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**Thursday, September 12, 2013**

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**Iqaluit**

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

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Iqaluit Centre)

**Hon. Eva Aariak**

(Iqaluit East)

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

**Hon. James Arreak**

(Uqqummiut)

*Minister of Culture and Heritage;  
Minister of Environment; Minister of  
Languages; Minister responsible for the  
Utility Rates Review Council*

**Moses Aupaluktuq**

(Baker Lake)

**Tagak Curley**

(Rankin Inlet North)

**Hon. Monica Ell**

(Iqaluit West)

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responsible for Homelessness; Minister  
responsible for the Qulliq Energy  
Corporation; Minister responsible for  
the Status of Women*

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(Quttiktuq)

**Joe Enook**

(Tununiq)

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of Health*

**Allan Rumbolt**

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**Fred Schell**

(South Baffin)

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(Arviat)

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

**Louis Tapardjuk**

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*Deputy Chair, Committee of the  
Whole*

**Hon. Peter Taptuna**

(Kugluktuk)

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

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut****Thursday, September 12, 2013****Members Present:**

Honourable Eva Aariak, Honourable James Arreak, Mr. Moses Aupaluktuq, Mr. Tagak Curley, Honourable Monica Ell, Mr. Ron Elliott, Mr. Joe Enook, Honourable Lorne Kusugak, Mr. John Ningark, Mr. Johnny Ningeongan, Mr. Hezakiah Oshutapik, Honourable Keith Peterson, Mr. 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): I would like to ask Mr. Oshutapik to lead us off in a prayer, please.

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. (interpretation ends) Moving on in our orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Environment, Minister Arreak.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements**

**Minister's Statement 326 – 3(3):  
Nunavut Fur Sales Exceed \$1  
Million for Second Straight Year**

**Hon. James Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to bring to my colleagues' attention the continued strength of Nunavut's fur industry.

The Department of Environment markets Nunavut furs through a partnership with Fur Harvesters Auction in North Bay,

Ontario. Four auctions were held in the winter and spring of 2013. Nunavut furs were offered on each of these sales, grossing \$1.04 million in total sales for Nunavut hunters and trappers. In 2012, gross sales were \$1.1 million, making these two years most profitable on record for Nunavut hunters and trappers.

Profits were driven by an international market demand for polar bear hides that has never been stronger. Cleaned and dried polar bear pelts this year sold for an average of \$7,000, and the very best pelt sold for over \$20,000. Prices for fox, wolf, and wolverine are also very good and are expected to remain strong in 2014. The Department of Environment continues to host several pelt handling workshops in communities each year to ensure hunters and trappers obtain the maximum returns for their harvest.

Prices for Nunavut sealskins remain low on the international market, but we have made significant progress in making dressed sealskins available to Nunavut residents by opening our Dressed Sealskins for Nunavummiut Program to local retailers as well as to individuals.

Mr. Speaker, we will continue to work to ensure that good market opportunities remain available for the hunters and trappers, whose harvest is vital to our communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Arreak. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Taptuna.

**Minister's Statement 327 – 3(3):  
Action to Complete the NHT and  
CEAP Construction**

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Unnusakkut*, colleagues, Kuglukturmiut, and Nunavummiut. Mr. Speaker, as we remember our accomplishments and assess how well we performed at the Nunavut Housing Corporation when faced with many challenges over the past five years, we must look back on our experience of the Nunavut Housing Trust and Canada's Economic Action Plan funding for the Affordable Housing Initiative.

Mr. Speaker, although we had our share of setbacks in the past, it was also our greatest opportunity to overcome our adversity and resolve our issues efficiently and effectively. It took great integrity for the Nunavut Housing Corporation's current administration to report the financial issues for a solution to be found.

Today, I am proud to announce that we have delivered a total of 1,011 units to house more than 3,000 Nunavummiut in need.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to tightening reporting controls between the Nunavut Housing Corporation and the Department of Finance, an independent audit of the Nunavut Housing Trust was undertaken and the recommendations from that audit and the 2008 performance audit of the Nunavut Housing Corporation by the Auditor General were implemented. These included the reinforcement of the Nunavut Housing Corporation's governance structure with the creation of a board of directors; the relocation of the

Nunavut Housing Corporation's finance division to the directorate office; and strengthening of the corporation's financial controls with improved reporting.

The final recap of the Nunavut Housing Trust, the Nunavut Housing Trust lessons learned document tabled last fall, was also instrumental in demonstrating that we are prepared to take the necessary steps to ensure we are ready to take with confidence future investments by the federal government to address Nunavut's housing needs.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Nunavut Housing Corporation board and staff and our local housing organizations in their commitment and perseverance in delivering critically needed housing to Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Minister Aariak.

**Minister's Statement 328 – 3(3):  
Principal/DEA Chair Conference**

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to my colleagues and the people of Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, as we work to implement Nunavut's *Education Act*, we are committed to supporting district education authorities and school administrators in their important work. This is the goal behind the upcoming principal/DEA chair conference taking place in Iqaluit October 1 to 3.

At this conference, we will bring together principals and DEA chairs working throughout Nunavut. They will share ideas on how to better engage parents, families, and communities with the work of schools, the Department of Education, and district education authorities. We want to give the DEAs the tools they need so they can help develop school programs that incorporate Inuit societal values and support the needs of each community.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, common understanding and agreement on how we measure student achievement and what processes we follow for assessment, evaluation, and placement of our students will strengthen our school system and reassure Nunavummiut that we are strongly focused on quality academic instruction that celebrates diversity and respects language and culture.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavut's *Education Act* recognizes that communities should play an important role in the education of their children to reflect local needs and values. This conference will help ensure that all communities have the support they need to fulfill this commitment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Aariak. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Department of Family Services, Minister Ell.

