



Nunavut Canada

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT

2nd Session

4th Assembly

HANSARD

Official Report

DAY 13

Friday, June 6, 2014

Pages 622 – 697

Iqaluit

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

Hon. George Qulaut
(Amittuq)

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

Steve Mapsalak
(Aivilik)

Allan Rumbolt
(Hudson Bay)

Hon. Johnny Mike
(Pangnirtung)
Minister of Environment

Alexander Sammurtok
(Rankin Inlet South)

Pat Angnakak
(Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu)

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

Officers

Clerk

John Quirke

Deputy Clerk
Nancy Tupik

Clerk Assistant
Stephen Innuksuk

Law Clerk
Michael Chandler

Sergeant-at-Arms
Simanek Kilabuk

Hansard Production
Innirvik Support Services

Box 1200

Iqaluit, Nunavut, X0A 0H0

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

Website: www.assembly.nu.ca

Table of Contents

Opening Prayer.....	622
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters	622
Report of the Committee of the Whole	696
Orders of the Day	696

A.

Daily References

Friday, June 6, 2014 622

B.

Bills

Bill 02 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2014-2015 – Family Services –
 Consideration in Committee 623

Bill 02 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2014-2015 – Justice – Consideration in
 Committee..... 659

Bill 02 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2014-2015 – Finance – Consideration
 in Committee..... 689

**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Friday, June 6, 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 9:59*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. George Qulaut) (interpretation): Can you say the opening prayer, please, Ms. Ugyuk.

>> *Prayer*

Speaker: Hon. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, members. Good morning to the people of Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, this morning, I would like to seek unanimous consent to proceed directly to Item 19 on the order paper. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The member is seeking unanimous consent to proceed directly to Item 19. Are there any nays? There are none. We will proceed to Item 19.

Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole on Bills and Other Matters. Bill 2 and Bill 3 with Mr. Mikkungwak in the Chair.

In accordance with the authority provided to me by Motion 3 – 4(2), the committee will stay in session until it reports itself out.

I ask all members to remain at their seats so that we can immediately proceed to the Committee of the Whole.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

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

Chairman (Mr. Mikkungwak) (interpretation): Good morning, Nunavummiut. (interpretation ends) I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following to deal with: Bills 2 and 3. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, we wish to continue with the review of the main estimates for the Department of Family Services, followed by the Department of Justice, and if time permits, the Department of Finance and the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Are we in agreement that we continue with the review of the (interpretation ends) main estimates for the Department of Family Services?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 02 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2014-2015 – Family Services – Consideration in Committee

Chairman: Is the committee agreed that Minister Ugyuk's staff go to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Sergeant-at-Arms, (interpretation ends) please allow the minister's staff to go to the witness table.

(interpretation) Minister Ugyuk, for the record, please introduce your officials.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Simon Awa on my right, Deputy Minister, and Director of Finance David Kolot on my left. Brandon Grant is the Director of Income Support. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Colleagues, please turn to page D-6 (interpretation ends) Family Services. Branch Summary. Income Assistance. (interpretation) According to my list, Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister probably remembers that I have asked some questions in this House during Oral Questions regarding minimum wage and as well young parents stay learning. Support for students to have daycare funding.

Mr. Chairman, with the current rate at \$11 per hour, a single mother, for example, working at minimum wage would make a little less than \$23,000 per

year. With the daycare subsidy provided by the Department of Family Services, it says that the program is means tested. What is the maximum funding available to someone working minimum wage under the daycare subsidy? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like Brandon Grant to come to the witness table. He is in charge of income support and daycare subsidies.

Chairman (interpretation): Do my colleagues agree to allow the witness to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Sergeant-at-Arms, can you please escort the witness to the witness table?

Thank you. Minister Ugyuk, can you introduce your official? Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is Brandon Grant who is the Director of Income Support and Daycare Subsidies. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Hickes, you can resume asking your question. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To repeat it, basically what I'm looking at is what time of funding is provided as the example I used, a single parent, for the daycare subsidy if they are working at minimum wage which the income

provided out of that is less than \$23,000 per year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Brandon Grant will respond to that. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: As the member has stated, Mr. Chair, our program is means tested so the way that the program works is interested applicants that are interested in applying for our daycare subsidy must fill out paperwork that is completed by our regional office staff. They go through an assessment based on a number of factors including their income but also what sort of courses they would like to take, what sort of employment, and it is provided through the assessment process as to what they might be eligible for. In terms of the specific numbers, I don't have what that particular person might be eligible for in front of me.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the level of detail not being immediately available but I appreciate if maybe I could be provided with that a little down the road.

Mr. Chairman, along the same line of questioning, what is the income threshold where this subsidy would not be available to a single parent? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like Mr. Grant to respond to that, too. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I had a hard time hearing but I think the question was what other supports the person might receive. No? If I could get the member to repeat the question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My apologies if I wasn't clear. What I'm looking at is what is the income threshold where someone would cease to have access to this program? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Grant will respond to that. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again each case is different in terms of the threshold I can provide those figures to the member but it is usually based on a variety of factors in terms of the assessment process. I can follow up with any specific answers for the member. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not 100 percent sure if this is the

proper place to ask this question, so please rule me out of order if it's not.

Earlier on in this sitting, I asked a question of the minister regarding the Poverty Reduction Fund. At that time, I had asked who is going to be contributing dollars to that fund and what is the anticipated budget for it. At the time the minister responded that she would provide an answer when she knew the proper information in terms of dollars because she didn't have the numbers at her fingertips as she was quoted at the time.

That was on May 29, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if she has those numbers at her fingertips now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When you asked me that question at the session whether what kind of funding there would be there has not been anything contributed to it yet. It's going to run under a contribution program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is there an anticipated budget for that project? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like

the Finance Director, David Kolot, to respond to that please.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In answer to the hon. member's question, funds for poverty reduction fall under the poverty reduction section. Within that section we have dollars that we have allocated for contract services in the amount of \$322,000, purchased services in the amount of \$17,000, materials and supplies in the amount of \$60,000, with \$213,000 for travel and transportation. That's the total funds that are available for all of the initiatives related to poverty reduction. Within those funds we would look at expending dollars for the question you have asked. Thank you.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the priorities in the business plan on page 119, it talks about reviewing the income assistance program yet it says it's not looking at implementing any new increases or potential increases until 2015 in the business plan. As we all know, the level of expense of the cost of living is increasing all the time. Is this a firm timeline for the minister's department to review the income assistance program and look at potential increases to help cover the cost of living? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Please keep mentioning what page your question is based on. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the request for clarification. As to when the review will take place and your request for information on food prices, I would like the deputy minister to respond to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Awa.

Mr. Awa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, Mr. Chairman. Some of our responses yesterday and some of the things we said yesterday about the review of poverty touches... your question will be part of the review and I would like everyone to know that the last time there was an increase in income support it was 15 percent in 2011. This will be reviewed. It would be good, if it's okay with the minister; if I can ask the Members of the Legislative Assembly to tell us which aspects of our department you would like looked at. Please ask us to do so. Thank you.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hope I'm not stepping on one of my colleague's toes, I don't see him in here. A number of us have brought up the issue of abuse of the Income Support Program. There are a lot of concerns around the territory that these funds aren't being utilized to maximum effect. Yet I'm looking at the program compliance component of the business plan on page 117 where it has \$240,000 allocated to facilitate consistency and enhance program effectiveness and accountability. That number is a little over half of 1 percent of the money that

is expended under Income Support Program. Is this consistent with other jurisdictions from the audit side of things? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Hickes for that question. David Kolot will answer that.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of is this consistent with what other jurisdictions are doing, I can't answer that question. I think I missed the first part of the question, if you could repeat it. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Can you repeat your question, Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. He more or less answered what I was looking at at the moment. Now, on average, how many audits are done on file to make sure that they are handled appropriately? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like Mr. Grant to answer Mr. Hickes' question. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To answer your question, there's a

number of ways in which we ensure that programs comply within our program. One of the things that you'll see is our top priority for this year and for next year is the implementation of our case management system.

This will allow us to have better information in real-time to ensure that we're able to follow up on any irregularities, any issues within our program. Currently, we conduct compliance every single day with our staff at the directorate office. We have a number of controls in place to ensure that we're able to follow up with our communities that are in the manual environment by interacting with us through a variety of different checks within our program.

We also conduct community-based audits. Since I've started, we've conducted an audit at our Iqaluit office. We're going to be proceeding over the next year to do those community-based audits across the territory.

The biggest thing to improve our compliance within our program, and the reason why it is our top priority is the case management system that will allow us to track our expenditures, identify areas where there might be irregularities and follow up a lot quicker than we could in the manual environment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Grant for that response. One of the things that I'm sure concerns a lot of us is making sure that the funds are allocated to people that are truly in need.

What does your department do to make sure that all income is reported from people that are on social assistance?
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like Mr. Grant to answer Mr. Hickes' question. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Obviously, we always try to ensure that the people in need are served. We have a big program, we serve a lot of people in the territory every single day. To ensure that they are in compliance, as I mentioned before, that we're implementing our case management system so that we can track our expenditures better and follow up on any irregularities.

At the same time, to promote self-reliance, we also ensure that we're writing the cheques out to third-party vendors. We also, in cases where a client requests it, we also change the cash amount so that people can make choices around what they purchase.

We're not policing what people spend their money on in terms how they spend their social assistance. We don't have the staff capacity to do that, but when we do know there are irregularities, there's a process in place that we follow up to ensure that the taxpayers' money is being spent appropriately. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sure the minister can describe some of the plans and practices that her department is doing to help people go off social assistance and enter the workforce. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have Brandon Grant, Director of Income Support, answer this one. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To answer the question, one of the great advantages of the new Department of Family Services is that career development is within our department. Over the next year, we will be working closely with our Career Development Division to ensure that we are linking people to careers that fit their skills and hopefully exit people out of the Social Assistance Program whenever possible.

Our plans over the next year are to link strongly with our Career Development Division and find opportunities where social assistance and career development can work together to build stronger linkages so that people can get into jobs and get off of social assistance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With your indulgence, I'm going to backtrack a little bit to the program compliance. Like I stated, the amount of

dollars that are budgeted for in that division are a little over half of 1 percent of the overall money that gets spent on income support programs. Is that money sufficient to make sure that the audit function of people's files is confirming that monies are allocated appropriately? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for asking this question in relation to the appropriateness of the income that is being handed out. There are a great number of communities that receive these things by way of letters. The use of the Internet will speed things up a lot. The use of online and direct payments. Many communities are still in the paper age, whereas everybody else is in the computerized age. The Director of Income support could probably answer this better in detail. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, if you don't mind.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister touched on a really important point. The implementation of our case management system will allow us to better serve our clients and better understand what is going on in terms of the expenditures in a lot faster time. Most of our communities are still in the manual environment, which creates challenges.

As a top priority for our division, we have identified the implementation and deployment of our case management system so that we can better track our expenditures and ensure that the program is operating properly and

having better audit capacity as well. That is a critical component, our case management system, to get it deployed to as many communities as possible over the next year and into the future so that we can have the entire territory on our case management system, which will improve our program compliance and audit abilities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Following my list, Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning. I would like to go to business plan 117 where it talks about the social assistance appeal board. I wanted to know who makes up the appeal board, first of all, representation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Those who wish to take part are given to cabinet and they make the selection. Thank you

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer. Does every community have their own appeal board or is there one appeal board in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are three regional centres. They are included in these appeal boards. There is only one

appeal board. We have no community appeal boards separate from this appeal board.

Chairman: Ms. Angnakak

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. How many times does the appeal board meet in a year in each of the regions? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member, my colleague, for this question. In relation to this, perhaps I was not clear. There is one appeal board each and these are single. In relation to the appeal board, Mr. Grant will expand on this further. Thank you

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The social assistance appeal process functions the following way. There are two levels of appeal. We are in the process now of creating the first level of appeal which is a territory-wide first level of appeal that hears the appeals as they come in for the first round. Then we have a territorial second level of appeals board that hears any appeals that the client is not satisfied by the ruling of the first level of appeal. On average, we receive about one appeal that comes through a month. That is the average that we see in terms of appeals for our program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer. My next question about that is what is a typical appeal? Is there a typical appeal? What is the most common area of complaint that you receive? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like the Director of Income Support to answer this.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is a really interesting question. I thank the member for that. What I have seen, since I have been here, the most common appeal that we get is around our budget surplus situation. When a client goes over the income threshold, has what we consider income that makes them ineligible for social assistance, those are the most common that I have seen since I have been the director of the division. Those are the most common appeals that I have seen so far. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I can ask the minister, and maybe she can direct it to her staff again, if somebody comes in applying for income support but maybe they had a job a couple weeks ago but were laid off. Is this the kind of additional income that you would be looking at for that month that would maybe go against them

getting that income support? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ugyuk...

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like that responded to by Mr. Grant. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I've seen is types of income that comes that would put a person in a budget surplus situation. It varies; sometimes it could be one-time lump sum like an income tax return that comes in, or it's an NCBS payment that is not exempt under our program.

There are all sorts of different scenarios that could happen that might put a person in a budget surplus situation. It could also be winnings from a variety of different elements like a fishing derby or other things like that. Lump sums of income that would be coming over a period during the assessment period that could put a person in a budget surplus situation.

There is a variety of different reasons why it might happen. So far, from what I have seen, NCBS, income tax returns sometimes put people in budget surplus situations. What we do as staff is we try to ensure that we make it clear for our clients about what our program is and how it works so that they're clear on how the program works and what situations might put them in a budget surplus situation.

We always try to ensure that we're clear about the decision and walk the client through the decision and how it was made. That is one of the things that we've identified in the business plan is to continue with our education so that people across the territory know about our program, know how it works and know about eligibility and so on so that there's no confusion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I like to ask the department: how do you usually find out about this additional income? Is it because the client has volunteered that information, or are there other ways that as a department, you find out about this other income coming in? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for that question. When a client first applies for social assistance, it's nearly impossible to determine if their application will be approved. When you do apply for social assistance, you do have to agree to disclose all your sources of income and social assistance clients do know that requirement. I would like Mr. Grant to further clarify that question. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our workers have a number of ways in

which we're able to verify income. Every client must sign a statutory declaration stating that the client will be truthful, but also they have requirements within our program to bring forth bank statements so that we're able to verify income through that way.

