



**Nunavut Canada**

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**DAY 3**

**Wednesday, March 7, 2018**

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**Iqaluit**

**Speaker: The Honourable Joe Enook, M.L.A.**

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

### *Speaker*

**Hon. Joe Enook**  
(Tununiq)

**Hon. David Akeagok**  
(Quttiktuq)

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

**Tony Akoak**  
(Gjoa Haven)

*Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole*

**Hon. Pat Angnakak**  
(Iqaluit-Niaqunngu)

*Minister of Health; Minister responsible for Seniors' Advocate; Minister responsible for Suicide Prevention*

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak**  
(Cambridge Bay)

*Minister of Justice; Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation; Minister responsible for the Status of Women; Minister responsible for Labour*

**George Hickes**  
(Iqaluit-Tasiluk)

**Hon. David Joanasie**  
(South Baffin)

*Minister of Culture and Heritage; Minister of Education; Minister of Languages; Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College*

**Joelie Kaernerik**  
(Amittuq)

**Mila Kamingoak**  
(Kugluktuk)

**Pauloosie Keyootak**  
(Uqqummiut)

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak**  
(Rankin Inlet South)  
*Minister of Community and Government Services; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation*

**Adam Lightstone**  
(Iqaluit-Manirajak)

**John Main**  
(Arviat North-Whale Cove)

**Simeon Mikkungwak**  
(Baker Lake)  
*Deputy Speaker and Chair of the Committee of the Whole*

**Margaret Nakashuk**  
(Pangnirtung)

**Patterk Netser**  
(Aivilik)

**Emiliano Qirngnuq**  
(Netsilik)

**Hon. Paul Quassa**  
(Aggu)

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

**Allan Rumbolt**  
(Hudson Bay)  
*Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole*

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq**  
(Arviat South)

*Deputy Premier; Minister of Family Services; Minister responsible for Homelessness; Minister responsible for Immigration*

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik**  
(Iqaluit-Sinaa)

*Government House Leader; Minister of Economic Development and Transportation; Minister of Energy; Minister of Environment*

**Cathy Towtongie**  
(Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet)

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut  
Wednesday, March 7, 2018**

**Members Present:**

Hon. David Akeeagok, Mr. Tony Akoak, Hon. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak, Hon. Joe Enook, Mr. George Hickes, Hon. David Joanasie, Mr. Joeline Kaernerck, Ms. Mila Kamingoak, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak, Hon. Lorne Kusugak, Mr. Adam Lightstone, Mr. John Main, Mr. Simeon Mikkungwak, Ms. Margaret Nakashuk, Mr. Patterk Netser, Mr. Emiliano Qirngnuq, Hon. Paul Quassa, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Hon. Joe Savikataaq, Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik, Ms. Cathy Towtongie.

>>*House commenced at 13:31*

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Speaker** (Hon. Joe Enook) (interpretation): Mr. Emiliano, can you say the opening prayer, please.

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Good afternoon, Premier and members. Nunavummiut who are watching the televised proceedings and listening to the radio broadcast, welcome to your Legislative Assembly.

We will proceed to the orders of the day. Ministers' Statements. Premier Quassa.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements****Minister's Statement 004 – 5(1):  
Northern Lights 2018**

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I rise today to inform you on the Government of Nunavut's participation

at the 2018 Northern Lights conference and trade show in Ottawa earlier this year.

Northern Lights is a high-profile business and cultural showcase of Nunavut, Nunavik, and Labrador's Nunatsiavut region held every two years. It is the premier event to feature and promote our northern regions in the south.

This year there was a strong Government of Nunavut contingent to promote economic development, tourism, environment and industry developments in our territory at various conference sessions and trade show events.

Each of our cabinet ministers attended Northern Lights to participate in conference sessions and to capitalize on the opportunity to meet with federal counterparts and key stakeholders while in Ottawa.

(interpretation) In addition to participating on a panel with leadership from Alaska, Greenland, and the three northern Canadian territories, I also delivered a keynote address at a luncheon event. I was also very pleased to meet with my colleagues, Premier Robert McLeod of the Northwest Territories and Premier Sandy Silver of the Yukon, to discuss mutual areas of concern and opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to report that in collaboration with the Northern Lights conference organizers, as Premier of Nunavut, I hosted a unique evening event during the conference, A Nunavut Night in Ottawa.

(interpretation ends) This occasion

proved to be an ideal opportunity to promote the vision of our territory. This event and reception included Aluki Kotierk, President of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, as our guest speaker, along with musical performances, Inuit artists exhibiting their designs, and country food to complement the evening. The evening was very well received by about 600 plus attendees.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating a remarkable team effort in organizing and executing an extraordinary event for our territory. We look forward to the next Northern Lights trade show and conference in 2020. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Education, Minister Joanasie.

### **Minister's Statement 005 – 5(1): Pink Shirt Day in Nunavut**

**Hon. David Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, Nunavummiut and all of my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, fellow members, please join me in underlining the Pink Shirt Day that occurred last week on February 28.

Pink Shirt Day started in 2007, when a grade 9 student in Cambridge, Nova Scotia was bullied by classmates for wearing a pink shirt to school. Taking notice, two students rallied their peers to send a message to the bullies. The next day the halls were filled with students in

pink t-shirts.

Mr. Speaker, as we all know, bullying has negative effects on building and maintaining positive school and community environments. That is why my department and the Government of Nunavut promote this day and that we encourage everyone to wear pink during a day to raise awareness about bullying in our schools and communities.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the actions to prevent and roll back bullying should not be just done once a year. Mr. Speaker, it is constant efforts and vigilance that we all have to demonstrate every day to make sure that our children are safe and are developing positively with different strengths and capabilities to achieve their full potential.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, the Department of Education is proud to support this movement that is also promoted by the Red Cross. Mr. Speaker, it should be noted that this initiative relates closely to the Inuit societal value of *Inuuqatigiitsiarniq*, which means respecting others, relationships, and caring for people.

(interpretation ends) Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I believe every child deserves an education free from discrimination, bullying, harassment, and violence. That is why I applaud all Nunavummiut, schools, and communities and I thank all of my colleagues for wearing pink today that have participated actively in this 2018 Pink Shirt Day. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you.

Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Status of Women, Minister Ehaloak.

**Minister's Statement 006 – 5(1):  
Update on the National Inquiry on  
Missing and Murdered Indigenous  
Women and Girls**

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) First of all, I would like to say “hello” to my constituents in Cambridge Bay. Good afternoon.

Mr. Speaker, as Minister responsible for the Status of Women, I would like to provide an update on the inquiry into missing and murdered indigenous women and girls.

Mr. Speaker, the commission, led by commissioners Qajaq Robinson and Michèle Audette, visited Rankin Inlet and heard testimony from February 19 to 22, 2018. Throughout the week Nunavummiut shared their truths through public and private hearings, artistic expression panels, and through statement gatherers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who initiated the commission's visit to Rankin Inlet and the Nunavummiut who attended the hearings. I recognize them for their courage and strength in participating and sharing their experiences.

Mr. Speaker, those individuals who participated in the hearings will have access to supports through the national inquiry for up to three months following the hearings. I urge all Nunavummiut to reach out to their local support services should they need assistance now or in

the future.

The Government of Nunavut continues to support survivors of family violence as well as the families of missing and murdered Inuit women and girls in Nunavut. We hope that the inquiry will build upon the important work already being done to address family violence and that this process will help Nunavummiut to heal.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of Nunavut is committed to working towards ending violence against women and girls in Nunavut and will continue to work together with local community groups, Inuit organizations, our federal, provincial and territorial counterparts, and the non-governmental sector to address violence against women and seek solutions to create safer homes, families and communities for Nunavummiut. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Culture and Heritage, Minister Joanasie.

**Minister's Statement 007 – 5(1):  
Qilaut Concert**

**Hon. David Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is the third year the Department of Culture and Heritage has run Qilaut, Nunavut's song writing contest in Inuktitut. The program has become a popular tool to actively engage many Nunavummiut in using our language creatively while promoting our culture, our identity, and most importantly our well-being.



Mr. Speaker, Qilaut has allowed emerging artists to gain visibility for their talents in writing and singing in Inuktitut. As a result of winning a place in the contest, some artists have been encouraged to write and share more songs online. Some have even been invited to be featured in concerts and music festivals within the territory and abroad. Some have also recorded their own albums.

Mr. Speaker, in collaboration with the Department of Health, 5,000 copies of the first album were distributed to all mental health facilities in Nunavut. It is used as a resource as many songs are soothing by telling us to not give up as we're never alone.

Mr. Speaker, these are the type of activities that the *Inuit Language Protection Act* encourages us to develop to promote our language. Programs such as Qilaut act as a vehicle of cultural expression, allowing us to be who we are as Inuit and Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, I invite all Members of the Legislative Assembly to attend the Qilaut 2017 CD launch concert on Thursday, March 8, at Inuksuk High School starting at 7:00 p.m. Come support and encourage our young artists who will sing and promote our language and culture in their own words. CDs will be available for free at the concert and from the Department of Culture and Heritage. Please look forward to the concert and singing, which I really enjoy as they sing in our language and culture. Please attend the concert and listen to good music. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Moving on. Members' Statements. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

### Item 3: Members' Statements

#### Member's Statement 030 – 5(1): Qilaut Contest Winners from Constituency

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I will have a short statement to make as I may not have enough items to speak to.

These people were here earlier and I wanted to speak about them. They are Abraham Eetak and Corey Panika. Although I officially haven't recognized them, since they were here, I wanted to speak about the reason why they made the trip here.

Both of these men are extremely talented singers and they are also quite adept at songwriting. Arviarmiut are well known for their musical skills and abilities. This includes artists from Whale Cove and Rankin Inlet who may be discovered for their talent in music as they too are quite artistic and talented.

They were recognized for their superior singing skills through the Qilaut contest offered by the Department of Culture and Heritage, so I congratulate them both. As well, Abraham Agaaqtoq Eetak makes me very proud for the songs that he recorded, to refer to it in English, at a (interpretation ends) recording studio. (interpretation) He was producing songs throughout the past several months, benefiting many local singers.

I further encourage Abraham and his

friend, Corey, to continue the work and dedication to this initiative as they are both very talented. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 031 – 5(1):  
Medical Travel Mishaps**

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to mention that my colleague to my left, Mr. Main, is celebrating his birthday today, so tell him "happy birthday."

>>Applause

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concerns regarding the quality of medical travel services being provided to my constituents.

Mr. Speaker, throughout the holidays and well into this new year, I have been hearing of far too many mix-ups with medical travel for this situation to be considered a simple series of mistakes or miscommunications. Mr. Speaker, there is a systemic failure to provide good services in the area of medical travel.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, patients sent on medical travel to Winnipeg sometimes arrive to the city without an appointment booked or their appointment was rebooked to a different date. As well, when the patients go to the airport for medical travel, the airlines don't have their reservations, although they were informed the day before that their travel is booked for the next flight.

When they arrive at the airport, many patients don't have their names listed on the reservations. These patients are then forced to call the medical travel office to find out their status. Usually they call the contact numbers listed for the Department of Health. This highlights the inadequacy of the medical travel process, which we have to resolve.

Further, when patients are trying to travel home, I have personal experience in this area. One of our relatives was scheduled to travel home. He had spent quite a while in Winnipeg and on his scheduled date, he went to the airline ticket counter where his name was not even on the list. This continues to happen repeatedly, which is improper usage of the huge amounts of funding we spend on medical travel under the Department of Health.

This type of scheduling problem leads to further expenses due to travel logistics and lack of reservations, with additional costs created by these issues. At the appropriate time I will have questions directed to the Minister of Health. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet South, Mr. Kusugak.

**Member's Statement 032 – 5(1):  
Inquiry into Missing and  
Murdered Indigenous Women and  
Girls**

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to my constituents in Rankin Inlet. Please have a good day. It is good that the daylight has come back and we can go fishing now. We will see you all

pretty soon.

This was mentioned earlier and I want to mention it too. The National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls was in Rankin Inlet recently. Laura Mackenzie did some very important work on this and I would like to thank her.

This has affected so many people, including myself. I lost a sister. This helped a lot of the people who spoke there and the people who came to listen there, even those who did not go there. Many people have lost their sisters, mothers, daughters, aunts, and even grandmothers. Too many people have lost those and it has to stop.

I encourage the commissioners to continue their work. There are so many more stories that need to be heard. Thank you for coming to Rankin Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Ms. Towtongie.

**Member's Statement 033 – 5(1):  
Qaggiavut Productions Visits  
Rankin Inlet with Kiviuq Returns**

**Ms. Towtongie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to acknowledge the following people, as I received a letter from Ellen Hamilton about two young people in Rankin Inlet, specifically Rico Manitoq and Christine Tootoo, who provided immense help in travelling to 11 communities with Kiviuq. They were part of the

“Qaggiavut” troupe and I wanted to acknowledge their abilities here. They travelled to the Baffin, Kivalliq and Kitikmeot regions.

There were also elders involved, whom I wish to recognize, as they provided assistance on identifying artefacts, stir sticks, and traditional songs that they taught to the participants. They are Natashia Allakariallak from Iqaluit, Charlie Panipak from Iqaluit, Jerry Laisa from Pangnirtung, Trisha Ogina from Cambridge Bay, Rico Manitoq and Christine Tootoo from Rankin Inlet.

