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Iqaluit

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

Hon. Hunter Tootoo

(Iqaluit Centre)

Hon. Eva Aariak

(Iqaluit East)

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

Hon. James Arreak

(Uqqummiut)

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

Moses Aupaluktuq

(Baker Lake)

Tagak Curley

(Rankin Inlet North)

Hon. Monica Ell

(Iqaluit West)

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

Ron Elliott

(Quttiktuq)

Joe Enook

(Tununiq)

Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Hon. Lorne Kusugak

(Rankin Inlet South – Whale Cove)

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

John Ningark

(Akulliq)

Johnny Ningeongan

(Nanulik)

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

Hezakiah Oshutapik

(Pangnirtung)

Hon. Keith Peterson

(Cambridge Bay)

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

Allan Rumbolt

(Hudson Bay)

Fred Schell

(South Baffin)

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk

(Arviat)

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

Louis Tapardjuk

(Amittuq)

*Deputy Chair, Committee of the
Whole*

Hon. Peter Taptuna

(Kugluktuk)

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

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Simanek Kilabuk

Hansard Production

Innirvik Support Services

Box 1200

Iqaluit, Nunavut, X0A 0H0

Tel (867) 975-5000 Fax (867) 975-5190 Toll-Free (877) 334-7266

Website: www.assembly.nu.ca

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Tuesday, September 17, 2013
Members Present:

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

>>*House commenced at 10:00*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. (interpretation ends) Before we proceed, I would just like to let members know that we only have one page here today. So that page will be doing no deliveries upstairs or to anywhere else and we're going to keep her maintained here in the Chambers.

We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Department of Family Services, Minister Ell.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 342 – 3(3):
Nunavut Roundtable for Poverty Reduction

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Following the assent of the *Collaboration for Poverty Reduction Act*, the Nunavut Roundtable for Poverty Reduction met here in Iqaluit from June 10 to 12, 2013.

As the Minister responsible for Poverty Reduction, I was pleased to take part in the gathering and to serve as co-chair.

More than 70 people participated, with representation from all communities, Inuit organizations, non-profit organizations, and the private sector. Our purpose was to begin the process of preparing the five-year 2014-19 Poverty Reduction Action Plan.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, like The Makimaniq Plan, the five-year plan will be prepared in collaboration with our partners and will be co-sponsored by the Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated.

Round-table participants agreed that our current work on the implementation of each of The Makimaniq Plan action themes must continue. They called for the new plan to place special emphasis on healing and well-being, child development and parenting skills, and changes to the Social Assistance Program.

Participants also called on the roundtable to improve communications with communities and to provide better support for community-based poverty reduction initiatives.

A summary report on the June round table has been prepared and will be distributed to participants and made available to the public.

Work on the five-year poverty reduction action plan is ongoing and a draft plan will be completed by year-end.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my co-chair, Jack Anawak from Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and my fellow MLAs Jeannie Ugyuk and Ron Elliott for their participation and support.

I also want to thank each of the participants, particularly the members of the Elders' Council and our youth representatives, for their inspiring stories and the clear direction and support they provided during the round-table gathering. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 343 – 3(3):
Tourism Sector Investments in the
Kitikmeot Region**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Ullaakkut*, colleagues, Nunavummiut, and Kuglukturmiut. Mr. Speaker, we are all proud of our culture and unique heritage, and through sharing it with visitors, we are able to create a more resilient identity while strengthening our local economy. Tourism is a natural fit for Nunavut communities, as our traditional values learned from our elders were meant to be

shared and passed on. The Nunavut Tourism Strategy, Tunngasaiji, calls on us to share our lifestyle and our land with the world in a sustainable and respectful fashion.

Mr. Speaker, we continue to support entrepreneurs in building on the foundation of quality tourism products and services through our direct investments. Over the past five years, we have invested \$2.2 million in support of small businesses within the tourism sector in the Kitikmeot region. These investments have supported the development and strengthening of outfitters, hotels, and lodges.

Mr Speaker, we have also partnered with Nunavut Tourism, hamlets, and Inuit organizations in building essential tourism infrastructure, such as the multi-use centre in Gjoa Haven and the visitor's centre in Kugluktuk. Once completed, these centres will complement and strengthen the community's ability to welcome tourists in increasing numbers.

Mr. Speaker, there are many challenges ahead of us as we develop our tourism sector. However, I am confident that through our continuing investments and our important partnerships, Nunavut will secure its place in the global tourism market as a renowned destination. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 344 – 3(3):
Involving the French Language
Community during the
Implementation of the New
Official Languages Act**

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to Qikiqtarjuaq, Clyde River, and Nunavut. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, Nunavut's *Official Languages Act* came into force on April 1, 2013. The Act now recognizes three official languages in our territory: the Inuit language, English, as well as French.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of Nunavut truly appreciates the French language community as a small but vibrant and dynamic community, and acknowledges francophones' ongoing support to the new Act.

In accordance with my duties under the Act, I am pleased to announce that I will be hosting a public meeting with members of the French language community this coming October. The goal is to identify the priority areas that are important to the community and help shape government policies, programs, and services that are effective and culturally appropriate.

Mr. Speaker, I invite members of the French language community and stakeholders to attend the October 5 consultation and contribute to the implementation process of the *Official Languages Act* as it relates specifically to French. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: *Merci*, Minister Arreak. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister

responsible for the Department of Family Services, Minister Ell.

**Minister's Statement 345 – 3(3):
Commend Frontline Workers**

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we are ending the term of this government, I would like to take this time to commend the important work of the frontline workers. These employees are the face of the Department of Family Services in our communities. They are the career development officers, the income assistance workers, and the community social services workers.

Through our government's *Tamapta* Mandate, we identified priority areas, such as helping those at risk in our communities and improving training outcomes. Although there is still much work to be done in these areas, I want to express my sincere gratitude to our employees who implement these priorities and make improvements for the lives of Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, it is our employees who deliver, on a daily basis, the programs and services of our department. Although at times their jobs can be thankless, they are dedicated and committed to doing a good job and providing an important service to Nunavummiut.

In closing, I wish to offer my appreciation to the frontline workers who work to make Nunavut a better place. 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 Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 579 – 3(3): Reflections on Representing Hudson Bay

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to the people of Sanikiluaq. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reflect on five years of representing the constituency of Hudson Bay and the people of Sanikiluaq in the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin by thanking my family for their support and their patience over the past five years. Being away from home for long periods of time is never easy.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, I have focused my efforts in this Legislative Assembly on issues of concern to the community and its residents. These have included the need to address the high cost of living, the need for new infrastructure and housing, the need for effective programs and services, the need to support our hunters, the need to protect the unique environment of Hudson Bay, and the need for economic development.

Mr. Speaker, when we work together in this House, we can accomplish many things. Let me provide you with a good example of how consensus can work for the good of our communities and constituents.

Mr. Speaker, as you will recall, one of the first issues that I raised in the

Legislative Assembly concerned the high cost of living in Sanikiluaq and the need to help our families make ends meet. After raising this issue, I asked the government to take action and review the food allowance rates for residents of Sanikiluaq who receive social assistance. I was very pleased that the government listened to these concerns and made changes that would benefit the residents of Sanikiluaq.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to publicly confirm, with the blessing of my family, that I will be again seeking the confidence of my constituents in the upcoming general election.

Mr. Speaker, we all know that there are many challenges ahead. However, if the next Assembly approaches these issues in the spirit of consensus and compromise, we can make a difference, as the example which I just provided clearly shows.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to take this opportunity to say that my work in the Legislative Assembly on behalf of Sanikiluaq has been helped by the strong cooperation and friendship that I have enjoyed with many Members of this House.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to seek unanimous consent to continue with my Member's Statement. Thank you.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleagues.

I want to pay special tribute to the Hon. Member for Nanulik, whose friendship, wisdom, and support has meant a great deal for me over the past five years.

Mr. Speaker, the community of Sanikiluaq is a unique and very special place. Representing the community and people of Sanikiluaq in the Legislative Assembly has been one of the greatest honours of my life, and I thank all of my constituents for the trust that they have placed in me to serve on their behalf. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 580 – 3(3):
Reflections on Representing
Nanulik**

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I continue with my Member's Statement, I would like to first of all thank God for helping me.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, as we approach the end of our term as the Third Assembly of the Nunavut legislature, I wish to say that I have been honoured and privileged to represent the constituency of Nanulik, which includes the communities of Coral Harbour and Chesterfield Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, I have been proud to be able to recognize the achievements, successes, and contributions of those

constituents who help to make these communities what they are.

Many of the issues and concerns that I have raised throughout my term are similar across Nunavut's communities.

There are ongoing concerns about health issues and the services that are available to ensure needs are met and care provided.

Issues relating to education, housing, and those affecting our hunters and harvesters have been brought forward on many occasions.

I would like to thank my MLA colleagues for their support and confidence in my role as Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislation, Chair of Committee of the Whole, and as the Deputy Speaker.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to my fellow MLAs, especially the members for Hudson Bay, South Baffin, and Arviat, for their unwavering friendship and camaraderie since we first met. I would also like to say "thank you" to the Member for Tununig for the support and reverence he has given me. I sincerely appreciate that.

I would like to thank my constituency assistants, both of whom have been there since day one, for their assistance in ensuring that concerns and issues have been addressed. Thank you, Angela and Kyra.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask members to conclude my Member's Statement.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan.

The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Please proceed, Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, members.

Mr. Speaker, last but not least, I wish to thank my family and especially my “better half,” my wife, Elizabeth, who has provided a great deal of support over these past five years. (interpretation) I love you.

(interpretation ends) I am grateful that the people of Coral Harbour and Chesterfield Inlet have given me the opportunity to represent them and it is my hope that I have met their expectations.

Mr. Speaker, (interpretation) I would like to note that, as the election is coming up, I will be putting my name forward as a candidate for MLA representing the communities of Coral Harbour and Repulse Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Item 3. Members’ Statements. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Member’s Statement 581 – 3(3):
Reflections on Representing
Amittuq**

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say “good morning” to the residents of Amittuq in Igloolik and Hall Beach. Mr. Speaker, I rise in the Third Assembly to say that for the last five years I was here at the Assembly, we had lots of things to work

on.

First of all, I would like to thank John Illupalik and Jayco Simonie. As MLA, you need assistance of these people, and I think I could say that they definitely have helped me and assisted me.

I especially would like to thank my wife and all my grandchildren and the children that I left while I was here during the last five years.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, let me acknowledge that in 2004, I ran to be elected and I wasn’t sure or understood what an MLA really was. I knew what Inuit wanted and they were in my heart and I worked hard.

After the 2004 election, even though I didn’t understand the operation of the Legislative Assembly, I was assisted by the staff of the Legislative Assembly, especially by the researchers. During our deliberations, if these researchers didn’t help, a lot of issues would not have been solved.

Also, I would like to thank the pages and especially the interpreters. When the *Official Languages Act* has been implemented, the interpreters have helped in this way. Thank you very much.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear!

>>Applause

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): I would like to ask for unanimous consent to conclude my statement, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. The member is seeking unanimous

consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Please proceed, Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I have been here along with the government and along with the regular MLAs. I know that this is hard work as MLAs for our constituents and also for the betterment of Nunavut.

During the time I was in cabinet, the MLAs really made me work hard when they were asking questions. Maybe it was better when I moved to this side so I could pose questions to the government. This is a learning process, and I would like to thank all of you and the people in cabinet.

Mr. Speaker, the *Official Languages Act* was produced to protect and the heritage centre was established, as well as the *Education Act*. Also, recently, Bill 51, *An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services Act*, was established and approved. There were challenges in dealing with them because of Inuit culture that I thought that they would help.

Mr. Speaker, I have been feeling that Inuit strength is not within the government. Inuit strength is not in the church. Inuit strength is from within, from their desire and if they work hard. There is an election coming up. They will use their strength to put people in this government.

Mr. Speaker, with the increase in the number of MLAs, I worked really hard to have Amittuq with two constituencies. I am thankful that the constituencies of

Aggu and Amittuq have been established.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to thank the people who have elected me. I encourage them to be involved and be part of the election process.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to say that during the election, I will not put my name in. Thank you.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 582 – 3(3):
Reflections on Representing
Akulliq**

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we wind down in this particular chapter, I wanted to thank my wife, Celine, for her support through thick and thin. She is always there for me. In the NWT days back in 1989 when I first campaigned for public office, today, she still has that same support, but I decided not to run. So I repeat myself for that.

Mr. Speaker, I wanted to recognize a couple of local organizations back home in Kugaaruk and over in Repulse Bay. The law enforcement agency is only as good as we support it. We call them detachments.

Mr. Speaker, we all have a role to play when it comes to crime prevention. To the people back home, be a part of the crime stoppers.

I also want to recognize the local health care profession, both Kugaaruk and

Repulse Bay. When I'm sick, I always get encouragement from my wife to go to a health centre. I am thankful for that when I go to a health care centre and I get the attention that I expect, but it is not always so for some other people.

I also would like to recognize the school and staff. I also encourage people of Kugaaruk and Repulse Bay to make sure that they send their kids to school. I want to recognize the breakfast program that they provide for those who do not have the luxury of having breakfast at home. We should always keep that in mind. We have to do more for our homes across Nunavut.

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

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Through me, for you, the member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Please proceed, Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you.

To conclude my statement, I wanted to thank every one of you in this House, and the interpreters and the media and everyone else, especially the Legislative Assembly staff that we have here, all three of the people here.

>>*Applause*

If I have to write a book, each and every one of you would have to take a full chapter to do that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Laughter*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. I think for John, you might need two chapters.

>>*Laughter*

Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Oshutapik.

**Member's Statement 583 – 3(3):
Reflections on Representing
Pangnirtung**

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to the people of Pangnirtung. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the residents of Pangnirtung for their support.

Mr. Speaker, serving as the Member for Pangnirtung over the past two years has been an honour and I am very appreciative. As one of three members who were elected in by-elections, I have been very grateful for the support that I have received from you and all of my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, when I made my first statement in the Legislative Assembly, I spoke about my commitment to addressing Pangnirtung's priorities and issues. Over the past two years, I have raised such issues as the need to support our fishing industry, improve our infrastructure, and strengthen programs and services for our people.

Mr. Speaker, earlier in this sitting, I was very pleased to have voted for new funding to provide renovations... .

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

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

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, my colleagues, for allowing me to complete my statement.

Earlier in this sitting, I was very pleased to have voted for new funding to provide renovations to the community's arena and also towards the relocation of the community's airport.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, we have a lot of work ahead of us, but I am confident that we can make progress.

I want to take this opportunity to inform the people of Pangnirtung that I will be seeking re-election in next month's election. This decision was made after close consultation with my family, and I am grateful for the strength that they gave me while I served as a Member for the Legislative Assembly.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 584 – 3(3):
Reflections on Representing
Quttiktuq**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to offer my reflections on representing Quttiktuq in the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, during this final sitting of the House, a number of my colleagues have offered their thoughts and feelings about the extraordinary experience that we have shared together over the past five years.

Mr. Speaker, I have listened to their words with care, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their commitment and passion to representing their constituencies and communities.

Mr. Speaker, I recently took the opportunity to review the first statement that I made in this House on November 19, 2008. At that time, I committed to vigorously raising the issues of my constituents in Arctic Bay, Grise Fiord, and Resolute Bay and I pledged to seek action and solutions.

Mr. Speaker, although much work remains ahead of us, we have accomplished a great deal together. Over the past five years, a number of important projects for new infrastructure in the High Arctic have moved forward on our capital plan.

