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Speaker: The Hon. Levi Barnabas, M.L.A.

# Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

## *Speaker*

**Hon. Levi Barnabas**  
(Quttiktuq)

**Ovide Alakannuark**  
(Akulliq)

**Enoki Irqittuq**  
(Amittuq)  
*Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole*

**Kevin O'Brien**  
(Arviat)  
*Chair of Caucus*

**Glenn McLean**  
(Baker Lake)

**Hon. Kelvin Ng**  
(Cambridge Bay)  
*Minister of Finance and Administration; Minister of Human Resources; Government House Leader*

**Peter Kattuk**  
(Hudson Bay)

**Hunter Tootoo**  
(Iqaluit Centre)

**Hon. Ed Picco**  
(Iqaluit East)  
*Minister of Health and Social Services*

**Hon. Paul Okalik**  
(Iqaluit West)  
*Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs*

**Hon. Donald Havioyak**  
(Kugluktuk)  
*Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth*

**Hon. James Arvaluk**  
(Nanulik)  
*Minister of Education*

**Uriash Puqiqnak**  
(Nattilik)  
*Deputy Speaker*

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk**  
(Pangnirtung)  
*Minister of Sustainable Development*

**Hon. Jack Anawak**  
(Rankin Inlet North)  
*Minister of Justice; Minister of Community Government, Housing and Transportation*

**Hon. Manito Thompson**  
(Rankin Inlet South-Whale Cove)  
*Minister of Public Works, Telecommunications and Technical Services*

**Olayuk Akesuk**  
(South Baffin)

**Jobie Nutarak**  
(Tunnunig)

**David Iqaqrialu**  
(Uqqummiut)  
*Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole*

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Innirvik Support Services

**Box 1200**

**Iqaluit, Nunavut, X0A 0H0**

**Tel (867) 979-6770 Fax (867) 979-6811 Toll-Free (877) 334-7266**

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut  
Wednesday May 26, 1999**

**Members Present**

Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, Mr. Olayuk Akesuk, Honourable Jack Anawak, Honourable James Arvaluk, Honourable Levi Barnabas, Honourable Donald Havioyak, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Mr. Enoki Irqittuq, Mr. Peter Kattuk, Honourable Peter Kilabuk, Mr. Glenn McLean, Honourable Kelvin Ng, Mr. Jobie Nutarak, Mr. Kevin O'Brien, Honourable Paul Okalik, Honourable Edward Picco, Mr. Uriash Puqiqnak, Honourable Manitoq Thompson, Mr. Hunter Tootoo.

**Item 1: Prayer**

**Speaker** (Mr. Barnabas) (interpretation): I would like to ask Mr. Iqaqrialu to open the meeting with a prayer.

>>Prayer

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. First of all in regards to yesterday, a motion was tabled on the hours of sitting. I was given the discretion to fix the hours. From Monday to Thursday, it is going to be from 10.30 to 12.00 and 1.30 to 6.00 in the afternoons. On Friday from 10.30 to 4.00 and Saturdays from 11.00 to 4.00 pm.

I would also like to announce that it is our Premiers' birthday today.

>>Applause

Item 2, Ministers' Statements. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements****Ministers' Statement 18 - 1 (2) : Roy C. Hill Award - Nick Newberry, Terry Fox Program**

**Hon. James Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I am proud to stand in our Legislative Assembly today to congratulate one of our teachers for being presented with the Roy C. Hill Award. Nick Newberry, a teacher at Inuksuk High School, was awarded this award for his work in developing and implementing the Terry Fox Program. This program was designed as an alternative for students whose needs were not met by the mainstream education programs and has been on-going for the past 12 years. This program includes academics, land and survival skills, life skills, and community work and service.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate and thank Mr. Newberry for his hard work and dedication to the education of our young people.

Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Ministers' Statements, Ms. Thompson.

**Ministers' Statement 19 - 1 (2): Gjoa Haven Gasoline Situation**

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as a result of the issues that have been raised with respect to the Gjoa Haven gasoline, I would like to provide the following facts for the information of all those concerned.

Sampling and testing of gasoline, diesel and aircraft fuels is completed before the products are shipped to the community. The Gjoa Haven, Cambridge Bay and Taloyoak gasoline passed tests for these specifications.

After the tanks were filled in the community, another set of samples were taken and tested. These also met the specifications.

