



**Nunavut Canada**

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT**

**1st Session**

**4th Assembly**

**HANSARD**

Official Report

**DAY 4**

**Monday, March 10, 2014**

**Pages 110 – 164**

**Iqaluit**

**Speaker: The Honourable George Qulaut, M.L.A.**

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

### *Speaker*

**Hon. George Qulaut**  
(Amittuq)

**Tony Akoak**  
(Gjoa Haven)  
*Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole*

**Steve Mapsalak**  
(Aivilik)

**Allan Rumbolt**  
(Hudson Bay)

**Hon. Johnny Mike**  
(Pangnirtung)  
*Minister of Environment*

**Alexander Sammurtok**  
(Rankin Inlet South)

**Pat Angnakak**  
(Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu)

**Simeon Mikkungwak**  
(Baker Lake)

**Hon. Tom Sammurtok**  
(Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet)

**Hon. Monica Ell**  
(Iqaluit-Manirajak)  
*Deputy Premier; Minister of Health*

*Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole*

*Minister of Community and Government Services*

**Joe Enook**  
(Tununiq)

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

**Samuel Nuqingaq**  
(Uqqummiut)

**Joe Savikataaq**  
(Arviat South)

**Hon. Paul Okalik**  
(Iqaluit-Sinaa)

*Minister of Culture and Heritage; Minister of Justice; Minister of Languages; Minister responsible for Immigration; Minister responsible for Labour; Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation*

**Isaac Shooyook**  
(Quttiktuq)

**George Hickes**  
(Iqaluit-Tasiluk)

**Hon. Peter Taptuna**  
(Kugluktuk)

*Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs; Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council*

**David Joanasié**  
(South Baffin)

**Hon. Keith Peterson**  
(Cambridge Bay)

*Minister of Finance, Chair of the Financial Management Board; Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission*

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk**  
(Netsilik)

*Government House Leader; Minister of Family Services; Minister responsible for Homelessness; Minister responsible for the Status of Women*

**Hon. George Kuksuk**  
(Arviat North-Whale Cove)  
*Minister of Economic Development and Transportation; Minister of Energy; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation*

**Hon. Paul Quassa**  
(Aggu)

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

### *Officers*

Clerk

John Quirke

Deputy Clerk  
Nancy Tupik

Clerk Assistant  
Stephen Innuksuk

Law Clerk  
Michael Chandler

Sergeant-at-Arms  
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](http://www.assembly.nu.ca)*

## Table of Contents

Opening Prayer.....	110
Ministers' Statements .....	110
Members' Statements .....	113
Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.....	118
Oral Questions.....	119
Written Questions.....	134
Tabling of Documents.....	135
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters .....	136
Report of the Committee of the Whole .....	163
Orders of the Day .....	163

**A.**

**Daily References**

Monday, March 10, 2014 ..... 110

**B.**

**Ministers' Statements**

010 – 4(1): Minister Absent from House (Ugyuk) ..... 110  
011 – 4(1): Leah Otak (Quassa) ..... 110  
012 – 4(1): Plan to Return Home Safely (Sammurtok) ..... 111  
013 – 4(1): Social Workers' Month (Ugyuk) ..... 111  
014 – 4(1): Early Childhood Cultural and IT Resources (Quassa)..... 112

**C.**

**Members' Statements**

045 – 4(1): Senior Fuel Subsidy Program (Mikkungwak) ..... 113  
046 – 4(1): Battling Bootleggers (Savikataaq) ..... 114  
047 – 4(1): Supporting a Diverse Community (Hickes)..... 115  
048 – 4(1): Congratulations to Tommy Akavak (Joanasie) ..... 115  
049 – 4(1): Grise Fiord Water Supply (Shooyook) ..... 116  
050 – 4(1): Support for Homeless Shelter Project in Gjoa Haven (Akoak) ..... 116  
051 – 4(1): The Ilisqsiq Society of Clyde River (Ugyuk) ..... 117

**D.**

**Oral Questions**

024 – 4(1): The Need for a Boarding Home in Rankin Inlet (Sammurtok) ..... 119  
025 – 4(1): Passport Photographs (Joanasie)..... 120  
026 – 4(1): Grise Fiord Water Supply (Shooyook) ..... 121

027 – 4(1): Implementation of the Public Service Act (Angnakak).....	122
028 – 4(1): Implementation of Amendments to the Liquor Act (Hickes) .....	124
029 – 4(1): Interpretation Services for Medical Travel Clients (Rumbolt) .....	126
030 – 4(1): Anti-bootlegging Initiatives (Savikataaq).....	126
031 – 4(1): Anti-homelessness Initiatives (Akoak).....	128
032 – 4(1): Senior Fuel Subsidy Program (Mikkungwak) .....	129
033 – 4(1): Incorporating Inuit Societal Values into Child and Family Services Legislation (Enook) .....	131
034 – 4(1): Escorts for Clients Travelling for Surgery (Mapsalak).....	133

**E.**

**Written Questions**

001 – 4(1): Salary Disclosure for the Senior Public Service (Enook).....	134
002 – 4(1): Enforcement of the Liquor Act (Savikataaq).....	135

**F.**

**Tabling of Documents**

014 – 4(1): Federal/Provincial/Territorial Meeting of Ministers of Local Government, July 2013 (Sammurtok) .....	135
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----

**G.**

**Bills**

Bill 02 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2014-2015 – Economic Development and Transportation – Consideration in Committee .....	136
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----

**Iqaluit, Nunavut  
Monday, March 10, 2014**

**Members Present:**

Mr. Tony Akoak, Ms. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Monica Ell, Mr. Joe Enook, Mr. George Hickes, Mr. David Joanasié, Hon. George Kuksuk, Mr. Steve Mapsalak, Mr. Simeon Mikkungwak, Hon. Paul Okalik, Hon. Keith Peterson, Hon. Paul Quassa, Hon. George Qulaut, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Mr. Alexander Sammurtoq, Hon. Tom Sammurtoq, Mr. Joe Savikataaq, Mr. Isaac Shooyook, Hon. Peter Taptuna, Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk.

>>House commenced at 13:29

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Speaker** (Hon. George Qulaut) (interpretation): Mr. Quassa, can you say the opening prayer, please. Mr. Quassa.

>>Prayer

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. We will go to the orders of the day. No. 2. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Ms. Ugyuk.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements****Minister's Statement 010 – 4(1):  
Minister Absent from House**

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to inform my colleagues that the Member for Pangnirtung, the Hon. Johnny Mike, is not going to be in attendance today. One of his relatives has passed away and that's why he's not going to be able to come to this session today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. I have no more names on my list. We will go to Item 3. Members' Statements. Oh, my apologies. Let us go back to Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Member for Aggu, Mr. Quassa.

**Minister's Statement 011 – 4(1): Leah Otak**

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is with sadness today that I rise in this House to acknowledge the loss of a long-time and valued employee of Nunavut Arctic College, Leah Otak. Mr. Speaker, Leah passed away on Friday, March 7, 2014.

Leah Aksaajuq Otak's entire working life was one of dedicated service to her people, and over her long career, she served in numerous ways. She began as an Inuktitut broadcaster in the early days of CBC North, medical interpreter, administrator, and scientific field coordinator.

For the last 20 years, she was a historian caring for Igloodik's extensive archives of Inuit elders' interviews. In addition, she was editor and translator of several children's books. Aksaajuq cared deeply about Inuit language and culture. She was especially respected for her expertise in Inuktitut, always trying to keep our language alive.

Her vast knowledge of traditional Inuit clothing and skin preparation was internationally recognized through the key roles she played in the success of arctic clothing expeditions at the British Museum in London, England, and at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC.

Mr. Speaker, my sincerest condolences go out to Leah's family, past co-workers, friends, and colleagues, and they will be in our thoughts and prayers on this day. Also, the Member for Amittuq worked with Leah. I encourage everyone to remember this fine woman, and I stand today to speak with reverence about her. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. These two individuals recently mentioned will be in our thoughts and I hope we do, as we were asked to remember.

Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Member, Mr. Sammurtok.

#### **Minister's Statement 012 – 4(1): Plan to Return Home Safely**

**Hon. Tom Sammurtok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What we will be talking about today is an encouragement and a reminder. I will read them in English at first and then proceed in Inuktitut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, it is that time of year again when many people head out on the land for hunting and recreational activities. The Government of Nunavut would like to remind all Nunavummiut to take these safety precautions before travelling on the land:

- Never travel without an emergency communications device. Sign out a free SPOT device at your hamlet or local search and rescue office;

- Tell family and friends where you are going and when you will return;
- Prepare for 72 hours on the land. Bring extra fuel, food, clothing, and equipment, even on day trips.

If you get lost, stranded, or have an emergency while on the land, remember to:

- Stay with your equipment and your travel companion;
- Press "Help" on your SPOT device if you are stranded or lost; or
- Press "911" on your SPOT device in the event of a serious emergency.

(interpretation) Being prepared can save your life. Plan to return home safely when travelling on the land this winter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ministers' Statements. The Hon. Member for Netsilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

#### **Minister's Statement 013 – 4(1): Social Workers' Month**

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk** (interpretation) Thank you Mr. Speaker. March is National Social Work Month, an opportunity to recognize the many contributions social workers make to society.

Social workers are motivated by their desire to help others and by the social vision that values well-being for all. This year, the Canadian Association of Social Workers is celebrating under the theme "Social Workers Providing Equality for a Stronger Canada."

Mr. Speaker, equality of opportunity strengthens individuals, families, and communities. Access to education and training improves equality of opportunity to grow and develop as individuals and members of society.

In my role as Minister of Family Services, but particularly as a former community social services worker, I am honoured to have this opportunity to acknowledge and to thank our social workers, my former colleagues. They are first responders in times of crisis, and we value their commitment and dedication to serving Nunavummiut in their times of need. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Member for Aggu, Mr. Quassa.

**Minister's Statement 014 – 4(1): Early Childhood Cultural and IT Resources**

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To improve education outcomes, it is important to provide resources and culturally relevant learning opportunities to our youngest learners.

We want to help our youngest citizens develop good learning skills by providing early childhood programs and activities that support Inuit language and culture and give them the tools they need to succeed in the school environment.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, a partnership with Culture and Heritage allows us to use 2013-14 funds to

purchase more resources to provide our young learners with culturally relevant learning opportunities. These resources will encourage play-based learning that reflects Nunavut's unique environment and traditions.

We are investing in new resources, which include flashcards featuring arctic animals and clothing for learning colours and letters, an arctic animal memory game, and an Inuit art colouring book.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, the new resources will be distributed to all licensed daycares and kindergarten classrooms in Nunavut. This project is an important part of our Literacy for Life Initiative to increase the literacy levels of Nunavummiut at all ages.

Also, to help all licensed child care organizations operate more efficiently, we have purchased computers and printers for their offices. This equipment will help the facilities update policies and procedures, keep track of finances more easily, and provide clearer reports to our offices.

Mr. Speaker, culturally relevant learning resources will help early childhood educators and parents give our youngest learners the tools they need to develop strong literacy skills so that they will always enjoy learning. That is what I had to announce. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Members' Statements. (interpretation ends) Member for Qamani'tuaq, Mr. Mikkungwak.



### Item 3: Members' Statements

#### Member's Statement 045 – 4(1): Senior Fuel Subsidy Program

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address the need for enhancements to the government's Senior Fuel Subsidy Program, which is currently administered by the (interpretation ends) Department of Family Services.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, when the government recently announced that the price of fuel would be increasing across the territory, it publicly encouraged residents to, and I quote, "take advantage of programs offered by the Government of Nunavut, such as the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program to assist elders with home heating costs."

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, a number of my constituents who are elders followed the government's advice and applied for assistance under this program. However, Mr. Speaker, I believe that the program's current income threshold eligibility criteria should be updated and increased, as a number of applications have been denied due to the applicants' declared income.