Any pay stubs, bills that they accrue and also we verify with employers. If somebody states that they were working, we always ensure that we follow up with employers. As well, we're able to verify information on EI. If a client is eligible for other programs, we're able to help and assist clients to apply to other programs.

They have a number of obligations that the clients that come in and verify their income for us. This ensures that our workers are able to check and make sure that the information that they're providing is accurate so that we can make proper assessments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. How do you deal with a situation and do you still have those same rights to look into someone's information if they come and say they haven't had any income? Let's say they're not forthcoming with the information. I'm just using that as an example. As a department then do you still have the right to go and check for example you were saying employment insurance or whatever. As a department do you have the right to make those assessments if the client has said, "Nope. I don't have any income coming in this month." Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My colleague is asking the question how we check the income when the client is not forthcoming. The clients have to sign an oath and the income support workers are given a number so that they can see the appointments. I'll ask the Director of Income Support to respond.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister touched on some points where the clients have an obligation to sign a number of legal documents to state that we are able to take measures to verify their income.

Our clients have an obligation to be truthful and they have an obligation to bring forward any supporting documentation for their assessment including pay stubs, bank statements and proof of bills as well, power bills and so forth. We have measures in place to verify that information that clients have signed a statement of authorization, an oath, so that we can check into that information as much as we can. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer. I appreciate that. I guess my colleague, Mr. Hicke, was talking about what kind of measures were in place to get clients off of this program. I am wondering how easy it is to get on this program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I understood my colleague's question, how easy it is to get on the income support assistance program. Income support means that you use it as your last resort. But according to the policy and we provide income support. We are going to be reviewing the policy and I will request for support from the members. I'll ask the director of income support to respond to that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister touched on a number of great points. Obviously the program review will look at a variety of different things including eligibility criteria. What I would say is that anyone looking for support, and again as the minister stated, it's a program of last resort. We help people in very difficult situations. They have a number of obligations that they have to do before they can receive social assistance including providing all the documentation that I have talked about previously as well as ID cards, HCP cards, SIN cards, there are a variety of other supporting documentation that go into an assessment process before they can come on to social assistance. It's not like people can walk through the door and people are on social assistance at the snap of the finger. There is a process in place in which people are assessed and they have to provide supporting documentation before they can become recipients of social assistance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister tell us what is the most common reason why people go on social assistance? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It seems self-evident. It's because of unemployment. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think this whole aspect of social assistance and those on it has raised some concern. I think you're right, I agree with you, when people can't find employment or they have no other means then they need some help. I think what I want to touch on a little bit is; I think we all know of some people that are on social assistance that perhaps could be working but choose not to work or perhaps they could be volunteering somewhere or going to school. These other things that we could be helping people to help themselves to get off of social assistance.

What, as a department, are you doing to encourage this? When somebody isn't working when they could be volunteering or going to school, do you turn a blind eye to that or is it something that you address with the client? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank the member for talking about this. We use the policy and we provide income support using the policy. As long as we don't change the policy I'm sure it's going to remain the same. But we know that it is better to get off of income support. It's better to make your own money and take care of your family and children. It's better to be in the workforce and support ourselves. Nothing states in the legislation or policy. That's all I can respond. Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, minister, for that. I guess we would like to see the changes happen in the legislation, the review and all that.

I'm confused to about the growing need of applicants for the income support program. But at the same time for those that truly need it, it seems that the amount provided to families seems to be inadequate. We have a lot of people going for emergency money. I guess if you have an emergency and you don't have any money. I'm wondering, are you guys reviewing the rates at any time soon? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the document *Sivumut Abluqta* when we had a meeting in Kugaaruk as a cabinet. We talked about social assistance clients. When we went to Kugluktuk that day,

we decided that we would review income support. We weren't really sure exactly which parts of the policy would be reviewed. The director said that he wanted an answer Ms. Angnakak's question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to clarify, too, that all clients must enter what's called a productive choice agreement to be eligible for social assistance, and continue to be eligible. What a productive choice agreement is, there are a variety of categories: one is to seek out employment, and others could to seek counselling. Parenting is also a productive choice as well as attending school.

So to remain eligible for social assistance, they must go through the assessment process every month and provide updates on how they're doing, in terms of pursuing their productive choice. So that's one of the areas where I think we can make improvements on to really find ways to partner with our fellow division within Family Services and Career Development. To find ways in which we can link stronger so that people with certain skills are met with jobs that are available in the communities.

It's one of the things that we're going to be working on over the next year so that we can strengthen how we use those productive choices and monitoring them long-term with our clients. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer. I agree with you. I think you need to have some kind of assessment, but at the same time, especially in Iqaluit, I'm sure in the other communities, we all have experienced the fact that someone coming to us in the workplace and say, "Can you stamp this? I'm looking a job. No, I don't have a job. Can you stamp this?" It just seems to be a silly exercise to be going through.

Perhaps we should be looking more at not only paying jobs, but there is a lot of work needed in our communities that are voluntary, but you learn a lot from them, and you make the contracts. You learn how to integrate with the public. You learn how to do different skills. I think there is some real merit to that.

I would hope that in your future reviews, I would like to see that you look toward those kinds of things. Even working with elders. There is a lot of need. We've talked in the House many times about the care for elders, and there are different things that could be done.

I am going to go on to something else now in regard to senior citizens. You have the Senior Citizens Supplementary Benefit, and that's a Co-Management Payment Program. Can you explain how this program works? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get Mr. Grant to respond to that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The way that it works is: any eligible senior, that's eligible for OAS and GIS through the federal government automatically becomes for our Senior Citizens Supplementary Benefit, which is a payment of \$175 per month that goes to eligible seniors. So if they're eligible for the federal program, they automatically become eligible for our Nunavut program as well. The way that it works is it's an automatic payment that goes to seniors, once they received their federal benefits. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer. Seeing that the costs in Nunavut have gone up, what steps have you done as a department to address this issue? Do you match? Is this a match program where the feds provide a certain amount and then you provide the same amount? If so, are you looking at perhaps the option of increasing those amounts with the cost of everything going up in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get the Director of Income Support to respond to that question.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The member's question is a good

question. Depending on the program, social assistance, obviously, when we go through the comprehensive review one of the things that members can debate and talk about is our benefits levels. One of the things that were done in 2011 was a 15 percent increase on the food payment amounts that were increased. Any amount would obviously be part of the comprehensive review to talk about the cost of living.

It could be very expensive too, as well. That's one of the things that when you change the rates of social assistance it automatically increases the expenditures of the program as well. It's one of the things that the comprehensive review obviously will look at is the appropriateness of our different benefit levels to meet the needs of the people of this territory. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The senior fuel subsidy amounts. They haven't changed at all. With the cost of fuel rising how are you going about to meet the demand and the need? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get the Director of Income Support to respond to the question.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Obviously it's another one of our programs that falls within the income

assistance umbrella. Changing the rates and eligibility criteria could be included in a comprehensive review of the programs under this division. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: According to your business plan on page 118 you did a legislative review of the *Social Assistance Act* and I'm wondering, I guess, to find out what gaps and inconsistencies that you had. The amendments that you have made since that review. What kind of communications have you had with the communities to inform them of changes made to the *Social Assistance Act*? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get the director to respond to that question.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The legislative review is currently ongoing. We have had a first round of amendments go through this House in the previous legislature which were primarily housekeeping items to clean up our Act which was carried over from the Northwest Territories days. It's ongoing. One of the areas that we are currently looking at which will require communication with the communities is around our appeal process. As I stated before, we have gone to our first level appeal is one board. Once we have our appeal committee in place for our first level of appeal we will have to make

sure that we communicate out to the communities and our staff about this change so that they are aware of it, because it is an important component of our program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Did you identify any other big gaps that would have a big impact on the public?

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get the director to respond to that question. Thank you

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We did identify the appeals process as the most important to communicate out to the public but any other changes as we are going through this process that will have an impact on how the program interacts with clients we will make sure to communicate that to the public and any changes that happen. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. According to the list that I have Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 118 of your business plan, I'm going to read out what's under social assistance. "Income assistant workers guided by the *Social Assistance Act* and regulations deliver social assistance to all Nunavut communities.

This program is means tested and provides various levels of financial support to people 18 years and over and their dependents to meet basic needs for food, shelter, utilities, and fuel.”

Earlier, Mr. Grant stated that they don't really control what the clients spend their money on. I'll ask the minister, can these funds be used to buy tobacco products? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Like I said earlier on, Mr. Grant stated that they cannot control what the public or the recipients buy because we don't go out to see what they are spending the money on. I remember him saying that we are not police and we don't try to find out exactly what they are buying. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask the same question again. Can these funds be used to buy tobacco products? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get the Income Support Director to respond to that.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll try to answer the question directly. Yes, potentially, a client could spend it

on tobacco products. As I mentioned before, most social assistance payments are made to third-party vendors, including housing and power as well as the store of the client's choice. We don't have the capacity to police or monitor how people are making those expenditures with their social assistance so the answer is directly yes. There is that potential. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask the minister; is that a wise use of government funds? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Savikataaq. (interpretation ends) You are seeking an opinion of the minister. You cannot seek an opinion of a minister. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did not think that was an opinion, but I respect your ruling.

Staying on income assistance, I believe there are students that are on income support. I also believe that they have to have a certain attendance. Can the minister tell us what the attendance rate has to be in order for the students to qualify for income assistance? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like the Director for Income Support to respond to that. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 85 percent. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My colleagues touched on this a bit about Senior Fuel Subsidy. The budget on your business plan is \$478,000. It has been the same, I think, for a while. Is this budget used up on an annual basis? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you to my colleague for asking that question. We spend all of the money that is set aside for Senior Fuel Subsidy. From my understanding, it is not all spent every year. Sometimes applicants are denied. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In your business plan, the senior fuel subsidy says this program is income tested. I believe that means a threshold of income in order to qualify. Can the minister tell what the income threshold is? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If a person owns their own house, and if that person makes \$75,000 a year, they're eligible

for support. If the person makes over \$75,000, then they're eligible for a half subsidy. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the minister stated earlier, it seems like quite a few programs are under review, or going to be under review. Would she consider reviewing the income limits on this program too? I would suggest that the income limit should be inline with the income limit that the Nunavut Housing Corporation will have on their Homeowner Assistance Program. I don't see any harm in putting the income limit up, since this budget is not used up.

Will the minister consider making the income limits the same as what the income limit from the Nunavut Housing Corporation is for the Homeowner Assistance Program? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for requesting that information, and asking us to more things in the department. The way I understand it, the income threshold affects the old-age security pension. If we increased the threshold, then it will affect the old-age security pension as well. I would the director of income support to respond to that properly. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As we stated previously, we're obviously are going to look for feedback. The minister stated for members on our program reviewing the scope and size and which programs to be reviewed.

Obviously, any eligibility criteria and the way that the program is structured can be a part of that review to look at, including the Senior Fuel Subsidy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I understand the minister correctly, the subsidies that the seniors receive for fuel will affect their old age pension or not or might. Seniors that get fuel subsidies, are they issued a T-4A or some sort of documentation that they have to include in their income tax? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. From what I understand, all income is included in the T-4A slips. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know how to put this, I'm trying to put this wisely.

>> *Laughter*

Another suggestion that they might do with this program is the ones that are

eligible, right now, the minister will correct me if I'm wrong, I believe it works like this: they buy fuel, they get a receipt and they get reimbursed for the fuel that they purchased. They have no fuel in the beginning, they can't buy any fuel and therefore they can't get the subsidy.

When a client qualifies, would the minister consider issuing a credit for the total amount that the person is eligible for, which I believe is \$3,000 and a credit issued to the contractor and the client can use that credit up within that year. Would the minister consider looking at that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regards to issuing credits to eligible clients upfront for fuel purchases, that has been implemented as far as I know. Unfortunately it has been abused and so we put a stop to it. To clarify it, I would like the Director of Income Support to help answer the question. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ultimately, I think under the comprehensive review of our program, we would be open to a number of different options that would make the program better to serve the people of Nunavut, depending on the size of the review.

We're open to suggestions on how we can make our programs better and serve the people better. That would include

suggestions from members, such as the suggestion that the member made. Obviously, we would have to look whether it makes sense financially and how it's going to be managed and whether it will better serve our clients.

As part of the comprehensive review, we're looking at a number of options to make our programs better. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Interesting comment about whether it will better serve our clients. If the budget is not used up and the client qualifies, I would think that it will better serve the clients and if a client does qualify I think we should help them to the best of our ability. It would be a different story if the budget wasn't used up, but it has not been used up, as the minister stated. I think that you should seriously look at that. So the funds can be better utilized.

The minister stated earlier that it has been tried, but it was abused. Well, I think there is abuse in the Income Support Program and it is still being used so that is a pointless argument. If a senior needs a fuel subsidy and they qualify then we should do everything we can in order for the subsidy to meet the needy people. That was just a comment. Thank you. I'm done.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will put all those under consideration during our

comprehensive review. There are 98 elders who receive elders' subsidy, fuel subsidy, right now. (interpretation ends) 98 seems to be the magic number this session. (interpretation) I hope Mr. Savikataaq understands that. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Following the list of names, Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning to all. Good morning, minister and staff. This is something that came up with Mr. Savikataaq was... under social assistance on page 118. It says, "to meet basic needs for food and shelter." I want to know what that means. Shelter, is that for paying a hotel room for a homeless person? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like the director of income support to answer that.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, we don't pay for hotel rooms. We do pay the rent for public housing units and in some cases, private market rents as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under utilities, you are actually paying for rent. How is that issued? Are you giving a cheque to the client and they in turn go to housing to pay for the rent? Or do you pay directly to the housing association. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like our Director of Income Support to respond to that.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We pay to the housing association. As I mentioned before, most of our cheques that we issue are made to third-party vendors. We make cheques out to the housing association, the power companies and in most cases we make out cheques to the store of the client's choice as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) I have no further names on my list.

