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Tuesday, June 2, 2015

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Iqaluit

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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Hon. Paul Okalik
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Hon. Keith Peterson
(Cambridge Bay)
Minister of Finance, Chair of the Financial Management Board; Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation; Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk
(Netsilik)
Minister of Family Services; Minister responsible for Homelessness; Minister responsible for the Status of Women

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Tuesday, June 2, 2015**

Members Present:

Mr. Tony Akoak, Ms. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Monica Ell, Mr. Joe Enook, Mr. George Hickes, Mr. David Joanasie, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak, 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, Mr. Tom Sammurtok, Mr. Joe Savikataaq, Mr. Isaac Shooyook, Hon. Peter Taptuna, Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk.

>>House commenced at 13:30

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>>Prayer

Speaker (interpretation): Good afternoon, Nunavummiut, members, ministers, and (interpretation ends) Premier. (interpretation) Welcome to the House.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Clerk, will you determine if the Deputy Commissioner of Nunavut is prepared to enter the Chamber to deliver the opening address.

**Opening Address of the Deputy
Commissioner of Nunavut**

Deputy Commissioner Nellie Kusugak (interpretation): Please be seated. Welcome. Elders, Mr. Speaker, members of the legislature, and honoured guests, it is with great pleasure that I welcome you

to the opening of the Third Session of the Fourth Legislative Assembly of Nunavut.

It is an honour to be here before you to serve Nunavummiut and deliver the second Commissioner's address of this Assembly to highlight our achievements and progress thus far.

We continue to reinforce the successes of previous Assemblies and move forward with confidence in undertaking our mandate, *Sivumut Abluqta*.

Nunavut is a land like no other. Our government is building awareness and understanding of Nunavut's priorities among a variety of audiences at the national and international level. We are taking advantage of significant opportunities to promote the value of public and private partnership in developing our territory.

In its leadership, the government has remained committed to making education, economic development, and training and employment a priority. We are showing Canadians that Nunavut is a contributor to economies in southern Canada. We have strengthened our relationships with federal and territorial stakeholders, key decision-makers, and business leaders.

Bilaterally, northern premiers renewed their commitment to the *Northern Vision* that fosters a vibrant region with healthy communities, sound economies, and diverse opportunities where the environment is protected for future generations.

(interpretation ends) Nunavut has also played host to significant high-profile

forums, such as the Arctic Economic Council, Western Premiers' Forum, the Circumpolar Mental Wellness Symposium, and the ministerial meeting of Arctic Council members. Through these opportunities, we are bringing attention to Nunavut and its role within Canada. We are actively participating in and contributing to dialogue that shapes our destiny.

On June 15 and 16, our Premier is hosting the Northern Premiers' Forum in Kugluktuk, where discussions will focus on market access to infrastructure and energy and follow up on pan-territorial issues around mine training, science, and climate change.

(interpretation) Through our leadership, we have had a number of engagements with the Prime Minister of Canada and spoke directly about our need for increased infrastructure and responsible economic development. In addition to projects like the Canadian High Arctic Research Station, we are optimistic that there still remains room for infrastructure projects that benefit growth in Nunavut.

The government has been a key partner with Parks Canada in the search for the lost Franklin ships of HMS Erebus and HMS Terror, which resulted in the discovery of the HMS Erebus last year. (interpretation ends) This discovery was a direct result of Inuit traditional knowledge and findings made on land by our archaeological division. We believe there is room to strengthen the partnership with Canada and further demonstrate our legitimate interest in managing our own archaeological heritage.

(interpretation) We are looking forward to working with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated to address increased training opportunities for our beneficiaries within the public service as a result of the settlement with Canada. In the coming weeks, we are taking part in discussions to move this forward.

With respect to *Sivumut Abluqta*, we have made significant progress in addressing the mandate in all areas.

We are following through on our commitment to prioritize education and continue to focus on literacy through the development of the balanced literacy initiative, which is a framework to support focused and improved literacy instruction in our schools.

We are now working with established and respected institutions and professionals in education to develop levelled reading books in Inuktitut. These books are written at different levels for the emergent reader to more complex books for advanced readers. As well, we are developing a set of benchmark assessments to support the implementation of balanced literacy.

There has been positive progress during the first phase of exploring Roman orthography as a standard guideline for teaching Inuktitut within our school system. We are looking to begin consultations on this initiative during 2015.

We are working with district education authorities and external partners, such as Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, to implement an engagement strategy that specifically targets communities, parents, and families in being more actively involved

in student success. The value of this relationship is well documented and has been proven to impart a positive effect on attendance and to the success of students, teachers, and schools.

Having placed emphasis on kindergarten to grade 12, we also understand the value of post-secondary learning. There is an extensive array of statistics that underpin the importance of widening access to post-secondary education in Canada. It remains evident there is a direct correlation among relationships between employment, higher earnings, and higher education.

We are pleased to announce the government is initiating a feasibility study to determine the foundation of a university located in Nunavut. The purpose is to enable access to higher education at home that represents our diverse land.

To further this commitment to higher education, we are entering into a multi-stakeholder partnership to nurture a professional education solution that embodies principles within our Inuit societal values. It is with pleasure that we announce that by 2017, we will establish a law degree-granting program. This process is to be initiated through Nunavut Arctic College with the support of the Department of Justice.

>>*Applause*

We have not forgotten about vocational and skills training. Interdepartmentally, we are working with external agencies to conduct a comprehensive scan of apprenticeship opportunities and barriers. The aim is to determine the current status of apprenticeship trades

and occupations from a career development perspective and how to effectively move forward in better addressing their needs.

The government is in the process of updating the Apprenticeship, Trade and Occupations Certification Regulations to shorten the waiting for re-examination and further to increase the ratio for journeymen to take additional apprentices.

By the end of this year, income assistance clients will now automatically be referred to a career development officer to support their transition to the workforce through training and eventual employment.

Where possible, we are also implementing initiatives to increase labour force training by engaging with stakeholders, such as the Iqaluit airport construction project, to increase labour force training and employment for Nunavummiut.

Within the public service, you have learned that we are moving aggressively forward with the delivery of our leadership development program. It focuses on emerging managers and senior managers, with particular emphasis on supervisors to enhance their skills. By September, we begin our first intake and orientation.

We continue to support training and development to enhance Inuit employment in the public service and are actively working cross-departmentally to ensure success.

We know education is a direct driver of poverty reduction, but action must also take place to fix gaps in social

assistance. Presently, we are finalizing the parameters for the review of our Social Assistance Program. We begin to engage the public this fall, launching a full review of income assistance at the upcoming poverty reduction roundtable.

We recognize there is also a need to develop elements that support children, seniors, and Nunavummiut in need of care. Within this mandate, we are going to make changes to the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program, daycare subsidy, explore the exemption of the National Child Benefit Supplement from income support eligibility calculations, and develop a long-term care strategy.

Our communities must be healthy and equipped to grow along with us, and the mental and social well-being of all Nunavummiut remains a long-term priority. Mental wellness, addictions, and domestic violence continue to challenge our territory. We are committed to providing resources for community-based solutions that help our families and individuals find the care and supports they need for healing. We are moving to repurpose infrastructure in Rankin Inlet into a residential mental health facility and, by early 2016, provide training for more beneficiaries in the area of addiction treatment.

We are working with our partners to renew and strengthen our efforts towards suicide prevention, increase collaboration, and reduce the rate of suicide. By the time we resume session after the summer break, we intend to table the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy Evaluation Report. We intend to use the evaluation findings to inform the development of an improved action plan to better address our needs. It takes

more than government to address these issues, and we need the involvement of multi-stakeholders to ensure a healthy well-being for all.

We acknowledge the family violence program in Nunavut is both under-resourced and under-developed. We are looking at putting forward new resources in the budget to shrink this gap. In this manner, this year, we are undertaking to review the Saillivik Policy for funding family violence shelters to enhance safe shelters.

Enabling healthy communities means we must remain vigilant in empowering communities to create solutions. (interpretation ends) A big part of a healthy community is derived from having access to supports in addition to wellness. To that end, this coming year, we are expanding our relationships with non-governmental organizations and community-based groups, and engaging business partners and the Nutrition North Advisory Board in food security efforts that support the work of the food security coalition.

