



Nunavut Canada

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT

3rd Session

4th Assembly

HANSARD

Official Report

DAY 4

Friday, October 23, 2015

Pages 159 – 198

Iqaluit

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Tununiq)

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

Pauloosie Keyootak
(Uqqummiut)

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Iqaluit, Nunavut**Friday, October 23, 2015****Members Present:**

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

>>*House commenced at 8:59***Item 1: Opening Prayer****Speaker** (Mr. Joe Enook)

(interpretation): Can you say the opening prayer, please, Mr. Mikkungwak.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good morning, Nunavummiut. (interpretation ends) Premier Taptuna, (interpretation) ministers, members, welcome to your Legislative Assembly. We will again commence our meeting today. Moving on to the orders of the day. The first item is Ministers' Statements. Minister Ell-Kanayuk.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements**Minister's Statement 009 – 4(3):****Travel and Tourism Act Renewal****Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk**

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Nunavut's economy grows and diversifies, tourism will play an

increasingly important role. The Government of Nunavut wants Nunavummiut to help shape how the industry moves forward.

To do this, the Department of Economic Development and Transportation visited seven communities and talked about what changes to make in the *Travel and Tourism Act*. Feedback from the community sessions as well as online surveys and conference calls are being collected and used to help draft a new *Travel and Tourism Act*.

Mr. Speaker, the current legislation is 23 years old. It needs to be updated to reflect the creation of Nunavut and the perspectives of Nunavummiut. Nunavut has a unique culture and land that we should showcase proudly. We hope to reduce barriers for tourism growth and ensure that tourism creates business opportunities and other benefits for Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, by some estimates, the tourism industry adds about \$40 million per year to Nunavut's economy. Through the new *Travel and Tourism Act*, we hope to increase this value and make sure more of it stays in our communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Premier Taptuna.

**Minister's Statement 010 – 4(3):
Government Liaison Officers to
Receive ASIST Training**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: *Ullaakut*, Mr. Speaker, colleagues, Kuglukturmiut, and Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that all of my department's government liaison officers will receive the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training, or ASIST for short.

Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier this session, suicide in Nunavut has reached a tipping point and there is an urgent need to increase action. My government is planning swift action to ensure we face this issue head-on. As such, at a departmental level, government liaison officers from every community in the territory will come together on December 9 in Rankin Inlet to take this important two-day workshop. My department is coordinating the delivery of ASIST to the 25 government liaison officers with the help of Nunavut Arctic College.

ASIST is the world's leading suicide intervention program. With this training, community members will have additional access to ASIST-trained government workers, if they need help.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage more Nunavummiut to take the ASIST program and learn to intervene and help prevent the immediate risk of suicide. Every single Nunavummiuq has been affected by suicide, and we need to collectively stand together and put an end to this crisis together. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister Mike.

**Minister's Statement 011 – 4(3):
Baffin Island Caribou**

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Good morning. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about Baffin Island caribou.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to the hunters and trappers organizations on Baffin Island and our other co-management partners for their support and cooperation during the recent moratorium on caribou hunting on Baffin Island.

Mr. Speaker, my department is constantly working to ensure that all of Nunavut's wildlife resources are managed in a sustainable way. We must balance the need for Nunavummiut to have access to healthy country food with the need to conserve our wildlife resources so that future generations will also be able to enjoy the benefits of healthy wildlife populations.

We acknowledge that the moratorium may have created some difficulties for hunters and their families, and we are grateful to them for working together with us to help protect this important resource. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister Ugyuk.

**Minister's Statement 012 – 4(3):
G.R.E.A.T. Program**

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, Nunavummiut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce the launch of our pilot phase of the Getting Ready for Employment and Training Program. The program is one of our new labour market programs specifically focused on income assistance clients.

The G.R.E.A.T. program is an extension of support to clients who want to become employed, and helps them be better prepared to enter the workforce. The program includes a ten-week labour market training and a tailored two-week work placement within the person's home community that is specific to the needs and choices of each client.

The G.R.E.A.T. program will be piloted in 10 communities in 2015-16. This fall, we are rolling out delivery of the program in Kugluktuk, Rankin Inlet, and Iqaluit. My department anticipates the winter delivery to be offered in a number of communities in all three regions. Our goal is that 120 income assistance clients will participate in the pilot phase.

Clients who graduate from the program will be better prepared to be successfully employed or to seek further training and schooling. We are proud to offer this new program as a department, and G.R.E.A.T. demonstrates the successful collaboration between Nunavut Arctic College and our income assistance and career development divisions. This partnership is the first of its kind and sets

a high bar for future programs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister Mike.

**Minister's Statement 013 – 4(3): 2015
Fire Prevention Week**

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about the 2015 Fire Prevention Week. Fire Prevention Week is marked during the month of October each year across the country to remind Canadians about the importance of fire safety in their homes and communities.

This year, Fire Prevention Week was held from October 4 to 10, 2015 with the theme, "Hear the beep where you sleep: Every bedroom needs a working smoke alarm."

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to remind Nunavummiut of the following fire safety tips to use in their homes:

- (interpretation) Ensure you have a smoke alarm in every bedroom
- Test your smoke alarms monthly and replace batteries when necessary
- Never turn off or cover smoke alarms
- Make a home fire escape plan so you know what to do, where to go, and what number to call to reach emergency responders in the event of a fire.

Mr. Speaker, we would like to encourage Nunavummiut to talk to their family

about how to be fire safe at home and in the community.

(interpretation ends) Although Fire Prevention Week is only a weeklong event, talking to our children, families, and communities about fire safety and fire prevention is something we must do all year round.

(interpretation) I would like to thank all of the community fire departments who took part in recognizing Fire Prevention Week this year and for their ongoing work in keeping our communities safe. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. There are no more. Moving on with the orders of the day. Item 3. Members' Statements. Mr. Shooyook, Member for Quttiktuq.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 034 – 4(3): Suicide Prevention in Nunavut

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to my colleagues and the people who are watching the televised proceedings and listening to the radio broadcast.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about suicide. Today is October 23. It's actually our anniversary and I know that we need to work in Nunavut to try and eradicate suicide in Nunavut. To the people who are watching and listening to the proceedings, instead of just talking about suicide, we need to actually do something.

Sometimes when we are trying to work on something, we say that there's no funding or money for it. When we see that, it's very disappointing for me because we're not going to improve our lives just by money. It's evident now, for that reason, we say that once we get funding, we will start working on that. This is very disappointing for me to hear. Although we can resolve our situations without having to pay money, we can also talk about our issues.

Mr. Speaker, it's not due to illness that I have lost a grandchild. Many people in Nunavut have lost a loved one due to suicide. Many people have been impacted. When you have been impacted, it's very painful and you ask many questions why he or she did that. It has been four years now, but I still ask that question and I am still impacted today. It's probably not as painful to lose a relative to illness.

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

Speaker (interpretation): The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? I didn't hear any nays. You may proceed, Mr. Shooyook.

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

I know that this is very stressful because I have lost a grandchild too just recently, and it's very sad.

Let's move ahead starting from now, not just talking about it. We hear it through CBC Radio. Let's actually do something. The government and staff

have to do something. Today is October 23. After this, let's make an action on this, not just on correspondence. Let's actually do work. It's very difficult and urgent now. Mr. Speaker, starting from today, let's work together. I urge all the members to work together, not just to talk about it, but do some action.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all the people, instead of it just being in written documents, to do actual work because it's an urgent case now. Elders who can actually help are passing on. Let's not worry about not being educated. Only then can you start working on suicide prevention. This is getting tiring for me. There are many Inuit and elders who are knowledge-holders and I know that they can work as well as the educated people.

Mr. Speaker, let's utilize our elders instead of depending on funding. Let's depend on the people who are willing to work and help. Starting from today, let's utilize them and work on this issue. Let's move ahead and be happy about dealing with suicide prevention. Let's clap our hands. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, Ms. Angnakak.