>> *Laughter*

(interpretation) Family Services.
(interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Income Assistance. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$46,398,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. We will move on to Branch Summary. Family Services. Career Development. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$15,576,000. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to ask a couple of questions. I don't have a lot in this area. I want to ask about the FANS program.

How many applicants access this program? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Nunavut Arctic College has changed the parameters. There are 371 applicants that are receiving FANS. Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak: I think it was in 2007 the Auditor General's Office conducted an audit on the FANS program and changes were made in order to better serve the applicant. What changes have you made to the program that addresses this direction? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I remember the changes correctly, it relates to diploma programs from post-secondary institutions. They could get assistance from FANS. For non-diploma programs they could get apply from a different grant provider. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Can the minister tell us if the new FANS database been implemented or not? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have that information with me. Maybe David Kolot knows that. He can provide an answer. Thank you.

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

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In reference to the hon. member's question, this project to work on the FANS database really began in the fall of 2011. There has been a history with this since 2011, and it is expected that the first working model of the new system of the FANS model will be available for testing in July of this year. This new database will provide complex and end-to-end assessment and processing of our student financial applications for grants, loans, as well as a collection of loans. This was, of course, that was mentioned by the auditors in their report.

We are working with a contractor to install this module. We hope to keep the House posted on the progress with this project. Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer. It leads me to the next one. Of the outstanding loans that the Auditor General's Office identified, what percentage have you collected so far? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the

member for this question, Ms. Angnakak. We were told earlier that the model will be coming out in July, so soon after that the information would then become available. Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Auditor General's Office did the audit I think in 2007 and I'm wondering how much recovery of the outstanding loans has the department done so far? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for that. The Director of Finance will answer that.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to thank the hon. member for that question. I think I would like to start with a preface to the whole aspect of the student loans funds with Family Services. This is the first year of our operation and we are working on trying to implement the system which will give us more timely information. One of the things that members should be aware of is that when the Department of Family Services was created there were two PYs that were not fully funded. These two PYs were loan collections officers. In the budget for the career development branch this year we have fully funded those two positions so that we can, with those two positions, and with the system in place we can keep better track and do

a better job at our collections. Thank you very much.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that. I'm just wondering, then: if, as a Regular Member of the Legislative Assembly, I wanted to find out of the outstanding student loans, how many of those have been paid back, which department should I ask? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Director of Finance will answer this.

Chairman: Thank you Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm jumping the gun here. It would be the Department of Family Services that you would ask. As we speak, we are currently finishing the year end for March 31, 2014 and we are just doing the final reconciliation of FANS loans. We would be the department that those questions would be referred to. Through our loans management system that we are developing we will be in a much better position to provide information once it is updated. Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer. It leads to my next question. When do you expect that to happen when you can

provide that information? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Director of Finance will answer this. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As mentioned, we are hoping that the system will be in place and we will be doing some testing in July of 2014. In terms of the additional staff that we are looking at once the budget is approved we will be looking at staffing those positions. It is difficult to give a firm time but I am hoping that by December, with the new staff in place we will be in a much better position to provide updates to inquiries that would come regarding the system. Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer but it is kind of concerning to me. When Family Services took over FANS from, I believe, Education, did it come with no information on this? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Director of Finance will answer this.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As mentioned, this is the first year of operations out of the department. We are just in the process of completing our first year-end. I think when we completely get the new positions in place, like I mentioned, we will be in a much better position to address inquiries.

I had asked for information in terms of loans for this session but unfortunately I was not able to get it. When I do get that information, any inquiries that the hon. member will be have I would be please to provide information on. Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm concerned about that comment about waiting for two people to be hired and then familiarizing with the database in their new positions. And on top of that it takes almost a year to hire anyone in the government. What you are saying is that we have to wait another whole year before we get any information about this. I don't really accept that. I think we need information way sooner than that. I think as a department you should make that one of the priorities to get that information out. We have outstanding loans. We have recommendations from the Auditor General's Office. Those need to be followed.

I'm going to go on to another question here and that is under the special professional's program fund, how many applicants do you have for this program and how do you inform the public about it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What was it that you are talking about? Special what?

Chairman: On business plan page 121. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk: Sorry, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) Special Professions Program Fund. Director of Finance will answer that.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kolot

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. During the 2013-14 fiscal year there were no applications for the special programs fund. Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps the minister or her staff can elaborate on what this program is for and why you didn't have any applicants. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My deputy minister can answer this.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Awa.

Mr. Awa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. People who want to take courses in the south and may not have space or if the course is too full, then the government can reach an agreement with the university or college so that they can

buy space or desks or chairs, so to speak, to make spaces available so that they can be set aside for northerners to take specialized training in specialized training fields. This money could be used for that.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer. Can you tell us then over the last two or three years how many applicants have accessed this program? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know the answer so I'll have the Director of Finance respond to the question.

Chairman: Mr. Kolot

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the most recent information I have is on the 2012-13 actuals for the special programs fund. I believe there was one application that was awarded and \$25,000 was spent. Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As a department, what are you going to do to increase the number of applicants for this program? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our Director of Finance will respond. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of what the department will plan to do in the next year I believe this is something that the Director of Career Development will have to take under consideration. I know there have been discussions in terms of the fact that this funding has not been used. I believe there will be plans put in place for the new year to ensure that these funds will be expended. Those plans will be put into place by the Director of Career Development. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. (interpretation) According to the list of names (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Family Services. Career Development. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a couple questions. Mr. Chairman, in the public service annual report that was recently tabled, it talks about the Summer Student Program. There is a placement strategy to meet up the academic field of the student with summer employment opportunities.

As the minister's department is responsible for the financial assistance for students who knows every student and what they are studying and where they are studying, what is the role that the Department of Family Services plays with the Summer Student Program? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank my colleague for asking clarification in regards to this issue. The Summer Student Program falls under the Department of Finance and the Minister of Finance.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Are you looking for clarification, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman: The minister indicated that the summer student aspect is looked after by the Minister of Finance so if you have an additional question, Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My apologies. Thinking ahead already. I realize that the Minister of Finance is responsible for the Summer Student Program, but how is the Department of Finance identifying students' backgrounds and their education specialties to match up with summer student opportunities without the knowledge that FANS has access to? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. According to my knowledge, the schools, whether it be for adult education or for high school, prior to December in the communities, just prior to the month of December ending in the communities they have to make their application for funding to be used to hire summer students.

But in the communities, if the students are going to be hired at the local level and there is an agreement between them,

that's how they hire the summer students. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think there is a real gap here. Again, I'm going back to the annual report and I understand it is a responsibility of the Minister of Finance but the quote in it is saying that the Summer Student Program, but the quote in it is, "Aimed at providing employment opportunities that will compliment the academic programs of students thereby further encouraging students to complete their studies but to develop the critical skills and build critical workplace skills that will contribute to full-time employment after graduation."

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Family Services has the knowledge of every student and what they're taking. I think a targeted approach to fill some of these summer student employments to match up with the academic studies of these students can only enhance the future of employment of these students with the Government of Nunavut or throughout the territory.

Can I get a commitment from the minister that she will at least speak to the Minister of Finance on how they can compliment each other's programs? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank my colleague, Mr. Hickes, for supporting this program. Yes, according to my understanding that the

communities have to make their application if they want to hire a summer student before the month of December is over. If they want to hire summer students, they have to apply for funding before the month of December is over.

The Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, the Department of Finance, and our department will try to make ourselves available if the community does not apply for funding before the end of December to apply for funding for the summer student program. We will have to work closely... knowing that we now know that we have to work closely with the other departments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do understand that it's an application-based program for communities or departments to apply for summer student positions. What I'm getting at is once there is a position approved; can there be a way of targeting students within that field to apply on those positions to really enhance their education and to promote employment within their specialty? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The comment is well taken. With the Department of Education because a student have career counsellors too. Yes the parents I'm sure are listening. The parents of students are listening. I know that they have to be more aware how and when their child

can be hired during the summer student program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. From my experience with the Summer Student Program, and I stand to be corrected, the way I understand sometimes what happens is applications go in from students to the government as an example without specific jobs associated with their applications. Resumes are sent in general for students to apply on any job that comes up under the Summer Student Program.

What I would really like to see this government accomplish is matching up students with their academic studies like it states in the annual report from the *Public Service Act*. I just think it's a win-win for everyone involved if we can enhance our students' academic studies with positions associated that relate to their studies. Instead of having somebody in their fourth year of engineering working on some backlog of filing at some department somewhere where they aren't learning anything. I know there can be advancements made in both these programs. I truly hope that the minister will speak to some of her colleagues to encourage that type of action. It's more of a comment.

I do have a question that is not related to it. So I'll get to it. Also within the FANS funding model is there funding allocated for childcare for students while they're attending school outside of the child care subsidy? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you. I'm glad that the member is speaking his mind in regards to finding jobs for the summer students. The Minister of Finance is more responsible for that so we will try and work closely with that department in regards to students. The member is asking about daycare. I'll have the Director of the Income Support come to the witness table to respond.

Chairman (interpretation): If the officials can trade seats. (interpretation ends) Mr. Grant, if you could go to the witness table.

Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Sorry, Mr. Chairman. Can the member repeat the question in regards to income assistance and daycare? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Mr. Hickes, can you repeat your question? Thank you.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the minister may have requested the wrong witness. I'm actually asking if there is childcare funding available under the FANS program for students while they are attending school to help offset some of the childcare costs? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm going to ask which official is going to respond to your question. Thank you.

Yes, we have been told that under FANS there is no such thing.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. According to the list of names I have, Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe we are on page D-7 in English. Mr. Chairman, let me ask about the Summer Student Program. I believe it was in the Third Assembly that we discussed this matter. Many communities were not involved with the Summer Student Program. The majority of the communities in Nunavut are smaller communities and did not have that program available. It seems like this program was more available to the larger centres. Have you made any amendments to this program? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Summer Student Program is the responsibility of the Minister of Finance. If he can come here to respond to that question.

Chairman (interpretation): Yes. The Minister of Finance is going to appear before the committee at a different time. Mr. Enook if you'd like to ask your question again. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did not quite understand the minister's response. I was trying to read at the same time the minister was trying to respond. Can the minister repeat the response please? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Summer students are the responsibility of the Department of Finance. (interpretation) That's how the minister responded. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): So the minister won't be responding to me, is that what you're saying Mr. Chairman?

Chairman (interpretation): She responded by saying, (interpretation ends) "Summer students are the responsibility of the Department of Finance." (interpretation) I was just repeating her response to you, Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me move on to the next topic. I believe it is written in here. This topic is written in here. I'm not sure if I'm going to get the same response. It states here in English, apprenticeship support is included there. Deliver apprenticeship support is under Family Services.

So therefore, I'd like to ask a question that they stated that it is very difficult to deal with this, Mr. Chairman, when they are trying to work. Especially in the smaller communities when they are trying to hire summer students and they can't even get the hours that they worked. They can't make hourly wages in the communities. How was this resolved within your department? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the member for his question about the

apprenticeship program. We realize the problems that we have had. Especially what we wanted to do was work with the people of Rankin Inlet with apprenticeship programs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to get more clarification. This problem for apprenticeship have been having problems with getting their hours because they have to have so many hours of work. Has this been resolved and what is the resolution? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The people that are taking apprenticeships have to get their hours. They have to work together where they are taking their apprenticeships. There are two things. If one or the other is not being used properly then we have a problem that the person who is taking the apprenticeship has to have a good future. That's what I can say. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not trying to be on that same topic on purpose. I just want to get a clear picture. That the people who are taking apprenticeships have to get as many hours as possible. There are also some people who already took their apprenticeships who are not working, or are not employed full-time. For people

who don't have a full-time job, they stay in the apprenticeship for a long time, especially in the smaller communities. That's why I'm asking that question.

How can you assist them more or have you thought about changing something to make sure they aren't in that situation so they can finish with their apprenticeships. They take their apprenticeships for a long time because they aren't getting enough hours. They don't get hired. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the Member for Tununig for asking that question. I would like the Director of Social Assistance to respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the member please repeat the question, please? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook, can you please repeat your question? Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The question that I had was at times there has been a situation whereby people who are taking apprenticeships have to try and make as many hours as possible. In smaller communities they cannot fulfill their hours.

For instance, if I'm trying to get a certificate for carpentry, if I don't have a job I won't make any hours but maybe if somebody comes over to my community then I could get more hours. People that are taking apprenticeship programs take a long time to finish their apprenticeships. For so many years, they are still in the apprenticeship program. The question that I have is: have you considered how those apprenticeships can be better treated? It was talked about by the Third Assembly. Is there anything that you have done to help those people? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Ugyuk

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the Member for Tununig for that question. The people who are taking the apprenticeship have a place to work to get their hours. They are signed by the people they are taken apprenticeship from. I'm not exactly sure. I will get Mr. Grant to respond to that question.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Grant.

Mr. Grant: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Obviously the Department of Family Services always looks at ways in which we can support people in Nunavut, including apprentices. Our department works closely with private business and municipal governments. The employers of apprentices who are seeking training. So thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) We will now break for lunch and we will come back at 1:30. I'll recognize you, Mr. Enook, with your time remaining.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms, (interpretation ends) please escort the officials out of the witness table.