I am very proud to have pushed hard for the government to recognize community needs in Grise Fiord, Resolute Bay, and Arctic Bay. These include a new community learning centre for Grise Fiord, a new utilidor for Resolute Bay, a new health centre for Arctic Bay, a new arena for Resolute Bay, and a new government office facility in Grise Fiord.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, addressing the high cost of living in the High Arctic has been one of my priorities as the Member for Quttiktuq.

Although the government has not moved as quickly as I would have liked in implementing its High Arctic Transportation Strategy, we now have a foundation of work on which to build in the next Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, the work that we have accomplished together as a Legislative Assembly on the issues of food security, poverty reduction, and the federal Nutrition North Canada Program has been extremely important.

Our public hearings on the Nutrition North Canada Program and the recent motion that we unanimously passed calling on the Auditor General to review it have raised awareness across the country about the issue of food security in the north.

I would also like to take this opportunity to again thank my colleagues in this House for their support for the Private Member's Bill that I introduced concerning the donation of food.

Mr. Speaker, during my term of office, I have appreciated opportunities to spend time in all three communities that I have the honour of representing in this House.

I would like to pay public tribute to the mayors, councillors, and other elected leaders in Resolute Bay, Grise Fiord, and Arctic Bay for their support and advice to me.

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

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

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, the need for government accountability, economic development, a progressive education system, strong environmental protection, and a caring social safety net for our society's most vulnerable are extremely important issues. I have been proud to work with Members of this House, stakeholders, and my constituents to achieve progress in all of these areas.

Mr. Speaker, the accomplishments of such groups as the Arctic Fishery Alliance demonstrate what can be achieved when communities work together for a common goal. The hearings over which I have presided as a standing committee chair on such matters as the annual reports of the Auditor General to the Legislative Assembly have been important occasions for ensuring government transparency and accountability.

Our passage of Bill 40 and other important pieces of legislation during the life of this Assembly shows that our commitment to the well-being of our children and our society is strong.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my constituency assistants, Irene Willie and Lysa Watsko, for their dedication and support. As we are all aware, MLAs cannot always be in the community, and these two individuals were always there when I could not.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to conclude today by expressing my deepest appreciation to all of my constituents in Grise Fiord, Resolute Bay, and Arctic Bay for the trust and confidence that they have placed in me. It has truly been an honour to serve. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Tununig, Mr. Enook.

**Member's Statement 585 – 3(3):
Congratulations to Crew of First
Air Flight 822**

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to my fellow community members and Nunavummiut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my warmest congratulations to the crew of First Air Flight 822.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, First Air Flight 822 made its usual round trip from Iqaluit to Igloolik and Hall Beach. What distinguished this flight from the many others that are made on a daily basis was that the entire crew was Inuit.

Mr. Speaker, Captain Mike Innuksuk was in command of the aircraft. Captain Innuksuk lives in Pond Inlet and I know that his young family is very proud of him.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear!

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, First Officer Jimmy Merkosak is originally from Pond Inlet and currently resides in Iqaluit. I have known

Jimmy for many years and am proud to call him a friend.

Mr. Speaker, Flight Attendant Jane Flaherty-Lambe is originally from Grise Fiord. She recently joined First Air.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, this is a success story of which we must all be proud.

Becoming a trained and certified aviation professional is a significant accomplishment.

The hard work, dedication, and perseverance demonstrated by Mike, Jimmy, and Jane in earning their credentials should be and must be an inspiration to our youth. It shows that if you put in enough hard work, your dreams can literally take flight.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to First Air's commitment to training and employment opportunities for our people. This is exactly the kind of commitment that will build our territory.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating the entire crew of First Air Flight 822. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 586 – 3(3): The Ineffective Nutrition North Canada Program

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In May, this House approved a motion calling upon the Auditor General of Canada to conduct a performance audit of the Nutrition North Canada Program. The motion passed unanimously. In addition, our territorial counterparts in the NWT and Yukon also passed similar motions with unanimous consent.

Mr. Speaker, I'm sure all members welcome the news that the Auditor General has heard our collective voices and agreed to take on this important work. The only bad news is Nunavummiut will have to struggle for another year under this ineffective program. I'm sure the Auditor General will discover that federal tax dollars are being spent. However, I doubt that he will believe that they are being spent to help consumers.

Without knowing the freight rates that these major retailers are paying to the airlines, it will be impossible to determine whether or not the total subsidy is being passed on. I'm not a mathematician, but I do know that you can't calculate any equation if you're missing too many variables. If we don't know the freight rates or the cost of goods, we will never be able to accurately determine whether or not we're receiving any of that subsidy.

Mr. Speaker, under the old food program, everybody knew what the freight rate was and it was applied equally to all communities. Here's an example. I have compared the price of 3 lbs. of apples in four communities from

the Kitikmeot to the Baffin and the cost varied from \$8.50 to \$10.95.

There is a small supplier in Montreal who supplies produce to small retailers in Nunavut and receives a 30 percent discount from the airlines for its freight. Therefore, it's reasonable to assume that our two major northern retailers are receiving freight discounts of up to 50 percent. When you factor in those discounts and apply the subsidy that the retailers are getting from Nutrition North, it's easy to conclude that they're making a profit on the freight.

They actually make a profit of \$2.20 on every kilo of freight flown into Arctic Bay. Three lbs. of apples costs \$2.50 down south and in Arctic Bay, they actually make a profit of \$3.80 on those apples. They could give away these apples and still make a profit of 58 cents for three lbs. of apple.

An Hon. Member: No!

Mr. Schell: The actual percentage of profit in these four communities on three lbs. of apples varied from 300 to 1,000 percent. Unless the Auditor General obtains the actual freight rate the retailers pay to the airlines, we will never be able to determine if the total subsidy is passed on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 587 – 3(3):
Reflections on Representing
Nattilik**

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since I believe that this is our last day, I want to express my gratitude and I am quite pleased today. As the Member for Nattilik, I wish to extend my thanks to Nunavummiut for their support no matter where they come from. Many people have expressed their support and for that, I thank all Nunavummiut who have sent me their thoughts.

Also, I have the good people of Gjoa Haven and Taloyoak to thank for having had the confidence to elect me as their representative.

Further, even small children comment that they saw me on the television. I respond by saying that some day, they too may reach that platform in the future. The children are the most endearing, as they are so proud of recognizing the people they see on television and they express pride in all of the Members of the Legislative Assembly. Let us continue to encourage all of our youth to work towards a brighter future.

Also, a big thank you to the many residents of Nunavut who extend their support through their prayers for the leaders of Nunavut and the MLAs here to provide guidance in governing Nunavut that is beneficial to all of the residents.

This is especially the case amongst our elders, and I thank those in my riding, particularly the elders of Gjoa Haven, Aaquaq and the family, my mother-in-law Mary Takkiruuq, and the elders of

Taloyoak. Molly Tootalik, thank you for providing me all the concerns of the elders. I also thank Tucktoo. I would like to especially thank these elders, as they are always sending their thoughts on issues.

I thank my family, my mother, my siblings, and all of my relatives in Taloyoak and Gjoa Haven for their support. I love them all, my relatives such as my nieces and nephews.

I am also quite happy to state that in the next election, Taloyoak and Kugaaruk will now be in the same riding. The people have wanted this ever since the electoral boundaries were established prior to Nunavut. I am very appreciative of that fact.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude her statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Please proceed, Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): I thank my colleagues for their consent.

Last but not least, I would like to thank both First Air and Canadian North, as we use these airlines to fly to Iqaluit and with no direct flights. Kitikmeot is quite far, with overnight stoppages required. I would like to thank those airlines for providing transportation and safe flights back and forth from our home to our sessions here.

I want to especially thank the residents of Iqaluit for their warm hospitality.

I also wish to thank all of my colleagues here in the House, whether they are members of the cabinet or regular members. I thank each and every one of you.

I also wanted to state that the youth and children are, indeed, our future of Nunavut and it is theirs to hold. We will have a great voice in the future of Nunavut and I am grateful to have that opportunity to see that in our future. I wish all youth a great future and to embrace life and not to contemplate suicide.

I also wish that each and every resident of Nunavut has a good future and to wish that upon their fellow Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet South-Whale Cove, Mr. Kusugak.

**Member's Statement 588 – 3(3):
Reflections on Representing
Rankin Inlet South-Whale Cove**

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning. I also say "good morning" to the people of Whale Cove and Rankin Inlet. Mr. Speaker, I also wish to say a few words.

Now and then, I remember when I was elected to this House and I greatly appreciate the residents of Whale Cove and Rankin Inlet for choosing me to represent them. I also thank the other candidate who ran during that election.

During the time when I was elected, I had three daughters, whom I still have, and my wife who has been very supportive of me. Today is our last day of our session and I now have a grandchild who is four years old. I have seen great change in life, especially within Nunavut. I have lost relatives who are close to me, but I have also gained many more relatives.

Let me talk about my four-year-old grandson. A few days ago, his mother asked him what kind of cake he wanted for his birthday. (interpretation ends) "What kind of cake do you want?" "I don't want to turn four," he said.

>> *Laughter*

"Well, you're going to turn four. What kind of cake do you want?" "I don't want turn four!" "So what kind of cake do you want?" He says, "I want a 'yuck' cake then!"

>> *Laughter*

If he has to turn four, he's going to have a "yuck" cake because it's a "yuck" birthday. We found out that a "yuck" cake meant a cake designed with the Toronto Maple Leaf colours...

>> *Laughter*

...from no influence from me, Mr. Speaker. He has since changed his mind and decided he's going to celebrate his fourth birthday properly and is now going to celebrate it today with a cake designed with the Montreal Canadiens colours.

Over the five years, I have seen a lot of changes. I've had a few bets with my

colleague from Cambridge Bay. We have won some and lost some. I have never seen anyone go through so many markers in my life. He's got every shade under the sun of highlighters. He's borrowed a few of mine over the years.

I'm sure I have the record... .

Mr. Speaker, if I may ask for unanimous consent to continue and finish my statement.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for allowing me to finish my statement.

I'm sure I have the record for seconding the most motions of any assembly anywhere. It was my privilege.

(interpretation) To wrap up my statement, Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my gratitude to my colleagues for being able to work closely together, especially my Executive Council colleagues and my questioners on the other side over there.

It has been exciting, despite being challenging at all times and not always in agreement, but that is how the process works. What matters is that we worked together and that has been gratifying.

In particular, having to spent a great deal of time living here, I give a huge "thank you" to Iqalummiut for always being receptive to me and my wife and my children whenever they come here.

It is unfortunate that I was unable to spend a lot more time with residents of Rankin Inlet and Whale Cove and their understanding why that was the case is something I appreciate very much. Thank you to my relatives, to my wife especially and children. They have been very important support for me, even though I spent a lot of time without them over these past years. Thank you.

We still have considerable work to do. My old riding of Rankin Inlet South will now just be all Rankin Inlet. I'm giving notice that I will seek re-election. The work that I have to do is still considerable. We need an elders' facility. We need a boarding home for Kivalliq patients and for mental health. We need a mental health home in Kivalliq, especially perhaps in Nunavut. Yes, we have so much work to do. I, too, would like to work again with those issues. I would like to announce to the people of Rankin Inlet that I will be running again.

Lastly, it has been an enjoyable time and I hope we see each other again in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 589 – 3(3):
Reflections on Representing
Iqaluit East**

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to my constituents. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my gratitude to my constituents from Iqaluit East

constituency for putting their confidence in me and providing their support.

Since I became a Member of the Legislative Assembly, time has passed very quickly. It has been a short four years, and I am very pleased and proud to have been able to serve my constituency and Nunavummiut. (interpretation ends) What a privilege and an honour it has been to serve the people of Nunavut and my constituency.

(interpretation) I especially would like to thank Adamie Itorcheak, my constituency assistant, for working very hard. Sometimes he had too much work to do. Thank you very much, Adamie, even though you have a different job now. I also thank Eva Akpalialuk, who has been my CM, and Amanda Ford for providing their support to me. I thank each and every one of you.

I also thank my colleagues at the cabinet level. Thank you very much. As we are working towards the best interests of the people, we work very hard under the consensus style of government. We may not agree at times, but majority rules.

Also, I would like to thank the regular members from across the room. We gained many friends. During the question period, we don't seem to be friends, but when we get out of this Chamber, we seem to be friends. I am very pleased to see that. Some members are announcing that they want to run again.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Aariak. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude her statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Please proceed, Ms. Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, my colleagues.

Piliriqatigiittiarniq, having a good working relationship, is very important and our goal and objective is to ensure that we work for the best interests of our people. Thank you for pushing us to do that to make sure that we can succeed.

We still have a lot of work to do, but we have many success stories too. We have worked very hard to improve social issues so that we are working to support economic development in the communities and self-sufficiency at the local level. That is what we work towards. Thank you very much.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would also like to thank the Legislative Assembly staff. John Quirke, thank you for your guidance. In the beginning, when we were all new members, I'm sure it was like herding cats. I think we have come a long way since then. Thank you for guiding us with sometimes what is a very foreign concept for us here in conducting Legislative Assembly business. You guided us well. Thank you to all your staff.

Thank you to the interpreters, who have probably one of the toughest jobs here. (interpretation) Thank you very much to the interpreter/translators in English and in Inuktitut. They have the most difficult job, especially when we start speaking very fast. They have to try to keep up in

a different language.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I would also like to thank my staff, Paul Crowley, my principal secretary, Emily Woods, Madeleine Allakariallak, my EA, and Dorcas Nattaq.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the deputy ministers that I have been working with in EIA, Daniel Vandermeulen, and the Deputy Minister of Education, Kathy Okpik, for their very hard work.

Also, I would also like to extend my gratitude from inside to my family, to my children, especially Karliin and Jamal, for their great support. When my son goes to school, my daughter and her husband were literally parents when I would be travelling away from home. My son is now attending another school outside of Iqaluit. Thank you very much for helping me to raise and help with my children. I was able to do my work better with the support of my family members.

I am sure you have heard two weeks ago through the news media that if I was elected again, I would not be running for the Premier's position. There are many capable people who are out there. I give them an opportunity to take this.

Mr. Speaker, I heard from my family that I will be giving my name out for the next election next month. Also, our constituency has changed, and now there are four constituencies now in Iqaluit. I wasn't really sure which constituency I would be putting my name in for, but at this time, I would like to say that I have made up my mind which constituency I will be running in. I will be running in

Tasiluk. It is part of my old constituency and it has been added.

I feel it is very important that the election of the Members of the Legislative Assembly is important and for everyone to be able to have the opportunity to go and vote. You can vote for whoever you feel will be capable. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I thank you all.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 590 – 3(3):
Reflections on Representing
Kugluktuk**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to Kuglukturmiut. I know it's early there. First of all, Mr. Speaker, I recognize that it's the last session that we will be holding this year.

I want to congratulate the crew from First Air, the first and only Inuit crew, Flight 822. I recall when the past president approached me to strengthen their training programs within First Air and I gladly obliged him. With the help of my colleagues here, we can see the results after several years.

Mr. Speaker, I want to start off this morning in gratitude. I've had the great pleasure of having the opportunity to represent my constituents of Kugluktuk as their MLA and as the representative for Nunavummiut in the number of portfolios that I held. The last five years have been a humbling experience. I have

gone through ups and downs, just like a lot of my fellow Members of the Assembly, and through that, I have learned a lot.

Mr. Speaker, I have learned that you can't do everything for everybody even if you want to and that there's never enough money to do things that you know needs addressing. It's real hard work trying to get more money out of the federal government for projects when you think you need more money to get the work done.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I have learned that regular MLAs are good people too...