**Minister's Statement 329 – 3(3):  
Congratulations, Davidee Arnakak**

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you. I say "hello" to the people of

Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to stand up today to congratulate Davidee Arnakak on his recent appointment to the Order of Nunavut.

As you are aware, the Order of Nunavut recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the cultural, social, or economic well-being of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, our government's *Tamapta* Mandate gives priority on helping those at risk in our communities, and this includes persons living with a disability.

As a person with a disability, Davidee Arnakak has been a long-time advocate for the rights of Nunavummiut living with disabilities. He was the founding chair of the Nunavut Disabilities Makinnasuaqtiit Society and a strong activist who focused on raising awareness of the challenges that persons with disabilities face in the north.

Davidee Arnakak's lifework embodies the Inuit and human values of caring about others and giving back to the community. His commitment to the well-being of our communities is an example that will serve to guide and inspire us for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to offer my sincere congratulations to Davidee Arnakak on his induction into the Order of Nunavut. I look forward to attending the ceremony to witness him and the other two individuals who have been inducted, Jimmy Akavak of Iqaluit and Louis Angalik Sr. of Arviat, receive this prestigious honour. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause



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

**Minister's Statement 330 – 3(3): QEC  
Inuit Employment Plan**

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, Nunavummiut. I would like to inform you of a plan being implemented to enhance Inuit employment within the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

QEC is proud to announce that as part of its Inuit Leadership Development Program, three students will be pursuing their post-secondary education this September.

The Inuit Leadership Development Program sponsors Inuit students to attend a post-secondary [degree] program, supports them throughout their education, employs them in their field of study during the summer, and employs them in their field on their successful graduation. The Inuit Leadership Development Program has been developed to increase Inuit representation at the professional, management, and senior management levels.

Two participants will be attending St. Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia, enrolled in the Bachelor of Business Administration program, and one participant is attending the University of Manitoba, enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Engineering program.

The Inuit Leadership Development Program represents a significant

investment to developing young leaders and future management at QEC. Over the coming years, QEC will continue to attract and recruit top Inuit students to participate in this program.

The Inuit Leadership Development Program complements the existing four components of QEC's Inuit Employment program:

- 1) The Inuit Employment Plan Committee;
- 2) The Apprenticeship Program;
- 3) The Inuit Summer Student Employment Program; and
- 4) The Inuit Employee Individual Development Plans.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Ell. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Arviat, Mr. Shewchuk.

**Item 3: Members' Statements**

**Member's Statement 555 – 3(3):  
Calvin Pameolik and Abraham  
Eetak**

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize two young musicians from Arviat who have chosen to advance their talents in the music industry. Mr. Speaker, Calvin Pameolik and Abraham Eetak have only been singing together for less than a year. Together, the duo has travelled all over Nunavut and Nunavik performing at music festivals and concerts.

During this last year, they have entertained numerous people in events, such as the Baker Lake musical show hosted by Agnico-Eagle, the Rankin Inlet Trade Show, the Iqaluit Alianait! Festival, the Akulivik Iqaluppik Festival in Quebec, and the Kuujjuaq Aqpiq Jam in Quebec. They have also performed in Arviat and done three shows for the community: an outdoor show, the show for the graduates, and the Hamlet Day show.

Mr. Speaker, these young artists have rapidly become well known. Their videos have gone viral on the Internet, and both of them feel their music helps young people cope with personal struggles. Pameolik and Abraham say they will continue to sing and record their music together in the hopes of inspiring others and to encourage them to believe in themselves.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate them both and wish them the best in their musical careers. Their families are very proud of them, their community is very proud of them, and the territory of Nunavut is very proud of them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 556 – 3(3): High Arctic Transportation Strategy**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my disappointment concerning the Government of Nunavut's inability to move forward on implementing any initiatives regarding

programs aimed at bringing down the high cost of transportation in the High Arctic.

Mr. Speaker, I have repeatedly asked questions to this government to provide an option to help lower the costs associated with transportation in the High Arctic.

Mr. Speaker, on March 11 of this year, I again asked questions to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation concerning this issue. Mr. Speaker, at that time, he indicated that, and I quote, "we completed a preliminary study on the high cost of transportation in the past and we did share that information with the three communities that were involved in this."

Mr. Speaker, all community consultations were completed, input from communities was provided, options were recommended, and a preliminary study was completed. However, there has yet to be any tangible results.

Mr. Speaker, the cost to fly from Resolute Bay to Iqaluit is \$2,500 round trip. To make the same trip starting in Grise Fiord, add an additional \$1,200 to that price tag. That is for individuals who attempt to travel, but it is a real cost incurred to the government when it comes to medical travel. In terms of goods travelling to the communities, freight charges are among the highest in the territory.

The high cost of living in the High Arctic is real. I strongly encourage our government to table the High Arctic Transportation Strategy in the House and provide the much needed assistance to the residents of the High Arctic before

the end of this term. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Member's Statement 557 – 3(3): A  
New Book from Kugluktuk – No  
Borders**

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, Kuglukturmiut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to let you know about a constituent of mine who has shown great leadership and courage. Darla Evyagotailak, a young teenager from my hometown, and Mindy Willett, a former teacher of Kugluktuk, co-authored a book called "No Borders."