We have committed to undertake a food price survey annually to establish a baseline for data collection and to determine trends and barriers that contribute to access of nutritious foods. The data collected from the survey will serve to inform our policies and programs. We will also work to ensure those who are most vulnerable to food insecurity are able to access country food.

While there is a strong emphasis by this government to advocate and provide more access to nutritional foods in our communities through programs such as

breakfast programs in schools, we must also provide a healthy balance between offering better access to country foods and preservation of our wildlife for the generations to come.

(interpretation) To maintain our balance of hunting and wildlife, we are looking to launch a hunter education program, with particular focus on sustainable harvesting skills. We are collaborating with other jurisdictions on best practices and want to ensure that any program of the sort is relevant to Nunavummiut.

While we continue to promote conservation of our wildlife, we must also meld conservation philosophies within the confines of modern society, such as conservation of our environment through infrastructure that is energy efficient. To that end, next year, we are launching a pilot project to test solar power on a new building being constructed in the summer of 2016.

>>*Applause*

The analysis of this test project enables us to use the results to identify opportunities to incorporate changes to future designs and update our approaches for the maintenance of our existing housing stock.

The Blueprint for Action on Housing is entering the consultation stage and is set to conclude in the winter session with the tabling of the final report next spring. We are examining ways to expand our portfolio of owned housing assets to determine where existing assets can support continuum of care through the blueprint for action consultations.

As the potential for infrastructure grows along with our economy, we are identifying ways to increase our effectiveness and transparency in the participation of major resource reviews through the Nunavut Impact Review Board. Our participation is going to be strengthened during this mandate by the rollout of a socio-economic assessment guide and comprehensive community engagement policy and guide for practitioners and reviewers of major development projects in Nunavut.

(interpretation ends) We continue to engage and collaborate with industry for cooperation and support on regional wildlife monitoring efforts. By September 2015, following additional consultations, we will be in a position to submit the Baffin Island Caribou Management Plan to the wildlife management board for their consideration. We are also looking forward to implement recommendations from the harvester support review and continue the enhanced training program for our conservation officers. We have approved new Wildlife Regulations and expect the rollout to begin on July 1, 2015.

In addition to balancing conservation with economic and infrastructure activity, we are determined to boost the tourism and arts and crafts sectors through various means. We are introducing legislation to amend the *Travel and Tourism Act* to bring it more in line with Nunavut's reality and implement amendments that are flexible enough to enable growth in this sector.

As Nunavut's population continues to grow and we experience an influx of people coming to Nunavut, we must

emphasize road safety and ensure our legislation is consistent with that of other jurisdictions where harmonization is required. We intend to meet the intent of national transportation agreements that Nunavut has signed. Through this lens, we seek to amend the *Motor Vehicles Act*, which will include measures to curb distracted driving and reconstitute the *Motor Vehicles Act* into a broader Traffic Safety Act.

(interpretation) We are putting measures in place to address other Acts that are not reflective of updated public health practices. Therefore, we are introducing a *Public Health Act* that takes into account elements at the national and international level and one that echoes the unique position of Nunavut. As well, we are actively working to amend the *Mental Health Act* so that it too is more reflective of our reality.

The government is introducing a bill for a *Consumer Protection Act* that aims to protect consumers and provide rules and regulations that relate to the buying and selling goods and services and establishing a fee for cashing cheques outside of financial institutions.

As well, we are introducing a bill to amend the *Safety Act*. This bill would allow for the Workplace Hazardous Material Information System (WHMIS) to be harmonized with federal legislation.

We are considering options for increased transparency around lobbying. Adding mechanisms to deal with lobby groups or individuals is part of our efforts to increase government efficiency, transparency, and effectiveness. This work compliments what we are already

doing with respect to the program review that is well underway and our audit of our grants and contribution agreements.

Through *Sivumut Abluqta*, the government has adopted a vision, goals and priorities for creating a strong and prosperous Nunavut where all residents are able to pursue opportunities in their communities and regions and achieve their personal aspirations and potential.

(interpretation ends) Sustainable and responsible development of our natural resources leading to balanced economic growth and our integral focus on training and education is most important in making our vision a reality and improving our social well-being. We are pursuing ways to generate more awareness of our strengths, which has been proven by our fiscal management and increase to our borrowing limit.

(interpretation) We have enormous potential and we must continue to cultivate partnerships to pursue opportunities in the territory and move forward in common areas of concern with our arctic neighbours.

Finding common ground among many groups with diverse agendas and governing by consensus is the mainstay of the government. We continue to lead in the balance between traditional and scientific knowledge in service delivery, policy, and programming.

(interpretation ends) This coming Nunavut Day, we mark the return of the snow-block carving to Nunavut by Mr. Thomas Siddon, former Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs. Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated presented him with the carving because of his

ministerial achievements, which led the 1992 agreement to create the territory of Nunavut. He is graciously gifting the carving back in honour of Nunavut and it will be housed in the Legislative Assembly until such time as a heritage facility exists in Nunavut.

As we move to grow our future, we have not forgotten about our past. Culture and Heritage has been working closely with several partners towards the development of a Nunavut heritage centre that would hold our historical records, archaeology, and museum objects and allow for space for new acquisitions, such as the snow-block carving and perhaps even objects from the Franklin expeditions. We are actively working with the heritage society and external partners to raise funds and establish new partnerships in the anticipation of the opening of a heritage facility by 2021.

(interpretation) The potential of our people and our territory is boundless. By stepping forward together with strong resolve, we can secure a better future for us all.

A tremendous amount of work and progress has occurred during the first and second sessions of the Fourth Assembly. Members of this House have been instrumental in facilitating the discussions, goals, and successes thus far. We recognize we must continue in our efforts to reach our goals and achieve tangible results for all Nunavummiut in the upcoming session by the end of our mandate.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their hard work and contribution. I wish you all a restful and

refreshing spring and summer season with your families and communities. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Going back to the orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 001 – 4(3): Regulatory Processes in Nunavut

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues, Nunavummiut, and Kuglukturmiut.

Mr. Speaker, as we begin this new session, I would like to take this opportunity to speak about regulatory processes in Nunavut and our role as a government.

The process is clear: the regulatory responsibility rests with the institutions of public government and not the Nunavut government. However, we as a government are absolutely within our right to make recommendations about improving that process.

There have been numerous correspondences back and forth between our institutions of public government, the regional Inuit organizations, and federal and territorial governments.

Mr. Speaker, there is a lot of discussion and speculation out there on a recent letter of correspondence between my office and the federal government regarding Nunavut Planning Commission and Baffinland Iron Mines.

Mr. Speaker, there is no miscommunication or misunderstanding. There are three main themes that have been emerging over the last few months. Each institution of public government needs to act in a fair, transparent, responsible way through a process that is consistent. The institutions of public government must also be adequately funded. As well, we must continue to advocate for responsible economic development in our territory to provide our people with a future.

Recently, I recommended that the federal government conduct an audit of the Nunavut Planning Commission. This recommendation is in response to a letter sent by the planning commission to Minister Valcourt at Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. The recommendation is well within our jurisdiction as a government.

This issue is not about allowing or not allowing a conformity licence, which is the Nunavut Planning Commission's responsibility. It is about the Nunavut Planning Commission removing the plan amendment as a feasible option for Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation when Baffinland simply asked for a clarification on the amendment process. The amendment process is clearly outlined as a responsibility for the Nunavut Planning Commission within the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement under Article 11.6.

It concerns me that the first and second amendment to the Nunavut Baffin Regional Land Use Plan did not need prior budgetary approval and so it raises questions as to why this is now required for the Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, that sentiment is echoed in the recommendation put forth by the Qikiqtani Inuit Association. Like the Government of Nunavut, it raises issues that do not allow proponents to make amendment and proceed in a timely and reasonable manner. Mr. Speaker, it appears to be contrary to provisions set out in the land claims agreement.

The planning commission further identified a chronic lack of funds that don't allow them to complete necessary reviews in an appropriate timeframe. They appear to continue to take this underfunded position, even with the 25 percent increase they received as a result of the settlement between Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and Canada.