I also want to mention Corey Panika, as I am very proud of him. You may have heard about the three men who drowned on a Bombardier and he was the sole survivor of that tragic event. As well, Abraham Eetak, I am glad you are both here today.

Further, with your indulgence, I have never received a letter from an elder before and I recently received a letter this morning from a Chesterfield Inlet elder, Eli Kimmaliardjuk. He wanted me to convey his message to my colleagues, as he is an elder. He stated, “Please hear me, younger people, as the company that travels to communities for eyeglasses, Polar Vision, went to Chesterfield Inlet.” He tried to get an appointment for his eyes, as he has been an elder for many years, but he was told that he couldn't get an appointment due to unavailability.

This elder wants the MLAs to hear his concern about why Polar Vision is sent to the communities when one can't get an appointment. Every time they arrive and, as he is elderly, he has tried to schedule an appointment, but he has never gotten an appointment. They are

only in Chesterfield Inlet for a short period, and then they leave as soon as they are done their list.

Since the elder is a unilingual Inuk who can't speak English, he hasn't been able to get an appointment. He would like a different company other than Polar Vision to get the next contract for Nunavut.

If you want to contact Eli Kimmaliardjuk, his phone number is 867-898-9120. I was kind of intimidated because he's an elder and I have never received a letter from an elder before, so I recognize him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Before I proceed, let me remind you that when you're making a statement under Members' Statements, please stick to one topic because you're not allowed to talk about different subjects. Please make your statements about one topic. That's just a reminder.

Let me proceed with Members' Statements. Member for Gjoa Haven, Mr. Akoak.

**Member's Statement 034 – 5(1):  
Recognition of Miriam Aglukkaq  
and the Cast and Crew of Kiviuq  
Returns**

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize one of my constituents from Gjoa Haven who seems to be tireless in helping out the community of Gjoa Haven and also for all Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Miriam Aglukkaq is many things to the residents of Gjoa

Haven: an educator, a storyteller, a language activist, and much more. Recently Ms. Aglukkaq shared her wealth of creative and traditional knowledge with all of Nunavut through her work with the show *Kiviuq Returns*.

Mr. Speaker, the cast and crew of *Kiviuq Returns* have recently completed their tour of 11 communities across the territory. During their tour, the team taught performing arts workshops to hundreds of youth in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, these types of initiatives help our youth to witness firsthand the broad range of experiences that the world has to offer. By showing our youth the power of storytelling within the performing arts, the cast and crew is inspiring more young Inuit to pursue interests and possibly even careers in Nunavut's growing cultural industry.

Mr. Speaker, this tour marked the first of its kind in Nunavut. I hope to see this team take on that task again in the near future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Ms. Miriam Aglukkaq and the rest of the cast and crew of *Kiviuq Returns* for their contributions to Nunavut's youth and performing arts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 035 – 5(1):  
Tuberculosis Screening in  
Qikiqtarjuaq**

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I get to my statement, I would like to make an announcement and for you to join me in celebrating the fact that I got a new grandson at nine o'clock this morning.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the efforts being made by our government, especially the Department of Health, to tackle the threat of tuberculosis in the community of Qikiqtarjuaq.

Mr. Speaker, tuberculosis is a disease that has affected the lives of Inuit in many ways. Tuberculosis has not only damaged our health and threatened our lives, but our families and our history have also been greatly impacted by this disease.

In the past far too many people were taken from their homes and sent far away for testing and for treatment. It is very reassuring to have a major screening program take place in the community, reaching out to everyone to come forward and be tested, and not requiring anyone to leave their homes and families.

Mr. Speaker, even though a community-wide screening program has been held in Qikiqtarjuaq, it must be recognized that there is tuberculosis in many Nunavut communities. It is very important that we all pay attention to our health.

Mr. Speaker, I am hopeful that new

developments in medicine and treatment will make it possible to eliminate tuberculosis altogether. At the appropriate time I will have questions for the minister on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Member's Statement 036 – 5(1):  
Pangaggujjiniq 2018 Nunavut  
Quest**

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now, as Inuit, we depend on *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* and we have fought for its recognition, as well as taking pride in our traditional Inuit cultural practices, which should be that way as we are from Nunavut.

I just want to inform my colleagues and Nunavummiut that this upcoming spring the annual Nunavut Quest for Inuit dogsled teams will again be running in April, I believe, as they generally start in that month. The Nunavut Quest will leave Igloolik and travel up to Pond Inlet, and I take great pride in this event.

Obviously Inuit dog teams were intrinsically part of our forefathers' culture and I, too, grew up when dog teams were the only mode of transportation for travelling on the land. We also know that our ancestors would travel great distances via dog teams. This cultural practice is still undertaken, which is a great source of pride for me.

As well, I wanted to inform my colleagues and Nunavummiut about the upcoming Nunavut Quest. Although I don't have the exact dates, once the date

is set, we will be provided the updated information from the race. I wanted to share this news on behalf of the residents of Igloodik and I want my colleagues to share in my joy for this event. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Please make sure to go up to Pond Inlet to see the arrival of the dog teams.

>> *Applause*

Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Manirajak, Mr. Lightstone.

**Member's Statement 037 – 5(1):  
Nunavut's Reliance on Fossil Fuels**

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I rise to voice my concern over Nunavut's almost complete reliance on fossil fuels for power generation, transportation, and heating.

It is these fossil fuels that we're burning on a daily and constant basis that is contributing to climate change. Climate change is a global crisis, but it is already being felt here at home. We've had quite a mild fall and I believe we just had the warmest February in history.

Now, I have mentioned this time and time again that if we don't act now, it's going to be our children and grandchildren who will be suffering the consequences.

Now, I would also like to recognize that there are some organizations here in Nunavut that are taking the initiative and doing what they can to mitigate climate change. I would like to state that the

Qikiqtani Inuit Association is building a hotel here in Iqaluit and it's quite a large hotel as well.

Now, the QIA is actually taking some steps in the right direction in that they're incorporating solar and wind turbines into the construction of their hotel and they're estimating to produce 50 percent of their own power consumption.

Now, I'm hoping that our government will follow suit and move in the same direction in reducing our carbon footprint. At the appropriate time I will be raising more questions on the topic. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Member's Statement 038 – 5(1):  
Municipal Elections Results in  
Constituency**

**Hon. David Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At the end of October not only did we have a general election but there were also elections at the hamlet level.

For South Baffin, I will start from the new mayor in Cape Dorset, Timoon Toonoo, and the councillors are Aningmiuq Samayualie, Atsia Alaasua, Chris Pudlat, Jimmy Manning, and Mary Laisa.

The newly elected mayor of Kimmirut is Ningeolaa Killiktee, who is probably the youngest mayor in Nunavut, and the councillors are Matto Michael, Akulujuk Judea, and Maliktoo Lyta.

We have to rely and work closely

together with the mayors and their councils in the smaller communities, and I urge the members to work very closely with the elected officials of their communities.

I will work closely with the mayors and councils of Cape Dorset and Kimmirut because they're there to serve the people and also to make the community run. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Let's proceed with the orders of the day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. There are none. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Cambridge Bay, Ms. Ehaloak.

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

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Today I would like to recognize my children and my son and grandson, who came all the way from Cambridge Bay and Rankin Inlet. This is an opportunity that without their love and support, I wouldn't be here today; my son Kenneth and my grandson Calvin. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Joanasie.

**Hon. David Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During

Ministers' Statements, I recognized and acknowledged the Qilaut contest winners of 2017. They are here, so I would like to recognize them. Some of them weren't able to make it to Iqaluit, but we have the winners here in the House and they are:

Leetia Kalluk.

>>Applause

One who unfortunately could not come but also a Qilaut winner is Joey Nowyuk, and Abraham Eetak from Arviat.

>>Applause

Corey Panika.

>>Applause

Angela Amarualik.

>>Applause

Colleen Nakashuk.

>>Applause

Unfortunately not able to make it but also a Qilaut winner is Gordon Kaniak.

>>Applause

Joshua Haulli is here.

>>Applause

And (interpretation ends) last but not least, Monica Qattalik.

>>Applause

(interpretation) Please feel welcome in

the House.

I would also like to recognize my staff from the Department of Culture and Heritage and they are: Elizabeth Roberts Allakariallak.

>>Applause

Tocasia Burke.

>>Applause

And Saa Pitsiulak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. I'm very pleased that we will be hearing beautiful music once again. Welcome to the gallery.

Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.  
Member for Aggu, Mr. Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As this is the first time that I'm recognizing visitors, although they were already recognized, Angela Amarualik, welcome, Joshua Haulli, and Monica Qattalik. They are from my community and I'm very proud of them. They arrived just yesterday, so I'm recognizing them today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm just going to briefly mention the two

individuals that I talked about earlier, Abraham Eetak and Corey Panika. Sometimes I think of myself as a rock star, but I am humbled that we have some real rock stars here today.

>>Laughter

I would just like to welcome them to the Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Akeeagok.

**Hon. David Akeeagok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to recognize someone who asked me some good questions at a campaign meeting. She is a young person whom I am proud of and thankful to. She was the first place winner. I am very happy for Leetia Kalluk's parents as well. Welcome to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names on my list. For those who were mentioned in the House and not mentioned, please be welcome to the gallery. I welcome everyone to their Legislative Assembly. Let's proceed. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Keyootak.

### Item 6: Oral Questions

#### Question 013 – 5(1): Tuberculosis Screening

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank



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

Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned in my Member's Statement, the Department of Health has been working very hard to complete a community-wide tuberculosis screening program in the community of Qikiqtarjuaq.

Can the minister provide an update on the progress of the tuberculosis screening program in Qikiqtarjuaq to date? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Pat Angnakak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The team has been in Qikiqtarjuaq for quite some time now doing tuberculosis screening. They have been there since the beginning of February and the team has been there to date. The screening is ongoing. They rotate at times. There are specialists up there who are doing the screening and the team will be up there until about the end of March. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is very clear that tuberculosis does not just exist in Qikiqtarjuaq, even though this community has certainly been deeply affected by the disease. Can the minister indicate what plans are in place for other Nunavut communities to have tuberculosis screening programs implemented and when they will take place? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you.

Minister Angnakak.

**Hon. Pat Angnakak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are 25 communities in Nunavut and we know of the 17 communities that are experiencing tuberculosis outbreaks. Even though there are 25 communities, we know that there are 17 communities that have patients. We do have nurses that deal with tuberculosis and they will keep testing.

The tuberculosis screening program in Qikiqtarjuaq cost over \$1 million and we get funding from the federal government, which we appreciate very much. I know that it's very difficult and we're looking at how complicated it is. That's why it can't move to another community immediately. Perhaps in the month of August or September is when we can roll the screening program out to another community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the past the identification and treatment of tuberculosis often led to very difficult experiences for Inuit and their families. Can the minister describe some of the ways in which tuberculosis is being treated these days and what people might expect if the disease is identified in themselves or in a member of their family? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Angnakak.

**Hon. Pat Angnakak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Tuberculosis has had a negative impact on some people and patients. Some people mistakenly believe you can get TB by being too close to an infected person, which isn't true. You are correct in saying that patients with TB used to be sent out in the past. Today we do send patients out in extreme cases, but the number of patients with tuberculosis has decreased dramatically. We will work on this and educate the public in regard to tuberculosis in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Pangnirtung, Ms. Nakashuk.

#### **Question 014 – 5(1): Pangnirtung Airport**

**Ms. Nakashuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

I want to revisit the issue of relocating Pangnirtung's airport and the minister's responses to my questions that I asked her yesterday.

Yesterday I had asked the minister what the Department of Economic Development and Transportation estimates will be the cost of relocating Pangnirtung's airport from its current location.

Her response to me was the cost would be only \$8.6 million, which seems to be very low. Can the minister clarify on this figure that was stated as that? Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for the question. I was planning to make a correction on my statement tomorrow. What I mentioned was just for engineering (interpretation ends) for Pangnirtung Airport relocating. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Nakashuk** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) I am very pleased that the Pangnirtung Airport relocation project has been submitted to the federal government for funding consideration under the new National Trade Corridors Fund, and I thank the minister for her support.

Would the minister be willing to share a copy of the actual application with the Municipality of Pangnirtung and me as the community's MLA? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I can definitely provide that copy. Thank you.

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

**Ms. Nakashuk** (interpretation): Thank

you. In June of 2017 the Legislative Assembly approved \$529,000 in capital carryover funding for the Pangnirtung Airport relocation project. Can the minister provide an update on how that money has been spent? Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik**

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize, I cannot respond to the member, so I'll take the question as notice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. If I understand the minister, the question was taken as notice. Moving on. Oral Questions. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Netser.

**Question 015 – 5(1): Medical Travel Mishaps**

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated in my member's statement earlier today, I addressed the issue of poor medical travel services for my constituents. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health.

Can the minister confirm that she is aware of the costs of mistakes and miscommunication that are occurring with respect to medical travel in the Kivalliq region? That's my first question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Pat Angnakak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I am aware of it and you have informed me of it. I have seen emails telling me about

the problem and I have also received correspondence. I, too, don't like that. I know about it and I can tell you that I do not agree with it and it's not acceptable. There is a review occurring on how we can manage it better. This review was initiated quite some time ago before I became a minister.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the problems aren't just in one area. I agree that we have problems when it comes to the travel, accommodations, escorts, appointments, and that's why we're in the middle of doing a comprehensive review as we speak. It will take some time to figure this out. It's not an easy thing that we can just fix overnight. It's very complex. It involves lots of people and lots of entities. It's just not in the Kivalliq; we also have problems in the Qikiqtaaluk region and the Kitikmeot. In saying so, even though we're going through a comprehensive review, we can still address problems as they come up on a daily basis, which I think that my staff are working very hard to do.

