prior to the dissolution of the Third Legislative Assembly in September of this year.

I would also note that it is important to recognize that even if Bill 40 were to be passed into law today, it would not come

into force until such time as appropriate transition measures are undertaken.

Mr. Speaker, it is also important to recognize that careful deliberation is an essential part of the legislative process.

Bill 40 is a not a minor technical amendment to an existing statute.

Bill 40 proposes to establish a new office that will be independent from the government and which will report directly to the Legislative Assembly.

The mandate of the proposed representative for children and youth focuses on issues that are important to every single resident and community of the territory.

I encourage all Nunavummiut who are following our proceedings today to consider making a submission to the standing committee concerning Bill 40.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to conclude by urging all members to support this motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. To the motion. Secunder of the motion, Member for Amittuq, Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, have supported Bill 40's deferral as it requires further review by Nunavummiut. We are all aware that this bill has been around for some time. It has been reviewed by the standing committee and whenever questions arose, responses would be submitted to those queries. As a matter of fact, after our submission of further questions to the contents, the responses

were just received recently, which is how the process runs.

Mr. Speaker, Bill 40 is the child and youth representative draft legislation that will use the Legislative Assembly as the foundation and not the Nunavut government. As to how much impact this legislation will have on the average person in our constituencies, we will need to consult with the communities that are most directly impacted. The other parties have already been consulted, the social services department and the RCMP, who are generally involved in these areas. We have requested comments from these bodies.

However, with respect to the average citizen's opinions, although an opportunity was opened, most people who get the written requests don't always respond in writing, especially our older people who are not as dependent on the written word. It would be most opportune to have a face-to-face consultation where we present our findings and request the public's comments on this proposed legislation, as Nunavummiut are the ones who elect this government and us members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. To the motion. Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to declare my opposition to the motion to defer Bill 40 for the child and youth representative legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the safety and well-being of our children and youth is a priority for the Nunavut government. Mr. Speaker, we have received a number of comments

from Nunavummiut, including comments made by the Members of this House, on this draft legislation for a child and youth representative. The comments state that Nunavut requires this legislation to protect our children and youth.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the desire to take extra steps to protect our children and youth should not come as a surprise. Nunavummiut are expressing a desire that is universal and cuts across all cultures.

Mr. Speaker, children and youth in Nunavut have the right to effectively and timely services from the government. Bill 40 will create an independent office of the Legislative Assembly to ensure that government delivers.

Bill 40 will give this independent officer of the Legislative Assembly the duties to ensure that the concerns of children and youth relating to government services receive appropriate attention, the rights and interests of children and youth are protected and advanced by the Government of Nunavut, the views of children and youth are considered by government departments and designated authorities, and children and youth have access to the services of government departments and designated authorities.

As an independent officer of the Legislative Assembly, the representative will also provide advice and recommendations to the government to improve the laws, programs, and services for our children and youth and ensure they are effective and relevant.

Mr. Speaker, in exercising his or her duties on behalf of the Legislative

Assembly, the representative for children and youth must apply Inuit societal values.

Mr. Speaker, Bill 40 also ensures that the representative for children and youth assists families by keeping them informed and involving them wherever possible in decisions and actions concerning children and youth.

Mr. Speaker, Bill 40 is built on broad consultation with Inuit and the public members. I am very proud of the work that the Government of Nunavut has done to solicit input. The Government of Nunavut conducted consultations in person and by teleconference with stakeholders throughout Nunavut. A questionnaire was posted on the GN website.

Information was also gathered from questionnaires distributed to each Nunavut resident during the review of the *Child and Family Services Act*. A toll-free telephone line and voicemail box to solicit feedback was operated in all our official languages. We also received written, faxed, and emailed submissions.

As part of the two-day territorial Validation Forum on the *Child and Family Services Act* held in Iqaluit in February 2011, the Department of Health and Social Services discussed the proposed Recommendation #7, “Establish an Office of the Territorial Child and Youth Advocate” with the public, regional Inuit associations, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, social service providers, community leaders, government employees, and stakeholders from across Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, consultation sessions also took place with Nunavut Sivuniksavut students, youth detained at the Isumaqsunnngittukkuvik Young Offenders Facility, and regional Inuit associations' youth coordinators. As well, the project consultation document was shared with grade 10 to 12 students at our schools.

Mr. Speaker, to work on Bill 40, we also formed a representative for children and youth advisory committee that has met on a bi-weekly basis since May 2011. The committee is comprised of the following representatives: a youth representative; two representatives from Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated; the Department of Education; the Department of Justice; the Department of Health and Social Services; the Department of Culture and Heritage; the Legal Services Board of Nunavut; the Nunavut Housing Corporation; and the Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs project team.

Mr. Speaker, during the consultations, we received a lot of support for our work.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to single out the very important support that we received from NTI. This is the letter that I just tabled a moment ago. On June 1, 2012, President Cathy Towtongie, on behalf of NTI, wrote, "This legislation will provide a much needed voice for children and youth in Nunavut. This will be an opportunity to ensure that the rights of our children and youth are upheld and protected." Mr. Speaker, President Towtongie continued by noting that "This legislation is a product of partnership in the truest sense of the term."

Mr. Speaker, we also took advantage of our consultation process to engage with children and youth. We held a very successful National Child Day Drawing Contest. Mr. Speaker, 154 submissions were received, covering such themes as the right to culture and language, a safe family environment, the right to play, the right to have food, the right to an education, the right to a clean environment, and of course, the right to be loved. The submissions motivated us to work harder to protect our children.

My department and I have also worked very closely with the Standing Committee on Legislation since Bill 40 was first introduced in the House on June 6, 2012. Mr. Speaker, we have welcomed the scrutiny of Bill 40 and have sought to provide all the information requested by the standing committee in a timely fashion. Mr. Speaker, we have appeared in front of the standing committee on two occasions when we responded to the in-depth examination of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, the members of the standing committee requested a further 120 days to scrutinize Bill 40 on November 2, 2012 and, Mr. Speaker, we welcomed that scrutiny. One of the reasons I have heard for the motion requesting another 120 days is the standing committee's wishes to consult with the public on Bill 40.

Mr. Speaker, the standing committee has had opportunities to consult with the public. The Legislative Assembly sent a callout for submissions last June via Assembly's website. I understand that to date, the standing committee has not received any submissions from the public.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps this is because of the very extensive consultations that the government undertook in developing Bill 40. People have had their say and we have listened and incorporated their concerns.

Mr. Speaker, more public consultations are unlikely to be an effective use of our time. We all know that the spring and summer are not a good time to hold consultations, as many Nunavummiut are away from their communities and are out on the land.

Mr. Speaker, should the motion for another 120 days pass, Bill 40, the proposed *Representative for Child and Youth Act*, may not be dealt with again until the fall sitting of the Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to conclude my statement by quoting some very eloquent words that were said in this House on May 31 of last year by hon. member from Nattilik Jeannie Ugyuk. The member from Nattilik said, “I strongly believe that we should not be afraid of initiatives such as this. This is an important opportunity for us as a society to take on greater ownership and responsibility for the well-being of our children in a way that does not undermine the responsibilities of parents and families.”

The member from Nattilik went on to say, “Mr. Speaker, I see the child and youth representative as having the responsibility of ensuring that the government is living up to its obligations with respect to what should be provided to children and youth. I see the child and youth representative as having the responsibility of reporting his or her

findings to us, the elected leaders, for action.”

