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Iqaluit

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

Hon. George Qulaut
(Amittuq)

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(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)

Hon. Tom Sammurtok
(Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet)
Minister of Community and Government Services

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

Simeon Mikkungwak
(Baker Lake)
Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Samuel Nuqingaq
(Uqqummiut)

Joe Savikataaq
(Arviat South)

Joe Enook
(Tununiq)
Deputy Speaker and Chair of the Committee of the Whole

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

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. Paul Quassa
(Aggu)
Minister of Education; Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Friday, March 14, 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, Hon. Johnny Mike, Mr.
Simeon Mikkungwak, Hon. Paul Okalik,
Hon. Keith Peterson, Hon. Paul Quassa,
Hon. George Qulaut, Mr. Allan
Rumbolt, Mr. Alexander Sammurtok,
Hon. Tom Sammurtok, Mr. Joe
Savikataaq, Mr. Isaac Shooyook, Hon.
Peter Taptuna, Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk.

>>*House commenced at 8:59*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good morning
Members, Ministers, Premier and all the
residents of Nunavut. I share the joy of
the Amittuq people today as Steven
Alianaq was found safe and sound. To
the SAR teams from Hall Beach and
Igloolik, as well as the other searchers
by air, we extend our gratitude for your
efforts. Let's have a good day today.

(interpretation ends) Proceeding with the
orders of the day. Item 2. (interpretation)
Ministers' Statements. Hon Member for
Education, Mr. Quassa.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

**Minister's Statement 028 – 4(1):
Sanatuliqsarvik Nunavut Trades
Training Centre**

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday, I
stated that education is important. Mr.
Speaker, I rise in the House today to
inform my fellow members of the
progress and accomplishment coming
out of Sanatuliqsarvik, the Nunavut
Trade Training Centre located in Rankin
Inlet.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, in
2013, Sanatuliqsarvik underwent a
successful accreditation for all of its
apprenticeship trades programs. In
addition to meeting the accreditation
requirements for existing programs, the
centre's Third Level Oil Burner
Mechanic Program was also accredited
for delivery. In addition to the college
apprentice carpentry program, the Oil
Burner Mechanic Program is now in the
second skilled trades program providing
opportunities for apprentices to attain all
of the required levels of training
necessary to obtain the Inter-provincial
Red Seal certification in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavut Arctic College
also delivers all three levels of
apprenticeship training to the Housing
Maintainer Program for provincial
certification, as this is a non-Red Seal
program.

(interpretation) The 2013 fall term
apprenticeship program intake saw 12
apprentices enrolled into four programs.
Mr. Speaker, I am also pleased to report
all 12 students successfully completed
their technical training and passing their
government theory exam on the first
attempt. Mr. Speaker, this number

represents approximately 10 percent of the active enrolled apprentices within the apprenticeship system. (interpretation ends) The credit of their success belongs to the interests and efforts of the students and the dedication of their instructors and support staff.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in acknowledging the solid efforts of our students and the staff. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Member, Mr. Kuksuk.

**Minister's Statement 029 – 4(1):
Gathering House – A Tourism
Facility for Qikiqtarjuaq**

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Good morning, my fellow Nunavummiut. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to congratulate the Hamlet of Qikiqtarjuaq for putting into reality one of their economic development goals by creating, designing and building a beautiful tourism facility called the Gathering House.

The Gathering House has been a priority for the community of Qikiqtarjuaq for a number of years. With funding from the Department of Economic Development and Transportation, Nunavut Tunngavik, Kakivak Association, and the Government of Canada, this project is now in the final stages of construction.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of Nunavut recognizes the potential of tourism for our territory's economy, and

we are working to identify opportunities for the development of key attractions.

This much needed infrastructure in Qikiqtarjuaq will be a focal point for visitors as well as a place for the elders of Qikiqtarjuaq to gather. The Gathering House will allow visitors to learn about the community and connect with businesses, services and local outfitters serving Qikiqtarjuaq and the nearby Auyuittuq National Park.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating the community of Qikiqtarjuaq on their success of making an idea a reality. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. I have no more names on my list. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, Ms. Angnakak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

**Member's Statement 071 – 4(1): Solid
Waste Management Initiatives**

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address the issue of waste management in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, the need to address waste management in the territory is one of the issues that were raised repeatedly with me by Iqaluit residents during the recent election campaign.

As we have heard this week in relation to such issues as compliance with water licences, it is obvious that we face many challenges in the areas of managing, treating and disposing of waste.

My constituents have told me that they want to see support for such initiatives as recycling and support for such technologies as incineration.

Mr. Speaker, in 2010, the Government of Nunavut completed a pilot project for recycling beverage containers. However, the government subsequently indicated that, and I quote, “the infrastructure costs to support recycling are very high and the benefits of recycling in Nunavut are minimal.”

More recently, the Department of Community and Government Services issued a *Request for Information for Potential Planning for Solid Waste Management Methods*. This document indicated that, and I quote, “The logistical challenges of transporting recoverable materials makes it very difficult to implement programs such as recycling of bottles, cans, paper products and metals and proper hazardous waste treatment. Individual communities do not have the capacity, nor is there enough government funding to implement these types of programs in each community. As such, transporting this material out of the communities for further processing is a potential option.”

Mr. Speaker, our land, our water and air need and deserve our protection and care, which is why I will have questions for the government on this issue at the appropriate time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Member’s Statement 072 – 4(1):
Former MLA and Speaker in
Manitoba**

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, I would like to talk about a former member of the Manitoba legislature representing the constituency of Point Douglas in Winnipeg for 21 years, making him the first Inuk elected in a provincial legislature, also the first Inuk elected to the position of Speaker. With the support of his colleagues from all parties represented in Manitoba, he held that most honourable position for three terms until his recent retirement.

Mr. Speaker, it is with his guidance throughout my life to date that I have become the man I am today. His help in instilling the values of honesty and respect for others has led me to this path of representing the constituency of Iqaluit. Mr. Speaker, I hope the apple hasn’t fallen too far from the tree, and that I will be able to fulfill my duties as long as my constituents feel I am worthy to do so.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I would like to recognize this individual. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members’ Statements. (interpretation ends) Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

**Member’s Statement 073 – 4(1):
Recognizing AWG Athletes from
Sanikiluaq**

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, members. Mr. Speaker, I

rise today and join the community of Sanikiluaq in proudly recognizing two athletes who will be attending the upcoming 2014 Arctic Winter Games in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Mr. Speaker, two badminton players from Sanikiluaq, Sappa Cookie and Timusie Kittosuk, will be part of Team Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, both of these athletes have been practising long, hard hours with the Sanikiluaq Badminton Club to get their game ready for the challenge ahead.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the effort and dedication of Coach Steven Keowen in working with all the badminton players. Without his coaching and support, these young athletes would not be where they are today.

Mr. Speaker, as I have mentioned before, I strongly believe that athletes from all across Nunavut and especially from our more remote communities should have opportunities to travel to competitive sports events. I am very pleased that our Sanikiluaq athletes will be participating in the Arctic Winter Games this year.