We have some real challenges when it comes to the Kivalliq region. For example, we don't have a boarding home there. I acknowledge that and it's something that I raised with the indigenous services minister when I met with her last month. She was aware of it because, previous to my tenure as a minister, the last minister, Mr. Hickes, had initiated a review to be done in the Kivalliq region to look at the merits of having a boarding home in the Rankin Inlet region. I think most of us would all agree that we need one there and it's something that I also brought up with the minister. She seemed to be very receptive to it, so I'm hoping that soon we will be hearing some positive news

on that.

I just want to add that the department holds regular meetings with the different partners we have, whether it be dealing with airline tickets, whether it would be dealing with hotels or accommodation at Larga or the boarding home in Winnipeg. We have regular meetings to address these concerns that come up.

Lastly we really want to improve the services. We have made strides to hire more people to work at the medical travel office. We have tried to promote as much as we can the patient relations office, which I think all of you have received reminders from me that when any of your constituents have a problem with medical travel, there is an office to call and they will investigate.

We are trying at all different ways. I know that as the minister, there is a problem and it's going to take some time because I just don't have that magic wand. If I had that magic wand, then I could fix everything right away, but it will take time because we're dealing with complex issues. We're dealing with patients and their care. We're dealing with airlines. We're dealing with different partners that run hotels or boarding homes. It's not easy just to say, "This is the one thing we're going to do to fix the problem." Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) It's comforting to know that the minister's response was that she thinks her staff is addressing issues as they are identified.

The minister mentioned that they're reviewing the medical travel portion. It seems like everything is in review, review, we're reviewing. When will this review be done? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Angnakak.

**Hon. Pat Angnakak**: Thank you, *Uqaqtittijii*. You're right. It reminds me of myself when I was a regular member. I hated everybody saying that there is a review, but unfortunately with this one, we really do need that review. It is big and there are a lot of problems. I expect that review to be done by next year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I thank you for the response, minister. Mr. Speaker, I recognize that organizing and delivering medical travel services is a complex task. I don't deny that, Mr. Speaker. However, medical travel is a very costly service. (interpretation) It's a very costly service for us because a lot of money is expended. (interpretation ends) We cannot afford to waste precious dollars through mistakes and miscommunication, which is always the case here.

Will the minister commit to analyzing how much these mistakes have cost us to date and to making the necessary changes to improve this service? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Angnakak.

**Hon. Pat Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't think I could commit to something like that quite yet, but these mistakes are something that are ones we don't want to make too. I'm not sure in the review if it's going to address some of those areas and I'm hoping that they will look at the missed appointments.

I just want to remind the members that sometimes the missed appointments, it's not always because somebody didn't tell a patient that they had an appointment and then they show up and there's no appointment. Sometimes patients themselves don't go to appointments.

It's not just one way; there are many reasons why some of these appointments are missed. This is something that the department is looking at. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Netsilik, Mr. Qirngnuq.

**Question 016 – 5(1): Status of Kugaaruk School Replacement**

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

Mr. Speaker, this month is the anniversary of the loss of Kugaaruk's school to fire. The people of Kugaaruk greatly appreciate the government's quick response to this terrible situation.

Can the minister provide an update on his department's progress in replacing the school in Kugaaruk? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Education, Minister Joanasie.

**Hon. David Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank him for the question. In the community I represent, we had also lost a school to fire. I experienced that myself and it was an unfortunate event.

The government made an urgent project, as we are aware that the students need to go to school. We had an emergency project working with Community and Government Services. The funding was identified right away, starting with a \$10 million capital supplementary appropriation to start construction right away and for them to be able to order the materials through sealift.

Additionally, through the Department of Education, there were temporary classrooms that we wanted to put up at a cost of \$6 million. There's an ongoing project to date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. My colleagues, before you move forward, I would like to recognize a former MLA while she's here. Manitok Thompson, welcome to the House.

>> *Applause*

Your first supplementary, Mr. Qirngnuq.

**Mr. Qirngnuq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There have been some concerns that the damaged foundations of the school which burned down in Kugaaruk pose health risks to the community. Can the minister describe what steps have been taken to ensure that there is no contamination or health risk to the

community of Kugaaruk from the burned out foundations of the destroyed school? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

**Hon. David Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We collaborate with Community and Government Services if there's going to be a construction project for the government, including the assessment of the foundation to ensure that it is properly set up. That is the usual practice and we usually work collaboratively with Community and Government Services on these projects.

I can't really speak to how much involvement the Department of Education had or whether concerns were raised. If a concern exists for this issue, I will take that question back to the department and discuss the matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Qirngnuq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The people of Kugaaruk do not want any community to have to experience what they have gone through with the loss of their school. Can the minister clarify what steps his department is taking to prevent this kind of disaster from happening to other schools in the future? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

**Hon. David Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for that very good question. I, too, had concerns about that matter when the school burned down in Cape Dorset.

With respect to his question, what I can state here is that if we make plans for building a new school, any access to the space under the schools should be closed off so that no one can go underneath. This concern was taken into consideration since any fire set underneath the building would result in the whole building burning down. Most fires that start in that area have that result. This has been noted.

Further, the fencing will go around the building to block access to that area. This has been assessed in other places as well, and Community and Government Services has made a note of the concerns of the Department of Education related to schools throughout Nunavut as well as to Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Question 017 – 5(1): Marine Infrastructure**

**Mr. Lightstone**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Last year the Legislative Assembly approved \$15.0 million in funding for the two major new marine infrastructure projects in Iqaluit and Pond Inlet. As the minister is aware, the federal government is funding a significant

portion of these projects under the New Building Canada Fund.

Last week the 2018 federal budget was introduced in Parliament. CBC News has reported that certain amounts that were previously earmarked for northern infrastructure initiatives will now be deferred.

For the record, can the minister confirm that the federal funding for the Iqaluit and Pond Inlet marine infrastructure projects remains on schedule? Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik**

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr.

Speaker. I can't respond to that question, as we haven't received any information pertaining to those projects from the Department of Finance, although we have heard that a statement was made. Regarding the details, the cabinet hasn't had a discussion on the potential effects. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Lightstone**: Thank you. Hopefully we still have the funds available there to build the much-needed marine infrastructure.

Now onto my next question, on February 23, 2018 the government issued its request for tenders for the two new marine infrastructure projects in Iqaluit and Pond Inlet. The tender closes on March 28, 2018. In reviewing the

specifications for the Iqaluit project, I note that there are a number of references to relocating or removing and disposing of a number of "shoreline shacks" that are presently located near the breakwater.

It's commonly known that many homeless people live in those shacks. Can the minister describe what steps her department has taken to work with people who may be impacted by the removal or relocation of these shacks? Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik**

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr.

Speaker. I, too, have concerns about them, as I worked really hard on the Iqaluit breakwater project. What I can state today in relation to the shacks' removal is that we aren't the only department involved. CGS is involved as we are collaborating on resolving the shack issues. We are also conducting a survey of the homeless people to work on resolving this matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Lightstone**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In reviewing the tender documents for the Iqaluit and Pond Inlet marine infrastructure projects, I note that the government has prescribed a minimum level of Inuit labour of 15 percent. Can the minister clarify how the government determined that that was the appropriate level of Inuit content for the two projects? Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When major projects are being planned, they are given to CGS. That's the usual practice. CGS deals with major projects. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Ms. Towtongie.

**Question 018 – 5(1): Marine Infrastructure**

**Ms. Towtongie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Unfortunately I made a mistake earlier, but I thank you.

My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

One of the priorities that are contained in Chesterfield Inlet's integrated community infrastructure sustainability plan is the importance of moving forward towards establishing a deep sea port for the community.

When I met with the hamlet council, they stated that Chesterfield Inlet is right in the middle of the Kivalliq coast that ships pass by. I think that you will all recall that when the ships were on their way to Baker Lake, the lake had beluga. That's why this is so important.

(interpretation ends) The Department of Economic Development and Transportation administers the Community Transportation Initiatives Program, which provides funding to municipalities for a variety of projects

related to community access roads and marine infrastructure.

Can the minister confirm whether or not the Community Transportation Initiatives Program can provide funding to municipalities for the purpose of conducting feasibility studies for such things as new ports and harbours? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to understand the question more clearly. Which program is she referring to? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Towtongie, please clarify your question. Ms. Towtongie.

**Ms. Towtongie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's the (interpretation ends) Community Transportation Initiatives Program. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm sorry, but I don't have the information. I can respond partially, but since I want to answer it properly, I will take the question as notice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik has taken the question as notice. I'll move on. Oral



Questions. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Kaerner.

**Question 019 – 5(1): Marine Infrastructure**

**Mr. Kaerner:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

One of the priorities that are contained in Hall Beach's community infrastructure sustainability plan is the need for a new breakwater and community wharf. This type of marine infrastructure would help to protect the community's boats.

The Department of Economic Development and Transportation administers the Community Transportation Initiatives Program.

Can the minister confirm that such projects as new breakwaters and wharfs are eligible for funding under this program? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik**

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be dedicating myself to this issue as ports are very important in Nunavut. When the port for Pangnirtung was built, it was done through (interpretation ends) the Department of Fisheries and Oceans' (interpretation) partnership on the strategy in the past. However, the rest of the identified communities haven't had their projects moved forward.

I have continued to voice that in Canada the ports only exist from coast to coast without including the largest coast, which would make it a complete coast to coast to coast. I will be working extremely hard on that issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Kaerner** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister. (interpretation ends) It is the responsibility of municipalities to apply for funding under the Department of Economic Development and Transportation's Community [Transportation] Initiatives Program. Can the minister confirm when this year's call letter for applications will be sent to municipalities for projects to be funded during the 2018-19 fiscal year? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik**

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we have funding available within the government. It will be available and the smaller communities are always informed of this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Kaerner** (interpretation): Thank you, minister. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Will the minister commit to tabling a copy of this year's call letter in the Legislative Assembly so that all the MLAs are aware of its contents? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we will provide a copy of the call letter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 020 – 5(1): Household Allowance**

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to follow up on one of my colleagues' questions yesterday, but I'm going to go at it from the Minister of Finance side of things.

Yesterday the issue was raised on the housing allowance for Government of Nunavut staff. Back in 2008 it was reported that the NEU, or Nunavut Employees Union, put the staff rent issue on the table because it was such an important component.

When I look at the main estimates, I have a little bit of difficulty locating where this line item is located. My initial question to the Minister of Finance would be: first of all, where is the line item of this project located? Secondly, how many current recipients and expenditures are there from the Government of Nunavut? Thank you.

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

**Hon. David Akeeagok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) For the household allowance, the number of recipients that are currently

receiving it are 1,036 employees. As to where in the line items that is reflected in there, it would be reflected as part of the salaries in that line item. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that information. When this program was rolled out April 1, 2009, nine years ago, basically at that point it became an issue of discovering what amount was applicable. There has been a call for a review.

The Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation yesterday stated, and I quote from the *Blues*, "The housing corporation and the Department of Finance have ongoing discussions on possible improvements and areas such as benefits that would have to be massaged if this initiative moves forward. The work is ongoing. Once we have news to report, we will be tabling them."

Mr. Speaker, when will this evaluation be completed, shared, and tabled? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Akeeagok.

**Hon. David Akeeagok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) As my colleague from the Nunavut Housing Corporation mentioned, this is as part of the blueprint for action item and it is one item amongst a lot of items that are in that blueprint. This is one of the critical ones that relates to our employees. I don't have a firm timeline, but once that is done as part of this overall review, as each of these action

items are coming forth as part of the blueprint, which is a very comprehensive review not just for staff housing but for all of housing, if this is one component of it, we want to make appropriate actions towards these. I don't have the firm timelines on specifically for the housing allowance. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I look forward to some progress on that with some timelines.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to quote from the Department of Finance housing allowance section where it states that "The Household Allowance is a subsidy of \$400 per month...available on a per household basis. It is available to all eligible indeterminate and term employees of the GN, a Public Agency or the Legislative Assembly...who are not already receiving a similar allowance."

Mr. Speaker, when I look at the collective agreement article 51.01, it says, "Where the Employer anticipates the period of temporary employment to be in excess of four (4) months, the employee shall be appointed on a term basis and shall be entitled to all provisions of the Collective Agreement from the first day of his/her employment."

Mr. Speaker, we have a number of CSA appointments within this government, I think, at the last count, approximately 900, some for many years. When is the Department of Finance going to follow their own agreements and properly

provide this benefit to all eligible employees of the government? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Akeeagok.

**Hon. David Akeeagok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Our government follows the procedures that we have when it comes to casual staffing actions. It is up to four months and it depends on how those casuals are being done.

As you mentioned, some of them have been casuals for quite a long time and some of our employees choose to do that. Whenever there is to be an extension and when it applies to the Nunavut Employees Union, we do have to ask for requests for extensions on a number of these. There are justifications provided for each of our positions. That is one that we follow and something that we are trying to address when it comes to the number of casual staffing and something that we will continue to work towards. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 021 – 5(1): Possible Amendments to the Western Canada Lottery Act**

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

Mr. Speaker, in 2014 the Canada Revenue Agency informed the Government of the Northwest Territories

that if its lottery continues to be operated under the Concern Canada Lottery Corporation, then the proceeds of that lottery could be subject to taxation.