Mr. Speaker, we should ensure that Bill 40 continues to move through the Legislative Assembly. Mr. Speaker, I urge all members of the legislature to carefully consider this motion. The time for action is now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. To the motion. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I’m not quite sure where to start on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, this initiative started in the year 2000. That’s like 13 to 14 years ago, if you can believe that I’ve got the timeline right, I’m just going from memory. Mr. Speaker, the Kitikmeot originated the idea, but we took it to all the mayors in Nunavut. At the board meeting in Cambridge Bay, the mayors supported that. At the NAM AGM, there was a unanimous resolution of support for the creation of what we called at the time a child advocate. The government of the day was working on that initiative, then the legislative proposal fell off the order paper, and then they did the time left to that government and it fell off.

When I was elected MLA, I brought it up in the House in the Second Assembly numerous times asking ministers and lobbying. It didn’t get very far. I was very hardened when I became a minister in this Third Assembly. At the cabinet retreat, we discussed how important children and youth are to our territory. To some people, maybe they’re not important, but to most of us as parents and adults, they are important; more

important than anything we can imagine, really, when you think about it.

At the Nunavut Association of Municipalities AGM in Cambridge Bay a couple of years ago, it came up again. There was another unanimous motion of support for the creation of what we called the child and youth representative at that time. Again, they were well aware that there was an initiative by this House when we gathered here I think it was in October 2009 and we had pushed forward on this child and youth representative. NTI has always been supportive and I'm glad the Premier reiterated their support.

Over that time of 10 to 13 years here now, we have fallen behind other provinces and territories in Canada in the creation of a children and youth representative or a child advocate. When I started on it, I think it was only seven provinces. I think most provinces have a child advocate. Yukon's wasn't even on the radar when I started talking about it and raising it, and now they have one. I was fortunate with some of my colleagues to have an opportunity to talk to the people and put that in place a few years ago and it's having some success over there.

The Child Welfare League of Canada was retained by the Department of Health. Under my predecessor's leadership and initiative, he commissioned the Child Welfare League of Canada to do community consultations on the *Child and Family Services Act*, including the initiative of a child and youth representative.

I was at the community meeting in Cambridge Bay when they were there.

There were over 50 people there. Everybody there said that we need this child and youth representative. So there is at least one community in Nunavut that knows how it will benefit children, youth, and families. It gives the children and youth of our territory a voice.

Now, I read the summary report of the Child Welfare League of Canada, and if the numbers are to be believed, over 1,000 Nunavummiut had an opportunity, either through community meetings, town hall meetings, or online presentations, to give their input. With a population of 33,000 to 34,000 people, that's really significant.

Last summer or June of last year, the standing committee went online. They advertised to give everybody in Nunavut an opportunity. It was well advertised. People from my community were aware of it, but they didn't see any concerns because they supported it. So they didn't feel that they needed to send a letter in saying that they support something. They just felt that this House was well on its way to passing this legislation.

There may be some people out there in Nunavut, I'm sure, who are concerned about it. I don't think that we should be concerned about a child and youth representative. After all, it's an independent officer of this House who will represent children and youth. It will give the children and youth a voice and give their families a voice when they have issues with this government or any government or any legislation in this territory or this country. It's not a position that's going to go out there under any legislation and apprehend children. It's going to give the people more clarity on the roles of government.

Mr. Speaker, when I was the mayor of Cambridge Bay and I had tough decisions to make, I would occasionally gather elders together in Cambridge Bay and we would go down to the Elders Palace and chitchat about things. I remember elder Frank Analok. He gave me some good advice. I was the elected mayor, but Frank was well recognized as a leader in the community. He told me, "Keith, we elected you guys to make decisions. We trust you to make those decisions." That was the best, sound advice I have ever received.

At a certain point in time, you have to make the decisions and live with it. You can't keep consulting, consulting, and consulting because tough decisions don't get made on important issues. I'm going to ask the House today, "Who is going to stand with me the people who are going to oppose this motion and stand with the children and youth of this territory?" We have to move forward. You have to get it done. I will oppose the motion and I ask all of my colleagues to give serious consideration to oppose the motion as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. To the motion. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure where to start either. However, I want my comments understood in the right context. With many of my constituents sharing our Inuit culture, I will make my comments in Inuktitut. A majority of Nunavummiut tend to understand our comments easier when we speak in Inuktitut, especially our elders who are, for the most part, unilingual Inuit.

Mr. Speaker, let me start with the comments our Premier made regarding Bill 40, which is the child and youth representative draft legislation. All the members here are in total agreement that our youth and children require proper advocacy and stewardship. We all agree on this need.

However, a few of us members continue to have concerns about the bill, particularly the reasoning as to why we need further consultation. What about our elders? What about the parents? What about the guardians? What will happen to them if we enact this legislation?

As mentioned by our Premier, the draft legislation was introduced back in June 2012. I think we can all agree that the reason for the delay in the process is that the regular members have had many questions regarding the bill's contents. Additionally, I can further state unequivocally that some questions we raised weren't responded to for a long period. I can also state further that the last question we submitted through our chairperson took over a week to get a response and this question pertained to one of our concerns.

We are not just trying to slow down the process. We require answers to our questions, especially as it was mentioned earlier that the membership here was elected to enact legislation and to represent our constituencies. I am proud of this mandate given to the members and I want to ensure I exercise this carefully.

Mr. Speaker, the only way I can exercise my responsibilities is to hear about any concerns my constituents may have for

any draft legislation. Whether it is legislation I am approving or reviewing, if I don't comprehend the language upon approval, then I shouldn't be an MLA since as part of our duties, I need to ensure I understand the contents, who it will impact, and every citizen who may be impacted. I need to know these details.

I am proud to exercise my duties as an MLA and that I am able to vote on draft legislation and in any future bills. However, it is up to me to know the contents of what we are discussing, as any draft bill or legislation will apply to all Nunavummiut once enacted. All bills should never be rushed to enactment, especially when we're discussing our youth and children and the impact it would have on them, including their parents.

This draft legislation known as Bill 40 hasn't been mentioned as being opposed to in principle. However, some of the contents are still hazy and hard to understand, at least to me personally. I have too many questions yet on the bill.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, a constant refrain we hear from our government is that the government is for the people of Nunavut. Great! Let us embrace that role. Another member mentioned that wherever possible, Inuit cultural principles should be used. Great! Due to these reasons, and if we stand by this principle, then let us ensure we include all of our constituents. If we are going to stand by our words, then we should try to consult with more of our people, not just organizations like NTI, the RCMP, Social Services, or just our own public servants. What about the ordinary people, our public, whom we should be

consulting, especially if we're going to put our money where our statements are, that we will utilize Inuit cultural principles?

Mr. Speaker, the bill we are currently reviewing will impact a lot of people in the future and we want more opportunity to do that. My parents, my older brother, or even my sister are not all computer literate and can't respond through digital means. Not all of our people can respond via writing.

As my colleague Mr. Tapardjuk stated, as Inuit, we don't all go rushing to the new technology. Only sometimes it makes it easier when our constituents visit us to air their concerns. Let's go to the people and not through computers, not through the teleconference, not through letters or correspondence.

We're not saying that we're not going to all the communities. We're just saying that we feel all we have heard is one-sided. What about the ordinary person who is unemployed, who is not an RCMP or a social worker, Mr. Speaker? For that reason, we need some more time to consider this bill and I urge my fellow colleagues to support this motion.