Mr. Speaker, this book was the end result of a journey of self discovery. Darla wanted and needed to learn more about who she was and where she came from. She decided to take a self-identity awareness trip, travelling from Kugluktuk to Ulukhaktok by snow machine, a distance of over 600 kilometres.

Darla, along with some family members and a photographer, left Kugluktuk in 2011. Along the way, Darla had to learn survival skills, such as making sure she had shelter for the night and she had enough food, as well as making sure she had the means of keeping warm throughout the night.

Mr. Speaker, this trip provided the opportunity to learn from her grandfather Roy's knowledge about finding her way on the land without a GPS. In fact, her grandfather used to

tease her that he had an "EPS," an Eskimo Positioning System.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, when Darla and her family completed their journey, Darla wanted to write about her experiences. With the help of her former teacher, Mindy Willett, *No Borders* was written and its content refers to the importance of connections between family members across several generations, brought together through a common history and stories of yesterday.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud of Darla and all her other family members and non-family members who came together to create and write this wonderful book.

I also know that Darla's grandfather, Roy Inuktalik, passed away eight months after the trip was completed and he is deeply missed by all of the family.

I would also like to close my statement by thanking the Junior Rangers program, Canadian North, and BHP Billiton for financially supporting Darla's journey. On behalf of my wife, Joanna, and my constituents in Kugluktuk, I offer my congratulations to her for a job well done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 558 – 3(3):  
Nunavut's Involvement with  
Climate Change**

**Mr. Curley:** I thought I was the last one.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation)  
I just want to briefly make a statement  
on an issue that I believe has to be  
debated amongst all residents of  
Nunavut.

We continue to hear the bandying about  
of the North Pole issues throughout the  
globe by countries that don't even have  
arctic regions. The theory of global  
warming continues to be discussed by  
many countries and the North Pole,  
including our arctic islands, is the  
subject of much debate.

When we listen to these debates, it  
seems as if they don't recognize the fact  
that this area is inhabited, especially  
when the discussion turns to the melting  
of the sea ice and the warming of the  
Arctic. However, as residents of  
Nunavut, we aren't even asked to  
participate in these discussions. I believe  
that we need to deliberate on this issue,  
particularly our government and its  
administration, as the global warming  
debate will not disappear. Even though  
the issue of climate adaptation, including  
a plan, has been discussed, I believe that  
we need candid discussions on this  
matter.

Recently, we just heard about Russia's  
Northeast Passage. Russia is the world's  
largest nation. This Northeast Passage  
starts in the Bering Sea passing through  
the arctic coast of Russia all the way to  
Europe. The first commercial arctic  
shipping convoy passed through this  
summer. Due to this reason, I would like

to encourage Nunavutmiut to speak up  
on this matter and to voice their  
opinions.

The outside world asks who owns the  
Arctic. Furthermore, the Americans  
continue to maintain that our Northwest  
Passage is an international waterway and  
that Canada shouldn't place any  
hindrance to commercial shipping  
should it become possible. The United  
States seems to be implying that Canada  
has to get out of the way, as this passage  
is an international waterway, and they  
want to have sole possession of the  
Northwest Passage from the west to the  
east. In Russia, it runs the other way and  
they have already had commercial  
shipping convoys pass through it. There  
will be more transits of that passage.

I believe that Nunavutmiut have to start  
becoming involved in the debate about  
the Northwest Passage and to include  
our esteemed Inuit elders in these  
discussions while they are still amongst  
us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Item  
3. Members' Statements. Moving on in  
our orders of the day. Item 4. Returns to  
Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of  
Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Shewchuk.

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

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you,  
Mr. Speaker. It gives me great privilege  
to recognize three people who are in the  
Gallery today from Arviat.

Mr. Speaker, Mary Pameolik was my  
constituency assistant and the mother of  
Calvin, whom I spoke about in my  
Member's Statement. She is here along

with her sister, Joan Malla, and another very important person, Mr. Louis Angalik Sr. He is here for a very prestigious award that is going to happen later in this House today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. (interpretation ends) Welcome to the Gallery. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Arreak.

**Hon. James Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to recognize someone from my community who is here for school, Sandra Aipellee from Clyde River.

>> *Applause*

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

**Mr. Oshutapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to the people of Pangnirtung. I would also like to recognize an individual who is here for school from my constituency. First of all, Selina Nowdlak, Oleepeeka Arnaqaq, Ms. Alikatuktuk, and Patricia Peyton from Pangnirtung. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to

recognize the people who are here for school.

I would especially like to recognize an individual from my constituency. I'm not sure whether she is from my constituency or not, but I admire her ancestors and relatives. I would like to say that we have a son we adopted and she is the mother of our son and my wife's younger sister. I would like to welcome and love Sarah Tugak.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker**: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to my constituents. I would like to recognize an individual, Susan Tulugarjuk from Igloolik. She will be teaching. I am sure that our grandchildren will be taught very well.

This individual is from Iqaluit, but she is originally from Igloolik. We don't usually see a lot of people from Igloolik, so I recognize Rhoda Ungalaaq. Welcome to the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker**: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to recognize a constituent of mine who was recognized already, Rhoda Ungalaaq.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Madam Aariak. Welcome to the Gallery. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.

Before we move on to the next item, I would like to recognize any of these fine young students who haven't been recognized already. I'm sure you will find this very educating and probably a nice break from the classroom. Welcome to the Gallery.