Mr. Speaker, in response, the GNWT has introduced legislation to repeal and replace its existing *Western Canada Lottery Act*. This new legislation will bring the operation of the lottery directly under the GNWT's Department of Municipal and Community Affairs and therefore avoid the possibility of taxation.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister clarify if Nunavut's lottery is currently operated under the Concern Canada Lottery Corporation and, if so, can the minister clarify if he plans to introduce similar legislation to repeal and replace Nunavut's *Western Canada Lottery Act*? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for asking that question. We will have to review the details of this lottery commission before I can respond to that, to see if there have been any changes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Akoak**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The GNWT Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs has stated that it plans to create a "Northwest Territories Lottery Commission." She has also stated that this commission will "enter into an agreement with the Government

of Nunavut to conduct and manage the Western Canada Lottery within Nunavut."

Can the minister clarify if the Government Nunavut is planning to establish its own lottery commission and, if not, why not? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this question as notice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The minister has taken the question as notice. I will proceed to the next member. Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

#### **Question 022 – 5(1): Unlawful Property Forfeiture Act**

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Before I get to my question, Nunavut is connected online these days, just to explain what I'm going to be asking.

Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Minister of Justice.

Mr. Speaker, bootleggers and drug dealers cause significant harm to our communities, which is why I was very proud to have worked closely with my colleagues in the previous Legislative Assembly to pass the new *Unlawful Property Forfeiture Act*, which received assent on March 14, 2017, almost a year ago.

Although this important new legislation creates new tools for the government to use to combat such illegal activities as bootlegging and drug dealing, the government has not yet brought the law into force.

Can the minister clarify what the new government's timetable is for bringing the *Unlawful Property Forfeiture Act* into force? Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank my colleague for the question. You're right, Bill 19, *Unlawful Property Forfeiture Act*, was introduced in June of 2016 and passed in March of 2017.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Justice is preparing necessary job descriptions, department reorganizations, and policies and regulations in order to open the forfeiture office. It is estimated that it will take six months to a year to have the necessary work done to establish this forfeiture office. The office will be made up of a legally trained director and one or two caseworkers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The *Unlawful Property Forfeiture Act* provides for the establishment of a new office to deal with the civil forfeiture of property, which the minister has identified a director and a couple of employees, to

acquire through such unlawful activity as bootlegging or dealing drugs. Can the minister describe the progress regarding her department has established in this new office and where it may be located? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ehaloak.

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time I don't have the information for you, but my department is working diligently on setting up the job descriptions and the positions, as I described. I know that our counterparts, the Yukon and the NWT, are also working on their Unlawful Forfeiture Acts. My department and my staff will be reviewing those job descriptions and possibly finding office space for this department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Section 33 of the *Unlawful Property Forfeiture Act* provides for the creation of a new special fund called the "Forfeiture Fund." The purpose of this fund is to provide support to community wellness programs and other recipients. Can the minister describe what progress her department has made in drafting the new regulations under this Act that are required to bring this fund into operation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ehaloak.

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My department is currently working on rewriting legislation. A lot

of our legislation was adopted from the NWT when we became a territory. One of the things that we will be reviewing is the legislation itself. At this point I don't have the information for you, but I will get back to you if the minister accepts my... . Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

### **Question 023 – 5(1): Devolution**

**Mr. Main:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Premier.

Signing a devolution agreement, also known as the Holy Grail, with the federal government has been an objective of every territorial government in Nunavut since 1999.

The current business plan of the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs indicates that the federal government appointed a new chief negotiator in July of 2016 and that the GN's own timetable for devolution negotiations has a goal of reaching an agreement in principle (AIP) during the 2017-18 fiscal year.

Mr. Speaker, the 2017-18 fiscal year comes to an end in about three weeks. Can the Premier update the House on the status of devolution negotiations with the federal government and NTI? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Premier of Nunavut, Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank my colleague for asking about

that. Please note that I'll respond in English as he was speaking in English.

(interpretation ends) Again, first of all, I'm very pleased that the Government of Canada has shown a strong commitment to negotiating an agreement in principle. Certainly an agreement in principle is very important for securing a good decision-making authority for Nunavummiut. I just wanted to reiterate that. Again, I have been briefed on the devolution file by our chief negotiator. Of course we fully support the progress that they have made.

The parties are now at the negotiating table in Ottawa as we speak. Certainly there are some areas that they will be dealing with, in particular two areas: financial requirements and the geographical scope of the agreement. Certainly the gap is significant and will involve difficult negotiations.

Again, the parties did agree to the main tabled draft schedule for the remainder of the 2018 calendar year. That's where we are right now, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

**Mr. Main:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Premier for his response. He mentioned significant gaps. I wonder if he could elaborate further on that term. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated earlier, where we have the most gap is in

the financial requirements. It's evident that the federal government has quite a lot of staff that are working on this file. We do have to talk about the PYs. Those are the two main issues we are dealing with. I'm sure, for example, petroleum products, oil and gas, and so on have not been discussed and therefore not completed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the (interpretation ends) Premier (interpretation) for his proper response. Yes, I believe that we have to take our time in order to arrive at a level that we're comfortable with because devolution is something that will have an effect on Nunavut for maybe 20 to 50 years. We have to look into the future. He also indicated that they're talking about the PYs.

If we are going to come to an agreement in principle, it has to be adjusted to Nunavut as we need to have an agreement that is properly set up and not rush in approving the files submitted for our review and immediately sign off on them. (interpretation ends) My concern is that a bad devolution deal would be worse than no devolution deal for Nunavut, Mr. Speaker. There are so many issues that we have as a government without additional responsibilities that would be given to us under a devolution agreement.

For example, the government's most recent quarterly employment report indicates that over 25 percent of the GN's jobs are vacant. However, a big part of any devolution deal would see us

taking on significant, new responsibilities in the area of land and resource management. If we carry that on... I will get to the point, Mr. Speaker. Thank you. We need to recognize that filling this capacity gap by transferring a significant number of current federal employees to the GN would likely have a negative impact on our own goals of achieving higher Inuit employment in the public service.

It's for these types of reasons that I favour an approach to devolution that is at a slower pace, not rushed or driven by artificial timetables. Do the Premier and our new government share my position? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated earlier, for example, we want to arrive at the best agreement in principle. It's not that simple. I'll switch to English. (interpretation ends) Securing a good deal is in the best interest of Canada and Nunavut and is the priority of the Government of Nunavut. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Question 024 – 5(1): Driver's Licences**

**Mr. Rumbolt**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

I want to revisit the issue of driver's licences and the minister's responses to

the questions that I asked her yesterday on this issue. I would like to emphasize that this issue affects the residents of all Nunavut communities.

Yesterday the minister informed the Legislative Assembly that the GN's government liaison officers, who are employed by the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, are now administering the written and practical tests for class 5 and 7 driver's licences.

Can the minister confirm that all of the GLOs have actually been trained to provide this service and can she indicate approximately how many tests they have administered since January 1 of this year, which was the date on which the RCMP stopped providing the service in the Qikiqtani and Kivalliq regions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I have to be honest. It was the very first question I felt like a deer in headlights.

This is one answer where I'm actually working on to go back into oral questions, I believe. I will be responding to your questions clarifying because I said yesterday that there are driver's licence and ID licence and I mixed the two. I didn't answer your question properly yesterday, so I will be coming back with proper answers to your questions. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Rumbolt**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think it's very important that that clarification gets out there as soon as possible.

As I noted yesterday, the territorial *Motor Vehicles Act* was recently amended by the Legislative Assembly. One of the amendments allows the government to introduce regulations to provide for a new graduated driver's licence system in Nunavut. In response to my questions on the status of this issue, the minister informed the Legislative Assembly that a "pilot project" is underway in Arviat. Can the minister describe in more detail the main features of this "pilot project"? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Part of the answer is that there are new regulations that were enacted, but we haven't followed through in the actual implementation. That is part of the announcement that's going to be coming in the follow-up to your oral questions. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Rumbolt**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It seems like I'm asking all the same questions I asked yesterday and I'm continuing again. I look forward to the information as early as tomorrow on this issue.



Yesterday I asked the minister to clarify what specific reasons the RCMP have provided to the Government of Nunavut for why it will no longer provide the service of administering written and practical driver's licence tests in our communities. The minister did not answer my question yesterday, so I will ask her the same question today: what specific reasons have the RCMP provided to the Government of Nunavut for why it will no longer provide the service of administering written and practical driver's licence tests in our communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I understand your frustration on the question, but I have not been told to date why the RCMP had decided to stop providing that service to us. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members, please note that the time for question period has expired. We will proceed 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. Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission, Minister Akeegok.

### **Item 13: Tabling of Documents**

#### **Tabled Document 009 – 5(1): Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission Annual Report 2016**

**Hon. David Akeegok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am tabling the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission's 2016 annual report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Ms. Towtongie.

#### **Tabled Document 010 – 5(1): Correspondence from the Municipality of Chesterfield Inlet – Marine Infrastructure**

**Ms. Towtongie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I wish to table today a copy of correspondence that I received recently from the mayor of Chesterfield Inlet. The mayor's letter describes the importance of moving forward towards developing new marine infrastructure of the community. With the current marine infrastructure, while docking a few times, a lot of people have landed in the ocean.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all members to review this document with care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is the document and I have another one. Let me know what to do with the second one. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Ms. Towtongie.

**Tabled Document 011 – 5(1):  
Correspondence from Constituent**

**Ms. Towtongie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am tabling the letter from our elder, Eli Kimmaliardjuk. I apologize to you for being shy towards my elder and hesitating to table this letter. I regret that, but I am now tabling his letter. Thank you. I'm done, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. There are none. Going back to the orders of the day. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 1, 2, 3, and 4 with Mr. Mikkungwak in the Chair.

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

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:21 and  
Committee resumed at 15:46*

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

**Chairman** (Mr. Mikkungwak) (interpretation): Good day, Nunavummiut and residents of Baker Lake.

The Committee of the Whole has items to deal with. (interpretation ends) I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole we

have the following items to deal with: Bill 1, Bill 2, Bill 3, and Bill 4. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good afternoon. Mr. Chairman, we wish to proceed with Bill 1 and commence with the review of the capital appropriation for the Department of Community and Government Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. We will be dealing with Bill 1 and the Department of Community and Government Services. Do you agree?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Bill 01 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,  
No. 2, 2018-2019 – Community  
and Government Services –  
Consideration in Committee**

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) I would now like to ask Minister Kusugak: do you have officials that you would like to appear before the committee? Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Yes, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Does the committee agree to let the minister and his officials go to the witness table?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister's officials in.

Thank you very much, Sergeant-at-

Arms. For the record, Minister Kusugak, please introduce your officials.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Lori Kimball, my deputy minister, and my assistant deputy minister is to my left, Eiryn Devereaux. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Welcome, Ms. Kimball and Mr. Devereaux. You can now proceed with your opening comments, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I am here today to review the Department of Community and Government Services' proposed 2019-2023 five-year capital plan and in particular our 2018-19 capital estimates plan.

Mr. Chairman, CGS's 2018-19 proposed capital estimates plan totals \$50.5 million and includes 24 projects.

The major share of CGS's 2018-19 capital plan are the 20 ongoing projects totalling \$35.6 million. These projects include 13 federally cost-shared projects under the Small Communities and Clean Water and Wastewater funds and 7 GN wholly funded projects. In addition there are three stand-alone, wholly GN funded projects. They are:

- \$11.3 million towards a new arena in Rankin Inlet;
- \$2.5 million to build the 525 Garage in Cape Dorset; and
- \$2 million toward building the

mechanical garage in Clyde River.

Mr. Chairman, CGS is also submitting four other wholly GN funded projects, which are required to address ongoing capital needs related to the upkeep of the GN's information system, code compliance, and [proper] project planning, on an annual basis. They are the following:

- \$3.25 million for upgrades to Nunavut tank farms to meet code compliance issues;
- \$2 million to meet the lifecycle requirements of the government's entire IT structure, including upgrades to the GN's communication technology infrastructure;
- \$1 million for the purchase of fire trucks for Arviat and Pangnirtung, as per the CGS fire truck replacement schedule; and
- \$1.8 million for preplanning studies.

We are also proposing three new projects totalling \$7.1 million funded wholly by the GN for 2018-19 year. They are the following:

- An increase to the City of Iqaluit Contribution Agreement from \$3.4 million to \$4 million to address inflation and municipal infrastructure pressures in Nunavut's capital city; and
- \$3.1 million for two fire hall projects, one in Kugaaruk and the other in Arctic Bay.

The CGS Small Capital Fund allows CGS to respond quickly and effectively to the needs of the municipalities. This year we are requesting an increase of \$1 million to the Small Capital Fund to address the Petroleum Product Division's growing number of minor capital projects. The ongoing projects funded under the CGS Small Capital Fund are:

- \$300,000 – Regular replacement of GN fleet vehicles
- \$883,000 – Block funding transferred directly to municipalities
- \$2,817,000 – Upgrades for buildings and equipment
- \$1.0 million – Municipal minor projects under \$250,000, and
- \$1.0 million – PPD minor capital projects

Mr. Chairman, despite putting forward a balanced capital plan, the projects I have listed do not reflect the complete picture of the infrastructure projects managed by my department. The gas tax and federal legacy funding such as the BCF also remain as ongoing active projects.