>> *Committee recessed at 12:01 and resumed at 13:30*

Chairman (interpretation): Good afternoon, people of Nunavut. We are going to proceed with the Committee of the Whole. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Family Services. Career Development. (interpretation) Following my list, Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question just before we had a break. I have forgotten my last question. Can I repeat what I think was my last question? I was trying to ask, I'll summarize it: In communities with a smaller population, apprentices who need to accumulate hours, people who are trying to become tradesmen like a carpenter. They have to earn hours in order to get their apprenticeship. In the smaller communities, they say it is very difficult to accumulate apprenticeship hours if you don't have a job. I ask, Mr. Chairman, if this has been looked into to see if you can help that.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you to the Member for Tununig for asking that question about the accumulation of hours for apprenticeship programs. The hours that they have to accumulate. They have a booklet that they fill out as they work the hours. The employer has to sign off on the hours that the apprentice has completed. That person has to complete a certain number of hours

before he can go back to classroom instruction. The apprentices themselves handle that booklet. The employees that are in the apprenticeship program, many of them don't have jobs per se. If they manage to get some work with the Nunavut Housing Corporation or with the hamlet then they can add to those hours that they are trying to combine with apprenticeship training.

We expect that they are going to be building a dock to service the airstrip work here in Iqaluit and I believe that there will be a number of apprenticeship positions opening up with that project. We expect that in the Department of Family Services. I apologize if my words don't come across straight. I would like my deputy minister, Simon Awa, to add to my response. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Awa.

Mr. Awa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What the Member of the Legislative Assembly was saying is very true. In the smaller communities it is very difficult to find apprenticeship work when you don't have a full-time job. We can also consider how we can help those apprentices who need to accumulate hours so they can earn more hours.

We can look into that. We can look into seeing how we can help them. We can look at that apprentice in one community, if there is a job available in another community and that person is willing to move temporarily to that other community to take that apprentice position we can look into that. We can help with transportation, like airline tickets. Maybe we should look into that. If that person is unable to find a job in

the smaller community and an opportunity exists somewhere else and if that person is willing then maybe we can help them go there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I totally agree with the deputy minister. Sometimes we just get stuck in one spot. We get stuck in the paperwork and we can't move forward. Yes we have to do what you're suggesting. Apprenticeships today, people trying to get more proficient in their work and in the trade they want to get into. They have to add hours to that while they are learning. People are losing interest in apprenticeship programs because they take so long to complete. They spend a long time doing nothing, just waiting for the next project. I can even say that from my knowledge when it was the Northwest Territories when the whole apprenticeship program was held by the government I believe it ran very well compared to now. I can say that it ran a lot better. I'm trying to think outside the box.

Would it be totally impossible to also consider the government contractors? The main contractors for the government, such as Qulliq Construction. They are the only ones that seem to access government construction contracts these days. Maybe you can add it to the agreement where they are required to hire apprentices. Can you look into that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you to the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Tununiq for talking about the operation of the apprenticeship program. In order to have the apprentice progress they need to have a job. Because of the lack of jobs in Nunavut that is slowed down. It is because of the lack of jobs that they cannot progress further. We have a general lack of jobs in Nunavut. That affects that. I know the other ministers from other departments are listening. There is an *Apprenticeship and Skills Act* that is going to be reviewed to see how we can improve it. That will be one of the aspects of the evaluation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I mentioned earlier, if we can't think outside of the box then we won't progress. According to what the minister said, she mentioned some of the problems. We have the opportunity right now, you're the new minister. You can bring your fresh ideas. We are a new government. You, as the minister, you can remove these roadblocks. It will be better for the people of Nunavut. I believe we have to do that.

We have young people that are getting more and more interested in education who want to join the workforce. There are so many of them. We have to look at every way that we can support them. Don't say that there are blockages or roadblocks and don't say there are problems with roadblocks. Instead, look to see where we can help them. That's what I wanted to say and I would like to thank the minister for the fact that they

will be looking into these matters. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) I take that as a comment. (interpretation) Next on my list, Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The first question I would like to ask is on the Financial Assistance for Nunavut Students on page 121. If a person is going to school at Arctic College or other university or college outside of Nunavut, they have to pay a tuition fee to the university or college. Does FANS have a maximum tuition allowance payment? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like the finance director to respond to that. Thank you.

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

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's a good question from the hon. member. Under the FANS program under the basic grant, tuition and fees are eligible up to \$1,850 per semester. Thank you.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the response. The tuition fees have to be paid to colleges. What if the tuition fee is over that amount, for example, \$5,000 or something? Where could that prospective student get that funding for the more expensive tuition? I hope that was clear. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. That was clear. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague, Mr. Joanasie, for asking that question. The finance director will respond. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As mentioned earlier, the basic grant is for \$1,850. If there are additional expenditures that are required, students can apply for loans. There are primary loans, there are secondary loans, and there are also needs assessed loans to cover excess amounts. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Along the same lines, I would like to ask, for example, if a student is going to school somewhere and they have day-to-day expenses for rent or food or other expenses that they incur during school and they need to buy books and other things. What if they run out of the financial support that they have received? Do they have to apply for loans? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague, Mr. Joanasié, for that question. The finance director will respond. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Basically, the information that I have before me is that people can apply for the loans. There is some additional information, which I would have to get from the FANS office that we can forward to the hon. member to answer that question correctly.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for the answer. The reason I am asking these question is because of my concern for the students. Nunavut students probably don't have much money in their savings, especially students who may be depending on income support. When it comes to the daily requirements of life and education that they need to pay for so therefore I need to encourage all of the students and all of the young people that they should be able to have their tuition fees and costs all covered.

Moving on to another subject, to page 2014-15 in relation to the priorities they will have relating to career development, they are going to review as to how the programs are being successful or not. So how many employees do they have that work in the Career Development Branch? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There was a question relating to whether their money would be sufficient for students to complete their education even though they can ask for assistance from the Government of Nunavut. There are also Inuit organizations such as KIA, QIA and the other KIA who also provide assistance to students and scholarships. In relation to the question to career development, our Director of Finance will answer that please. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the Career Development Branch there are 44 positions. As of April 30, we are at 68 percent capacity within that division with a 77 percent Inuit employment rate.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the career development officers... let me rephrase my question. In relation to the income support workers, do they all have training in terms of career development training? (interpretation ends) Do they all have career development training? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Career Development Branch works with Inuit

organizations in relation to future work development potential.

In Cambridge Bay, for example, they have a regional office there including one in Kugluktuk. The income support workers are being reviewed right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do I understand then that the income support workers have not received training in career development counseling?

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Director of Finance will answer that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the question. I do know that there has been training for career development officers within the branch. I believe there has also been training with income support workers. I think as a department that wants to work together we will be looking at opportunities in which we can have cross training between various branches in the department. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't think that's the answer I was looking for, but I will move on anyway. Your department

administers over \$4.7 million in labour market funding from the federal government. What are these funds used for then? If that question had not been asked yet, that is.

Chairman: Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you to Member of the Legislative Assembly Joanasie for his questions which will be answered by Simon Awa, the deputy minister.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Awa.

Mr. Awa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In reference to this subject and the question relating to it. Funding received from the federal government then to be administered by the Government of Nunavut. The funding is used for people who provide apprenticeship training.

For example, for companies and businesses. For example, such as the Nunavut Fisheries Coalition in who if they want to train people to train them to be deck hands or fisherman or to work in shrimp fisheries and halibut fisheries, then money could be used for that. Any business could also be subsidized or given funding. These could then be provided to those companies that provide apprenticeship positions.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you. Does income support have agreements with other organizations then to set up apprenticeship positions?

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, our department has agreements with businesses and companies and whoever else provides employment.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you. My final question would be to students, again. To those who can be provided with FANS. Why must income tax be deducted from that kind of money that the students receive? That was my final question and I'm done.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague in relation to the question. The Director of Finance can provide that answer.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The reason why the students would be receiving a tax receipt would be because they are receiving income from the Government of Nunavut. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. (interpretation) Following the names on my list, Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is just continuing on from my colleague about FANS.

Does FANS pay for the airfare of students to their place of education? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Savikataaq for the question. The Director of Finance can answer this one.

Chairman: Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, under the basic grant, FANS does cover the cost of airfare within Nunavut to the nearest Nunavut Arctic College location offering the program that is eligible under FANS.

Or in the south, basically a gateway city that is closest to the school where the student is taking the training. Examples of gateway cities would be Ottawa, Montreal, Winnipeg and Edmonton. Costs beyond these cities are basically deemed to be the student's responsibility. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the students' airfare is paid, the monies that FANS spends to buy the airfare, is that considered income towards the student? Either their T4A or some documentation saying that have to claim it as income? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Director of Finance can answer this one. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: I believe it would be considered as income with an offset to what the expenditure would be. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister explain what the difference is between a government worker getting their airfare paid to go do their work and a student getting their way paid to go do their education, why one is considered income and the other one is not? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The finance director deals with that and the finance department. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Since the Minister of Finance is here, I would like to ask him the question then if possible. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Mr. Peterson, are you prepared to answer the question?

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Chairman, could the member repeat the question before I answer? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Mr. Savikataaq, could you please repeat your question.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I asked the minister: the students, from FANS, when they get their airfare paid to the schools that they go to, the airfare is considered income towards students from FANS and I asked the minister: what's the difference between a government worker getting their airfare paid to a place of work and the student getting their airfare paid to a place of education, why one is considered income and the other one is not. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Finance is up in the hot seat later this afternoon, I would be prepared to answer that question then. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) I will exercise my discretion as your Chairman and recognize Mr. Enook one more time under this branch, Family Services, Career Development, D-7. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank you for recognizing me again. I believe that we are on page D-7, right? I just want to get back to apprenticeship programs. In order for them to earn hours, perhaps our government... . In English, it's (interpretation ends) apprenticeship

support. (interpretation) Mr. Chairman, I don't have the Inuktitut version here. When they're trying to earn hours through apprenticeship support, I would like to ask a question. Is there a limit? Are there maximum hours that the students can earn or how many of these can be supported or is there no limit for the students to earn hours? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are you talking about apprenticeship support as to how many students they can be? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): He's asking about (interpretation ends) apprenticeship support. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. He's asking whether there's a limit. According to my understanding, if there are students who would like to get apprenticeship support, is he talking the number of students? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Please clarify your question, Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. How many apprentices who are trying to earn hours, how much do you have for apprenticeship support funding to support apprentices?

Mr. Chairman, (interpretation ends) I know this is hypothetical but (interpretation) I'll use myself for example. If there are 200 students that are trying to get support, do you have the

capacity to provide support to that many people. I hope that is clearer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the Member for Tununig for asking for that clarification. I'll have my deputy minister respond. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Awa.

Mr. Awa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know if there is a limit on how many students can apply in the year. There isn't a set policy. At this time, currently the students taking the apprenticeship program the last fiscal year there are 115 students under this apprenticeship. Kitikmeot, 13. Kivalliq, 53. Baffin Region, 49 students. Together there are 150. If we can go further and if there is space we will make that available. We are open to it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) I have no further names on my list. Branch Summary. Family Services. Career Development. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$15,576,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Back to page D-3. Department Summary. (interpretation) Family Services. Detail of Expenditures. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$122,411,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do you agree that the Department of Family Services is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk. (interpretation ends) Closing comments.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank my colleagues for asking questions. Since this is our first year to administer the Family Services Department and we expect that next year we will be more prepared. Thank you for letting us know about the problem areas and also the question posed by Ms. Angnakak, she asked a question about the group home. It cost about \$565,000 per year to run the group home.

Also the Member for Tununiq's question why there is no program for males. Or why there is more funding programs available for females. We have not seen any applications from any male groups.

(interpretation ends) To Member of the Legislative Assembly Ms. Angnakak's question on the loans. An update to the student loans and collections is one of the reasons why the new system was put in place. Not all loans have been collected back in money of the students receive remissible loans. That means that they find documents that if they return to Nunavut to live and work, a portion of their loan can be forgiven. If they leave Nunavut, the loans have been paid back, this will be captured and tracked and reported in a new system.

The other question was the special professional program under FANS.

Chairman (interpretation): Wait a minute. Minister, I haven't asked a question, I was only asking for your closing comments. It sounds like you're responding to some members' earlier questions, so I'm just reminding you to give your closing remarks. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, members who asked questions, we will provide responses at a later and more proper time. There are only two questions left to be addressed, so thank you members. Thank you.

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

Thank you. We have completed the review of the Department of Family Services. We will take a five-minute break. Once we finish our break, we will begin the review of the Department of Justice. We will now take a five-minute break.

>>Committee recessed at 14:12 and resumed at 14:22

Bill 02 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2014-2015 – Justice – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We will resume our proceedings as Committee of the Whole. (interpretation ends) A stress test. I would now like to ask Minister Okalik, do you have

officials you would like to have appear before the Committee?

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Does the Committee of the Whole agree to let the minister and his officials go to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Sergeant-at-Arms, please allow the minister's staff to go to the witness table.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon. The officials I am bringing to the witness table are, to my right is my acting deputy minister, Ms. Rebecca Uqi Williams, and to my left is our comptroller, Rodney Suclan.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. You can now begin with your opening comments, Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to appear before the committee to present the Department of Justice's main estimates for operations and maintenance for the 2014-15 fiscal year.

A total amount of \$106 million is being requested for the operations of the Department of Justice in the coming fiscal year. This is a \$2.3 million increase from the previous fiscal year. This increase is primarily for the addition of 33 new staff, called person

years or PYs, composed of 24 correctional case workers for the overcrowding relief structure, the new correctional facility, two cooks for the same facility, four deputy sheriffs to provide improved security to our courts, and three support staff for courts.

The overcrowding relief structure is scheduled to open in the early winter of 2015. As a result, the new correctional staff will begin working halfway through the fiscal year. The department has requested half a year's compensation and benefits as a result.

Another component of the increase is an addition to the grants and contribution for the Legal Services Board to reflect the high cost of travel for circuit court and to base a lawyer in the Kivalliq and Kitikmeot regions.

Finally, there is an increase in our contract with the RCMP for property management services for the territory's detachments. Historically, these costs were covered by Public Safety Canada.

A review of our business plan shows that in addition to the continued provision of critical services, the department has many goals for the coming year.