Mr. Speaker, one of the priorities in the current business plan of the Department of Family Services is to, and I quote, "secure resources to complete a comprehensive review of the government's income assistance programs, including the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program." *Uqaqtitsijii*, I strongly encourage the Minister of Family Services and her department to review the issue of the program's

income threshold eligibility criteria as part of this review.

*Uqaqtitsijii*, we often hear that the government does not have sufficient resources with which to increase spending on programs and services.

Mr. Speaker, I seek to conclude my statement.

**Speaker:** The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. You may proceed, Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

(interpretation ends) In this case, however, there clearly appears to be room to increase the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program's income threshold provisions without requiring a budget increase.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, for the past several years, the department's budget for the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program has not fully been spent. For example, the budget for the program in the 2011-12 fiscal year was \$478,000. However, the department only spent \$230,471 from this budget. Almost a (interpretation ends) quarter of a million dollars went unspent.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, increasing the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program's income threshold provisions would allow more residents to successfully apply for assistance under the program, and it wouldn't cost the government any (interpretation ends) more than it currently budgets for the program.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I will have questions for the (interpretation ends) Minister of Family Services (interpretation) on this issue at the appropriate time. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Arviat South, Mr. Savikataaq.

**Member's Statement 046 – 4(1):  
Battling Bootleggers**

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address the need for strong action against bootleggers in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, in November of 2012, the Final Report of the Nunavut *Liquor Act* Review Task Force was tabled in the Legislative Assembly. This report was the product of extensive community consultations and contained a number of important findings and recommendations.

Mr. Speaker, one of the most disturbing findings of the task force concerned the extent to which bootlegging has infected our communities. The report noted, and I quote, "The Nunavut Liquor Commission estimates that approximately 50% of the spirits sold by the Commission are resold illegally. This represents approximately 33,500 1.140ml bottles of hard liquor. At an average bootleg-price of \$300 per bottle, the economic value of bootlegging in Nunavut is in excess of \$10,000,000 per year."

Mr. Speaker, although these figures are very disturbing, they are not surprising. All of us are very aware of the way in

which bootleggers operate in our communities, and all of us are very aware of the frustrations that law enforcement authorities and regular citizens face in trying to shut down their operations.

Mr. Speaker, although I recognize that the fines for offences under the *Liquor Act* have been increased in recent years, harsher penalties for bootleggers are required and law enforcement authorities must have the tools in which to effectively combat bootleggers.

Mr. Speaker, one of the key recommendations in the final report of the task force was that the government should, and I quote, "strengthen search and seizure provisions under the Act and introduce strong civil forfeiture legislation."

The report of the task force noted that, and I quote, "Today, in Canada, seven provinces have civil forfeiture legislation. The Government of Nunavut's Department of Justice made a presentation to the Task Force on its interest in civil forfeiture legislation and programs."

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

**Speaker:** The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. You may proceed, Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

To continue, "The Task Force supports the Department of Justice in this matter and recommends the urgent introduction

of strong civil forfeiture legislation as a critical tool to fight the unlawful possession and illegal sale of alcohol, among other objectives.”

Mr. Speaker, in its official response to the report of the task force, the government indicated that, and I quote, “The GN acknowledges that in order to end bootlegging, the proceeds and the property used in the commission of crime must be confiscated, and the GN will continue exploring the possibility of introducing civil forfeiture legislation that will further deter bootleggers.”

Mr. Speaker, the time to explore this issue has ended and the time to take action has begun.

Mr. Speaker, I will have questions on this issue later today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, Mr. Hickes.

**Member’s Statement 047 – 4(1):  
Supporting a Diverse Community**

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As elected Members of this Assembly, one privilege and responsibility we have is to give a public voice to issues that concern our constituents.

Mr. Speaker, in the past week, there have been some controversial statements made around this community about discrimination.

One of the things that I think we really need to do is celebrate our individuality and keep an open heart to all people regardless of different beliefs and lifestyles.

**An Hon. Member:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Hickes:** Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride today that I wear this rainbow-coloured tie in support of some of the controversy that is going around this community. I look forward to standing up in this House and defending all rights of our populace. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members’ Statements. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Joanasié.

**Member’s Statement 048 – 4(1):  
Congratulations to Tommy  
Akavak**

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, my colleagues, the people of Cape Dorset, Kimmirut, and Nunavut, as well as the listening audience in Nunavut.

I rise today to recognize and share in celebrating one of my constituents in Kimmirut. Mr. Tommy Akavak has been a long-term employee of the Nunavut government, having been employed for a period of over 30 years, and will be presented with the Long Service Award later on this evening. This award is in recognition of his services for the Katannilik Territorial Park.

I want everyone to know that I take great pride in his accomplishments, although he was one of the candidates for the riding. However, in representing the riding, I can now recognize and share in congratulating him on his accomplishments. Mr. Speaker, that is

all I have to make a statement on. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Shooyook.

**Member's Statement 049 – 4(1): Grise Fiord Water Supply**

**Mr. Shooyook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would like to say "good day" to Arctic Bay and Resolute Bay. Mr. Speaker, my Member's Statement today will focus on the issue of Grise Fiord's water supply.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, the Inuktitut name for Grise Fiord is *Ausuittuq*, which can be translated to mean "the place that never melts."

However, just a few years ago, the magazine *Canadian Geographic* brought national attention to the issues facing the community as a result of climate change. The article in the magazine indicated that "The glacier is Grise Fiord's main water supply. Fragmentation is accelerating its retreat into the hills. Last summer, the runoff didn't fill the reservoir. In spring, when the hamlet ran out of water, officials dispatched a front-end loader to chip off chunks of an iceberg just offshore."

Mr. Speaker, Grise Fiord's integrated community infrastructure sustainability plan was completed in 2011. I was given concerns about the shortage of water tanks to provide adequate quantities of water.

Mr. Speaker, I will have questions for the Minister of Community and Government Services on this issue at the appropriate time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Gjoa Haven, Mr. Tony Akoak.

**Member's Statement 050 – 4(1): Support for Homeless Shelter Project in Gjoa Haven**

**Mr. Akoak**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my support for an initiative in Gjoa Haven to address homelessness.

Mr. Speaker, as you will recall, I indicated in my first Member's Statement that the issue of housing would be one of my top priorities as the MLA for Gjoa Haven.

As of last month, approximately 50 families in Gjoa Haven are on the waiting list for housing.

Mr. Speaker, Gjoa Haven is one of many Nunavut communities that lack a shelter for homeless residents. As a result of this need, the local housing association is looking into renovating an abandoned home for the purpose of converting it into a homeless shelter. The association is hopeful that the Nunavut Housing Corporation will purchase the unit and transfer management responsibility to the association.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support such community-driven initiatives to address homelessness, and I strongly encourage our government and the federal Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation to

work with the local housing authority to ensure that it obtains the necessary resources to accomplish this project.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, our government announced that it would be undertaking a “point-in-time homeless count.” This initiative is intended to obtain information that the government can use to develop programs to address homelessness.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in expressing support for the efforts of my constituents in Gjoa Haven to address homelessness. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members’ Statements. Member for Netsilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Member’s Statement 051 – 4(1): The Ilisaqsivik Society of Clyde River**

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say “good day” to the people of Netsilik.

Mr. Speaker, I want to express my gratitude to several communities, as some communities create initiatives around social services to provide assistance to their fellow residents.

The community of Clyde River is one community I wish to thank for their social issues training program which is administered by the Ilisaqsivik Society. This society was created in 2007. The training program is conducted entirely in Inuktitut, using materials written in Inuktitut, which is used to train people in the Qikiqtaaluk region.

Within the past two weeks, they have held training sessions for over 20 participants who graduated from this program. I am very grateful that the society is focused on social issues and training residents, especially in light of this month being Social Work Month, so a special thank you goes to this society.

Another group, which is a men’s group to protect men’s interests, was originally created in Coral Harbour and this group is still providing services. Just recently this fall, they offered a program in Gjoa Haven which is also focused on social issues, and I appreciate their efforts. This group is led by Noel Kaludjak.

Their experience was utilized by another men’s group established in Taloyoak and the community now has a men’s advocacy committee. The current leader is Jojo Aasivak. We appreciate their efforts to work with their fellow residents on social issues.

This past February, I was in Cambridge Bay. There is a (interpretation ends) wellness centre (interpretation) providing counselling services and we met with the staff. My deputy minister and I met with the staff and several staff members were Inuit social workers.

I am very proud of this group of workers and I wholeheartedly support their efforts in providing assistance to their fellow residents of their communities. The residents of Nunavut have many social issues that create social tensions and problems that end up requiring social workers to resolve the issues, so I thank them for their dedication.

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

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

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, my colleagues. I sometimes forget the months we are in, so I apologize for that.

However, I wanted to offer my gratitude to these groups who have led local initiatives to offer social programs and to deal with social issues. Their reasons are that they want to provide help to their children to ensure that a brighter future awaits them, especially to ensure their youth have a bright future. That is generally the reason for these local initiatives. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. (interpretation ends) Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. (interpretation) Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Member for Aggu, Mr. Quassa.

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

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe this is the appropriate time to recognize an individual in the Gallery.

I wish to acknowledge a visitor to the Gallery whom I believe is quite well known now by most Nunavummiut. Murray Angus is here and he is an

instructor with the Nunavut Sivuniksavut program in Ottawa. He started in 1985 and over the 29 years he has spent in that institution, it is obvious that he has taught well over 500 students from the various Nunavut communities, mainly youth.

Furthermore, I believe we are all aware of previous students who graduated from the Nunavut Sivuniksavut program now working for the Nunavut government in the public service. Many students are quite capable in their positions. Through this program, the students are a constant source of pride, as all of them are from Nunavut's communities. I think all the members here know someone who has graduated from this program.

I wanted to comment further that the Nunavut Sivuniksavut Alumni Committee is meeting in Iqaluit this week. I want everyone to welcome Murray Angus as well as all past students from the Nunavut Sivuniksavut program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Mr. Speaker, with the House's indulgence, I would like to recognize a graduate from the fur program/sewing program at Nunavut Arctic College who took the time last night to make this tie for me, Carol Tootoo. I realize she is not here, but she is here in spirit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Recognition of

Visitors in the Gallery. (interpretation) I welcome the visitors to the Gallery. (interpretation ends) Item 6. (interpretation) Oral Questions. Member for (interpretation ends) Rankin Inlet South, Mr. Sammurtok.

### Item 6: Oral Questions

#### Question 024 – 4(1): The Need for a Boarding Home in Rankin Inlet

**Mr. Sammurtok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to (interpretation ends) the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, with the opening of a regional health centre in Rankin Inlet, the Department of Health now has the capacity to offer more medical services within the territory, with more and more medical clients travelling into the community for medical diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up.

Can the minister describe what arrangements are currently in place to accommodate all of the medical clients who travel from their home communities and stay in Rankin Inlet while receiving medical services? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Good afternoon. Thank you, my colleague, for the question. At this time, I can say that the Department of Health, along with Health Canada, has started discussions to see how we can plan boarding homes for these people in Rankin Inlet and

Cambridge Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Sammurtok.

**Mr. Sammurtok**: Mr. Speaker, as our population grows and as the regional health centre in Rankin Inlet is more staffed and equipped to provide medical services, the number of medical clients staying in the community is increasing. Can the minister clarify what steps are being considered to handle the increased need for accommodation for medical travel clients? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I just mentioned, the Department of Health supports having boarding homes in regional centres to reduce the amount of out-of-territory travel for clients and to provide a facility dedicated to our clients. Currently, hotels, bed and breakfast facilities, and private billets are currently used to house patients travelling to Rankin Inlet and to Cambridge Bay for medical purposes.

At this present time, we have been having conversations with Health Canada to establish new boarding homes, but this requires further discussions and adding a service requires staffing. At this present time, we are constrained by the lack of staff housing in the centres. Also, we would have to work with private companies, such as regional development corporations, as an example. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your final supplementary, Mr. Sammurtok.

**Mr. Sammurtok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) I believe the minister responded partially to one of the questions, but I will proceed with the question in any event.