**Member's Statement 035 – 4(3):
Addressing the Need for Long-term Care for Elders**

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) Good morning. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my commitment to working towards the establishment of a long-term care facility for our elders.

Mr. Speaker, our population is steadily growing and the number of elders needing programs and services is also increasing. Sadly, services and options for our elderly are sorely limited. Many of our elders and their families face physical, medical, and cognitive challenges on a daily basis. We need to do more for them and we need to do it soon.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to describe an initiative that I am working on with a number of like-minded individuals. We are seeking to establish a non-profit organization which will put together a business plan for a long-term care elders facility that can offer a number of programs and services for elders.

Mr. Speaker, we are ambitious and we are hopeful. We have received encouragement and advice from the Nunavut Housing Corporation, the Department of Health, and the Nunavut Construction Corporation. We are looking into land options.

We are determined to push as hard as we can to get a plan in place and piles in the ground by the summer of 2016. We envision opening a community facility, run by a steadfast and committed board of directors, and which can offer long-term care, dementia care, assisted living, and more programs for our elders and their families.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident that my colleagues will all agree that efforts must be made to support our elders. It need not always be the government that steps up to address our issues. We, as a community, can work together to find solutions too. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 036 – 4(3):
Premier's Visit to South Baffin**

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to the people of Nunavut and my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to publicly express my appreciation to our Premier, (interpretation ends) Premier Taptuna, (interpretation) for his recent visits to the communities of Cape Dorset and Kimmirut in my constituency of South Baffin.

Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in my Member's Statement yesterday, the community has been in pain since the destruction of our high school.

Mr. Speaker, I was very honoured to host the Premier on his recent visits to Kimmirut and Cape Dorset, which provided him with the opportunity to meet directly with many of my constituents and local leaders and to see with his own eyes the challenges and opportunities in the community.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, one of the issues that I have been raising in each and every sitting of the House is the urgent need for a new power plant in Cape Dorset. (interpretation ends) During the Premier's visit, he was able to see how the lack of power generation capacity at the community's existing power plant has prevented the construction of any new housing in recent years.

Mr. Speaker, I used to mention the fact that the power plant in Cape Dorset is older than I am. Well, as of this Monday, it's also older than the Prime Minister of Canada.

>> *Laughter*

It may, however, still be a little bit younger than our Premier.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, I was very pleased at the Premier's willingness to listen to ideas and solutions from community residents, including such ideas as bringing in mobile generators to boost capacity in the community while we wait for the new plant to come online.

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? I didn't hear any nays. Mr. Joanasié, please proceed.

Mr. Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, the government is well aware of the frustrations that the community of Cape Dorset has had with respect to the issue of securing the land for the new power plant, and I will have questions for the appropriate minister at the appropriate time.

Mr. Speaker, the government is also well aware of the frustrations that the community of Kimmirut has had with respect to the issue of the need to find a new location for the community's

airport. This is another issue that has been identified for years. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Minister Monica Ell-Kanayuk for taking the time to come to Kimmirut in person to move forward on the new airport.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I want to conclude by again thanking Premier Taptuna for taking the time and making the effort to join with me and my constituents in South Baffin to Cape Dorset and Kimmirut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 037 – 4(3):
Iqaluit's Qanukiaq Studios**

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Quite often on Fridays, we try and add a little bit of humour to the legislature.

I just wanted to comment, on social media, there's a bit of an uproar going on, on the goal celebration made by Jordin Tootoo last night in Ottawa. Apparently he was doing a turkey dance that he had promised some friends and family that he would do if he got a goal last night, so he followed through with that commitment. He was quite entertaining, if you get a chance to take a look at it online.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge some constituents that I have that are involved in a studio here in Iqaluit. Qanukiaq Studios Incorporated is a 100 percent Inuit owned television, film, and media arts company based here

in Iqaluit. It is jointly owned by Stacey Aglok MacDonald, Thomas Anguti Johnston, Vinnie Karetak, and Josh Qaumariaq. This studio specializes in live action comedy and drama. Qanukiaq Studios is committed to sharing Inuit culture and language from a distinctly modern Inuit perspective.

Currently, Qanukiaq Studios is filming season 5 of their television series, *Qanurli*, which will air on APTN in 2016.

Qanurli, which means what's next in Inuktitut, is an unpredictable and hilarious Inuktitut language sketch show featuring parodies and satire, as well as profiles of inspiring Inuit youth.

Qanurli's audience is expanding from Nunavut to across Canada and all Inuit Nunangat. *Qanurli* is a family show that children, teens, parents, and grandparents can watch together.

I just wanted to have this House acknowledge all the fantastic work that this group of people are doing, bringing forward youth issues in a humorous and light comedy way. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 038 – 4(3):
Developments in Constituency**

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to the people in my community. It's very early over there.

Yesterday, when I was making my statement, I welcomed and thanked my colleagues, Johnny Mike and the Minister of Health. I apologize for forgetting the Minister of Transportation, Monica Ell-Kanayuk. I didn't want to forget her, but I did. Sometimes I forget things when I'm talking. It's not intentional, but sometimes we forget things.

When Monica was there, she met with the hamlet council and they were able to ask her questions about the airport terminal. They asked questions about the dock and airport terminal to the minister and she responded well to the questions. I am grateful to her for that.

The hamlet council raised concerns about the elders facility. There's an old building that they're looking at repurposing for that purpose and the old women's shelter is what the hamlet is looking at to make it into a men's committee type of building. Those are some of the things that are happening, and I am very grateful to my fellow minister for being able to come to Taloyoak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 039 – 4(3):
Tribute to Joanasie Kooneeloosie
and Family**

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my pride and I would like to have you share in acknowledging on what happened last year. First of all, let me

say that in my community, we go far distances to go hunting and caribou hunting.

Last year, we had two hunters that we were worried about. They were delayed and they had gone caribou hunting and fishing to a distant land and we became very worried about those two men because they never came back. At that time, there were other fishermen and when we got worried about those two other fisherman... .

I would like to express my pride in these people and say their names. They had been out hunting. They had been in a cabin and just as they were leaving from the cabin, one of the people who had been lost appeared. Those people who were in the cabin, Joanasie Kooneeloosie and his wife, Leah Komoartok-Kooneeloosie and their children and grandchildren were there.

Meanwhile, those two hunters were missing and Joanasie and his family were just leaving the cabin when one of the lost hunters appeared, walking just as they were leaving. They had shut off the heat for the cabin because they were leaving and the lost person who was walking would have gotten into a cold shack.

Just as Joanasie and his family were leaving, they saw this man coming up to the cabin and he had snow in his clothing. If that family had not seen him, he would have probably not made it, but Joanasie and his family saved him and they were able to put him into the warm cabin and save him. We have been very grateful to Joanasie and his whole family for saving that person who was walking.

Mr. Speaker, at a later time this summer, there was another incident when we were out fishing.

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

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

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

Mr. Speaker, this past spring, there was another incident when we were out fishing. There was an avalanche and some people got snowed under by the avalanche that happened while they were still in their tents and they had children with them. When the avalanche hit them, the people were able to save them before they died.

The same family, Joanasie Kooneeloosie and his family, was there and they had been at his cabin. They're the only people who have cabins in that fishing area. Many of them were injured, including one who was unconscious. The children were naked and they were tumbled around the tent because the avalanche was pushing the tent down. The people got out of the tent unintentionally and they ended up in the snow outside with not a whole lot of clothing on.

It was Joanasie Kooneeloosie and Leah Komoartok-Kooneeloosie and their children. They were the only ones with a cabin over there. All of those people who had been in the avalanche were

brought into Joanasie's cabin, and the family saved a lot of people on more than one occasion. I would really like to thank them, along with everybody here, because all of those people would have died if it wasn't for Joanasie and his family. I want everyone here to thank them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 040 – 4(3):
Congratulations on the Successful
Federal Election**

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, people of Nunavut and fellow residents of Pangnirtung.

I have some news from Pangnirtung and those of us from there would like to comment on the recent elections. We would like to congratulate Trudeau for being elected. There was a Trudeau that won before in a previous election.