>>*Laughter*

...even though they can't seem to understand my answers because it isn't the answer that they want or expect.

All things aside, I want to thank the regular MLAs on that side of the House for their patience and trust provided to me over the last five years. That means a lot and for that, I am grateful.

It has been a great pleasure to serve with my fellow cabinet members. Thank you for your guidance and support. I believe all of us have worked very hard in trying to do what we think was the best for Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, partnerships are an important aspect of the work we do as a government and so our partnerships with Inuit organizations, the federal government, and other organizations have been truly appreciated and important. It has not always been easy to come to agreement, but I believe that we all have the best at heart when we all

strive to get the best possible results on common issues.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to thank the various departments.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to seek unanimous consent to conclude my Member's Statement. Thank you.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to thank the various departments that have worked under my ministerialship. I want to stress how grateful I am to your work and dedication in getting the right message out to the people we all serve. Thank you for your patience and loyalty. I don't say it often enough, but I thank you all for what you have done on behalf of the people of Nunavut and on my behalf.

My family is my foundation. I would like to take this time to especially thank my wife, Joanne, for being at my side throughout my time here in the House. Joanne, I thank you very much for your support and guidance.

Of course, a lot of my gratitude goes out to my children, grandchildren, and sons-in-law. Without our family's support and guidance, the job would be a lot harder than what it is already.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to give special thanks to my Constituency

Assistant, Helen Himiak, and my executive staff, Pat Angnakak and Annie Joannie, who were there on a daily basis to provide me with support to do my job here. Their loyalty and dedication to help me get the job done is critical and I would like to say “thank you” for a job well done. I appreciate your support and help that all of you have provide me over the years.

Mr. Speaker, one thing I have never done enough of is to thank the many people of Iqaluit who have been very kind and welcoming to my family and I. Thank you, Iqalummiut, for helping Joanne and I feel welcome in your community.

I want to continue to see progress made on many initiatives started and carried forth by this government. Also, it’s important that we have new ideas and initiatives to be brought forward by the next government. In light of this, I have decided that I will be declaring by candidacy for the upcoming general election.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Nunavummiut, especially my home community of Kugluktuk, for their ongoing support, and I hope that once again, I can stand in the House to represent them the next time around. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Taptuna. Item 3. Members’ Statements. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Arreak.

Member’s Statement 591 – 3(3): Reflections on Representing Uqqummiut

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also would like to make a statement of thanks. In 2004, when I first got elected on February 14, we sat down in this House and I appreciate my constituents in Clyde River. There is one person in Qikiqtarjuaq who believed in me and to put me here as an elected member and I appreciate that because of his belief that he would be represented by me.

I will be seeking another term. I appreciated them in 2008 and I also appreciate the people who wanted me to represent them in Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq. I have sat here in this House since 2004, first as a regular member and later as a cabinet member. Those other types of things that we would like to acknowledge because we have worked together.

I would like to also thank Mr. John Quirke and his staff for their assistance. I also wish to thank Mr. Simon Awa and his entire staff for giving me full support, as well as Mr. David Akeagok and his staff. If it weren’t for these dedicated people, I would not have been able to provide the kind of answers you asked of me.

I also wish to express my gratitude to the staff of URRC and the Inuit Language Authority for continuing to do great work that is still ongoing. I also want to mention Martha Nowdlak, my constituency assistant, for all the help she has given me and my office assistant who is enjoying her birthday, Elisapee

Nowdlak. I wish her a good and happy birthday.

The people of Iqaluit are ceaselessly receptive and welcoming and I thank them very much, as well as the congregation of the Anglican Church, for always showing their open arms. I also sincerely wish to thank those who take the time to approach me for assistance.

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

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

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you for allowing me to continue.

I, too, wish to thank my children, my daughters and their spouses, who have given me tireless support and having us over for meals. Thank you very much.

I also wish to thank my supporters in my community. They have been my connection to my constituents.

Lastly but not least, I wish to thank my wife for supporting me, for always approving of what I want to do, telling me that I need to represent our people, trying to guide me in whatever I need to do, and encouraging me to help others.

I would also like to thank all the members of the legislature who helped out the members. I thank everyone, not just for myself. When I became a minister, there were those who elected

me to cabinet membership. I thank the departments of Environment and Culture and Heritage. As a member, you have a lot of work to do. At times, you lose sleep because of what you have to do.

I thank everyone for being able to put me as a Member of the Legislative Assembly and for the people among my constituents who encouraged me to run again. When I hang my tie today, I will not be running again. Mr. Speaker, I will not be running in the next election. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Peterson.

**Member's Statement 592 – 3(3):
Reflections on Representing
Cambridge Bay**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to thank my family and all of my constituents for granting me the privilege and their confidence to represent the Cambridge Bay Riding in the Nunavut Legislative Assembly for the last five years.

Mr. Speaker, my constituents have given me tremendous support, encouragement, and advice over all the years in our challenging work to improve their lives and the lives of all Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, when they see me leaving Cambridge Bay at the airport, a lot of them ask me if I'm going home to Iqaluit. My response to them is, "I'm commuting to Iqaluit to work." Iqaluit's a nice city. I like living here. I thank everybody, but Cambridge Bay is home.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all of my colleagues in this House for their support and friendship to accomplish many wonderful things for Nunavut. There's a lot more to do, but I believe we're headed in the right direction.

Mr. Speaker, I'm always proud to explain to people and visitors to Nunavut and when I'm travelling elsewhere in Canada how our consensus government works. They really like our way of doing government.

Mr. Speaker, I express my gratitude to all my many dedicated staff in the departments of Finance, Justice, and Health twice, if you can recall the history, who supported me in the hard work to deliver Government of Nunavut programs and services to Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, the heavy briefing binders that they prepared me with over the years, some as heavy as 10 to 12 lbs., I usually carry three or four, have helped keep me in shape. I am proud to say I am 8 lbs. less today than when I started. I can do 30 to 40 pushups with ease. You have to stay in shape to be an MLA, I think. Sometimes the briefing binders are heavy, but we have iPads these days to help us.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my Constituency Assistant, Irene Amagonalok in Cambridge Bay, who keeps me grounded back home. When Irene yells, everyone listens, even me.

Finally, I would like to thank my loyal, trusty sidekick upstairs, Nick Pashkoski, and my Executive Assistant, Annie Akoak. It's much appreciated for all you guys do for me over the years. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, I request unanimous consent to continue my statement. Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleagues for allowing me the extra time.

As I was saying, I would like to thank my staff upstairs, Mr. Nick Pashkoski and Annie Akoak, for all they do for me. They keep me well organized and briefed. They give me lots of good advice on stuff I have to do in the House and in my meetings with my colleagues.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank you and all of your officials in the Legislative Assembly for your support over the years as well. It's much appreciated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 593 – 3(3):
Reflections on Representing Inuit
for 40 Years**

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good morning" to the people of Rankin Inlet. I would like Sally to watch the proceedings of the House. This a perfect morning and an appropriate moment for me to stand here once again with my wife, Sally, whom I hope is watching at home on this last

sitting day of the Third Legislative Assembly. It's an appropriate time today for everyone.

Mr. Speaker, I stood up as a young man and I can't return to being a young man, but as a young man, I stood up 40 years ago after many hours of speaking with our Inuit elders and friends to begin the long journey of hope, restoring Inuit culture, self-determination, pride in our own language and identity.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a remarkable, challenging, and rewarding journey working with Inuit leaders. Many have passed away as we defined our destiny, creating and building our institutions needed to protect our unique culture, social, and not just political and economic goals.

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

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and (interpretation ends) my colleagues.

(interpretation) This historic journey was not just about strengthening our culture; it was also about a public government, a public government which would be closer to home, which would involve more Inuit in the decision-making process, and elect leaders directly from Nunavut communities, hopefully.

About 40 years ago, most would be more understanding about our challenges locally. I can also recall maybe if we were to be put in a position that we would be able to help our people. I remember being a lone advocate seeking support for dividing the NWT and working towards this goal for years.

No one lined up to take the honour of being on the front lines to receive and reflect the first negative, discouraging shots of many experts. For instance, in English, they would say that (interpretation ends) that's a noble idea. That means it's not likely going to happen. (interpretation) However, I wasn't going to let this slip from my mind and hands. The snowball, once rolled, never stays the same size. The rest is history.

The moment has arrived for me. Even though we had hard times, I could say that the moment has arrived for me to speak to my constituents, elders, and youth of Rankin Inlet North that my wife, Sally, and I have been honoured to represent and serve you for many years. You have been most supportive and understanding, not only to me as well as my wife. When I didn't want to come back to politics in 2004, I was encouraged by the elders. For two years, I didn't agree, but my wife and I can say "thank you" and I'm very grateful.

While I have some energy, strength to think, work, and stand, I ask my constituents of Rankin Inlet to allow me to stay closer to my family, our grandchildren, our daughters, and our sons. We want to be able to have some time for ourselves. For that reason, I would like to say that I have discussed this with my wife, Sally, and close

personal friends. We prayed together to get some guidance on that. I could say today that they will be electing a candidate for Rankin Inlet North. I will not be running.

I would like to also say “thank you” to all the people that I have worked with when there were a lot of challenges. I would like to say “thank you” to the ministers. Privately, we make sure that things we want are done.

I would like to say “thank you” to Lorne Kusugak, as well as James Arreak, not just here, but also from the NWT days.

I thank our Premier for assisting us and to want to assist the people of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to say that Sally and I were here for about five years and before that, in 1999, and we were welcomed by the people. The elders from Iqaluit looked after us. We have made friends. I was told in a store by an elder, “I missed you very much.” We appreciate their support, including Sammie and Oolootie.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank your staff and Mr. Quirke, as well as research staff and all the staff of the Legislative Assembly, as well as the administration people on the third floor. In particular, I would like to thank the interpreters. They do a very hard job and have made our work easier.

Lastly, I would like to thank my constituency assistant in Rankin Inlet. I would instruct her to welcome anyone who walks into the office. Bernadette Dean is always receptive whenever we meet there, whenever I’m in town, and whenever anyone walks in. That makes

all of us happy, and I thank Bernadette for always being welcoming with open arms.

The day has arrived, Mr. Speaker, when being elected in Nunavut is not the only job that has to be done, so I’ll take the opportunity to be more relaxed. I want to say to the people of Rankin Inlet that they will be voting for a slate with more than one candidate and that Sally and I will also vote there. We both wish to say “thank you” to all of you. This legislature in Nunavut is unique in Canada and very young. It is still a work in progress and I thank all of you.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Item 3. Members’ Statements. Moving on in our orders of the day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Minister Taptuna.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return to Oral Question 702 – 3(3): Pangnirtung Airport Relocation

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question was asked by the hon. member from Pangnirtung, No. 702 – 3(3), on September [9], 2013, on the Pangnirtung Airport relocation.

The question asks me, “Can the minister indicate how the department will be spending the approved carryover funding during the current fiscal year?”

Response:

The carryover funding will be spent to explore further options for the possible relocation or expansion of the Pangnirtung Airport runway.

A comprehensive study was previously undertaken which assessed all the available sites for a community airport, including expansion of the current site. Only one site was found to meet all criteria and to achieve significant improvements over the current airport site. Since then, the site known as Site #5 on the plateau has undergone an extensive weather data collection and analysis exercise. Based on the wind data obtained, the proposed Site #5 did not present a suitable runway orientation to achieve acceptable levels of runway availability.

We will investigate an alternate airport site location that the consultant has recommended to determine the feasibility of developing an airport at that location. This site is also located on the plateau and is known as Site #8.

Before proceeding with another study, we propose to meet with hamlet officials and the community to discuss any other options that they may have for the airport's relocation or expansion.

It is unlikely that the entire carryover amount will be expended during this fiscal year. Any unspent funds will be carried over to fiscal year 2014-15.

In the meantime, Nunavut Airports has proceeded with a plan to replace the fencing around the airport, designing a new airport security system, and has procured gravel to do a partial resurfacing of the existing runway. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It gives me great pleasure to recognize a constituency of mine.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, my wife, Joanne, and I will be having our 36th wedding anniversary in January. Throughout those times, we have gone through a lot of great happy times, a lot of sad times, and a lot of tough times. Mr. Speaker, we have also gone through a lot of pots and pans. She loves my cooking. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Taptuna. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. We will move on in our orders of the day.

I'll let you know that prior going into Item 6, Oral Questions, we will continue until 12:00 and wherever we're at in question period, I'll stop the clock and we will break for lunch at 12:00.

Item 6 in our *Orders of the Day*. Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 766 – 3(3): Bulk Fuel Storage Facilities in Sanikiluaq

Mr. Rumbolt: Not many hands flying today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Community and Government Services.

As the minister is aware, three temporary fuel storage tanks were installed in Sanikiluaq last year in order to ensure that the community would not run out of heating fuel. However, it is my understanding that when the initial fuel resupply arrived in the community this summer, the tanks were not filled to capacity. Can the minister explain why this occurred and can he confirm that the fuel resupply ship will return to Sanikiluaq this fall to top off the tanks? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. 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 first question of the last day. Mr. Speaker, I don't have the details as to why they were not filled to the top. As for going back and topping them up at the end, I'll have to find out if the fuel that is delivered there is actually sufficient for the rest of the year. If not, I'll get the specifics on the matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last fall, the Legislative Assembly approved \$300,000 in capital funding for an increase in the capacity of Sanikiluaq's bulk fuel storage facility. In January of this year, the Department of Community and Government Services issued a request for proposals for the design of upgrades to Sanikiluaq's bulk fuel storage. The RFP indicated that the successful proponent was required to complete the design and construction-

ready documents by June 30 of 2013. Can the minister update me today on the status of this project? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll gladly update my colleague. The planning and design stage is expected to be completed now in November of this year. Once that is complete, we anticipate the construction after the sealift of 2014. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 767 – 3(3): Study of Narwhal Stock in Jones Sound Area

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

On June 5, 2012, a CBC news story titled "Federal narwhal tusk ban lifted in most of Nunavut" indicated that the Department of Fisheries and Oceans had lifted the international trade ban on narwhal tusks in all Nunavut communities except one, Grise Fiord. It also indicated that Grise Fiord was not included because DFO stated that there is no scientific evidence of narwhals in the area surrounding the community.

My question for the minister is: how is the minister's department working with the community of Grise Fiord and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on

gathering scientific and traditional knowledge concerning narwhal stocks in the Jones Sound area? 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 would like to thank the Member for Quttiktuq. This is under the responsibility of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. We have been working with the federal department in regard to the Grise Fiord issue and we're doing all we can. We're going to keep working with them until we conclude this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since 2012, has anything changed in regard to the international trade ban for Grise Fiord? 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. Only after we have concluded the scientific facts will we open the ban on narwhal tusks. That's where we're at right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Has a timeline been established on when this information will be collected or on

when a decision will be made? 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. This summer, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans did a population count on whales, but I don't know when that study will be completed. I can say that during the time, there's going to be a close working relationship between DFO and the Nunavut government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 768 – 3(3): 2013 Activities of the Nuliajuk Research Vessel

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had forgotten to thank CG&S for putting money aside for improvements to our arena.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my questions to the Minister of Environment.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of Nunavut acquired the Nuliajuk Research Vessel to support science-based conservation and sustainable development of Nunavut fisheries. Can the minister update us today on the activities of the Nuliajuk Research Vessel during its 2013 season? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank Mr. Oshutapik. The research activities of the fishery over the past three years have been carried out for halibut, turbot, and sharks and how they can be harvested.