(interpretation ends) The community of Rankin Inlet needs a central boarding home for medical travel clients, similar to Tammaativvik in Iqaluit and the boarding homes in Ottawa, Winnipeg, Edmonton, and Yellowknife. Will the minister commit to considering the establishment of a medical boarding home in the community of Rankin Inlet? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the Department of Health will be committed to speaking and communicating with Health Canada on an ongoing basis. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Joanasie.

#### **Question 025 – 4(1): Passport Photographs**

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

In 2007, the Government of Nunavut provided equipment and training to each municipality in the territory in order to

allow local officials to take passport photographs of residents.

Concerns have been raised with me that the equipment in Cape Dorset's municipal office is no longer suitable. There may be similar situations in other communities. I know of at least one situation where a resident had to fly to Iqaluit to get his passport photo taken at his own expense.

Can the minister indicate if his department's (interpretation ends) government liaison officers (interpretation) are working with municipalities to ensure that their passport photography equipment is up to date and operational? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, the driver's licence issue has been ongoing right from day one, but at this time, we do have 21 GLOs which are established now within our communities and we're working to increase the numbers for all the communities.

One of the things that they're going to be doing is exactly that, taking photographs with the Department of Transportation's assistance in, I guess, furthering and making it more efficient for people to get their driver's licence. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Joanasie.



**Mr. Joanasié:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we all know, Arctic Winter Games are being held in Alaska this year, and it will be necessary for our athletes to obtain passports in order to cross the border. Can the minister indicate how the government liaison officers have been working with Sport Nunavut, Service Canada, and other entities to ensure that everyone who needs a passport can obtain one? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, acquiring passports is a federal initiative and with the process of getting passports through the website, it's easier and takes less time. We will certainly work with our GLOs and Sport Nunavut to further the process for getting the athletes their passports. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Joanasié.

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate if his department is working with the Department of Community and Government Services and the Municipal Training Organization to ensure that all Nunavut communities have at least one place where residents can get passport photos taken? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, we will work with our GLOs, the municipalities, and our partners, the Department of CGS and Sport Nunavut, to expedite the process of getting federal passports and other necessary documents that our athletes may need. Not only with that, there are also other federal documents that our community members need. With our GLOs, we're hoping that we can expedite some of these processes a little quicker than in the past. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Shooyook.

#### **Question 026 – 4(1): Grise Fiord Water Supply**

**Mr. Shooyook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services concerning the issue of Grise Fiord's water supply.

Mr. Speaker, Grise Fiord's integrated community infrastructure sustainability plan was completed in 2011. The plan indicates that the Department of Community and Government Services "will be undertaking a study on the prospects for water supply and sources over the next 50 years." Can the minister indicate if this study has been completed?

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Sammurtok.

**Hon. Tom Sammurtok** (interpretation):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Maybe I misunderstood his question. Was he speaking about Grise Fiord or Resolute Bay? Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Shooyook, please clarify your question.

**Mr. Shooyook** (interpretation): Will the minister commit to tabling in the Legislative Assembly a copy of his department's study on Grise Fiord's water supply?

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Sammurtok.

**Hon. Tom Sammurtok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Grise Fiord's water supply is currently in the works. I think we are all aware that they have a leaking water tank. In September 2011, the plan was completed and we are currently working and the completion date was slotted for February 2014. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Shooyook.

**Mr. Shooyook** (interpretation): Concerns have been raised by the community of Grise Fiord with respect to the capacity of the community's existing water tanks. Will the minister commit to having his department review this situation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: The Hon. Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Sammurtok.

**Hon. Tom Sammurtok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are currently studying the situation and we have an ongoing review on the water supply situation. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your second supplementary, Mr. Shooyook. Thank you. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, Ms. Angnakak.

#### **Question 027 – 4(1): Implementation of the Public Service Act**

**Ms. Angnakak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I send best wishes to my constituents and relatives as well. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Finance since he doesn't get very many questions.

Mr. Speaker, one of the most significant bills to have been passed by the previous Legislative Assembly was Nunavut's new *Public Service Act*. A key feature of the new legislation is the appointment of an ethics officer, who will have the responsibility of undertaking independent investigations into allegations of wrongdoing in the workplace.

Can the minister update the House today on when Nunavut's first ethics officer will be appointed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was a little taken aback by Ms. Angnakak's comments that I don't

get many questions. In fact, I do get several questions.

Mr. Speaker, that was a very important component of the *Public Service Act* and it has been discussed in this House many times over the years, more commonly known as whistle-blower. The government took it very seriously. We incorporated it in the House in the legislation as an ethics officer and our department is working on it. I believe it has to be implemented by April of 2015, but I will have to take it to my cabinet colleagues to keep the ball rolling. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Madam Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, I'm really happy to hear that because Part 6 of the new *Public Service Act* provides whistle-blower protection for employees who disclose wrongdoing in the workplace. In speaking with a number of my constituents who work for the government, I believe that these provisions are very important, as they provide for a clearly defined process for investigating allegations of wrongdoing.

Mr. Speaker, Part 6 of the new *Public Service Act* will come into force on the earlier of April 1, 2015 or a day to be fixed by order of the Commissioner. Mr. Speaker, I certainly support bringing this section of the Act into force as soon as possible. Can the minister indicate when he anticipates that this section of the new *Public Service Act* will be proclaimed in force? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Angnakak for the question. Mr. Speaker, I can't predict the outcome, but I can assure the member that it is an important component of our *Public Service Act* and my staff is working on it. We do have a date that we will work out to April 2015. At least we know the date and we will endeavour to move as fast as we can on it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that comment. I like to hear "as fast as possible."

Mr. Speaker, the new *Public Service Act* defines wrongdoing to include "misuse" and "gross mismanagement" of public funds or property.

Last week, I asked questions in this House concerning questionable spending at Nunavut Tourism, which receives significant amounts of public funding.

However, until such time as Part 6 of our new *Public Service Act* comes into force, our government's employees currently lack legislated protection for the disclosure of wrongdoing. Can the minister clarify how Government of Nunavut employees should be currently reporting incidents of wrongdoing in their workplace? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The issue that Ms. Angnakak raised last week is covered under the Financial Administration Manual Grants and Contributions Directive 801. The deputy heads of all departments are responsible for overseeing grants and contributions, including reporting requirements in agreements. There are also, I believe, clauses in the agreements requiring accountings and audits.

If there's a member of the public service who believes that there is something that isn't being delivered properly, they should bring it to their supervisor or higher, to their deputy minister, because it certainly is the responsibility of the deputy heads of all departments to oversee contribution agreements and grants. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, Mr. Hickes.

#### **Question 028 – 4(1): Implementation of Amendments to the Liquor Act**

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are also for the Minister of Finance.

In September of last year, amendments to the *Liquor Act* were passed by the previous Legislative Assembly. During the Legislative Assembly's consideration of the proposed amendments, the minister indicated that the government would be moving towards undertaking a pilot project for a retail store in the territory.

Mr. Speaker, from the many discussions that I have had with my constituents on this issue, there is significant support for moving in a responsible manner towards a more modern and mature approach to the sale of alcohol here in Iqaluit which would also help to reduce our hon. colleague from Arviat South's concern on the demand for bootlegged alcohol.

Can the minister update the House today on the status of the government's plans in this area? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Finance Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Hickes for the question. Mr. Speaker, when we spoke of the legislation last year, we talked about a pilot project in a community in Nunavut. We didn't name any specific community. If there's a community that's interested, it's up to them to approach us. We did say last year that something like that would be introduced in a measured approach.

We would want to consult with the communities interested, plus all surrounding communities. My departmental officials are currently in the process of developing a methodology, if there is a request that comes forth, of how we can talk to the communities and the surrounding communities that are affected. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that answer. Along that same line, during the previous Legislative Assembly's consideration of the proposed amendments to the *Liquor Act*, the minister stated that, and I quote, "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."

As the minister partially answered in the previous question, given the size of Iqaluit's population, can the minister clarify the process by which his department would plan to undertake these consultations in this community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Hickes for covering all that and reminding me of what I said in the last Assembly. Yes, those are certainly still in effect. We do want to consult with any community that is interested. Again, I do not know if Iqaluit is interested. If they are interested, they should contact the Department of Finance.

As I mentioned earlier, we are in the planning phase right now developing a methodology so that we can consult with any community on how a pilot project beer and wine store should operate and how it would affect local communities. We certainly want everybody to be comfortable with a proposed pilot

project before we implement it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Along the same lines of providing that "comfort" to residents, last year's amendments to the *Liquor Act* also provided that, and I will quote, "sums in the Liquor Revolving Fund may be used for expenses related to education campaigns promoting the socially responsible use of liquor, up to the prescribed amount." Mr. Speaker, it has been almost six months since these amendments were passed by the Legislative Assembly.

Can the minister indicate how much the government has spent to date on "education campaigns promoting the socially responsible use of liquor" using funds from the Liquor Revolving Fund? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Hickes for the question. As Mr. Hickes is aware, we just had a general election. We are in the process of catching up on a lot of outstanding items. One of the items is finalizing regulations. It allows the government to utilize funds from the Liquor Revolving Fund for social responsibility programs. We expect that the regulation will be available in the first quarter of 2014-15, only a few months from now, and of course, cabinet will set the amount.

I have to remind Mr. Hickeys that the revenues from the Liquor Revolving Fund are not massive amounts. We're only talking about a sum of less than, I think, \$1.5 million. That's our total net revenue. We're working with that to establish how much money we can use for social responsibility programs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

**Question 029 – 4(1): Interpretation Services for Medical Travel Clients**

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, last week, a number of questions were raised with respect to the Department of Health's revised Medical Travel Policy.

It was stated that escorts would be provided to unilingual Inuit who are travelling to an approved centre where interpretive services are not available.

One concern often raised by Sanikiluaq residents is that there is a significant difference in dialect as compared to the dialects from communities in the Kivalliq. Even though interpretive services may be available at a destination, the dialect may not be adequate to properly communicate health issues.

Can the minister clarify what steps are taken by her department to ensure that the interpretive services provided to medical clients travelling away from

their communities are appropriate for the clientele? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also would like to thank the member for asking a very good question. According to what I have heard, the dialect in Sanikiluaq is quite different from ours. At this time, there is a system in place where Sanikiluaq patients going for travel, either to Churchill or to Winnipeg, usually have their own interpreters escort them because of the differences with their dialect. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Your first supplementary question, Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's not really a question. I guess the minister has clearly stated that they do recognize the issue with the dialects from Sanikiluaq and they are taking steps to correct any issues we have with translation. So I just thank the minister. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Arviat South, Mr. Savikataaq.

**Question 030 – 4(1): Anti-bootlegging Initiatives**

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Justice.

As I noted in my Member's Statement earlier today, one of the key

recommendations contained in last year's report of the Task Force to Review the Nunavut *Liquor Act* was that the Government of Nunavut 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's official response to this recommendation was that it will, and I quote, "continue exploring the possibility of introducing civil forfeiture legislation that will further deter bootleggers."

Can the minister tell the House when he anticipates introducing civil forfeiture legislation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Justice, Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This issue is under discussion and we have commenced its preparation. I believe that next month, we will have a better idea of the next steps to undertake. We have to ensure that we prepare legislation that is comprehensive, especially to ensure the civil forfeiture legislation is fair and enforceable when it comes into force. That is why we need to very carefully scrutinize all relevant issues before the legislation is implemented. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I noted in my Member's Statement earlier today, last year's report

of the task force to review the *Liquor Act* indicated that seven out of ten Canadian provinces now have some form of civil forfeiture legislation. Although I am aware of the importance of ensuring that legislation is not used in an unreasonable manner, it appears clear that we can learn from the experiences of other jurisdictions. Can the minister indicate which province's civil forfeiture legislation would provide the best model for Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Justice, Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) There have been some good stories and some difficult choices that have been made in other jurisdictions where mistakes have been made. We want to be careful with any type of legislation so that it does what it's supposed to do in our territory. We're monitoring the other jurisdictions very closely and we hope to have some good work done by the end of this month with my department and come forward with more consultations with everyone in this Assembly. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Another one of the key recommendations contained in last year's report of the Task Force to Review the Nunavut *Liquor Act* was that the Government of Nunavut should, and I quote, "facilitate collaboration and information-sharing and data collection on alcohol purchasing between

licensing, sales and distribution, and law enforcement agencies.” Can the minister indicate if the next shared directional statement between his department and the RCMP’s “V” Division will address this recommendation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Justice, Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) My colleague, the Minister of Finance, manages all of the sales of alcoholic beverages in our territory and I look forward to working with him in making sure that our two divisions are working properly. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Gjoa Haven, Mr. Akoak.