Also, I would like to say a special "welcome back" to Mary Nashook. She is back here. I am very happy that you're back.

>>Applause

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

### **Item 6: Oral Questions**

#### **Question 733 – 3(3): Proposed Victims Bill of Rights**

**Mr. Aupaluktuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to send my regards to the people of Baker Lake. My nephews and nieces are in my thoughts. I also send my regards to my mother. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Justice, the Hon. Minister Dan Shewchuk.

On February 4 of this year, the federal Minister of Justice announced the Government of Canada's intention to "move forward with legislation to create a Victims Bill of Rights." In April of this year, a meeting of federal, provincial,

and territorial ministers of justice was scheduled to be held on this initiative. Can the minister confirm if he participated in this meeting? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Aupaluktuq for the question. I can inform him that yes, I did take part in this meeting this spring. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Aupaluktuq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The federal government is currently holding consultations on the idea of "bringing forward legislation to implement a Canadian Victims Bill of Rights as a single law at the federal level." What is the Government of Nunavut's position on this idea? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, this is a very important initiative that is being consulted by the federal government in the sense that we all do feel that in all jurisdictions across Canada, victims have and need more rights in our justice system. We, as the Government of Nunavut, support the bill in principle. There are things that we are concerned about and basically, the main concern is

the cost of implementing this new legislation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Aupaluktuq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am glad the minister put that for the record, the cost allocated to these services. We are all aware in this House that fair judgment and fair access to constitutional rights ensure us that, as Canadians, we have that right of privilege to ensure that there is proper justice in Canada.

I want to ask the minister: has the Government of Nunavut made a formal written submission to the federal government on this initiative and, if it has, will the minister commit to tabling it in the House for the information of all members and the Nunavut public? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank again the member from Baker Lake for this question. Mr. Speaker, this bill is still under consultation and review. We spoke in depth at the federal-provincial-territorial meeting that took place. I have not signed any formal written submission. If anybody has information that has been supplied by my department, I will be willing to table that.

However, I think it's very important to know the position in Nunavut in this. Victims do need more rights right from the beginning of terrible situations in the criminal justice system. They deserve

just as many rights as do the accused do in these matters. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 734 – 3(3): Marine Infrastructure in Nunavut**

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, residents of Pond Inlet, my fellow community members and Nunavummiut. Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Earlier this week, the minister made a statement in the House concerning community marine facilities. In his statement, the minister indicated that the Government of Canada “must also embrace its clear mandate to make the significant and sustained investments in ports and harbours which are desperately needed in our communities.”

Mr. Speaker, I couldn't agree more. Can the minister tell me today how much funding the Government of Nunavut has formally recommended that the federal government invest in new marine infrastructure for Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, we have been talking about this for five years. There is

a DFO study that was implemented and given to the Senate for their review and recommendations to the federal government. Mr. Speaker, I don't have the exact details of the costs that we're looking for. I believe there are seven communities that were identified in the recommendations going from the Senate to the federal government, and that's what we want to focus on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In its official announcement concerning the 2013 federal budget, the Government of Canada stated that "As part of the Building Canada Plan, Nunavut will receive at least \$400 million for roads, bridges and other public infrastructure over the next ten years." Can the minister confirm if this funding is eligible to be used for new marine infrastructure in our communities, including Pond Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question, but the question should have been directed to the Minister of Finance.

Mr. Speaker, I understand that there's \$400 million, but that's over a 10-year period. There are other factors that this government has to consider because some of that funding relates to a 50 percent contribution or 75-25 or 70-30.

I'm not exactly sure how that's going to work, but I'll take the member's question and get back to him with the details. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the Minister's Statement that he made on Tuesday, he indicated that the GN has committed a total of \$1.6 million "for a variety of projects, including dock upgrades, dredging, boat launches, the installation of floating docks, and the upgrade of sealift areas." Will the minister commit to looking at ways of using existing federal infrastructure funding programs to bring forward an enhanced capital plan for his department to construct new marine infrastructure in our communities, including Pond Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The funding that we expend to assist the 19 communities over the year were carryovers that were left over from the funding we got from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, which amounted to \$500,000 a year. Mr. Speaker, that funding was cut by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans in March. Mr. Speaker, also last month, there was an indication from the federal government that they would be spending \$6.28 million on small craft harbours and upgrading marine infrastructure throughout Canada, but there was none earmarked for Nunavut.



With the small amount of carryovers that we have been using for upgrades and a boat launch for Pond Inlet, that money no longer exists, so it's going to be very difficult. We will have to find means to access money from the federal government, which is their responsibility, to lobby for badly needed marine infrastructure in Canada's longest coastline, Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 735 – 3(3): Activities of the Office of the Chief Coroner**

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Justice, whose department is responsible for the territorial *Coroners Act*.

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

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

It is my understanding that the inquest will begin some time in 2014 in Igloolik. Can the minister confirm the approximate date in 2014 on which the inquest will begin in Igloolik regarding that tragic incident? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. This, indeed, was a very tragic incident. Mr. Speaker, to my understanding, regarding this incident, the investigation is complete and has been turned over to the coroner's office. My information from the coroner's office into this is that there will be an inquest held in 2014. I would hope that it would be in the early stages of 2014, but I do not have specific information on the dates, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If it is going to be in 2014, is it going to be January 2014 or December 2014? That covers a 12-month span.