They have also researched on the topography of the seafloor, focusing primarily on the Baffin offshore near the three communities of Pangnirtung, Qikiqtarjuaq, and Clyde River, all the way close to Pond Inlet. The research project is currently working on future research activities for Nuliajuk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, minister, for that response. On June 7, 2012, a colleague of mine asked the minister if the department had a long-term plan for the research vessel. The minister indicated that “At this time, we don’t have any particular details, but once we do have a plan available, I will table it in the House.” Can the minister update us on either his department has completed a long-term plan for the research vessel? If so, will the minister commit to tabling the plan in the House? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The research team is still working on the Baffin region activities. We still haven’t decided which communities would have research carried out. I still am unable to provide that information regarding the plans for the Nuliajuk Research Vessel. Once those are completed and where research will be done is identified, an update will be provided. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I hope we will still be here when the minister is ready to give an update. Mr. Speaker, can the minister provide information on what specific activities or plans will be undertaken? Research activities are conducted at any given time. Will the mapping of the seafloor topography be included? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Research of the fisheries is an ongoing effort and I mentioned that mapping of the seafloor topography will be carried out which will determine the safest and deepest areas as well as to identify shallow areas. Those kinds of research are ongoing and continue to be carried out by the Nuliajuk Research Vessel. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 769 – 3(3): Activities of Custom Adoption Commissioners

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a different line of questioning today for the Minister of Family Services.

Section 4 of the government's Aboriginal Custom Adoption Recognition Regulations provides that a custom adoption commissioner may receive an honorarium for his or her work in administering the provisions of the Act. I think there are two main ones.

I have heard concerns from custom adoption commissioners that they are not receiving the payments to which they are entitled. Will the minister commit to reviewing this matter? 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. I'm not sure if I fully understood the member's question on who is entitled for payment on custom adoption. The documents I have with me are not clear on the issue. Can he clarify his question? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Minister. Madam Minister, are you asking the member to clarify his question? Thank you. Mr. Curley, can you please clarify your question for the minister.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I'll proceed with my

supplementary because this will probably explain it clearer.

Thank you. Mr. Speaker, at present, custom adoption commissioners are paid on a per case basis. That means the Act, in a way, stipulates that they either have to succeed in registering an adoption through the Supreme Court or the Nunavut Court or the commissioner rejects an application. There are two cases on per case basis. In my view, this causes problems. Will the minister commit to reviewing the system of compensation for custom adoption commissioners with a view to providing them with an annual stipend? 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. Yes, I will have my officials review this issue on how it can be remedied. Custom adoption commissioners are paid a small amount for paperwork. My officials are listening as we speak and where the matter can be resolved, it will be investigated and I shall instruct my staff to do so. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Ell. Your next question, Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I think it's really quite important. I have received correspondence and letters from commissioners who have not been paid, even though they have submitted their statements to the government, which involved quite a bit of time for a number of adoptions that they have dealt with.

Can the minister clearly indicate what types of support training are provided by her department to custom adoption commissioners? 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. Training is provided on the individual needs of the custom adoption commissioners. I am not aware of the specific training that is made available. I don't have that in writing either with me.

I can say that my department provides full support to these commissioners, whether it is on the required documentation for custom adoption in Nunavut. The needs of the child to be adopted determine how that will proceed. The legal aspects of the legislation are also reviewed regularly.

I can investigate to determine how training is provided to pass on to the member once I have that information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Ell. (interpretation) Is that all? (interpretation ends) Before I go to the next name on my list, I recognize the clock. We will break for lunch and return at 1:30.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>House recessed at 11:56 and resumed at 13:31

Speaker: *Qujannamiik*, Sergeant-at-Arms. Continuing on where we left off. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Question 770 – 3(3): ASIST Training

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College.

Recently, Nunavut Arctic College has taken on the responsibility of providing the ASIST training, the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training, or I believe in Inuktitut, it's called the Uqaqatigiigluk! training, from the Department of Health. Can the minister outline what training will occur this training year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that very important question in regard to the ASIST training. He is right in that Arctic College is now the lead in providing this training across the territory in partnership with the Department of Health and Department of Education and their support.

As we speak, there is a tentative schedule. A coordinator has been hired. There is a tentative schedule that has been made for the Kivalliq region, and the Kitikmeot and the Baffin regions are very close to being finalized. Once this is all done, it will be placed on the Nunavut Arctic College website. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. How do individuals or communities

access this training? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Mr. Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The plan is to deliver this training through all the community learning centres in the communities, where the adult educator will be the contact person. These courses will be well advertised and open to the general public.

I should add that through Arctic College, this ASIST training is part of the curriculum of all the NTEP programs that we have ongoing now and it is also part of the nursing programs that we have in Arctic College. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Are there a targeted number of individuals to be trained this year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are no targets, but through Arctic College and the learning centers, we encourage all people who are interested in taking this training in a community to attend and take the training. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

Question 771 – 3(3): Dental Services in the Kivalliq

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Minister of Health. I'll try and be precise and to the point. Getting straight answers on the issue of dental services in the Kivalliq region is like pulling teeth, but I will try again, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, current dental services in the region are clearly inadequate. I am aware of at least one recent situation where residents had to pay for a trip to Iqaluit out of their own pocket to seek dental care.

Given the concerns that have been raised about the new dental contractor, why does the minister believe that it should be "business as usual" with respect to this critical contract? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister responsible for the Department of Health, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, as the member is well aware, if we go to the dentist's office and they're pulling teeth, they do give you painkiller and if you don't have enough, you might feel the pain when they're pulling your teeth, as Mr. Curley is well aware.

Mr. Speaker, it is business as usual because this issue is before the courts and I have not heard any concerns about

the particular contractor. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. I appreciate the minister's advice, but I do recall not long ago where an individual, because there were no painkillers, had to use his own knife to take one of the molar teeth out on his own, and that was my father. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

When it comes to ensuring that contractors fulfill their obligations, I believe that it is important to be clearly aware of the difference between "interference" and "oversight." Can the minister explain to the House today how he is exercising appropriate oversight with respect to the fulfillment of the terms and conditions of the government's current dental services contract in the Kivalliq region? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister responsible for the Department of Health, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Mr. Curley is a former Minister of Health, he must be well aware that the Department of Health has over 900 contracts with individuals, organizations, and companies providing services in Nunavut. So it would be virtually impossible for the minister of this department to monitor the terms, clauses, and conditions of every contract.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Curley is well aware that in every contract, there are provisions and clauses that govern the

delivery of contracted services, that we have people who monitor those clauses and provide the oversight that Mr. Curley is concerned about. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the minister's responses. Mr. Speaker, yesterday or a couple of days ago at least, my colleague from Akulliq asked the minister to account for his department's new Office of Patient Relations, which is intended to provide Nunavutmiut with a way of raising concerns. Can the minister indicate whether Kivalliq residents will be able to use this office to raise concerns about dental services? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister responsible for the Department of Health, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe that Mr. Curley's constituents can. I'm just looking at the brochure and it says here on No. 3, what is the concern, if you raise a concern about having not received the service you wanted or needed and you were not listened to or not respected. I encourage your constituents and all Nunavummiut who have a concern with the Department of Health to contact and of course, we would like them to contact the frontline provider and then work from there, but ultimately if you don't get your satisfaction, then you should contact the patient relations office. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 772 – 3(3): Status of Resolute Bay Utilidor Project

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

Last week, I had asked questions to the minister regarding the Resolute Bay utilidor system. The minister indicated that there would be a phased-in approach to this project. The first phase was the re-tendering of the project.

Can the minister update the House today on the status of the Resolute Bay utilidor project? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. (interpretation ends) There's not much change to the events that happened since the last time we spoke about this, which was two weeks ago. We're still at the first phase, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The community was told that in an effort to keep the project completion on track, the Department of Community and Government Services would be purchasing pipes for arrival on the 2013 sealift.

Mr. Speaker, the sealift for Resolute Bay has come and gone and there were no pipes delivered to the community. Can the minister explain why not? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the scope of the work in Resolute Bay has grown from the initial plans, the costs have pretty much doubled, if not more, since the original plans. At this time, the work that the department was doing did not require the utilidor pipes to be in on the shipment, from my understanding, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since this is the final day of the Third Legislative Assembly of Nunavut, will the minister commit to having officials contact the Hamlet Council of Resolute Bay and explain what is happening with the utilidor project? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our officials are responsible for a variety of projects in the communities. In fact, quite a number are in progress. When our officials work with the hamlets, they pay attention to our proceedings. I will speak with them again to ensure they fully

update the hamlets that they work with on the status of the various projects that are undertaken by Community and Government Services, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Question 773 – 3(3): \$100 Million Geo-mapping Project

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation and it's in regard to the \$100 million geo-mapping project that I had asked questions to the Minister of Environment the other day.

As the minister has mentioned many times, we rely on the federal government to provide investments to allow economic development and growth within our territory. In regard to this project with the federal government providing \$100 million for geo-mapping in the territory of Nunavut, can the minister explain what economic development opportunities will be coming to Nunavut companies? 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 thank the member for that question. He may not be getting the answer that he's hoping for, but I'll try to respond.

Mr. Speaker, there have been some discrepancies on the amount. The \$100 million is for the northern regions. 75 percent of the \$100 million is for the three territories: Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut. From that 75 percent, we're hoping that 75 percent of the 75 percent would be directed towards Nunavut.

The member is well aware that Nunavut is the least mapped jurisdiction in all of Canada. Mr. Speaker, through our geoscience office and the Geological Survey of Canada, which is an institution that's older than Canada itself, they design programs to map Nunavut with our office here in what we call GEM to try and locate what we call potential for minerals, oil, and gas, and geological holdings.

Mr. Speaker, at times, it is scientific-based work. It's mostly scientific-based work. Once the permitting is acquired by the proponents, they do consult with the communities to try and see if there is any beneficial way to involve community members throughout their projects. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Does any of the geo-mapping require seismic testing? 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 am not aware of any proposed

seismic testing. Whether it's offshore or on land, I'm not aware of that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. How will communities be consulted on this project to help constituents understand the scope of the work that will be done in and around their communities? 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 thank the member for that question. The member is well aware there was some geo-mapping activity in one of his constituencies two and a half years ago and that's at Grise Fiord. They did consult with the community to see how they can be involved in the scientific research.

Mr. Speaker, throughout the research and mapping, I guess you can call it one of these things where it has been said before that the Geological Survey of Canada, with our geoscience office here, in cooperation with our geosciences here in Nunavut, try and map the geology to attract investors, especially for minerals.

I guess it has been likened to what they do: find the haystack. We have heard that once before. They find the haystack and the companies come in to invest and try and find a needle in the haystack. That's one of the things that, in Nunavut, we desperately need more economic activity at this juncture and time. Mining

exploration and mining is one of the key ways of creating more economic activity for Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Item 6. Oral Questions. I have no more names on my list.

Before we move on to Item 7, I would just like to take this opportunity, I believe, to welcome... . If everyone's wondering why our Gallery is full this afternoon, my understanding is that they're all federal civil servants, mostly from Ottawa. Welcome to the Gallery.

I would also like to recognize two well-known and distinguished elders from here in Iqaluit, Simon and Annie Nattaq. Welcome to the Gallery.

>> *Applause*

We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 7. Written Questions. Mr. Enook.

Item 7: Written Questions

Written Question 029 – 3(3): Salary Disclosure for Deputy Ministers

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I have a written question directed to the Premier and the title of it is "Salary Disclosure for Deputy Ministers."

Mr. Speaker, for the record, I'm going to read my questions.

1. Listed by individual, what is the total annual remuneration paid to all current deputy ministers and heads of Crown agencies, including but not

limited to salaries, Nunavut Northern Allowance, travel allowance, and entertainment allowance?

2. From November [15], 2008 to September 17, 2013, listed by individual, how much money has been paid to all current deputy ministers and heads of Crown agencies in bonus payments?
3. From November 15, 2008 to September 17, 2013, what were the contents of each annual letter of expectation provided by the Premier to deputy ministers and heads of Crown agencies?
4. What mechanisms and processes are in place to monitor deputy ministers' and heads of Crown agencies' compliance with conflict of interest guidelines in relation to their personal financial activities, business holdings, and interests in enterprises that conduct business in Nunavut?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Petitions. Item 10. Responses to Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 12. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Health, Minister Peterson.

Item 12: Tabling of Documents

**Tabled Document 427 – 3(3):
Department of Health Policy
“Contacting Clients Through
Local Radio”**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to table the Department of Health's Local Radio Policy. This is in response to the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts Report on the Review of the 2011-12 Annual Report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Tabled Document 428 – 3(3): Factum
of the Attorney General of
Nunavut in the Supreme Court of
Canada Concerning Reform of the
Senate**

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Factum, Supreme Court of Canada reference amending the Constitution regarding the Senate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Tabled Document 429 – 3(3): Public
Health Investigation, Management
and Reporting of Communicable
Diseases and Outbreaks in
Nunavut**

**Tabled Document 430 – 3(3): 2011-
2012 Nunavut Liquor Commission
Annual Report**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have two documents.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to table the Protocol for Public Health Investigations. This is in response to the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts Report on the Review of the 2011-12 Annual Report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to table the Nunavut Liquor Commission's annual report for 2011-12. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Item 12. Tabling of Documents. Minister responsible for the Department of Family Services, Minister Ell.

Tabled Document 431 – 3(3): Director of Child and Family Services Annual Report 2011-2012

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Annual Report of the Director of Child and Family Services for 2011-12. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Ell. Item 12. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Tabled Document 432 – 3(3): 2013-2014 Letters of Expectation to Territorial Public Agencies and their Responses

Tabled Document 433 – 3(3): Government of Nunavut's Progress Report on Recommendations of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts on the 2011 Report of the Auditor General of Canada on Children, Youth, and Family Programs and Services

Tabled Document 434 – 3(3): Statistics for "Towards a Representative Public Service" as of December 31, 2012

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have three documents that I would like to table.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to table the 2013-14 letters of expectation to territorial public agencies and their responses.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to table the Government of Nunavut's progress report on recommendations of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts on the Report of the Review of the 2011 *Report of the Auditor General of Canada to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut on Children, Youth, and Family Programs and Services*.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to table the statistics for "Towards a Representative Public Service" as of December 31, 2012. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Item 12. Tabling of Documents. Moving on in our orders of the day. Item 13. Notices of Motions. Item 14. Notices of

Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 15. Motions. Item 16. First Reading of Bills. Item 17. Second Reading of Bills. Item 18. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 64 with Mr. Enook in the Chair.

I would like to ask that prior to proceeding with Committee of the Whole, we will take a 10-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 13:56 and Committee resumed at 14:13*

Item 18: Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

Chairman (Mr. Enook)(interpretation): Good afternoon to my colleagues. Good afternoon to Nunavummiut who are listening on radio and watching on television. Please be welcome to our Chambers. I wish to start our proceedings as the Committee of the Whole. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following item to deal with: Bill 64. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to proceed with Bill 64. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Do members agree that we deal with Bill 64?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 64 – An Act to Amend the Liquor Act – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We will now start deliberations on Bill 64, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Act*, with Minister Peterson as the sponsoring minister. Does the committee agree to bring in Minister Peterson and his witnesses?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. Minister Peterson, for the record, please introduce your witnesses. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Chris D'Arcy, Deputy Minister of the Department of Finance, and to my left is Andrea Witzaney-Chown, Director of Corporate Policy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Welcome to the witness table. As we proceed, I would first like to ask you, Minister Peterson, if you have any opening comments, you may proceed. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to have this opportunity to meet with the committee to discuss Bill 64, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Act*, and to hear directly from members.