Funding issues aside, no institution should be using this as a crutch for not being able to complete proper assessments within a reasonable timeline. Nunavummiut deserve an institution that has clear and consistent practices in place where economic development is not stalled because of inconsistent rules and funding shortages.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to see the Nunavut Planning Commission adequately funded. We need to know where they stand. I would like to see the Nunavut Land Use Plan completed so that every proponent has an opportunity to follow an established process that lays out a clear set of guidelines that are transparent and fair, not a process that changes and isn't consistent.

Every community deserves the opportunity to have active development in their jurisdiction and a process that does not put hundreds of jobs, millions

of dollars in wages and benefits, and the potential for other future projects at risk.

The role of this government is to increase economic viability of this territory and provide our people with the means to put food on the table, and we can't afford to have our fragile economy stalled. We are also very respectful of the need to develop Nunavut in the most environmentally sound and responsible way. Our ecosystems must remain healthy.

Mr. Speaker, I along with the Members of this House want to ensure that development is responsible, people have jobs, and our institutions are able to carry out their mandate. *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Members' Statements. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Mapsalak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 001 – 4(3): Recognizing the Hamlet of Naujaat

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize the official name change to Naujaat, which will come into effect on July 2.

>> *Applause*

In May 2014, residents of Repulse Bay cast their votes in favour of officially changing the community's name to Naujaat. The following June, the Hamlet of Repulse Bay passed a motion to make

a formal name change and submitted their request to the Minister of Community and Government Services.

In November 2014, the Government of Nunavut filed a formal order respecting the name of the Hamlet of Naujaat, which stipulates that the formal name change will come into effect on July 2 of this year. I am pleased to announce that the community's flag is currently being amended to reflect this change, and I look forward to any upcoming celebrations for the community's name change.

Mr. Speaker, this is very important to the people of Naujaat, which is the Inuktitut title of their home. I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating this important event in Naujaat's history. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 002 – 4(3): Congratulations to Arviat's 2015 High School Graduates

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is with great pleasure that I rise today to congratulate Arviat's 2015 high school graduates.

Mr. Speaker, Arviat has 28 students who are now wrapping up their last year in high school. These students have demonstrated hard work and a commitment to their education and future.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the following graduating students:

Beth Aglukark

Nancy Tassiuk

Joshua Alagalak

Tapisa Tattuinee

Tommy Arloo

Ceporah Thompson

Kelsey Budden

Corrine Tugak, and

Andy Evaluajuk

Rachael Tutsiutuk

Charlotte Iblauk

I would like to also recognize the parents, teachers, and community members who have supported these students throughout their school year, and it is through their support that these individuals can move forward and succeed.

Arcilla Irkok

Robert Isluanik

James Issakiak

April Kablutsiak

I wish all these students all the best in their careers and future endeavours and remind them that the completion of high school should not be the end of schooling but it is a doorway into the next phase of education or whatever they choose.

Rene Kaurayok

Julia Mamgark

Nathan Mamgark

Alex Muckpah

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Arviat's 2015 high school graduates. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Andrew Muckpah

Lucy Nagiyak

>> *Applause*

Amiq Nateela

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

Shelton Nipisar

Solomon Nungnik

Member's Statement 003 – 4(3): End of School in Gjoa Haven

Eden Okatsiak

Amanda Pingushat

Mr. Akoak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to say that I am grateful that it was the last day of school in Gjoa Haven. It was a successful year and I am grateful for the students always

Jessica Pingushat

Francesca Suluk

making it to school even in the cold of winter.

I also want to thank the teachers for a job well done and for always looking after the interest of the children. Thank you. I hope you have a good spring and a wonderful summer.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, there is one student that a teacher is reminded of and I would like to bring it out today. Even in the past, today, and the future, they will have that one student that makes you smile and that student is six years old. There was one day I think he was causing little bit of problems to his fellow students, so he was sent to the principal's office.

Mr. Speaker, he was sent home, then in the afternoon, he was told to get ready to go to school and the student said, "I can't," and he was asked, "Why and who told you that you can't?" "The principal." "And what did he say?" The student goes, "I have been fired for nine days."

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, there will always be one of those students that you will look up to in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 004 – 4(3):
Graduates of
Interpreter/Translator Course in
Baker Lake**

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to comment on *Sivummut Abluqta*, as the first priority was education and that we can look at education under more than one light, from our young ones to the teenagers and even onto adulthood.

I am happy and want to thank the Minister of Education and Arctic College. The other day on my way to Iqaluit, I was made aware of Nunavut Arctic College students taking the Interpreter/Translator Program. As we know, interpreters and translators provide an important service, even to us as members and staff. They graduated in Baker Lake. I had asked this fall about that and that they successfully completed and we are happy with them as they continue their education in Baker Lake.

In Baker Lake, students will be completing their school year and they will continue to learn Inuit ways and culture and to live on the land. Many students will live on the land and provide for others and make traditional Inuit favourites.

I hope all of you will be safe and well and have a good spring. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 005 – 4(3):
Appreciation of Sanikiluaq Pages**

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to extend my thanks and

appreciation to the two pages who have been assisting us this past week.

Mr. Speaker, Andre Kavik and Charlie Naullaq travelled here from Sanikiluaq to be pages in the Assembly. I would like to note that for Charlie, this is his first time outside of Sanikiluaq since he was born. I hope he has enjoyed the experience. As for Andre, it seems that he moves a lot in his sleep, Mr. Speaker. Apparently that's how he got his black eye last night.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, the chaperone for these two young men is Peter Kavik, who is also my community assistant. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his help and assistance.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for making these two young pages feel welcome and ask them to join me in thanking them for a job well done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear!

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 006 – 4(3):
Congratulations to Pond Inlet
High School Graduates**

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, residents of Pond Inlet and fellow Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, while I have the opportunity, I would like to recognize

the students in Pond Inlet who are just about to finish the school year.

We also heard the Deputy Commissioner speaking this afternoon on behalf of the government and stated that education is very important. Also, as parents, we place a great importance on education. That is why we are always very proud when students are able to complete grade 12. We also hope that they will continue on into institutes of higher learning.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge a few people. We in Pond Inlet are very proud that from the time we had our own school, this year's graduates are the highest number ever. Nearly 20 students are graduating in Pond Inlet this year. I would like to acknowledge the following individuals:

Delilah Amarualik

Max Anaviapik

Tyson Angnetsiak

Joyce Arreak

Karla-Malaiya Evaloakjuk

Terry Idlout

Jennifer Innuaraq

Michael Innuaraq

Kyla Kalluk-Killiktee

Nigel Killiktee

Scott Kilukishak

Amy Kippomee

Tyrone Maktar

Joanasie Mucktar

Sula Nutarak

Jacintha Ootook

Mishal Pewatoalook

Cody Pitseolak

Jerry-Lee Smale, and

Rachel Smale.

These young people will be graduating this coming Monday. I am told that the Hon. Minister of Education will be in Pond Inlet for the graduation. We wish you to come and join us in celebrating the achievement of these graduates. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Keyootak.

**Member's Statement 007 – 4(3):
Congratulations to the People of
Clyde River**

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize the efforts of many Clyde River residents, who recently received news that there will be no seismic testing in Davis Strait this summer.

In June 2014, the National Energy Board granted a licence to three oil and gas exploration companies to use seismic testing in Davis Strait. Since this licence was granted, several communities and

organizations within Nunavut and from around the world have voiced their opposition to the testing.

Mr. Speaker, Clyde River has been especially steadfast in voicing its concerns regarding this issue and has taken the three oil and gas companies to Canada's Federal Court of Appeal, which is currently undertaking a judicial review of the National Energy Board's decision.

I would like to recognize the Mayor of Clyde River, Jerry Natanine, for his determination, bravery, and leadership throughout these events.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Clyde River are fighting for the protection of their land, the future... .

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

Speaker (interpretation): The Member for Uqqummiut is asking for unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? I didn't hear any nays. Mr. Keyootak, please proceed.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Clyde River are fighting for the protection of their land, the future of their children, and their culture.

Recently, the group of oil and gas companies announced that it will not be initiating seismic testing during this summer and will postpone their plans until a later date.

I recognize that this delay does not mean that Clyde River has won the war, but it is a victory nonetheless. I have total faith in my constituents in Clyde River and I encourage all Nunavummiut to support them in their efforts to protect this beautiful territory.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Clyde River's recent victory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Mr. Okalik.