In response to the concerns raised by the community, additional samples were taken and tested.

One set of these samples was sent to an independent testing facility as requested by the Hamlet. A copy of the results of these tests was sent directly to the Hamlet by the testing facility.

Analysis of all these samples was completed by three separate facilities. Alberta Research Council, Petro-Canada and Advanced Engine Technologies Ltd.

Advanced Engine Technologies is also inspecting the damaged engine parts. In addition they are conducting, "Cold Weather Testing". A preliminary report is expected this week and a final report should be ready in early June.

The department has incurred total costs of \$39,300 in an attempt to address the concerns of Gjoa Haven residents about the gasoline.

I would also like to emphasize that this is the same gasoline that is being used in both Cambridge Bay and Taloyoak. It is from the same shipment.

I am happy to report that recently there was a fishing derby in Gjoa Haven and there were no major snowmobile problems reported.

I also note that there was recent mention of snowmobile races that were held in the community. Again, no problems were reported.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that this will help reassure the residents of Gjoa Haven that we take their concerns seriously and we have been attempting to use all the resources at our disposal in order to satisfy those concerns.

Thank you Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you Ms. Thompson. Ministers' Statements. Ministers' Statements. Item 3, Members' Statements. Members' Statements, Mr. Akesuk.

### **Item 3: Members' Statements**

#### **Members' Statement 60 - 1 (2): Qulliq Donated to the Assembly**

**Mr. Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to make a comment about the qulliq that was made for the Legislative Assembly. This qulliq was given to us by Northwestel, and it was made by Simata Pitsiulak, from Kimmirut. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Members' Statements. Mr. Kilabuk.

#### **Members' Statement 61 - 1 (2): Thanks and Happy Birthday to Wife**

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. This morning, I heard concerns from my constituency, and I would like to say that this morning we will be working on their concerns. I would also like to say thank you and acknowledge my wife, as it is her birthday today.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. We will send a birthday card to your wife. Members' Statements. Mr. Irqittuq.

#### **Members' Statement 62 - 1 (2): Condolences to Bereaved Family**

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the house that in my constituency of Igloolik a person passed away. This person was down south when she passed away. On behalf of her family, Ika Irngaut passed away yesterday or the day before. I would like to pass on my condolences to her family in Igloolik.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Members' Statements'. Mr. McLean.



**Members' Statement 63 - 1 (2) : Nunavut / Kivalliq Road Link**

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time today to comment on the Premiers' statements on the road link to Kivalliq and Nunavut. We hear costs but to every project there is a cost, but this project the payback to all of Nunavut will be huge. We are dealing with federal transfer payments and we are all saying that we need more money for housing, education and health.

A road to the Kivalliq opens up both the tourism sector and the non-renewable resource sector. This means jobs in tourism and mining. Jobs mean taxes both personal and corporate. It also means royalties. This means we as residents of Nunavut are starting to stand on our own two feet by generating much needed revenue that Nunavut needs to run programs.

Mr. Speaker, a road to the Kivalliq region brings benefits to all members of Nunavut. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. McLean. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Item 4, Returns to Oral Questions. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Arvaluk.

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

**Hon. James Arvaluk** (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, since we don't very often recognize our employees, I have a very competent employee and I am sure that everyone knows this person from her time as a member of the Uvagut band. Ooleena Nowyuk our secretary, I would like to recognize her.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Irqittuq.

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. This person was recognized but this person was from my constituency and has moved to Iqaluit because of his job. If it wasn't for this person I don't know if we would be sitting here at this House. If it wasn't for this person I am sure the Land Claims Agreement wouldn't be as comprehensive as it is. So I would like this person to rise, Mr. Paul Quassa, I would like to recognize Mr. Paul Quassa.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors to the Gallery. I would also like to recognize a person who used to work for me and now

works for the Nunavut Government. This person lived in my riding for a long time, I would like to recognize David Akeegok.

>>Applause

I would also like to welcome all of the other people in the Gallery. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Irqittuq.

### **Item 6: Oral Questions**

#### **Question 84 - 1 (2) : Status of Doctor for Igloolik**

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Yesterday I asked a question to the Minister of Health and the response I got was inaccurate. The question I brought was regarding doctors. When we were in Igloolik, the Minister made a statement saying there was going to be a doctor based in Igloolik as soon as accommodations were available, and he stated that name of a particular doctor. Mr. Speaker, when I asked him what the status was, apparently he misunderstood my question. So my question now is what is the status of the doctor now?