We are grateful for all who ran for Nunavut MP. They all tried hard to get elected. They worked really hard in their commitments this last Monday during the election. As the people of Pangnirtung, we welcome the new government and the recently elected MP for Nunavut, who will be our next MP and working for us in Ottawa, Hunter Tootoo.

We would like to thank the previous MP who will be completing her work. She was the Minister of Health and Minister of Environment. The people of

Pangnirtung express their appreciation to her because she worked hard on things affecting Pangnirtung, the people of Nunavut, and the people of Canada.

Therefore, I would like to explain that when Leona Aglukkaq was the minister and MP, work on marine infrastructure started to exist in Nunavut, and we would like to see that continue. CanNor was brought to Nunavut and they can now have an office in Nunavut that may have landed outside of Nunavut if it wasn't for her.

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? I didn't hear any nays. Mr. Mike, you may proceed.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleagues.

With respect to fisheries development, especially offshore fishery in the turbot fishing area 0A, the entire 0A quota was given to Nunavut communities for the very first time. Some fishing areas are not like that, although Nunavut is capable to fish, along with other groups.

I am only talking about some of the ones that I remember when Leona was the MP. Internationally, work on polar bears, which we consider extremely important because animals are very important to us in the Arctic, she brought the Inuit knowledge to polar bear management. Inuit knowledge is now a part of polar bear management and that's very important.

Sealing was banned by the European Union. While we tried to get an exemption certificate on the sale of sealskins, she helped us make that proceed by supporting it.

Also, she loudly voiced her opinions on climate change in the past two years when I was the Minister of Environment. I worked with her on climate change efforts on the land that we live in. She really talked about it down there and the fact that the rest of Canada needs to be aware of the effects on us.

Also, CITES has really now believed Inuit more about the way we manage polar bears and the fact that we are not depleting the polar bears through our management. That was a very difficult thing that she had to work on. Since she has been involved, it has become easier to work on polar bears.

As the people of Pangnirtung, we are grateful to her and we would like to work with the new government as the people of Pangnirtung. I'm talking on behalf of the people of Pangnirtung. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Mapsalak.

Member's Statement 041 – 4(3): Celebrating Naujaat

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to express my gratitude today and make a few comments.

This past July 2, the name of Repulse Bay was changed to a new name and we celebrated. I would like to thank

Minister Mike for being able to come to the community, along with Minister Quassa, Minister Okalik, and Minister Kuksuk. They were all able to come and help us celebrate the change of the community name to Naujaat.

At that same occasion, Leona Aglukkaq came to open a new parks office for the Ukkusiksalik National Park. There were a whole lot of people who came to town for that purpose and I would like to thank them. We had a great time when we were celebrating the opening. There are too many people for me to name them all.

It's unfortunate that the people of Igloolik were not able to make it there due to weather, but it was a great occasion. We understood that our Premier wanted to go there, but he had other important commitments.

Because of that, I still hear up to today that the old name is being used in the House. I would like to remind my colleagues that Naujaat is now the official name and the old name was removed. I'm just reminding my colleagues that it's now Naujaat. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): I thank the member from Naujaat. Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. We will move on with the orders of the day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. There are none. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. There are none. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet South, Mr. Sammurtok.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 037 – 4(3): Status of Long-term Care Needs Assessment

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Health.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, during our sitting in May, the Minister of Health indicated that his department was undertaking a long-term care needs assessment. Addressing the care, comfort, and security of our elders is becoming more urgent day by day.

Can the minister provide an update on the progress and status of his department's long-term care assessment and tell us if he will be tabling the results during this fall sitting? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The assessment has not been completed yet and I'll let my colleagues know once the assessment is completed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Sammurtok: Mr. Speaker, the need for a long-term care elders facility in Rankin Inlet is well established. We don't need to wait for the results of the assessment to know the need is there. I raised this issue with the minister in this House last May, at which time he indicated that he would have to look at

how such a facility would operate and how many staff it would need.

Can the minister provide an update on what specific consideration has been given to the cost, operation, and number of staff needed to open a long-term care elders facility in Rankin Inlet? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I made a mistake in my first reply and the assessment is now completed, but we do want to have a thorough review. I can't tell you exactly how many staff we need. We have two continuing care facilities that are in Igloolik and Gjoa Haven. We are working on opening a facility in Cambridge Bay. We are doing a review on where we can make adjustments or changes to make sure that it is a proper facility and we would like it to be similar to the ones in Igloolik and Gjoa Haven. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Sammurtok: Mr. Speaker, I recognize that the needs of elders across all of Nunavut's communities are a concern. We don't just need facilities; we also need resources and supports and plans to deal with such issues as elder abuse. Can the minister clarify what steps are being taken to develop a long-term, territory-wide elders strategy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can't really respond to your question because that falls under the Premier, but I would like to indicate that as the Minister of Justice, I do go see elders every year and we educate the elders of their legal rights. We are dealing with issues such as elder abuse. I was at the high school with Ms. Ell-Kanayuk and we had a dinner with the elders. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 038 – 4(3): Access to Information on Record Suspensions

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to the people of Baker Lake and Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Justice.

(interpretation ends) As the minister is aware, individuals with a criminal record can apply to the Parole Board of Canada for a record suspension, which is also known as a pardon.

I recognize that the Parole Board of Canada is a federal agency and is responsible for ordering, denying, and revoking record suspensions under the federal *Criminal Code Act*.

My concern, however, is that information on the application process for requesting a record suspension is not readily available in Nunavut communities.

Can the minister indicate how his department informs Nunavummiut on the application process for record suspensions and what, if any, offices in his department provide advice and assistance to individuals who wish to apply for a record suspension? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) This is a federal program, so it is very difficult to try and deal with a federal program when they have the program and they can change it at any time. If we were to try and manage a program that we can't control and if there were changes made to the program that we weren't aware of, then we would create more unfortunate situations for our constituents. To date, we have not been in a position to deliver this program because it is a federal program. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The federal Parole Board of Canada provides a number of resources on its website for individuals who wish to apply for a record suspension, including guidebooks and applications forms. However, these resources are not available in the Inuit language, which can restrict unilingual, Inuit language speaking individuals from fully accessing these resources.

Will the minister commit to working with the federal Parole Board of Canada

to provide its guidebooks, brochures, and application forms in the Inuit language? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I'm not the minister responsible for translations, but at the same time, this is a federal program. As I said, these programs change. The last government made it more challenging for those who want to seek pardons. We don't control those programs, and there is no way of telling how this current government will change it in the future. It will be a challenging task to try and change even translations without knowing when these programs might change. It's a responsibility that is for the federal government, and I will communicate the concern raised by my colleague with our new MP. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his commitment. Can the minister indicate if offenders are informed of the eligibility criteria and application process for record suspensions upon release from the correctional facilities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) For our inmates, I'm sure that the

corrections facilities do prepare release plans and advise them and support them in their efforts to reintegrate into the community. That continues. We try and assist them in getting new skills so that they can be productive members of our society. Those programs continue in our facilities. I cannot speak for the federal facilities at this time. (interpretation)
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 039 – 4(3): Status of New Cape Dorset Power Plant

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

When I last raised the issue of the urgent need for a new power plant in Cape Dorset, the minister indicated that the Qulliq Energy Corporation's timeline for the new power plant is the 2017-18 fiscal year. As of today, what is the timeline for constructing the new power plant in Cape Dorset? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Joanasie for the question. I applaud Mr. Joanasie for continuously bringing this issue up on the behalf of his constituents.

Last year, he asked my predecessor to expropriate the land in the downtown

area to speed up the process and then earlier this year, indeed, he asked me to expropriate the land. I told him that we would prefer a local solution to the issue about downtown land. The land, of course, is in a legal dispute and that was the site that the hamlet was working with QEC to secure.