We are making progress, but the infrastructure deficit remains staggering. As you know, we simply do not have the funding to cover all of the needed projects across Nunavut. Each dollar must be maximized so we can work together on addressing the territory's total infrastructure needs.

Canada has recently announced the Investing in Canada plan, which will

bring \$566 million to Nunavut over 12 years. This funding will help considerably in addressing the infrastructure needs. However, we need to carefully plan for implementing this cost-shared funding. Split on a 75-25 basis, the GN's minimum contribution to access this funding will be \$188.7 million. This represents a significant draw on the GN's capital resources.

By working closely with our communities and stakeholders, we ensure that in the short term the most urgent and critical projects are supported. To this end, my department has focused its efforts over the past year on strengthening municipal capacity for capital planning and developing robust project requests. Our community engagement strategy has included delivering training workshops for municipal staff and councils, touring all communities, and improving the existing infrastructure planning tool kit.

We have introduced the Gas Tax Small Projects Fund, which supports municipal small capital projects to complement the limited municipal minor projects funding under the CGS Small Capital Fund, to projects proposed by the municipalities. Both of these initiatives build self-reliance and stronger capital planning approaches in the communities.

I will be sure to update the committee on the progress made going forward on these initiatives and plans for future engagement activities.

Mr. Chairman, the 2018-19 capital estimates plan proposed by my department has a balance of ongoing and new projects, cost-shared and GN wholly funded and, in each case, meets a

critical need in the community.

I previously reviewed and discussed this document with the Standing Committee on Government Estimates and Operations. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand there might not be any questions, so thank you for letting me give these statements.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Moving on, I will now ask Member Rumbolt to proceed with his opening comments. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the Department of Community and Government Services' proposed 2018-19 capital estimates, part 2. Members note that the department's proposed capital budget for the 2018-19 fiscal year is \$50,573,000. The department's capital budget for the 2017-18 fiscal year was \$41.45 million.

Mr. Chairman, part 1 of the department's 2018-19 capital estimates was approved by the Fourth Legislative Assembly during its spring 2017 sitting, and included \$100,000 for the Bulk Fuel Storage Capacity Increase project in Gjoa Haven.

Mr. Chairman, the department's proposed 2018-19 capital estimates include \$1.8 million in funding for preplanning studies. The department has indicated that the purpose of these preplanning studies is to properly define the scope of major capital projects before they are introduced in the

government's five-year capital plan.

The standing committee understands that once a preplanning study has been completed for a specific capital project, then that capital project is likely to be included in the government's future capital estimates. For example, a memo dated October 17, 2016; the minister informed members that his department would undertake a preplanning study for the construction of a new health centre in Qikiqtarjuaq. In its proposed 2018-19 capital estimates, the Department of Health proposes to allocate \$18.35 million for the design and construction of that project.

Mr. Chairman, given the potential impact that these preplanning studies have on the government's capital planning process, the standing committee strongly encourages the department to begin the practice of providing clear and comprehensive breakdowns of how it proposes to allocate funding for preplanning studies, as well as ongoing updates on the status of each preplanning study.

Mr. Chairman, members note that the department's proposed 2018-19 capital estimates include \$6 million in small capital funding to complete various projects throughout the territory, including \$883,000 in minor capital block funding to be distributed in the territory's three regions, \$2,817,000 for building and equipment upgrades, \$300,000 for vehicle replacements, \$1 million for various minor projects, and \$1 million for minor capital projects related to petroleum products. The standing committee strongly encourages the minister to begin the practice of providing a detailed breakdown of its

small capital expenditures after the end of each fiscal year.

Mr. Chairman, the department is responsible for the implementation and management of federal infrastructure programs in the territory. The Government of Nunavut is currently managing a number of capital projects under various federal infrastructure programs, including the New Building Canada Fund, the Gas Tax Fund, and phase 1 of the Investing in Canada plan, which is also known as the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund.

In his recent letter to the Minister of Community and Government Services, the federal Minister of Infrastructure Canada indicated that Nunavut will receive approximately \$566 million in funding for infrastructure projects under the federal Investing in Canada plan. Members recognize that eligible projects under this program will be cost-shared between the federal government and the Government of Nunavut. The standing committee encourages the minister to provide ongoing updates on what specific projects may be funded under this plan.

On May 3 of 2017 the federal government and the Government of Nunavut jointly announced over \$230 million in joint funding for nine projects across 19 communities to upgrade solid waste management and water and wastewater systems throughout the territory. These projects, which are cost-shared under the federal Clean Water and Wastewater Fund, will help to address the need for adequate water, wastewater, and solid waste infrastructure in the territory.

However, there remains an overwhelming need for adequate water infrastructure across the territory to ensure that all communities have consistent and reliable access to safe drinking water. The standing committee notes with concern that a growing number of the department's projects related to water and wastewater infrastructure in Nunavut have been initiated in reaction to emergency or near-emergency situations. The standing committee strongly encourages the department to explore a more proactive approach to replacing and renovating existing water and wastewater facilities across the territory.

Mr. Chairman, the department previously indicated that it hired Dalhousie University to undertake a review of wastewater facilities in Nunavut to determine if these facilities are meeting effluent quality standards. The department has also previously indicated that a final report on this review would be completed in January of 2016. The standing committee encourages the minister to table this report in the House at the earliest opportunity.

Mr. Chairman, the Government of Nunavut's current capital block funding agreement with the City of Iqaluit expires on March 31 of 2018. For its new contribution agreement, the City of Iqaluit has requested \$20 million for infrastructure projects over a five-year period, which represents an increase of \$600,000 per fiscal year from the current contribution agreement. The standing committee recognizes that this amount will help to address serious infrastructure deficiencies within the city, whose population continues to

experience rapid growth.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee notes that while many Nunavut communities also continue to experience rapid growth, municipal block funding amounts, such as the minor capital block funding amount, have not increased for a number of years. The standing committee strongly encourages the department, in cooperation with municipalities, to undertake a comprehensive review of its various municipal block funding programs and related contribution amounts.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2018-19 Capital Estimates of the Department of Community and Government Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Before we move on, I would like to remind members that according to Rule 77(1), you have 10 minutes to speak, and according to Rule 77(2), subject to the discretion of the Chair, a member may speak more than once to a matter under discussion but not until every member wishing to speak has spoken.

(interpretation ends) I suggest to members that wherever possible you ask your detailed questions during the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates. (interpretation) Are there any general comments? Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the minister and his department for all the hard work they have done in putting these documents together for us. I would

just like to make a general comment before we begin.

Over the years of my previous role, I have put a number of hours in putting these documents together myself. Year after year I have reviewed every substantiation sheet in the hopes that I would see at least some movement towards implementing renewable energy systems into the designs of these capital projects. Once again I am disappointed not to see any of these initiatives incorporated into the designs of these large facilities.

With that being said, I'm going to remain to be optimistic and hope that we will be able to see such initiatives in the 2019-2020 capital plan. I'm saying this now because I understand that CGS plays a major role in the design of these facilities. I really hope that they do take into consideration the need for these types of initiatives in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Does anyone else have general comments? I don't see any hands raised. Please go to page J-3 of your capital estimates. J-3. Community and Government Services. Local Government Services. Total Capital Expenditures. \$47,287,000. Agreed?

**An Hon. Member:** Agreed.

>> *Laughter*

**Chairman:** Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It wouldn't be fair to let him off that lightly today.

I know that in your opening comments, you talked a bit about fire trucks, so I'll ask a couple questions on that area. Your department's 2018-19 draft capital estimates included \$1 million for fire truck replacement projects. This line item was first introduced in 2016-17. Can you specify how many fire trucks have been replaced to date under this program? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Rumbolt. Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have been doing about one a year. Was it from 2016 to date? Two. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Information provided by your department indicates that this will allow your department to replace two fire trucks in Nunavut each year. Can you clarify if the department maintains its schedule by which it plans to replace fire trucks across Nunavut and, if so, are you willing to table a copy of the schedule in the Legislative Assembly? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thanks, Mr. Rumbolt. Yes, I would be more than happy to share that document with you. We have done two communities so far and I believe we will be doing the delivery of two fire trucks this summer. Mr. Chairman, I don't have an issue sharing this document on plans, communities, and what years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In June of 2017 the Assembly approved approximately \$1,042,000 in capital carryover funding. For your department's preplanning studies, can you provide an update on the status of each preplanning study that your department is currently undertaking? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I could, through you, Mr. Chairman, ask my deputy minister to respond. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Kimball:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Items that are still in preplanning or planning from prior years:

- For the health department, we have the Qikiqtarjuaq Health Centre, our mental wellness facility in Rankin Inlet, and Igloodik Continuing Care Centre expansion;
- For Education, we have a facility for Coral Harbour, the Ecole des Trois Soleils school here in Iqaluit, a renovation, and a school addition in Taloyoak;
- For EDT, we have an air terminal building for Naujaat and Chesterfield Inlet;
- For Justice, we have the Ilavut Centre renovation in Kugluktuk;



- For CGS, we have a Rankin Inlet water infrastructure project, Arviat tank farm, Arviat fire hall, and Whale Cove fire hall; and then
- For Nunavut Arctic College, we have a facility in Rankin Inlet.

Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister and their officials for that information.

Continuing along the same theme, your department's 2018-19 draft capital estimates include \$1.8 million for preplanning studies. Can you provide a list of preplanning studies that your department intends to undertake during this upcoming 2018-19 fiscal year and can you indicate the approximate cost of each preplanning study? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The proposed planning projects for 2018-19 are the following:

- For Economic Development and Transportation, Kimmirut air terminal building and Whale Cove air terminal building;
- For Environment, Arctic Bay wildlife office;
- For the Department of Health,

Qikiqtani General Hospital Paediatric Ward and continuing care facility renovation;

- For Education, the Arctic Bay renovation, not the whole community but the education department;
- For Community and Government Services, the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet office and community hall.

As for the costs that are incurred to do these, I don't have that for you right now just because of the complexities of the different costs associated with these projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm going to get more community-specific right now. We all know the issues Sanikiluaq has been having with their freshwater supply over the last year and a half or so. Can the minister give us any kind of update on what's being done with the water issues in Sanikiluaq? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are taking a look at as many options as we can. Sanikiluaq is in a very precarious position with the water supply and the saline levels and stuff. We're trying to look at as many options as possible at this point, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you

very much. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know you say you're looking into different options, but can you share with us some of the options you're looking at in helping to fix the water issues in Sanikiluaq? What kind of timeline do you figure it will be before you make a decision on which way the government is going to go? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman (interpretation):** Thank you very much. Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Unfortunately we're looking at different options, a different water source, but that water source also has hard water issues and so on. Once we weigh all those things out, it will take a bit of time. I'm hopeful that we can do it sooner than later, Mr. Chairman. Not to avoid the question, but there are so many different parameters involved in this issue, so I definitely hope something positive over the next few months. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman (interpretation):** Thank you very much. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To reverse it a little bit, I'll go from talking about drinking water to wastewater. For many years, Sanikiluaq has had money in the books to have their sewage lagoon upgraded or replaced. I know there have been various issues over the years on why we couldn't have a new one or why we're not upgrading the current one. Is there any kind of update today on Sanikiluaq's wastewater system? Thank you.

**Chairman (interpretation):** Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, there are some overwhelming issues with that. We're trying to work out some particulars, details, and issues that are brought forward by the ministry of transport and those kinds of things. There are other issues that my deputy might be able to elaborate if you allow, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

**Ms. Kimball:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As you know, one of the airport zoning regulations is that you can't have one of these facilities within a four-kilometre radius. We have been reaching out to the Department of EDT to coordinate an effort with the federal government and Transport Canada to seek an exemption. It's my understanding that we have actually filed for an exemption, but we have yet to get a response. Thank you.

**Chairman (interpretation):** Thank you very much. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have heard about the zoning issue and I think it is four kilometres from the centre of the runway. You're right; it is an issue in Sanikiluaq. It either puts you in the freshwater source or in the ocean. There are not a lot of places you can go and I appreciate how difficult it can be.

It was my understanding that if we couldn't build a new lagoon, you may be able to upgrade the current lagoon so

that it could last a significant number of years for down the road. Is there any consideration being given to that option? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it really is a very serious matter there in terms of water you drink and water you dispose. We're looking at it very seriously. Either way, if we're going to utilize the current one, we still have to through the whole permitting process. We're trying to weigh that stuff out at the moment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Following my list of names, Ms. Towtongie.

**Ms. Towtongie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask this question. Your department's proposed 2018-19 capital estimates include \$883,000 for its Minor Capital Block Funding program. Information provided by your department indicates that "The *Minor Capital Block Funding Policy* was developed in 2013 and will be re-evaluated in 2018 when the policy expires."

Can you clarify when we can expect to see your department's...? (interpretation ends) Can you clarify when we can expect to see your department's updated *Minor Capital Block Funding Policy*, which is expiring in 2018? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) We're not there yet, but we're working with the Nunavut Association of Municipalities to determine if these are planned properly and how their bylaws will apply. We're working towards that end. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Following my list of names, Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, minister and staff.