If we don't support it, are we not going to be one-sided? We haven't heard from the public, but we did hear from the different organizations. What about the ordinary person? I feel bad that we have not and I feel that we should get more feedback from the public if we're going to use the Inuit societal values. I feel that that has not been reached. If we don't support this motion, then we're not representing the ordinary public people on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. To the motion. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In terms of speaking to the motion, I would have to say I disagree with my colleague with some of the comments that he just made. I know it was most of us here that sat around in this House once the *Tamapta* Mandate was brought here and we sat as a group and decided that we would follow through on what it said in the mandate. We even decided to go five years rather than the four years or four and a half years to try and meet that mandate and we're getting quite close to the end of it.

One of the main points that I remember in the *Tamapta* Mandate was to actually come up with a child and youth representative in the life of this Assembly, so I would like to see that happen. Some members spoke in terms of being opposed to it. At the same time, I know that there has been some discussion about whether we have consulted or not consulted.

Sometimes it gets confusing, especially when people are listening back home, as to whether consultation is being done on the front-end of a bill or back-end of a bill. If the government has done a lot of consultation, then in terms of our job as legislators, as members of the committee on legislation, we have been bouncing back and forth between the sponsor and the government asking questions.

There was a lot of support for the bill. The Auditor General of Canada put support into a child and youth representative. As the Premier spoke and Mr. Peterson spoke, there is lots of support that seems to be out there. NTI

seems to be in support of it with their letter.

I printed this off too because I wanted to remind myself about the fact that as the committee on legislation, this was our part, our dual duty to call upon people in the communities. I don't know if it was mentioned in the translation about not working on computers and whatnot, but this was emailed out. It was also put on the radio. It was also put on the newspaper.

I believe it was on our Legislative Assembly channel as well to get the news out that the committee on legislation was doing our duty, as Mr. Enook said, not just the RCMP officers, social workers, mental health workers, or GN employees, we were asking for people in the community to actually step up and make the comments and speak out if they wanted to.

To me, this is sort of getting close to the end of the mandate. With some of the scrutiny that has gone on behind the scenes in our committee meetings, it has been great being able to talk and debate it out. I would like to see us get into the House where we can get it on the record and make some final decisions before the time does run for this mandate.

At the same time, I think the last thing that I wanted to mention is that to me, this motion is more about fundamental differences of members' opinions and not anything community consultation will do to affect decisions on any clause within the bill. With that, I'm going to be opposing the motion, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. To the motion. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the mover of the motion. I also thank the government for proposing the Act. I also thank my colleagues who have spoken about this motion.

Mr. Speaker, I noticed that when I was growing up, our people lived out on the land. We lived in tents, and there were only three families living out on the land in tents and sod houses. There were small children and adults. We didn't have social workers who were paid to look after us and there were no social workers dealing with Inuit societal values, Mr. Speaker.

There were people who were working on a volunteer basis without any education. They looked after themselves, their children, and their youth at that time, and they were adults. Our parents and our grandparents worked that way without getting paid, but it came from their hearts. They looked after our children and youth by assisting them. Before children are born, they already have a name. If the child is going to be adopted by another family, the adoptive parents are already there to receive the child when it is born.

I would not mind having this bill deferred or delayed to get an extension to review this again because some people don't have any computer skills. Perhaps we can go to Rankin Inlet and the public can come in or we can go to Cambridge Bay and we can meet with the elders and the public or even here in Iqaluit. We can all ask them again

exactly what their thoughts are on this Bill 40.

This is what I support from the motion moved by Mr. Ningeongan. I would also like to talk with the people who are real social workers, who are Inuit people with their societal values. We didn't hear from them as Members of the Legislative Assembly. I will be supporting this motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. To the motion. I wish to inform members that I have no more names on my list. Does the mover, Mr. Ningeongan, of the motion have the last reply? Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have no final comments to offer, Mr. Speaker. However, I ask for a recorded vote. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Debate is now closed on the motion. We will vote on it. There has been a request for a recorded vote. I will ask all members in favour of the motion to please rise and then sit down when I call your name. All in favour.

Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Enook.

Mr. Schell.

I will ask all those who oppose to the motion to please rise and sit down when I call your name.

Minister Peterson.

Minister Kusugak.

Minister Ell.

Madam Premier.

Minister Taptuna.

Minister Shewchuk.

Mr. Elliott.

Ms. Ugyuk.

You will note that there is no one left to abstain, so I will not ask anyone who is abstaining to stand up and sit down when I call their name.

The results are eight for the motion and eight against the motion. I would say that the will of the House is not known as it's a tie. In order to allow the process to continue, a longstanding tradition to ensure that the process can proceed, I will be voting in favour of the motion.

>>*School bus honking horn*

>>*Laughter*

It is all about timing, eh? I declare the motion carried. Did anyone have that orchestrated?

>>*Laughter*

Item 17. Motions. Item 18. First Reading of Bills. Item 19. Second Reading of Bills. Item 20. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 47, 48, and 49 with Mr. Ningeongan in the Chair.

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

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 15:59 and Committee resumed at 16:26*

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

Chairman (Mr. Ningeongan)

(interpretation): Thank you.

(interpretation ends) I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bills 47, 48, and 49. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to continue with the review of the main estimates for the Department of Health and, if time permits, the Department of Education. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Are we in agreement that we continue with the main estimates for the Department of Health?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Chairman: Is the committee agreed that Mr. Peterson can bring in witnesses to the Chamber?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. (interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort Minister Peterson's witnesses in.

(interpretation ends) Thank you. For the record, Minister Peterson, please introduce your officials.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Peter Ma, Deputy Minister of our Department of Health, and to my left is Monita O'Connor, Assistant Deputy Minister of Health. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Welcome to the Chamber. Members, please turn to page H-4. Directorate. I would like to ask Mr. Enook to carry on with his questions.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, Mr. Minister. I want to refer back to the *Hansard* and the question I raised regarding the last response by the minister when we were discussing the medical patients suffering from cancer, who suffer mental anguish and stressful situations they have to face all alone.

Mr. Minister, the response you provided raises further questions I want to ask and I want to quote the answer, although we don't have the Inuktitut version as of yet,

so I will try to translate it into Inuktitut. He stated, "The practitioner in the health centres or hospitals are the best individuals to make the determination on whether an individual requires an escort."

If you have a copy of the *Blues*, it's on page 46 from Friday.

"They would make that recommendation and then the regional directors would either approve or not approve the recommendation."

Mr. Chairman, I read in the media that Mr. Enook wanted an escort for people who are going out to the hospital with cancer. I did not say that, but for the record, the questions that I had were that who is sick and who is not, and if they're able to have an escort.

The question that I had on Friday was people with cancer have to go back and forth to the southern hospital and they usually travel by themselves without an escort because they don't have a physical ailment, but they are under a lot of stress and anxiety. I wonder if the minister's department can consider whether they can be escorted by an individual.

I hope that came across succinctly. 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. Mr. Chairman, it's my understanding that, depending on the nature or severity of the illness or

cancer, most patients would have a client escort. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The purpose of my continued efforts to change this policy and the reason why I continue to push for change is the person whom I keep referring to was always travelling alone. As a matter of fact, he was alone when his doctor advised him that his cancer was no longer treatable.