Earlier this year, the hamlet changed their mind and they asked QEC to relocate the new power plant out to the tank farm. Our QEC officials met with the hamlet in early September. I believe it was a town hall meeting and a meeting with some of the councillors. A decision was made to locate the new power plant out by the tank farm. Of course, that necessitated a lot of changes in planning.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the QEC officials sent an environment team in there last week to assess the new site. We're still waiting for a report. Geotechnical work will have to be done over the winter so that we can prepare the site next summer for development. These changes with the location are adding time and costs to the proposed project. Right now, I believe the timeline is likely 2018. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his response and also for his interim president of QEC and officials that made their way to Cape Dorset to meet with community members on this topic.

Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in my Member's Statement, one of the challenges that Cape Dorset faces and Premier Taptuna saw with his own eyes

during his recent visit was the fact that the current lack of power generation capacity has prevented the construction of any new housing units in recent years.

I also noted that one of the ideas that were discussed during the Premier's visit was to bring in mobile auxiliary generators to help boost capacity over the next few years before the new plant is constructed. Will the minister commit to bringing forward a plan to implement this idea? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Joanasié for the question. I appreciate the Premier and his assistants going up for a meeting about their issue. Yes, I'm aware of the issue of the aging power plant up there. Indeed, it is older than Mr. Joanasié and I know for a fact that it's younger than the Premier and younger than many of us in here.

Mr. Speaker, I have even gone to Ottawa a few times and asked the Ottawa government for a couple hundred million dollars to upgrade most of our aging power plants. I look forward to bringing the business case to the new Minister of Finance and the support of our new MP for Nunavut to get some funding for upgrading our power plants.

The fact of the matter is that that old power plant at its present location does not allow us to expand or add any more capacity to the existing system. The site location is fully utilized. A mobile power plant or generator is in the range of \$2 million to \$3 million and possibly more. We went through the whole

situation there with my colleague's community in Pangnirtung.

It's a very expensive proposition. The Qulliq Energy Corporation is fully maxed out on its debt; we're very strapped. Any changes to the QEC's capital plan to entertain Mr. Joanasié's idea would impact the capital plan for other communities. The QEC board will have to take a very close look at the capital plan to see if that is something that can be entertained and if, in fact, it is even affordable. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Disputes concerning the location of Cape Dorset's power plant have been an ongoing source of frustration for our community. As the minister pointed out earlier, now they're focusing on the location near the tank farm and proceeding with geotechnical. Can I get confirmation and put this issue to rest that QEC will be building a new power plant in Cape Dorset near the tank farm location? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Joanasié for asking that question. Mr. Speaker, I have been following this Cape Dorset situation for many years and I wasn't unfamiliar with what was going on up there when I became the Minister of QEC.

I recall that in June 2012, it was in the *News/North* that the power plant was \$12.5 million and a major project permit

application had been approved by URRC. Just this year, the prices have morphed up to \$28 million with all the back and forth and delays over where the land will be. Now this new change could possibly add another \$3 million to the price tag.

The plan is to build the power plant on that site, subject to environmental work and geotechnical work. My officials inform me that they're proceeding in that direction. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 040 – 4(3): Status of Iqaluit Beer and Wine Store

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

Earlier this year, cabinet approved new *Iqaluit Beer and Wine Store Regulations* which were made under the territorial *Liquor Act*. These regulations were registered on June 3 of this year, the day after the legislature adjourned from its spring sitting. I'm sure there is no coincidence there.

Mr. Speaker, it is now the end of October. Will the government be opening a new beer and wine store before the end of 2015, yes or no? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Hickes for that question. No, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Section 6 of the new regulations prescribe daily purchase limits for customers. Can the minister explain how his department determined these specific quantities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Hickes for that question. Mr. Speaker, I believe quantities were determined in consultation with local organizations and groups. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the minister's initial response that no, there would not be a store opening in Iqaluit in this fiscal year or this calendar year, can the minister explain why the delays after all the work has gone through, with the consultations that have been done and the regulations being changed to accommodate a controlled retail store? Can the minister explain why there are delays on this pilot project? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Hickes for the question. Mr. Speaker, a beer and wine store pilot project is a bit of a sensitive issue for the City of Iqaluit and I appreciate that. I think 40 percent of the eligible voters came out and voted. 75

percent of them voted in favour of a beer and wine store and I believe they spoke for everybody in the community. Our government recognizes and respects the decision of the voters.

We have decided that before we proceed, we would work with some of our fellow departments so that they would be given time to put programs and policies in place under the *Sivumut Abluqta* Mandate before we can proceed as the Department of Finance. Also, the timing of the plebiscite would not have allowed us to open a store in Iqaluit this year anyway. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 041 – 4(3): Status of Scoping Study on Manitoba-Nunavut Hydroelectric Power Line

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services, who is the co-chairperson of the Hudson Bay Regional Round Table.

Last month, the round table met in Rankin Inlet. At that time, the Energy Options Working Group presented a scoping study on the viability of a hydroelectric power transmission line to run from Churchill, Manitoba to the Kivalliq. When will the minister table this important study in the Legislative Assembly? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As of today, I can't state when we can table it, but I want to review it carefully and that's why I can't answer the question at this time. The study is ongoing and that's the current status. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister is aware, the Kivalliq Inuit Association has been a partner in this work. In announcing the results of the scoping study, KIA indicated that the next step will be a funding request to the Government of Nunavut, the Government of Manitoba, and the federal government in order to "conduct a briefing and feasibility study." Has the GN been approached for their share of the funding? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I'm aware that we're partners with KIA and they have done some work. As I stated, we're just following procedures and my officials are working on that right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for a response but not an answer.

Just to read off some of the benefits that can come from this power line, from a news release that KIA issued back in September, it says that the savings would be up to \$40 million annually in diesel energy costs. The mining sector would save \$60 million to \$100 million annually and they estimated that 380,000 metric tonnes of greenhouse gases would be eliminated. Further to that, we would not be tied to the cost of the price of oil in this world. The fuel subsidy programs would save money too that could be used for such other things as health and education. A fibre-optic line could also be strung up for communication and Internet. There are lots of benefits that would come with the power line.

Now I ask the minister, the new federal government was elected earlier this week and we are expecting a new cabinet to be named early in November. When will the GN be formally raising the issue to the federal government and with the MP with the intent and purpose of furthering the project of the Manitoba and Kivalliq hydro line in our region? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, dealing with the new government, it's obvious that this has been explained, but according to my information, for example, the new issues will be brought up in January on this issue. Yes, we're trying to keep aware of this and it is important to me on how we can do cost savings through energy. It's obvious to the government and to CGS that if it's going to be impacted, we have to deal with it carefully because of that reason

and having a new government is a part of it. I would like you to know that we are working on this right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 042 – 4(3): Iqaluit Elders Facility

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Family Services.

Mr. Speaker, I have grown very concerned about the state of the elders facility in Iqaluit. I have spoken with a number of elders and others about the facility and they have raised concerns regarding such issues as food insecurity, the safety of residents, and the type of care that is provided.

Can the minister provide an update on which division of her department or which entity is responsible for the Iqaluit Elders Facility? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Let me ask a question. I believe we were on the wrong channel. Did the minister understand the question that was posed? I believe you understood the question. Madam Minister, did you understand the question? Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for asking the question in regard to the elders facility and others. As to which department entity is

responsible for the Iqaluit Elders Facility, the Department of Family Services has three programs: one in Arviat, one in Baker Lake, and one in Iqaluit. There are three facilities that are operated and we provide funding from the Department of Family Services through an agreement. The agreement contains a lot of information.

If elders have concerns of care, the process is that they can report back to the Department of Family Services. If there is a complaint from the elders about how they are treated by the managers or by the staff, they can report to that entity. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for her response. Can the minister tell us how many complaints her department has received in regard to the elders centre in Iqaluit? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jennie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank my colleague for asking that question. I don't know how many complaints there were, but I can ask my officials if there were any complaints received.

Starting from last year, we have been comprehensively reviewing the agreement and we want to make sure that they are following the plan and we are reviewing it to make sure that they are following through with the plan.