In 2010, we invited 10 members from across the territory to be members of the task force to review the *Liquor Act*, which included two of our colleagues. We committed to consulting with stakeholders and every community in Nunavut. I'm still grateful that the task

force was able to meet that goal and reach every single community despite challenges faced with scheduling and weather.

In the fall of 2012, we received the final report. In the report, the task force recommended liberalizing access to alcohol, particularly beer and wine, in an effort to move away from current control systems to deter binge drinking and move towards a more responsible use of alcohol.

In its response to the task force, the government focused on the need to take a measured approach to changing the liquor control regime in our territory. Bill 64, as introduced, reflects that intention.

Bill 64 aims to make the necessary legislative amendments to allow the Nunavut Liquor Commission to:

- Change the way it sells liquor in Nunavut;
- Increase social responsibility;
- Increase bootlegging fines; and
- Increase personal importation limits so that they are more in line with those in other Canadian jurisdictions.

One of the changes would allow an individual to carry their alcohol purchase out of a liquor store. This would allow us to move forward with a more traditional retail operation. However, this change to the legislation does not require us to open a storefront operation.

Also, a retail outlet would not be opened in any community without further consultation and community support. The community would be involved in key decisions around location, hours of

operation, product availability, limits to quantities, and policies to reduce potential harm. The government would maintain the necessary flexibility to facilitate a quick reaction to any situation that might arise, including the ability to close the store and end the pilot project. Existing restrictions on purchases and possession that have been established by alcohol education committees would continue to stand. This ability to change how we sell liquor in Nunavut will be the foundation for reducing harm and for removing the bootlegging market.

A measured approach means working with communities before opening a store. A measured approach means working with the departments of Health, Justice, and Family Services to develop indicators to determine the impact of a retail store on any potential community. A measured approach means adjusting our regulations to address any deficiencies with the model before rolling it out to other open communities.

At the same time, these amendments will allow us to use proceeds from the revolving fund to develop educational materials and campaigns to promote responsible use of alcohol.

Mr. Chairman, Bill 64 will increase the allowed volume of liquor that individuals can bring into the territory without a liquor import permit. This will not change the requirement for individuals returning to restricted communities to seek the permission of the alcohol education committees to import liquor and it will not change the status of prohibited communities.

The proposed amendments to the Nunavut *Liquor Act* are an important first step toward meaningful changes to the current liquor regulatory regime and responsible use of alcohol in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. I will now ask the standing committee chairman to make his comments. Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislation, I wish to provide opening comments on behalf of my colleagues as we begin consideration of Bill 64, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Act*.

Mr. Chairman, as you will recall, Bill 64 received second reading on May 16, 2013 and was subsequently referred to the standing committee for consideration.

For the benefit of the permanent public record and Nunavummiut who are following our proceedings today, I wish to take this opportunity to provide an overview of the standing committee's deliberations concerning Bill 64.

Mr. Chairman, as you will recall, a number of members raised concerns about Bill 64 on the occasion of the Legislative Assembly's consideration of the motion for second reading of the bill. These concerns were reiterated during the standing committee's consideration of the bill.

As members will recall, the final report and recommendations of the Minister's Task Force to Review the Nunavut *Liquor Act* were tabled in the Legislative

Assembly on November 2, 2012. The government's formal response to the final report and recommendations of the task force was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on March 19, 2013.

The first recommendation of the task force was that the government should repeal the current *Liquor Act* and introduce a new statute. In its final report, the task force stated that, and I quote, "...the simplest way to redress the problems with the current Act and to develop clear and coherent legislation is to draft new legislation, not to make a series of further amendments. The Task Force was cautioned that making amendments on amendments would only exacerbate the current problems, making the Act more obscure than before by potentially increasing the number of inconsistencies and contradictions."

A number of members were disappointed that the government has not acted on the task force's recommendation by introducing a new *Liquor Act*, choosing instead to introduce a series of piecemeal amendments to the existing statute.

A number of members expressed concern regarding the government's plans to "initiate a beer and wine store pilot project." Members expressed concern regarding the lack of detail concerning the process by which the government will identify the subject community and obtain public consent for the project.

A number of members also expressed concern regarding the lack of clarity regarding such issues as the extent to which neighbouring communities would be impacted by the opening of a retail

operation. These concerns were well-articulated in the written submission concerning Bill 64 that the standing committee received from the Mayor of Hall Beach.

The standing committee took careful note of the recommendations of the task force concerning enforcement of the *Liquor Act*. In its final report, the task force stated that the government should, and I quote, “Strengthen search and seizure provisions under the Act and introduce strong civil forfeiture legislation to deter illegal sales of alcohol...[the government should] significantly increase fines and penalties for bootlegging and redirect revenues to harm reduction programs.” The standing committee was pleased to note that Bill 64, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Act*, contains provisions to increase fines for violations of the legislation.

Mr. Chairman, the idea of introducing civil forfeiture legislation has been raised in the House by a number of members on a number of occasions in recent years. A number of members expressed disappointment at the lack of progress on this issue. This lack of progress is illustrated by the government’s formal response to the task force’s recommendation, which simply indicates that the government will, and I quote, “continue exploring the possibility of introducing civil forfeiture legislation that will further deter bootleggers.”

A number of members were also disappointed to note that the proposed provisions in Bill 64 concerning the allocation of revenues for social responsibility campaigns are not mandatory in nature.

A number of members expressed concerns regarding the provisions in Bill 64 to increase the amount of liquor that a person may personally import into Nunavut without a permit. Although members recognize that other jurisdictions may have higher importation limits, this does not in and of itself justify an increase for our territory. A number of members viewed this provision as simply facilitating the purchase and consumption of higher volumes of alcohol from retail outlets located outside of the territory.

A related issue that arose during the standing committee’s deliberations on Bill 64 concerned the operations of alcohol education committees. As members will recall, the task force recommended that, and I quote, “Alcohol Education Committees be given adequate resources and support through a secretariat.” Earlier this year, news reports indicated that the Department of Finance had formally directed all alcohol education committees operating in restricted communities to discontinue the practice of charging fees for liquor orders. The standing committee has requested that it be provided with a copy of any formal directives and/or communications that have been provided to alcohol education committees regarding this matter. I would also encourage the minister to table these items in the House for the benefit of all members.

During the minister’s recent appearance before the standing committee on the occasion of its clause-by-clause consideration of Bill 64, a total of five motions were moved by members of the standing committee to delete clauses 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. A majority of committee

members present at the meeting voted in favour of the motions.

Rule 68(3) of the Rules of the Legislative Assembly provides that all amendments proposed at the standing committee stage of the legislative process require the concurrence of the sponsor of the bill under consideration.

As the minister did not concur with the proposed amendments, I anticipate that some members may wish to propose the same motions during the proceedings of the Committee of the Whole. As all members are aware, votes on proposed motions to amend bills during the proceedings of the Committee of the Whole are decided on the basis of a majority of members voting.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Before we proceed and since this is our last Committee of the Whole, I would like to remind the members for the last time that according to Rule 77(1), you have 10 minutes to speak, and according to Rule 77(2), subject to the discretion of the Chair, a member may speak more than once to a matter under discussion but not until every member wishing to speak has spoken.

I suggest to members that wherever possible you ask your detailed questions during the clause-by-clause review. I would like to ask if there are any general comments. Mr. Curley, I think you raised your hand.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe that all Nunavutmiut need to understand the minister's opening comments and what he said during our standing committee's meeting a couple of days ago, even though there are opening comments coming from the government.

Mr. Chairman, first of all, I would like to welcome the minister and his officials to the Legislative Assembly.

I know that Inuit have been very supportive in dealing with access to alcohol and for controlled or restricted communities. They have to have a plebiscite in order to have access. The people who would like to order have to go through alcohol education committees and I'm sure that not all of the applicants are approved.

With that situation in Nunavut, at times, in the homes, children who are committing crimes go through the justice system because of alcohol. There are also social workers who take away children because of alcohol abuse in the homes.

Right now, with Bill 64, we would like to expect that people will not commit as many crimes as before, but that's not going to be the case. I have a feeling that there are going to be more crimes committed with respect to liquor because there is going to be a liquor store opened.

Probably in the larger communities, not all communities are going to be like that, but if you sell wine and beer, whoever wants to buy it doesn't have to go through the alcohol education committee anymore. I have a feeling that this is not

going to keep up with the education of social drinking in the communities.

I'm not exactly sure when it's going to come into effect, but I have a concern with the bill. I would like the minister to respond why he didn't agree to the committee for the deletion of some of sections or clauses of the Act because there will be more money to pay. The only thing that we agreed on was for the bootleggers to pay more fines.

The alcohol education committee stated that they wanted those sections of the Act deleted. If the government is going to let the amendment to the *Liquor Act* go ahead, the minister should have listened to the committee because a majority of the standing committee voted, but the task force report is just recommendations.

People who commit crime and the people who want to quit consuming alcohol have stated that there should be a place for them to take the alcohol program. For that reason, I hear the minister say that some of the consolidated revenue funds receive the funding for fines paid by the people who commit crime when they have alcohol. We want to be able to try to learn to be self-sufficient and to be able to run our own government.

According to the revolving fund, there is nothing that states that the minister can say how much money is in the revolving fund. The revolving fund consists of money that comes from various departments. The minister does not have the discretion to take the money from the revolving fund to do this and that.

The government policy with respect to alcohol education states that there should be an action plan in place to make sure that they would put so much money per year from the revolving fund for the alcohol program. It would be very good if the minister could do that, but if we say that they're going to take some money out of the revolving fund, you can't just estimate how much you can take in order to do these sorts of things.

There are going to be a lot more people who go through the corrections system when the liquor outlets open. With respect to bootlegging, there are going to be more people bootlegging because they don't have to order liquor from Winnipeg, let's say, or Ottawa. They could buy wine and beer right from their community. The person who buys the liquor, according to the legislation, could say that they can bootleg. Whether it be imported from the south or bought in the community, it's still bootlegging and they could still go to court.

It's going to be more dangerous in my community if there was to be an outlet opened because they could buy wine and beer. The communities are very close together and they don't need to have a licence to purchase those. They can take it from my community to other communities and sell it to make money. It becomes bootlegged wine or beer. I am a little bit concerned about that part, so I cannot support it.

At the very last day of our session, they will have more liquor outlets in the communities, saying that the people of Nunavut can learn to become socially responsible drinkers, but I think it's going to be a long time for them to become socially responsible drinkers.

I would like to ask the members for their support. A majority of committee members voted in favour of the motions to delete certain clauses of the bill during our standing committee meeting. If the minister will not delete them, he should explain why it's so urgent that the bill is passed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. General comments. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to welcome the minister and his officials. During second reading, I did not agree to the amendments of the *Liquor Act*. Majority rules when you vote on something. It would have been better if we didn't deal with this during our membership because of all the changes that have to be done.

With the respect to Bill 64, a lot of people listened to the second reading of Bill 64 and we know that we talked about this numerous times. We figured we didn't have any choice but to deal with this. When the minister was before our committee, we didn't approve of it. We know our constituents and we get their thoughts. Those are the people whom we are representing and what they want is more important to us. Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that I will not be supporting the amendments to the *Liquor Act*.

Although I asked questions, I am not really clear about who is going to look after it if they're going to be selling wine and beer. Will the government have their own outlet or will it be contracted out? I know that they are already planning on

receiving the money from the liquor sales once they get their beer and wine outlet. They're already planning this, but the question that I have has not been answered. Who will be running it if they start selling beer and wine? The government or private individuals?

Mr. Chairman, in the minister's opening comments, there are alcohol education committees in the communities and those are the people who give out permits and licences to bring liquor to the communities.

Just to make it clear, during the NWT days, there was a legislation that any community can have liquor in their community or it could be a dry community. Those were the two things that we had in the community, prohibited or restricted.

The alcohol education committees and communities can say no or yes to liquor or not. There are people who are there to decide if people need some help with respect to alcohol and these are starting to change now. What they do now have are no committees. They are to say yes or no. Does the alcohol education committee in the community say, "I will give you alcohol and you have to follow the rules."? You could be prohibited or restricted in a community.

Those are the amendments that we wanted, but the department has not agreed with us. An alcohol education committee is asked to come when there is disturbance in a home due to alcohol. There are going to be people who are going to be like that if this is no longer in effect, but it has been given to the RCMP to deal with. The RCMP has a lot of things to do and they're going to have

more things to do in the community. These kinds of things have not been looked at, even though the task force stated that.

We have people who are concerned about beer and wine being more available in communities. Why do people who want to order alcohol have to order from Rankin Inlet, even though there's a liquor warehouse in Iqaluit? Why can't they order from Iqaluit? They have to pay for freight because they have to order from Rankin Inlet. That was part of the task force discussion, but that wasn't considered by the government.

Mr. Chairman, I would like my colleagues or the regular members especially, who are with us during the committee meetings, I want to say that I will not be supporting the amendment to the *Liquor Act* because of all the problems that have to be dealt with, that we talked about, and we still have to do that in the coming years. For that reason, I will not be supporting it.

Nunavut people have stated during the task force consultation tour of the communities that the government should respect what they have done and follow through with what they had said. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. We're on general comments. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I would like to thank Minister Peterson. I was one of the members of the task force that went to the communities, not because I was able to do the job and I'm not an expert on alcohol.

I would like to get some support from the people who have never consumed alcohol or who haven't been touched by alcohol. I was elected by the people of Kugaaruk. Some people in my constituency of Kugaaruk and Repulse Bay consume alcohol. Although everyone did not elect me to this House, I was asked to represent them. There are a lot of people who have been touched by alcohol and their families are no longer around. I'm just an individual and they knew that, so they elected me.

Mr. Schell and I travelled to the communities during the liquor task force to listen to the people or the community alcohol education committees. Due to the weather, we could not go into all the communities. Sometimes, as Members of the Legislative Assembly, we have other things to do besides travelling with the liquor task force.

There were a lot of people who expected us during the community visits and I was happy that we were able to help them out. We were told during the community visits that when the alcohol is in the bottle or if the bottle is larger and if I don't touch it, it's alright. It could be visible and as long as I don't touch it, it's okay. Even if I did touch it, as long as I don't drink too much of it, it is okay.

Like the minister said, he said in English, (interpretation ends) "responsible use of alcohol." Mr. Chairman, what is responsible use of alcohol? All of us have different definitions, different meanings, and so on. I think it's about safe and legal use of alcohol. That's what it is. Across Nunavut, we have restricted communities, we have prohibited

communities, and we have open communities, and so on.

(interpretation) We wanted to help the people, but it was really hard to want to help the parents and the grandparents. We saw that when we went to the communities. Also, we saw the young people. Looking at their parents, the young people looking at their parents consuming alcohol and not wanting their parents to drink too much alcohol, we saw both and we heard them talking about those kinds of stuff.

We were able to have a meeting with the young people. We went to the schools and we went to the elders, as well as women's groups and also the religious people, such as the churches in the community. They all know what alcohol can do, such as the women's groups, teachers, the priest, and the Anglican ministers. They all know the alcohol will not stop because alcohol will stay here in Nunavut. What they were looking for was not to stop alcohol, but to drink less.

It's very hard and what we wanted to do was make it better for the people of Nunavut and the communities.
(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, whether Bill 64 is only a band-aid solution for the time being, we know that the flow of alcohol will never stop flowing. There is no way to plug it. Why? It's all about human nature.