What I tried to keep highlighting was that this person, although still physically able to travel for his medical appointments, underwent tremendous mental stress, especially when he knew that he may get bad news. If you have that type of foreboding about your health, I believe it is extremely challenging. God forbid that I ever have to experience that, but our people go through this type of ailment.

Due to the assessment of patients undergoing this situation suffering additional mental stress, even if the patient is physically able to travel, if they have cancer, the extenuating circumstances should be taken into consideration when reviewing the need for an escort for their travel. That is what I am pushing.

I certainly hope that makes it clearer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank Mr.

Enook for the question and concern. Again, as I said, I think most patients would be entitled to an escort based on the severity of their ailment. I don't have the policy in front of me, but if an individual is medically incapacitated, has a physical condition of a nature that he is not able to travel unassisted, and the practitioner assists with that decision or recommendation, if the individual or the individual's family wish, they can appeal the decision to the regional directors and that will be considered. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know how to say it another way, but I'll try to rephrase the question. The person who has cancer and has to get checked out in the southern hospitals is under a lot of anxiety and doesn't know what to expect. He or she has to go alone. There is nothing in the government policy that states that they have to have an escort because they are able to walk and talk or perhaps they can carry their suitcase.

My question to the minister is: can you consider even if they don't outwardly show symptoms, but they're under a lot of anxiety and foreboding awaiting the response from the doctor when they travel south, and would that qualify them to get an escort under the policy as written? Let me try to ask that question. Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the recent Client

Travel Policy review, the issue of a mandatory client escort did not come up during the review. I appreciate Mr. Enook's concern for the patient. We have many medical patients across Nunavut who have to travel south out of their communities for medical treatment and it is very stressful for them, but we also have boarding homes in all the major centres where people go for medical treatment. Those boarding homes assist with getting people to and from their medical appointments and from the airlines.

Again, as I indicated earlier, if an individual feels that they require a medical escort, there is an appeal provision within the Client Travel Policy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me paraphrase it in this manner. If I were to have cancer and prior to my medical travel south, even with no outwardly physical frailty, if I am able to walk and travel alone and if I were to try to voice my feelings concerning the tremendous mental stressful effect this would have, that I would want to have another person I can talk to or who can accompany me to the doctor's appointment, someone I can trust, would that qualify me for an escort or can I even question whether I could qualify for an escort?

I certainly hope that this clarifies the issue I am trying to put across. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know if he would be approved. Again, there's a practitioner, doctor, or nurse in the community who treats the patient and they make that recommendation. Again, the Department of Health does all it can to ensure that the stress level on patients is reduced.

We have contracts in place with the boarding homes to ensure that people get to and from the hospitals. I know, once you check in to most hospitals, they ensure that you get to your appointments and to your treatment. I believe they will contact the boarding homes when it is time for you to be medically discharged. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That leaves me confused as to how to make this situation more understandable. I make my point very succinct and clear, at least in Inuktitut.

Mr. Chairman, let me see if I can word it this way. If an issue arises that is outside of the written policies of the government that applies to any patient who will go on medical travel and if their situation is such that it is not mentioned in the written policy or included for an escort qualification, can this be taken into consideration or can only those situations listed in the policy be considered?

I certainly hope that this clarifies my line of questioning. Thank you.

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'm not unsympathetic to what Mr. Enook is saying. We all know that government policies and procedures govern how we do business. It's based on consultations with people in the communities, medical practitioners, and standing committees. There are funding sources that we have to take into account.

As I stated earlier, there is the policy an individual practitioner recommends and if the patient is dissatisfied with the decision, there are appeal provisions that they can appeal, and that's within the policy. A lot depends on the medical condition of the patient and that's in the policy as well. So it's not a real detailed, finite list of what has to be ticked off, but if an individual can make a compelling appeal, then it will be considered carefully. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me try to share how I think I understand this matter. Whoever is going on medical travel and feels they require an escort for whatever reason can mention it to the decision-makers of their wish for an escort. Do I understand that every patient has the right to request an escort if they're going on medical travel, Mr. Chairman? Is that the case? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I have been saying is

that the health practitioner has to make that recommendation and if they're dissatisfied with the recommendation and decision, then they can appeal. I apologize, Mr. Chairman, but the policies and procedures, like I said earlier, are with government and the funding where it's in is to develop policies and they're developed in collaboration with the funding agency, this being, I believe, the Government of Canada.

I don't know what more I can say beyond that. If the practitioner recommends yes or no, then we go from there. If the patient is dissatisfied, then they can appeal. It happens all the time. Some people are happy with decisions and some people are unhappy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me try to pose the question in this way: (interpretation ends) does a patient have a right to request an escort? Irregardless of the situation, does a patient have a right to ask to have an escort if going on medical? (interpretation) Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Chairman, the patient can always ask the health practitioner, whether it's a nurse or doctor. Again, it's the health practitioner who makes the recommendation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When a patient asks for or requests to travel with an escort, the patient has a right to ask, irregardless of whether it's covered under a, b, c, d, e, f, g of the travel escort policy, or does it have to always be covered under one of those bullets? (interpretation) 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, the requests still have to fall under the various categories within the policy so that it's clear, transparent, and accountable. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) I finally thank the minister for that answer because I'm finally starting to understand and appreciate the information, which leads me to my first questioning of four days ago on Friday and that was: is the department willing to add or able to put a new bullet under a new heading under what I have been talking about regarding cancer patients having to travel under tremendous stress without escorts? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I mentioned earlier, the issue of a mandatory client escort was not an issue that came up or was

recommended. I think what Mr. Enook is referring to is covered under one of the areas in the policy. Again, it's the decision of the medical practitioner; they make the recommendation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I want to move on, so if you can give me a chance to ask another question, (interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): If it's under Directorate, it's fine. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have some questions in regard to billing. Maybe it's under some of the funding. Can I proceed with my question? I want to ask what I have seen and I have mentioned when I became MLA that I will be an observer of the government practices and to ensure the funding is properly used. Some of us should be in that situation.

It's very expensive to buy medication. Regardless of what they are, it's very expensive. Do the government and their department have a category called "checks and balances" to ensure they're not overcharged for medication that they purchased? The reason being that after receiving medication, they are returned because they no longer use those certain pills. How do we know that we pay for this medication that they sell to a third party? Are we aware if things like these are going on? Do we just pay for medication which is no longer used? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I understand Mr. Enook correctly, we follow the non-insured health benefits formulae for pricing for pharmaceuticals through the health purchase program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. I'm sorry, Mr. Enook, but your time has expired. You will have an opportunity to ask questions later on. At this time, Mr. Elliott can now ask questions.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under H-4 and it's also mentioned in the minister's opening comments on page 2, I was wondering if the minister could elaborate on the development of an all-hazards health emergency plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As you can appreciate, Mr. Chairman, we have a lot of paper down here at this end of the table; briefing notes. We've got to find all the stuff and it takes a little coordination.

The all-hazards management program, what we're doing there is that is a program that coordinates with the emergency management program in Nunavut. We want to coordinate our health services with the overall emergency health programming in Nunavut in case there are issues; pandemic influenza planning; influenza outbreaks. So we just want to be

prepared as the health department across the territory. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. How does his department work with CGS on creating these emergency management plans? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are developing the all-hazards emergency management program on our own, but we're part of the Territorial Emergency Response Committee and CGS is involved in that committee. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For each individual community, do the health centres come up with the plan that fits their community or is this like government-wide, produced within the department, and then passed down to each individual community? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. We will be coordinating out of headquarters with our all-hazards emergency management program, but the health centres in each community will coordinate with the hamlets' overall

emergency response planning. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Does the minister's department have copies of all the emergency plans for each of the communities in terms of whom the partners are within the hamlet's emergency plan?