That is how I can respond to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It seems that the operations, management, and maintenance of the elders facility here in Iqaluit are in complete disarray. Can the minister clearly explain which departments, divisions, or entities are involved in the maintenance and operation of this facility? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jennie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank my colleague for that question. The operations, maintenance, and management of the elders facility in Baker Lake is operated by CGS. The Arviat and Iqaluit facilities are the responsibility of the housing corporation.

For the maintenance work, we provide funding from the Department of Family Services for the repair work on elders facilities and each elders unit has to have an intercom and we need to install intercoms so that we can communicate with elders in their units. As per the agreement, we are looking at the funding.

We are providing funding to the Nunavut Housing Corporation through our department to make improvements on the intercom system. Last year, we were monitoring the agreement to make

sure that they are following through.
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 043 – 4(3): G.R.E.A.T.
Program**

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr.
Speaker. My question will be to the
Minister of Family Services on the
Minister's Statement that she made this
morning regarding the G.R.E.A.T.
program, Getting Ready for
Employment and Training Program.

In the document, it indicates that "The
G.R.E.A.T. program will be piloted in
10 communities in 2015-16." After that
she identifies three communities:
Kugluktuk, Rankin Inlet, and Iqaluit.
When will the minister make a decision
as to the other communities that will be
identified for the pilot project? Thank
you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.
Minister of Family Services, Minister
Ugyuk.

Hon. Jennie Ugyuk (interpretation):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also
like to thank my colleague, Mr.
Mikkungwak, for asking that question
related to my Minister's Statement from
this morning in regard to the G.R.E.A.T.
program. For labour market programs,
we understand that we are going to start
the pilot project in those communities
and we will start the other programs in
January. We are concerned and are
making sure that there are adult
educators and if we have space to deliver
that training. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr.
Speaker. In the document, it also
identifies that "Our goal is that 120
income assistance clients will participate
in the pilot phase." It's nice to see that
the income assistance clients are being
assisted. Out of the 120 income
assistance clients, is that a random
selection across the territory of
Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.
Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also
like to thank my colleague for asking the
question on this issue. I know that if
income assistance clients are physically
able to work, they should work. Through
Nunavut Arctic College, we are working
with income assistance clients. There are
many people who would like to get into
training and into the workforce. For
clients who want to take the training, as
a government, we don't select the
income assistance clients. We only select
them according to their willingness.
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr.
Speaker. In the document, it also
identifies that "Clients who graduate
from the program will be better prepared
to be successfully employed or to seek
further training and schooling." As I had
asked earlier, 120, I presume that is a
random selection across the territory of

Nunavut, which has 25 communities. When we look at this, my final question here is, these 120 clients who have been selected will have an opportunity to enhance their lives and their families. Is there an alternate plan for all the other income support assistance clients in the Nunavut territory? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank my colleague for asking that question. Yes, according to when we were first elected, we had set a goal through our mandate, *Sivumut Abluqta*. The priority of all the Members of the Legislative Assembly was to work on this and all of us attended.

We said that this was our support to make sure that we reduce poverty and to make sure that they get into the workforce. This is a pilot project. After we have completed the pilot project, we will have a better idea as to which way we will be proceeding. That's the response I can provide, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 044 – 4(3): Baffin Island Caribou

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm going to keep with Mr. Mikkungwak's theme of going over Ministers' Statements this morning.

The Minister of Environment stated in his statement regarding Baffin Island

caribou when he was thanking Nunavummiut for working through the moratorium that recently there was an announcement made to lift the moratorium and have 250 tags issued across Baffin Island for caribou.

With regard to the tags, what is the process for monitoring, and who decided how many tags each community got? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Environment, Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for that question. The moratorium on caribou hunting has been lifted and they can now harvest 250 male caribou only on Baffin Island, not for the whole of Nunavut. It's only for Baffin Island. These 250 tags were approved by our department. It is at QWB's discretion to allocate tags in the Baffin region communities. The Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board is responsible for the allocation of the tags. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just from the first part of my question with regard to monitoring and enforcement, what assurances do we have that only 250 animals will be harvested as the population is very critical, which caused the moratorium? If the minister could answer that for my first question. With my first supplementary, once these tags are issued and filled, will the moratorium be reinstated? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member. I apologize for not responding to part of your question. We have now been working on the Wildlife Regulations in regard to caribou on Baffin Island. The Department of Environment staff, conservation officers in the communities, and HTOs are responsible for the Baffin region caribou hunting. At this time, I don't have the information as to how many tags have been used, but when the hunting season first opened at the beginning of October, there were 61 caribou harvested in the Baffin region. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With all the talk of codeshare and cargo and issues with freight that has been occurring across the territory and the costs associated, although the rates for shipping country food haven't increased, there has been a change to the way it's charged per leg, not the animal leg, Mr. Speaker, but the per leg of flight.

The government currently subsidizes shipping of seal pelts. There's a commercial fisheries freight subsidy that covers up to 50 percent of the freight cost.

There has been a lot of concern brought to my attention, because we are limited in the hunting here on Baffin Island, that the cost of shipping meat and country food from other parts of Nunavut is very onerous on a lot of people. As everyone is very well aware, there are a lot of

people who live below the poverty line here in Nunavut. With the excess costs that are being incurred by shipping this country food to Baffin Island, it's just not feasible or viable for a lot of people.

What is the Department of Environment doing right now or are they exploring any options to assist with the freight subsidy for country food? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to caribou management in the Baffin region, I want to explain something further. There have been more and more concerns about the caribou and the changes in population have been felt in Nunavut and other places. We don't really work with freight for food a whole lot, but there was a review of the harvester support programs in an effort to see how we can help hunters further. That has been the intention.

There are certain aspects of it that the Department of Environment can't handle. For the handling of country food, some of it is not under my department. However, with fisheries and other things, they do fall under our department. We mainly deal with commercialized foods. That's why I can't really respond to some of his questions, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Question 045 – 4(3): Foster Parenting in Nunavut

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Once again I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Family Services.

Mr. Speaker, this week is National Foster Family Week. I, too, would like to extend my appreciation and admiration to those families and individuals who provide safe, secure, and caring homes for children in need.

Mr. Speaker, as you will recall, last year, I raised concerns about the number of children who are sent out of territory, not just to facilities or institutions but also to foster homes. Can the minister provide an update on how many children are still in facilities or homes outside of the territory and what efforts are being made to bring them home? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Family Services, Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for that question. Yes, it is National Foster Family Week. In appreciation of those families who take in foster children and in my community, we have foster parents who have been doing it for many years. I really feel for them with my work.

This past summer in Winnipeg, we went to see institutions where children are kept. I am very proud of those people who take care of our Inuit children outside of Nunavut. They can't be handled in Nunavut because of physical

disabilities, certain illnesses, other reasons, or if they have cancer. They find spaces for them outside of Nunavut, fortunately.

The Department of Family Services has a plan to bring back the children who are able to be brought back. I would like to assure my colleague about that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like my colleague, I would like to say “thank you” for the response but not the answer. I asked how many children are still in facilities down south.

For my second question, I appreciate that some children face additional challenges due to physical or behavioural difficulties. Can the minister clarify what kinds of resources are provided to Nunavut foster parents to help them provide the necessary support to foster children and to keep them here at home? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for asking those questions. Sometimes there are two or three questions. Please pose your questions one at a time so that I can answer them properly.

There are 59 children who are being held outside of Nunavut right now.

Your other question, for people with mental disabilities who don't really have a place to go back to, we meet to make sure they are properly taken care of and if they need additional help, we find additional help for them. Social workers are trained on methods of how to help these children. We look for new ways to help these people. That's how I can respond to that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for her response. Mr. Speaker, I recognize that there are a limited number of foster homes in Nunavut. Can the minister describe what kinds of efforts are made by the department to recruit more foster parents? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for requesting more information on that. Social workers in Nunavut are always requesting for people who want to become foster parents. If anyone is interested in becoming a foster parent, they're given information on how they can apply.