In June of 2017 the Legislative Assembly approved approximately \$139 million in capital carryover funding for 132 projects, of which approximately 49 projects were undertaken by your department. To date what progress has been made by your department in completing its backlog of capital projects? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps my Assistant Deputy Minister, Mr. Devereaux, can respond to that better than I can, if you will allow him. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Devereaux.

**Mr. Devereaux:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. I think, over the last few years, we have been able to demonstrate trying to target the reduction of capital carryovers in terms of capital project delivery. Some

of that was borne out of a more robust planning process such that when we went into capital estimates with budgets for design and construction, they were stronger defined projects.

I think we have been showing considerable efforts to reduce the amount of capital carryovers. I think it's our expectation that over the next two fiscal years, we will continue to be able to show improvements on the reduction of capital carryovers. I don't have a list. There were a lot of projects, as you had mentioned, that would have been listed in that capital carryover bill from the prior year, but we certainly continue to make strong efforts to reduce the amount of capital carryovers. I think the results have been showing that this past year and we expect the same for the subsequent two years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Your department's 2018-19 draft capital estimates include \$1.22 million for arena upgrades across Nunavut. Information provided by your department indicates that the current budget for this project, which is cost-shared under the federal New Building Canada Fund, will address arena upgrades in five communities. Can you specify which five communities will be receiving arena upgrades through this funding? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are currently consulting a number of communities and trying to

rank their priority or most needs and what have you. Of them there are Baker Lake, Cape Dorset, Clyde River, Hall Beach, Kimmirut, Kugaaruk, and Qikiqtarjuaq, and we will have to narrow it down to five from there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Your department's five-year capital plan indicates that Nunavut will receive \$3 million from the federal Gas Tax Fund to undertake small capital projects during the 2018-19 fiscal year. Can you clarify who will be responsible for administering the specific Small Capital Projects Fund? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. Community and Government Services will be administering that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you. This will be my final question. Can you describe any criteria for projects that may be eligible for funding under the gas tax "small capital projects" fund? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would be pleased to allow

Ms. Kimball to provide the details on those. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

**Ms. Kimball:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We were able to work with Infrastructure Canada to expand the scope and range of what Nunavut accesses through gas tax. Project categories can include local roads and bridges, short sea shipping, regional and local airports, broadband activity, drinking water, wastewater, solid waste, community energy systems, what they call brownfield redevelopment or remediation of decontamination areas, recreational infrastructure, cultural infrastructure, tourism infrastructure, disaster mitigation, and capacity building. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you. I just wanted to know what short sea shipping is, short sea shipping. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** It's infrastructure related to short ships, you know...just kidding.

>>*Laughter*

It's related to movement of cargo and passengers around the coast and on inland waterways without directly crossing an ocean. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Following my list of names, Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm going to take a little step back into the preplanning, \$1.8 million that's being requested. Going back over the first time it was introduced in 2013, there have typically been carryovers each year and I'll just use the most recent year as an example.

In 2017-18 there was a \$1 million capital estimate for preplanning studies and in the carryover it was \$1,042,000, even more than what was appropriated. In a letter going back from the then Minister of Finance, there was a quote in there regarding the preplanning funding of the \$2 million that was placed on hold in 2016-17 because realistically only about five projects can be properly addressed in any given planning year, leaving a backlog of projects in the preplanning queue.

What confidence does the department have that...? If they can't spend \$1 million last year, what confidence are we to have for the \$1,042,000 that was carried over last year? Was that used this year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The cause for the backlog the last time was the unfortunate incident where two schools burnt down and it was "all hands on deck" to deal with that infrastructure. We're currently trying to recover from that and currently we haven't used all of it, but we plan to. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. History has shown, like even just going back to 2015, there was \$2 million in capital preplanning and almost \$1.8 million of it was carried over for preplanning studies. Now we're looking at \$1.8 million for additional preplanning studies when they planned to spend the money that was carried over last year. I would like a little bit further confirmation that they will spend that money that was carried over last year and have stringent plans in place to spend the \$1.8 million that they're asking for now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman (interpretation):** Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. We have \$556 million that comes from the federal government that we have to plan on. We're hopeful that we can expend all that planning money. Maybe I could have Ms. Kimball add to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Kimball:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think it's important to remember the first year we did this, when we put the \$2 million in, we hadn't yet gone through this process. We're trying to make sure that we have a strong planning process. We found that that dramatically reduces change orders when you're in design and construction, and it actually makes sure that our costs stay on budget. We have found that all the projects properly done through the preplanning are on time and on budget.

Part of it was refining that process and I think that's why you see the number was going down. For this year, you will see it going back up because we have new projects coming through. We have \$566 million coming through. Historically we did have the issues with the other two schools that took a lot of resources to do some very quick turnaround on planning and design to get those schools up and running. I think those are some strong success stories for the department. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate that response. I understand that there is going to be more focus to making sure that these preplanning studies are completed.

I'm going back to a letter I received from the then Minister of Education on February 28, 2014, talking about the business case for the Iqaluit École des Trois-Soleils preplanning. There's a copy of the business case and copies of the capital planning process. In there, it goes with the intent of these preplanning studies to be done in anticipation of being included in the five-year capital plan, yet I'm still not seeing that Iqaluit-specific project in the capital plan. Maybe the minister could update me on the status of that specific project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman (interpretation):** Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for that question. The issue with that is the project is currently on hold, pending

resolution of dispute. I can leave it at that. There was some dispute on the matter and once that is resolved, we may be able to proceed forward. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To get clarification, is the dispute on the proposed preplan of the scope of work that's being requested from the business case to the preplanning study from CGS? Is that where the dispute lies? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Mr. Chairman, I would rather not get into too much detail on this matter. It's a legal dispute. I would rather leave it at that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) If the issue is at the courts, then we cannot proceed with further questions. Is that what the minister is saying? Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Mr. Chairman, thank you. I don't believe it has gone to court, but there are lawyers involved, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much for that clarification. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Hopefully their lawyers aren't listening right now then because to me that's almost a bad faith negotiation if we're

withholding projects going forward on that basis. With that in mind, I guess my next question would automatically lead to is... . How do I word this without getting anyone into trouble?

I guess I'll go with it this way, Mr. Chairman: an opportunity with a project of this nature when the school was built in 2002, 50 percent of the funding came from the federal government. I would anticipate any future projects would also include, I would hope, a fairly substantial federal investment through Heritage Canada or other programs. Is our hindering this project jeopardizing access to federal funds to be able to move this project forward? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe I could ask my deputy to try to respond to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

**Ms. Kimball:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we're approached to do planning work, we're working with client departments, but we take our lead from the client department. In this case, if some things come up, then we take our lead from that department in terms of whether we're proceeding or having those consultations and doing the planning process. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe I'll save these questions for the

Minister of Education when he appears before the Committee of the Whole. I'm going to switch gears a little bit.

One of the Building Canada Fund funding avenues is solid waste, landfill mitigation or renovation. One of the concerns that have been recently brought to my attention is that the City of Iqaluit has applied for New Building Canada Fund program dollars to do a landfill relocation here in Iqaluit with the city being on the hook for the 25 percent part of the contribution, yet the federal contribution would have to flow through the Government of Nunavut.

Mr. Chairman, I guess my question would be: is there anything that would hinder a flow through of monies from the federal government to the City of Iqaluit that could potentially jeopardize that project? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't anticipate any issues on that matter, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Following the list of names, Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ms. Kimball indicated that there was \$566 million available. Did I misunderstand what I heard? The Chairman has changed. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

**Chairman** (Mr. Rumbolt): Thank you, Mr. Netser. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's the Canada investing in infrastructure plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is that allocated for Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Netser. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We haven't signed the agreement yet, but yes, that would be Nunavut's portion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I heard the minister or Ms. Kimball about my two communities, Naujaat and Coral Harbour. Coral Harbour is in dire need of a school and Naujaat, as you know, is one of the fastest growing communities in Nunavut. They badly need infrastructure in terms of parking garages for the sewage and water trucks and also the ATB, which was mentioned by Ms. Kimball that there was a study on that. Can she elaborate on that a bit, Mr. Chairman? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Netser. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This funding has a number of things that it could fund. On the other side of it is there are a number of



projects and programs that it cannot fund. One of the things it's not meant to fund is schools. Maybe Ms. Kimball could elaborate a bit on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Kusugak. Ms. Kimball.

**Ms. Kimball:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are three main streams of funding that Nunavut is getting its \$566 million in. One is related to green, so anything related to water, wastewater, disaster mitigation, and energy efficiency. The other stream is social and cultural funding, and they have actually allowed for anything that we can tie to the truth and reconciliation item we can fund under that. Then we have northern and rural, which does things like airports, roads, and broadband. Unfortunately Infrastructure Canada has been very clear that this cannot fund education or health centres. We have to kind of figure out how we work around that but still focus on Nunavut's needs. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Ms. Kimball. Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to the \$566 million that she mentioned, when will the departments sign an agreement so that the funds can be provided to us? There's a dire need for infrastructure in the smaller communities. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Netser. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're hoping to be able to sign something later in the spring. Thank

you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Kusugak. Moving on, Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Welcome, minister as well as your officials.

My first question is that Baker Lake has a new mayor and council following the recent election. One of the priorities of the new council is the landfill and transporting garbage to the landfill, including the wastewater and sewage lagoon, which is fenced in. How can your department help the hamlet if they want to relocate any of those areas? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member for welcoming me and asking a question. In regard to community infrastructure and the planning portion of it, there's the community infrastructure funding that is available for those types of projects. CGS can also give you support so that you can initiate those projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for his response. The hamlet would like to relocate the landfill and are now looking for a new site within the municipal boundary. I was wondering if this process could be

done right away. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): If it's included in the ICSP, then we can provide support, but I don't know when they could get to that point and when it would be placed as a priority. They can move ahead following the ICSP. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank you for your response. The mining camp has turned out to be beneficial to the community. Nevertheless, they will have to look for oil spill sites on the land and conduct cleanup of those sites. The hamlet thought that it would be better to start cleaning that on its own.

Since I became a Member of the Legislative Assembly, I have been quite passionate about the need to remediate the land where they had an oil spill. I know that it's going to be difficult to find a site. As the minister mentioned the ICSP earlier, I would like to know if that could also be included there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to your question, yes, we have worked with the energy corporation on contaminated land. They will be visiting the

communities this coming summer. We can discuss it further after they do fact-finding. We can discuss these issues once we have been to Baker Lake. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister. I'm very pleased that the officials will be going to Baker Lake to do some fact-finding in regard to what we're discussing with the hamlet council.

I'll move on to another topic, the small capital planning for Baker Lake. After the fire hall was investigated by the health department, they determined that their firefighter clothing has to be hung properly so that they will be out of the way. Would they be eligible under small capital so that the fire hall in Baker Lake can be improved? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): They would not go through that program because they're not constructing. They would have to get funding through another program if they're going to be setting up a proper storage place. It would not go through small capital. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for his very clear

response. I would like to ask a question on page J-4. There are two line items near the bottom that are the same. They are written in English as (interpretation ends) Solid Waste Facilities – Bundle 1 and Bundle 3. (interpretation) Can the minister explain the difference between those two items? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are two different items. (interpretation ends) Bundle 1 (interpretation) is for Arviat, Clyde River, Grise Fiord, and Resolute Bay. (interpretation ends) Bundle 3 (interpretation) is for Igloolik, Hall Beach, Whale Cove, and Sanikiluaq. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Just out of curiosity, is there another bundle foreseen in the near future for the Kivalliq region? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is a bundle 2...

>> *Laughter*

... Kimmirut, Gjoa Haven, Pangnirtung, Rankin Inlet, and Taloyoak. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister

Kusugak. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to start by following up on the preplanning topic that was raised earlier.

I would like to thank the minister for providing a nice summary of the history of this capital planning envelope.

Based on the figures that were provided, you're projecting a carryover of \$1.6 million in preplanning and you're estimating that you're going to spend about half a million in this fiscal year.

Forgive me if I'm asking a silly question because I am a new member. Why do you need \$1.8 million for preplanning if you're planning to sit on \$1.6 million and you haven't spent more than half a million dollars in any given fiscal year? What is the need for the \$1.8 million? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (Mr. Mikkungwak) (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for that question. For that detail, maybe if I could ask Ms. Kimball to respond through you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Kimball:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What we're foreseeing is that \$1.6 million that you're seeing is projected carryover is related to all the stuff that was already in planning. In order to move those projects, we need that money to be able to do the planning

for those projects. As well, the minister listed all the projects that are coming in new for this cycle, of which there are seven projects, and that's what the \$1.8 million is for.

In addition we know that we have \$566 million coming that we're hoping to sign this spring, so we will want to get started on that. Of course before we would spend any more of that, we would come back to this group and say what those projects are and make sure everybody is in acceptance. We need to have that money allocated so that we can proceed with planning on projects under the \$566 million as well.

I think part of your concern is really about capacity and that is a concern for us as well, but we have taken steps to try to address the capacity challenges. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I'll ask for further information on that. What steps have you taken to address the capacity and how much can you foresee expending in the next fiscal year and actually spending in terms of this envelope? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for the question. If I could ask Mr. Devereaux to respond to that particular question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you

very much. Mr. Devereaux.

**Mr. Devereaux:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for the question. There's a number of questions around the planning envelope and some of the variances in terms of requesting an initial budget approval and then how much we expend during a particular capital year.