What I'm asking is I don't see how the fit is. I know the Department of CGS has spent a lot of time and energy when communities came up with emergency plans, had stakeholders involved, were involving different agencies, the RCMP, search and rescue, and a lot of the volunteer organizations in the communities. So there has been a lot of work done already. I think, a lot of times, we try to not duplicate services. I can see this probably has a spin towards health and emergency care, but I'm not seeing the fit in how they're different or how they're going to be done separately.

We talk all the time in the House about nurses, their roles, and how busy they are in the health centres. Are we providing more work for them to do? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe that at the regional level, there are community emergency response plans and the health centres are part of the planning. I believe it's led by the Department of Community and Government Services. We have the territorial planning and we're part of the

Territorial Emergency Response Committee.

We're developing our all-hazards management plan. There's a lot of coordination and people are involved. I can't speak to specific committees, but it will probably involve nurses, doctors, and other medical practitioners. Obviously, we expect them to be involved in the event where we lose satellites or the power goes out in the communities so that everybody knows what their responses would be to the emergency. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I strongly agree that it's better to be prepared with some of the huge accidents that we have seen across the territory. It's nice when you have coordination and people know the roles. I see people falling over each other when they're trying to help when they're actually not helping because they're getting in the way.

In terms of your priorities in the future for 2014-15, I see one of the priorities is actually to run some simulation exercises. I'm just wondering: what groups within the community will you ask to participate? Just for clarification, that's on page 93 of the business plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The all-hazards management plan is specific to health and we're currently working on scenarios that

health centres and health departments across Nunavut would respond to under those different scenarios. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to the interoperable electronic health records, on page 92 of the business plan for priorities for 2013-14, it talks about implementing the program in referral sites located in Ottawa, Edmonton, and Yellowknife. I had asked questions in the past about this. As we start to expand out into using this type of technology, I think I have been given assurances by both Minister of CGS and his department that these records are kept and are confidential, and there is no fear of tampering with some of the safety measures that are put in there. I believe those were from questions that were raised during Committee of the Whole last year.

I'm just curious this year about what types of information is collected on patients. What I'm getting at is I know that one of the things that came out of the Auditor General's report was the idea of tracking different diseases and maybe coming up with plans. I know that some of the responses from the Department of Health and Social Services were to better track either flu or different types of diseases that are happening across the territory, and then using that to come up with better figures as to how much money was going to be needed within the territory to provide services to clients.

So that gives you a bit of a background of why I'm asking the question. Maybe

now if we could get an answer as to what types of information is the Department of Health collecting on individuals across the territory. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. It's very fortunate that our assistant deputy minister is here today and she knows this program inside out. I would like to redirect the question to her to respond to. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Ms. O'Connor.

Ms. O'Connor: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm happy to respond to the question. The work with the electronic health record is really a foundation piece for us to gain very accurate and timely information to be able to answer a lot of the questions about what are the services and treatments provided and being able to do this in a timely way. So the information that we would be able to collect will be within the Nunavut system because with the referrals, doctors treating, and visits that people have, that information will be registered. Rather than on paper in a file put away, it will be in an electronic system that's easy to aggregate and collect that data.

The question about the referrals to Ottawa means that the transfer of referrals around the appointments, setting up for people, and making travel arrangements can be more seamless and more quickly without duplication or delay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. O'Connor. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So in terms of some of the materials, there would be general information, social insurance numbers, health card numbers, that type of information, but you're also saying things like our X-rays, maybe dental records, MRIs, and CT scans. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Ms. O'Connor.

Ms. O'Connor: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The information that's in the electronic health record is an integrated comprehensive module that will track. For each individual, you will know that your diagnostic tests like MRIs, CTs, whether they had been done in the south or what can be done in our own hospital, will be collected. You do have individual health insurance numbers and you do not need individual patient information for gathering that information for planning purposes, although a doctor will have that information available to him when he may want to look at a patient's record. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. O'Connor. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of patient confidentiality, who has access to the information that could be personal to the individual? It's mentioned here on page 92 of the business plan, the referral sites located in Ottawa, Edmonton, and Yellowknife. Don't get me wrong. I think it's great that we can share the information, but if someone does not want their information

shared, I'm just wondering: how many people have access to that information or what protocols are in place to ensure that it doesn't get into the wrong hands?

With that, I would just sort of state that in the past, we have seen news stories in CBC about health records in different territories being faxed to other locations. I honestly think that this might be a safer way to do it, but there have to be protocols in place to make sure that it is safe. I'm just curious to find out what those protocols are. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Ms. O'Connor.

Ms. O'Connor: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that for a technical answer to that, we would need to get back to you.

All I could say is that there has been considerable work through CGS and the health information system to ensure security of the flow of information and that there is security and who can access the information that is shared, where you're making referrals to other specialists, then it is restricted to those people. There is a very technical way that these things are secured. There has been a lot of study over the years to ensure that.

We can get back to you on more technical information if you would like. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. O'Connor. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I would appreciate that information

just to put my mind at ease. I know we try to work as hard as we can for our constituents to make sure that all the information that's out there could be held in the highest confidence.

At the same time, in terms of photographs or signing up for things on the Internet like Hotmail or Facebook or Twitter, you have to make an agreement or consent that your information is being shared. I know that in Facebook, you click on "Like," it comes up with a little page that says, "By clicking this, your information will be shared with X, Y, and Z," and telling what the different departments or where it's going to be shared.

Our information from Nunavut on an individual patient is going to be shared in different jurisdictions. Are consent forms being signed by the patients so that they know where their information is going or are they told where it's going when they're going into the health centre or is it just sort of generic, when you accept your health care card, you are under this health care system and your records will be part of this system?

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have a fellow who is working very hard on this whole interoperable electronic health record system. He has done a tremendous amount of work. If the members are concerned, at some point, we're going to offer him to come in and give a briefing to the standing committee just to put everybody's concerns at rest.

The way I understand the system to work is that no consent form is required. It's implied consent when the patients present themselves at the health centres or the hospital. Now, if there's secondary information requested from other jurisdictions, then there would have to be a consent form signed and the patient would have to sign that release to use that information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That does help. That's good to know. Again, sometimes I think, when we ask the questions as regular members, the idea is to have some information to put in our toolkit. When we go back home, when someone actually comes to us and says, "Ah, we just read on the newspaper" or "We saw that something is happening," we would be able to pass on that information. So it's good to know that within the territory, if you go in, then it's that way, and then they do sign consent when it goes to a third party.

In terms of the back-end of what I had asked earlier where, once the records are starting to be collected, is there going to be an analysis of the data that is collected in terms of tracking trends? I know that one of the things that the Auditor General's report had talked about in terms of the way that the Government of Nunavut, through the Department of Health and Social Services, spends its money, is sometimes we even had one of the former deputy ministers say in Committee of the Whole that the budget and money that comes

from the federal government is not enough to do it.

So if we have the tracking mechanism in showing maybe increasing rates of diabetes or different trends that we're finding within the territory, it might be a better way to leverage funding from the federal government. Now with Nutrition North and the federal government trying to change all people's diets across the territory into eating whatever they want on the specific list of foods, is there a mechanism within this system to track different things like that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think Mr. Elliott asked an excellent question. Gathering information in the health system is something that all jurisdictions across Canada are working really hard to do so that we can start to track trends in the health system.