I personally know that they're more interested in taking care of the younger children. As they get into their teenage years, it becomes harder to place them in foster homes. We try to get help for them outside of Nunavut in those circumstances. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 046 – 4(3): GLOs to Receive ASIST Training

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be to the Hon. Premier of Nunavut regarding the Minister's Statement this morning about government liaison officers to receive ASIST training.

I myself have taken this Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training, or ASIST for short, in the past. My first question will be, in the past when we were with the GNWT, at the time before we became Nunavut, there used to be a health directory. Will this also be established so that residents of Nunavut can know who has taken the applied suicide intervention skills training, a help directory in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, it's one of our efforts or action items where we want more of our employees taking the ASIST training so that they, in turn, can assist and help family members that request help out there in identifying, through various programs we have throughout the government, especially the one in Education with RespectEd, and other various forms that help identify and intervene before a situation gets any worse.

At the end of the day, our intention is to help people out there through intervention to ensure that we take more time and effort in identifying how we could lessen the impact of suicide in our territory. Mr. Speaker, as you know, suicide has a major impact on all families and all communities, and with this effort in training our GLOs, we will be able to assist communities in intervening before such things happen. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wholeheartedly agree with the Premier that applied suicide intervention skills training needs to occur more within our territory, as some of us have been impacted and it really touches the lives of people from Nunavut.

My next question to this would be, I'm fully aware from my previous career before I became an MLA. I used to oversee this program within our territory also in the Kivalliq region. My question will be, aside from the GLOs that will be taking the ASIST training, there have been individuals and professionals who work for the Government of Nunavut who have taken the ASIST training. Will they also be considered for a refresher program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Premier Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We encourage all our employees to take that and I don't have the specific numbers in front of me, but I'll certainly be consulting with my

colleagues on a possible directory of who is taking the training.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the fact that he has been involved in this in the past. Of course, any kind of advice or ideas, we will certainly take and listen to because at the end of the day, we've got to include everybody. We've got to involve everybody, the MLAs, our community members, and our hamlets. This is one way of tackling this very serious issue together. If we don't do it together, it will continue on and we do have to make an effort to make that impact to prevent more suicides in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I'll certainly speak with my colleagues on a possible directory on who is taking this ASIST program and for certainty, we will try and accommodate what the member has said on whether individuals will need refresher courses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Premier for his response. It's reassuring to the viewing audience, to me, and no doubt, to my colleagues that we are taking action. At the same time, we are making a movement on this aspect.

My final supplementary question would be, as we are tackling this issue as a territory, I believe we are making a strategy and I believe there is a strategy in place. My colleague, Mr. Shooyook, also indicated this morning *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* and the elders within our territory need to also have some

influence and some capability of helping with this issue that we face as a territory. My question here would be: will there be a strategy established or is it being worked on to also take *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* into consideration? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Mikkungwak, thank you. Premier Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, as I indicated, we have set this special committee up at the top level with the Minister of Health chairing the committee. It includes myself and other ministers from other departments; education, family services, and of course, housing.

Mr. Speaker, it is a very serious issue and together, we intend to tackle that. There are 37 recommendations that were made by the inquiry and 26 pertain specifically to the Government of Nunavut. We will certainly be led by our chair here. Through coordination of an associate deputy minister, we will certainly look at all recommendations made by the inquiry.

I've got to thank the participants who contributed to the inquest. We know it's heart-wrenching to talk about all the tragedies that they have faced. Mr. Speaker, with this effort, the special committee will certainly look at the recommendations made. Of course, I have said and I'll say again that we want to include everybody and every organization to help us deal with this very serious issue in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members will note that the time for question period has expired. We will move on with the orders of the day. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

Bill 06 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2015-2016 – Notice

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Tuesday, October 28, 2015, that Bill 6, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2015-2016*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request consent of this Assembly to waive the two-day notice requirement to allow for the first reading of Bill 6, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2015-2016*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The minister is seeking consent to waive the two-day

waiting rule so that Bill 6 can be read today for the first time. Do members agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. There is agreement. Minister Peterson, please proceed.

**Bill 06 – Supplementary
Appropriation (Capital) Act, No.
3, 2015-2016 – First Reading**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Pangnirtung, that Bill 6, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2015-2016*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 6 has received first reading.

Moving on, Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills

**Bill 06 – Supplementary
Appropriation (Capital) Act, No.
3, 2015-2016 – Second Reading**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Pangnirtung, that Bill 6, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2015-2016*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes supplementary appropriations to defray the capital expenditures of the

Government of Nunavut for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried. Thank you. Bill 6 will now be referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 1, 2, 3, and 6 and Tabled Documents 107 – 4(2) and 149 – 4(2) with Mr. Mikkungwak in the Chair.

Before we proceed to the Committee of the Whole, we will take a 10-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 10:53 and
Committee resumed at 11:10*

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

**Bill 03 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,
2016-2017 – Nunavut Housing
Corporation – Consideration in
Committee**

Chairman (Mr. Mikkungwak) (interpretation): I would like to call the committee meeting to order, people of Baker Lake and Nunavut.

We are dealing with the Nunavut Housing Corporation. (interpretation ends) Branch Summary. Nunavut Housing Corporation. (interpretation) Firstly, I ask my colleagues if they agree

to bring in the minister's officials to the (interpretation ends) witness table.

Some Members: Agreed.

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

(interpretation ends) Thank you. For the record, Hon. Minister of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Kuksuk, could you please introduce your officials. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, my fellow Nunavummiut and Arviarmiut, as well as the residents of Whale Cove.

With me this morning (interpretation ends) to my left is Stephen Hooey, Chief Operating Officer, and to my right, Lori Kimball, President (interpretation) of the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. We will continue from where we left off yesterday with the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Following my list of names, Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe Ms. Kimball was going to be supplementing the minister's response from yesterday. Just for everyone's benefit, I'll reiterate what I was asking very briefly.

I was looking at the document that was provided yesterday that showed the 72 percent. I can't remember the title of the critical need situation of housing here in Iqaluit. I had touched on, I am aware of

the land availability issues. Like I said, I appreciate that, but I was also getting into the reallocation of housing units to make sure that people are adequately housed, especially in the cases where people are over-housed, which could free up units for families. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member. For his question from yesterday, Ms. Kimball was going to supplement my response, so I would like her to do so. Thank you.

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

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the implementation of the new rent scale software back in February of 2014, we now have regular reporting on clients that are over-accommodated and under-accommodated. We have produced a report regularly and are encouraging our district office to work with our local housing organizations in reallocating existing housing to make sure that the inventory of housing we have is used to the best of its ability. We have actually been able to reduce the needs in some of the communities through simple reallocation of the existing stock. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just going over the opening comments from the Chair of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development. On page 3, it

speaks that the delivery of the final blueprint for action is to be delivered by the end of fiscal 2015-16. I have been asking for an action plan for some time and I know the corporation has been working towards it. Is this the same action plan just with the title of blueprint for action? I would like to get that confirmation first, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that's the same one that we have been having discussions on. Thank you.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you for that confirmation, Mr. Kuksuk. Within the blueprint for action, as it's being worked on right now, it has been spoken to yesterday. There are a lot of communities with land availability issues. It seems to be one of overarching issues that the Nunavut Housing Corporation deals with to build housing in communities or like in my colleague Mr. Joanasie's case, it is power limitations, maybe in addition to land availability, I'm not sure.