#### **Question 031 – 4(1): Anti-homelessness Initiatives**

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister responsible for Homelessness.

Last month, the minister announced that the government will be undertaking a “point-in-time homeless count.” In its announcement, the government indicated that it would be conducting a “direct count” of the homeless in Cambridge Bay, Rankin Inlet, and Iqaluit. It also indicated that “research is also taking place by telephone in additional communities.”

Can the minister confirm if Gjoa Haven will be one of the additional

communities where the government will be doing work? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for Homelessness, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank the Member for Gjoa Haven for asking a very good question. The Department of Family Services is now doing a direct count on homeless people in the communities he just mentioned.

If the community is interested, please call my department or my office. As a former Member for Gjoa Haven, I have provided a number of names so that they could be interviewed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The government’s announcement indicated that “results of the homeless count and interviews are expected in April 2014.” Will the minister commit to tabling these results in the Legislative Assembly during our upcoming spring sitting? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for Homelessness, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the MLA from Gjoa Haven for asking that question. The counting of the homeless will not be finished this month.



The count is still ongoing. However, even when they finish counting, homelessness will still continue to be monitored. My officials are paying close attention to this issue. If we can get the results from the numbers they get during the count, we think that we will be able to show those figures this spring or fall. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In my Member's Statement today, I expressed my support for a local anti-homeless initiative in Gjoa Haven. Will the minister commit to having her officials work with the Nunavut Housing Corporation and local housing authorities in Gjoa Haven to identify what resources may be required to successfully accomplish the initiative? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for Homelessness, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the MLA from Gjoa Haven for asking questions on behalf of his community. We want to do something for homeless people, especially when they are evicted.

Gjoa Haven people have sent a letter to the housing manager asking how the local housing association can work more closely with the hamlet council. I have seen that letter myself. We want to work closely with the Hamlet of Gjoa Haven to work on homelessness initiatives and my colleague, the Minister of Housing, would like to work closely with me on

homelessness in Gjoa Haven. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

#### **Question 032 – 4(1): Senior Fuel Subsidy Program**

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister of Family Services.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, one of the priorities in the current business plan of the Department of Family Services is to, and I quote, "Secure resources to complete a comprehensive review of the government's income assistance programs, including the Senior Fuel Subsidy program." (interpretation)

Can the minister update the House today on the status of her department's review of the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the Member for Baker Lake for asking the question about the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program. Less than 98 elders received assistance under this program last year. The eligibility is based on the income of the elders and some elders are not eligible to receive that subsidy as a result of the criteria.

The subsidy is added to the income declared in tax returns. Federal rules for

the subsidy program means we have to require income declarations because if too much subsidy is distributed, it could make elders ineligible for that subsidy program. That is why there is a limit based on income.

I hope that this was helpful. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) For the past several years, the department's budget for the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program has not been fully spent. For example, the budget for the program in the 2011-12 fiscal year was \$478,000. However, the department only spent \$230,471 from this budget. Given that the department clearly has room to increase the program's income threshold provisions without requiring a budget increase, will the minister commit to making this change in order to allow more Nunavut seniors to immediately benefit from the program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the Member for Baker Lake for asking that question. As I stated, there were 98 elders last year who received support based on their incomes. If elders receive old-age pension cheques from the federal government, then they may not be eligible for the subsidy program. We are unable to assist everyone and that is

one of the reasons why the budget was not all spent.

In the Baffin and Kivalliq regions, people receive assistance. However, last year, nobody from the Kitikmeot received assistance. It's for that reason that the program will be reviewed by the Department of Family Services. It is under review at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. One of the other concerns that have been raised with me regarding the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program is the way in which the program currently reimburses applicants after they have actually purchased their fuel. In some cases, they do not receive assistance until after the cold season has ended.

(interpretation ends) Will the minister commit to reviewing the program so as to allow eligible applicants the flexibility to choose an option whereby the department directly enters into a payment arrangement with the local fuel delivery supplier on their behalf and credits their accounts? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to the member's last question, I didn't quite comprehend the question. Perhaps he can provide a bit more detail as I didn't

understand the English portion. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak, please repeat your question.

**Mr. Mikkungwak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of the other concerns that have been raised with me regarding the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program is the way in which the program currently reimburses applicants after they have actually purchased their fuel. In some cases, they do not receive assistance until after the cold season has ended.

Will the minister commit to reviewing the program so as to allow eligible applicants the flexibility to choose an option whereby the department directly enters into a payment arrangement with the local fuel delivery supplier on their behalf and credits their accounts? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the Member for Baker Lake for his question on the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program. My officials are conducting a review of the issues related to this matter of subsidization.

The assistance is based on their level of income. Some receive half of the subsidy while others get reimbursed for actual fuel purchases. Those who initially receive half the subsidy are those with incomes up to \$75,000 while those with incomes between \$75,000 and \$100,000 are only reimbursed up to 50

percent of the subsidy. Again, income is the main criteria for this subsidy, and the goal of this federal program is to ensure elders don't suffer extreme hardship.

I hope that this helps to clarify the issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Tununig, Mr. Enook.

### **Question 033 – 4(1): Incorporating Inuit Societal Values into Child and Family Services Legislation**

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, my fellow residents of Pond Inlet and Nunavut. Further, the people referred to earlier are also in our minds, both the residents of Igloolik and Pangnirtung.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my questions to the Minister responsible for Family Services.

Mr. Speaker, in the Third Assembly, the minister was a strong proponent of Inuit societal values and I commend her for that. Now that she is in a position where she can truly bring these views to the forefront, I sincerely hope that she will carry through with those stated beliefs.

I would like to ask, Mr. Speaker: can the minister indicate whether or not there are any plans for her department to review the *Child and Family Services Act* with a view to bringing the legislation more in line with Inuit societal values? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the Member for Tununig for asking that question. The Department of Family Services has had clashes with the Inuit cultural values in the past. The Minister of Culture and Heritage is a participant to see how we can resolve these challenges faced by social services. We are working together to resolve these issues.

I also spoke earlier to local initiatives to deal with social issues in the communities, and these groups could also serve as agents of change since they are not part of the government who promote traditional Inuit social practices.

That is what I can respond with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Inuit, we have a longstanding concern about children who are removed from their homes by Family Services. As we all know in Nunavut and the Inuit societal values that many hold strongly, it's preferred to keep families together. Keeping that in mind, we have observed that the *Child and Family Services Act* has not even remotely applied Inuit societal values and culture, especially when attempts are made for children to be moved or taken away from their homes and looked after by other people.

Can the minister tell me what her department is doing with respect to apprehending children? What change is being made to the legislation to ensure

what you have stated as beliefs based on Inuit societal values when it comes to moving children from their homes? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Tununig for asking a good question. Our department is currently in the process of incorporating Inuit societal values and looking at other ways to do so. As the people of Nunavut, we were taught to listen to elders. We are drifting away from that. I can assure the member, however, that we're gathering orientation material and actively encouraging Inuit to become social workers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your second supplementary, Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As legislators, we have the opportunity to ensure that legislation in our jurisdiction meets the needs and aspirations of the people we serve, the people of Nunavut, and that is in our mandate.

Will the minister commit to reviewing the *Child and Family Services Act* and bringing forward legislative amendments to strengthen the role of Inuit societal values in its interpretation and implementation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Tununig for his question to incorporate Inuit societal values and culture in social services. I meet regularly with my officials and it's something that is expected of us by the people of Nunavut.

The five IQ principles that we recently adopted, *Inuuqatigiitsiarniq*, *Tunnganarniq*, *Pijittirniq*, *Ajiiqatigiitsiarniq*, and *Piliriqatigiitsiarniq*, we are trying to incorporate into our orientation materials for use in social work and social worker training. That is strongly supported within social services to better reflect Inuit societal values. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Mapsalak.

**Question 034 – 4(1): Escorts for Clients Travelling for Surgery**

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Health. I had asked some of the questions previously with respect to patient escorts.

The question I have is, when patients are sent south for surgical operations, there have been numerous times when they're returned without getting any surgery done because they were sent out without an escort. Mr. Speaker, this practice is very expensive and causes further and unnecessary delay.

My question is: is that covered under the Department of Health's policies on escorts for patients who are sent out for

surgery? It appears too many of these patients are not allowed escorts to assist them. Does the minister know if that is covered under a policy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his question. There is a policy in place whereby a patient goes down south for medical treatment, especially when a patient suffers from a handicap, the nurses would have to communicate that to the people in charge, or if the patient will be away for an extended period of time or if they need to change the return ticket, they would have to work with them to make that decision. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for her response. Indeed, if that was the case with that policy already in place, then this policy isn't being enforced since the people who administer the tickets or are responsible for these matters within a community don't seem to know it. Is this policy being sent out as a directive that they have to follow so that patients needing an escort are provided one? I wonder if the policy is even being sent out to the community health centres. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for asking that question. Our officials administering the Department of Health have provided briefings on the new policy to ensure that they comprehend the policy and that the policy is being implemented in the same manner in all places.

There has been information provided to staff members who administer the travel policy for medical patients, as well as to administrators and occasionally, including the patients who are going for medical procedures. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Enook.

I'm sorry, but question period has expired. (interpretation ends) No. 7. Written Questions. Thank you. Mr. Enook.

### Item 7: Written Questions

#### Written Question 001 – 4(1): Salary Disclosure for the Senior Public Service

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written question today is for the Premier and it concerns salary disclosure for the senior public service.

Mr. Speaker, my written question is very detailed, so I ask that it be entered into the record as read.

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

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

2. From November 15, 2008 to March 6, 2014, listed by individual, how much was awarded in performance bonuses to departmental deputy ministers, heads of territorial corporations, and heads of Crown agencies?
3. From November 15, 2008 to March 6, 2014, what were the contents of each annual letter of expectation provided by the Premier to departmental deputy ministers, heads of territorial corporations, and heads of Crown agencies?
4. What mechanisms have been implemented by the Government of Nunavut's Senior Personnel Secretariat to monitor compliance on the part of deputy heads 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** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The member is requesting that his written question be entered into the record as read. Do members agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Speaker:** There is agreement. Mr. Savikataaq.

**Written Question 002 – 4(1):  
Enforcement of the Liquor Act**

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written question today is for the Minister of Justice and Minister responsible for the Liquor Licensing Board and it concerns the enforcement of the *Liquor Act*.

Mr. Speaker, my written question is very detailed, so I ask that it be entered into the record as read.

1. From April 1, 2010, to March 10, 2014, broken down by fiscal year, community and category of alleged offence, how many charges were laid for alleged contraventions of the *Liquor Act*?
2. With respect to the charges referred to in question No. 1, what was the ultimate disposition of each matter, including the amount of any fines that were imposed?
3. With respect to fines imposed between January 1, 2010 and March 10, 2014 for contraventions of the *Liquor Act*, what is the total amount of money received to date from offenders?
4. As of March 10, 2014, how many individuals are currently incarcerated in territorial correctional facilities as a consequence of sentences imposed for contraventions of the *Liquor Act*?
5. As of March 10, 2014, how many matters involving alleged contraventions of the *Liquor Act* are awaiting consideration before the Nunavut Court of Justice?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The member is requesting that his written question be entered into the record as read. Do members agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Speaker:** There is agreement. Returns to Written Questions. Replies to Opening Address. Petitions. Responses to Petitions. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Sammurtok.