Increasing Inuit language service delivery and employment are priorities of the department, with particular emphasis on legal services and corrections. This work begins with identifying barriers, planning Inuit professional development, and identifying successful initiatives.

After a great deal of consultation and community engagement, the Community Justice Division will be completing a

crime prevention strategy for Nunavut this fiscal year. This project will identify community safety and crime prevention priorities and will guide our future crime reduction efforts.

The department will also begin the process of developing civil forfeiture legislation for Nunavut. Civil forfeiture has been used in most provinces and may be a useful tool to combat bootlegging and drug trafficking in Nunavut. Policy work for this legislation is near completion and consultations will begin in the summer.

This work and other objectives set out in the business plan will improve access to justice and public safety for all Nunavummiut.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my opening comments. I would be pleased to answer questions from committee members. *Qujannamiik*. Thank you. *Merci*.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Does the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness have opening comments? Please proceed, Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness on its review of the proposed 2014-15 main estimates and 2014-17 business plan of the Department of Justice.

During the minister's recent appearance before the standing committee, members took the opportunity to raise a number of issues and concerns.

The standing committee notes that the department's proposed 2014-15 operations and maintenance budget of \$106,094 million has increased by approximately 5.6 percent since the introduction of the department's 2013-14 main estimates. The number of positions in the department is 368. This is an increase of 32 positions from the 2013-14 main estimates. This increase is primarily a consequence of the new positions required to operate the Baffin Correctional Centre's overcrowding relief structure, which is scheduled to open next year.

During the minister's recent appearance before the standing committee, members took the opportunity to raise a number of issues and concerns.

The standing committee notes that one of the department's priorities for the 2014-15 and 2015-16 fiscal years is to bring forward new civil forfeiture legislation, a commitment that was included in the Commissioner's Opening Address. The introduction of civil forfeiture legislation was addressed by the Minister's Task Force to Review the *Liquor Act*, which recommended the "urgent introduction of strong civil forfeiture legislation as a critical tool to fight the unlawful possession and illegal sale of alcohol, among other objectives."

Mr. Chairman, given the nature of Department of Justice's mandate, it is important that the department set an example for the government with respect to meeting its statutory requirements for the tabling of annual reports, especially reports that are of significant interest to the public. These include annual reports under the *Family Abuse Intervention Act*, the *Victims of Crime Act*, the *Labour*

Standards Act, and the *Human Rights Act*. The standing committee looks forward to such annual reports being tabled in a more timely manner.

The department's proposed 2014-15 main estimates indicate that the amount of annual funding provided to the Legal Services Board will increase from \$10,064,000 in 2013-14 to \$11,818,000 in 2014-15. This is an increase of approximately 17 percent. The standing committee notes the minister's efforts to work with his provincial and territorial counterparts to lobby the federal government to fund a greater proportion of the costs of criminal and civil legal aid and notes the contents of the November 14, 2013 communiqué issued by federal, provincial, and territorial ministers of justice concerning this issue.

The department's 2013-16 business plan indicated that work had been ongoing to "Investigate independent society status for LSB" and to "conduct a comprehensive structural/operational review" of its operations. The standing committee notes that the department's proposed 2014-17 business plan indicates that the Legal Services Board's "status and relationship with the Government of Nunavut will not change" at this time.

The standing committee also notes that the department's 2013-16 business plan indicated that the Legal Services Board was developing a new Criminal Financial Eligibility Policy and a new Civil Financial Eligibility Policy. Members urge the minister to formally table in the Legislative Assembly any new policies that have been approved by the Legal Services Board.

Mr. Chairman, the proposed 2014-15 budget for the Nunavut Human Rights Tribunal is \$812,000. On June 7, 2012, a report was tabled in the Legislative Assembly titled "Strengthening the Nunavut Human Rights System." The report presented 18 formal recommendations concerning the operations of the Nunavut Human Rights Tribunal and the *Human Rights Act* itself. The department's 2013-16 business plan indicated that the "Recommendations of the review are being studied at this time." The standing committee encourages the minister to table the government's formal response to the report and recommendations.

The 2012-13 Annual Report of the Human Rights Tribunal, which was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on March 12, 2014, indicates that "The lack of face-to-face interaction with clients and the tribunal is an added challenge...regardless of where the tribunal office could have been located, this issue would still prevail, given the small population of each of the Nunavut communities. Aside from Iqaluit, less than 10% of Nunavut's population would have direct access to the tribunal's services."

The 2012-13 Annual Report of the Human Rights Tribunal also indicates that "Currently, the mandate of the Tribunal does not include public education, nor should it. Public education and outreach is the responsibility of the Nunavut Legal Services Board."

However, the 2011-12 Annual Report of the Legal Services Board, which was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on September 16, 2013, indicates that

“Comprehensive public legal education and information initiatives are difficult to sustain when the Legal Services Board’s legal resources are committed to court work and file management.”

The standing committee encourages the minister to work with both the Human Rights Tribunal and the Legal Services Board to resolve this issue.

(interpretation ends) The Department of Justice’s proposed 2014-17 business plan indicates that one of its priorities for the 2014-15 fiscal year is to “Continue to identify ways in which the Tribunal can be more effective in publicizing its presence and purpose across Nunavut to maintain or increase intake.” The standing committee looks forward to reviewing the government’s progress in achieving this goal.

On March 1, 2013, the 2012-14 Shared Directional Statement between the Department of Justice and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police’s “V” Division was tabled in the Legislative Assembly. The document included a number of priorities for action in the areas of communication, communities at risk, and crime reduction and prevention.

The standing committee notes that the department’s budget for the government’s policing services contract with Public Safety Canada for the provision of RCMP policing services in the territory is increasing from \$34,185,000 in 2013-14 to \$35,772,000 in 2014-15. Information provided to the standing committee by the minister indicates that this increase is primarily due to such factors as the government’s obligations with respect to RCMP detachment properties.

Mr. Chairman, members have raised the ongoing issue of communication challenges between the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the public that it serves. Members note that section 3 of the *Inuit Language Protection Act* provides that organizations shall communicate with the public in the Inuit Language when delivering essential services such as “emergency, rescue or similarly urgent services.”

The standing committee notes that the 2012-14 Shared Directional Statement between the Department of Justice and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police’s “V” Division indicates that the Government of Nunavut and the RCMP “will work to improve the use of Inuktitut within the force, will work to encourage recruitment of Inuit officers, and will make efforts to ensure non-Inuit officers understand, and are sensitive to, Inuit culture and realities.”

The standing committee notes that the November 14, 2013 communiqué issued by federal, provincial, and territorial ministers of justice stated in part that “Territorial Ministers reiterated their desire to have their jurisdictions included in the First Nations Policing Program. All Ministers agreed to further the discussion and exploration of policing options for First Nations and Inuit communities.”

The standing committee notes that the budget for the Registries and Court Services Division of the department has increased significantly in recent years. In the 2011-12 fiscal year, the division’s budget was \$9,418,000 with a staff complement of 53 positions. The division’s proposed 2014-15 budget is \$11,173,000 with a staff complement of

67 positions. The standing committee notes that the Senior Judge of Nunavut Court of Justice recently issued a public statement that raised concerns regarding “human and financial resources” within the court system.

The standing committee also notes that the Nunavut Court of Justice has resumed the practice of publishing a comprehensive annual report on court operations.

Mr. Chairman, an ongoing concern has been the issue of probation services in Nunavut. The Legislative Assembly was informed at its sitting of October 27, 2011 that “there are over 1,000 individuals on probation” in Nunavut. The department’s proposed 2014-17 business plan indicates that the “full transfer” of community correctional services from the Department of Family Services was completed as of February 1, 2013. However, the standing committee notes that not all communities have resident probation officers.

The standing committee emphasizes that the development of effective programs for inmates and persons on probation is an essential element of reducing the rate at which reoffending occurs. Information contained in the government’s response to a written question asked in the Legislative Assembly in February of last year indicates that the rate at which adult male offenders reoffend is approximately 74 percent.

The standing committee notes that the government’s official announcement concerning the recent opening of the new correctional healing centre in Rankin Inlet indicated that “inmates will

participate in community-based programs as part of their rehabilitation plans.”

The standing committee notes that two of the department’s priorities for the 2014-15 fiscal year are to conduct a “full evaluation of programs” at the Rankin Inlet Healing Facility and to “Continue developing a plan for a medium to long-term solution to increase capacity for inmates in Nunavut, including planning to repatriate all Nunavut inmates housed outside of Nunavut.”

The Government of Nunavut’s current memorandum of understanding with the Government of the Northwest Territories for the placement of inmates in Northwest Territories correctional facilities expired on March 31, 2014. The standing committee encourages the minister to provide a formal update to the House on the status of the renewal or extension of this agreement.

The standing committee also notes that the Office of the Auditor General of Canada has indicated that its next report to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut will focus on the territory’s corrections system. The report is anticipated to be tabled in the House during its spring 2015 sitting.

The *Family Abuse Intervention Act* came into force on March 1, 2008. The 2010-11 annual report on the *Family Abuse Intervention Act* and activities of community justice committees was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on May 16, 2013. However, the 2011-12 and 2012-13 annual reports have not yet been tabled in the Legislative Assembly.

The department's proposed 2014-17 business plan indicates the "Justice of the Peace program is making improvements to the *Family Abuse Intervention Act* by increasing efforts to recruit local Justices of the Peace, streamlining administrative processes and planning expanded *Family Abuse Intervention Act*-specific training initiatives in more communities." The department's proposed business plan also indicates that one of its priorities for the 2014-15 fiscal year is to "Explore options to improve family mediation services in Nunavut." The standing committee looks forward to ongoing updates on the status of this initiative.

The standing committee notes that the department's proposed 2014-17 business plan indicates that two of its priorities in the 2014-15 fiscal year are to "Assist [Community] Justice Committees to increase their ability to receive more cases diverted from the formal criminal justice system" and to "Develop a crime prevention strategy for Nunavut."

The 2012-13 annual report under the *Victims of Crime Act* was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on September 12, 2013. The report indicates that approximately \$86,000 was provided for community-based projects and activities that provide services and assistance to victims of crime.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2014-15 main estimates and 2014-17 business plan of the Department of Justice. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. My colleagues, do you have

any general comments on the opening comments? Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a general comment. I would like to direct my comment to the minister. I understand that drugs and alcohol are becoming more prevalent in the communities. Are you going to be working on the problems using the Inuit way of doing things? What are your future plans on this? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): That was understandable. At the appropriate time, you can ask that question, Mr. Shooyook. We are on Justice. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Directorate. E-4. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I've just got a couple of questions.

Mr. Chairman, in November of 2013, there was a news release issued from an FPT meeting that provincial and territorial had requested that the federal minister increase funding for criminal legal aid and also to request funding for civil legal aid.

As the minister will recall, I recently asked him questions regarding civil legal aid and how it can be accessed, one of the things I suggested was, for people who are going through foreclosure processes. How are negotiations going with the federal government on accessing more civil legal aid service dollars? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Unfortunately, legal aid has not seen an increase from the federal government for quite some time in terms of the level of support. It started out nicely, but it has tapered off. We're no different than other jurisdictions.

I had a meeting with the Minister of Justice early on in my mandate and requested that they work on increasing the level of support they provide to us for legal aid. Hopefully we will see an increase in the future, but it has been a pretty sad state for some time. I hope that with continued lobbying by me and my colleagues throughout the country, we will eventually see an increase in this area. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish the minister all the luck in the world to secure some further funding under that category.

Mr. Chairman, in the Assistant Deputy Attorney General category, it shows the responsibility for the RCMP policing file. In his opening comments, he had mentioned that property management services for the territory's detachments were historically cost covered by Public Safety Canada and they no longer are covering that. Did they give the minister any specific reasoning on why those costs are no longer covered by the federal government? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) This is flowing from the new agreement that was signed last year. The federal government issued a new template, pretty much, for all governments to follow in terms of the RCMP. They have devolved this responsibility to territories and provinces. We have been given this responsibility and we have to bear those costs that weren't traditionally part of our costs in the past. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. (interpretation) Next on my list, Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a couple of questions on E-4. I see in your business plan, page 33, you talk about victims of crime. I'm wondering: how many staff do you have to address the needs of victims who have suffered due to crimes committed against them? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) All we do is offer program funding for victims on a proposal basis. That's all we do have right now, but at the same time, we also offer travel support for victims when they have to appear before a court. That's what this is. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister please provide us with an example of a victim, what kind of proposal would they write and what kind of service are they asking for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We receive different types of proposals from communities and I sign those off each fall. They have been very successful. We have received very good responses from those who have taken part in these programs. I look forward to more proposals. We don't put barriers. We prefer that each person or group has different ways of dealing with their issues and we don't want to put artificial bars on these proposals. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister provide us an example of some of these proposals that the government has funded that goes to aid victims of crime? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We have numerous examples and I will gladly provide them to my colleagues when we have them readily available. We don't have them in

front of us right now. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We look forward to seeing that information from the Department of Justice.

What budget do you allocate to helping victims of crime in Nunavut aside from the \$86,000 that you recently announced? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I don't know where the \$86,000 comes from at this time. Can the member clarify, please. (interpretation) Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I'm reading from the 2012-13 annual report under the *Victims of Crime Act*. The report indicated that approximately \$86,000 was provided for community-based projects and activities that provide services and assistance to victims of crime. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) That is based on proposals that were submitted for that year, so that number is more like a

floating number at this point. Each community puts forward their proposal and the amount that they may require for that year and we fund it on that basis. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that answer. I'm going to ask kind of the same question. On top of what you call the floating number or on top of the monies that are set aside for community-based projects and that, how much money in your budget do you set aside for helping victims of crime? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: It is a number that is not fixed, as we get some federal money and also get the money through the courts through victim surcharges. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the answer, minister. Can you tell me, then, how much money do you put into those who have committed crimes in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

(interpretation ends) The court determines the amount on each case, so I can't provide a number on that. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I were to take a wild guess, it would probably be all the correctional services and all the other monies that are put for housing inmates.