**Member's Statement 008 – 4(3):
Appreciation of NEBS Plan**

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to remember my father, Auyaluk, who worked for the hamlet council for many years and he has been deceased for many years. He used to be the water truck driver.

I remember when he was an elder and he could no longer work, and he retired from working for the hamlet. At that time, it was very difficult. In those days, there were no pensions. I know that when long-serving employees retired, there were no pension programs for the elders in those days. For that reason, in the past, our previous government had worked on the pension for the employees of municipalities when the Nunavut government was created.

I would like to express my appreciation to Mr. Tom Sammurtok for working on this and for working closely with his colleagues and for working with his

counterparts in the Northwest Territories. I know that this is a very important issue and I know that the employees at the municipalities will have their pension after they retire. Therefore, I would like to thank the previous minister for all the work he has done. I do want to work closely with him when we work on different issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 009 – 4(3):
Tribute to Mike Soares**

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day to all the people listening to the proceedings and my colleagues.

I rise today to acknowledge and thank a long-serving teacher in Cape Dorset at Peter Pitseolak School. This individual is now the principal and he is not going to be working there and it's going to have an impact. Michael Soares will be leaving. He started out as a teacher at Peter Pitseolak School and ended up being a principal for a long time.

He was willing to help in any way to the community of Cape Dorset, even the Nunavut wrestling team. He provided support to the wrestling team during Arctic Winter Games and he participated in the games and he also participated in the Canada Summer Games.

The community is really going to miss this individual. He even provided support to his colleagues and it was

evident that he works very hard and it was visible. He will be retiring and going back to his home community. I would like to extend my appreciation to him for having a positive impact on the whole community.

Last year, there were six students in the NTEP program that graduated. Therefore, I would like to thank the minister for attending the ceremony. I am sure that we will be able to see a teacher some time in the future who will become a principal in our community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity to make my statement.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 010 – 4(3):
Retiring Constituents in
Pangnirtung**

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, residents of Pangnirtung and Nunavut. I, too, would like to congratulate a couple of people who have worked in Pangnirtung.

The first one, who has been retired for quite some time, has worked delivering fuel for 40 years to homes and to the airlines. Although this individual has been retired for quite some time, I would like to acknowledge my uncle, Seemee Angmarlik, and his wife and children. I would also like to congratulate him for his great work. Although he has been retired for quite some time, I would like to acknowledge him for providing great support to the community.

I would also like to acknowledge Mosesee Nowdlak, his wife and children. I would like to congratulate him for working with the Hamlet of Pangnirtung for 42 years. He retired on May 23, 2015. Although he didn't fully retire, he just stopped working. He has been a driver, a mechanic, and a foreman. Mosesee Nowdlak, who is originally from Iqaluit, has relocated to Pangnirtung.

I would like to acknowledge Mosesee Nowdlak and Seemee Angmarlik because they have been instrumental in the success of the community of Pangnirtung. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 011 – 4(3):
Appreciation of Colleagues**

Mr. Shookyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have no choice but to rise. I tried to remain seated.

However, I was told yesterday and I am very happy to receive news that in my home community, this individual said that he is very happy about the support that's provided by my colleagues. This individual asked me to pass on this message. I want to express my deep respect and appreciation for each of you. I am very happy that this individual wanted me to thank you for all of your support.

Although this is not a serious statement, I could be told now, "You can go home

tomorrow because your work is done.”
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members’ Statements. I have no more names on my list. We will move on. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. (interpretation ends) Hon. Premier, Mr. Taptuna.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe I have broken my record for recognizing the people in the House here. I am quite pleased about that.

Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the hard-working deputy ministers that were here to listen to the Commissioner’s address and I’m hoping that we can continue moving forward with our files and our mandate, *Sivumut Abluqta*, and the folks sitting behind me had a big part in moving our files forward. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Recognitions of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Aggu, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. While I have this opportunity, I would like to acknowledge this person whom I work with on a daily basis. I believe she’s the longest-serving deputy minister within our government and she’s very capable in doing her job, and that is Deputy Minister Kathy Okpik. I want to recognize her while she is here. Thank

you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe you couldn’t see me.

I would also like to recognize my Deputy Minister of Environment, Gabriel Nirlungayuk. He is in the House, but the ADM is not here as he’s busy at work. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Netsilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say “good day” to the people in my community.

My deputy minister is attending the truth and reconciliation conference in Ottawa. I am very pleased that my deputy minister is able to attend that meeting. Brandon Grant, the Acting Deputy Minister for responsible for social assistance, is here and I would like to welcome him. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to recognize my two deputy ministers and I would like to welcome them. I will want them to go back to the office very shortly.

>>*Laughter*

I would like to extend a warm welcome to my Deputy Minister of Health, Colleen Stockley, and beside her is Elisabeth Sanderson, my Deputy Minister of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize an individual who is sitting in the gallery, which I don't get to do very often. It is our in-law, David Akeeagok, the husband of my niece. I am very proud of him and his ability to do his job. He tends to my every need. I am very proud of my in-law. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize my Deputy Minister, Mr. Chris D'Arcy. Although he's no stranger to the House, he is in the gallery and I think Chris

would be the first to acknowledge that he and I look good to all you guys, doing a good job, because of all the hard-working staff in our finance department across Nunavut. Through Chris to all our staff, I express our appreciation to all the hard work they do and wish Chris continued success in the Department of Finance. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Before we go back to the orders of the day, before we begin with Item 6, we will take a 20-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 14:48 and resumed at 15:16*

Speaker (interpretation): Going back to the orders of the day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Shooyook.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 001 – 4(3): Medical Travel in the High Arctic

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Health.

As I am sure the minister is aware, medical travel in the High Arctic is very difficult. One of the most significant problems that my constituents face is connecting from Iqaluit to Resolute Bay to Grise Fiord. In some cases, flight cancellations can result in people having to stay in Resolute Bay for up to a whole week.

Can the minister describe how the recent code-sharing announcement between First Air and Canadian North will affect the government's medical travel contract for service in the High Arctic? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Each airline is independently run, but we monitor and manage travel through contracts. We have met with First Air and we have to meet with Canadian North. Kenn Borek is not part of this agreement. We will check what can be done, but to date, I have not heard if we have met with them at all. I will want to find out more and see what, if any, options we have. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): I have received concerns from some constituents that they have had to pay for their own food and accommodation after being stranded in Resolute Bay on their way home to Grise Fiord. Can the minister explain what process they should follow to be reimbursed for expenses that they incurred as a result of flight cancellations that were not their fault? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health, Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have to provide adequate support for medical

patients en route to their destination. If this is a problem, then we will have to see what we can do to reimburse them because they aren't there at their fault. If staying over is a problem, let's look at fixing it in any way that we can. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): I understand and recognize that the Government of Nunavut does not run the airline industry. However, the Government of Nunavut does have some leverage with the airlines to achieve service and schedule improvements through its contracts for medical travel and duty travel.

Can the minister describe what efforts the government will make to improve service and schedule improvements in the High Arctic when it next renegotiates the medical travel contract? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will make sure that we work with the airlines, especially Kenn Borek, which is the airline providing the service in the High Arctic. I'll make sure that we have discussions with the airline and see where they can improve their services for medical travel. It will be a good avenue and we will make sure that we will try to rectify this problem. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, Ms. Angnakak.

Question 002 – 4(3): Activities of the Qulliq Energy Corporation

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

I want to start by joining with the Member for Pangnirtung in paying tribute to everyone who worked so hard to address the recent disaster in the community. I have lots of family and friends in that community.

It is my understanding that QEC's emergency plan for Iqaluit was last updated in October of 2005, almost a decade ago.

Can the minister indicate if QEC is working to update its emergency plans for communities, especially for communities that have experienced significant population growth in recent years? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Angnakak for the question. Yes, we learned a lot from the Pangnirtung emergency. One of the things I learned is that the Qulliq Energy Corporation has been in the process over the last few years updating what they call power plant emergency plans. They're still in the process of doing that.