**Item 13: Tabling of Documents**

**Tabled Document 014 – 4(1):  
Federal/Provincial/Territorial  
Meeting of Ministers of Local  
Government, July 2013**

**Hon. Tom Sammurtok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Meeting of Ministers of Local Government in Whitehorse, Yukon, July 2013. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Notices of Motions. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Motions. First Reading of Bills. Second Reading of Bills. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 2 with Mr. Enook in the Chair.

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

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>House recessed at 15:16 and  
Committee resumed at 15:38

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

**Chairman** (Mr. Enook)(interpretation):  
Good afternoon, members. Good  
afternoon, Nunavummiut. I welcome all  
Nunavummiut to the committee meeting.  
I would like to call the committee  
meeting to order. In Committee of the  
Whole, we have the following item to  
deal with: Bill 2. What is the wish of the  
committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr.  
Chairman. We wish to start the review of  
the capital main estimates, commencing  
with the Department of Economic  
Development and Transportation. Thank  
you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you,  
Mr. Rumbolt. Does the committee agree  
that we deal with the capital estimates of  
the Department of Economic  
Development and Transportation?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Bill 02 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,  
2014-2015 – Economic  
Development and Transportation  
– Consideration in Committee**

**Chairman** (interpretation): It seemed as  
though you were going to disagree.  
Thank you. We will proceed. Minister  
Kuksuk, welcome. At this time, if you  
have any opening comments,  
(interpretation ends) hon. minister,  
(interpretation) you may proceed.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation):  
Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I  
say “good day” to my fellow  
Nunavummiut, as well as my  
constituents who are watching the  
proceedings. I will be making my  
opening comments in English. As I said,  
good afternoon, Mr. Chairman.

(interpretation ends) I am pleased to be  
here before the Committee of the Whole  
to review the 2014-15 capital plan for  
the Department of Economic  
Development and Transportation. We  
are proposing a capital budget of  
\$35,968,000 for the 2014-15 fiscal year.  
This will allow us to make important  
investments in air, marine, and land  
transportation systems and advance an  
important tourism infrastructure project  
in the Kivalliq region.

**Airports**

The largest item in our capital plan is the  
\$30,118,000 we have allocated to  
advance the Iqaluit International Airport  
improvement project. The funding will  
be used on initial stages of construction  
which will begin in April of 2014. The  
preferred proponent, Arctic  
Infrastructure Limited Partners, or AILP,  
will assume operation of the airport on  
July 21, 2014.

This project funding comes from three  
sources: P3 Canada, the Government of  
Nunavut, and the private partner, AILP.  
The Government of Nunavut begins to  
pay its portion back to AILP starting  
now and ending in 2048. A value-for-  
money analysis determined that the  
Government of Nunavut could save  
more than \$100 million over this period  
by choosing this method of financing  
compared to the cost of constructing and



operating the airport in the conventional way.

The infrastructure at Iqaluit International Airport is approaching the end of its useful lifecycle. Over 30 percent of Nunavut's air traffic passes through Iqaluit, and the airport is an essential hub for the Baffin region and to connect Nunavut's regions with each other. It also connects Nunavut to Ottawa, Montreal, Nunavik, Greenland, and soon to Atlantic Canada. For these reasons, this project is our largest and most urgent infrastructure needed.

Our capital plan also contains funding for projects in other communities to finalize improvements to airports and airside surface projects that were initiated in prior years, as well as upgrades to airport equipment and security.

The Cambridge Bay and Rankin Inlet airport improvement projects were driven by a need to enhance the safety of these facilities; in Rankin Inlet by expanding the apron and in Cambridge Bay by widening the runway. Both projects will leverage Building Canada funds and will improve the long-term efficiency of all passengers and freight operations in the Kivalliq and Kitikmeot regions.

The Rankin Inlet project is on target for completion in 2014-15 with the installation of the new electrical systems. Construction will continue on the Cambridge Bay project, with work scheduled to continue on the runway graded areas, the apron, and electrical systems.

Mr. Chairman, these are the major airport projects we will be undertaking in the 2014-15 fiscal year.

There are also some other projects under \$250,000 which are grouped together under the heading of "Small Capital Projects." We have allocated \$472,000 to complete these projects, which will include new runway inspection vehicles for two communities, as well as maintenance equipment like compactors and blower attachments for a number of communities.

The department owns 250 pieces of equipment that are used to maintain our runways. This equipment is critical to air safety and, if we expect it to function reliably over time, we need to keep it in the best condition possible.

Also included in the small capital allocation is \$100,000 for planning work needed to build the case for marine, airport, and other transportation facilities.

Several larger equipment purchases will be made under minor capital. Under this heading, we have allocated \$1.7 million to purchase loaders for Baker Lake, Igloolik, Hall Beach, and Kugluktuk, as well as a grader for Arviat.

### **Regional Visitor Centres**

We are also proposing funding for regional visitor centres. The Kivalliq is the only Nunavut region without a visitor centre. Three design options for such a centre in Rankin Inlet have been prepared and once an option has been chosen, class "A" estimates will be developed for the construction of the facility starting in fiscal year 2015-16.

Another \$328,000 is set aside under small capital to perform maintenance work at our visitor centres in Iqaluit, Pangnirtung, and Cambridge Bay.

### **Marine Infrastructure**

Mr. Chairman, we have included \$500,000 in this capital plan to make minor improvements to marine infrastructure in our communities. These projects are small but important investments in sealift areas, mooring bollards, floating docks, and other infrastructure.

We propose to make most of the funding for community marine infrastructure available to communities under contribution agreements so they can carry out their own improvements.

It is the Government of Nunavut's position that the development of marine infrastructure in Nunavut is a federal responsibility, as it is and has been historically in the rest of Canada. By showing our commitment to these minor improvements in marine infrastructure, this funding will encourage the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans to continue and expand their own investments in small craft harbours in Nunavut, and encourage Transport Canada to look seriously at the development of port infrastructure. We will continue to lobby for this infrastructure that is essential to our economic development.

### **Motor Vehicles**

We have allocated \$2.8 million for the planning and design of a new Motor Vehicle Information System, or MVIS,

with the assistance of the technical project managers with the Department of Community and Government Services.

MVIS is administered by the department's Motor Vehicles Division and contains the data for Nunavut's driver's licences, general ID cards, and vehicle registrations. It is an important source of information for the delivery of many public services above and beyond motor vehicle services.

The system's hardware, software, and operating system are now obsolete and have experienced periodic failures in recent years. Even when it is working properly, this system limits our ability to improve our processes, operate efficiently, and collaborate with other government bodies both within Nunavut and across Canada.

We have had complaints from MLAs in recent years about the delivery of driver's licence and other motor vehicle services in communities. We are committed to continuing to improve our service delivery, and a new MVIS is an essential part of that work.

### **Conclusion**

Mr. Chairman, our capital plan was put together with an eye to prudent spending and it will help achieve the government's goal of a balanced budget. In order to accomplish this, some difficult choices had to be made. However, we have ensured that our capital plan incorporates projects that focus on safety, which is our number one concern in operating our airports.

This plan is in line with Nunavut's transportation strategy, *Ingirrasiliqta*. It

will strengthen our partnerships with the federal government, with industry, and with our communities, and it ensures that our investments provide the best possible return for Nunavut's economic and social future.

Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to answer any questions from my fellow members. *Qujannamiik. Ma'na.* Thank you.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. (interpretation) Before we proceed, let me ask if you have any witnesses that you would like to bring to the table. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it would be good to have witnesses here at the table. First of all, I'll introduce Bob Long. Thank you.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. (interpretation) Does the committee agree to bring in the witnesses?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister, (interpretation) for the record, please introduce your witnesses. Minister Kuksuk.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. On my [left] is Art Stewart, who is the Director of Transportation, Policy and Planning, and on my right is Bob Long, Deputy Minister for the Department of

Economic Development and Transportation. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. (interpretation ends) Mr. Long and Mr. Stewart, welcome to the House. (interpretation) Does any member of the Regular Members' Caucus have comments for the minister? Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Regular Members' Caucus concerning its review of the proposed 2014-15 Capital Estimates of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation.

Members note that the department's proposed capital budget for 2014-15 is \$35,968,000. The department's capital budget was \$20,075,000 for the 2013-14 fiscal year and \$14.4 million for the 2012-13 fiscal year.

Mr. Chairman, members engaged in a comprehensive dialogue with the minister concerning the issue of marine infrastructure during his recent appearance.

On June 5, 2009, the government's updated Nunavut Transportation Strategy was tabled in the Legislative Assembly. Some of the objectives of the strategy are to "implement the federal Small Craft Harbours Program in Nunavut," "act on the *Nunavut Small Craft Harbours Report*," and "extend the Small Craft Harbours program to other communities."

The Department of Economic Development and Transportation's

proposed 2014-15 capital estimates include \$500,000 in funding for the GN's contribution towards the construction of small craft harbours in Nunavut communities. This amount has been included in the department's annual capital estimates since the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

The department has indicated that this funding is to be used to "undertake studies, obtain permits, undertake design work, undertake minor marine improvements and partner with the [federal] Department of Fisheries [and Oceans] on funding major works if the opportunity arises."

Although members remain supportive of efforts to obtain federal support for investments in this area, it is recognized that construction costs for major marine facilities can be in the millions of dollars. For example, the 2009 federal budget provided \$17.0 million towards the construction of the new harbour in Pangnirtung.

Members encourage the department to closely examine options for feasible and affordable improvements to existing community marine infrastructure that focus on the safety of boaters and protection of equipment, and which can be undertaken with available resources.

I would note that the 2005 *Nunavut Small Craft Harbours Report* indicated that "Lack of Nunavut harbour infrastructure has resulted in at least two documented cases of loss of life in recent years. In 2002, a Pond Inlet fisher drowned while paddling his dinghy from shore to his fishing vessel moored offshore. A Rankin Inlet fisher died under similar circumstances in 2005."

On September 10, 2013, a Minister's Statement was delivered in the Legislative Assembly which indicated that "all communities were encouraged to submit proposals to the Department of Economic Development and Transportation for projects that would improve existing marine facilities." The Minister's Statement further noted that "19 communities took advantage of this program. To date, \$1.6 million has been committed for a variety of projects, including dock upgrades, dredging, boat launches, the installation of floating docks, and the upgrade of sealift areas."

Members encourage the minister to table an annual report in the Legislative Assembly concerning the department's actual expenditures in this area, including a detailed list of which communities have received and utilized funding under contribution agreements with the department.

Mr. Chairman, in June of 2009, the Legislative Assembly approved \$925,000 in capital funding for the planning and design of a new Iqaluit Regional Marine Facility to "meet the needs of marine re-supply as well as local boat owners and operators." In June of 2010, the Legislative Assembly approved a \$532,000 capital carryover for this project. It is the understanding of members that the cost to construct a deep-water facility would be approximately \$100 million.

Members encourage the minister to provide regular updates to the Legislative Assembly concerning his department's efforts to partner with the federal government and industry to identify ways to fund this project.

Mr. Chairman, some of the objectives of the government's updated Nunavut Transportation Strategy are to "assure the integrity of the Nunavut transportation system by ensuring every community has infrastructure adequate for its needs within that system" and to "enhance the current airport systems." Other objectives are to "rationalize government use of the transportation system" and "revisit the government's Air Services Study."

Members note that the department's proposed 2014-15 capital estimates include over \$30 million in funding for a number of airport improvement projects, the most significant of which is the Iqaluit International Airport project, which is being undertaken as a public-private partnership.

Members will recall that on September 20, 2012, a federal-territorial news release announced that the P3 Canada Fund will contribute up to \$77.3 million to this project. On September 17, 2013, the government announced that it had signed a contract with Arctic Infrastructure Partners to "design, build, finance, operate and maintain the Iqaluit International Airport Improvement Project." The announcement indicated that "materials and equipment will be delivered during the 2013 sealift season and construction will begin in the spring of 2014."