How do victims of crime access the service that you provide to them? Is it just proposal-based or are there any other ways that they can do this? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The proposal-based approach has been quite successful and we leave it to each group in the community and let them offer what program they may require. That has been quite successful to date. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm going to go on to something else. Your department's draft 2014-17 business plan indicates that one of the priorities is to "Continue to identify ways in which the Tribunal can be more effective in publicizing its presence and purpose..." What specific actions are being undertaken to

accomplish this goal? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I look forward to travelling to the office of the Human Rights Tribunal and also meeting with the tribunal itself. I haven't had the opportunity to meet with them yet, so I look forward to having a good discussion with them. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. (interpretation) I would like to ask members to indicate which page you are asking your question on. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just for clarification, then, specific actions in how you're going to help the tribunal publicize its presence haven't been actually worked out yet until you meet with the tribunal. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: I would like to have some good discussions with the tribunal on how we can provide each other more support on how we can provide better services to Nunavummiut. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My last question to this

section: how is your department preparing for the upcoming Auditor General's audit on the correctional system of your department? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: From what I understand, we're doing whatever we can to facilitate the audit. Our duty is to make sure that the audit is as full as it can be, so we're trying to offer our services. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Next on my list, Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 32 of your business plan, the priorities for 2013-14, the last bullet says, "Continue to increase the recruitment of bilingual RCMP Special Constables..." Are there any special constables currently hired in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I understand there are three so far. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know if this is the person to ask, but does the minister know what is the difference between a

special constable and a regular RCMP member? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) My deputy minister is in charge of that department, so I'll let her respond to that. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The difference is that those with more training are referred to as regular members and their training is longer and the special constable training period is shorter. I hope that clarifies it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are the powers or duties any different between a special constable and a regular member? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have my deputy minister respond to that question.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you. The special constable's level of policing skills might be slightly lower than those officers who have completed

their full training that allow them to carry firearms. The officers who are tasked with transporting prisoners to courts by air probably do not carry firearms and that is why their skill levels are different. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you for the clarification and clear response. In the same line, it says, recruit bilingual special constables. Do the special constables have to be bilingual? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It doesn't state that specifically, but we do know that there are not that many RCMP personnel that have the ability to speak Inuktitut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Going on, on page 33 of your business plan on your status at the top there, I'll read it. This is about recruitment. "A recruiting unit is fully staffed with an Inuit member tasked with community outreach and recruitment of Inuit." Does this recruitment office go to outlying communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have been

advised that they visit the communities and they go on recruiting missions looking for younger generation recruits. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know the information might not be readily available, but how many communities has the recruiting officer gone to in the last 12 months? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you very much. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will look for that information and provide it to the member. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that. I'm looking forward to the information.

Going on, your department's draft 2014-15 business plan indicates that one of its priorities for the 2014-15 fiscal year is to "Consult with stakeholders on the creation of civil forfeiture legislation." The Commissioner's Opening Address indicates that this legislation would enable the authorities to "seize property and proceeds believed to be a result of unlawful activities."

Which of the individuals and organizations is your department planning to consult with before this legislation is made? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): We will want to consult with everyone we could consult with. I will be consulting and if any of my colleagues in the legislature has suggestions as to who we should visit, then we will do it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are there any plans to do community consultations, not by people travelling there, but using the existing Department of Justice workers who are in the communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes. We know that a lot of those people already have jobs and work to do and we don't just want to saddle more work for them to do when they are already working pretty hard. But I will want to utilize you as representatives of your constituencies and to wait what the best practices we could use to consult on the legislation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Following my list of names and using my ability to decide I will allow Mr. Hickes to ask again.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My apologies for having a question that I forgot to mention earlier and I appreciate the opportunity to bring it forward.

Mr. Chairman, back in March in this House I had asked the minister in Oral Question period a question regarding Inuit employment. At the time he stated that it's something that is a high priority in our community and when he meets with his staff he always makes sure to get updated.

Mr. Chairman, I'm sure the minister met with his staff in preparation for this committee meeting and was updated. I wonder if he could pass that update on to the members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps if my deputy could provide an answer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is an excellent question. Every working day we are working on this issue including the casual employees who we are always trying to look for beneficiaries in terms of their qualifications naturally. We know that we need to work with them and using our own people that can understand our languages and we will continue to work in this area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank the witness for that answer. Also on that day the minister responded that the current practice in hiring needs some revisions and that we do need more Inuit

working at the Baffin Correctional Centre. Has his department taken into consideration the need for those revisions and would the minister be able to outline what kind of revisions they anticipate in making? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The staff are working on that issue, especially with the impending opening of the overcrowding facility. We know that we need more man hours and we will be working towards capacity in this area. Thank you very much.

Chairman (interpretation): We are on Justice. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Directorate. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$17,094,000. (interpretation) Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Before we go to page E-5, we will take a 10-minute break.

>>Committee recessed at 15:20 and resumed at 15:35

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. We will now proceed. We are on page E-5. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Justice. Law Enforcement. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page E-5, I have a few questions in regard to that page. They're very important, so I would like to pose my questions.

Let me first ask a question on the line item for \$35,772,000 for operations and maintenance for law enforcement contract services. To me, the funding of \$35 million is a huge amount. How do you negotiate the funding for that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): We don't have much say because there's an agreement with the federal government. They give their budget line items to the federal government, so we don't have much leeway. I know that this is a huge sum of money, but the federal government has to pay 30 percent for law enforcement according to the agreement, so it helps us a bit.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I think what I'm trying to ask is that with that agreement, it's a large sum of money. Do you actually have a say as to what kind of programs and services that they could provide in Nunavut? As Nunavut, we say that we are unique. Our culture, lifestyle, and environment are quite unique. Do you have an actual right to include programs and services in the agreement? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My deputy minister regularly meets with law enforcement and she can elaborate

further on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We can look at the agreement in two ways. The one is a 20-year agreement and the other one is set for two years at our department. We work with senior law enforcement officials and we are able to talk with them and provide recommendations. The minister and the inspector have an agreement.

We have a 20-year agreement that was signed in 2012, but we don't make changes to the 20-year agreement and they budget their funding for 142 RCMP officers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I'm not posing my question properly, so it seems like you're not asking my question. I'll just use an example. For example, since this is using a large sum of funds, since the agreement costs lots of money, in some communities, some officers seem to bully the people of the community. I'm talking about an actual case or event. Sometimes they intimidate the people in the community because there are RCMP officers in the smaller communities.

Prior to the department signing the agreement, have you ever made any recommendations before the RCMP officers are sent to Nunavut? Do you provide cross cultural training or orientation? That's what I am moving

towards. When the new RCMP officers are coming to Nunavut, do you provide orientation programs or do you train them with cross-cultural programs? Can you make those recommendations in the agreement? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My deputy minister always deals with this issue so I'll have her respond to your question.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is a large amount for contract for the law enforcement. We understand that. The member has stated that RCMP sometimes go to communities and they are big bosses or bullies, if I understood that correctly. The reply to that would be the complaints process, which is in place so if something like this happens there is a process that people can follow.

When we do the shared directional statement between the minister and the RCMP commanding officer can work on together to make sure that these things don't happen. Also RCMP members who are going to the detachments are being oriented before they go into the community about community or cross cultural orientation.

When they go into the community, they are encouraged to meet with hamlets, and the community members who are dealing with community people so that they can be part of the community. I just want to say again that there is a complaints process in place that people

should know. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I will try to speak English, too. (interpretation ends) I guess what I'm trying to ask is, I would like to suggest that there is a huge amount of dollars that this government spends on policing, namely with the RCMP. I thought my simple question was; are there certain provisions in the contract that you demand in the contract such as, for example, any member wanting to serve in Nunavut must have this, this and this because we always state we are a unique society, we are a unique territory and we are a unique culture up here. I wasn't talking about any kind of process.

Yes, the deputy minister is right. Unfortunately, too many times RCMP members come into communities heavy handed. We hear that time and time again. They run rush-shod at communities. We hear that time and time again. That's why I'm suggesting, are there any of these cross cultural, any of this stuff, put into this huge contract. After all, it's a huge amount of our money. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I don't want a misconception out there. A lot of the force members are very good members and they provide a valuable service to the communities. A lot of them

volunteer their time on the side to make sure that the image of the police is portrayed in a positive way to the community. I applaud those members that work very hard to maintain the positive image of the police force. I encourage them to continue that good work. Yes, there have been challenges within the force with some members. But those members will be dealt with through the complaints process as my deputy has outlined.

We also do our part in making sure that they are made aware of our unique territory. We have done videos in the past. As my deputy explained, we encourage the new members to meet with the local justice committee people. We are open to more innovative ways that my colleagues may encourage us to do. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me try and speak Inuktitut. Perhaps they didn't understand me in English.

Mr. Chairman, I don't want any misconceptions out there. I didn't say that all of the RCMP officers are doing wrong or bad. All I said is there are some. I am very proud of the RCMP officers that do valuable work and they do provide work beyond their scope of work.

The question I was trying to pose, perhaps they responded to my question. Maybe because I am misunderstanding. Since this contract is for a large sum of money can Nunavummiut or your department ask or request or demand to

put into the agreement? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes, we have that opportunity, but we cannot control their day-to-day operations. We can make an agreement with them on the shared direction. Their two-year agreement is now lapsing, so therefore we are now planning on a new two-year agreement on how the RCMP will on the shared direction. Myself and the commanding officers will sign the agreement. After the agreement has been signed then it's distributed to all of the RCMP detachments, the copy of the shared direction is given to them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. According to the names on my list, Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I've just got a couple questions in this section. The minister pointed out that 30 percent of this contract is paid by the federal government. Is that 30 percent based on the 35 plus million dollars or is the actual cost of policing \$51 million dollars and 70 percent is paid by Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The \$35 million is our portion of the contract. The other 30 percent comes from the federal government through the agreement.

In addition there are other services that we utilize from RCMP that would not otherwise be available to us, such as testing, so those services are available to us via this contract. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: So we were talking earlier on how \$35 million is a lot of money to spend on policing. When the minister, please correct me, just stated that the actual cost of policing in Nunavut is \$51,103,000. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) It is within that range. As well, there are other services that we are dependent upon for the RCMP they offer us as a result of being a country-wide police force that we would not otherwise be able to access. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Now, that is a lot of money.

Mr. Chairman, in March of 2013, the shared directional statement between the Minister of Justice and the RCMP commanding officer for 2012-14 was tabled. In it, there are a number of categories that the RCMP, along with the GN, work towards that are in our communities, identifying youth, suicide prevention, family violence, crime

reduction. How is the progress of this shared statement measured? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My deputy minister meets with the RCMP, so I'll get her to answer that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is a good question. We have the opportunity... . The RCMP services and the minister have a shared directional statement and the RCMP is always involved with suicide prevention as well as other services, such as young children and youth who could work with the RCMP with respect to languages, and they try to work with the RCMP.

The shared directional statement has been provided before, but in 2012, we want to be able to state that we have to have an agreement between the RCMP and the Nunavut government. This has been done. Whatever we do takes a long time, even though I meet with them every week.

I could use an example, maybe within four years, what good things have been done for the RCMP to implement the shared directional statement along with the commanding officer for the operation of the RCMP. This is very slow, but we're in talks with the RCMP and we would like to make it done a lot faster, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I applaud the coordination between your department and the commanding officer within the “V” division here.

My question is: how is success or failure measured? Is it categorically or an overall, broad, just crime reduction numbers or is there community by community evaluation from the staff sergeants in each community on whether they feel that this statement is being adhered to and successful? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): I’ll have my deputy minister respond to this question as well because she is responsible for that. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We actually don’t have a measuring tool, but when we meet every week, we talk about the shared directional [statement]. Let’s say, every four months at a time, we review this directional statement and just generally talk about where are we at here. It’s part of ours too. It’s shared directional and it’s not just for the RCMP, so we try to work on it together.

As I said earlier, we are more involved in operations, not the investigations but how the RCMP is running in Nunavut. As a Department of Justice, as I said earlier, it would be very good to have a tool to measure but as everybody knows

in Nunavut that it is really difficult to count how many crimes happened there or what was reduction. Although every week we get information from the RCMP about major issues that are happening in Nunavut. We have those counts. Sometimes they’re less, sometimes not so much.

We are only just developing it this year. A little bit last year and part of this year. We are trying to make more efforts to see where we are at with the shared directional. Where can we put more? I might be confusing everybody here and I’m talking too long. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We are on page E-5. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Justice. Law Enforcement. I have no further names on my list. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask a question. With respect to the RCMP, the Arviat Member of the Legislative Assembly asked a question about whether Family Services deals with people who are suicidal. Because the RCMP are the first people to be called when there is a suicidal situation. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get my deputy minister to respond to that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. People who are at risk of committing suicide talk to whoever they want to talk to. The RCMP do get a lot of calls but sometimes they find out through the cell phones or when somebody informs them and then they go and deal with the suicidal person. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the deputy minister for her response. Do you count how many people are suicidal? Do they gather the numbers, for example, how many people were suicidal in a year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get my deputy minister to respond to that question.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Yes, we have a count. I can say that from January to date there have been 13 suicidal individuals that have had some assistance. The RCMP get over 400 calls in the communities from people looking for suicidal individuals annually. From January to date, 13 people have attempted suicide. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the deputy minister for her good response. This must be very hard to deal with and the RCMP is to help the people in each community and they have to protect and serve the people of the community.

Recently, I was down south. This is very hard to deal with and they must go through a lot during their employment. The RCMP works very hard to try to help the people. Even though there are problems arising, there has to be a solution. Thank you for the responses. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Justice. Law Enforcement. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$35,772,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. (interpretation) We are going to page E-6. (interpretation ends) Justice. Branch Summary. Lawyer Support Services. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$3,441,000. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have one question here and I'm sure everyone will get my theme.