If we respond to emergencies within all the communities, of course, we would have to coordinate with the Emergency Management Office in CGS and there are a number of other committees, the Territorial Emergency Response Committee. I think all that work will be... . Debriefings will occur and we will be in a better position in the future in case these emergencies arise. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his response. That's encouraging.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, this is the second time since 1999 that a community's power plant has needed to be replaced due to fire. For the benefit of Nunavummiut who are following our proceedings today, can the minister provide a clear explanation of whether or not QEC's insurance covers some or all of the costs of replacing power plants that are destroyed due to fire? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Angnakak for that question. Mr. Speaker, it's my understanding that our insurance policies do cover the replacement of power plants. In this particular case, I think there are three insurance firms that are involved. There are a primary and two secondary insurance companies, and at least one of them has been on site with

the fire marshal. We are tracking all expenses associated with the fire and the insurance company has agreed to cover all those expenses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate what actions QEC has taken in the area of fire prevention? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I can't give Ms. Angnakak's specific details.

Mr. Speaker, all our staff in the power plants are trained to respond to emergencies during work hours and after hours. You can't rule out everything, but our employees work to the highest standards to ensure that our power plants are safe. We realize that they're vital facilities in our communities and the loss of any power plant can significantly harm the community in the short term, medium term, and long term.

It is our plan to replace that power plant within the next couple of years. We're working through that process right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 003 – 4(3): Liquor Licensing Board

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are directed to the Minister responsible for the Liquor Licensing Board.

Mr. Speaker, I noticed with interest that there was a call for board members recently published in some of the newspapers seeking individuals, plural. How many members are currently on the board and how many vacancies are there? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for the Liquor Licensing Board, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. In regard to my colleague's question, right now, the Liquor Licensing Board consists of four members, three from Iqaluit and one from Arviat. In 2015, three of the board member terms are coming up and one will stay until March 2016. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. In the government's call for board members, it also states that the role of the Liquor Licensing Board is to, and I quote, "provides advice to the Minister on all matters of policy, legislation and administration relating to the sale, distribution and consumption of alcohol in Nunavut."

Mr. Speaker, obviously, a major change

to the sale and distribution of alcohol in Nunavut would be the opening of a beer and wine retail store here in Iqaluit. Is the minister aware of what decision is taking place by the government in light of the recent plebiscite here in Iqaluit? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for the Liquor Licensing Board, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his question. Mr. Speaker, what my colleague is asking about in regard to the beer and wine store, I haven't received much information on that matter yet, so I cannot respond to that today. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would encourage the minister to have some conversations with his cabinet colleague regarding this topic.

I also noted with interest that the 2012-13 and 2013-14 annual reports tabled this past March 16, within both of those, the financial statements were signed off on the same day of January 19, 2015. What caused the delays in the financial statements being signed off on? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for the Liquor Licensing Board, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I again thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, in regard to the question as to what's causing the delays in signing off on the financial statements, I don't have that information in front of me. I will have to look into the matter and let my colleague know at a later date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 004 – 4(3): Activities of the Qulliq Energy Corporation

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

As the minister is aware, Arviat suffers from a shortage of many things, including housing. However, if there's one thing that we don't have any shortage of in the Kivalliq and more so in Arviat, it's wind.

Mr. Speaker, last week, the minister tabled QEC's response to our standing committee's recent report on its hearings on QEC. In its response, QEC indicates that, and I quote, "The Arviat Wind Test Facility was a concept that was discussed in November 2009 at a meeting of Remote Community Wind-Hydrogen Roundtable in Prince Edward Island. The intent was to investigate the interest in creating a cold weather testing area for wind turbines in Arviat. The idea was not pursued beyond the initial discussions."

Can the minister explain why this alternative energy project did any proceed any further than the initial planning stages? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Savikataaq for the question. When he mentioned the wind in Arviat, I had another thought there, but I won't say it.

>> *Laughter*

Quite often, politicians are accused of many things.

Mr. Speaker, that was in 2009. I had read the response. I have no information on why. He had indicated that it was not pursued beyond the initial discussions, but on that particular project, what they call the Arviat Wind Test Facility, I do believe that our Alternative Energy Subcommittee has discussed this. I believe QEC is talking to federal funders, looking at submitting applications to, perhaps, look at alternative energy or wind energy in a number of communities, including Arviat. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister is well aware, I have been a strong advocate for connecting the Kivalliq to Manitoba's power grid.

However, from the responses that I have been receiving to my questions on this issue, it is clear that this is not going to happen overnight. For that reason, I think that it's only prudent, as the minister would say, for QEC to continue to look at other options for power generation in Nunavut that do not involve the burning of fossil fuels. The minister indicated that they are looking at it in the broad scheme of things.

I just want to commit this minister there. He doesn't like commitments, but I'm just asking: will he commit to looking at Arviat as one of the test facilities? He agreed with me that there's lots of wind there. It's consistent, it's clean, and it's there. Will he look at that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear!

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Savikataaq and informing everybody that I don't like to make commitments. I won't make a commitment, but as I said in my earlier answer, it is one of the communities that we're looking at. I believe there is more detailed work required to go into whether a community is suitable or not for a wind turbine.

I have been to Arviat and I have been there when it's windy. I can certainly attest to what Mr. Savikataaq has said. When you're bent walking into wind, tears come from your eyes and it's only May. I can well imagine what it's like the rest of the year.

When I get additional information, I'll be in a better position to tell Mr. Arviat and the community how we're going to proceed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Laughter*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Keyootak.

Question 005 – 4(3): Concerns about Tammaativvik Boarding Home

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

Mr. Speaker, as I described in my Member's Statement yesterday, my constituents have raised a number of concerns regarding the Tammaativvik Boarding Home in Iqaluit.

Can the minister clarify how he works with the contractor who provides services at the Tammaativvik Boarding Home to address concerns that have been raised by medical clients? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The officials from the Department of Health meet with the people who run the boarding homes. I would like to thank my colleague for raising his concern about the carpeting during the winter session. Right now, one room has no more carpeting and it's used for people who are allergic to carpets. I would like to thank my colleague for bringing that up

and it has been corrected. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sometimes medical clients need support and counselling as they deal with serious medical issues while away from their home. Can the minister explain what counselling services are available to medical clients who stay at the boarding home and, if there are none, would he consider establishing a counsellor position at the Tammaativvik Boarding Home? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health, Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During our recent winter session, we were able to approve, along with my colleagues, to have the interpreters be present there and I am grateful for that. Also, I'll find out what other support we can provide. I know that there is a mental health facility very close to the boarding home that can be used if necessary. We do have that on hand. If there are areas that need improvement, I would like to hear it from my colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would just like to thank the minister because he already answered one of the questions I was going to ask. All the rooms being

carpeted has been a major concern for my constituents. I'm grateful that they have started to address the issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. I think that was just a comment. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet, Mr. Alexander Sammurtok.

Question 006 – 4(3): Update on Business Case for Rankin Inlet Boarding Home

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

Mr. Speaker, as the minister is aware, I have brought forward many good arguments for the establishment of a medical boarding home in Rankin Inlet.

In February, the minister indicated that his department would be working to scope out and develop a business case in consultation with Health Canada. Can the minister provide an update on what progress has been achieved on the development of a business case for the Rankin Inlet Medical Boarding Home? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health, Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for the question. In terms of the proposed boarding home in Rankin Inlet, the federal government is responsible and we have to work further with them on this. We know our agreement with the federal government for Non-Insured Health Benefits will end in 2016, so we

plan on including this as part of those discussions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand that the Department of Health must work closely with Health Canada, especially in regard to the Non-Insured Health Benefits program. Can the minister indicate what discussions his officials have had with Health Canada on this issue to date and what the next steps are? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have a new agreement we have to negotiate and the discussions are about to start. Part of the discussions will include the proposed boarding home in Rankin Inlet and also for Cambridge Bay. These negotiations will start very soon. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A group in Rankin Inlet has already developed a proposal to establish a Rankin Inlet boarding home. The need has been identified and the solution has been proposed. Will the minister commit to completing his business case for the Rankin Inlet Medical Boarding Home as soon as possible and, if so, when does he

anticipate bringing it forward?
Qujannamiik, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation):
 Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There seemed
 to be two questions, so I will pick one to
 answer.

As I stated before, this will be part of the
 negotiations. I already support this idea
 and hope the federal government will
 approve this. We will face them and try
 to get them to approve it. Negotiations
 have not started yet, but we will push
 this from our side. Thank you, Mr.
 Speaker.