Members encourage the department to be mindful of the potential impact of major economic development projects, such as the Mary River mine, on the development of new regional hub airports.

Members also encourage the minister to provide regular updates to the Legislative Assembly concerning his department's work with such entities as NAV Canada and the Northern Air Transport Association concerning such matters as Community Aerodrome Radio Stations, navigational aids, and airport infrastructure.

The department's 2010-11 capital estimates included \$700,000 in funding for a new Kivalliq Regional Visitors Centre. In June of 2011, the Legislative Assembly approved a \$697,000 capital carryover for this project. Members note that the department's five-year capital plan indicates that \$6.0 million will be spent on this project over the course of the 2015-16 and 2016-17 fiscal years.

The department's proposed 2014-15 capital estimates include \$2.5 million in funding for small and minor capital projects, the majority of which is for the acquisition of mobile equipment for Nunavut airports.

Members emphasize the importance of ensuring that the standards and criteria for such equipment are appropriate for our jurisdiction's conditions in relation to such matters as ease of maintenance and repair. Members also encourage the department to work closely with municipal governments concerning the administration of agreements regarding municipal use of GN-owned airport mobile equipment assets for the provision of essential services in clearly defined circumstances.

The department's budget for small and minor capital projects also includes \$428,000 for various studies, as well as upgrades to existing visitor centres.

Mr. Chairman, in June of 2007, \$66,000 in funding for a Manitoba-Nunavut Road study was carried over in a supplementary appropriation. At that time, the department's five-year capital plan included funding for this project. However, subsequent years' capital estimates did not include funding for this initiative.

On April 26, 2013, a news release issued by the Government of Nunavut and the Government of Manitoba followed a meeting of the Hudson Bay Neighbours Regional Round Table. The release announced that "The proposed winter road from Churchill to Rankin Inlet was a major discussion point at the meeting." Members encourage the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation to work closely on this initiative with the Minister of Community and Government Services, who is the Co-Chair of the Hudson Bay Neighbours Regional Round Table.

Mr. Chairman, the department's 2007-08 capital estimates included \$800,000 in funding for a project to provide a "Driver Licence and General Identification Card Security System Upgrade."

The department's proposed 2014-15 capital estimates includes \$2.8 million in funding for the replacement of the government's motor vehicle information system. A total of \$4.5 million is planned to be spent on this project between the 2014-15 and 2016-17 fiscal years.

The department's substantiation sheet for this project indicates that the "motor vehicles division produces drivers'

licences, drivers' record reporting, vehicle registration and General Identification Card services to Nunavummiut." The department's substantiation sheet for this project also indicates that "the system's hardware, software and operating system are obsolete." It also indicates that a new motor vehicle information system will "improve linkages with law enforcement agencies" and "enhance linkages with health care providers."

Mr. Chairman, the importance of ensuring that such documents as driver's licences and general identification cards are issued in a timely manner to Nunavut residents has been raised in the Legislative Assembly on a number of occasions. Members are hopeful that this investment will improve the efficiency with which such documents are issued in the territory.

Members also encourage the minister to clarify his department's plans with respect to the sharing of information with "law enforcement agencies and health care providers."

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2014-15 Capital Estimates of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Well read. Very much appreciated. (interpretation) We will proceed. I would like to remind the members of the rules that we will be abiding by during this proceeding. Firstly, 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

speaking 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 page-by-page review. Do members have any general comments? If there are none, we will then proceed to the capital estimates for 2014-15 starting with page K-3. I believe you are on the right page now.

If you have any questions during the proceedings, I will make sure that I look around to see if anybody has their hands up and if I don't see you, if you want to make a little sound to catch my attention, please feel free to do so.

We will then begin with the department. I believe you are on the right page. Economic Development and Transportation. Branch Summary. Transportation. Total Capital Expenditures. \$35,968,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Turn to page K-2. Department Summary. Economic Development and Transportation. Detail of Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$35... . Mr. Hickes, go ahead.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to clarify on the procedural matter. Do we wait until the line by line on K-4 to ask questions on specific projects or can I get into it now? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** First of all, we would have to agree to go back to K-3 and if it is the

wish (interpretation) of the Committee of the Whole, if you have a question on K-3, I will have to ask the committee if they would like to go back to K-3. Do you want to go back to K-3?

**Some Members:** Agreed

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. We will then return to K-3. Page K-3. K-3 and K-4 are under the same item. We are on page K-3. Economic Development and Transportation. Branch Summary. Transportation. Total Capital Expenditures. Mr. Hickes, you have a question.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that clarification. A little over \$30 million is allocated for the Iqaluit International Airport improvements. I would like to get a breakdown of what of that is for actual improvements and what is for planning for the airport terminal. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Before the response, I would like to remind the members that if you have a question, please raise your hand and I will write down your names. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the member for his question. I will refer this question to my deputy minister. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. I will give him the opportunity to respond to that question. Mr. Long.

**Mr. Long:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The design work for the airport is underway now and has been since last fall, when the contract was let. The majority of the \$30,118,000 identified for 2014-15 is actual construction. We don't have a dollar-by-dollar breakdown, but the design work is almost complete at this point. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Long. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you for that answer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the design phase almost over... I have raised this issue a few times with your officials of the lack of a jet walk to assist people with disabilities in a dignified way to enter and exit aircraft. Has there been any talk during the design phase of working in one of the potential three jet walks that were in the original plan? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will ask my deputy minister to respond to that question. Thank you.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. (interpretation) I'll ask him to respond. Mr. Long.

**Mr. Long:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, there are three secure departure lounges that will be used for flights to provinces and other territories. Each of those will have what you call the rough-in there, the electrical, the doorway will be there, and the installation of the actual Jetway or bridge, depending on the term you want to use, will be easy to

complete after that. We have held back at this point in including them in this project. There were some questions as to whether the airlines want them. There are some questions as to certain types of airplanes that can't use them.

The Jetways will be installed as required when we determine how many are needed and the airlines expressing interest in using them. Typically, with Jetways, the airlines pay a fee to use them. That will be determined at the time, and I certainly hope that they are there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Long. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer Mr. Long, I very much too hope that it will be there. With the original estimates and numbers that I heard at the public meeting some months ago, it would entail less than 1 percent of the overall budget to at least start with one jet walk to allow our residents to access and exit aircraft.

Another concern that I had is, from what I understand, the memorandum of understanding regarding the lands transfer has been approved by cabinet and was pending with the City of Iqaluit and the date that I had was potentially April 2014. Can the minister update me on the status of the land transfer with the City of Iqaluit for the airport? Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hickes. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you



for the member's question. I can respond to you. I have not received that kind of information yet in regard to your question. Thank you for the question.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. (interpretation ends) Mr. Hickes, are you done? Please.

**Mr. Hickes:** Please be done?

>> *Laughter*

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This construction is starting as early as next month. One of the concerns I've got is there is a strategy being implemented to guarantee minimum levels of Inuit employment during construction and operations, with incentives for increasing levels for Inuit labour. Can the minister update me on how this strategy is being implemented? Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Kuksuk.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. In regard to Inuit employment, we will try to use Inuit employment to the best of our ability, but my deputy will provide you with detailed information, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Which deputy? (interpretation ends) Maybe I will start with Mr. Long.

**Mr. Long:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In addition to the minister's comments, we have struck what we call an Article 24 committee. They met for the first time last week. The representatives of the

proponent, AILP, will be visiting, I believe, next week or the week after and they will start the process of recruiting Inuit employees.

We are engaged through a committee that is our department, it is other departments, it is federal, representatives of the land claims as well, I believe, are on it. They will meet with the company and begin those discussions and guiding them. We expect that they will bring their plan forward at that time and we will have a discussion and improve the plan, I expect. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Long. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just one quick question. Could I get provided a copy of the committee list at the minister's convenience? Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Kuksuk.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Of course, we will provide that copy. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Still on the same page, Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) My question has to do with the Iqaluit Regional Marine Facility Project. This is something that we have been talking a lot about for quite a while now, I think, a few numbers of years. In the past, there were funds that were allocated towards this project. I am just wondering if you

can tell us what steps have been taken to advance this file to date. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague for the good question. As we are all aware, the community of Iqaluit is now working on the strategy. I'll have my deputy minister respond. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Mr. Long.

**Mr. Long**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In recent months, there have been comments made by shipping companies, NEAS and Woodward's, both indicating that perhaps a lower cost project could be done using the old causeway. We currently have some marine professionals reviewing that possibility and to determine if there is, indeed, a way that we can use the old causeway at a considerably lower cost than \$100 million. That work is currently underway. We can report to the House if good progress is made on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Long. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you very much for that. We look forward to seeing that. I think that it's needed in Iqaluit. It has been needed for a long time.

Just to go to something else a little bit, almost a year ago, May 2013, the

Legislative Assembly approved several capital carryovers from your department. The majority of these carryovers were for airport-related projects. What factors are causing your department to carry over so many projects from year to year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank my colleague for the question. In regard to planning in transportation, I'll ask Art Stewart to respond. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Stewart.

**Mr. Stewart**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are various reasons for large carryovers. One of them is trying to get the planning for the construction done in a timely fashion. That has not happened over the last couple of years. We've also had some staffing difficulties where we did not have a full-time facilities engineer. We are currently working on that. Hopefully we will have the facilities engineer position filled within the next couple of months. Those are the primary reasons. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. Stewart. Ms. Angnakak, if you want to continue asking, please raise your hand before we are even done with the answer so that I know whether to move on to the next person. Ms. Angnakak, please proceed.

>> *Laughter*

**Ms. Angnakak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Just talking about airports and that, what's the status on the Pangnirtung Airport Relocation Project? That has been on the books for quite a few years too. Where are we at with that project? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member for her question. I have partially been briefed on that issue, but I don't have all the details at this time as to exactly where it is at. However, I recall that it was in the plans, but I don't have the details on the location and whether plans are already completed or not, or whether it is to move forward. The details can be explained by (interpretation ends) Deputy Minister Long, (interpretation) so I'll give him the question.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. (interpretation) I'll be the one to give the question to him. Mr. Long.

**Mr. Long:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We did some environmental studies on that. We received a completed report last year. At that point, the study had indicated that there were seven potential sites for an airport in Pangnirtung. The environmental report indicated the wind conditions were not as anticipated and an eighth site is being considered by the consultants at this time. We are planning to go into Pangnirtung within the next few weeks to continue the discussion with the hamlet council and come up with a final decision as to which location

they want. From that, we will then proceed into the more detailed design work. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Long. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thanks for that answer. Just one more question. What is the long-term plan for the department regarding the working relationship between ED&T and NAV Canada? Thank you, *Iksivautaaq*.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Based on my understanding of the issue, the partnership and planning with NAV Canada and our department also falls under the general Nunavut government operations, so partnership is required to resolve our airport challenges, especially with the many airports under our department. Our government can't deal with this unilaterally.

I will ask our official who undertakes the plans to provide more details. Thank you.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. Mr. Stewart.

**Mr. Stewart:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. We met with NAV Canada roughly five weeks ago. The decision has been made that come March 31, 2015, our contract will end with NAV Canada. However, the agreement with Nunavut Arctic College to deliver the CARS program will be continued for the next four years, I believe. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Stewart. Let us proceed. Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the minister's statements, he stated that... My question is about airstrips. As he stated earlier, they are only going to be working on the priorities right now because of the safety aspect of it, only the critical ones. I would like an explanation as to what you mean by critical or needs to be put into priority when it comes to airstrips. That will be my first question and I will have a supplementary afterwards. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Minister Kuksuk.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member for his question. Can I ask the member to clarify whether he is asking about the runway or if it is the airport terminal or actual airstrip? There are many facilities located in the airports. Can you explain what you mean? If I say "airport terminal building" in English, we will know it means the place where people wait for planes, and the airstrip is where the airplanes land. Thank you.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. (interpretation) Mr. Mapsalak, can you explain your question, please.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was just asking for clarification on what you said earlier. If it's an airstrip or a terminal, it doesn't matter. A safety hazard can occur in

either place, whether it's an airstrip or an airport terminal. Can you explain how it becomes a critical matter where it needs to be replaced or fixed up? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand better now. Yes, there are different reasons why it could be a priority matter. It could be because the facility is too old now or if it's just not safe in general. There are different reasons for coming to that decision. Thank you.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for explaining that clearly. In the capital plan, there is no money for that. I don't see anything in the future for the three airstrips and terminals that need to be changed. I think they're dangerous.