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco**: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in the translation yesterday it came across as the nurse in Igloolik and not the doctor. In the original question when I reviewed it just now, indeed the translation was lost, so I think we have to get our Hansard fixed.

In response to the question by the member on the doctor for Igloolik, when I was in Igloolik with the member about two weeks ago, the Mayor had indicated that the doctor was going into Igloolik, of which I was aware, because I had spoken to the doctor. The intention of the doctor was to move to Igloolik. When I came back from Igloolik I contacted the Health Board through the department to find out the status of the doctor moving to Igloolik was, and is.

To date, I still haven't got an official response from the Health Board on the status of the doctor, when the doctor was moving to Igloolik and on the housing situation. As soon as I get that information, I spoke to the member this morning, and I committed to him that I would get that information to him and hopefully by sometime today we will have that information for the member. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Question 85 - 1 (2) : NTPC Report for Clyde River**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I will be asking my question to the Minister responsible for NTPC. I have not yet received any documents regarding the NTPC. I am not asking for all the documents, I just want the documents specific to Clyde River.

That is a report that was promised to me by the Minister responsible for NTPC. I just want the report specifically for Clyde River. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Power Corporation Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yes I have had a couple of conversations with the member on the power corporation. As most members realize, the Northwest Territories Power Corporation actually has two Ministers. The Minister for the Northwest Territories is Mr. Dent and I am responsible for operational issues here in the Nunavut region.

After saying that, the information on the Clyde River plant, I requested that information from the power corporation, which is at their head office in Hay River. I spoke to my staff about it this morning and I haven't got that information right now but will commit to getting that information to the member today. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

**Question 86 - 1 (2): Tunnel Between Schools in Pond Inlet**

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. This question is for the Minister of Education. We have two schools, one older than the other. They're looking at putting a tunnel or connector between the two schools. One doesn't have a gym, so the idea behind putting in this tunnel was so that the students could go over there during school without going outside. I have received correspondence from the GNWT. One was built in 1961 and we have a problem with the schools, I would like the Minister of Education to give me an update on what is happening with these two schools.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Hon. James Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Yes, I did get that letter from the Baffin Divisional Board of Education, Mr. David Qamaniq, from Pond Inlet. I think the member is well aware that we did have the safety officer check out the school. I think it was during the GNWT days that the Minister of Education, Charles Dent, realised that following the safety code, they couldn't build this tunnel. Even if this was put into the 99/2000 budget we can't go ahead because it is a fire hazard to put the tunnel from the old school to the new school.

There is a new set of codes that we have to follow with newer facilities and the safety officers are concerned that should there be a fire in any one of these facilities, it could become a safety concern. If the older facility caught on fire it could become a safety concern for the students. With that in mind, we still haven't done anything about the tunnel between the two schools. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Second question Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. We have been hearing since 1992 that this tunnel was going to be built every year and they have always deferred the item, We have to do something about it and our school is already full of students, if there could be an agreement, is it possible to work together so that we can resolve this problem?

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Although I didn't hear a question in there, Mr. Minister you can respond. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Hon. James Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. According to what I hear him saying, I think he is asking us to rectify the situation. At this time we are trying to accumulate all the information on the Pond Inlet school. I have my staff working on this issue and I also want to hear from the government staff and others who usually deal with building standards and codes. I will instruct them to discuss this matter with the Education Council in Pond Inlet and also work with the capital estimates within the department of Education. Once we get all the information, I think we will get together tonight at 7 o'clock, and after we get together with the officials we will find out if we need to go to Pond Inlet again to figure out what to do with the tunnel.

We will deal with the issue tonight. We are all aware of what the members concern is, Mr. Speaker, that one of the schools has a gymnasium and the other does not. We are all aware that when the students use the gymnasium they are sweating and they have to go outside to get back to their classrooms and we hear that they catch cold when they leave the gymnasium all sweaty. For that reason, how we will we be able to rectify this problem, according to building standards and looking at the children catching colds from leaving the gymnasium to go back to their classrooms. We will look into all of these aspects and issues and respond as soon as we can, to find out the best possible way to benefit the students and children in Pond Inlet and still follow government building codes and then we can respond better to you. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Third question Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. As the Education Minister stated he had asked the Fire Marshall to investigate the school, although he met with the Council they couldn't come up with a concrete solution. Last week we started working on this issue and the Fire Marshall was unable to respond to our questions.