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

**Question 007 – 4(3): Need for
 Improved Adult Basic Education**

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I
 would like to direct my question to the
 Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic
 College.

Mr. Speaker, in February of 2012, Prime
 Minister Stephen Harper announced
 funding of over \$11 million from 2011
 to 2016 to improve adult basic education
 programming across Nunavut.

Can the minister provide an overview of
 what these funds have been spent on to
 date and specifically how adult
 upgrading programs have been improved
 as a result of this spending? Thank you,
 Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.
 (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister
 responsible for Nunavut Arctic College,
 Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation):
 Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my
 colleague for the question. We don't
 have anything specific right now and I
 cannot answer your question right now,
 but I will take it as notice and I will
 come back to you with an answer, Mr.
 Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.
 (interpretation ends) It's taken as notice.
 (interpretation) Oral Questions. Member
 for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Question 008 – 4(3): The Shortage of
 Health Professionals**

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation):
 Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I
 would like to direct my question to the
 Minister of Health.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, there
 has been much discussion in this House
 about the shortage of nurses across
 Nunavut. However, we rarely hear of the
 employment status of doctors and
 physicians who are based in Nunavut.

Can the minister provide an update on
 how many physicians are currently
 employed full time by our government,
 how many are here on a casual basis,
 and how many vacancies have yet to be
 filled by either full-time or part-time
 doctors? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) The doctors that we employ in our territory are contractors, so they're not actual employees. They work on a contract basis. I can't pinpoint exactly all the positions, as some of them are specialists and they travel to our territory for a short amount of time, but there are currently 29.5 positions identified for doctors in our territory. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) It has recently come to my attention that the department's policy with respect to hiring visiting or locum doctors in Nunavut has changed. Can the minister clarify what changes have been made to the policy and what assurances can be made that these changes have not created any disincentives for doctors to come and work in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) As contracting for physicians is very competitive, we try and stay competitive with other jurisdictions and we try and do our hardest to recruit and retain as many physicians as possible because we know that medical history is very valuable and useful for physicians. We will continue to do our utmost to

maintain that competitive edge with other jurisdictions.

We're also supporting students to pursue careers in medicine, and I recently met with a school from northern Ontario to try and find ways to get more Inuit and Nunavummiut to study medicine and pursue it as a career in our territory. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Until Nunavut has a full complement of health professionals, such as doctors and specialists, many Nunavummiut will have to travel south for treatment or diagnosis at great expense to the government. Can the minister describe his department's current strategy to recruit and retain health professionals, such as doctors, dentists, and other medical specialists? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health, Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) We maintain a website for physicians that want to pursue a career in our territory. As I said, we are providing very good assistance for those from Nunavut who are pursuing a career in medicine.

I am very proud to say that so far, we have one Inuk that is close to graduating from a medical school. I would like to see a lot more of those wonderful stories come out of territory. I encourage students to pursue a career in medicine

because it's a very good career and a lot more stable than our careers, mind you. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Laughter*

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

Question 009 – 4(3): Regulatory Processes in Nunavut

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Hon. Premier. I would like to go back to the Minister's Statement.

As we were dealing with agreements, when there were negotiations for our land claims, Inuit were asked where they had traditionally hunted and lived. This was part of land selections of Nuluujaat, which is Inuit owned land, PI-17/37G, and this is Inuit owned land selected by the people of Pond Inlet. As you know, when we are dealing with Nuluujaat (Mary River), Pond Inlet is going to be impacted the most by that mine since it started to today.

As the Premier has stated in some parts, there have been a lot of correspondence back and forth between his office and the federal government regarding our institutions of public government, especially the Nunavut Planning Commission and Baffinland. As I stated, Pond Inlet will be impacted by the mine. I would first like to ask the Premier: why did you feel you had to write that letter? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Premier

of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member from Tununig for that question. Mr. Speaker, it's quite clear in my ministerial statement that I did today and as a government, we do have jurisdictional rights in improving the regulatory process and we are within our rights to ensure that IPGs have a path going forward. One of the paths going forward, of course, is the ability to do their mandate. Through the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, they're obligated to do the necessary reviews, evaluation, and assesment of any development.

With this letter going to Minister Valcourt, I indicated that the IPGs have to be able to fulfill their mandate. If there is dysfunction happening there because of the chronic shortage of funding for the IPGs, that's one of things that I want to change where Inuit can get the most benefits out of any kind of development and we do not slow this process down for any development in Nunavut.

As the member has indicated, the reason why I wrote the letter is for administrative purposes. If an IPG cannot function, we have to take a good, hard look at that and do our best efforts to make sure that the IPG, in this case, the Nunavut Planning Commission, is able to fulfill their duties and their mandate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated before, Pond Inlet is the closest and most impacted

community, and it has already been the impacted community of the Mary River mine.

Ever since, we have been saying that we want to be involved as we proceed with the development and we want to be involved with anything. Pond Inlet residents have to be involved with this and to remind members that they had selected Mary River as Inuit owned land, as a land parcel, and just remember the land parcel number. Inuit of Pond Inlet selected that land parcel as Inuit owned land, but when we talk about this, they seem to set this aside.

I would like to ask the Premier in regard to the correspondence that we have never seen; my fellow residents of Pond Inlet have never seen the correspondence. I would like to ask the Premier if he can table that letter in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have no problem tabling the letter, which is already in wide circulation throughout Nunavut. I have no problem doing that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 010 – 4(3): Update on the New School for Coral Harbour

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Education.

Mr. Speaker, although I have asked this question before in regard to when Coral Harbour's new proposed school would be constructed, I would like to ask the minister what the status is of the new proposed school in Coral Harbour. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for asking that question. At this time, we are now holding discussions with the Department of Community and Government Services as to how we can improve this, but we are reviewing with our department and the Department of Community and Government Services. We are looking at ways of how we can improve or address this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister elaborate or did I understand that you still have no idea when the new proposed school in Coral Harbour will be constructed? Does the minister know what year it will be constructed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time, as I stated before, the Department of Community and Government Services and our Department of Education are now discussing ways of how it would be

better set up and we're looking at different options. We're at the discussion stage on whether we need to extend it or not. The target date is 2017, but as I stated before, we're at the discussion stage and we're discussing options on how to save costs. We're reviewing all of these aspects for the new proposed school in Coral Harbour. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. According to my understanding, the community of Coral Harbour would like to get a new school because the existing school is very old and they believe it's contaminated. Therefore, the community was requesting a new school. Can the minister commit to providing a new school to be constructed without delay in that community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time, we're looking at different options and I'm sure that the DEA is consulted. Not just in Coral Harbour, but for the proposed new schools, the plans have not been changed and the target dates are still there. We're just reviewing the proposed school for Coral Harbour.

Yes, it's true that the school in Coral Harbour was constructed in 1979 and it was last renovated in 2007. It's evident that the school is at 90 percent capacity

when there's a capacity of 335 students for the school and there are currently 301 students. For that reason, we still have that planned for 2017, as I stated before. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, Ms. Angnakak.

Question 011 – 4(3): Office of the Ethics Officer

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister of Finance.

A couple of months ago, the new disclosure of wrongdoing provisions in the *Public Service Act* came into force and our new ethics officer assumed his duties.

I know that the Minister of Finance will not be interfering in the ethics officer's day-to-day work, but I am hopeful that he is getting updates on the status of the new office.

Can the minister indicate the volume of enquiries and formal complaints that the new ethics officer has been receiving in the first two months of his office's existence? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Angnakak for the question. Mr. Speaker, I think that during the lead-up to the opening of the office and the announcement of Mr. Jeffrey Schnoor, I think a lot of people thought that the flood gates would be open. I encourage people to go through

the regular process if they have an issue and report it to their supervisor or report it up the chain of command and, if it became necessary, then go to the ethics officer for him to consider their concern.

Mr. Speaker, as of today, I don't have an update on the volume of complaints he has received. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his response. In April of this year, Government of Nunavut employees received information from the government concerning how to contact the ethics officer to report alleged cases of wrongdoing. I applaud the government for doing this.

However, I have heard directly from a number of constituents, especially non-unionized employees, that they have been discouraged from contacting the ethics officer. For the record, can the minister clarify what jurisdiction the ethics officer has to review cases involving employee discipline or performance management? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I again thank Ms. Angnakak for the question. Mr. Speaker, most employees in the Government Nunavut are represented by unions. They're free to take their concern to their union. Non-unionized employees, of course, can

contact our labour relations people in our Human Resources Division.