The terminal in Repulse Bay is dangerous, as I stated in the House previously. I explained how dangerous it is. I don't think the Nunavut government is really aware of the situation there. They seem to be totally ignorant of it, although the hamlet council in Repulse Bay has tried to explain to the Nunavut government that our terminal is dangerous.

The terminal is 16 by 16 feet in measurement, and there are 1,000 people living in Repulse Bay now. It's tiny. It's too small. When the suitcases are brought in, there is no room left. If 20

people are going to be leaving, some of them will have to wait outside, and that is the only way they've had to do it. It should be an absolutely critical matter. Can it not be looked at as an absolutely critical matter? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Minister Kuksuk.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the good question. I fully understand your question. Airports, airstrips, and terminals, I'm sure we know what we're talking about.

We have started looking into airport terminals and airstrips in Nunavut. We don't have the results of that study yet. The airport terminal in Repulse Bay and also airport terminals in other communities are being looked at. After they have looked into that and they have produced a report, and after we have carefully reviewed the report, we can move on from there and decide which one needs to be the absolute first to be worked on. We don't have that report yet. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is the minister making a statement that officials from his department will, in the short term, travel to Repulse Bay? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thanks to my fellow MLA for asking that question. What I am stating is that this review that is ongoing is looking at all airport issues in all of Nunavut. When this report is completed, it will be provided to our department. Upon delivery of said report, it will highlight the issues we face and list all the challenges we face, such as old runways, and which dilapidated air terminals still exist. Once these details have been provided to our department, our department will be able to start prioritizing these issues, such as which community has to have their old facilities replaced. That is my answer to that part of his question.

Further, the report is expected to be completed in the not-too-distance future. Upon delivery of this report, we will then be able to provide a clear answer to questions related to the facilities at the airports, including runways and air terminals. Thank you.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. (interpretation) I would like to remind the members that questions should be based on the capital estimates. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The question I would like to ask is in regard to the Iqaluit airport. (interpretation ends) The department's substantiation sheet for the Iqaluit International Airport Improvement Project indicates that "Prior to the commencement of procurement, the project team sought and received Cabinet approval regarding the proposed strategy for complying with Article 24 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement.

The approach taken focused around guaranteed minimum levels of Inuit labour during construction and operations, with incentives for increasing levels of Inuit labour.” Has NTI agreed with this approach and how is this strategy being implemented? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I thank the Member for Baker Lake for asking a good question. When planning was commenced for this Iqaluit air terminal project, when they prepared these plans, it included that requirement for Inuit employment and it was included in the project review.

Both the Government of Nunavut and NTI were involved in determining the percentage of Inuit hires that would have to be met by prospective contractors in applying for this contract. This issue was carefully reviewed and further, there will be clear policies outlining the requirement to have Inuit hires at a certain percentage in order to win this air terminal contract. This has been one of the priorities to date.

With respect to the percentage breakdown, I don't have the numbers available. Perhaps my deputy minister can provide more details to that question. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Mr. Kuksuk, I didn't quite understand your last comment. Can you repeat it, please.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. What I was saying was with respect to my colleague's question about Inuit hires as outlined in Article 24 of the NLCA and regarding the amount agreed to for this project. I don't have the actual figures agreed to. Based on my understanding, the question is specific to NTI and the Government of Nunavut. I believe that was his question, so I wanted my deputy minister to provide further details. That is what I commented on.

**Chairman**: *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. (interpretation) I apologize for not understanding you properly. Mr. Long.

**Mr. Long**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Leading up to the negotiations for this airport, there were discussions with some of the birthright corporations, QC, NCC, and companies like that, to discuss the potential for Inuit employment during the construction period. As we prepared the document, the actual Inuit employment document for the Article 24 part of the contract, it was discussed with NTI on, I think, two occasions and ultimately we came up with numbers that we felt were reasonable.

It couldn't be a high number in some cases because, in the construction, there are some parts of that that they are simply not Inuit companies that have the skills or the equipment to do and it had to be lower there, but the expectations were higher in some other areas and we did come up with an average number for construction.

On the operation side, over the period of 30 years, unfortunately I don't have the numbers in my head, but it starts with a

lower number for the first five years, then it increases. There is an expectation on our part that there will be a training plan in place and over the course of the contract, it will increase until, I believe, in the final period, it's over 60 percent Inuit employment.

This will be monitored very closely. There are penalties for not achieving it and some bonuses for exceeding it. So the incentives are there. The penalties are pretty serious and expensive, so they will want to achieve those numbers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Long. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. While we are talking about the Iqaluit terminal, this is going to have an impact on all the communities in Nunavut. I appreciate the response and I would like to ask another question. The Department of Transportation knows or realizes or is aware that this year and the previous years, there were a lot of aircraft and helicopters in all of Nunavut. I just wondered if they thought about having a new terminal or larger terminal to be built in Baker Lake. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Prior to the question, the answer was included in my presentation. The department has looked into the terminal issue in Baker Lake and it was included

in this review of runways and air terminal issues in all of Nunavut.

With this review completed and the report submitted, we can start clarifying the issues. As per an earlier question from another community wanting a runway and the timeframe, I can only answer exactly how I did for that question and I can only do the same here. When the report is ready, we will have answers. Thank you.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Under K-3 and K-4, I have other questions that I would like to ask. They talk about the motor vehicle information system. I have a question on that as well.

(interpretation ends) Your department's substantiation sheet for this project indicates that a new motor vehicle information system will improve linkages with law enforcement agencies and enhance linkages with health care providers.

Can you describe what kinds of personal information about Nunavummiut that is held by your department will be shared with other entities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) And I think further, "Why?" Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's a good question. One of my officials knows about this question, so I would like to

ask permission to have that person at the witness table. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Are you asking to get one of your officials to come to the witness table who is not here? Does the committee agree to bring in the witness?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms.  
(interpretation ends) Hon. Minister,  
(interpretation) please introduce your official. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With me is the Assistant Deputy Minister for my department, Pauloosie Suvega. He deals with MVIS. Thank you.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, Hon. Minister. (interpretation) Welcome, Mr. Suvega. (interpretation ends) For the record, (interpretation) please ask the same question again so that the new witness can answer it. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The question that I have has to do with MVIS.

(interpretation ends) Your department's substantiation sheet for this project indicates that a new motor vehicle information system will improve linkages with law enforcement agencies and enhance linkages with health care providers.

Can you describe what kinds of personal information about Nunavummiut that is held by your department will be shared with other entities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister, I think I have your permission to allow Mr. Suvega to answer the question, if I may. Mr. Suvega.

**Mr. Suvega** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The information that will be shared has to do with people with disabilities, either through vision or through a handicap. That information has to be available for people with driver's licences. If they're going to go outside of Nunavut as well as inside of Nunavut, that information has to be available at all times.

I hope that was understandable. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much. That is understandable, but I don't think I got all the information that I wanted.

(interpretation ends) When you look at the motor vehicle information system and you're looking at improving linkages with law enforcement agencies and enhancing linkages with health care providers, which are two different departments, I guess my question here is, and you are disclosing personal information of an individual: how will legal consent be taken care of, I guess,



and what timeline are we looking at?  
Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get Pauloosie to respond to his question. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Suvega.

**Mr. Suvega**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Maybe to answer the question in English, an exchange of data is required with external stakeholders, such as the Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators. We have an agreement with them that allows us to exchange data and information on a secure basis. It would also allow us to have people who are applying for driver's licences to be able to travel outside of Nunavut as well.

The system interfaces with the RCMP for security reasons. We will be linked into a national database to allow efficient exchange of information between law enforcement agencies and health officials. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak**: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. In addition to this, my question is: when you look at the allotted budget, with the equipment that is planned to be purchased under capital to deal with this matter, will that be for

all Nunavut communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. Mr. Kuksuk.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for his question. It's going to be for all of Nunavut communities. That amount of money that you're asking about is going to be directed to the information systems for the communities of Nunavut. If Mr. Suvega wants to make additional comments, he can do so. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. If you want to make additional comments, Mr. Suvega, I allow you.

**Mr. Suvega** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As per the minister's statement, this fund is for all Nunavut communities and if it isn't replaced or revised or if it is repealed and no longer in force, then the identification or licence cards that are produced would immediately have to be stopped. This would impact those residents who may want to go outside of Nunavut if they won't have identification. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The reason why I am asking about these cards is due to the fact that some people have had to wait for quite a long time. To cite this example, the federal government uses the photo equipment for passports, but some communities sometimes have to

wait six months to a year to get their passports.

This issue we are discussing at this time is being faced by the Department of Health as well as the Transportation Division related to identification needs as well as law enforcement and legal issues. If this is the way it is going to remain, then will these two pieces of identification being discussed no longer be valid? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I'm sorry, but I didn't really understand the question about identification. I'm not really sure what he meant by identification. Thank you.

**Chairman**: *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. (interpretation) Please clarify your question, Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you very much. Maybe if I ask in English. Will this MVIS system override and eliminate the other two departments' identification process? For example, would the health care card be overridden and also any legal identification cards? Would this override the other two departments' general ID system? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Now I have a better understanding. From my understanding of what we're discussing at this time, for example, the driver's licence, that's what I'm talking about. What you're talking about is the IDs on the side. From my understanding, it will not affect it. Mr. Suvega could add to that. Thank you.

**Chairman**: *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. (interpretation) Mr. Suvega, if you want to add to that, you now have the floor.

**Mr. Suvega** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, it would not override any of the identification that already exists. It would just support the ID systems. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Mr. Joanasie.

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, my question is on small and minor capital. I think Mr. Enook called them *Akikimajaaqtut*. I think I can call it *Akitujuutiralaat* in Inuktitut.

Can the minister confirm that his department is budgeting \$100,000 in the 2014-15 fiscal year for different studies? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Joanasie. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member for the question. I will get my deputy minister to respond to that. Thank you.

**Chairman**: *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. Hon. Minister, (interpretation) let me

remind you that as the Chair, if you could go through me, then I could give permission for whomever to speak. Mr. Long.

**Mr. Long:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we have identified \$100,000 for studies as part of the small capital projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Long. Mr. Joanasié.

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you for the response. As the minister will recall, I asked him questions during Friday's sitting of the House concerning the need to undertake the feasibility study for the relocation of the Kimmirut Airport. Would the minister commit to using a portion of his department's budget for a study to undertake this work? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Joanasié. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are different studies that will be undertaken. We could use that to do some studies on the airport. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Mr. Joanasié.

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): I can stop at that line of questioning. I have a question on K-4, MVIS, or Motor Vehicle Information System. I will ask it in English.

(interpretation ends) Earlier today, I raised the issue of passport photography. In his replies to my questions, the

Premier indicated that his department's government liaison officers would work with the Department of Economic Development and Transportation on this issue.

Can the minister or his officials clarify whether the department's proposed capital project for the replacement of the motor vehicle information system will involve installing cameras in the communities to be used to take passport photos? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Joanasié. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member. This was also raised. This is part of having a good camera or it is part of the motor vehicle information system. It would be included. Thank you.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. Mr. Joanasié.

**Mr. Joanasié:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the answer. One of my last questions is your department is requesting \$500,000 in the 2014-15 fiscal year for small craft harbour funding. Your department's substantiation sheet for this project indicates that funding under this project is used to undertake studies, obtain permits, undertake design work and minor marine improvements and partner with the federal Department of Fisheries on funding major works if the opportunity arises.