In the priorities in 2014-15, in the second bullet, it has "Continue efforts to recruit and train Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries as legal and legislative counsel." What is your department currently doing to accomplish this priority? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We are trying to be as useful as we can be and trying to recruit as many Inuit as we can that we know that may be able to offer legal services. We are also trying to support students who want to pursue a career in law. We're hoping that we can improve our numbers in the long run and we will do whatever we can to support initiatives that may get us better numbers in our department. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. We are on page E-6. (interpretation ends) Justice. Branch Summary. Lawyer Support Services. I have no further names. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$3,441,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We are now on page E-7. (interpretation ends) We are now on page E-7. Branch Summary. Justice. Registries and Court Services. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$11,173,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. We are going to page E-8. (interpretation ends) Justice. Branch Summary. Corrections. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under Corrections, I wonder: what measures has your department implemented to correct some of the serious deficiencies that BCC had? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is a capital project and we are making some plans for it. In the coming future when we do capital projects we will be hearing it again. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We are under Operations and Maintenance. Not capital. Just a reminder. Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will save that, like you say, for the capital (estimates). How many inmates are currently at the Baffin Correctional Centre right now? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): We are looking for the figures right now.

As of May 16, total at the Baffin Correctional Centre was 81 inmates. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For 86 inmates, does that represent overcrowding still at the Baffin

Correctional Centre? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Actually 81, it was a little overcrowded. Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister give us an idea of how many inmates that building is built for? What is the maximum that you are really supposed to put in that building? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes, the optimum number is 65. It is supposed to be 65 inmates but it is a little overcrowded right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are we breaking any rules by having more than the number currently than it was meant to accommodate? Does it pose any dangers to the inmates? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When it is in that situation it doesn't look good but they are trying to do something about it. They are even building a relief building. I know it's obvious that the situation will

improve once we get the relief structure completed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. How many inmates are currently held outside of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): As of May 16, there were 47. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Once you have the new building up to house more inmates, do you foresee the inmates that are in the south coming back to Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): I don't know what is going to happen. Some of them get released after they do their time. I can't estimate how many inmates will be down there next year. Next year we will know. The Baffin Correctional Centre needs to be renovated. We know that. Once we get into the capital estimates that will be brought back to the table. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was talking about inmates who will probably be down south for a

while due to us having no room here in Nunavut. Once you get the building, will some of those inmates be coming back to be held here in Nunavut instead of down south? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's what we want to do if it's possible. We would prefer to have them held in Nunavut if at all possible. That's what we always try to do whenever we can and we would prefer it if they were held in custody in Nunavut. However, when we don't have room, we have no choice but to send them outside of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you very much. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister tell us what the budget is to house inmates in the south outside of Nunavut, either in Yellowknife or anywhere in the south? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you very much. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): I don't have that figure in front of me right now, although I would like to respond to that. I don't have that figure in front of me right now. I can respond to you at a later date once I have the figures in front of me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: I look forward to that information so that everybody can hear it.

How are the facilities in Iqaluit, Kugluktuk, and Rankin Inlet for inmates different from each other? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Once we get into the capital estimates, we will be making some amendments. Right now, we're working on operations and maintenance. The newer facility in Rankin Inlet seems like the most adequate right now, but I know that we will be making some improvements once we get that new relief structure working. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was referring to programs and services offered to inmates, nothing to do with capital. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They have different programs in each facility. The facility in Kugluktuk is the most open one. It's a minimum-security facility. The facility in Rankin Inlet is medium security. The facility in Iqaluit is partly maximum security. Some of the maximum-security inmates are held there. The three facilities don't run the same. It's just based on the sentences imposed on the inmates. I'm sorry I couldn't respond to that right away.

For inmates held in the NWT, it's \$300.70 per inmate per day. If they are held in Ontario, it's \$238 per day per inmate. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just wondering if the minister can share with us, then, how much they spent last fiscal year on inmates outside of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the NWT, we spent \$2,850,000 last year and in Ontario, we spent \$1.74 million. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that information, minister. Just going along, how many outpost camps does your department work with? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are five in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer,

minister. Do you have any plans to increase this number? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We always welcome people who want to create more outpost camps. They help us a great deal. They help calm the inmates. We want to see more of those in the future. If anybody wants to try and start one, we can support them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What kind of service does the outpost camp provide the inmate that the regular institution can't? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Mainly they are more slated towards Inuit culture. They are in more of a serene and calming area or atmosphere. It really helps the inmates. The caretakers know what culture these inmates come from and they are able to help them that way. They have more hunting available to them. It represents big healing for some of the inmates.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Does your department work and train outpost camp contractors in the area of providing inmate care in their camps? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes. They are met with every year to see how else we can support them. We learn from each other on how to do best practices. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My last question is, and I'm changing subjects a bit here. What has been the biggest or greatest challenge when it comes to providing probationary services? Does every community have a probationary officer? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Today there are 18 probation officers. That isn't enough. That is inadequate. The communities that don't have probation officers, we travel to them. We get probation officers into those communities. Sometimes in the smaller communities the problem with getting probation officers is due to the lack of housing. That is one of the problems that we have when we are trying to hire probation officers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. According to my list, we are on Branch Summary. Corrections. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. While we're on the subject of corrections, if you have a copy of the document how many especially in Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet and Kugluktuk, how many of your staff are Inuit and how many are non-Inuit? If you have

those figures, I would like to hear them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): We don't have the current information at our fingertips. Once I get it, I can provide the information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman and minister. With respect to the Government of Nunavut's agreements with the Government of the Northwest Territories, they're supposed to have expired on March 31, 2014. Have you renewed the agreement or the contract to house prisoners in the NWT? The time that you have to have a new agreement is farther away now, but what's your renewal date? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): It has been extended by the NWT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you. I also have a question on one of your priorities in the 2014-17 business plan with respect to probation services. In the business plan, they have been moved from the Department of Family Services to your department. As of today, can you tell us which communities in Nunavut do not have community corrections officers

who reside in the community? We don't have specific Inuktitut terminology for this. I guess we just have to create it out of the blue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): The people on probation have conditions that they have to always be in good behaviour and they're not supposed to break any of them. Qikiqtarjuaq, Clyde River, Grise Fiord, Hall Beach, Resolute Bay, Chesterfield Inlet, Coral Harbour, Repulse Bay, Whale Cove, and Kugaaruk don't have community corrections officers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What is the reason why these communities don't have these kinds of employees? There are probably various reasons, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): It would be preferable if we have one for each community. Irregardless of that, they do receive those kinds of services, although not on a daily basis, from a neighbouring community. The probation officers are always checking up on them to see if they're still following the conditions of their probation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Next on my list, Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to know what the difference is between a healing facility and a correctional centre. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They're pretty much the same. It's just that they just chose to name them differently. In fact, we will need to come up with a new name for the building. However, we don't really like what has been suggested so far. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: I like the minister's response. I'm sure most people in Nunavut wanted to know that. In your 2014-17 business plan, it indicates that one of it's priorities for the 2014-15 fiscal year is to "Continue developing a plan for medium to long-term solutions to increase capacity for inmates in Nunavut, including planning to repatriate all Nunavut inmates housed outside of Nunavut." Does this mean that your department is considering constructing a new correctional facility to replace the Baffin Correctional Centre? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are

making preparations to deal with the prisoner facilities so that the Baffin Correctional Centre can have major repairs done once that new facility opens. Thank you

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for the good response. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Going down the list we are on (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Corrections. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question in relation to what was stated that there are five outpost camps which correctional services utilize. Could you identify where those places are?

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): There are so many papers here that I lost it. I had it for awhile. Do you remember them offhand? Oh, here it is. Three are at Kimmirut, 1 is near Iqaluit, and the last one is near Baker Lake.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you very much. What is the total budget for the five outpost camps used by the Government of Nunavut's correctional services? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They provide independent and unique services and it depends on the per prisoner cost per person who is sent to them by corrections. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): How many of them are there to which you are paying money to? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you. Up until May 12, there were five near Kimmirut and three near Baker Lake. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The one that is near Iqaluit, how many were there? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The ones near Iqaluit are closed temporarily. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister mentioned that Nunavut pays on a daily basis to prisoners housed outside of Nunavut in other provinces or territories.

Do they have a daily rate for one person?
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you.
Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): \$238
per day per inmate.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank
you very much, Mr. Chairman. Thank
you for the answer. More on the same
subject, he also mentioned that they are
looking for more facilitators but what
kind of requirements or criteria there in
order to pay to the outpost camps on a
per person basis? Thank you, Mr.
Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Our
officers or employees deal with those
things. They provide them with
important or costly facilities, subsidies,
and equipment.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié: Thank you, Mr.
Chairman. Prisoners who are facilitated
at outpost camps. Are they considered
still to be incarcerated or caused to no
longer want to do bad things? How can
they be caused to not want to bad things
anymore as compared to making them
happy? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): The
outpost camp operators are quite good in

providing kindly assistance to their
wards using Inuit means and culturally
appropriate means. However, there
safety is also considered in whether they
are not dangerous. Thank you, Mr.
Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank
you very much. How are the prisoners,
people whose lives needed to be
corrected at outpost camps I think that
there are is also one at Clyde River that
provides culturally appropriate topics
and courses on Inuit culture to everyone
in Nunavut. It seems that they want more
of these.... How do I say it
appropriately? Maybe I'll say it in
English. (interpretation ends) It seems to
be enticing people to go into outpost
camp when there are some
Nunavummiut who aren't exposed to
cultural activity especially going out on
the land. I'm cautious of how this
program is run in that it could be a
misconception of if you become
incarcerated you go into an outpost camp
and participate in cultural activities. It's
food for thought. (interpretation) Thank
you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you
very much. We are on Branch Summary.
Corrections. I no longer have any names
on my list. (interpretation ends) Total
Operations and Maintenance, to be
Voted. \$33,797,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you
very much. Moving on to page E9.
(interpretation ends) Branch Summary.

Justice. Community Justice. Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe I am on the right page, thank you. I would like to ask the Minister of Justice according to the federal legislation. Since I have been a child, we have been utilizing the federal legislation and we cannot change or amend the legislation because of the federal legislation deterred our way of life in some ways. In Nunavut, Inuit culture and our way of working together, if we start working together, I'm sure that this would benefit our lifestyle.

I'm not against Nunavummiut. Don't think that I'm against it, but I have to mention it all the time. I'm sure that we can resolve the problem. I have seen this written down somewhere that alcohol and drugs are a problem in our community. The way they are selling alcohol and drugs in Nunavut is not very good. It seems like it has a negative impact on many Nunavummiut today.

What are your goals or objectives to deal with drug dealing in Nunavut to alleviate the problem of drug dealing in our community? This is a grave concern. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Shooyook. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, this is quite different because when we were young there were no alcohol and drugs in our way of life. It's now part of our way of life. Yes, we will be reviewing the legislation to prevent the crimes such as alcohol and drugs. They are operated because they want to make money. They

deal with these issues. That's why we are working on forfeiture legislation and I'm sure that it will be a benefit to lessen this problem. I know I will be tabling that forfeiture legislation to try to reduce these crimes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Shooyook: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the Minister of Justice for giving me an understandable response. One thing that we are missing is Inuit societal values. Once we start incorporating Inuit societal values it will benefit our lives. Using Inuit culture as a foundation and the way they do things, I'm sure the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the court system can benefit from that if they recognize Inuit culture. If we start working together, I'm sure it can benefit us all it seems rather than just creating stumbling blocks.

I know that there are elders in our communities that provide that service through the court system and after these elders had passed on; this program was no longer used. We do include elders in the court system. We need to have other programs. We need to incorporate Inuit societal values in programs and services so they are also included in counselling in inmates in Inuit ways that before the elders all pass on, then we can alleviate the number of crimes if we start using Inuit culture. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. I did not hear a question. According to my list of names, Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. During the last sitting the minister made a statement talking about community

consultations that are underway regarding the Nunavut crime prevention strategy. Mr. Chairman, I participated in the meeting held here in Iqaluit. I was very impressed with the turn out and the level of involvement and participation from so many different demographics across our city here. What has the level of participation been in other communities across the territory in these consultations? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I am encouraged by the levels of attendance throughout Nunavut. I look forward to tabling the report and providing more input for our partners in making sure that we respond according to the wishes of our territory. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sure we all look forward to the tabling of that report as well. With that in mind, is there a timeline associated with that tabling? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: As those community consultations were just completed a month ago, they are compiling all of the information and they also have to discuss with partners on how to respond to those. I can't respond right now as to when that final report might be ready. As soon as it is ready I look forward to

tabling it here. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of my colleagues earlier was talking about the victim's assistance fund. In the priorities on page 48 under the 2014-2015, the second last bullet talks about continuing to explore innovative way to support victims of crime through the victim travel support program and the development of a victim care program. It states that you are exploring innovative ways? Would you be able to enlighten me as to what some of those innovative ways are? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I understand that this program, we're in discussions with the federal government which also deals with this matter. I can't divulge what that might be at this time. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Branch Summary. Justice. Community Justice. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$4,817,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Go back to page E3. (interpretation ends) Department Summary. Justice. Detail of Expenditures. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$106,904,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed

Chairman: Are you agreed that the Department of Justice is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed

Chairman: Closing comments. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank my colleagues for your questions and your comments. We will use your comments and questions. We are very pleased. We will use them. Next year we will be able to respond to some of your questions. Thank you. Let's proceed well with our session.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the officials out.

Thank you very much. We will take a five-minute break. Thank you very much.

>>*Committee recessed at 16:46 and resumed at 16:56*

Bill 02 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2014-2015 – Finance – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. I would like to call the committee meeting to order. (interpretation ends) I would now like to ask Minister Peterson: do you have officials that you would like to appear before the committee?

Hon. Keith Peterson: Yes, Chairman, I do have some officials.

Chairman: Does the committee agree to let the minister and his officials go to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Sergeant-at-Arms, if you could escort the officials in please?

For the record, Minister Peterson, please introduce your officials.

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

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Moving on. Please proceed with your opening comments. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to discuss the 2014-15 main estimates and business plan of the Department of Finance.