In terms of framing that discussion, to get a project into planning and recognizing that we probably need 12 to 18 months to properly plan, at the starting point we have to say, "We've got to block aside some money." Some of the variances we have experienced, if we put approximately \$100,000 to \$200,000 aside for planning, it's recognizing that throughout those 12 to 18 months, there are going to be project planning aspects relating to site. We will examine multiple sites.

We often see costs vary when we get into site investigations. When we have to do geotechnical analyses and environmental site assessments, those costs can range from \$50,000 to \$150,000. If we're examining two and three sites, that's when we can see a big variance between a project that we blocked aside maybe \$200,000, not knowing what that total cost would be until we get into site investigations. That's why, with some of these projects, we need a starting point. Once we examine a variety of planning components throughout the capital year, the big cost variance seems to be on site investigations. That's where we see some of these projects, we may need the \$150,000 in month 10 and we may not.

Capacity issues for us are ongoing. We

have a lot of vacant project management positions and facility planning positions, and that's the key positions that undertake the important capital planning work. I think it's an issue facing all the departments and we're certainly doing our best in terms of strategies to try to target that very unique market for projects people both in terms of in the territory and outside. There's certainly some challenge there.

On the money side for planning, there's a variety of factors that seem to have input on whether we spend the full million dollars or we don't. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thanks for the response, very enlightening.

I'll return to my question there. How much do you foresee actually spending in this coming fiscal year? I'm not asking in terms of how much. We know how much they're requesting, \$1.8 million. How much of that is going to be spent? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We potentially would spend the whole thing. There's that potential to spend that whole amount, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

To spend that entire amount, it would represent over 300 percent increase in what you have spent in this past fiscal year, that you're estimating that you will spend \$500,000. Has there been a corresponding 300 percent increase in capacity in terms of these planning studies?

I would like to add that I'm not coming at this from an angle that the department's work isn't important; it's very important to the communities of Nunavut. As I'm sure the Minister of Finance would agree, taking good care of our financial resources is also very important. That's where I'm coming at this from.

In terms of the capacity, has there been a 300 percent increase or is there some big increase in capacity that explains this? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think my colleague understands the answer. No, there hasn't been a 300 percent there, but we're looking to do some projects and we need to do some preplanning to do them. I think there was explanation to some degree of what prices may range, from \$50,000 to \$150,000 or \$200,000 or more. We're looking to spend that. That's what we're hopeful for. Maybe if Ms. Kimball could elaborate a bit more on that through you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Kimball:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think, if you look at the

report that you're referencing, it showed that we had spent \$200,000 the previous year. We have successfully gone 200 percent. Yes, we're hoping to fill 300 percent the coming year. We have ramped up and I think the fruits of that are starting to show. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll shift gears here. Speaking on behalf of my communities here, Whale Cove has experienced lots of issues with its water supply. There's a temporary water treatment plant not yet installed in the community. Could I please get an update with regard to that project and the longer term needs for Whale Cove's water source? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're looking this spring to install the temporary solution to the water situation in that community and we're trying to find a long-term solution, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this point it's my understanding that the temporary plant is going to be there for three years with a plan to work on a longer term solution in the interim. Can I just clarify or confirm that with the minister? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Main. You are correct on that. We're hopeful it could be a shorter term than that to find a solution, but yes, those are the parameters we're currently working under. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also for Whale Cove, I noticed that in the preplanning studies, there are plans for the Whale Cove air terminal building, and I'm very happy to see that. It's an eyesore, to be honest. It's long overdue and I look forward to working with the department on that.

There are also a number of old derelict buildings in Whale Cove that are hampering... . They're kind of in the core area of the community. Has the department had any discussions or meetings with the hamlet in this regard in terms of decommissioning those buildings? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As small as the Whale Cove air terminal is, I have never seen so many jigsaw puzzles hanging on the wall. Mr. Chairman, there are some derelict buildings in Whale Cove as in many other communities. We will work with the municipality to see which way they're going to go with some of those buildings. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If

I should be so bold to speak on behalf of my friends at the Hamlet of Whale Cove, they would like them demolished and removed. Can the minister explain the process to have these buildings demolished and removed so that the area can be either decontaminated and/or developed in the future? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do have the privilege of representing the fine community of Whale Cove. That community has a number of developed buildings that maybe the best thing for them is to be demolished and put away, but it depends on who owns those buildings, if it's federal or territorial or private. It depends on all those things, and then who the responsibility lies to do that.

It takes a lot more than just tearing down a building and throwing it to the dump. There may be contaminants in that building. It may be a federal building or what have you. There's a bit more to just bulldozing it and CGS taking responsibility for that. We will do that work with the municipality and find out who, what, when, where, and carry on from there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for his response and receptiveness. I look forward to working together with his department on that issue.

When it comes to my home community of Arviat, as you know, the department's own substantiation sheets here say... I'll quote a few terms, "Highest growth rates in Nunavut," and it also mentions in there that the current reservoir, the second... Arviat has two reservoir cells. The second cell was planned out to be in use until 2009 and to meet Arviat's needs until 2009. Here we are almost ten years later and I'm very happy that the third cell will be constructed this summer, which will contribute to better health indicators for the residents of Arviat because water is a big part of ensuring people have good health.

Unfortunately, though, we're looking at another bottleneck once that reservoir is constructed. Arviat is 100 percent reliant on trucked water and sewage. We're the biggest community in Nunavut; the hamlet operates in excellent operation of water and sewage trucks. The service is excellent, but they have run into a situation now where they don't have anywhere to park their trucks. They would like to purchase more trucks. They need another garage. You can't park a water truck outside in the winter.

I haven't seen anything in any of the documentation regarding a municipal parking garage for Arviat. Can the minister clarify whether there have been discussions with the hamlet in this regard? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I, too, am glad that you're getting your third water reservoir in your community. They do run a very fine water and sewage system in that

community. Some other communities may want to see how they do it because it's very rare that people run out of water in that community.

In terms of needing more infrastructure to house the water and sewage trucks, maybe if I could, through you, Mr. Chairman, get Ms. Kimball to respond. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

**Ms. Kimball:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A common theme we're hearing from a lot of municipalities is that parking garages is a key bottleneck and it's something we're looking at identifying. When we get these federal funding pots, it's very difficult to usually slot that in. It is something that we're working on finding programs that have eligibility so that we can start working on that infrastructure deficit. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to confirm, the department is aware of the key need in Arviat for a parking garage and the fact that it's going to be a bottleneck even with the new infrastructure that's coming into place in terms of the new cell. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we will work with the municipality through their [integrated] community sustainability plans and try to work with them on that matter.

There is never enough funding for

programs like that that we need throughout the territory. We will have to do our earnest to try to get the federal government to realize that we do need heated garages to store water trucks and sewage trucks. We have some very different kinds of infrastructure needs here than many parts of this country.

We will try to work with the municipality and see if there are ways we can work on it through their [integrated] community sustainability plans to deal with that matter, as with other communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for his response. It's going to be a big area of need in Arviat.

I would like to back it up in terms of balancing the needs. How does the department balance the need for recreational facilities, which contribute to very important things like youth mental health, fitness, obesity rates, with key infrastructure like fire halls and water reservoirs? How does the department find a balance between those different areas? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's always hard to balance between needs and wants. There are so many different parameters, as you understand, that we have to deal with within our department working with other departments in terms of fitness and



other parameters. It's a tough one, but we try to weigh all options and also what funds are available for certain things and what communities have what and need. It really is a very tough juggling act without juggling anything and trying to spend the money the best we can with what we have and who needs what.

I hope that answers some of your question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. ... (no audio)... have been very pleased that Joseph Kaviok and the other firefighters in Arviat will be getting a new fire truck this year. That's great to see and I look forward to working with the minister and his department addressing the needs of Nunavut communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No further questions.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) I take that as a comment. Following the list of names on Community and Government Services. Local Government Services. Second time to be recognized, Ms. Towtongie.

**Ms. Towtongie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In June of 2017 the Legislative Assembly approved approximately \$139 million in capital carryover funding for 132 projects, of which approximately 49 projects were undertaken by your department. To date what progress has been made by your department in completing its backlog of capital projects? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps my deputy minister can answer that if you will allow her. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

**Ms. Kimball:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Of the \$139 million that was carried over last year, only \$36,000 of that was related to CGS projects and that was down from \$68 million in 2013-14. Year over year we had actually reduced over 24 percent and over the past several years we have reduced almost 50 percent. Definitely we are in the right trend.

As Eiryn mentioned earlier, we have gotten better at our planning and our cash flow forecasting. We have gotten better at how we manage the federal money and budget for that. I think that's showing in the progress that we're making. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Towtongie.

**Ms. Towtongie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a concern about bundle 1, bundle 2, and bundle 3. I'm looking at one of my communities, Chesterfield Inlet. There is \$181,000 in funding for the water reservoir in Chesterfield Inlet in there. I want to ask about that.

Your department's draft 2018-19 capital estimates include [\$471,000] for its "Waterplant Operation Optimization" program. (interpretation ends)

Information provided by your department indicates that this program includes a number of pilot projects to identify newer technologies that will work in Nunavut. However, I'm not clear as to what these pilot projects entail. Can you clarify what specific pilot projects will be undertaken through your department's proposed "Waterplant Operation Optimization" program? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I could have Mr. Devereaux respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Devereaux.

**Mr. Devereaux:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for the question. I understood the question to be if we have got to a point in this particular strategy of identifying pilot projects. I think the intent behind CGS bringing this forward was to examine what some potential projects could be. I think that's the current status of it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Towntongie.

**Ms. Towntongie** (interpretation): With that response, my question is: exactly what is your department doing to inspect or monitor the water reservoirs, dumps, and sewage lagoons in Nunavut? They were just going to be pilot projects. (interpretation ends) Can you describe the specific steps your department is currently taking to monitor the condition of the water, waste and sewage

infrastructure across Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe Ms. Kimball could respond to that concern. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

**Ms. Kimball:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This amount of funding is a very small amount of money, \$451,000. We're just looking at some research at this point in terms of what types of things we could approach. We don't have specific, actual because it's not very much money in terms of something specific that we're actually going to implement and task for at this point. We're still doing the research aspect. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ms. Towntongie.

**Ms. Towntongie:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That brings into my mind public advisory notices where E.coli is found in some communities. If there are no specific steps the department is taking to monitor the condition of the water, is that with Health?

On a separate matter, I'm now shifting gears here, on February 27, 2018 the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories' Committee of the Whole considered the Government of the Northwest Territories' 2018-19 main estimates. At that time an official from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources testified that "The

Nunavut-NWT Transboundary Water Agreement will occur once Nunavut has completed their territorial water strategy.”

Can you clarify if your department is currently working on developing a territorial water strategy for Nunavut and, if so, can you provide an update on this work? If you do, will you commit to tabling Nunavut’s territorial water strategy in the House at the earliest opportunity? Water is a big issue across Nunavut and it’s one of the costliest. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That’s it for me.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of responding to the two-part question, the first part is it’s these daily water checks and water dips that the municipal water truck drivers do in their water trucks and tank farms that allow us to find E.coli. It’s not like they’re not done; they are done. There are specific checks done every day in municipalities by the municipal workers that check for water purification. It’s these checks that catch E.coli. They are checked every day in every community. That’s why they find E.coli.

In terms of the territorial strategy, Mr. Chairman, maybe for the particular detail on that through you, if I can have Ms. Kimball respond. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Kimball:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Water security strategy is

something we have identified that we need to move towards. We have talked about our initial report in the leg. before about the study that was done with Dalhousie in terms of the longevity of our current water sources. We have some initial reporting that we’re using as a basis to develop a more complete and holistic, overarching water security strategy.

The vision is that when you open this up, you will be able to flip to your community and know exactly what our strategy is, what your primary water source is, what your secondary and alternate water source is, and what would be involved if we had to actually migrate to the second water source. It also provides information as to the life expectancy of the current water source; how long do we expect that water source to remain a viable water source. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Towtongie.

**Ms. Towtongie** (interpretation): As a resident of Rankin Inlet, I had a meeting with the hamlet council. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister Lorne Kusugak (interpretation) knows that Rankin Inlet has a utilidor system. However, the water level at Nipissar Lake is going down and the water boosters are aging. I don’t see any funding set aside for those types of infrastructure.

What can we do in regard to the territorial water strategy... ? (interpretation ends) Will you commit to tabling Nunavut’s territorial water strategy in the House at the earliest opportunity? Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) That’s all.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand exactly what the water situation is in Rankin Inlet because I was an interpreter at the hamlet meetings before I became an MLA and I attended all their meetings. I know exactly what the problem is. We usually get the water from that lake year round and we expect the water to be studied.

In regard to the territorial water strategy that you want tabled, it will be tabled in the House once it is completed. (interpretation ends) In terms of that territorial water strategy, at such time it's complete, it's more than a year away from doing that. If and when that time comes, I will more than gladly share it and table it in this House so you and I will both know the issues relating to the water table in all our communities in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question from my colleague.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Following my list of names, Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to begin by continuing along the lines of my opening comment. I would like to state the fact that Nunavut remains Canada's dirtiest jurisdiction in means of energy and our reliance on fossil fuels but also on waste management and our lack of recycling programs.