Under the current legislation, there are no prescribed timelines for when an inquest must be held following a death that occurs in custody. As the minister will appreciate, and I'm sure he believes, lengthy delays can have a traumatic impact on the relatives of the deceased, especially close family members. Will the minister commit to reviewing the *Coroners Act* with a view to introducing clear timelines for the holding of inquests? Can the minister commit to reviewing the Act? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is very difficult times and frustrating times on the community and on families who are dealing with these tragic situations.

Under the *Coroners Act*, there are no timelines for reviews. Some of these processes are very lengthy from investigation to the RCMP to the review at the coroner's office, but I do understand the frustration and the point that Mr. Tapardjuk is making. We will have those discussions with the coroner from our department to see if this matter can be addressed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister for committing to reviewing the Act. The Office of the Chief Coroner exercises many important responsibilities. Mr. Minister, will you commit to begin the practice of tabling an annual report to the Legislative Assembly concerning the activities of the Office of the Chief Coroner? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We do have a report that the Department of Justice does receive from the coroner's office now. I could commit to tabling such a report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 736 – 3(3): Bulk Fuel Storage Facilities in Nunavut**

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

The 2013-14 capital estimates for the Department of Community and Government Services included \$2.3 million in capital funding for improvements to the bulk fuel storage facilities in Coral Harbour. Can the minister update me today on the status of this important project? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Minister responsible for the Department of Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day, Nunavummiut. I also thank Mr. Ningeongan for raising that question respecting the plans for the addition to the bulk fuel storage facilities. To date, everything is proceeding as scheduled. When the next ship arrives into Coral Harbour this fall, the materials for the bulk fuel storage will be offloaded from the ship to the location when the final ship arrives into Coral Harbour this month or October, whenever the next ship is scheduled to arrive. The parts to build the additional fuel storage tank will be loaded onto the ship. As soon as it is possible to start work on this project, perhaps next year in the spring or

summer, that is when the work will start.  
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for his response, although I'm not all warm and fuzzy with the answer since it may still lead to it being deferred or delayed. There are legitimate reasons which I understand. I would like to now ask the minister with respect to the possible delay for this project. Do you have any concerns that Coral Harbour bulk fuel storage facilities will arrive in time to continue work on this project next year prior to the next sealift in the summer of 2014? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan.  
Minister responsible for the Department of Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The shipping arrangements have already been completed and shipping schedules are set for this fall for the next ship. The steel for the fuel storage tank will be offloaded at that time. This winter, the fuel will be transported to Coral Harbour. We don't expect any further shortages and it should be adequate for the year. The new bulk fuel storage tank scheduled for construction is to allow for more capacity to alleviate demand. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister for his response. Based on the original plans, it was to be built this summer, but it has been deferred and won't be built this summer, which was the basis of my question regarding possible shortages in fuel this winter.

I have another question at this time. The 2013-14 capital estimates for the Department of Community and Government Services also included \$100,000 in capital funding for improvements to the bulk fuel storage facilities in Chesterfield Inlet. Can the minister update me today on the status of this important project? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan.  
Minister responsible for the Department of Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to Coral Harbour, I believe that it is sufficient. Now, with respect to Chesterfield Inlet, I don't have any information whether or not they are experiencing any issues regarding the improvements on the bulk fuel storage facilities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 737 – 3(3): High Arctic Transportation Strategy**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my questions to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, the Hon. Peter Taptuna.

Mr. Speaker, as we all know, the cost of transportation is very expensive in Nunavut, especially for the High Arctic communities.

As the minister will recall, on October 31 of last year, he made a statement in the House concerning the status of the High Arctic Transportation Strategy. He indicated that, and I quote, “As we conclude the study, we will have recommendations to this government and to bring forward to the federal government.” Can the minister provide an update on the status of the High Arctic Transportation Strategy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Maybe I’ll quit making statements on some of these topics.

It has been a very difficult situation that we face. It’s no doubt that the High Arctic communities face the reality of transportation. The high cost of transportation, the high cost of freight, and the high cost of feeding ourselves is real and there is no doubt about that. Mr. Speaker, we work very closely with the communities in the High Arctic: Arctic Bay, Resolute Bay, and Grise Fiord.

Mr. Speaker, we managed to talk to one of the airlines where they were going to fly a regularly scheduled plane into Arctic Bay. It didn’t last too long. The airline quickly realized that there has to be economic activity within these communities for them to fly in there.

There has to be enough traffic, passengers, and freight going into these communities for it to become economical for them.

We do realize that there’s just not enough economic activity within these small communities, hence the high cost of going there. It’s not only that. The distances are vast. As the member of Quttiktuq knows, he does travel up there and it takes a long time to get there. The high cost of fuel exacerbates the high cost of living up there. The cost of power generating, fuel for the aircraft, and fuel for the homes is high and we do know that.

Mr. Speaker, at this point, we’re still looking at some of these options that are very few. The options are few and far between, as the member is well aware. We did work with the councillors, the mayors, and had some public discussions with the communities. It is a difficult situation to rectify. As the member is well aware, this government does not have enough resources to start up a subsidy program, but we are open to looking at other options if suggested by the communities of the High Arctic. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has been almost a year since the minister made that statement. Can the minister indicate what recommendations have been made and approved by cabinet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for Economic

Development and Transportation,  
Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There have been no recommendations made to cabinet at this point. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the past year, what attempts has your department made to communicate with the federal government regarding the progress of this strategy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There have been several face-to-face meetings with our MP, not only with the Minister of Health at the time, but with other cabinet members of the federal government. They are quite aware that the high cost of transportation up in the High Arctic is one of the real challenges that we all face, especially the people of the High Arctic communities. It is a real challenge, as the member is well aware.