Mr. Speaker, I wish all of Team Nunavut good luck and especially the badminton players. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Member's Statement 074 – 4(1):
Baker Lake Author Nominated for
Award**

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Before I begin my Member's Statement, I would like to wish my daughter Tina Mikkungwak and my brother-in-law Robert Seeteenak a happy birthday.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an achievement by one of my constituents, Paula Ikuutaq Rumbolt, whose book, *The Legend of Lightning and Thunder*, is a finalist for the 2014 Book of the Year for Children Award. Ms. Rumbolt is also a fourth year Concordia University student in Montreal.

Mr. Speaker, my predecessor rose in this House last year to announce the publication of this book by Inhabit Media, which is a Nunavut-based publishing company. This company works to "promote and preserve the stories, knowledge and talent of Northern Canada."

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased that the Canadian Library Association recognizes the talent of this Baker Lake writer. I am confident that my colleague from Hudson Bay, who is Paula's father, is also proud of her nomination for this award.

Mr. Speaker, the Book of the Year for Children Award honours a book published in Canada in 2013 by a Canadian author and that appeals to readers aged 12 and under. Paula's book was selected from nearly 200 titles as one of only 10 finalists. The winner will be announced on April 15, 2014.

Mr. Speaker, I certainly hope that Paula Ikuutaq Rumbolt will continue to write and publish her work and to provide children and adults across Canada with even more opportunities to read, learn, and be inspired. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Tununig, Mr. Enook.

**Member's Statement 075 – 4(1):
Recognizing AWG Athletes from
Pond Inlet**

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I would like to congratulate our young people who are going to be participating in the Arctic Winter Games. I am also grateful that this government is able to give support to the young people and it is something I am very proud of. I congratulate the young people who participate in the Games and I know that during the Arctic Winter Games, they will do the best they can and they will best represent Nunavut.

We also have participants from Pond Inlet. I would like to congratulate these individuals:

Quviq Inutiq;
Peter Inutiq, who are brothers, playing basketball;
Roland Allen Qamaniq, with the soccer team;
Cody Pitsiulaaq; and
Misha Piugaattualuq, who are in the basketball team.

We congratulate you and we congratulate all the participants in the Arctic Winter Games. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 076 – 4(1):
Recognizing AWG Athletes**

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday, I was talking about athletes who came through Iqaluit on their way to the Arctic Winter Games. I would like to congratulate the young people and we hope them the best during their participation at the Arctic Winter Games. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation) Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Kuksuk.

**Member's Statement 077 – 4(1):
Recognizing AWG Athletes of
Arviat North-Whale Cove**

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I too rise this morning to express pride in the athletes from Whale Cove and Arviat in the Arctic Winter Games, whose names I wish to mention.

(interpretation ends) I rise today to show my pride and support for some young athletes and coaches from my constituency of Arviat North-Whale Cove.

Mr. Speaker, I think that all Members of this House agree that it is a great thing to see young people participating in sports and doing healthy activities. I am sure they are going to do an amazing job representing our territory at the Arctic Winter Games in Alaska next week.

Members, please bear with me as I would like to recognize the following athletes and coaches by name:

From Whale Cove:

Elizabeth Voisey;
Marianne Hapanak;
Benji Hapanak;
Chris Jones;
Mike Okalik; and
Keisha Jones.

(interpretation) From Arviat:

(interpretation ends) Manuel Akat;
Tapisha Tattuinee;
Manuel Kutaaq;
Scott Alaralaq;
Darren Natilaaq;
Shelby Angalik;
Jillian Kaviok;
Johnny Kaviok;
John Uuli;
Ryan O'Connor;
Connor Fudge; and lastly
Daniel Fitzgerald.

(interpretation ends) Lastly, I would like to say, "Go, Team Nunavut, Go!"

(interpretation) Thank you.

>> *Applause*

>> *Laughter*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for

Rankin Inlet South, Mr. Sammurtok.

**Member's Statement 078 – 4(1):
Recognizing AWG Athletes and
Coaches of Rankin Inlet North**

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize these individuals from my constituency. They will be going to Fairbanks, Alaska to participate at the Arctic Winter Games.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the athletes, coaches, cultural performers, mission staff, and volunteers from my constituency of Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet who will be travelling to Fairbanks, Alaska to represent Team Nunavut at the 2014 Arctic Winter Games.

The Arctic Winter Games are a great opportunity for our youth to represent our territory, make friends, and compete at an international event. I wish them all great success at the Games. Good luck, Team Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Mike.

**Member's Statement 079 – 4(1):
Recognizing AWG Athletes of
Pangnirtung and Long Service
Awards**

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to congratulate more than one individual. I would also like to congratulate the athletes who will be participating in the Alaskan Arctic

Winter Games. I would also like to commend the parents of those athletes.

I would like to acknowledge some individuals from Pangnirtung who will be participating:

For badminton:

Lynzie Qaqasiq.

For hockey, boys and girls:

Corey Alivatuk;
Rosy Etuangat;
Krista Kullualik; and
Jane Nakashuk.

For volleyball:

Mary Kelly Ataguyuk;
Joanasie Dialla;
Sheema Ishulutak;
Joey Nowyuk;
Rita Claire Mike; and
Brandon Oolayou.

I would also like to include for the cultural team my grandchild, Jasmine Ulaajuk, who is sitting right over there as one of the pages.

I congratulate these participants and I am very proud that they are going to be participating. I would like to congratulate these individuals on behalf of the people of Pangnirtung.

For part two, Meeka Alivatak has been working for 25 years with the government. I congratulate her and her husband and their children. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 080 – 4(1):
Greetings to Constituents**

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good morning" to the people of Netsilik. It's very early over there. Since it is Friday, I wish all the employees a good morning and wish them a good weekend.

I think about the people of my community. We have an individual who is very ill. I send my prayers to this person and to the family. My mother, my older siblings and younger siblings, I say "good morning" to you and also to my grandchildren, have a very good and safe weekend. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Joanasie.

**Member's Statement 081 – 4(1):
Recognizing AWG Participants of
South Baffin**

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning. I rise today to wish Team Nunavut farewell and to enjoy the Arctic Winter Games in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Mr. Speaker, as a past participant in the Games, both as an athlete and mission staff for Team Nunavut, I know how exciting and exhilarating it is to be at the Arctic Winter Games.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a few of the athletes from my

constituency:

Jordan Akavak-Flaherty;
Alisa Allooloo;
Natasha Reid;
Rose Rowsell;
Susan Rowsell;
Noah Michael; and
My sister-in-law's daughter, Papatsi
Anrango Kotierk.

I would also like to recognize the coach Andre Sampson and chaperone Heather Penney. Thank you for taking the time to assist our youth in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I wish the entire Team Nunavut a wonderful week ahead and enjoy the friendly competition and to bring back some Ulus. Go Team Nunavut! Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Aggu, Mr. Quassa.

**Member's Statement 082 – 4(1):
Recognizing AWG Participants of
Igloolik**

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to the people of Igloolik. The people of Igloolik and Hall Beach are very glad that they were able to find the young man who was lost for almost a week.