So perhaps, if the Minister could go to Pond Inlet and meet with the Council, they could rectify this situation in Pond Inlet.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Minister of Education, Mr. Arvaluk.

**Hon. James Arvaluk** (interpretation): I don't know if there was a question in his comments. Mr. Speaker, I know they couldn't come to an agreement when the government staff members and the Community Education Council, Hamlet Council or Housing Council met. When the government officials cannot agree with the entities in the communities, they usually ask their superiors what they should do. I am sure they will be asking me that question sometime in the future, so I will also consider this and I am sure I will also be given different options to solve the situation. I think we will have to deal with the options first and after that respond to the member as to whether I have to go to Pond Inlet to meet with the Education Council.

Once we have done that if we have to go to Pond Inlet we will take my officials there, but at this time I cannot respond to you or say to you that we will be going to Pond Inlet until we meet with the officials tonight. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Oral Questions. Mr. Akesuk.

#### **Question 87 - 1 (2): Pipeline to Water Reservoir**

**Mr. Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Public Works, Telecommunications & Technical Services. I went to my home community over the weekend and a concern was raised in regards to the pipeline going to the water reservoir. It goes all the way up to the lake and this pipeline is pretty old. The health officials have already investigated the pipeline for safety reasons when GNWT was our government.

My question is, do you have any money available to deal with the old pipeline? Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Minister of Public Works, Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am aware of the community's concern over this issue and I will look into it and see what we can do and reply to you when we find out.

**Speaker**: Thank you Ms. Thompson. Second question Mr. Akesuk.

**Mr. Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. The health inspectors were in Cape Dorset for a while and they stated that we could only use that pipeline for up to one more year. Once the pipeline breaks, or if it erodes, or gets damaged, we would have to

deal with this as an emergency issue. I was wondering Ms. Thompson, if you could look into this as soon as possible. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Minister of Public Works, Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will get my officials to work on the pipeline as soon as possible. I know that the community is quite concerned about it. We will also look into the reports that were written after the investigation and I will direct my officials to look into that.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Oral questions. Mr. Kattuk.

### **Question 88 - 1 (2): Gun Control Legislation**

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Premier. Perhaps a majority of the Nunavut residents are concerned about gun control legislation. I would just like further clarification on your response, what the status is, Mr. Premier. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kattuk. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would have to respond the same, we are still looking into this and we're looking into the legal aspects of this. We will keep on top of it. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Okalik. Oral questions. Mr. McLean.

### **Question 89 - 1 (2) : Policy for Establishing Full Time Doctors in Nunavut Communities**

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Health. Mr. Speaker, I want to know what the policy is regarding establishing full time doctors in Nunavut communities. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. McLean. Minister of Health, Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as the member knows, the department of Health, right now, the delivery of doctors' services is run by the individual health boards, the Keewatin Health Board, the Baffin Regional Health Board and the Kitikmeot Health & Social Services Board. On the positioning of doctors in communities, as the Minister, it is my aim to try and get as many doctors into communities as possible. We are going to try and do that over the next year as we phase out the boards and take on that responsibility. At the present time the staffing of doctors, individual doctors is at the request of the individual health board, we then try to facilitate that arrangement.

Again, it is based on the demand at the community level and the availability of doctors to make that move. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral questions, Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think the Minister has answered my question, in regards to establishing a doctor in Baker Lake, we have made many requests to the Keewatin Regional Health Board, and the request has fallen on deaf ears.

Is the Minister, when we abolish the Health Boards, going to make a commitment to establishing full time doctors in communities that qualify for them? Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. McLean. Minister of Health, Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I can commit to looking into it Mr. Speaker. As I said, it depends on the availability of doctors and I guess what we would be looking for in the communities would be a general practitioner. Right now, as we all know there are demand problems, supply problems with medical professionals, not only in Nunavut, but all over Canada and indeed, in North America.

I would commit to the member and the members of this House is that where operational request by community to have a doctor in regional centres, like Baker Lake, Cambridge Bay and the larger communities to service the smaller communities, we will try to facilitate and do that. I know the request has been put forward by the Hamlet of Baker Lake, and we have looked at it, I know the Keewatin Regional Health Board has looked at it, again it is just finding the doctors to be able to move into the communities. That is one of the things we are trying to do in the department of Health. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral questions. Mr. Tootoo.