Can you indicate what specific studies, permits, and minor improvements your

department is planning for the next fiscal year? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Joanasie. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman and my colleague for the very good question. We need to give a good response and I would like my assistant deputy minister to respond to that. Thank you.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. (interpretation) Mr. Suvega, go ahead.

**Mr. Suvega** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This can be used for studies. It will be available once the budget has been approved or the capital budget has been approved. There are a large number of proposals and we don't have enough funding and we have been getting lot of requests for proposals from the communities for small craft harbours. The good start would be to do some study to proceed with the small craft harbours. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Mr. Joanasie.

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the response. This will be my last question. Since there is going to be an airport being built here in Iqaluit, I'm just wondering if you can identify the contents of the contracts or (interpretation ends) the terms of reference with Arctic Infrastructure Partners. Will it be made available for

the public in whole or in part? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Joanasie. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member for enquiring about the contract. I think my deputy minister can provide a better response if you allow him to speak. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Long.

**Mr. Long:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The information on the Iqaluit airport project is on our website. It's currently posted in English and it's currently being translated into Inuktitut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Long. Mr. Joanasie, are you done? Okay. We will move on. Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is that the Government of Canada has announced that as part of the Building Canada Plan, Nunavut will receive at least \$400 million for roads, bridges, and other public infrastructure over the next ten years. Can you clarify if this funding is eligible to be used for new marine infrastructure in the territory? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Akoak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member. The official next

to me wants to respond to the question and it's a good question, so I'll defer it to Mr. Long.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. I will allow Mr. Long to answer. Mr. Long.

**Mr. Long:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We were pleased that the federal government has announced the fund. They have not provided any details at this time. We have no idea what is eligible under that. We're looking forward with great anticipation to hear the details of how the program will work. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Long. Moving on. I will remind you that we're still on page K-3. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll just be quick. A few of my questions have already been answered.

Acquiring marine infrastructure to suit our community needs has been discussed on many occasions over the years. I'm just wondering what efforts your department has made to obtain additional federal support for construction of adequate marine infrastructure in Nunavut to suit community needs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** I thank you very much, Mr. Rumbolt. Mr. Kuksuk.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member for asking the question. Constantly, as a department,

we have continued to outline our position regarding marine infrastructure, both large and small craft harbours. The smaller and easier work can be undertaken by our department, such as the launching ramps useful to our harvesters.

However, with respect to larger construction projects or harbours built for larger vessels, such as docks for ships, are not within our ability to fund on our own. We have to work with the federal government because they are the ones that provide the majority of the funds. That's the only way we can get large infrastructure. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiiktauq*, hon. minister. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I realize that you have to work with the federal government to obtain more funds for marine infrastructure, and that was my question to you. What is your department doing to acquire more funding for marine infrastructure? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I said, the larger marine infrastructure is being funded by the federal government. We have worked with them in getting infrastructure in Pangnirtung because we don't have enough of our own money. Therefore, we have to get some money from the federal government to proceed with the larger marine infrastructure.

It would be difficult just to get infrastructure. There would have to be some economic development and a good plan. It gets easier if you have a good plan, but we have not identified which community will be getting infrastructure. I think that was the question. We have not reached where we have identified which community will be receiving the infrastructure. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was being very careful not to say “small craft harbours” in my question because I know small craft harbours, from the government’s point of view, are millions and millions of dollars. A lot of our communities are not looking for small craft harbours. They are looking for places where they can put boats for protection, protecting their equipment from the environment and the elements.

My question is: away from the small craft harbours, is there anything your department is doing to acquire additional funding to create marine infrastructure in our communities that is adequate for our community needs? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for your question regarding the small capital items. As I indicated earlier, whether they’re going to be used by the hunters or for seal-hunting type of boats or smaller boats, we’re looking at that type of marine infrastructure like

ramps, for example. Some of those types of marine facilities have been built. We do have some money set aside for such facilities, be it docking facilities or ramps. I believe that’s your question. We do have plans for such items. Thank you.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. (interpretation) We will proceed. Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I’m sure my question is going to be responded to right away. I just want further clarification on K-4. There is \$30,118,000 that is going to be used for one specific purpose. Is this \$30 million going to be used in one year or is that amount to be used on a multi-year basis or is that a one-time funding? How does it work? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will refer this question to Mr. Long. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. (interpretation ends) I will allow Mr. Long to answer the question. Mr. Long.

**Mr. Long:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The answer is yes, the \$30,118,000 will be spent in the year 2014-15. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Long. Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We understand that

it is one-time funding. So there is not going to be any more for next year or for years coming. That's my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Mapsalak. Hon. Minister, (interpretation) does Mr. Mapsalak understand that correctly? Thank you.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will refer this question to Mr. Bob Long with your permission. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Hon. Minister, (interpretation) thank you for asking me. Mr. Long.

**Mr. Long:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On that page, you can see Capital Plan Expenditures 2016-19. It indicates that there is \$107,417,000 will be spent in those years after 2014-15. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Long. Mr. Mapsalak, (interpretation) do you have additional questions? Are you done? Thank you. We are on page K-3. Economic Development and Transportation. Branch Summary. Transportation. Total Capital Expenditures. \$35,968,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. We will then go back to page K-2. (interpretation ends) Mr. Savikataaq, do you have a comment? Go ahead, Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess my hand that was up

never was noticed quite awhile ago. Thank you.

**Chairman:** My apologies. I never got your name, but I will make an executive decision to allow you to ask your question with the permission of members. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Okay, back to K-3. Again, my apologies. (interpretation) I did not see you and I did not see your name. I apologize for that oversight. We will go back to K-3. Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your executive decision, and I will raise my hand higher next time.

>>*Laughter*

In April of 2013, the Government of Nunavut and the Government of Manitoba issued a news release following a meeting of the Hudson Bay Neighbours Regional Round Table. The release indicated that a proposed winter road from Churchill, Manitoba to Rankin Inlet, Nunavut was a major discussion point at the meeting.

As of today, what is the status of the proposed winter road, and has the federal government committed any funds towards the project? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Savikataaq. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member from Arviat for that

question. To date, regarding the proposed winter road, we have no money set aside or identified for the use of the proposed winter road. We are currently in discussions with the Manitoba government and the Nunavut government. The mayors from Manitoba and Kivalliq are going to be having meetings regarding the road, be it a winter or year-round road.

We're not only looking at the road itself; we're looking at other issues. We're also planning to have a meeting in Churchill some time in April. I'm not exactly sure what date it is, as we haven't been notified or I haven't seen the letter yet. They're going to be having a meeting in Churchill regarding the road from Manitoba to the Kivalliq.

I hope that was understandable to Mr. Savikataaq. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, hon. minister. Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I had more questions on the road, but I will wait until they have their meeting. My questions would be better answered then on the road.

On another question, in the fall of 2006, the Legislative Assembly passed a formal motion that calls on the government to work with the Northern Air Transport Association to bring toward an action plan to improve the availability, affordability, and reliability of air service to Nunavut's smaller and under-serviced communities. I think they just meant that they want reliable, cheaper air service.

My question to that is: you said that your contract with NAV Canada is over shortly, because one of my colleagues asked that question, and until the contract is over, are there any talks with NAV Canada to identify airport equipment needs, such as beacons, GPS approach, and other navigation aids?

Every time an airplane does not land, that cost is passed onto the paying customers. We don't see it, but it's there. I just wanted to know if there is any such talk with NAV Canada or the airlines for more and better updated navigational aids to the smaller airports. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Savikataaq. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Savikataaq for the question. He indicated that he is going to have other questions regarding the Manitoba-Nunavut road. Our department and other departments got invitations to the meeting in Churchill. I just made that as an addendum to the question that you asked earlier.

With respect to NAV Canada and their contract, I will defer this question to my deputy minister, if you would allow me, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, hon. minister. Mr. Long.

**Mr. Long:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just for clarification, the contract with NAV Canada that we are ending in a year is the CARS contract, so the airport radio operators' contract will then be contracted directly with the private



sector rather than through the Government of Nunavut. We will continue to have discussions with NAV Canada on other parts of the operation of the airport in addition to Transport Canada. We're in contact with them all the time. They monitor and police us to make sure we're playing by the rules correctly.

There is considerable discussion going on with the airlines and NAV Canada towards the GPS system. We're very enthusiastic to see that happen, and we don't pay for that. We simply want it to happen. We encourage them to do it, as do the airlines, and that would be an investment by NAV Canada to put that equipment in place. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Bob Long, Mr. Long. Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess a clarification to the minister, then, is: the minister's department is pushing for a GPS approach to all communities for cost effectiveness and safety. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. Savikataaq. Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it's a definite requirement. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

**Chairman**: *Qujannamiiktauq*, hon. minister. (interpretation) Moving on. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Listening to the questions that were

being posed to the department and looking at the documentation in front of us, I have another question regarding MVIS.

Before we became Members of the Legislative Assembly, this was agreed to. The (interpretation) 2007-08 capital estimates included \$800,000 in funding for upgrades to the government's driver's licence and general identification card security system. How did the department determine that it now needs to completely replace its motor vehicle information system? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much. While we are on this subject, I wish to defer this to the person responsible for this matter. It is your discretion to allow me to defer the answer to Mr. Suvega.

**Chairman**: Thank you, hon. minister. Mr. Suvega.

**Mr. Suvega**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the member for that question. We're talking about two different things. There's the general identification card and then there are driver's licences. Both, ideally, would use the same system. A lot of the information would be stored securely.

In terms of general ID cards, in the past, it was enhancements, such as the production of the cards themselves, working with an external agent that produces those cards outside of Nunavut, so that plays into that factor as well.

Speaking about the replacement for the motor vehicle information system, that is an entirely different system that deals specifically with things like driver's licences and that is meant to be linked to access to a national system, as we have agreements in place with provinces and territories. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Now the reason why I am asking about this matter is because it's going to be an expensive proposition to complete this and with all Nunavummiut possibly benefiting from this project.

Just prior to the session starting, he stated that working with the Department of Health and with the Department of Justice, because it is going to have an impact on transportation... .

Is the department saying that the ID cards would be maintained or would you change to a new system? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. We're just looking at the Motor Vehicles Branch only. We're just looking at the motor vehicle information system only. The motor vehicle information system is for the whole of the Nunavut territory, whether it be driver's licences or providing informatics systems or

computers to the motor vehicle information system only. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you, hon. minister. (interpretation) Mr. Mikkungwak, are you finished? Are there any further questions before I move on? If you have any further questions before I move on, please raise your hand. We are on page K-3. Economic Development and Transportation. Branch Summary. Transportation. Total Capital Expenditures. \$35,968,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Let's go back to page 2. We won't be going back to page 3 again.

>> *Laughter*

Page 2. We are on Branch Summary. Economic Development and Transportation. Detail of Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$35,968,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Do members agree that the review of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation is concluded?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Thank you, members. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister, (interpretation) we have completed the review of your department. If you have any closing remarks, you may proceed. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank my colleagues and my officials from my department for providing me support today.

This is my very first appearance in the House and I'm very pleased about that. Sometimes I get really confused, but I'm sure that as I get used to this, it will be easier for me to respond to your questions. Thank you very much. I will conclude with that for now. Thank you.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiiktauq*, hon. minister (interpretation) and your officials. As we continue, Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses (interpretation ends) and hon. minister, (interpretation) you may go back to your seat.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make a motion to report progress at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Speaker:** Report of the Committee of the Whole. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Enook.

### **Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 2, capital estimates, and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? (interpretation ends) Hon. Member, Mr. Okalik. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

### **Item 22: Orders of the Day**

**Clerk** (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a reminder that tomorrow morning at ten o'clock in the Tuktu Boardroom, there's a meeting of the Regular Caucus at 10:00.

*Orders of the Day* for March 11:

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

10. Petitions
11. Responses to Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special  
Committees on Bills and Other  
Matters
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First  
Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of  
the Whole of Bills and Other  
Matters
  - Bill 2
20. Report of the Committee of the  
Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you.  
(interpretation ends) This House stands  
adjourned until Tuesday, March 11, at  
1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 17:39*