This morning, I rise to acknowledge our athletes who will be going to the Arctic Winter Games in Fairbanks, Alaska. I have great admiration for all those youth and their coaches who have worked so hard over the years to prepare for this moment. Now the time has come to

show Nunavummiut how well they can do in representing Nunavummiut.

With so many athletes going, I want to recognize some of the athletes who will be going from my constituency and also from the Amittuq Riding. I want to recognize Monica Qattalik, who will be on a hockey team, Tessa Kunuk and Marcus Angutiqjuaq, who will be part of the wrestling team, and from the Amittuq Riding, Casandra Iannuci, who will be part of the mission team, who is in our Speaker's riding.

I congratulate them all for their time to go to Fairbanks, Alaska. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. I have no more names on my list. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Hickes.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned in my Member's Statement this morning, I would like to welcome my father, George Hickes Sr., former politician from Manitoba who worked very hard throughout his career, not only to educate his counterparts in Manitoba on the way of life we live up here, but greatly enhanced the relations between the Manitoba government and the Nunavut government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Mr. Hickes Sr., welcome. (interpretation) Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although this person was previously already recognized, I wish to also recognize this person as he is my paternal cousin, George Hickes Sr.

I just want my colleagues to know that his late mother, who was quite capable, and my father were siblings. They were brother and sister. That is why I hold additional respect. Furthermore, I had heard constantly that he held the portfolio of Speaker in the Manitoba legislature and he has the distinction of being the longest-serving Speaker in that House.

I am quite proud of his accomplishments, and we are literally following in his footsteps, particularly his son, who is here as an MLA. I am expressing my pride and ask that he be further recognized. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors to the Gallery, Mr. Sammurtok.

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, wish to recognize George Hickes Sr., as I have known him for many years and furthermore, he is my maternal cousin. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors to the Gallery, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, as per our Inuit traditional customs, the person who was just recognized is also a Speaker, as you are our Speaker here in this House. I would ask that you coin him with an endearment term as per our Inuit customs, as we are asked to follow this custom. I wish to acknowledge your “Speaker twin” at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. We totally recognize the man and please feel welcome in our Gallery, Mr. George Hickes Sr.

(interpretation ends) Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. (interpretation) All visitors recognized thus far, welcome to the Gallery and we acknowledge their presence. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Arviat South, Mr. Savikataaq.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 071 – 4(1): European Union

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Premier.

As we all know, the European Union seal ban has been extremely harmful to Nunavut. On November 25 of last year, the Premier issued a public statement expressing disappointment in the World Trade Organization’s response to the

federal government's challenge to the EU seal ban.

Can the Premier update the House on what the next steps in this process are? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, the appeal is ongoing. It is led by the Government of Canada, and we support the Government of Canada in their appeals to the World Trade Organization. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my understanding that the European Union ambassador to Canada was recently in Iqaluit for an official visit. Can the Premier indicate what issues he raised with her during their meeting? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There were a number of issues raised in my private meeting with my ambassador to the EU. Through the Arctic Council, there are a number of initiatives that are ongoing. We looked at mental health, the overall situation with the Arctic Council and other things.

There were a number of things that were discussed, including the appeals of

Canadian government on the seal trade ban. As you know, Mr. Speaker, the appeals were overturned based on emotional feelings of the European Union rather than on facts, which makes it very difficult. We support the Canadian government on their appeals to the World Trade Organization. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I commend the Premier on working hard for the people of Nunavut to battle the seal ban. The Government of Nunavut has previously opposed granting the EU official observer status at the Arctic Council until such time as the seal ban issue is resolved. Can the Premier confirm that this is still the Government of Nunavut's position? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The decision is made by a number of participants in the Arctic Council. The Hon. Leona Aglukkaq, as Chair of the Arctic Council, we do communicate our feelings of the issues that are brought forth. This government does support Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami in their appeals to have the ban lifted on sealskin. We also support Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated to have our rights realized by the European Union.

The work is ongoing. Again, I have to say that the appeals are going forth with the Government of Canada.

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

Question 072 – 4(1): Minimum Wage Rate in Nunavut

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Justice. Since the minister was so efficient in responding to my request that he table the most recent annual report of the Nunavut Human Rights Tribunal, I thought that I would try again today on a different issue.

The territorial *Labour Standards Act* requires the government to review the minimum wage in Nunavut on annual basis. However, a report has not been tabled in the House since the spring of 2012. Will the minister be tabling the next annual report before the end of our current winter sitting? 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) On this one, I'm afraid the report is not ready at this time. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For the benefit of the public record, can the minister confirm what the minimum wage rate in Nunavut currently is? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Hon. Minister of Justice, Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I am trying to go through my wonderful technology, but I can't find it at the moment. I believe it hasn't been changed for some time and that we are tied with Ontario at the moment, at \$11, I believe. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, it is \$11. Although Nunavut's minimum wage of \$11 per hour is among the highest in the country, I think that we can all agree that it's still not a lot. Mr. Speaker, the minimum wage in Nunavut hasn't gone up since January 1, 2011, just over three years ago. Does the minister agree that it's time for a raise for minimum wage workers in 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) As the legislation commits all businesses and the people in the private sector, some discussion will have to take place before any commitments are made for increasing the rate at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 073 – 4(1): Firearms Initiatives

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

In March of last year, the most current shared directional statement between the Government of Nunavut's Department of Justice and the RCMP's "V" Division was tabled in the Legislative Assembly. This document indicates, and I quote, "A firearms safety and education program will be implemented to focus on enhancing public safety and community wellness. Partners and stakeholders will include the Government of Nunavut, the RCMP, federal agencies, hamlet councils, Hunters and Trappers Organizations, community justice committees and other stakeholders." Can the minister update the House today on the status of this initiative? 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. The RCMP has trainers for the firearm safety program in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As you know, in order to legally purchase a firearm and ammunition, you need a firearms possession licence. In order to get a firearms possession licence, you need to take a safety course that is taught by a

federally-certified instructor. However, in my community of Baker Lake, these courses are not offered very frequently.

Can the minister indicate if he has raised the idea with the RCMP's "V" Division of having local officers get the necessary certification to teach these courses?

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. I have spoken to our partners in the federal government and told them the legislation in force today continues to violate the Nunavut land claims agreement. That agreement states that Inuit do not require licenses, so that law is in conflict with that provision in the land claims agreement.

I have spoken with our counterparts to see how we can better apply the firearm licence rules in Nunavut, particularly as it pertains to Inuit. Clearly, there is a need to amend that law so that it conforms with the provisions of the land claims agreement as it is protected by the Canadian Constitution. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your final supplementary, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although the federal government's long gun registry has been abolished, there are still concerns in our communities about the difficulties that Inuit, especially hunters, face in acquiring firearms possession licences and purchasing the ammunition

necessary to go hunting and feed their families.

Can the minister update the House today on what the Government of Nunavut's position is on the issue of the federal government's approach to regulating firearms? 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. Yes, as I said earlier I have discussed this matter with our Member of Parliament about that this legislation needs to be amended and conform to the land claims agreement since it has greater legal status than legislation passed by Parliament.