What type of impact is land availability going to have on your action plan? If you're having an action plan to categorize and put a plan in place on alleviating some of the housing issues in Nunavut, there are other factors that are going to play in. I'm just wondering: how fluid is that document going to be with regard to land availability? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you

very much. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. That's a good question and I thank him for asking it. Mr. Chairman, the lack of land availability for housing in Nunavut impacts our ability to move forward with constructing our housing units or other homes that are owned as well as staff housing for government employees. I'll use as an example. Whether we're trying to build a ten-plex or five-plex, if we have no land available, it causes us to delay our projects. In short, I can answer that the lack of land availability is a hindrance to our projects. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do thank the minister for that response, but I guess what I was trying to get to is with regard to the blueprint for action that's going to set our guidelines and standards of eligibility and what type of action is going to take place. Studying from the blueprint for the housing strategy and with the volatility of land availability, how much of an impact is that assumed or proposed to have on the action plan? To me, it's going to be very difficult to implement an action plan if there are all these variables across the territory to have a consistent plan across the territory. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. It's not seriously impacting us right now in the short term, but we are looking at

the bigger picture and not only us, but there are other stakeholders outside of the government, for example, Inuit organizations are involved. With our action plan, the lack of land availability will impact it. Maybe Ms. Kimball can supplement that. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Definitely, the land issue is a focal point within the blueprint for action. The development of the blueprint for action is a GN-wide initiative. It's being overseen by an ADM committee. For that reason, the fundamental point that we have been trying to make is that Housing can't solve housing alone. Land is definitely a critical path item. We can develop all the homeownership programs, we can have money for public housing, but if we don't have land, we can't move forward.

We are actively engaged. Even though the development of the blueprint for action is ongoing, we are actively working on these issues behind the scenes to resolve them at the same time. We're not waiting for the action plan to come out to move forward. We have been meeting with CGS. We have been talking to communities in preparation for the 2016-17 proposed construction. We're looking at all the communities that have needs of 35 percent and above and trying to make sure we can be proactive in addressing those land concerns. Thank you.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Ms. Kimball for that response.

That was leading right into my next phase of questioning on this. With the Department of Community and Government Services being responsible for municipalities and lands, what type of solutions are being offered?

It's a complicated process. In some communities, there are geographic limitations to land availability. In some communities, it's the development costs. Recently a subdivision here in Iqaluit was delayed by the City of Iqaluit. What type of work is being discussed with Community and Government Services to alleviate some of these challenges? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. We can set up our priorities on land availability. For example, here in Iqaluit, we are constantly working with the housing corporation and the Department of Community and Government Services, the City of Iqaluit and the lands department, and other organizations outside of our responsibility. We will be looking into that too to see if there is land available within the community, then we can have discussions outside of the government, even outside of the city, on what the details of our plans are and rectify these issues.

It's obvious that this is not a new issue; this is not a new concern. To use Iqaluit as an example, in the past months, it has been worked on and I don't think I responded to part of the question. Ms. Kimball can respond to that properly on

the details of the work we have done.
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On June 26, we did hold an interdepartmental consultation on all the issues outlined in the blueprint for action. The goal of that meeting was to make sure we captured all of the known issues that are out there to make sure that it's a part of this issue. As part of that, we identified all the key stakeholders that we need to work with to resolve these issues.

We are in the preliminary stages in investigating all of the facts and the processes around land development. As you know, each of the communities has their sustainable community development plans. Most of them have satellite images outlining the planned use for new development. The missing link is how to get from that plan to actually start taking pieces of the community and start executing that plan.

There are challenges with funding and cash flow. There are numerous challenges as we roll that forward. That's what we're now working on, getting the players at the table and scheduling some additional consultation hopefully later this fall and, if not, definitely in the winter months coming so that we can start a path forward.
Thank you.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister and Ms. Kimball for those responses. I appreciate the work

you guys are doing and I know it's not an easy task ahead of you.

I believe I just have one final question. When we're talking about homeownership programs, it was mentioned also in the chair's opening comments on the residency requirements. While I very much appreciate the amendment to change the financial limitations with regard to eligibility for homeownership programs to recognize reality, I also do have a concern with people being automatically eligible upon landing to some of these programs where a lot of these things are on a first-come, first-served type basis regarding applications.

There are many Nunavummiut that have been here for a long time that are working towards homeownership. I would not like to see applications being denied because the funds are gone in the first three months of the program and half of those people are brand-new to Nunavut. We need people coming to Nunavut to fill the capacity issues that seems every department has in delivering some of their programming.

At the same time, I think there is a component in there where a, I think, 12-month eligibility is still a realistic one to keep. I would like the minister's position [to see] if that's something they're looking at changing in the homeownership program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. That's a good question. Mr. Kuksuk.

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

response to the first question as to which applications were denied due to a lack of funding through the homeownership programs, there has not been one applicant that has been denied due to that.

For the latter part of your question, for example, if a person coming to Nunavut from outside the territory wants to purchase their own home, we have a policy on the residency requirement. If an applicant gets their own home through the NDAP program after receiving funding, they have to live in their home for the first five years according to the policy. If they will not be residing in their home for the first five years, they have to pay back 100 percent of it. I hope that is clear. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) We're on the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Branch Summary. Nunavut Housing Corporation. L-3. (interpretation) Following the list of names, Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, Uqhuqturmiut and all of Nunavut. Welcome, Mr. Minister and your staff.

In your opening statement, this was brought up yesterday on page 5 where it shows the disabilities home options program. Just for clarity for people who own their home and have been looking after their building as they're trying to become homeowners, this will be up to them to transfer the house on their own or are they being forced to give it to a relative? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you

very much. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Hickes (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also would like to thank my colleague for his good question. This is open to the homeowners. If they no longer want to have the responsibility of the unit, if they would like to give the house to a family member, this is totally open and up to the discretion of the homeowner. Thank you.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you for the response. Going on to the chair's opening statement on page 2, it says, "In communities where there is no access to local skilled labour to do repairs..." We have labourers in town that can do the repairs. If they get approved to do the contract to do the repairs, sometimes they're waiting for the funds to come in to do the repairs. Is there a procedure that they can do it before they get the funds to do the repair? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank him again for his good question. Mr. Chairman, in some communities, we lack maintenance workers for the home repair and maintenance programs. If there is no contractor in the community to do repair work due to a lack of maintenance workers, we have identified that we can send in a repair worker to the community through an RFP. Once the

contractor has won the bid, they can be sent to the community.

I can't really remember the latter part of the question. (interpretation ends) I'm sorry I didn't quite get the second part of your question. Can you repeat the other part of the question, please. Thank you.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to give you an example, we have a person that is on disability who is able to walk, but he has to use crutches. A contractor was given a contract to build a ramp at his home. Now he was given a contract, but now he's waiting for funds to start the contract. If that's any clearer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I'll have Ms. Kimball respond to that to explain the policy as to what procedure is used while they're waiting for the funding to start the maintenance work. I don't have that information in front of me, so I'll have Ms. Kimball respond to that. Thank you.

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

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As part of the tendering process for the contractors to do the work, there is usually a schedule of payments as to when the contractors would be eligible to submit their claims. If a contractor has been submitting a claim and is not getting money, I would

encourage the contractor to contact our district office and escalate it accordingly, but we cannot advance funds for work not yet performed. All of the payment terms and conditions would have been outlined in the original tender. Thank you.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the response. I guess the person will now be asking the contractor to do the work and then he can claim what he has done the work for. Thank you.