In some cases, we do know that for fishing hooks. . . . I just want to put an example in there, Mr. Speaker. Fishing hooks that we normally buy for \$3 in other communities and bigger centres are \$54 in Resolute Bay. That's one of the realities that the community members face up there.

I know that there have been some discussions with the federal government talking about sovereignty. At this time, I'm sure that the mayors and councillors of the High Arctic will be approaching some federal ministers to discuss more options through the sovereignty issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Again I would just like to reiterate a reminder that I gave everyone yesterday about the use of BlackBerrys during question period.

Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

### **Question 738 – 3(3): Support for Hunters – Poverty Reduction**

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the minister responsible for poverty reduction, including ED&T.

We all are aware that everything in Nunavut is very expensive, such as what my colleague alluded to, the high cost of transportation. It's continually mentioned that the cost of some food items have increased drastically under Nutrition North.

Mr. Speaker, we can say that we rarely speak of the hunters. There are hunters who are in need of marine boats and they need their hunting equipment so that they can harvest country food. There are many people who are not employed who don't have the means to go hunting.

I would like to ask the minister: under Nutrition North and also food security and poverty reduction, do you discuss the topic that harvesters should be able

to afford to purchase their equipment, such as snowmobiles and boats? Have you discussed those matters? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will defer the question to the Minister responsible for Poverty, Ms. Monica Ell.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Sorry for the delay and confusion. Minister responsible for the Department of Family Services, Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for that question in regard to this issue. At this time, the Department of Family Services is working on poverty reduction. They are now working on it.

I was able to take part and I am also chair of the round table during the round-table discussions, but I'm not the only person. Nunavut Tunngavik has a representative who is also a co-chair along with me. We met last June and there were over 70 delegates from Nunavut who took part in the round-table discussions. We discussed many issues and we started the discussion on the five-year plan for this coming fall and also for the next year. They will start establishing who will be responsible for what.

At this time, the departments are now in the reviewing stage, but I can tell you that the elders are also involved in the round-table discussions. The elders have

also mentioned that they are finding it very hard to go out hunting alone. The wildlife we had in the north has moved onto other regions and now we're starting to purchase country food through inter-community trade. The Department of Transportation also subsidizes the freight cost. There was a recommendation made by the elders to discuss this further.

I haven't yet seen the five-year plan, so I'm not aware of the details, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't want to be trading stories and neither do I want to focus on the five-year plan. However, my question I asked was this: has the need for creating subsidies ever been discussed by the government? I doubt that we need to debate the plan for an entire year or its contents. Perhaps I should be asking whether or not a policy can be developed to resolve this issue.

Many hunters don't qualify for any assistance from our government and no work is available for them due to Newfoundland transient workers being flown in to do construction work in the summer construction period. Therefore, too many of our hunters are trying to purchase the cheapest boats available, which brings up safety issues, and many hunters are unable to go hunting to provide sustenance for their families.

Due to this reason, the government has to develop a subsidy which doesn't require a round-table discussion. Is this

government developing subsidies for our hunters? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you very much, Mr. Curley. Minister responsible for Family Services, Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This issue requires discussion and negotiations to develop the subsidies as the government can't forge ahead on its own. The only way to combat poverty is to work with the various organizations if we want to see real progress on this front.

The discussion in June of this year wasn't the first one, as poverty reduction has been worked on for many years, and we listen to the recommendations that stem from these meetings specifically to improve our lives. (interpretation ends) Healing and well-being (interpretation) is the title given to this issue. Additionally, counselling was brought up. Many issues have been brought up in these round-table discussions.

In order to have a properly planned strategy, these are the issues that have been recommended as being required to be completed and this can only be agreed to with proper discussions on these issues. When the written material has been agreed to outlining the people and organizations who will conduct this work and after careful review of these recommendations, we can start to move forward. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We all know these issues and in particular, the fact that our

hunters have absolutely no assistance from this government.

This government has a myriad of business program assistance funds, and to have to debate these issues over five years wasn't the way these business subsidies were created. All they require are some changes to improve them. These subsidies can also fall into these types of assistance subsidies and the government can easily adapt some of these existing programs.

Who then will lead these discussions or will be responsible for creating subsidies for hunters to enable them to hunt? In order to have safe hunting trips, our hunters need to purchase safer boats. How can our government provide assistance to our people who are most in need? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister responsible for the Department of Family Services, Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the co-chair of the round-table discussion, there's another co-chair from NTI with NTI representatives. There is a hunter support program through NTI. It can be dealt with through the HTOs at the community level and we discussed this matter, but we have not resolved the issue as of yet. We have to review the recommendations and I can make the details of the subsidy known. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 739 – 3(3): Status of Cape Dorset Sewage Lagoon**

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

As the minister will recall, I have asked a number of questions concerning the status of the new Cape Dorset sewage lagoon. Although this facility was constructed a number of years ago, it has still not been commissioned. Can the minister inform me when the new sewage lagoon is anticipated to be operational? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Schell. Minister responsible for the Department of Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for the question. It's a question I hear almost every session since we have been here. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, there are issues that arise with the sewage lagoon in Cape Dorset and it looks like there will be no sufficient repairs this year to make it operable. Mr. Speaker, we will be seeking funding when the upcoming gas tax funds become available, and then go from there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In May of this year, the Legislative Assembly approved another capital carryover for this project. Can the minister indicate what these funds have been used for? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In order to give him a detailed response, I will get the details on that and respond to him at that time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have also raised the issue of territorial compliance with water licensing requirements in respect to wastewater treatment on a number of occasions. As the minister will recall, there were concerns at one point that Cape Dorset could be taken to court by the federal government. Can the minister assure me that the community's new sewage lagoon meets all applicable federal and territorial standards and regulations? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Schell. Minister responsible for the Department of Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to assure my colleague that if and when the sewage lagoon is finally complete, I am hopeful that it would meet all requirements of such lagoons. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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



**Question 740 – 3(3): Child and Family Services Act Amendments**

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Family Services.