We will continue to lobby this point until that law is amended, especially for the benefit of Inuit since their rights are constitutionally protected through the land claim agreement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today and I am pleased to make some opening comments on behalf of the Regular Members' Caucus in Committee of the Whole regarding the 2014-15 capital estimates... .

I made a mistake. Yes, indeed, I made a mistake. I have no comments to make at this time.

Speaker (interpreter): That is the case. Thank you. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, Ms. Angnakak.

Question 074 – 4(1): Solid Waste Management Initiatives

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

I want to revisit the issue of solid waste management on this beautiful and very cold Friday morning. In 2010, the Government of Nunavut completed a pilot project for recycling beverage containers. However, the government indicated, and I quote, "the infrastructure costs to support recycling are very high and the benefits of recycling in Nunavut are minimal."

More recently, the minister's department issued a *Request for Information for Potential Planning for Solid Waste Management Methods*. Can the minister confirm that the government is going to take a second look at recycling for all of the Nunavut communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) We currently have an RFP out as of this moment to examine the feasibility of reintroducing the recycling program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. I'm sorry. Your first supplementary, Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In reviewing the department's *Request for Information for Potential Planning for Solid Waste Management Methods*, I noted that it indicates that, and I quote, "The logistical challenges of transporting recoverable materials makes it very difficult to implement programs such as recycling of bottles, cans, paper products and metals, and proper hazardous waste treatment. Individual communities do not have the capacity, nor is there enough government funding, to implement these types of programs in each community. As such, transporting this material out of the communities for further processing is a potential option."

Mr. Speaker, can the minister confirm that the government is looking at designating Iqaluit as a regional processing centre for such materials? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tom Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that question. Once the RFP closes, I'll be able to provide more information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the minister for answering that question. It's my

understanding that the City of Iqaluit recently adopted a new waste management plan that includes acquiring an incinerator. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to pay public tribute to the city's leadership on this issue.

Can the minister indicate if his department will be providing financial or technical assistance to the city as it moves forward with its new waste management plan? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tom Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, once the RFP closes, I'll be able to provide that information. Thank you.

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

Question 075 – 4(1): Utilizing Trades Training Centre

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask a question to the Minister of Education, or Nunavut Arctic College.

In his Minister's Statement this morning, he talked about some of the successes going on with the trades program at the trades training centre in Rankin Inlet. As all members are aware, current and upcoming trades opportunities are very high. I noted that there are a number of programs that are available through the trades training centre in Rankin Inlet,

and unfortunately, I haven't had the privilege of touring the facility myself.

Can the minister answer whether the full space is being utilized for all trades training programs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the question. As mining and other activities increasingly take place in the communities, the trades training centre in Rankin Inlet is indeed relevant. I can say to the member that the trades training centre offers excellent courses. We have plans in place for the students to take trades training for the mining sector and other trades. In addition, current courses are fully implemented. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. That's kind of where I was getting to with my supplementary question, as most of us know that with most trades programs, there is a work component to achieve hours available that necessitates the next level within their Red Seal apprenticeship.

One of the things that I would like to see, as the minister mentioned, a number of further trades opportunities in numerous aspects of the field and to maximize the benefits of when some trades apprentices are in the field to put secondary classes through for the

educational academic component of the trades training.

Can the minister answer whether that has been a subject of discussion with Nunavut Arctic College? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the member for that question. As I mentioned earlier, apprenticeship will be an important component this year. We have always treated apprenticeship with importance. When I make my next Minister's Statement with respect to adult learning centres, I will provide more details on that very issue. I do, however, wholeheartedly agree with the member that this is important and we will certainly follow through with the issue the member raises. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Also in the Minister's Statement, he mentioned that the Housing Maintainer Program for provincial certification is not a Red Seal program. Can the minister answer whether that gives a successful graduate of that program access to other Red Seal trades if they get credit for time and hours served within their field? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Nunavut Arctic College continually seeks to pursue improvements to their courses. With respect to the member's question, I should be able to give a much more detailed response. As I mentioned earlier, the adult learning centres are continually pursuing new courses. In addition, we closely consult with the communities to determine what other training need to provided and what courses should continue to be provided at local adult learning centres. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 076 – 4(1): Breakwater at Arctic Bay

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions to the minister are in regard to the issue I raised the other day about the small craft harbours.

Based on what I learned, I wish to ask further a question on the small craft harbour in Arctic Bay. It has become old and inadequate and four years have passed since. That small craft harbour is nearly unusable during low tide, with loose lying rocks that are increasingly large.

I would like to ask if there is a plan in the future to do improvement work on the breakwater. Do we have to wait another five years before improvements on our breakwater will be started? I would like an answer to my question on

our small boat harbour. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for asking that question. In regard to the breakwater, harvesters in the community use the breakwater for landing or launching their boats. The community is eligible to apply for improvement work on their small craft harbour. I just wanted to let the member know that. Thank you.

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

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I am asking about the breakwater for small craft, especially during windy weather. It has become inadequate. My constituents in the community have become quite adamant about its inadequacy. What is the date when work will start for improvements, in what year? That is the only question I wish to have clarified. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also would like to thank the member for his question. As I stated earlier, for minor capital and also for breakwaters that are being used by hunters, such as when

they go out hunting for seal on a daily basis. If there is a problem and if it requires some work to be done, there is funding available for all communities. The community can make applications for funding to make improvements on their breakwaters at any time. Thank you.

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

Question 077 – 4(1): Harvesters’ Assistance Program

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Environment.

In the Government of Nunavut’s 2013-16 business plan for the Department of Environment, \$265,000 will be provided this 2014-15 fiscal year for wildlife community support and contribution in the communities.

I would like further clarification as to how much funding is allocated to the communities for community hunts and disaster relief? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Environment, Mr. Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for asking that question. The funding allocations for hunting activities, and I understood his reference to the Disaster Relief Fund due to damage from severe weather or hunters who lose equipment due to ice break up, that fund is fully financed.

I am unsure exactly what the other question the member was asking about, so I’d like to ask for clarification on that. There are a variety of programs specific to hunters. The one that came to mind is something I didn’t want to mention without fully understanding which program he was asking about. There is the (interpretation ends) Community Harvest Assistance Program, (interpretation) which I thought he referred to. Which program was he alluding to? Can I get clarification on that please? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, that is exactly what I am talking about. I was wondering if there was a policy for harvesters program to compensate harvesters. I would like to know if your department has a policy available for harvesters’ compensation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Environment, Mr. Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, as long as you are a beneficiary of Nunavut and you reside in Nunavut and you have a hunting licence, you are eligible for the harvesters’ compensation program. That is the criteria for that policy say. Applications for equipment loss or damage due to weather, the local HTO has to approve those applications first. Applicants have to be approved by the HTO level first and then the application is forwarded to my department. Thank

you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 078 – 4(1): Heavy Equipment Operator Training

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister of Education.

In his Minister's Statement today, he said that 12 people passed and it represents 10 percent of the students [across Nunavut]. I'm glad to hear that we have 120 apprentices in Nunavut, and that is a lot.

As the minister is aware, my community of Arviat is proactive in training. The hamlet there has put on a core drilling course and has been successful and people have gotten employment. They currently have a welding course on right now and it's running smoothly.