Last year, we integrated the Staffing and Employee Relations divisions of the departments of Human Resource and Finance.

This year, we are focusing our energies on our *Sivumut Abluqta* priorities. The Department of Finance and Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs are coordinating an external review of government programs. The terms of reference and RFP are currently being drafted.

We will begin working with departments to review processes in place to assure

good value for money from grant and contribution recipients.

Part 6 of the *Public Service Act*, Disclosure of Wrongdoing, will come into force on April 1, 2015 and work has begun to select an ethics officer. It will likely take the remainder of the year to get all elements in place to ensure employees have access to a stable process in the event they decide to make a disclosure.

In close partnership with Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, we are in the process of finalizing the Human Resources Strategy for the Public Service and beginning to develop initiatives within the strategy. For example, we are implementing leave and attendance software and examining additional human resources modules for our human resource computer system, ePersonality. We are also reviewing and revising the staffing manual that governs the work of our staffing consultants.

Mr. Chairman, for the third year in a row, we have met the statutory requirements for the tabling of our Public Accounts. Many of our initiatives in the coming year will continue to build on our efforts to strengthen financial management. This year, we look to strengthen work around financial controls while continuing to implement electronic workflow.

Mr. Chairman, I know members remain interested in our ongoing work to modernize liquor control in our territory. Earlier this month, an amendment was approved to the Liquor Regulations to set a \$500,000 maximum annual amount we can spend from the revolving fund on education campaigns to promote social

responsibility. This important step allows us to move forward with active promotion of social responsibility, and we intend to initiate spending on these programs this year.

Members will also have noted that we plan to continue moving forward with the development of regulations and policies to support a beer and wine store.

Mr. Chairman, I will now turn to a brief overview of the department's budget.

Finance has five core lines of business: Directorate, Policy, Planning and Financial Management, Internal Audit Services, Comptrollership, and the Centrally Administered Funds.

For 2014-15, the Department of Finance has been allocated \$84.6 million for operations and maintenance expenditures. This is a slight increase of 2.1 percent to the \$82.8 million allocated in 2013-14.

The major components of the department's budget are:

- \$32.2 million for compensation and benefits;
- \$6.8 million for other operations and maintenance costs in the department; and
- \$46.6 million for centrally administered funds, including:
 - \$20.2 million for government-wide employee benefits, such as dental premiums, workers' compensation premiums, and employee medical travel;
 - \$10.3 million for the lease costs of the Legislative Assembly building and the office buildings constructed to support our

decentralized government structure;

- \$9.0 million for energy subsidies and contributions;
- \$5.0 million for Government of Nunavut's insurance premiums; and
- \$2.1 million for the Nunavut Child Benefit.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I welcome questions and comments from committee members.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Does the chairman of the Standing Committee on Oversight and Government Operations and Public Accounts have opening comments? Please proceed, Mr. Hickee.

Hickee: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to deliver opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts on its review of the proposed 2014-15 main estimates and 2014-17 business plan of the Department of Finance.

During the minister's recent appearance before the standing committee, members took the opportunity to raise a number of issues and concerns.

The department's new organizational structure, proposed 2014-15 main estimates and proposed 2014-17 business plan reflect the transfer of certain functions and personnel from the Department of Human Resources, which was dissolved on April 1, 2013.

The standing committee notes that the department's proposed 2014-15 operations and maintenance budget of

\$84.648 million has increased by approximately 2.3 percent since the introduction of the department's 2013-14 main estimates. The number of positions in the department remains at 267.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Finance provides support to the Financial Management Board. A government-wide issue for which the Financial Management Board has overarching responsibility is the size of the public service.

The number of positions in the government continues to increase. The government's proposed 2014-15 main estimates indicate that there are approximately 4,250 positions in the government's departments and major Crown agencies and territorial corporations.

However, the government's most recent quarterly employment report indicates that there were 1,041 vacant positions across the government as of December 31, 2013. It is important that the Financial Management Board be mindful of the need to control growth in the government at a time when departments and Crown agencies face significant challenges in filling their existing vacancies.

It is also important to note that almost one-third of the government's total spending is on compensation and benefits for its own workforce.

Every dollar that is allocated for the creation of new government positions is a dollar less that is available for other priorities, such as providing increased financial assistance for students to pursue post-secondary education or

constructing new infrastructure in our communities, including health centres and schools.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Finance also provides support to the government's Public Agencies Council, which has a number of important oversight responsibilities in relation to the governance of Crown agencies and territorial corporations. The Minister of Finance serves as the Chairperson of the Public Agencies Council.

The 2009-2010 annual activities report of the Public Agencies Council was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on June 10, 2010. However, its 2010-11, 2011-12, and 2012-13 annual activities reports have not yet been tabled.

Ministerial letters of expectation to the GN's five largest Crown agencies and territorial corporations for the 2013-14 fiscal year were tabled in the Legislative Assembly on September 17, 2013. Responses to the letters of expectation were tabled on the same date. The standing committee urges the Public Agencies Council to ensure that the 2014-15 ministerial letters of expectation are tabled in the Legislative Assembly in a timely manner.

On March 19, 2014, the Minister of Finance tabled the annual government-wide report on grants and contributions made by all departments during the 2012-13 fiscal year. The standing committee applauds the minister for tabling these important reports and looks forward to future years' reports being tabled in a timely manner.

Between the 2004-05 and 2012-13 fiscal years, the government spent over \$2.6

billion in grants and contributions. The standing committee notes that the department's draft 2014-17 business plan indicates that one of its priorities for the 2014-15 fiscal year is to "review the processes for monitoring grants and contributions and ensure that the appropriate controls are in place to assure good value for money from grant and contribution recipients." This issue has been the subject of extensive discussion in the Legislative Assembly during the current spring sitting.

The department's draft 2014-17 business plan also indicates that two of its priorities for the 2014-15 fiscal year are to "develop the necessary regulations and policies to support a beer and wine store" and to "strengthen the Nunavut Liquor Commission's social responsibility function." These issues have also been the subject of extensive discussion in the Legislative Assembly during the current spring sitting.

Mr. Chairman, the department's proposed 2014-15 main estimates include \$9.05 million in funding for the Nunavut Electricity Subsidy Program. On a government-wide basis, the GN plans to spend approximately \$37,165,000 on utility costs during the 2014-15 fiscal year.

Responsibility for the Government of Nunavut's Energy Secretariat was transferred from the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs to the Department of Economic Development and Transportation on July 1, 2012. The draft 2014-17 business plan of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation indicates that one of its priorities for the 2014-15 fiscal year is to "provide

leadership and oversight in implementing” the government’s Energy Strategy, which was originally tabled in the Legislative Assembly on October 30, 2007.

On November 1, 2007, the provisions in the *Qulliq Energy Corporation Act* providing for the creation of an Affordable Energy Fund came into force. Under this legislation, the purpose of the Affordable Energy Fund is to “hold money appropriated to it in order, directly or indirectly, to subsidize the cost of energy or otherwise make energy more affordable.”

However, the Affordable Energy Fund is not referred to in the draft 2014-17 Business Plan of the Department of Finance or the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. The standing committee encourages the government to clarify which department has responsibility for managing this special purpose fund.

Mr. Chairman, amendments were passed to the territorial *Payroll Tax Act* in 2006 to increase the GN’s payroll tax rate to 2 percent. The government raised \$21,725,000 in payroll tax revenues during the 2012-13 fiscal year. However, it is not clear what percentage of payroll tax revenues is raised from the government’s own employees and what percentage is raised from workers in other levels of government and the private sector. The standing committee recommends that the minister begin the practice of tabling an annual report in the Legislative Assembly on the administration of the *Payroll Tax Act* to account for such issues.

The Department of Finance is responsible for administering the territorial *Tobacco Tax Act*. Amendments to the *Tobacco Tax Act* were passed by the Legislative Assembly in February 2012. The government raised \$16,667,000 in 2012-13 from tobacco taxes. Nunavut’s tobacco taxes are among the highest in the country.

However, given the inelastic nature of demand for tobacco products, it is unclear if increases in tobacco taxes have actually had any impact on reducing smoking rates in Nunavut. This is an issue that would benefit from evaluation by the Department of Finance and the Department of Health. The standing committee is also aware that the potential health benefits of increasing tobacco taxes must be balanced with the risk of creating a black market for illegal tobacco products as a consequence of excessive tax increases.

The Minister of Finance’s 2012 Budget Address stated in part that the government “will increase the tax on tobacco products to further support our campaign against their use. We will raise the tax by four cents per cigarette, or \$1 per pack of 25. The tax on loose tobacco will rise from 14 cents per gram to 20 cents per gram. Based on current consumption, these measures will produce additional revenue next year of \$3 million. We will use a portion of these new revenues for smoking prevention and cessation programs.”

The standing committee urges the minister to table information in the Legislative Assembly concerning the actual amounts that have been allocated

for smoking prevention and cessation programs.

The standing committee stresses the importance of timely tabling in the Legislative Assembly of key departmental publications, including the government's public service annual report and its quarterly Inuit employment reports. For example, the 2012-13 Public Service Annual Report was not tabled in the Legislative Assembly until May 29, 2014.

Mr. Chairman, a new *Public Service Act* was passed by the Legislative Assembly in 2013. Part 6 of the new *Public Service Act* concerns the disclosure of wrongdoing. Part 8 of the new *Public Service Act* concerns the appointment of an ethics officer. Part 6 of the Act comes into force on the earlier of April 1, 2015 or a day to be fixed by order of the Commissioner.

The department's draft 2014-17 business plan indicates that one of its priorities for the 2014-15 fiscal year is to "prepare for the implementation of the Ethics Officer and [disclosure of] wrongdoing provisions of the Public Service Act." The Standing Committee looks forward to monitoring progress in this area.

Mr. Chairman, the impact of the availability and affordability of staff housing on the recruitment and retention of employees has been an ongoing issue. In 2008, the government announced a roll back of staff housing rents to January 2007 levels.

The standing committee notes that the Department of Finance's draft 2014-17 business plan indicates that "work continues with the Nunavut Housing

Corporation to clarify roles and responsibilities regarding the Staff Housing Policy." The Nunavut Housing Corporation's draft 2014-17 business plan indicates that one of its priorities for the 2014-15 fiscal year is to "research alternative approaches for the delivery of staff housing in emerging market communities."

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee strongly supports the government's Summer Student Employment Equity Program, which provides valuable work experience for Nunavut youth. Approximately 1,945 students, 75 percent of whom were beneficiaries, have participated in this program since 2001.

In recognition of the fact that many of our territory's smaller communities do not have a significant Government of Nunavut presence, the standing committee urges the minister to consider such ideas as providing wage subsidies to municipalities and other employers to hire summer students in smaller communities that do not have a large Government of Nunavut presence.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2014-15 main estimates and 2014-17 business plan of the Department of Finance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Hickes, for your brief opening comments. Do members have any opening comments? Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. After the opening comments I just read on behalf of the committee, I

have some comments from a personal standpoint.

Mr. Chairman, minister, we've had a lot of discussions here in the Legislature covering a lot of the issues that I've outlined in the committee's opening comments. I've had a number of questions along those lines during question period and including the last sitting. Some of the things I want to bring focus to are the strengthening of the Liquor Commission's social responsibility, continuing regulations and policies that support the pilot project beer and wine sales in Nunavut.

A lot of concerns that I have with long-term casual staffing and Inuit employment target goals. We need to fulfill the capacity across the GN and the minister needs to get creative in how to fulfill that void.

There's also with the upcoming program review across the GN. I can't emphasize enough the wish of myself of that review goes on very soon and speedily so that we can stop getting the answer that all programs are currently under review. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation) Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To respond to Mr. Hickes' comments, I've been listening quite intently over the last couple of weeks. I've heard many if not most of the concerns from all the MLAs and I talked to my colleagues, so we continue to listen. That's our job, MLAs asks questions and raise the issues.

It is the job of ministers in cabinet to act on the concerns and issues. We do have a government to run and there are many, many issues, many demands, I think I have stressed in my responses to MLAs. We're doing our best. We ourselves have limited resources, and I'm not referring only to financial resources, we have limited human resources.

There are many things to do. It's going to take time. We can't stretch our officials too thin on a lot of fronts. Otherwise, we're just not going to be able to accomplish everything that we want to do.

We do want to get a lot of things done. I know you've been going through our business plans. We wouldn't have put those priorities in our business plans unless we fully intended to act on them. Some of them will be multiyear priorities. We're not going to get everything done in one year, maybe not in two years.

We do have a whole mandate to work on improving the government's delivery programs and services and strengthening our public service and strengthening our financial controls within the government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you very much. I don't have any other names for the opening comments. We'll go page-by-page review. On C-4, Finance. Branch summary. Directorate. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$2,692,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Go to page C-5.

(interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Finance. Policy, Planning and Financial Management. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$8,163,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Page C-6. (interpretation ends) Finance. Branch Summary. Internal Audit Services. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$1,609,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Finance. Comptrollership. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My apologies if you didn't see my hand right away. I tried to raise my hand after we went to page C-6. Mr. Chairman, if you could agree with me, I believe we have done a lot today and it's Friday, so I would like to move a motion to report progress. Thank you.

Chairman: We have a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion. All those opposed. The motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress. (interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the officials out.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Going to Item 20. (interpretation ends) Report of the Committee of the Whole. Hon. Member for Qamani'tuaq, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Sammurtok.

(interpretation) Item 21. (interpretation ends) Third Reading of Bills. (interpretation) Item 22. (interpretation ends) *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a reminder that tomorrow, there is a meeting of the Regular Caucus at nine o'clock and a meeting of the Full Caucus at two o'clock. Both meetings will take place in the Nanuq Boardroom.

Orders of the Day for June 9:

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
 - Motion 5 – 4(2)
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of
the Whole of Bills and Other
Matters
 - Bill 2
 - Bill 3
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, June 9, at 1:30
p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 17:27*