### **Question 90 - 1 (2) : Gun Control Legislation**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question goes to the Premier. As my colleague from Hudson Bay indicated, he had asked about any action being taken on gun control legislation with Ottawa. Last week I believe, I posed a question to the Minister of Justice and if his department was going to be taking a look at it. In light of this Mr. Premier, I would like to ask if the government is taking a look at the possibility of approaching Ottawa on it, and if so, whose department is going to be responsible for it. Is it going to be through Executive or is it going to be through Justice? Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker (interpretation):** Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Southern governments are involved in this court action. My department will be handling the situation and we will use some expertise at the department of Justice as there are legal matters. From what I understand there is no court hearing set as of yet, at the Supreme Court of Canada level. We are monitoring the situation and we will continue to do so and see what we can do for Nunavut. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Okalik. Second question, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think, and correct me if I am wrong, the member from Hudson Bay was asking if our government is approaching the government in Ottawa, to try and work on some changes to help modify the system to work in Nunavut. Not whether we are waiting to hear if we are going to court or not. I am just wondering if any talks have proceeded in that area. Just setting up a dialogue with the federal government to look at possible changes. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker (interpretation):** Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Government Leader Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** I believe the reason why they are in court is that attempts were made to try and modify the legislation and they wouldn't be in court if they hadn't tried that. I could look into it and get back to the member. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker (interpretation):** Thank you Mr. Premier. Oral questions. Mr. Puqiqnak.

#### **Question 91 - 1(2) : Impact of Proposed Highway on Taloyoak**

**Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation):** Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister responsible for Transportation. As the Qamanittuaq member had stated, he made a members' statement that he is happy about constructing a road in the Keewatin region. Everybody is quite happy and pleased about the proposal. My question on behalf of Kitikmeot and Taloyoak, is will it have a social impact on the community of Taloyoak or will it also benefit the community of Taloyoak? Thank you.

**Speaker (interpretation):** Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. Minister of Transportation, Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation):** Thank you. In regards to transportation, on behalf of our department, I would like to thank the Premier for discussing this matter at the Western Premier's Conference, but this is only a part of Transportation's responsibilities in the Keewatin Region. We have to find ways to solve the transportation issues. I know that if a road going to Rankin Inlet, Arviat up to Baker Lake, perhaps to Whale Cove and Chesterfield Inlet is constructed, goods will be a lot cheaper to those communities, even, as I mentioned, to the communities that are not on the highway system.



At this time, we don't know if this construction will actually go ahead, but if it does go ahead in the future it will alleviate many of the high costs of living in the communities in Nunavut.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Second question Mr. Puqiqnak.

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. The reason why I am asking this question for Gjoa Haven and Taloyoak, is usually during the last stages of fall or autumn the ships go to Gjoa Haven and I have seen more than once ships going to the community when it is too late and it is freezing up. They tend to get stuck in our area so that is why I asked this question. Perhaps we can get the cargo ships to come earlier to my communities because they arrive pretty late in the season. When they arrive late with the construction materials we have to build the units pretty late in the fall. Sometimes we have to wait until the next spring to construct our units because materials have arrived too late in the fall, so we have to wait another year to get the construction going. If the ships came earlier in the fall we could start the construction earlier. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Please try to keep your questions brief. If you are going to use examples try to keep them brief so you don't repeat your questions and are brief.  
Minister Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Yes, thank you. We have to look at transportation issues in all aspects whether it be aircraft, ships or constructing roads. We have to look at transportation as a whole. We have to look at everything; we have to look at all aspects of transportation when dealing with this issue and we will keep updating you as we progress. Thank you.

**Speaker**: Thank you Mr. Anawak. Third question Mr. Puqiqnak.

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Today is 1999 and we still haven't started dealing with it this year. I remember in 1993 at the leaders summit there was a motion raised to have the cargo ships come earlier in the fall. I started working on this issue back in 1993. We had requested an earlier arrival for the ships, especially in the two communities that I have mentioned. I was told that I would have to make a request to God and pray that the ice would melt a lot sooner than it actually did. However, this is not a joke, I was asked that question. For that reason, Mr. Speaker, if this is not going to change, if cargo shipments still arrive late in the season, if this doesn't change it will not resolve anything unless the season starts warming up a lot earlier.