Would the Minister of Arctic College consider using Arviat as a satellite community, having a heavy equipment training centre there, not just a one-time training program but either a regional or territorial training place for heavy equipment?

Mining is coming on, mines need heavy equipment, and would the minister consider putting a heavy equipment training that would make journeymen heavy equipment trainers in Arviat? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for Arviat for his question. What I can say at this time is that the training programs offered in Arviat are supported by our department. (interpretation ends) We are or I could say that we are a partner in the Arviat training as Nunavut Arctic College. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm glad that the minister said that he is part of the training, but I asked the minister: would he consider putting a satellite training place in Arviat for heavy equipment certification, a course to certify heavy equipment operators in Arviat?

Currently our government spends thousands and thousands of dollars sending people from Nunavut to Morrisburg in Ontario. That money would be much better spent in Nunavut. I ask the minister again: will he consider putting a heavy equipment training centre in Arviat? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In any community where a heavy equipment course is offered, including courses to train heavy equipment operators, it is obvious that those types of courses are offered in Arviat.

Additionally, for the information of members, there is already a facility in Rankin Inlet that is starting to offer heavy equipment operator courses. With respect to the member's question, funding would be a budgetary issue and as such, it would have to go through the budget process. That is why I can't answer the question immediately related to the matter he raised, nor can I say yes or no. We can be reassured that there is a heavy equipment operator course already offered in Rankin Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 079 – 4(1): High School Trades Pilot Program

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I've got a question also for the Minister of Education regarding the high school trades entry pilot program.

Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago, we had the pleasure of the Premier hosting us in his home community of Kugluktuk. During those proceedings, we had some opportunity to talk to some of the staff at the high school where our meetings took place.

I had the privilege of talking to the instructor for the trades training program at the high school there. His name escapes me at the moment and, if he's watching, I apologize. It actually feels with the weather today that we are back in Kugluktuk. It's a little chilly here.

With the pilot program in Kugluktuk, the instructor had mentioned there has been

a number of successes, They've been there, if memory serves me correctly, approximately for about eight years and have had a number of students go on to the apprenticeship program and hopefully, even some have achieved their journeyman status.

Can the Minister of Education inform me of how many programs are being accessed at different high schools across this territory? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question he just asked is one I can't answer at this time, so I will have to take it as notice and disclose the types of figures he mentioned. So I will take that as notice, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker: The minister has taken the question as notice. I will move to the next member on my list. (interpretation) Member for Tununiq, Mr. Enook.

Question 080 – 4(1): Application Process for Docks Funding

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question to ask to the Minister of Transportation. Whenever any type of marine infrastructure is mentioned, I feel compelled to participate and I generally participate in the discussion.

As the hon. minister responded earlier when Mr. Shooyook was directing questions, he stated that there are funds available for breakwaters, marinas. There are different terms for marine

infrastructure, and what I heard was that there are funds available for planning or repairing a marine facility.

I would like to ask the hon. minister in the cases of communities that don't even have any marine facilities such as in Pond Inlet, we have no marine infrastructure or even a place for safe harbours. What does this government have planned for communities for the safety of our residents? What plans does this government and the department have for safety matters? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank my colleague for the question. Yes, the same matter was raised earlier this morning and my response will be almost the same one.

The small craft harbours for communities that don't have any facilities or if their facilities require repairs, such as a boat launching ramp for hunters and community use, there are different options that any community in Nunavut can request funding for. Thank you.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the hon. minister for that response. To use Pond Inlet as an example, as the minister is well aware, it has absolutely no marine infrastructure to protect our boats and no

safe harbour anywhere close to the community in the summer.

When boat owners face severe weather, quite a number will take a two-mile trip through rough waters to enter the mouth of the river. The minister is well aware of the exorbitant costs of constructing marine infrastructure. It requires large amounts of funds to construct a facility, but it is also very important to some communities, particularly Pond Inlet.

Is the minister or his staff part of the group reviewing the funds that were made available for major infrastructure projects from this group, which in English is called (interpretation ends) Building Canada Fund? (interpretation) This is specifically for major infrastructure projects anywhere in Canada. Is his department part of the group that studied this fund to see if it could be applicable for marine facilities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation) The Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank the member. As I said, there are different programs for marine facilities. Some of them are for smaller communities available from within our government for requests and if there is money left, those are for smaller marine infrastructure, like for boat launching pads. Part of his question was that since he was asking about the bigger facilities, we can work with the federal government to try to get some funds to be used for bigger or small craft harbours. We ourselves don't have

enough money or we don't have money for these bigger marine facilities. What we have to do is work with the federal government to get these established. Thank you.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we know, it's very expensive to deal with marine facilities. The minister also knows that the federal government has to be involved in this issue because our government does not have any funds to work with.

Hon. Minister, as you know, Pond Inlet has one of the biggest problems because it lacks marine facilities. It states in the studies that were done that Pond Inlet is one of the priorities in getting a marine facility. Can the hon. minister agree that when you are speaking to the federal government, Pond Inlet be the first priority to get marine facility? Can you lobby the federal government on this? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation) The Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member again for his question. Mr. Speaker, yes, the larger infrastructure facilities are very costly and expensive, especially the docks for larger boats. To use the example of the small craft harbour in Pangnirtung, it was in the millions to complete.

If a community is applying for a small craft harbour or if this government is

going to partner with the community, or any community for that matter, to apply for a larger facility that would cost about the same amount, then we would have to carefully review the situation. Both our government and most likely the DFO would have to be involved to look at the (interpretation ends) business case or plan.

(interpretation) We would have to have good reasons listed in the business plan. A community can't just apply for marine infrastructure just for the sake of wanting a facility, as the business case would be quite weak. However, as per my earlier statement, there are funds available for small boat launching ramps that communities can apply for. There is a fund for this that communities throughout Nunavut can apply towards. I cannot say to my colleague in regard to his community's wishes. What they would have to do is look at all the proposals and proceed. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. I have no names on my list. Mr. Enook.

Question 081 – 4(1): Urgent Need for Dock at Pond Inlet

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

As I have been stating in my role representing Pond Inlet, the lack of marine facilities is a major deficiency and has become dangerous. I have made statements here and produced some pictures of some people who got into accidents caused by high winds and choppy waters. I have tabled some

pictures of boats that have to be relocated outside of our community for safety, approximately two miles. They are located in that area the whole winter because they can't be taken back to the community.

Mr. Speaker, for Pond Inlet people, this is very serious. We just don't want marine facilities for mere convenience. It is because of danger that we make such requests. We have to go through very rough water, very dangerous water to try to take our boats to a safer place. It's unfortunate that we have lost a person who was trying to save his boat.