Mr. Speaker, I believe everyone in this House is well aware of my continuing concern about the *Child and Family Services Act* after this government passed the amendment. It concerns me whether or not our government will implement these changes.

Now to go to section 2, within the amended *Child and Family Services Act*, it identifies that Inuit societal values shall form the foundation of the legislation. I think the minister is well aware of this fact, knows about this, and respects these values, which I believe to be true. Inuit societal values place great emphasis on respecting older people and particularly our elders if we are going to use these values as our foundation.

Can the minister inform me whether or not the Inuit elders who work with social workers and their fellow residents on social issues will continue to be part of this process once the legislation, as amended, is being implemented? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister responsible for the Department of Family Services, Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for raising that question. In the member's question and whether social workers can collaborate with Inuit elders, this matter is spoken to in it and

we also discussed that matter last spring when reviewing the legislation and passing it in the House. This legislation will strengthen that cooperation if the community social workers work closely with the local elders as well as the community leaders. So yes, I can agree that elders can be included in the discussions and we have directed them to do so within the Department of Family Services. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for that response, as Inuit have expectations about using Inuit values in this field. It is much easier for Inuit to deal with social issues in the context of Inuit values. To this point, Inuit have had to bear with an alien cultural basis to deal with social issues, which is the focal point of this discussion.

The *Child and Family Services Act* gives authority to apprehend children or youth away from their parents. Within that legislation, children can then be taken care of by other family members or, alternatively, by guardians or foster parents. In some cases, at present, the apprehended children are taken away from the community and family.

This has occurred too many times in the past and, when this occurs, the mother and the child usually have to go to a shelter, generally outside of their community. Can the minister provide further clarification on the number of women and children who have had to be sent out to shelters? Can the minister provide a figure of how many women

and children have been sent out to shelters? Does the minister have these figures? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister of Family Services, Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for asking that question in regard to this very important issue. Firstly, I wish to express my thanks to the people who are able to care for children in their homes when they are apprehended.

The new legislation is trying to be more culturally accommodating for families and parents, particularly where their children have to be apprehended due to different reasons. Many families want to be consulted first prior to apprehended children being sent out. We approved this change last spring and I spoke to this at the time.

What I can state is that many Nunavut residents have experienced this trauma with over 300 apprehended children. However, I can't put an exact figure on the request the member asked for at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, when dealing with legislated issues and in trying to resolve some of the challenges, it is good to hear actual figures.

As all members are aware, the amendments to the *Child and Family Services Act* identified the need to have

Inuit societal values as the foundation. Indeed, by having Inuit societal values as a foundation, it will allow many families to work with the legislation. Families do need a strong foundation in their households.

Can the minister clearly identify whether or not the implementation of the *Child and Family Services Act* will lessen the number of children being apprehended? Will this legislation reduce the number of children apprehended from their homes and sent out from their communities? When this becomes law, are your expectations that this will lead to a lower number of apprehended children, Mr. Speaker? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister responsible for the Department of Family Services, Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reason why this legislation was amended is so that we can reduce the number of children being sent out of the Nunavut territory so that the family in the communities can take on the children. That was our main goal. The only reason why they send children out of the territory is because it's a last resort. I agree with the member that it's going to reduce the number of apprehended children being sent out of the territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 741 – 3(3): Resurfacing the Grise Fiord Runway**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are directed to the Minister

of Economic Development and Transportation.

A project that has appeared on the capital plans for the last couple of years is the resurfacing of the Grise Fiord runway. I have been informed that the community has been told that there is no money in the ED&T budget to complete this project this year. Can the minister provide an update on the progress of this project? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the member's question. I would appreciate it if he came directly to me to get the projects run in the junior staff. Mr. Speaker, the project is ongoing. It has been shut down for this winter. Once the construction season opens up again next summer, the project will proceed.

Mr. Speaker, there have been a number of difficulties that were encountered, just like any other project. Things didn't work as smoothly as we had hoped, but the contract had run into some mechanical problems with a crusher that's going to be rectified and work is going to be done in crushing the gravel for the runway.

Mr. Speaker, at least 25 percent of the crush is complete. There are other technical difficulties that were encountered; lack of sand in Grise Fiord. Those problems have been rectified and resurfacing of the airstrip won't be done until the crushing phase is complete. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Air travel is the only means of transporting individuals in and out of a community. As well, goods travel back and forth by via this means of transportation.

As MLAs, we approve the capital budget in good faith with hopes that projects will move forward and be completed.

The minister mentioned that there were problems with the crusher, but it is my understanding that in terms of the project outline and goal of what was supposed to happen, it has been four years in the waiting to have that gravel crushed. This is a much needed project and it is much overdue. Funds have been allocated for more than one capital period.