As the hon. member Mr. Hickey mentioned earlier, Iqaluit is working with the feds to begin a project to build

and design a new solid waste management facility which is going to incorporate a sorting area to begin a recycling program. I'm just curious if the government means to follow suit and replicate this design. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe Ms. Kimball can elaborate on that or respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Kimball**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Part of the challenges when you get into recycling, especially in the communities, is having a means of doing stuff with it once you have sorted it. I think there is a bigger task here for us to work on a solid waste strategy of how we're going to deal with that.

Our solid waste bundles that are being funded by the feds that we're progressing on in the next few years, we do have plans to do some of that as we fix the facilities that we have. Part of that work will involve sorting the contents of the solid waste facility, but we haven't yet got there in terms of what do you do after that and I think that's the key thing.

There is a lot of stuff on our plate when you look at the water security strategy and solid waste strategy. There are some capacity limits to how much we can move, but it is on our radar as something we need to do. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you for that response. I would just like to remind everyone that all the planes and ships that come up to Nunavut come up full but then leave empty. I'll continue on to capacity issues.

In the current fiscal year, 2017-18, CGS was approved \$41 million in new capital funds. Throughout the year CGS received four supplementary appropriations for capital, leaving the final budget at \$175 million. If you exclude the \$70 million for the accounting treatment of the lease-to-own agreements, the Department of CGS has over \$100 million in capital funds to expend in the 2017-18 fiscal year. I was just curious: how much of that \$100 million has been spent so far this year and how much will be carried over? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** I thank my colleague for that. I just want to concur. Yes, we're more than aware of the empty ships and planes that fly south.

On the other matter in terms of what's spent and what will be, I would like to defer that to my colleague, Ms. Kimball. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. (interpretation) The minister's official, Ms. Kimball.

**Ms. Kimball:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have the exact numbers in front of me. As I said before, we are hoping that our carry-forwards are lower than prior years.

You mentioned that we had a total

budget of over \$100 million. When we look at the actual spend of CGS, when you look at instruments of delegation and what we take on from other departments to deliver, combined with our federal funding, I believe that last year's number was somewhere around \$300 million that we actually got as cash out the door. Sometimes that's missed in all this because we're only looking at Vote 2 in a very narrow band. I think it has to be looked at on a broader scale to really appreciate that we are actually getting a lot of stuff done. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. I would like to remind everyone that we do have interpreters. When you respond or speak, please make sure that you don't go too fast. We have to remember that we have interpreters. Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will keep that in mind.

Returning to capacity issues, as you had mentioned about the implementation of IODs where CGS expends funds on behalf of other departments, correct me if I'm wrong, but that's the project management office within CGS that handles all of these capital projects, correct?

Maybe you could fill us in a little bit more on how big the Project Management Division is, how many PYs there are, how many PYs are filled, how many casuals you have, and how often you rely on contractors or consultants. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the question, but we don't have that level of detail, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. That is more of an O&M question. Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer. Sorry, I just assumed that that information would be known off the top of your head.

Moving on then, the Government of Nunavut has a substantial capital budget. I'm just curious on the amount of capital that's being carried over year over year. I know it has been reduced considerably over the number of years, but it's still up there. This last year CGS carried over \$35 million in Vote 2 and the year before \$35 million as well. I just wanted to connect that with capacity issues and that's why I was asking the PY questions.

Moving on to my last question with regard to what Member Main was alluding to with the capital planning envelope, so far this year, as per the letter we received on March 8 regarding the capital planning envelope update, the department has spent a total of \$427,000 in 2017-18. That's a considerable amount more than prior years. With that update, the 2017-18 amount to be carried over, the estimated amount is \$1.6 million. If you combine that with the requested \$1.8 million that the department is requesting for 2018-19, we have a total of \$3.4 million to spend in the capital envelope for next year.

I'm going to once again ask if the department thinks that it is actually able

to spend \$3.4 million in the capital envelope in 2018-19. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. This was already asked, but Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, we are hopeful to be able to spend that or as close to that as possible in that appropriate year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Following the list of names, Ms. Kamingoak.

**Ms. Kamingoak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, minister. Your department first introduced its preplanning studies budget in its 2014-15 capital estimates. During the 2014 [winter] sitting of Fourth Legislative Assembly, at that time the minister of the day stated that "All new priority projects before you today will undergo a pre-planning phase prior to their introduction onto the GN capital plan. This change to the capital planning process will ensure that the project scope and budget are better defined. This will provide better assurances that projects can be completed on time and on budget."

Under what specific circumstances, if any, can the new capital project be included in the government's capital estimates before it has gone through this preplanning study phase? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Ms. Kamingoak for

the question. I think a perfect example for that would be the two schools that burnt down, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Kaernek:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Minister, as of today a total of \$8 million has been allocated to your department's "Tank Farm Code Compliance" program. Can you provide a breakdown of how that \$8 million has been spent to date? *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Unfortunately I don't have that detail, but I would be more than happy to provide it to my colleagues at an appropriate time or as soon as possible. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Kaernek.

**Mr. Kaernek:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister. The next question, your department's proposed 2018-19 capital estimates include \$3.25 million for its "Tank Farm Code Compliance" program. Information provided by your department indicates that this funding will be used to upgrade various Nunavut tank farms and bring those facilities up to code. Your department also indicates that it plans to undertake two to four of these upgrade projects each year. Can you provide a breakdown of how this funding will be spent during the 2018-19 fiscal year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) We are still on J-3, Local Government Services, and the question you're asking about is on page J-6, if you can wait. Thank you. Following the list of names, Mr. Qirngnuq.

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister and his officials. I have a question on your opening comments. I have a good expectation on the second page, second-last bullet. I'll speak to it in English so that it will be clear.

(interpretation ends) On page 2, second-last bullet, "An increase to the City of Iqaluit Contribution Agreement from \$3.4 million to \$4 million to address inflation and municipal infrastructure pressures in Nunavut's capital city," (interpretation) I'm asking a question now because I expect everything is increasing in price with inflation. If there is going to be some kind of inflation support in the smaller communities, would we be able to see that kind of a program going into a community? I'm going to be very pleased if your response is going to be yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The increase for the Iqaluit agreement is different than municipalities because Iqaluit is a city and they had an agreement with Community and Government Services for five-year block funding. There will be an increase in capital funding to the City of Iqaluit and we will have to sign the five-year agreement again.

As for all other communities, if we need to increase funding, we usually increase them, but in Iqaluit we have a one-time five-year agreement. However, with the other communities, we go through the process of budget approval. That's where the difference is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Qirngnuq.

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My jaw dropped.

>> *Laughter*

I have another question. Kugaaruk and Arctic Bay will be getting new fire trucks. When there was a fire in Kugaaruk last year, the fire trucks and firefighters worked for 48 hours trying to put the fire out and they had to go home with dirty uniforms. It's not good for a firefighter to go home with a dirty uniform because they smell of smoke and it's not good for the people in the house, especially those who have health problems. Is there going to be a shower room in the fire hall? I'm asking that question to get clarification. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member for his question. In regard to having those shower rooms in the facility, I will let my colleague know once we identify them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Qirngnuq.

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will expect to hear from him in the future.

In the capital estimates on page J-4, fire truck replacement is written there. Last year during the fire in Kugaaruk, we learned more about fire trucks. When the weather is really cold from minus 60 to minus 65 degrees, the fire trucks we received from down south don't work properly. I'm not sure how to explain it further to make it more understandable.

In view of that, how can we get fire trucks that are more conducive to the cold climate in the north? That's my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Getting the best fire trucks for the Arctic is always a concern. Whenever we need to update or renew fire trucks or any kind of equipment for the Arctic, they usually don't last as long in the cold. Fire trucks freeze while we are using them. We do have to work with the manufacturers to see how these fire trucks can be better for the Arctic and don't freeze as fast. We try to find out if there is any new equipment like that. We work with the Emergency Management Organization at CGS and we're always looking for other ways that can improve fire prevention. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Qirngnuq.

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me move on to something else about the planning. It



was good to hear about planning for the school in Taloyoak and it was good for the people of Taloyoak to hear as well. The question I have is: thinking about the future of the students that are graduating from high school, will there be any courses being made available for those graduates like woodworking or trades training? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): That question is not really for this department, but if the minister would like to respond to that, he can. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you. That is a very good question. Graduates need to be trained for work. I think the Minister of Education will be here tomorrow. I believe that the minister can answer that question, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Qirngnuq.

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you. I will expect that. In anticipation of asking that question tomorrow, I probably won't get any sleep tonight. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you. I take that as a comment. Following the list of names, Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome, minister. I didn't say "welcome" at first, so I apologize. I also welcome your officials.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, (interpretation) as the minister stated, all the communities in Nunavut were visited by their staff to see what their needs are.

We have a lack of garage space for vehicles in Naujaat and Coral Harbour. I used to work for the Hamlet of Coral Harbour, and the new vehicles are longer than the old ones. When I was a boy, I remember they were being built and they're just too short now. They've had to extend the garages. Has there been any talk about this during the community visits? That's my first question to the department. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Some communities have been visited and our intention is to visit the other communities that haven't been visited yet. Every community is lacking something and some communities are not so lacking. They talk to the workers and the municipal council. Unfortunately when the government staff were there, not all of the workers were available because of other responsibilities or scheduling conflicts. All the things that were mentioned are looked at by our staff. Our staff are shown such things as the lack of storage space for vehicles and office space and they have discussions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister. I would like to know if they also went to Naujaat, as I wasn't an MLA at the time. The mayor told me about the lack of warehouse or garage space. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you

very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Yes, our staff went to Naujaat last year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister. I don't see anything in the documents about Naujaat's request for a new garage. Is there any planning done on this or will we see this in the capital plan for next year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We want to show the communities' requests all out there, but we can't. We look at the integrated community sustainability plans. We follow their own priorities and try to work with them. However, I can't say whether we will see them in the capital plan next year and what will be in the capital plan. We are working towards that and producing what the communities want to see. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We heard some good news about the \$560 million that is for Nunavut. That is a substantial amount of money.

Will swimming pools in the Baffin region be in that program? There have been a lot of questions from our electors

about swimming pools and our constituents are saying, "We need swimming pools." Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can't say whether all that money can be used for swimming pools. We may have to take some money out of a certain project and put it into another project. I really can't provide an answer until we have made a final decision on where the money is going to go. We can try to put some of that money into swimming pools. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for his response. We will be expecting that.

We know Iqaluit is growing at a fast rate and they get their own financing different from the Nunavut communities. The people of Naujaat say that ever since Nunavut was created, the base funding that they get from the government to the hamlet has never been changed. It has never been increased. When can they expect to get caught up in operating funds? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: That question is more in the lines of operations and maintenance, but if the minister wants to respond. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak**: Thank you, Mr.

Chairman. I'll respond to it at a more appropriate time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. (interpretation) Do you have more questions? Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for the response. I'll take that as notice.

>> *Laughter*

(interpretation) Vehicles are very modern now and they are computerized. Whenever there's a problem with it, they need to be diagnosed with computers. If you don't have a diagnostic computer, then you can't really find out what the problem with the car is anymore.

This past summer there was a vehicle like that and hamlets are starting to get vehicles that are computerized. This past summer there was a vehicle sent from Coral Harbour down to Winnipeg because that vehicle can only be fixed by a computer. It cost \$5,000 or \$6,000 for a 30-minute job and then they shipped it back.

For things like that, can the hamlet get help in getting computerized diagnostic tools or analyzers? Do they get help with that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have many different vehicles and each vehicle has a different computer. Each community is different. Right now I can't say whether we can help with that.

We would have to look into getting vehicles that are similar to each other or standardize vehicles. We can work with the hamlets if they have computer problems with their new vehicles because manufacturers don't want to go back away from computerized vehicles. As this issue will come up more and more, we can work with the communities to see how this can be improved. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Kaernek** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was too ahead, so let me go back.

>> *Laughter*

This was asked by the Member for Gjoa Haven about arenas. You said that Hall Beach will be a part of this. Can you help me understand what kind of planning has been done for arena upgrades? Let me first ask that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Yes, the communities that I mentioned are at the planning stage on what improvements are needed. If you look at the completion, they would have concrete floors and water would freeze faster. If it's not too expensive, they could get new sidings and windows. That's where we're heading. We would have to do the planning first and planning studies on what kind of materials they would need for the ground

that they're on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Kaernek.

**Mr. Kaernek** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The arena in Hall Beach definitely needs improvements. I would like it to be included. The Hall Beach arena needs to be improved and it can only be used in the winter. The youth don't have many places to go in Hall Beach. I would like Hall Beach's arena looked at carefully. If the arena can be used year-round, it would benefit the youth. I just want you to consider Hall Beach in that program. Thank you for this opportunity, Mr. Chairman. That's it for me.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you. Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Keyootak.

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that you report progress to the Speaker.

**Chairman:** Thank you. We have a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion. All those opposed. The motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress.

Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the officials from the witness table. (interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister's officials out.

**Speaker** (interpretation): We will now

proceed with the orders of the day. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Mikkungwak.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 1 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, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Ms. Nakashuk. Thank you. The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Thank you. All those opposed. The motion is carried.

Going to Item 21 in the *Orders of the Day*. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. *Orders of the Day*. (interpretation ends) Mr. Clerk.

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

**Clerk** (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a reminder that the regular caucus meets tomorrow at ten o'clock in the Nanuq Boardroom with the Minister of Finance. That's at ten o'clock tomorrow.

*Orders of the Day* for March 8:

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 4
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

This House stands adjourned until Thursday, March 8, at 1:30 p.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 18:05*

Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you.