Mr. Speaker, I feel that it should be more important than economic considerations when it comes to the safety of life, and I do want that shared by others. My question to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation is in regard to Pond Inlet being unsafe and dangerous area. Can this situation be looked into as an urgent priority how this can be resolved expeditiously for some type of craft harbour in Pond Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member again. In regard to Pond Inlet's application for a small craft harbour, our government has supported their application. Further, we have allocated funding for a road to the river. I believe the name is Salmon River, if I am not mistaken. In Inuktitut, it is called *Akuanga*. We have tried to support the boaters there, as we know they need a

safe harbour, and that is why we supported that proposal and we will continue to work with the community on their small craft harbour requests. Thank you.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the (interpretation ends) hon. minister could consider, even though there is a launching ramp, there are so many boaters who don't have trailers to pull the boats. There are also many boats which are taken far away and it's unfortunate that when they do, they are vandalized with radios ripped out, along with some other equipment because they are approximately two miles away from the community. It further complicates everything when the waters get very rough and are shallow. Because it's a part of our life, we have no other choice but to brave such dangers.

Therefore, if I could ask the hon. minister: at an appropriate time, can the minister himself come to see what I am talking about this summer in 2014? I would like him to come to my community to see exactly what I am talking about so he can see with his own eyes, (interpretation ends) an invitation to (interpretation) Pond Inlet for this coming summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I

again thank the member. Mr. Speaker, Nunavut, in a perfect world, we would like to see marine infrastructure installed in each and every single Nunavut community. The problem is we just don't have the money to do so.

However, I would like to tell my colleague that this government will keep lobbying the federal government and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to make sure that something is done. We will keep lobbying the federal government.

I know that Pond Inlet is a very beautiful community. If I am able to, I would like to accept your invitation. Thank you.

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

Question 082 – 4(1): Homeowners Fuel Rebate Program

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I've got a question for the Minister of Finance.

Earlier this week, I was very thrilled to hear him announce the homeowners' fuel rebate program. Just for the record and members of the public that don't have access to the Internet, could the minister please outline the parameters for accessing this program? 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, although I did

announce that people could access the information online, I believe the information is also available at finance offices or could be made available through government liaison offices in the different communities. People can pick up their information. There are close to 2,000 households in Nunavut who are eligible for that funding. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that answer and I'm sure a lot of people will be looking into applying for that funding for the rebate.

In addition to that, a number of constituents that I have, I know in my riding and I'm sure, other members of the legislature have in their riding, due to the extreme housing shortage in this territory, are paying full market rent on residences and they are responsible for their own fuel heating costs. Is there any consideration for members of the public that are under those circumstances to access the rebate as well? 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 eligibility is restricted to people who demonstrate that they own the dwelling they reside in. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The time allotted for question period is now over. We will take a 10-minute

break. I apologize. (interpretation ends) Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Peterson.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 018 – 4(1): Towards a Representative Public Services as at March 31, 2013

Tabled Document 019 – 4(1): Towards a Representative Public Services as at June 30, 2013

Tabled Document 020 – 4(1): Towards a Representative Public Services as at September 30, 2013

Tabled Document 021 – 4(1): Towards a Representative Public Services as at December 31, 2013

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table Towards a Representative Public Service Statistics for the following months:

- March 31, 2013;
- June 30, 2013;
- September 30, 2013;
- December 31, 2013.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Speaker has two.

Tabled Document 022 – 4(1): Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act

Tabled Document 023 – 4(1): List of Outstanding Statutory Tabling Requirements

Members, in accordance with subsection 20.1 of the *Supplementary Returning Allowances Act*, I wish to table a copy of an election made under section 7 of the Act. (interpretation) Thank you.

(interpretation) I also wish to table today a list of outstanding statutory tabling requirements. This list is current as of the end of March 2014 sitting of the House. (interpretation) Thank you.

(interpretation ends) Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for the First Reading of Bills. Mr. Peterson.

Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

Bill 03 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2013-2014 – Notice

Bill 04 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2013-2014 – Notice

Bill 05 – Interim Appropriation Act, April 1, 2014 to July 31, 2014 – Notice

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Monday, March 17, 2014, I will move that Bill 3, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No.*

3, 2013-2014; Bill 4, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2013-2014*; and Bill 5, *Interim Appropriation Act, April 1, 2014 to July 31, 2014*, be read for the first time.
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Thank you. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. [Consideration in] Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 2 with Mr. Mikkungwak in the Chair.

Before we proceed, we will take a 20-minute break.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 10:40 and Committee resumed at 11:05*

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

Chairman (Mr. Mikkungwak) (interpretation): Good morning to the people Baker Lake and all the people of Nunavut. (interpretation ends) I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following item to deal with: Bill 2. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to continue the review of the capital main estimates for the Department of Education followed by the Department of Health. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Akoak. Are we in agreement that we continue with capital estimates for the Department of Education?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 02 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2014-2015 – Education – Consideration in Committee

Chairman: Does the committee agree to allow Mr. Quassa's staff to attend at the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

For the record, Mr. Quassa, please introduce your staff.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I would just like to introduce on my left, is my Deputy Minister, Kathy Okpik and on my right is, Barry Cornthwaite, who is the Manager of Capital Projects. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Members, we were on page G-3 of capital estimates. Mr. Akoak had questions on this page. Please proceed, Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: I can't remember what it is. So what happens now?

>>*Laughter*

Chairman: Thank you very much. We are on Education. Branch Summary. Corporate Services. Total Capital Expenditures. \$23,710,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Back to page G-2. Department Summary. Education. Detail of Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$23,710,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do member agree we have concluded the Department of Education?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much, Minister Quassa and your officials. (interpretation ends) Mr. Quassa, any closing comments?

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I would like to thank my officials for being at the witness table with me. I am very pleased that we are able to work together with the members and I would also like to thank my colleagues for asking very good questions during the proceedings.

Additionally, we share in the understanding that education is very important and of our need for infrastructure inside Nunavut and this issue is quite a big one for many communities. I thank the members for these reasons, and for approving our 2014-15 capital estimates for the department so I appreciate my colleagues for that approval. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Sergeant-At-Arms, please escort the officials out of the witness table, please.

(interpretation) Thank you very much. Prior to moving on to the next item, I wish to inform you that one of our colleagues, Mr. Mapsalak, had to return to his hometown due to personal reasons. I just wanted to inform you about that fact.

(interpretation ends) I would now like to ask the Minister of Health, Minister Ell, responsible for the Department of Health to proceed to the witness stand.

(interpretation) Thank you very much. As we proceed with the review of the Department of Health capital estimates with Minister Ell, and if you are ready, you may proceed with your opening remarks. Ms. Ell.

Bill 02 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2014-2015 – Health – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, colleagues. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to take this opportunity today to present the 2014-15 Capital Estimates for the Department of Health.

The department has a number of capital projects to replace and renovate our aging health facilities. Almost 60 percent of the department's health centres are 20 years of age or older.

For 2014-15, the department is requesting \$12.4 million in five capital projects. (interpretation ends) I will briefly provide details of each project.

In 2008, Health developed a common design for health centres. This design was successfully used for the Repulse Bay Community Health Centre, which is now complete and operational. In 2013-14, the department began construction of the new community health centre in Taloyoak using the same common design. The department received approval for first year of construction funding in 2013-14 and is requesting the second year of planned construction funding of \$9.1 million in 2014-15 to complete the construction of the Taloyoak Health Centre. I am pleased to report the construction is on budget and on time, with expected completion in March 2015.