Bill 64 can be amended in the future. Bill 64 can be replaced with a new Act. Bill 64 is not an absolute statute. I hate to say that, but that's the reality. Bill 64, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Act*, is subject to the interpretation of the law at every level: territorial or the Supreme Court.

We have attended many public meetings and you see the desperate families, children, parents, grandparents, and leaders. They're looking for ways to curtail the abuse of alcohol. Yes, we want to remove the bootleggers, but that's a tall order. If we can curtail that, that's the recommendation that we came up with as a task force.

I will support Bill 64. Like I said before, at least that's something that we can do for the time being. Other leadership, perhaps, will have better remedies to deal with the relentless abuse of alcohol, not only in Nunavut, but any territory in the country and in the world. What can we do? We can at least try to deal with the problem of alcohol. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Ningark.
(interpretation) We are on general comments and I have no more names on my list. We shall proceed. Bill 64 is in your legislation binders. If you can find it, we shall proceed. We will continue. Bill 64, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Act*. Clause 1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 2. Mr. Curley.

Committee Motion 013 – 3(3):
Deletion of Clause 2 of Bill 64, An Act to Amend the Liquor Act

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I have a motion for the committee. Mr. Chairman, I move that clause 2 of the bill be deleted.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. There is a motion on the

floor. The motion is in order. Just before we continue on with the motion, I have some comments to make as to the procedures. Every member has the right to speak once to the motion for a total of 20 minutes. The mover of the motion speaks first. The mover of the motion has the right to the last reply. Please remember that. To the motion. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Like I said earlier when I was speaking to the minister's opening comments, this was defeated and the minister has to respect the Standing Committee on Legislation, but their wishes were not done. We have to say here in this House that we have to be visible when we are in the House because we did not get our wish at the committee stage.

It states that the money from the liquor revolving fund may be used for expenses related to education campaigns and promoting socially responsible use of liquor up to a prescribed amount. It doesn't say that they will be or it doesn't say that it shall be used. It says that it may be used. They shouldn't say "may." Maybe it would be better that if there is no policy in place, it doesn't say "may."

The people of Nunavut have to know that they will have... Why do they want us to pass this amendment? There are a lot of people who would like to take a program with respect to liquor. That's the first thing that should be done by the government. When you're voting, I would like to urge you to support the motion to delete clause 2, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. To the motion. Before I go

to Ms. Ugyuk, Mr. Tapardjuk, did you have your hand up? Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): I really wanted to move a motion, so I put my hand up, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Ugyuk, to the motion.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will not support the proposed amendment. We're talking about responsible drinking or responsible use of alcohol. There are a lot of people who are non-drinkers. I've had discussions with both sides. What the government is proposing is the responsible use of alcohol and I will be supporting this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ningark. My mistake.

>> *Laughter*

(interpretation ends) The last day of the sitting. Excuse me. (interpretation) Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. I apologize. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): I'm not Ms. Ningark.

>> *Laughter*

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my fellow Kitikmeot Members of the Legislative Assembly.

When you're dealing with such a big issue, it is a heavy responsibility. Of course, my colleagues each have their own beliefs and they will work hard to work on behalf of Nunavummiut. Of

course, we all have different points of view.

For myself, I used to be told and I have heard that we should not go behind everybody's back and you have to be open about what you do. That's good for both your body and your mind. When you are disciplined too much and you are told you can't do this or you can't do that, it makes you want to do the opposite with a rebellious note. Again, as an adult, we have to be given choices and not be overly restricted about anything. If you are more open about your actions, it helps you both physically and mentally.

Mr. Curley is my friend who moved the motion. I would like everyone to know that I will not be supporting the motion that is on the floor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to make a comment about the motion that is being proposed.

This is *An Act to Amend the Liquor Act* and this amendment has nothing to do with my community because my community and other communities are prohibited from the use of alcohol and they don't even have an alcohol education committee with that. I will be supporting all of the motions because it has no effect on my community and I have not been told by my constituents either to support or to oppose any bill that will not have any effect on my community.

With that, if there is no support for my community, then there's not much we can do with it. Because it is not going to help all of Nunavut, I will be supporting this motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Are there any more comments to the motion? (interpretation ends) Minister Peterson, did you want to speak to the motion? Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I just wanted to offer a few comments.

Mr. Chairman, it has been very informative and I appreciate the Committee of the Whole's comments, your opening comments to my comments, and I appreciate the comments on Mr. Curley's motion to delete clause 2.

I just wanted to say that this is a key component of our proposal to go forward. The money would be used in our ongoing program, the non-legislation related items in the task force recommendations to address social responsibility and encourage people not to drink because it could have some serious repercussions in terms of FASD, drinking and driving, and violence.

This component would allow us to use funds from the revolving fund up to the prescribed amount, not an unlimited amount, because we do have to operate the Nunavut Liquor Commission, but it would allow us to put educational programs and other programs in place to help folks to understand the dangers of drinking. It would benefit every community in Nunavut, whether it's a wet community or a restricted

community or a prohibited community, because we do know that bootleggers operate in virtually every community in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Are there any more comments to the motion? I have no names on my list. I now give the mover an opportunity to make a last reply, if so wished. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I indicated earlier, at one of our committee meetings, the minister appeared in front of the committee and there were more people who were opposed to clause 2. Even if it's taken out of this proposed amendment, Nunavut will still go ahead. There will be some people who will not be able to get help for the misuse of alcohol. Is there going to be education available? I don't know. There's no mention of how much funding will be provided annually. It's bait that was put in front of the people over here.

The committee has indicated that they did not support this and because of that, I would like to have a recorded vote so that we will see who supports or who doesn't support the motion. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. The member indicated that he would like a recorded vote. Are you asking for a recorded vote, Mr. Curley?

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Yes, please.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. A recorded vote has been requested. All those in favour of the motion, please rise and sit down when your name has been called.

Mr. Curley.

Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Ningeongan.

All those opposed to the motion, please rise and stay standing until your name is called.

Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Ms. Ugyuk.

Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Schell.

(interpretation ends) The rules and regulations of the House, apparently, Minister Peterson, if you want to take a vote, you have to be properly in your place in the House, in your normal place. I will seek and continue.

Mr. Arreak.

Mr. Shewchuk.

Mr. Taptuna.

Ms. Aariak.

Ms. Ell.

Mr. Kusugak.

Mr. Peterson.

(interpretation) Thank you. Any abstentions? There were 5 in favour of the motion and 12 opposed to the motion. Therefore, the motion is defeated.

We were on clause 2. Do you agree to clause 2 as amended? I apologize. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do have questions now that we have determined whether the clause will stay or not. Specifically to the idea of a liquor revolving fund, I think I have the same concern as Mr. Curley in terms of the word “may” being used. Could the minister just confirm that a liquor revolving fund will be set up? 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, the Liquor Revolving Fund already exists and this will allow us to incur additional expenses that were not allowed before. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, I think sometimes there are different interpretations of the law and it’s always the intention that we’re trying to get at. What are these other expenses that he is talking about? 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, the expenses will be related to the purchase and selling of alcohol in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of educational campaigns or promoting socially responsible use of liquor, will these be funds that alcohol education committees can access to work towards that goal? 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, I believe that those funds could be used for supporting alcohol education committees. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

An Hon. Member: A point of order.

Chairman: Excuse me, Mr. Elliott. We have a point of order. Mr. Tapardjuk, your point of order.

Point of Order

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe clause 2 has already been voted on. Are we going to be going back to it after the fact? Are we going to be given the right to ask

questions to the minister? Now we're asking questions about it after the motion has been put on the floor and voted on.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. If I may, as your Chairman, (interpretation) I know that there are going to be other motions afterwards. We're going to go through the same procedure. We would like to hear those types of questions at the beginning because they're all similar, just different numbers. I would like to deliberate on it without any grey areas. I think there are going to be about five motions that are going to be proposed. With that, we will take a 10-minute break so that I can make a decision and we can proceed smoothly afterwards. Thank you. We will now take a 10-minute break.

>>Committee recessed at 15:22 and resumed at 15:36

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you for coming back. We can proceed with the Committee of the Whole. There was a point of order. After doing a review, as the Chairman, the point of order is out of order because we're still on clause 2 and everyone has an opportunity to ask questions.

With that, we will proceed. I apologize for making a mistake earlier. Following our rules, Mr. Peterson can participate in the vote, even at the witness table, if he so wishes.

We will proceed then. We are on Bill 64, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Act*. Clause 2. Do you agree? Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to this clause, when you're talking about education, campaigns, and promotion, I believe the minister had talked about and said that alcohol education committees would be able to apply for the funding. My other question is: who else will be able to apply for this funding? Is it non-profit organizations? Will it be hamlets? If there is a treatment facility somewhere within the territory, will they be used for purchasing beds? If you could give us some indication of what the plan is for this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for seeking clarification. Mr. Chairman, at this point, the funds would be for used for social responsibility programs, not for building facilities and such. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I live and work in one dry community, technically dry, if you will, Mr. Chairman. When we talk about money, money seems like it knows no boundary. Even in a dry community, we can access this fund, can we, Mr. Chairman? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Ningark for the question. Under the social responsibility programs, it will be territorial-wide, so

all communities would participate and benefit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the hon. minister. I will certainly support this clause. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. (interpretation) Clause 2. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

**Committee Motion 014 – 3(3):
Deletion of Clause 3 of Bill 64, An
Act to Amend the Liquor Act**

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a motion. I would like to move that clause 3 of the bill be deleted.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. The motion is in order. I believe you remember the rules that I outlined to you. The mover of the motion speaks first. You may proceed, Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, clause 3 indicates that the purchaser, and I'm sure we're talking about alcohol, carrying with him or her, if the purchaser has purchased liquor from a liquor store designated under the regulations. On repeated occasions, I have stated that Bill 64 is only an amendment. Without doing a total review of the *Liquor Act*, a

lot of my constituents have stated that if there should be a liquor store.

Also, the Mayor of Hall Beach wrote a letter and indicated that he was concerned about the possibility of a liquor store being opened in Igloolik. Of course, Hall Beach is very close to Igloolik that there would be a flow of alcohol to Hall Beach. With Bill 64, the Mayor of Hall Beach was the only one who responded and I'm very concerned with that.

I believe that we should delete clause 3. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. To the motion. Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the motion and when we're voting, I will be supporting the deletion of clause 3. One thing that I can't understand is that my constituents, especially in Coral Harbour, have to know or understand the Act.

I have been confused since we have been doing this about the task force. They were the ones who were going to the communities on this issue. They went out to the communities to find out what the people of Nunavut wanted. Now, after all that, after the recommendations were made and that, it seems like we're now lying to the people of Nunavut. We're doing the exact opposite.

The task force indicated that the government create a totally new *Liquor Act*. The task force went out to the communities and that's what the people of Nunavut wanted. I'm sure that you heard that. The government is doing the

exact opposite. We're going to go against what the people of Nunavut said. Is that what the government is saying to the people of Nunavut?

Mr. Chairman, my community has voted against being a restricted community for many years by way of a plebiscite. With that, they have been able to get material things instead of using it on alcohol and they're more responsible. They're managing it better.

I heard one of my colleagues say that not everybody drinks alcohol, but then there is also alcohol abuse, which is being given less restriction under this clause. You can buy more alcohol. We're saying to the people out there that our government was given a mandate to get more alcohol to Nunavut. You're going to be able to carry more alcohol from Winnipeg or other southern gateways and bring it to your community.

Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to state my opinion. The people were visited by the task force. They identified what they wanted and now this government is saying the exact opposite. If the government is going to do that to their people, it's not going to be very good in the future.

Lastly, Mr. Chairman, since we have a lot to deal with, during our standing committee meeting, there were more people who voted to have those clauses deleted and now we see fewer people in the House.

Under clause 3, we will be able to bring in more alcohol from the southern gateways. We're talking about management. It seems to be making the problem bigger. I'm not mad, but in

Coral Harbour, it is prohibited and I have seen a big change in the lifestyle of our community. I'm sure it would have been a totally different case if it was a restricted community. Again, our community being prohibited has been a benefit. I will be supporting this motion, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have two questions in regard to the motion. First of all, I support this motion. It seems to be a different bill from the minister's opening comments. The minister stated that it's a pilot project, but looking at this bill, it doesn't say anything about a pilot project; whether it's beer or wine, it says all liquor. It doesn't say just beer and wine. It seems like this bill is giving more power to the minister.

Maybe these outlets would be opened within a year. This will have to be clearly identified. My question is: sometimes there are two sides in the community; there are dry communities who choose not to have alcohol in the community and some communities are controlled with limited amounts. If government wants an outlet open, are these people who were looking after these alcohol committee limits going to disappear? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. At this time, we're making comments to the motion and we could only speak to the motion. Once we start going through clause by clause, then you ask questions. At this time, we're just going to discuss the motion only and if you have any questions later, you will

have an opportunity. Are any further comments to the motion? Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I said, whatever I said in different places, it could be changed. I could change my mind according to my wishes and wishes of my constituency and democracy within our government.

As we heard from our communities and we know that in our communities, there are bootleggers who are selling 24/7 and we don't want to produce their names. Why is that? Are we supporting the ones who are destroying the lives of the youth and elders? They're changing the future.

Therefore, this clause 3(a)(1) states, (interpretation ends) "store designated under the regulations." (interpretation) This does not change the Act. I don't want to support those people who change lives. Therefore, I support this clause 3. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. To the motion. Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to clause 3, I will not support the motion for the reason being that some communities are open or dry or controlled communities. Taloyoak is open and Gjoa Haven is a dry community. There are people who drink responsibly and they have authority to do so.

They said these are coming from the task force. We have to listen to those who are doing well also. So therefore, I will be supporting this motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. I don't have any more names on my list for comments to the motion. I would like to give Mr. Tapardjuk an opportunity to make his last reply to the motion. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to say a small comment. While we're dealing with Bill 64, I would like to ask some more questions later on.

Mr. Chairman, when you're reviewing all of Bill 64, there are some pilot projects that are proposed. It seems obvious that maybe one or two communities will have a pilot project. With this amendment, people can purchase alcohol, have possession, and take it home. Under Bill 65 3(a)(1), that's what it seems to be saying. This is a concern because it was supposed to be reviewed again on whether they're going to sell only beer and wine.

There are concerns that are being brought up on whether dry communities can have access to the beer and wine. There is nothing in this bill. What's going to happen with those communities? I think this wouldn't be a concern if the whole Act was amended. These amendments for the Act are the ones we inherited from the NWT, which hasn't been changed since then. They have stated that they would do the review of the whole Act. Therefore, I am lost because of the agreement that we made as a committee.

Mr. Chairman, at this time, I don't feel that we should deal with this bill. So when you put this to a vote, I would like to have it recorded. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. You were the last one to make comments. The way I understand, you want to have a vote recorded. For that reason, all those who support the motion, please rise and remain standing until I call your name.

Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Curley.

Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Rumbolt.

All those who are against the motion, please stand and remain standing until your name is called.

Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Ms. Ugyuk.

Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Schell.

Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Arreak.

Mr. Shewchuk.

Mr. Taptuna.

Ms. Aariak.

Ms. Ell.

Mr. Kusugak.

Thank you. There were 5 who supported the motion and there are 12 against. Therefore, the motion is defeated.