We recognize that health care costs in all jurisdictions are increasing seems like exponentially across Canada. We don't believe that it's sustainable, so all jurisdictions in Canada are tasked with finding ways to, the phrase they have been using in the last couple of years is, "bend" the cost curve, but to do that, you need information. We're hopeful that the electronic health records will be able to help us in that regard.

We have that initiative and we have some other little initiatives within the department. We have retained an individual who can help us gather that information. If the member wishes, I can

ask the deputy minister to provide some information while he's here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ma: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the lights come on in my head too.

>> *Laughter*

Before I answer, I'll just back up a little bit on Member Elliott's line of questioning here.

The whole rollout of the electronic health record is also helping us to streamline our manual processes. A lot of the processes in terms of work and workflow were never really documented. So this has actually forced us to document a lot of the processes in terms of the electronic health record.

Concurrently with the electronic health record, we have started a project this year that we're calling for now anyways the health management information system project. The whole point of the electronic health record is to give us better information so that we can actually track and do some analysis in terms of what's going on. We're in the early days of this project. We actually just started this project in the fall and we're running full bore.

As the minister has indicated, we actually have a consultant on site now. She's got, I think, about 30 or 40 years experience on this. So in my view, she is the right person. Definitely, to start bending the cost curve, as the minister said, we need to start getting the information together. I guess the thing

that we realized in doing this is we have tied in both the health management information system project and the electronic health record project that are managed with two different project leads into a steering committee that I chair. I was going to say something else; I have lost my train of thought on that.

So I would hope that by the latter part of this fiscal year, early in the next fiscal year, we will start producing some reports. We're going to test drive some of them for a bit and that should then start helping us making good, sound financial decisions, but also get clinical decisions in terms of where we need dedicated resources. This also would help us somewhat in our case with the feds as well. So it's a fairly ambitious program and like I said, we're very much in the early stages of this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 91 of the business plan, in one of the priorities for 2012-13, so we're coming up to the last month of that fiscal year, one of the bullets on page 91 was "Begin to phase in implementation for the Office of the Auditor General cost-recovery recommendations." The status was that "The department has begun implementing these recommendations. Processes and procedures have been developed to ensure the department is able to bill third party insurers, including NIHB and other jurisdictions."

I'm wondering if we could get an update on what has happened with that priority over the past year, whether the government has been successful in

collecting more of the third party money that's out there and not necessarily being brought back to the territories. Hopefully that might mean, when the Minister of Finance comes before us, that the supp might be smaller than what it should be. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for his question and comment. As most Members of this House can appreciate, it's not an easy job to be the Minister of Finance and then be the Minister of Health and Social Services. The Minister of Finance is concerned about where the funding is coming from and we're always trying to encourage departments to manage their appropriated funds properly so that we can report back to the House.

As I indicated in my opening comments, we're coming back soon with another supp bill for additional funding. I have been pressing the department very hard on being more diligent in drilling down, as I call it when I'm talking to them, to find out what's driving the costs. A lot of the costs are demand-driven. People have to be medevaced or there's medical travel. We have to get people to the appropriate medical facilities. There is that.

With respect to the Office of the Auditor General's report, we are working on that. Part of what we're doing is, as Mr. Ma had commented, we have this lady who is working with us on this program to help us identify costs. So we're hoping to shortly be in a position to review it.

The interoperable health record is also going to help us.

We are, of course, continuing to stress throughout the department and across Nunavut the importance for all of our managers or anybody who is making decisions on funding to be cognizant of our policies and be very careful with respect to spending public money unnecessarily. There is an element of prudence coming into the Department of Health. It's demand-driven, but we recognize that there is only so much funding available. We have to, as the expression goes, "stretch our dollars." Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. (interpretation ends) Mr. Elliott, your time is up. I'll move on to the next person. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a couple of very quick questions.

Mr. Chairman, where all of the communities where the populations are growing every year, I would like to know what process or criteria the Department of Health uses to determine the number of nurses required in any given community and how often each community's needs are reviewed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for his question. With respect to the nurses, again it gets down to having good information on the community and this is where some of the work that this lady

is doing for us will help and also the health records.

I think they believe the current ratio is one nurse per 300 in population in the community. We try to keep it in that range. That's when the ratio gets a little out of whack. One nurse to 400, we would certainly be really serious about getting another nurse into the community. That's what we're doing through the main estimates. We are trying to get approval for three nurses in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the minister and his officials for their responses. In your opening comments, you mentioned that there was \$600,000 to increase the staffing compliment of community health nurses of three-nurse stations to four-nurse stations in three communities in the Kivalliq region. Can you update us today which communities will be getting the additional nurse? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for the question. The three communities are Coral Harbour, Repulse Bay, and Sanikiluaq. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. (interpretation ends) Mr. Rumbolt, you make me feel great with that question. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have no further questions. Thank you.

>>*Laughter*

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I need your guidance here. I wanted to ask about Nunavut nursing recruitment and retention. I would like to know which summary, H-4 or H-5, because both summaries' introductions are very similar in nature. I need your guidance, please. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. (interpretation ends) You can proceed with the question that you want to ask as it is part of the branch. (interpretation) Thank you. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the minister's opening comments, he talked about the Nunavut Nursing Recruitment and Retention Strategy. In my reply at that particular time, I indicated to you, I believe, that I wanted to ask about our reliance on agency nurses. I'm wondering if the Nunavut Nursing Recruitment and Retention Strategy will be looking at how we can retain and recruit nurses from Nunavut and reduce the dependency on agency nurses that we hire from the south. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Ningark for his question. The Nunavut Nursing

Recruitment and Retention Strategy was intended to assist us to decrease our dependency on agency nurses. In the early years, it appeared to be having some impact in reducing the reliance. In fact, in 2011, we were down to a little over \$5 million, but now we're turning back up again. In 2013, we're over \$10 million for the cost. Casual nurses have gone up in the corresponding time. We are analyzing the information that we have available on that to see what the issue is there.

We are hoping that we can continue to recruit indeterminate nurses, but it seems to be a bit of a trend where indeterminate nurses will... I don't know what the phrase would be, but they will want to become casual nurses because casual nurses get more travel in and out of their communities. There seems to be fewer benefits for indeterminate nurses. So we are looking at that to see what the concerns are of indeterminate nurses.

Obviously, if we can recruit and retain indeterminate nurses, then we would have a lesser dependency on agency nurses and casual nurses in Nunavut. At the same time, across Canada, there continues to be a shortage of nurses, so we are in a very competitive environment for nurses. We have to compete with other jurisdictions.

Nurses can, to a large degree, pick and choose where they want to go. That's why we have this Nunavut Nursing Recruitment and Retention Strategy. We are completing a review and the deputy minister can update Member Ningark, if he wishes, on the strategy and the review that we're undertaking or nearing completion. If there are additional

questions, then we can try to answer them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the hon. minister for his response to my question. Now I can see there are some improvements within the Department of Health, especially in the area of public health.