The Nunavut Housing Corporation's proposed 2016-17 capital estimates include \$12.5 million in funding for new public housing construction. As of today, for the viewing audience, which communities are being considered for the new public housing units? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Under the proposed new construction, we expect that in Arctic Bay, they would construct five units for staff housing and five units under the public housing. In Gjoa Haven, there would be five units allocated for public housing and five staff housing units. In the community of Igloolik, there would be five units allocated for public housing and five units for staff housing. For Kugaaruk, there would be five public housing units and five staff houses. The other communities are Pond Inlet with ten public housing units as well as Nauyasat with ten public housing units and staff

housing. That's the breakdown (interpretation ends) for fiscal 2016-17. Thank you.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Minister. These units that are allocated will be in the communities in the summer of 2016 and built that year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Hickes (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. In fiscal year 2016-17, we would be doing our planning and would be tendering the RFPs to the contractors. Once they open the tendering, we will just follow the schedule that we have for 2016-17. If we're going to start the construction, we expect the materials to arrive in the communities during the sealift season in the 2016-17 fiscal year. I hope that was clear. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just so that I can understand, it will be the summer that the materials will be going to the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) I thank the member. (interpretation ends) No. In the summer of 2016, sealift materials would be in the communities. The construction would begin, let's say, between summer of 2016 and winter of 2017. That's how

we're looking at it. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Nunavut Housing Corporation's current five-year capital plan indicates that its annual capital budget for the construction of new public housing units will increase by \$2.5 million per year for the next five years. The Nunavut Housing Corporation's projected budget for the construction of new public housing units in the 2020-21 fiscal year will be \$22.5 million. How many additional public housing units does the Nunavut Housing Corporation anticipate being able to construct with this annual budget increase? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. To give it a short answer, I would like the person who works on this daily, Ms. Kimball, to answer the question. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If we used today's pricing, because I can't speak for what inflationary factors will impact between now and 2021, we would be able to deliver over 50 units with \$22.5 million. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Nunavut Housing Corporation has indicated that it has developed a needs-based allocation methodology for staff housing. Can you describe how this methodology differs from the Nunavut Housing Corporation's public housing allocation methodology? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The allocation method applies to both public housing units and the NHC staff housing. Since you referred earlier to it and if I am correct in that you mentioned staff housing earlier, the Nunavut Housing Corporation has developed a policy when it comes to the (interpretation ends) private sector (interpretation) construction. Since part of this answer doesn't apply to the question, I will just skip that part for now.

After the entire staff housing issues have been (interpretation ends) analyzed (interpretation) for that community, as we had to take into consideration many factors related to allocation of staff housing, some of the things that we had to consider, for example, were student-teacher ratios, (interpretation ends) forced shared units, and the increased PY count across Nunavut, (interpretation) which is the increasing number of staff members that work for the Nunavut government. The staff vacancies in various government departments were also looked at. People who built their own houses that can be made available for rent or (interpretation ends) the private housing market in each

community (interpretation) were also looked at.

After these factors were analyzed, we looked at the allocation methodology. After all the reviews of each local criterion, we based the allocation of houses on these parameters. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was asking what the difference was with the allocation methodology between the staff housing and public housing allocation. What are the differences? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, if it's for public housing or staff housing, it's the most appropriate method. If there is a big difference in need for staff houses and public houses, I may not be answering your question properly, so I would like Ms. Kimball to completely respond. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For public housing, we look at the waitlist and we compare that to the existing stock as a ratio. We do the same thing. We look at the number of GN vacant positions in each community relative to the amount of staff housing we provide, but in addition to that, we look at those factors that the minister mentioned, things like what expected changes are coming for student-educator ratios, how many units currently are

forced shared, so those are additional units that are needed, what is the GN planning or what are all the departments and agencies planning in terms of additional staffing as we go forward with these budgets. We look at the priority levels of the different positions that are vacant as well. We look at the condition of the marketplace in each community.

One of the things that we are targeting is to build in non-decentralized communities because there is no market that is going to come in and fulfill that need whereas when we get into places like Iqaluit, we generally would not build staff housing; we would rather lease it because the private sector can provide those units. Thank you.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the response. Is there a difference between a needs-based allocation and waitlist? I don't think the waitlist is working. When you're on a waitlist, you're there for five or ten years. All of a sudden, there's somebody homeless with a family or somebody who has left and they don't own a home anymore. That person would somehow all of a sudden become on top of the list, but we have people waiting for five or ten years to get a home. Is there a difference between a needs-based allocation and waitlist? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for that question.

Part of what he's asking, there are many factors in that there are some people who are not at the top of the waiting list that do get units, and he is aware of that. There are different reasons for that happening and that is why you see that happening once in a while. For example, if I'm on a higher line than a different person and that other person gets the house first, there can be many reasons for a family or others being moved up on the list.

What's the difference between the waitlist and the needs-based allocation? I'll have Ms. Kimball respond to that part of the question, if you don't mind, Mr. Chairman. I can't remember part of your question, so I would like Ms. Kimball to respond to that part if that's okay with you, Mr. Chairman. She can respond to (interpretation ends) the second part of your question. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We consider waitlist versus need to be the same thing. We don't use the hard numbers in a waitlist because, for instance, Whale Cove's waitlist is always going to be smaller than Iqaluit's waitlist. What we do is we look at the wait list numbers as a percentage of the existing stock and that equalizes things so that we can priority rank evenly and fairly across the territory.

In this upcoming annual report, you will see that we're publishing each community in one of four categories as greater than 40 percent need, 35 to 40 percent need, 30 to 35 percent need, and less than 30. That is allowing everybody

to see where the different communities fall into.

We are encouraging all of the communities to get the residents to put their names on the waitlist. This helps us champion the cause when we're doing our lobbying efforts for additional funding. The more people we can get coming forward that can legitimately apply for housing, we want to encourage them to do that because it's going to help us advocate for the funding that is desperately needed to address the housing crisis. Thank you.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the response. We do have a lot of people who apply every year. We have been asking and I went on the local radio to make sure everybody applies and puts their name in. The local housing association has also been doing that. These people who have been applying are now frustrated. They don't want to apply anymore. They're tired of applying. That's why I brought this up.

I lost the page I was going to go to next. Yesterday, you guys talked about replacement funds for burnt units. You mentioned that you only replace units that are totally demolished by fire. That's what I heard yesterday. Now, we have some buildings that have been damaged by fire, such as smoke damage. I'm just wondering if that is part of the replacement fund. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. With the replacement funds, those units could be replaced and repaired. It's in the repair and replacement funds.

However, with the other one that he is asking about, I totally agree with him that there is a shortage of housing in Nunavut. Right now, there are over 3,000 families in Nunavut that need housing. There are over 3,000 families that don't have a home that need a home that we need to find for them, but we just don't have enough money to do it for all of them.

We can't fix the problem ourselves. We need to work together on this and we have to work on this as a government. We have to make a lot more considerations and planning for this important issue. That's how NHC looks at this. It's very important. There are over 3,000 families who need homes.

We are planning with the new government in Ottawa and our new MP down there to try and work closely with them. Once we know who the housing minister will be, we will be able to work on homelessness in the north and Nunavut. I'm just adding that in regard to shortage of housing. It is part of what he was asking about.

In short, yes, repairs and replacements can be done through that program, through the money that we have announced that is available through the Fire Damage Replacement Fund. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I couldn't find the page I was looking for, but I'll try and do it by memory. It was on the topic of allocating houses to communities for both public and staff. Now, I read somewhere that you are also somehow buying public housing for staff housing or from the public, personally owned by a company. Are you buying those buildings for staff housing? If you can understand my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Your question is clear. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. On the subject of purchasing privately owned homes that are slotted to be staff housing, if I understood your question, there are different options that we can utilize if we were going to purchase some homes for staff housing. First of all, the Nunavut Housing Corporation would buy a private home (interpretation ends) for staff housing in communities if there are none available for lease. (interpretation) That would be the route that we would take. We would buy privately owned homes to be used for staff housing. To add further, we have been using that system since 2012 and we have five private homes to be used for staff housing.

I hope I responded to your question. We only buy private homes for staff housing purposes if there is no other option. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Minister. Some government

people are in NCC buildings. That's what I was asking about. Are you planning to purchase those buildings from a private company in the future? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. You asked a question about NCC. No, we haven't purchased any homes from the Nunavut Construction Corporation. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In light of the fact that there are still several more people who want to ask questions and the fact that we have other meetings this afternoon, I would like to make a motion to report progress at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) We have a motion on the floor to report progress and that motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion. All those opposed. The motion is carried.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the officials out.

Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) I will now rise to report progress to the Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Moving on. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 3 and the capital estimates, and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Keyootak. The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried.

Going to Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. *Orders of the Day*. Madam Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Deputy Clerk (Ms. Tupik) (interpretation): A reminder to members that at 1:30 this afternoon, there will be a meeting of the Regular Members' Caucus in the Nanuq Boardroom.

Orders of the Day for October 26:

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

8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Responses to Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 1
 - Bill 2
 - Bill 3
 - Bill 6
 - 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

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Monday, October 26, at 1:30 p.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 12:06*