As I said earlier and many times over the last year, the ethics officer is more concerned with reporting of wrongdoing. I'm not sure if it's a personal matter with an employee. It would be best to discuss with their union representative or contact our labour relations people. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate how many formal recommendations the new ethics officer has made to date? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, the office only opened on April 1, so we've had two months to operate so far. Mr. Speaker, I'm not aware if he has made any recommendations to date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 012 – 4(3): Staff Housing Vacancy in Iqaluit

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, as we all know, a number

of positions that are advertised within the Government of Nunavut that have housing units assigned to them, that housing unit isn't assigned until such time as the position is filled.

How many units are currently vacant in Iqaluit due to positions they are allocated to not being filled? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for his question. Mr. Speaker, as to how many units are vacant for Iqaluit specifically, although I don't have that information readily in front me, I will be providing the member with that information. I know my officials are listening to his question, so I will be able to provide that information, although I don't have it readily available with me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll look forward to getting that information from the minister.

Mr. Speaker, current employees of the Government of Nunavut have a couple of different options available to them. One is to apply for housing even if their position does not have a housing unit assigned to them and another is moves of convenience to try and get into more fitting accommodations.

How many applications of move of convenience or for housing from current

GN employees are there outstanding?
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I can also tell the member that I don't have that information, but HR is responsible, working with the Nunavut Housing Corporation in regard to vacant units due to unfilled positions. I will be able to provide that information to the member. As human resources is responsible for that, I don't have the figure or the number with me right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that and I'll look forward to that information as well.

Mr. Speaker, there are currently a number of long-term GN employees and some lifelong residents of Iqaluit that have applied for housing associated with their GN employment. In some cases, they have been waiting for years. This can create hardships among familial units and sometimes the feeling of disparity between brand-new GN employees and lifelong residents. How are the priorities for these applications for housing reviewed and prioritized?
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I again thank the member for that excellent question. Mr. Speaker, when staff housing units are going to be allocated, there are various ways. I want the member to understand fully that we have different priority settings for health professionals and teachers. Looking at priority hiring, that's how they allocate housing units and there are different classes.

I'll provide the information to the member once I get it. However, if it's a teacher and if it's a health professional, including others, they are prioritized. I'll provide that to the member, although it might not be today, but while I'm still in town. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Keyootak.

Question 013 – 4(3): Assistance for Homeowners

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, we all know that in some of the communities, there are quite a number of homeowners, especially in the smaller communities. Maintaining a home creates a hardship on the homeowners.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation what subsidies are provided for people who would like to renovate their homes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for that question with regard to homeowners. The housing corporation provides a variety of programs specific to homeowners, be it repair or subsidies. There are a variety of programs made available to the homeowners. You can also call the 1-800 number that is made available and it is serviced by Inuktitut-speaking employees. I hope I answered your question, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of my constituents has been concerned about the Nunavut Housing Corporation and the subsidies or programs that are provided to homeowners. When you have to renovate or repair your home, you have to find a contractor who will do the work and it's very hard to find a contractor in the smaller communities. Usually, the local housing authorities have all the workers available in the community working for them. Is it possible for the local housing authorities' employees to be able to repair private homes? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Kuksuk.

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

again thank the member for the question. With respect to what he is asking, smaller communities do have a difficult time with a lack of contractors and no one is actively working in this area. It is harder to get services in smaller communities. It is better in bigger communities and not as much as an issue. I am aware that we struggle with smaller communities and those without contractors have to be helped.

We are trying to help the private homeowners to get a contractor set up locally, to fly in and set up a contractor in that community if we could provide a benefit or subsidy of some sort to help them financially. You could contact the 1-800 number. Mr. Speaker, I will mention those numbers after our meeting and we can help communities short of contractors and help private homeowners to find a contractor to do that kind of work. We can help a local business with a contractor that we hire as NHC to work with a community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The time for question period has expired. We will move on. Item 7. Written Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Item 7: Written Questions

Written Question 001 – 4(3): Administration and Enforcement of the Workers' Compensation Act

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) My written questions today are for the Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission.

Mr. Speaker, ensuring that workers in Nunavut are safe is an important issue, which is why I am asking this question today.

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

1. Within the meaning of section 134 of the *Workers' Compensation Act*, what were the results of each inspection conducted by the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission between January 1, 2013 and May 31, 2015 within the municipality of Baker Lake and at the Meadowbank mine site?
2. Within the meaning of section 135 of the *Workers' Compensation Act*, what were the results of each search conducted by the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission between January 1, 2013 and May 31, 2015 within the municipality of Baker Lake and at the Meadowbank mine site?
3. Within the meaning of section 141 of the *Workers' Compensation Act*, what penalties were paid between January 1, 2013 and May 31, 2015 by entities located within the municipality of Baker Lake and at the Meadowbank mine site?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: There is agreement. Written Questions. (interpretation) Member for Arviat, Mr. Savikataaq.

**Written Question 002 – 4(3):
Expenditures and Activities under
the Strategic Investments Program**

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written question today is for the Minister of Economic Development and [Transportation].

Mr. Speaker, one of the Government of Nunavut's stated priorities has been to measure and evaluate the results of the millions of dollars it spends each year on grants and contributions. The department's responses to my written questions will help us to achieve this goal.

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

Preamble:

The Government of Nunavut's 2012-13 (Tabled Document 34 – 4(1)) and 2013-14 (Tabled Document 44 – 4(2)) annual reports on grants and contributions identify recipients of funding under the Department of Economic Development and Transportation's Strategic Investments Program. Recipients are categorized as "municipal governments," "non-profit organizations," or "businesses." As of June 1, 2015, the electronic versions of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation's Strategic Investments Program Policy that are available to the general public on its website (http://www.gov.nu.ca/sites/default/files/strategic_investments_program_policy.p

df and http://gov.nu.ca/sites/default/files/files/SIP_Policy_eng.pdf) indicate that the policy expired on March 31, 2011.

1. As of June 2, 2015, what is the date of expiry of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation's current *Strategic Investments Program Policy*?
2. At which URL can the Department of Economic Development and Transportation's current *Strategic Investments Program Policy* be located?
3. With respect to contributions made to "businesses" under the Strategic Investments Program during the 2012-13 and 2013-14 fiscal years, as listed in Tabled Documents 34 – 4(1) and 44 – 4(2),
 - a. Which contributions were made through the Nunavut Equity Investment Fund?
 - b. Which contributions were made through the Nunavut Economic Foundations Fund?
 - c. Within the meaning of the "Eligible Activities" sections of the *Strategic Investments Program Guidelines – Nunavut Equity Investments Fund (Schedule A)* and the *Strategic Investments Program Guidelines – Nunavut Economic Foundations Fund (Schedule B)*, what was the purpose of each contribution made to "businesses" during the 2012-13 and 2013-14 fiscal years?

- d. Within the meaning of the “Program Monitoring and Evaluation” sections of the *Strategic Investments Program Guidelines – Nunavut Equity Investments Fund (Schedule A)* and the *Strategic Investments Program Guidelines – Nunavut Economic Foundations Fund (Schedule B)*, what have been the results of each contribution made to “businesses” during the 2012-13 and 2013-14 fiscal years?
4. The *Strategic Investments Program Policy* provides that the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation “will table annually in the Legislative Assembly a summary of contributions detailing the amount of each contribution, the investment being supported, [the] name of the recipient and community.” As of June 2, 2015, what is the status of the preparation of the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation’s annual reports for the 2012-13 and 2013-14 fiscal years under this provision of the *Strategic Investments Program Policy*?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: There is agreement. Written Questions. (interpretation) Member Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, Ms. Angnakak.

**Written Question 003 – 4(3):
Administration and Enforcement
of the Tobacco Tax Act**

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written question today is for the Minister of Finance.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, the Legislative Assembly approved amendments to the *Tobacco Tax Act*. At that time, MLAs recommended that the minister begin the practice of tabling an annual report on the administration of the legislation. Since no annual report has been tabled, the requested information will be obtained through other means.