Can the minister explain why these projects have such trouble moving forward? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not the project supervisor who goes into the sites and checks out the mechanical conditions of their equipment. There are a lot of unknowns. When contracts are signed, we're hoping that the contract will be fulfilled, but there are always unknown situations that do arise.

One of the difficulties that were encountered was the lack of sand in Grise Fiord. A lot of communities have a

lot of sand. Mr. Speaker, the resurfacing of the airstrip is engineered. It has to have a certain size of gravel with a certain amount of aggregate and sand in there. At times, we don't have all of these within a community, so it is a challenge in getting the right amount of product that's needed to be used for runways.

Mr. Speaker, we're expecting this project to be completed by next construction season. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

#### **Question 742 – 3(3): \$100 Million Geo-mapping Project**

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

During the summer, the Prime Minister made his annual visit to Nunavut. During his visit to Rankin Inlet, I know some members present in this House were there for the announcement of the \$100 million in geo-mapping. I was wondering if the minister could explain if the usual process will need to be followed in terms of following through on this project in Nunavut. In particular, will an application be made to the Nunavut Research Institute for research permits or will it go through the Nunavut Impact Review Board process? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. James Arreak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize. I have not been briefed on this issue to date, so I will take this question as notice. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Arreak. Can you indicate whether or not you have taken that question as notice, please. Minister Arreak.

**Hon. James Arreak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will take the question as notice.

**Speaker:** The question has been taken as notice. Item 6. Oral Questions. No more names on my list. We will move on in our orders of the day. Mr. Shewchuk.

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask for unanimous consent to go back to Item 5 on the order paper. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Shewchuk. The member is seeking unanimous consent to go back to Item 5 in the *Orders of the Day*. Are there any nays? There being none. We will go back to Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Minister Shewchuk.

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

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize the students who are here. These are very important students who are taking the interpreter/translator course at Nunavut Arctic College. As minister, I would like to recognize them. They are Rhoda Ungalaaq, Elisapee

Johnston, Susan Tulugarjuk, Selina Nowdlak, Sandra Ipelie, Jennifer Kautainuk, Sheila Alikatuktuk, Patricia Peyton, Louise Innualuk, and Oleepeeka Arnaqaq. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Welcome to the Gallery.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize a lady who has been in the Gallery the last five or six days. She was sitting behind me for several days and now she is sitting over there. Her name is Saori Miyazaki. She is a PhD student from Osaka, Japan and she is in Nunavut researching human rights. Welcome to Nunavut.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Tapardjuk, did you have your hand up? Go ahead, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier when I was trying to acknowledge people earlier, this person was hidden from my sight. Elisapee Johnston lived in Igloolik for many years. As you may well know, Anguti Johnston is the host, Inuk Qablunaaq, on the IBC show that our youth enjoy. She is the mother of that popular host. I wish to welcome her. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors

in the Gallery. We will go back to our orders of the day. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Mr. Ningeongan.

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

#### **Committee Report 041 – 3(3): Bill 58, Public Service Act**

**Mr. Ningeongan:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that Bill 58, *Public Service Act*, has been reviewed by the Standing Committee on Legislation and that the bill, as amended and reprinted, is ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Bill 58 will be placed on the order paper for September 16.

Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Member from Cambridge Bay, Mr. Peterson.

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

#### **Tabled Document 406 – 3(3): March 2008 Nunavut Leadership Forum Candidate Responses**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Mr. Speaker, I am tabling a copy of responses of all three leadership candidates to the March 2008 Nunavut Leadership Forum question concerning the status of an independent child and youth advocate. As we move forward with Bill 40, representative for

children and youth, in Committee of the Whole, I strongly encourage all members and Nunavummiut to review the responses from all three leadership candidates. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Tabled Document 407 – 3(3): UNICEF Canada Letter in Support of Bill 40**

**Tabled Document 408 – 3(3): Second CMAJ Article on Suicide**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have two items to table.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to table a letter from UNICEF Canada expressing that organization's support for Bill 40. As members will recall, I discussed the contents of this letter in my comments yesterday during our deliberation on Bill 40. Of note, this letter states that Bill 40 could serve as a model for other Canadian jurisdictions based on its comprehensiveness, internal cohesion, and rights based on legal analysis. As we continue to review Bill 40 in Committee of the Whole, I urge all colleagues to read this letter and to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to table another article from the Journal of the Canadian Medical Association which addresses the issue of suicide prevention in Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to read this article. It is a testament to the effectiveness of the ASIST program, the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training Program. It offers messages of hope for the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Tabled Document 409 – 3(3): Victims Assistance Committee's Annual Report for the Period April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013**

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Victims Assistance Committee's annual report for the period April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

**Tabled Document 410 – 3(3): Nunavut Liquor Commission's Annual Report for 2010-2011**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Nunavut Liquor Commission's annual report for 2010-11. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Peterson. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. No more documents to be tabled. Mr. Ningeongan.

**Motion 055 – 3(3): Adjournment for the Day**

**Mr. Ningeongan:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to Rule 46, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South-Whale Cove, that the House adjourn for the day. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and as such, we will proceed to Item 22 in our *Orders of the Day*.  
*Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

**Item 22: Orders of the Day**

**Clerk** (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for September 13:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Responses to Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills

19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

- Bill 40
- Bill 64

20. Report of the Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Just a reminder that I invite all members to join me at five o'clock here in the Chambers for the Order of Nunavut Investiture Ceremony.

This House stands adjourned until Friday, September 13, at 9:00 a.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 15:08*