We will go back. Clause 3. Do you agree? Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, I had a question on this and it was understandable in my preamble, according to the policy, the communities have plebiscites and they have to use this again. If this opens and if it's designated community A or B or C, they will be able to purchase liquor. We are not going to use the old legislation. Will they have an opportunity to hold another plebiscite where the store is going to be? (interpretation ends) Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Curley for the question. Mr. Chairman, there would be no change to the local option. If a community is prohibited, it is prohibited. If it is restricted, it is restricted. If it is open, it is open. I said in my opening comments that we would consult with any community extensively before we move in that direction and there would very likely be consultations with the hamlet councils and community groups. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand that. I think it begs the question, though, what the consultation means. Would it involve another task force to ask these particular communities A or B or C involving some MLAs so

that they are bound by the recommendations of a task force? So my question is: if it's a legal mechanism to consult, would the consultation be in a form of a plebiscite or just by way of official-to-official consultation? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Curley for the question. First of all, there will not be another task force to consult with a community. The consultations or discussions that I'm talking about would be one on one with all of the affected members of a community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Clause 3. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The answer that the minister just gave for some of the other concerns that other members had, you had mentioned that it would be the individual community and stakeholders within the community. What about some of the issues addressed by other members and also by the Mayor of Hall Beach in the sense that if one community that is close decides, will the closer surrounding communities be consulted as well, as they might have a part in this? 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, we would consult with neighbouring communities. Thank you,

Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. We are on clause 3. Clause 3. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Clause 4. Do you agree? Mr. Curley.

**Committee Motion 015 – 3(3):
Deletion of Clause 4 of Bill 64, An
Act to Amend the Liquor Act**

Mr. Curley: Thank you. (interpretation) Mr. Chairman, I have a motion for clause 4, (interpretation ends) that clause 4 of the bill be deleted. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. The motion is in order. I think you remember our rules. I give Mr. Curley an opportunity to speak to his motion. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, however, the minister or those who support the bill indicate that social responsibility should override any possible increase in crimes committed. Alcohol-related increases in law and order enforcement, as well as social problems definitely will increase by having certain purchases of liquor in the prescribed vendors where the government controls alcohol warehouses. It's not an answer for Nunavutmiut.

The bill speaks some ideas that there would be some increased funding for all that stuff, but the government has not at all put forward an action plan on exactly how that's going to work. Without that, you cannot have funded programs,

despite legislation being in front of this Committee of the Whole.

In that regard, I think my colleagues have indicated and a majority of the legislation committee, at least six of us, voted against all these four or five clauses of the bill. I think we should be held accountable for Nunavutmiut that this bill, this clause, regardless of however it is defended, is not a good priority for Nunavutmiut.

Therefore, I urge all of you again to exercise your conscience, not just trying to find a quick solution, and vote in favour of supporting my motion. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Are there any comments to the motion? Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When I took part in consultations in some of the communities in Nunavut, there were all kinds of people, all walks of life here in Nunavut. We were looking for a way to find solutions to the relentless abuse of alcohol.

One particular thing kept coming up. It is either put the bootleggers out of business or curtail it or do something about it. People say that we know who they are, people know who they are, but people are not coming forward with these. They don't want to kill the source at the community level. Many people know exactly who they are.

I believe Bill 64, in its entirety, if you will, is trying to find ways and remedies to make it legal and try and get these bootleggers out of business. In that

regard, yes, I may have stated differently in committee meetings and stuff, so I think I had a chance to make my own independent review and vote in the way that I was elected. People keep saying that these people are selling liquor 24/7. It has a very unforgiving damage, especially in our youth and about their future.

Again, I will support this section of Bill 64. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Are there any more comments to the motion? Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that Bill 64 is only an amendment to the bill and people are having trouble, but we are elected to deal with any issue. If we're going to be worried about the people who drink alcohol and do bad things, we have to give them something to start with in solving this problem. If we're concerned about them as MLAs, we could promote and say that spouses should not abuse each other. We are given some solutions and we're able to discuss it and we appreciate that. Therefore, I will support this motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Are there any more comments to the motion? Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the members for their comments. Mr. Chairman, I would like to provide some clarity here.

The task force, as I said in my opening comments, did a lot of great work and I

appreciate the work they did. They made many recommendations, but the overall theme in their recommendations was to liberalize alcohol in Nunavut, particularly the beer and wine, as I said in my opening comments. They recognize that prohibition has not been working.

We all know of communities in Nunavut, and I have been in several of them, where they are prohibited, yet they have a huge problem with alcohol in a restricted or prohibited community. In fact, we know of one community where it's prohibited, yet the local hamlet council will be trying to pass a nuisance by-law to address the alcohol. Regardless of what we think, the alcohol is out there. It's causing a lot of harm to our communities. So this is an effort, as I said, to liberalize access to alcohol and put focus on beer and wine.

We have learned from the Greenland experience where they had similar huge issues with alcohol in their country. If they open up beer and wine stores and liberalize access to beer and wine stores, the drinking issues are reduced. They are not eliminated, but they are giving their citizens the responsibility to learn to be more responsible.

We're very restrictive and when people want to find alcohol or get alcohol, they will find a way. It's unfortunate there are bootleggers in every community. When I was Minister of Justice, I was at, they call it a scrum, I guess, a media scrum where there was literally a mountain of Smirnoff against a wall that they seized from bootleggers in this community. It was astounding to see the amount of alcohol that the RCMP seized, and then there are all of the smaller bootleggers.

There is a market out there for hard alcohol. We're saying that we can break that market if we liberalize access to beer and wine. That's simply all we're proposing to do it. We wouldn't open up a retail store in a community where the community was against it, absolutely not. I want to allay the concerns of any members who think that the government is going to come along and open up a beer and wine store without local community input and the communities in the surrounding area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Are there any further comments to the motion? I have no more names on my list. Does the mover have a last reply? Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to have this vote be recorded, please. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. There is a request to have a recorded vote. All those in favour of the motion, please rise and remain standing until your name is called.

Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Curley.

All those against the motion, please rise and remain standing until your name is called.

Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Ms. Ugyuk.

Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Schell.

Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Arreak.

Mr. Shewchuk.

Mr. Taptuna.

Ms. Aariak.

Ms. Ell.

Mr. Kusugak.

Thank you. There were five in support of the motion. There were 12 who opposed the motion. The motion is defeated.

Going back. We are on the review of Bill 64, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Act*. Clause 4. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

**Committee Motion 016 – 3(3):
Deletion of Clause 5 of Bill 64, An
Act to Amend the Liquor Act**

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) I move that clause 5 of the bill be deleted. (interpretation ends) Thank you, *Iksivautaaq*.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. The motion is in order. We

are still using the same rules for this motion, so I will not repeat them. Mr. Curley, I will allow you to make your comments to the motion. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, *Iksivautaaq*. (interpretation) The motion that I have is the same. It will liberalize how the alcohol is going to be purchased. Although I understand what the minister is stating, we can't control the people who commit crimes. It seems like we open more opportunities for more negativity for Nunavutmiut, even though we're saying that we need to eradicate violence against women and children due to alcohol consumption. For that reason, we used to have prohibited or restricted communities.

Under clause 5, it seems like it opens more opportunities and it's not going to be supporting the people at the community level. Six members of the standing committee were in support of deleting this clause and they voted according to the wishes of their constituents. For that reason, it would be better for Nunavutmiut if we delete this clause under this bill. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Before I ask if there are any more comments to the motion, I would like to remind you that if you will be speaking to the motion, you should stick to the motion and not go off topic. At this time, are there any more comments to the motion? Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the mover of the motion, my good friend. Sometimes we speak in the House in front of the people who are watching.

Do I have a point of order? Perhaps I can hear too clearly now. I apologize. It was too quiet.

I know that we have authority and power at the local level, whether it be a small community or a larger community. The people at the community level can take care of themselves. I also have stated that myself. I believe that the communities can manage themselves. I am in support of clause 5, in view of the communities' ability, such as Repulse Bay and Kugaaruk. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Are there any comments to the motion? Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank you for the opportunity. Since we're in the spirit of transparency and openness here, when I appeared in front of the standing committee, I was not just representing myself; I represented myself and six colleagues. So there were seven of us there when I was at the table and it is government legislation.

I respect the comments and the votes of the five members who voted to delete in this standing committee, but the fact of the matter is that I didn't concur and I felt it was in the best interest of all of us that we come to the Chamber to have this discussion and debate. I appreciate that we are here today having that conversation.

Mr. Speaker, again I want to assure members that we're hoping that the local option that the community is restricted or prohibited will be respected. It is not a case where the government is going to

come along and open up a beer and wine store. If the community does not wish to have that, then, again, we will not do that.

This area, this whole section here, section 5, is necessary for the government so that we can regulate what we sell. It is an important clause in this whole *Liquor Act*. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Are there any further comments to the motion? Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was against just to amend the *Liquor Act*. There were too many clauses that could have been improved. The government could have come up with new legislation. The task force consulted with the communities of Nunavut. I am sure the members of the task force are not too pleased about this because this legislation is not following the recommendations of the task force.

Mr. Chairman, under clause 5, it designates liquor stores from purchasers. I believe that we need to deal with this and discuss this further. We do have problems. There is home-made alcohol available and it's not even mentioned here. Under clause 5, it designates liquor stores, not homebrew. There are a lot of social problems arising from this. Therefore, I urge the members to support the motion to delete clause 5. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Are there any comments to the motion? Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not going to be in support of this motion because people just don't consume alcohol from the stores, but they also consume homebrew too, which I know is not healthy. Homebrew is not healthy and sometimes they drink methyl alcohol and also hand sanitizers because they crave alcohol so badly. They're not only young people who abuse alcohol; even adults do that in Nunavut. I would like to see less of that occurring. I'll be in support of clause 5. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Are there any more comments to the motion? Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am going to be in support of this motion because in Nunavut, the Department of Justice, and also at the RCMP, we hear that alcohol is the major cause of crimes. In communities that are not prohibited or controlled, there are murders that occur. Alcohol is usually the cause of the murders. It seems like we're providing more opportunities for such crimes to occur.

We see and hear that alcohol is the major cause of crimes. We usually hear that it causes more social problems. We have to think very carefully. If we think very carefully about that, we wouldn't be able to agree with that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Are there any more comments to the motion? I have no more names on my list. Does the mover of the

motion, Mr. Curley, have a last reply?
Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. This motion is self-explanatory and it's not that complex. I move that clause 5 of the bill be deleted. I know that there is a majority who would like to see the sale of alcohol liberalized, but being more liberal does not necessarily mean that it gets better and improves. We get scared of people who commit crimes and when they do something wrong to the children, it becomes very scary. Social workers are overloaded with work.

Even though the minister states that with the bootlegging fines going to the revolving fund and if the bootlegging fines would go to the revolving funds, then they could use the funding for alcohol education, coming from the fines of the people who commit crimes. It becomes evident. Is it going to increase the number of people who have been fined or are we going to increase the number of people who are fined so that they will be getting more money from the fines? I cannot expect to see the funds being used for education. Also, a member from the task force had stated that 50 percent of the people who have been fined for their crimes are unable to pay for their fines. How can we go through with it?

This clause 5 is not in support of Nunavutmiut. I urge all members to support my motion and with a recorded vote, it will be clearly on the record. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. For clarity, are you asking for a recorded vote? Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Yes. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): There's a request for a recorded vote. All those in favour of the motion, please rise and remain standing until your name is called.

Mr. Curley.

Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Ningeongan.

Thank you. All those who oppose the motion, please rise and remain standing until your name has been called.

Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Ms. Ugyuk.

Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Peterson, I'm sorry. Mr. Schell.

Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Arreak.

Mr. Shewchuk.

Mr. Taptuna.

Ms. Aariak.

Ms. Ell.

Mr. Kusugak.

Thank you. There are 4 in support of the motion and 12 opposed. The motion is defeated.

I am sorry, my colleagues. The numbers we had were incorrect. Just to report further, those who were in support of the motion were 5 and 12 opposed. The motion is defeated.

Moving on. We are on Bill 64, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Act*. Clause 5. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Clause 6. Do you agree? Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Committee Motion 017 – 3(3):
Deletion of Clause 6 of Bill 64, An
Act to Amend the Liquor Act**

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that clause 6 of the bill be deleted.

Chairman (interpretation): There's a motion on the floor and the motion is in order. I will allow Mr. Tapardjuk to speak first to the motion.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I cannot really state what I kept saying. Clause 6 increases the amount of alcohol that can be brought home. It increases the allowance of amount of liquor that they can take. Clause 6 increases the number of alcohol that can be brought home with a contravening legislation. I am against this clause and I believe it should not even be here, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Are there any comments

to the motion? Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the opportunity to speak. I know I haven't said anything yet. I'll try to make sure that I don't bring up any points of order, but this is definitely one of the hardest bills to date and it is interesting that it is our last one.

If you listen to all of the comments that have been made so far today, a lot of them do represent what the task force have said in its report in terms how this bill has been one of the bills that have kind of polarized all of the regular members in terms of how do you make a decision on a situation that affects everyone and all of the communities and could potentially cause harm. At the same time, I know that one of the *Tamapta* Mandate words or catchphrases seems to be "self-reliance."

I am proud that I have three communities. In Grise Fiord, it is an open community. I wouldn't say that there are no problems, but I wouldn't say that there are more problems than any other community where they are restricted or whether they are dry. In terms of Resolute Bay and Arctic Bay, both are restricted. This amendment will not change it and I think that is one of the things that really needs to be made clear.

Regardless of how your community is set up, with Resolute Bay and Arctic Bay being restricted, they would still require permission to bring alcohol into those communities, so it's not an increase. I figured clause 6, for me, was one of the ones. What do we do? Do we increase the amount that can be brought in or not? I think that was one of most contentious one.

I have a lot of faith in my constituents that I represent and I believe in them to make the best decisions for their lives. I do find it funny sometimes that a lot of members who do talk about being repressed by others and not treated like adults or equals want to try to do the same to other people.

I think one of the things makes this decision or makes this bill so hard in terms of deciding what to make as a vote is that a lot of people say, "The elephant in the room," which is, "What do we do?" We have a choice to do nothing, erase all the clauses in the bill, and then nothing happens. There are no changes and it is status quo. So at that point, we have no way of gauging whether things will get better or whether they will get worse. I have seen it a lot.

I have mentioned many times about the splitting of the Department of Health and Social Services. To people not involved in the departments, people in the communities, it's easy to say, "We will just split the Department of Health and Social Services," but it's a huge task to do that. The point I'm making is that sometimes governments, MLAs, regular members, and caucus members have to make bold choices and hard choices. I guess this is probably one of the hardest decisions I know I've had to make. I find it interesting and again, maybe this is part of the reason we, as a standing committee, are polarized in our decisions of the ways people are going to vote.

At the same time, in seeking input from the communities, we did not get a lot of input back. Letters were written out to every hamlet office and one hamlet replied. You could say, "Well, maybe people didn't see it. Maybe people didn't

apply.” But I think maybe that speaks to the reason. We’re forced to make this decision. It’s before us. We can’t not reply and I think, for a lot of people, a lot of people have not replied because what do you do? What are the decisions? Do you increase things? Do you decrease things? Are we going to cause harm?

I’m speaking to the motion in the sense that do we increase the amount of spirits and wines going to the community or do we decrease them. At the end of the day, like other members have said, I think everyone has to vote with their conscience and has to vote with their community.

As I mentioned earlier, with representing three communities, it is hard sometimes coming up with one way of going, but at the same time, I can’t see in terms of Grise Fiord has the responsibility of how they do handle alcohol already. They’re doing fine. As for Resolute Bay and Arctic Bay, this particular motion No. 6 doesn’t change anything in the way of alcohol being brought into the community. So I will be voting against this motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Before I ask for further comments to the motion, I would like to remind members for the last time that when you speak to the motion, please try and stick to the motion. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): I wanted to state that I will not be supporting the motion. Thank you.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Definitely, I think, at the same time, we cannot get away from the total intent of the bill as it is presented by the minister. One thing for sure is that the size, large or small, is really not so much of an issue whether or not how much can be taken by the purchaser from the vendor and so on. That’s really just manipulating, not necessarily decreasing the amount of consumption or whatever. Eventually, it will lead to one thing.