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

1. Broken down by product type and community, what volume of tobacco was sold in Nunavut by registered tobacco retail dealers during the 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15 fiscal years?
2. Broken down by product type and community, what amount of tobacco taxes were collected by the Government of Nunavut during the 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15 fiscal years?
3. What percentage of tobacco tax revenues raised during the 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15 fiscal years were allocated for smoking prevention and cessation programs?
4. Within the meaning of section 5 of the *Tobacco Tax Act*, broken down by community, how many import

permits were issued during the 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15 fiscal years?

5. Within the meaning of section 7 of the *Tobacco Tax Act*, broken down by community, what were the results of inspections conducted during the 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15 fiscal years?
6. As of June 1, 2015, within the meaning of section 22 of the *Tobacco Tax Act*, broken down by community, what entities are registered tobacco retail dealers?
7. Within the meaning of section 22.1 of the *Tobacco Tax Act*, how many refusals were made during the 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15 fiscal years?
8. Within the meaning of section 22.1 of the *Tobacco Tax Act*, what were the circumstances of each refusal made during the 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15 fiscal years?
9. Within the meaning of section 22.2 of the *Tobacco Tax Act*, how many cancellations or suspensions of a permit were made during the 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15 fiscal years?
10. Within the meaning of section 22.2 of the *Tobacco Tax Act*, what were the circumstances of each cancellation or suspension of a permit made during the 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15 fiscal years?
11. Within the meaning of sections 23, 23.1, 23.2, 24 and 25 of the *Tobacco Tax Act*, what offences and

punishments were investigated and prosecuted during the 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15 fiscal years?

12. What was the disposition of each matter referred to in question #10?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: There is agreement. Written Questions. (interpretation) Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, Mr. Hickes.

**Written Question 004 – 4(3):
Expenditures under Standing
Offer Agreements**

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written question today is for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

Mr. Speaker, transparency in government contracting is very important, which is why I am posing this question today.

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

1. Broken down by department, Crown agency, territorial corporation, and vendor, what expenditures were incurred during the 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15 fiscal years under standing offer agreements entered into on or after January 1, 2010?

2. What was the purpose of each expenditure referred to in question #1?
3. Which vendors and/or individuals employed or contracted by a vendor receiving payment from a Government of Nunavut department, Crown agency, or territorial corporation during the 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15 fiscal years under a standing offer agreement were previously employed as members of the Nunavut public service on or before January 1, 2012?
4. What regulations, rules, guidelines, or other forms of formal written direction have been approved by either the Executive Council of Nunavut or the Financial Management Board with respect to the awarding of contracts or the making of payments under standing offer agreements by Government of Nunavut departments, Crown agencies, or territorial corporations to individuals who are former members of the Nunavut public service?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: There is agreement. I have no more names. (interpretation) Member for Rankin Inlet, Mr. Alexander Sammurtok.

**Written Question 005 – 4(3):
Administration and Enforcement
of the Public Health Act**

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written question today is for the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, a boil water order was issued for Rankin Inlet, an experience which clearly illustrates the importance of strictly enforcing our territory's *Public Health Act* to protect Nunavummiut.

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

1. Within the meaning of section 25 of the *Public Health Act*, what inspection and enforcement activities, broken down by applicable regulation and community, were undertaken by the Department of Health during the 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15 fiscal years?
2. Within the meaning of section 23 of the *Public Health Act*, what prosecutions for alleged contraventions of the Act or regulations were undertaken during the 2012-13, 2013-14, and 2014-15 fiscal years?
3. What was the disposition of each matter referred to in question #2?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: There is agreement. I have no more names. (interpretation) Item 8. Petitions. Item 9. (interpretation ends) Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 10. Tabling of Documents. Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Item 10: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 001 – 4(3): Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated Annual Report on the State of Inuit Culture and Society 2011-2012, 2012-2013

Tabled Document 002 – 4(3): Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated Annual Report on the State of Inuit Culture and Society 2013-2014

Tabled Document 003 – 4(3): Nunavut Implementation Panel: Annual Report 2010-2011

Tabled Document 004 – 4(3): Correspondence to Bernard Valcourt dated May 8, 2015

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have four items to table.

The first one is Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated 2011-12 to 2012-13 and the 2013-14 Annual Report on the State of Inuit Culture and Society.

The other item, Nunavut Implementation Panel: 2010-2011 Annual Report on the Implementation of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement.

The last item, as requested, the letter addressed to the Hon. Minister of

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Tabled Document 005 – 4(3): Qulliq Energy Corporation Corporate Plan 2015-2019

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Qulliq Energy Corporation's Corporate Plan 2015-19. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. I have no more names. Item 11. Notices of Motions. Hon. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Simeon Mikkungwak.

Item 11: Notices of Motions

Motion 001 – 4(3): Extended Adjournment – Notice

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I give notice that on Thursday, June 4, 2015, I will move the following motion:

I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Aggu, that pursuant to the provisions of Rule 3, that when the House concludes its present spring sitting, it shall be adjourned until October 21, 2015.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Notices of Motions. The Hon. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, Ms. Pat Angnakak.

Motion 002 – 4(3): Referral of Tabled Document 149 – 4(2) to the Committee of the Whole – Notice

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, October 21, 2015, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Tununiq, that Tabled Document 49 – 4(2), *Minister's Annual Report on Poverty Reduction*, be referred to the Committee of the Whole for consideration.

At the appropriate time, I will seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) For the record, it's 149, not 49.

Notices of Motions. The Hon. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Joe Enook.

Motion 003 – 4(3): Referral of Tabled Document 107 – 4(2) to the Committee of the Whole – Notice

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, October 21, 2015, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, that Tabled Document 107 – 4(2), *Agreement for the Management and Administration of Local Housing*

Organization Programs, be referred to the Committee of the Whole for consideration.

At the appropriate time, I will seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Item 12. (interpretation ends) Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 13. Motions. Hon. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Item 13: Motions

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. (interpretation) Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The member is seeking unanimous consent to deal with his motion today. Are there any nays? There are none. Please proceed.

Motion 001 – 4(3): Extended Adjournment

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Aggu, that pursuant to the provisions of Rule 3, when the House concludes its present spring sitting, it shall be adjourned until October 21, 2015.

(interpretation) Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is in

order. To the motion. Those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried.

Motions. (interpretation) Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The member is seeking unanimous consent to deal with her motion today. Are there any nays? There are none. Please proceed.

Motion 002 – 4(3): Referral of Tabled Document 149 – 4(2) to the Committee of the Whole

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues.

WHEREAS the *Collaboration for Poverty Reduction Act* received assent on May 16, 2013;

AND WHEREAS reducing poverty in Nunavut is a key priority for all Members of the Legislative Assembly;

AND WHEREAS section 11 of the Act requires the minister to table an annual report in the Legislative Assembly concerning the administration of the Act and related matters;

AND WHEREAS the first annual report under the *Collaboration for Poverty Reduction Act* has been tabled in the Legislative Assembly;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Tununig, that Tabled Document 149 – 4(2), *Minister's Annual Report on Poverty Reduction*, be referred to the Committee of the Whole for consideration.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. To the motion. Those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried.

Motions. (interpretation) Member for Tununig, Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The Member for Tununig is asking for unanimous consent to deal with his motion today. Are there any nays? I didn't hear any nays. Please proceed.

Motion 003 – 4(3): Referral of Tabled Document 107 – 4(2) to the Committee of the Whole

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

WHEREAS it is important that local housing organizations in Nunavut have clear roles, responsibilities, and authorities;

AND WHEREAS the governance relationship between the Nunavut Housing Corporation and local housing organizations has been an issue of

concern to Members of the Legislative Assembly;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, that Tabled Document 107 – 4(2), *Agreement for the Management and Administration of Local Housing Organization Programs*, be referred to the Committee of the Whole for consideration.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. To the motion. Those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried.

Item 14. First Reading of Bills. Item 15. Second Reading of Bills. Item 16. *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

Item 16: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for October 21:

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

10. Petitions
11. Responses to Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Tabled Document 107 – 4(2)
 - Tabled Document 149 – 4(2)
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

A reminder for the Members of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts, you have a meeting tomorrow morning at nine o'clock in the Tuktu Room. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) This House stands adjourned until Wednesday, October 21, at 1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>House adjourned at 16:34