Now, in the minister's opening remarks, he talked about possible revisions to the Nunavut Nursing Recruitment and Retention [Strategy]. What is wrong with the current Nunavut Nursing Recruitment and Retention [Strategy]? Do we need to change it or amend it in order to work for our needs within the jurisdiction? Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Ningark for the question. As the Minister of Health and Social Services, I have been quite concerned for the last year about the increasing costs for nursing in Nunavut; indeterminate nurses, agency nurses, and casual nurses. As I indicated in my earlier answer to Mr. Ningark, although the strategy had an initial positive influence on the use of agency nurses, the trend in the last couple of years is an increase. We have indeterminate nurses who all want to become casual nurses.

My deputy minister has felt my wrath a few times over the last seven or eight months about the cost. I know it's not sustainable. So he's completing a review. I have asked him just a few

seconds ago here if he could comment and I asked him to be perfectly blunt with the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Chairman, if you will allow me, I would like to have Deputy Minister Ma to respond in detail to Mr. Ningark's question. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. (interpretation ends) Actually, I was kind of looking for consensus from Mr. Ningark. However, I do appreciate your request. Mr. Ma, I will allow you to add.

Mr. Ma: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is now reminding me of my Finance days where I was asked to be brutally frank and lay it out the way it is.

By way of background, the Nunavut Nursing Recruitment and Retention Strategy was something that was brought forward in the Second Assembly. I might have the dates wrong, but it's around 2007 to 2008. It was a five-year strategy which expires in about 27 days, I think it is. So as a result of that, we did a review this year. We struck a group of working officials. They have made their recommendations to me in a report. I have not looked at the report.

However, having said that, I can comment on very specific things, without seeing the report, that have impacted our ability to roll out the strategy as successfully, I think, as people would have hoped. One of the ambitions at the time, and this is just the way it worked out, was that whatever the strategy cost us within government, it would be funded with savings in other areas. Quite honestly, that never transpired.

If you look at the minister's opening comments, I think he alludes to the fact, but maybe it's somewhere else. Yes, I think it is in his opening comments. He alludes to the fact that we're asking for \$1 million in this year's budget to cover off existing shortfalls in the Nunavut Nursing Recruitment and Retention Strategy. So that is a fund right there that has not worked out as well because we obviously didn't achieve those cost savings.

Second of all, he mentioned the fact that we're in direct competition with other jurisdictions in Canada for a limited pool of nurses that are getting long in the ears and I have to be careful because I'm getting long in the ears as well. My colleagues and I spent quite a bit of time in Toronto in December talking about this impending change in the workforce.

We also now are in the period of opportunity, the way I see it. We have a new collective agreement with the Nunavut Employees Union. We can discuss things that we wouldn't be able to talk about before because we were in what's called a "statutory freeze." For example, the ministers talked quite a bit about nurses that are becoming part time. One of the things a lot of nurses have indicated to us is job sharing. We've had some initial discussions both with the union and our colleagues at the Department of Human Resources. We obviously have to change our existing Human Resources Manual to accommodate some of these changes that we want to move forward on.

Other things that we're looking at are changes in the work hours and obviously, that requires a discussion with the union. For example, there's no

reason that says we have to be open from nine to five. In fact, I would say society has changed even here in Nunavut and maybe we should be open from seven to seven. I don't know, but those are discussions that we can have. That allows our nurses some flex time. It allows our clients the opportunity to come in at a time more suitable for them as well. Maybe we will open through the lunch hour as well. So those are some of the things that we're talking about.

We know that the package between agency nurses, casuals, and determinates is a bit out of whack right now; we need to bring that in line. So that's just to give you a flavour of what we're looking at. Not to say that the original strategy was flawed, it just didn't turn out the way that people had hoped. So this is a good time for us to step back and say, "Okay, what can we do that's better, that's actually going to make this work?"

I should maybe end by saying that about one-third of our workforce is nurses, so this is critical in terms of how successful we are in terms of our fiscal viability within the department.

So it's a bit of a long-winded answer, Mr. Chairman, but hopefully that gives Member Ningark some flavour of what we're working on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister. Through the hon. minister, I thank his deputy for the answer. Now, once the strategy is drafted and implemented, I'm wondering if there is a possibility we can hope for a

further increase in training for health care professionals, especially community nurses, within the near future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Ningark for the question. Mr. Chairman, health training is always a high priority within our department. Of course, we support and encourage nursing students, whether they're in Nunavut or at an institution in the south for training. Of course, we would welcome them to come back and go work for the Government of Nunavut because there is a good chance that they will live within the communities of Nunavut.

Training is always a top priority, whether it's for nurses or other health professionals in Nunavut. Even in our management ranks, we're offering health management training type programs with an organization called Red River College. There's health administration. So it's not just about the health practitioners; it's also about offering training to our health administrators throughout Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark: Again I would like to thank the hon. minister through you, Mr. Chairman. As a politician, I believe in our graduates, whether different careers are pursued through different channels and different opportunities. I know that it's hard to retain the trainees when they graduate. So long as they find a job

placement, whether here in the territory, in the NWT, Yukon, or wherever within the public sector, I think we're doing pretty well. It's just a comment. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. I didn't hear a question. I have no other names on my list for H-4. (interpretation ends) Health. Branch Summary. (interpretation) We're under Directorate. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This was a question I asked earlier about billing. I would like direction from you, Mr. Chairman, if I can proceed with that question.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Enook, you have an opportunity to ask your question since you had your hand up. You may proceed if your question is under Directorate.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I made reference earlier and I'm sure that your department knows about it. It's with regard to prescription pills or prescribed equipment that are no longer required by the patients. I was talking about checks and balances earlier. For example, I'm always prescribed some pills and I don't require those anymore. If I brought them back to the nursing station, what happens now? Are they kept in the pharmacy or the health centre? Are they kept for some other purpose or for another client who requires those prescription pills? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook. It's a great question. I've had conversations with the assistant deputy minister on exactly that issue and I would like her to provide the information that Mr. Enook is seeking. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Ms. O'Connor.

Ms. O'Connor: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In trying to answer the question, there could be two parts to that.

When there is a prescription that is provided to a client and it is filled at the health centre, they would be filling what they think is the need of the client. So you might fill a two-week or one-month supply, then the question is: if the client feels better and does not feel the need to complete that prescription for some reason, what happens to the remaining pills? I think the health centres would be asking those clients to bring them back and they would destroy them. It's not good practice for people to keep unused and/or later outdated prescriptions in their homes. There is a service that drugstores would provide in that regard to bring in old medication.

If you are thinking about the ordering that the health centres do, we provide an inventory of drugs that are commonly prescribed and they're held within a secure cupboard within the pharmacy or within the health centre, and then distributed based on the dosage of the prescription provided.

I hope that answers the question, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. O'Connor. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): No, maybe I wasn't clear enough and I apologize. Maybe it was me.

What I was trying to say, just as an example, is if I went to the pharmacy in Iqaluit here and I was given a prescription by a doctor, I would bring those pills to the health centre when I no longer required them. I would tell the nurse that my doctor told me that I don't require these anymore and I haven't even opened the vial. What happens to those unused prescription pills? Do they become part of the inventory of the health centre or are they returned to either of the two pharmacies here in Iqaluit? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. Ms. O'Connor.

Ms. O'Connor: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. Practice would tell you that any prescription that has gone out to a person would not be returned and put into an inventory. If they were no longer needed, they should be taken and just destroyed. There would be no putting it back into the supply. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. O'Connor. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you. If the pharmacy keeps sending me up to four prescriptions and I haven't needed them for a long time, the government just keeps paying for those unused pills that are being put in the garbage, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. Ms. O'Connor.