(interpretation) In 2014-15, the department will commence a review of the common design for the new Arctic Bay Community Health Centre. The Arctic Bay Community Health Centre is 30 years old and no longer meets the needs of the community and current health programming. The design review will take into account changes to the common design from the experience we have gained from constructing the Repulse Bay Health Centre.

(interpretation ends) The review will also make sure that current health needs are being addressed and current codes and standards are being met. The department is requesting \$1 million in capital funding to commence this review and finalize the designs in preparation for tender. The construction of the new Arctic Bay Community Health Centre is scheduled to start in 2015-16.

The department is requesting \$320,000 for the major repairs of the Sanikiluaq Community Health Centre. The earliest

possible date that the Sanikiluaq Community Health Centre could make it into the capital plan for construction would be 2017-18 and much needed repairs have been identified by the Department of Community and Government Services that cannot wait until 2017-18.

In addition, the department is requesting a continuation of \$1 million for small capital and \$1 million for minor projects. The small capital yearly allocation is for the purchase of the department's equipment, furniture, fixtures, and vehicles. The minor projects allocation is for minor renovations, repairs, and upgrades of the department's health facilities. During the Regular Members' Caucus review of Health's capital plan, we were asked to provide more detailed information on how Health is planning to spend these funds. This information has been provided to all members.

(interpretation) I thank you for your support and I welcome questions from members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much, (interpretation ends) Minister Ell. Do you have officials you wish to assist you?

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to introduce my officials from my department, Acting Deputy Minister Rosemary Keenainak and Acting Executive Director for Corporate Services Bill Neish, if you would like to agree to bring them here. Thank you, Mr. *Iksivautaq*.

Chairman: Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort... . Does the committee agree let

the minister's officials go to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation) Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses in.

For the record, minister, please introduce your officials.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my right is Acting Deputy Minister Rosemary Keenainak, and on my left (interpretation ends) Acting Executive Director for Corporate Service, Bill Neish.

Chairman (interpretation) Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Are there opening comments from the Regular Members' Caucus? Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning or rather, good afternoon.

Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Regular Members' Caucus regarding the proposed 2014-15 Capital Estimates of the Department of Health.

I want to start with the introduction of the ministers who work with regular members and the financial controls in our department for planning the capital estimates to replace and renovate our aging infrastructure.

Approximately 60 percent of our local health centres are older than 20 years,

and for the 2014-15, the department is request \$2.4 million for five capital projects and I will list the various projects. The Department of Health set... . Am I reading the right document? I think you gave me the wrong document. I apologize. I was provided with the wrong document. Here is the correct document. Sorry I just started reading what was given to me.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me start over.

I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Regular Members' Caucus as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the proposed 2014-15 Capital Estimates of the Department of Health.

The regular members note that the department's proposed capital budget for 2014-15 is \$12,423,000, which includes funding for three infrastructure projects and two blocks of funding for minor capital and small capital projects.

Members recognize that the Government of Nunavut has made considerable investment in major health infrastructure projects across the territory since 1999. However, many communities continue to have health services delivered out of health centres which are functioning well beyond their life spans. Many community health centres which face issues of overcrowding with staff and programs crammed into spaces they were not designed for. Members urge the minister to work with her counterparts in the Department of Community and Government Services to address these issues as quickly as possible.

Mr. Chairman, two of the department's projects planned for 2014-15 are ongoing from previous years. The projects to replace the health centres in Taloyoak and Arctic Bay follow the completion of the replacement health centre in Repulse Bay. While members appreciate using a common design for these three health centres, it was intended to save on costs but concerns have been raised that additional costs are incurred as plans are constantly adjusted to address community-specific issues or changes to codes and standards that have occurred since the design was originally approved several years ago.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Health is proposing funding in 2014-15 for a third health centre project, undertaking significant repairs and renovations at the Sanikiluaq health centre, allowing it to remain operational until such a time for a replacement health centre can be brought forward.

Members have noted that the Department of Community and Government Services initiation envelope includes preplanning funding for replacing health centres in the communities of Cape Dorset, Qikiqtarjuaq and Sanikiluaq, again, using the "common design" concept.

Members encourage the minister and her departmental officials in their consideration of planning for infrastructure such as long-term care beds and related services.

In these and other projects that will address future needs for chronic care, long-term care, and also palliative care across the territory. Members look forward to supporting the minister in her

work towards developing a long-term infrastructure plan for providing care for our elders within Nunavut and alongside programs such as home care and assisted living facilities.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Health's capital estimates include blocks of funding for small capital projects and for minor projects in its 2014-15 capital estimates. While members appreciated receiving details on expenditures under these projects that were planned for the current 2013-14 fiscal year, it was noted that no detail was provided on proposed expenditures for the upcoming 2014-15 fiscal year until well after the minister's appearance to discuss the draft 2014-15 capital plan. Members are of the view that when approving the expenditure of public funds, it is important to know beforehand what those funds will be spent on.

With respect to the purchase of specialized medical diagnostic equipment, members were pleased to note that the CT scanner, which the Department of Health had committed to purchasing some time ago, has finally been purchased, installed and is taking its first clients at the Qikiqtani Regional Hospital. This will enable significant cost-savings as medical clients will no longer have to travel out of the territory for this diagnostic service. Members encourage the minister and her officials to consider further initiatives to provide specialized services, such as dialysis, within Nunavut so that medical clients are not required to move so far away from home in order to receive health services.

Mr. Chairman, it has been noted that small capital funding may include the

purchase of vehicles for community health centres. While it is recognized that health centre vehicles are generally used for such activities as home care program delivery or the transportation of supplies, equipment or lab samples, members have expressed the concern that there is also a need to provide local transportation for certain individuals who receive health and social services. Members encourage the minister and her staff to consider ways to provide support to community-driven initiatives in this area.

Mr. Chairman, the Regular Members' Caucus noted that the initiation envelope pre-planning funding under the Department of Community and Government Services includes a project to establish a mental health transition house. Members look forward to regular updates on plans for this facility as mental health issues, including addictions and substance abuse issues, are of significant concern across Nunavut.

Mr. Chairman that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2014-2015 capital estimates of the Department of Health. I am confident that individual members will also have questions and comments as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation) Thank you very much, Mr. Shooyook. (interpretation ends) Welcome to the Gallery, former MLA for South Baffin, Mr. Olayuk Akesuk.

>> *Applause*

Before we proceed, I would like to remind members of the following:

according to Rule 77(1), you have 10 minutes to speak, and according to Rule 77(2), subject to the discretion of the Chair, a member may speak more than once to a matter under discussion but not until every member wishing to speak has spoken.

I suggest to members that wherever possible you ask your detailed questions during the page-by-page review. Do members have any general comments? Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Hon. Minister, welcome. With respect to your opening comments, I have some questions although I am aware that the question may not be answerable especially in cases where it was just completed recently.

On page 2, starting from 2008 you speak of designing health centres that are of a common design in Nunavut and in Repulse Bay, Taloyoak and possibly Arctic Bay, that common design is proposed to be built.