I know that the government is well aware that the leading cause of the crimes committed or the court cases that increase the whole cases of the law and order system are alcohol-related. I was amazed this summer that even a territorial judge indicated that Nunavut is really not geared towards having various programs or whatnot to address social problems that affect people with crimes that cause them to go to the court case, and so on.

What we’re doing on the last day of the Third Assembly now is trying to increase the amount of supply of alcohol and liberalizing so that there appears to be seen the freedom of choice accorded to individuals, but freedom of choice is allowing them to have more increase in violence, family problems, and law and order infractions related to alcohol. It is not one that we should be dealing with on the last day of this Assembly.

Nunavutmiut deserve better representation by MLAs. Increasing the amount of liquor available to them that they have been restricted to purchase, increasing them to particular sizes, increasing the supplies, and liberalizing are not going to solve our social

problems. It increases court caseloads in Nunavut. It's not going to limit them.

It is shameful that we have to vote as such, but I again urge the members to comply with the directions from the Standing Committee on Legislation that defeated all of these five motions. It is a shame that the minister does not respect the wishes of the standing committee when they voted to defeat the minister's bill.

Mr. Chairman, again I will be in support of the motion and thereby, I urge all of my colleagues to do the same. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Are there any more comments to the motion? I have no more names on my list. The mover of the motion, Mr. Tapardjuk, if you have a last reply, you can proceed. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that there are going to be more spirits, beer, and wine available. There are going to be more problems with that. We all know that there are a lot of spousal assaults and children not being looked after because of alcohol consumption in a family. People escape to shelters because of people who consume alcohol that usually become violent. What we're trying to do is protect the families to stay together, but with more alcohol consumption, that is not going to happen.

It just seems like Bill 64 is giving more freedom to the people to buy those spirits, beer, and wine. What we should be doing is making the lives of families better and to love each other without

alcohol consumption. For that reason, what I'm trying to say is to defeat Bill 64 so that the people that we represent can have a better life. I'm not really sure exactly what we're doing with them.

I would like to also have a recorded vote on the motion concerning clause 6. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. As the Chair, do I understand that you are asking for a vote? Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. There is a request for a recorded vote. All those in favour of the motion, please rise and remain standing until your name is called.

Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Curley.

Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Rumbolt.

Thank you. All those opposed to the motion, please rise and remain standing until your name is called.

Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Ms. Ugyuk.

Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Schell.

Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Arreak.

Mr. Shewchuk.

Mr. Taptuna.

Ms. Aariak.

Ms. Ell.

Mr. Kusugak.

Thank you. There were 5 in favour of the motion and 12 opposed. The motion is defeated.

Continuing on. We are on Bill 64, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Act*. Clause 6. Do you agree? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have one quick question. Clause 6 deals with the increase in the amounts of alcohol permitted to be imported. I'm just wondering what rationale was used to come up with the amount of increase of alcohol for the imports. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for the question. Mr. Chairman, the reason for these amounts is Nunavut is aligning itself with amounts that are in other jurisdictions, other provinces and territories. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, for clause 6, in terms of the increase, how will the government regulate this? 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, these amounts are what is allowed with or without a permit. Now, if people are going to live in a restricted community or prohibited community, then they will have to deal with their alcohol education committees and respect the local controls. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thanks for that clarification. In terms of whether it's a community that's restricted or not, but say, for example, if you're living in Iqaluit, which there are no restrictions, and someone goes off on a holiday, they can now go down to Ottawa or pick up something from LCBO and bring it back as long as it doesn't go over the amounts specified and they're not required to get a permit. 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. Mr. Chairman, that is correct. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And that's including individuals who are going on medical travel as well? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

>>*Laughter*

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not sure what Mr. Elliott's driving at, but these are the amounts that you can bring into Nunavut without a permit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think what I'm trying to get at, if the minister has not picked up on it, is one of the things that we're trying to do with the bill is liberalize. I think one of the things that seems to be known, at least other members have brought it out, is that sometimes it is medical travel patients who bring back and sell bootlegged beer. I was just concerned about it. If we're increasing it, are there mechanisms that his department is going to put into place to sort of ensure that that does not happen or will not continue to happen? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate Mr. Elliott's concerns, but I'm here as the Minister of

Finance, not as the Minister of Health. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I have a question. Obviously, in some parts, I could see where it's possible to transport liquor wherever it has been, whether it be legally bought with the amounts prescribed in this legislation. In some parts of the region, individuals will be able to legally buy the amount that's accorded to them, but they will also be able to transport it themselves to the community, not by way of aircraft or whatever. So in that case, they bought it legally, but once they arrive at a particular destination which is a dry community, it then becomes illegal.

The minister knows very well that he's going to have to address the issue of bootlegging. There will be individuals because any buyer will not have to be from a particular community. Any citizen in Nunavut is going to be able to buy caseloads of beer and wine within the prescribed amounts that they are legally able to, but once they transport it, whether it be through the boat or through snowmobile, it becomes illegal.

Is the minister prepared to address or even try and provide educational services rather than just leaving it to the groups or alcohol committees, to that effect? They're going to be responsible for increasing not only alcohol, but it's going to increase the amount of legal transactions, including bootlegging. Are you prepared to do some educational programs over and above what you call education to liberalize liquor sales and consumption in Nunavut? Thank you.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I have indicated in previous answers, the individuals are limited by the restrictions in their communities. They have to deal with the alcohol education committees if they're prohibited or restricted communities.

If they're hauling a qamutik full of beer, 40 flats, or cases of wine across the tundra into the community to sell or bootleg in the community, then they would be committing a crime if they're going into a prohibited community or a restricted community without a permit and they will have to deal with the RCMP, who, I'm sure, would be more than happy to apprehend them.

With respect to education, that is what we will be doing through the social responsibility campaign. We would be using funds from the revolving fund to educate people about the dangers of alcohol and the responsible use of alcohol wherever they live in Nunavut, whether it's a restricted community or a prohibited community or a wet community. We know that even people in prohibited communities or restricted communities have access to bootleg alcohol, but they often travel to other communities or down south.

It's good to know what the dangers of alcohol are if you consume too much or if you're binge drinking or if you're an expectant mother. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. We will go back. Clause 6. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Does the committee agree to Bill 64 as a whole? Mr. Schell.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to make a brief comment on being on the liquor task force and also being an MLA.

I appreciated it when Mr. Peterson asked me to be on the task force. I did enjoy the consultations that we did with the communities that I made it to. Being an MLA and being on the cabinet for a brief period of time has actually put me in a rather awkward position with Bill 64.

Hindsight being worth a lot of money, if I had my time back, I probably wouldn't have joined the task force. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>*Laughter*

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Schell. I will, though, on behalf of all members, thank you for your time spent with the committee. It's noted.

(interpretation) Do you agree to Bill 64 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Does the committee agree that pursuant to Rule 62(2) that Bill 64 is ready for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson, if you have any closing remarks, you may proceed.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank you and your committee for your excellent scrutiny and questions on Bill 64. It has been a very challenging bill, as Mr. Schell has told us. I appreciate the task force, who did go to every community. I made that commitment years ago that the task force would visit every community. I appreciate Mr. Ningark and Mr. Schell for their time. I know it was very stressful. In some communities, it took them five or six attempts to get in, but they were able to do it.

I appreciate the recommendations in the task force report, the overall theme being liberalization of alcohol. We're going to take a cautious, moderate approach to that and implement their recommendations over time. It is an important first step that we are doing this: liberalizing alcohol, particularly beer and wine.

As we have seen over the years, we all know that prohibition and restrictions haven't worked all that well. We hear all kinds of horror stories in the media and in our communities. Some of these prohibitions and restrictions are forcing people into the hands of bootleggers. That's just unacceptable. The next government will consult with all communities as we move forward on this bill. We have to do something about eliminating binge drinking.

I would like to thank our justice drafter, Thomas Ahlfors, in the Gallery over

there. I would like to thank my finance policy folks, particularly Andrea Witzaney-Chown. They did tremendous work on this. I would like to thank my Deputy Minister of Finance, Chris D'Arcy, for his leadership and guidance in getting us to this process today.

With that, Mr. Chairman, thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. (interpretation) As we proceed, Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses out.

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

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just before we came here to the committee this morning, Mr. Quirke told me that I'll be able to say the final prayer. I don't want it to be the last prayer that I will be making because I want to live again tomorrow.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Chairman, at the last sitting of the Assembly, (interpretation ends) at this time, I move a motion to report progress. (interpretation) Thank you.

>> *Laughter*

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

Speaker: *Qujannamiik*, Sergeant-at-Arms. Moving on in our orders of the

day. Item 19. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Enook.

Item 19: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 64 and would like to report that Bill 64 is now ready for third reading. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you.

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

Moving on in our orders of the day. Item 20. Third Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Item 20: Third Reading of Bills

Bill 64 – An Act to Amend the Liquor Act – Third Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South-Whale Cove, that Bill 64, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Act*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Peterson. The motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I ask for a recorded vote, please, on this bill. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. The motion is in order and a recorded vote has been requested. I will ask all members in favour of the motion to please rise and then stay standing until your name is called. All those in favour of the motion, please rise.

Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Ms. Ugyuk.

Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Enook.

Mr. Schell.

Minister Arreak.

Minister Shewchuk.

Minister Taptuna.

Madam Premier.

Minister Ell.

Minister Kusugak.

Minister Peterson.

All those opposed to the motion, please rise and stay standing until your name is called.

Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Tapardjuk.

Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Curley.

The results of the motion are 13 in favour and 5 opposed. The motion is carried. Bill 64, as such, has been read for the third time and is now ready for assent.

Item 21 in the *Orders of the Day*. Before we proceed any further, Mr. Clerk, will you ascertain if the Commissioner of Nunavut is prepared to enter the Chambers to give assent to bills.

Assent to Bills

Commissioner Edna Elias

(interpretation): Members of the Legislative Assembly, please be seated.

As Commissioner of Nunavut, I am honoured to give assent to the following bills:

- Bill 32, *An Act to Amend the Legal Services Act*;
- Bill 40, *Representative for Children and Youth Act*;
- Bill 58, *Public Service Act*;
- Bill 64, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Act*;
- Bill 66, *Plebiscites Act*;
- Bill 68, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2013-2014*; and
- Bill 69, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 2, 2013-2014*.

As you can see, I am here and I have many things to say, even though I'm probably behind.

As the seasons change and it's getting colder, I am honoured to be with you today on the occasion of the final sitting of the Third Legislative Assembly of Nunavut.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your service to Nunavummiut.

This Assembly and government worked towards the implementation of *Tamapta* and the many Acts created here in the House, building a sustainable Nunavut and keeping up with the rapid population growth and demands.

Some will be ongoing challenges for the incoming Assembly, not to mention the impacts of resource development on communities and for the mining and oil and gas exploration.

Every time I watch TV, I notice that every one of you has worked hard towards the betterment of Nunavut. For the next Assembly, I'm sure it will be the same again.

For those members who will not be seeking re-election, please accept my best wishes as you move on to a new chapter in your lives, as you go hunting, and when you have your lives out there.

As members are aware, a Proclamation of Election was issued on November 1 of last year.

The Third Legislative Assembly will dissolve on September 22, 2013.

The issuing of writs of election will take place on September 23, 2013.

The Fourth General Election will be held on October 28, 2013.

The date for the return of the writ shall be November 4, 2013.

The first sitting of the Fourth Legislative Assembly will be held on a date to be announced. I look forward to delivering the Opening Address at that time.

As Commissioner of Nunavut, I hereby prorogue the Third Session of the Third Legislative Assembly of Nunavut.

Even though I'm being left waiting watching TV and even though we get behind sometimes, today, for those who did closing remarks and for those who are not running again to talk about all of those things that you have said, I know you will be sitting against each other there.

(interpretation ends) That was my closing joke to you because I don't get the pleasure of throwing the documents in the air, but I thought I would put a whole bunch of blank papers in there so that you would think, "Oh no. We've got to sit through all those pages."

Anyway, it has been my pleasure to open your third sitting and again it has been my pleasure to prorogue this session. I wish each and every one of you a very safe journey home. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Members. Before we conclude our final sitting of the Third Legislative Assembly, I am pleased to

take this opportunity to make a brief statement.

It has been my honour to serve as your Speaker for the last two years. The trust and confidence that the House has placed in me has been deeply gratifying. I would like to thank all members for their cooperation in ensuring the smoothness of our proceedings.

As members are aware, I've had the honour and privilege of serving the residents of Iqaluit Centre in this House since April 1, 1999. Having sat on both the left and the right of this chair, I can say with confidence that I have experienced the satisfactions and frustrations of asking and answering questions.

Although it can sometimes seem like progress in government is slow, it is important for us to keep things in perspective. As this House will recall, we took our oath of office and allegiance in the fall of 2008. Since that time, the Third Legislative Assembly has held over 160 formal sitting days. A total of 127 bills have been introduced, considered, and passed by this Assembly, including the first two private members' bills to have been introduced since the establishment of our legislature.

Over the past five years, members on both sides of the House have been extremely active. Over 600 formal Ministers' Statements have been delivered. Over 1,000 formal Members' Statements have been made. Approximately 1,500 oral questions have been asked and over 50 written questions have been posed. Now, some

of those questions have received answers...

>>*Laughter*

...while others have received what may best be described as responses.

>>*Laughter*

More than 110 formal motions have been introduced and considered, and over 700 documents have been tabled for the benefit of the permanent public record.

As we prepare for the dissolution of the current Legislative Assembly, it is time for reflection.

Some of you have announced that you will again be seeking the confidence of your constituents.

Some of you have announced that you will be retiring from office and pursuing new directions.

Others of you are leaving us in suspense.

Regardless of what your immediate futures may hold, you and your families have my best wishes.

Before I conclude today, I would like to take this opportunity to publicly and sincerely thank our staff at the Legislative Assembly, not only the table officers in here, but research staff and all the technical people who keep this place operational, a lot of hard work and dedication that they have put in for the smooth operation of this Assembly, and we thank them very much. Also, our interpreters, I thank you guys very much. You have been my ears and my voice,

and I appreciate that, and also our pages for their hard work throughout the life of this Legislative Assembly.

I would also like to say a special thank you to Simanek Kilabuk, our Sergeant-at-Arms.

Without their efforts, we could not do our jobs.

As I mentioned earlier, it has truly been an honour and a privilege to have had the confidence and trust of the constituents of Iqaluit Centre for the last 14 years. I am proud that I have been the only representative who has and will be the only representative that my riding of Iqaluit Centre has had. I would like to note that today is the last day that I will sit in this House as the representative for Iqaluit Centre.

Over the last 14 years, I cannot begin to mention all of the names of individuals who have helped and supported me. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank every single one of you. I remember you all, and you know who you are. Again, thank you very much and I truly value your support.

As members and the residents of Iqaluit are aware, my riding of Iqaluit Centre will be no more. In the upcoming election, your capital city of Iqaluit will have four new ridings replacing the old three. Given this fact, I will have a tough decision to make in the upcoming election. At the appropriate time, which will be September 27, upon the close of nominations, my decision will be made public.

With that, colleagues, I'll say that I'm relieved that we're complete. You have

seen me over the last session. I'm now going to be requiring less Tylenol, which is going to be good.

Colleagues, this House stands adjourned.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*Applause*

>>*House adjourned at 17:29*