Ms. O'Connor: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That would be a question for the physician that is prescribing those, but why would the physician continue to prescribe medication that a client no longer needs? That would be the issue that we would want to address. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. O'Connor. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for your response. Trust me, it does happen. We use a lot of money for those types of incidents. I could have a one-on-one discussion with you on that.

If you would give me direction, Mr. Chairman, I have questions about health centre visits in the communities.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. Your questions would be under Treatment if you're talking about health centre visits. That's it? Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) That's it for now.

Chairman: Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 92 of the business plan in the priorities for 2013-14, one of the bullets is to "Develop and implement a Patient Relations process to assist in responding to and resolving complaints related to health care delivery." Is there an individual who is spearheading this

initiative or is it a branch within your department? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. There are a number of people involved in this initiative. I'm not sure how I can respond to it.

The Department of Health and Social Services has made a number of attempts over the last several years to address the complaints process. Obviously, the system that was put in place four years ago didn't achieve the desired results. I know my predecessor and now I have received a lot of complaints as ministers directly. Of course, I have to redirect them to my deputy and they end up getting redirected within the department. To address that, we thought we would call it a patient relations process, where we would put an individual right in the department with headquarters who would coordinate and it would just be the patient first.

We do have two individuals already working in the complaints area, but we're identifying another individual to oversee it all and make sure that complaints, either to me or to the level that they come in to us, are identified and that the patient or individual who is initiating a complaint or concern will be contacted and they will track that issue or concern right through to completion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do you anticipate that the transfer of the Social Services Division to the Department of Family Services will allow for improved budget management in 2013-14 and, if so, why? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank you for the question. Yes, I think that the government had responded to a question last week where the health department can focus on the health-related issues, acute care and primary care in all of the hospital and health centres in Nunavut.

If you have another department focusing primarily on the social service issues, they would have their own official, they would have their own corporate services, go through the budgetary processes, and they would have the controls in place. I think the tendency in the health department right now, as I have recognized in the last year and a half in talking to my officials, is that sometimes the social services component of health is overshadowed by the health issues.

So if we have that focus, then we can make those priorities and we will be able to stay on top of the costs a little bit better, foster care payments or residential facility contracts, better coordination of negotiating the rates or fees that we pay out on residential care contracts. Again, I think the travel will be a lot better. If it's in that one department, we can have a centralized negotiating or contracting and procurement side that can look after a number of those areas. I anticipate that

there would be savings that will come from that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, with the splitting of the two departments, we will have the Department of Health and we will have the Department of Family Services as of April 1. Since this is the directorate which is working on making sure there is a smooth transition with the separation of the two departments, I'm curious to find out if the minister could explain how the transition is going.

In speaking to some frontline workers, I know they're a little concerned about and again, they have very specific questions in terms of capital and where their office is going to be and where they will actually be working out of as of April 1. So if the minister could maybe explain today how the directorate is rolling out the separation of the two departments so that we can have a better understanding of how it's... Is there an implementation plan or is it set up in stages? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Mr. Chairman, when I reflect back on the Second Assembly, oftentimes we would sit and have our spring, winter, and fall sittings and oftentimes after sittings were concluded, we would be on our way home, only to get back to our ridings to find out that the government had restructured and they would do it over a weekend. I might

be fast-tracking a little bit, but it seemed like that. There was no planning. A new department would be created out of nowhere sort of thing, a new name, different things would be moved around, and that's how things were done to a large degree.

In this government, we initiated and we've had a rather long process. We have consulted with many people, government officials, some MLAs, ministers, and officials over the last year or year and a half. We have initiated some of the recommendations last summer.

With respect to the health department carving out a small component of the department, I think 68 positions are primarily the social services component. It's going very well. We've got people working in the family services side. We will be appearing later this week or next week to talk about that, but we have people, the deputy minister, assistant deputy minister, and other officials working very hard to set and create the new Department of Family Services. I am very happy to say that all of the officials have been working very cooperatively and collaboratively to make it as seamless as possible.

As you can imagine, it's a large undertaking and a lot of things had to be done. We're taking the family services department through the main estimates process for the first time, so we had to prepare the main estimates budget. First before that even happened, we had to talk to the other departments to identify what components of their departments are coming over to Family Services. For example, we're taking income support and career development from the

Department of Education. We're taking poverty from Economic Development and Transportation and homelessness from housing.

It's happening. We're very cognizant that we have employees in all departments and territorial corporations, as they may be concerned, but we have assured people that we're going to make it as seamless as possible. People should not be worried about their jobs. We have to rewrite job descriptions, prepare org. charts, and transfer the budgets.

In the communities, we are cognizant that office space is an issue. We have to realign the office space wherever people are. That's through our Department of Community and Government Services. They're working with the departments that require office space to identify the offices that are required. It may not happen exactly on April 1, but there will be a realignment of offices in the different communities.

With respect to the departments themselves, right now, we're working on memorandums of understanding where Health and Social Services and Family Services would share certain activities and support each other going forward until such time that the MOUs are not required.

So I have to say that it's a very large undertaking. I think people should be very happy that it's happening. I told our Government of Nunavut employees that they should not be concerned. Your supervisors and directors in the respective departments are working hard to ensure that it's as seamless as possible on April 1. I believe all affected employees will either have been in

conference calls or meetings or contacted by our officials here in Iqaluit to discuss their new roles on April 1. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My next questions are around client travel and accommodations. The Chairman, the member from Nanulik, was asking oral questions in the House around the Kivalliq area and residents, home stays, and finding accommodations while they're travelling, and not having availability of what we have here in the Baffin in regard to Larga Baffin in Ottawa and Tammaativvik here in Iqaluit.

In terms of policies around accommodations for those two facilities, it's my understanding, because of non-insured health benefits and funding provided by the federal government, that individuals who are under the non-insured health benefits are allowed to stay at those facilities but, let's say, someone who is not Inuk is not allowed to actually stay at those facilities. Is that correct? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Yes, that is correct. That's under an existing policy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I realize too as a former Government of Nunavut employee that as a GN employee, there are particular benefits that allow you to stay in a hotel. Depending on what type of insurance you pay on top of that when you get your paycheque, you can get your own room if you want and different things like that if you're staying for hospital stay. For individuals who are not Inuk or not under the non-insured health benefits plan that have to, let's say, come to Iqaluit, who are not GN employees and entitled to that level of care, what does the Government of Nunavut provide to those individuals? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Chairman, that's a very detailed question. I do have a member of my staff in the House who can respond, but he's not at the witness table, if you want me to bring him in, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. I just noticed the time on the clock and, if we are given another day to live, I know for sure that we will have further chances to review this material. Given the time we have, I can see that we won't be able to complete the department. I would like to defer the member's question and would ask that the response be provided tomorrow to Mr. Elliott and I will ensure that his slot and his question will be noted as the next order of business tomorrow.

At this current time, I want to state that pursuant to Rule 6(2), I now recognize

the clock and I will report progress to the Speaker.

I thank Minister Peterson and his officials for appearing before the committee. We will see them again. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses out.

Thank you. I will now rise to report progress.

Speaker: *Qujannamiik*, Sergeant-at-Arms. We will continue on with 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, Minister Taptuna. 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. A reminder that there's a meeting tomorrow at ten o'clock in the

Tuktu Boardroom for the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Orders of the Day for March 5:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. 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
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, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Tuesday, March 5, at 1:30 p.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 18:01*