What I want to ask about, Mr. Chairman is this: has it become clear that using a common design or blueprint for these facilities have resulted in cost savings? How much has been saved through not having to have separate blueprints for these buildings? That is if I was understandable. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Enook. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman and I also thank the member for that question. With respect

to the common design and realizing savings, yes it has resulted in some cost savings; however, details sometimes change due to building code changes.

These designs, even while common, will always have to be re-reviewed from time to time, and the lot where the building is proposed to be built upon in the community may dictate changes to the building. In various communities, they have a land plotted for the health centres. I could say that it is good for the staff if they have to move to a different location, within the community. It is a lot better for the employees. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I can ask another question to that respect, I know that communities are a little bit different within Nunavut and I know that some of the building codes, such as electrical and other things have changed but the only thing that I want to find out is the basic design, do you know it now that you are using less money for the common design for health centres.

Is it that they realized that they were not going to spend as much money for the design then? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, for the common design, we are using less money for those but its got nothing to do with the construction of those health centres because they have different

causes for different communities for the construction of those health centres but for the common design, we are spending less money. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My questions from your opening statements come from page 1; when we talk about renovating health facilities. In Iqaluit, we had built the old hospital being renovated and then due to the misfortunes of the first contractor, it was put on hold. I am just wondering what the status is now of the old hospital renovations. Have you selected a contractor? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that the contract has been given already but I would like to ask my deputy minister to respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Ms. Keenainak.

Ms. Keenainak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The project is being managed by CGS and we have been working with them very closely. The contract has been awarded to Quinan and they are starting to work on the hospital again. We are back on track. It is a little bit delayed but it is continuing now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Keenainak. Mrs. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and thank you for that answer. I'm just wondering, in what way will the old hospital space be utilized now? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When they do the renovations to the old section of the hospital in Iqaluit, the part of the old hospital used to be used for patients going to the clinics in the hospital and for the office space for the doctors. At the present time, they will be using the old part of the hospital for doctors and they will be using the old part of the hospital once renovated. It will be used for handling patients as well as office space for nurses and the future abortion clinic as well as for other services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the new contractor, does that mean that renovations to the new hospital are going to cost more? You mentioned a delay. Can you give us an idea of how much of a delay we can anticipate? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The delay

mentioned as a result of this change is 18 months, but we do not anticipate cost overruns. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: I'm not sure if you call lifespan for a building, but what is the new...how long do you think with the new renovations, how long would this building last us? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I can ask that this question be diverted to our partner department, to CG&S, as they would have that type of information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask them. Just in your comments here, we talk about the \$1 million for minor projects and you say at the end of that statement that this information has been provided to all members.

Actually, I have never received that, so you might want to look into making sure everybody got it. Thank you. That's all for now for opening comments from me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This document was provided to the chairperson of the committees, and it was supposed to be disseminated to all MLAs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I noted with interest that the small capital funding \$1 million has been historically the same amount.

With the recent purchase and implementation of the CT scanner at the Qikiqtani Regional Hospital, I have a question regarding dialysis. Has the department done a study on what it would cost to establish a dialysis unit here in Iqaluit? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This isn't really included in the capital estimates so we can't answer it at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: The way I understand it, thank you, Mr. Chairman, the small capital allocation is for the purchase of the department's equipment, furniture, fixtures and vehicles.

I would assume that a dialysis equipment or machine would fall under the

equipment category? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If you don't mind, I would ask that you allow my deputy minister to respond to this question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Ms. Keenainak.

Ms. Keenainak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Currently, the Department of Health does not have a program to deal with dialysis in Nunavut. Any patients currently would have to go to a major centre so it's not part of minor projects and small capital O&M right now. Mainly those two funds are looking at some replacement of existing equipment we have in the community to whether it needs to be replaced or if an emergency occurs where we need to do a replacement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Keenainak. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister give me the number of how many people have to access dialysis outside of our territory? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I cannot respond to that question at the present time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate that comment and I look forward to receiving that information later. Would the minister be able to respond to how much it is costing the Government of Nunavut through the Department of Health, through the dialysis being...people that needed dialysis are being sent south to live, not just in and out, it is not an in and out process, it is on a very frequent, regular basis that people have to access the dialysis treatment.

Can the minister respond to how much it is costing the Department of Health to have those residents of Nunavut become residents of southern jurisdictions? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can't answer that right now and I look forward to providing that information to the member and members and as our department, we are looking at alternative ways to bring patients to Nunavut rather than out-of-territory. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: I thank the minister for that response, Mr. Chairman. The reason I

bring this up is I have a constituent that is in the process of... They have to take turns with one parent having to spend time with the child in Ottawa and they are having real struggle coordinating their workloads through their own employment commitments. I know this is not the only instance of Nunavummiut being forced to live outside the territory, away from their family groups, away from their work, away from their peers.

I just really encourage the minister to really take a look at how much this is overall costing the Government of Nunavut and what kind of cost-saving measures could be implemented by utilizing dialysis equipment right here in the territory. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) I think this was more like a comment than a question but in regard to the patients, keeping them closer to home, and that's what we are reviewing and we will also keep that in mind when we review that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) small capital. (interpretation) It states (interpretation ends) yearly allocation, (interpretation) it states (interpretation ends) vehicles. I would like to ask the minister, for adult patients, sometimes there is no transportation for patients going to the health centre. Has your department considered this? Sometimes

the patients have no money to take a taxi. Have you considered that aspect? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): In terms of your question (interpretation ends) I think that is more into the operations and maintenance budget. Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The community transportation isn't part of our departmental mandate as the Department of Health.

We would have to discuss this matter with our colleague responsible for Community and Government Services. At this time, some communities utilize the bylaw officer's vehicles to transport patients and that is how some communities resolve this issue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We are currently on general comments (interpretation ends) to the minister's opening comments. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Were you still calling for general comments? Oh, sorry, my mistake. No, when we get into the budget.

Chairman: Thank you. I have no more members on my list for general comments. We will now proceed to page by page review of the capital estimates, starting with page H-3. Do members agree that we conclude? Are there any questions regarding the capital estimates in H-3? Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to ask about the

Qikiqtani General Hospital just to see if it's fully functional and is it large enough to accommodate the demand put on it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I can, I would ask that my deputy minister be allowed to respond to that question. With your approval if you don't mind? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ms. Keenainak

Ms. Keenainak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Because the Baffin Regional Hospital renovations are 18 months behind, there are some issues of space and a number of them are kind of farmed out within the community.

We are hoping that once the renovations are done in about 18 months, we will be able to move a lot of the services back into the hospital, so that there will be kind of a one-stop-shop.

In terms of the design of the hospital will meet the majority of the demand for the population when the design was made, but the population has increased. So, right now the design that was done will just meet what was the need now. But if we're looking for future, we will likely need additional space. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Keenainak. As per Rule 6(1), I now recognize the clock and will report progress.

Sergeant-at-Arms, please assist the minister's staff.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Report of the Committee of the Whole. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 2 and the capital estimates, and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Is there a seconder? Mr. Savikataaq. 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. *Orders of the Day* for March 17:

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
 - Bill 3
 - Bill 4
 - Bill 5
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 Monday, March 17, at 1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 12:03*