If the department is going to be constructing a road it will be a lot easier for the two communities. If they are not going to be constructing a road, perhaps they should be extending the airstrips in the two communities. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. I know there are other members who would like to ask questions so if you could use shorter examples, so that the other members could have an opportunity to ask questions. Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you. I can tell my colleague that NTCL creates the schedule and we will speak to them in respect of the sealift schedule. The other matters which he raised we will be looking at them. It has to be kept in mind that the airports in Nunavut, especially two of them, require extensions and if we are looking at the airports we will have to look at the Iqaluit airport. I know there has to be some upgrading of the airport ; it has to follow the codes and so on. I will ask my staff to look into that a little more. I think it has to be kept in mind that there are safety hazards as well, and we have to look at everything before we deal with those matters. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral questions. Mr. O'Brien.

**Question 92 - 1 (2): Proposed Power Grid to Keewatin**

**Mr. O'Brien:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister responsible for the, I am not quite sure what the title is now, whether it is the NWT Power Corporation or the Nunavut Power Corporation, but in reference to the power corporation and the Ministers' responsibilities and involvement in that area.

Mr. Speaker, it is nice to hear the road from the south to the Keewatin or Nunavut get so much profile. But there is another issue that is being reviewed and studied and that is the power grid from Churchill to Arviat and the Keewatin in general. I wonder if the Minister could update the House on the status of the study that has been ongoing for the last two years in reference to costs and routing and so on, of this proposed power grid. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Power Corporation, Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am aware of the proposal on the power grid, Mr. O'Brien has been very articulate over the past couple of years in his support for the power grid. I haven't actually read the study, but I can commit to the member to get that information and provide it to him. The power corporation, we don't have a Nunavut Power Corporation as such, Mr. Speaker, indeed it is still the Northwest Territories Power Corporation. We have a transition agreement in place, which allows for both governments to look at the feasibility of Nunavut going it alone or look at shared resources, the status quo, keeping the power corporation. That is just for the information of the House. So I will commit to update the member in this House on the proposed power grid, line or corridor between the Province of Manitoba and the Keewatin Region of Nunavut. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral question Mr. O'Brien.

**Mr. O'Brien:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, would the Minister also commit to getting information on the potential cost savings, I believe the kilowatt hour cost in Manitoba is something like six cents and in my community it is about sixty. If the

Minister could commit to getting that type of information about cost savings and also the approximate cost of the construction of such a grid, and the cost sharing agreements that may be in place to pay for this whether it be through the Nunavut Government, the Manitoba Government and the Federal Government. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Minister responsible for the NWT Power Corporation, Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Yes, Mr. Speaker, we will commit to doing that.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Alakannuark.

**Question 93 - 1 (2) : Airline Schedules in the Kitikmeot**

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question which I will be posing is to be directed to the Minister of Transportation. If we were to look at a road between the Kivalliq and the Kitikmeot, I think, again because the airline schedules and no direct links between the regions has caused a lot of problems, the airline schedules need to be improved.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, thank you Mr. Speaker. We still have not got together with the airline companies, but the airline companies are studying how to change the airline schedules in Nunavut because Nunavut is on its' own now and the companies are thinking of revamping their airline schedules to better benefit the Nunavut Territory. That is all I can say right now as I still haven't met with the airline companies.

Regarding his question on the airline schedules, they have looked at that option but they still have not implemented it and I am not sure how they are going to implement it until I have met with them.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral questions. Mr. Alakannuark.

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I understand the Ministers' statement but every time I try to go to Repulse Bay it is impossible without re-routing through somewhere. I have to go through Yellowknife in order to get to Repulse and it is very expensive to take that route. We have been trying to get this changed, and the Kitikmeot leaders have been trying to get this changed since 1988, to try and get a scheduled route to Repulse, Pelly Bay and Igloolik. Although this issue has been ongoing, the Mayor of Repulse Bay and myself, I think my question is more towards how the schedule can be changed to benefit the people of Pelly Bay and the Keewatin.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Minister of Transportation, Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you. I know that the airline companies are aware of the changes in Nunavut and the schedules will be changed. For example the people from Kitikmeot, no matter which community they come from whether it be Cambridge, Taloyoak, Gjoa Haven, wherever, they have to go through Yellowknife. As Nunavut is getting implemented and as we are getting used to our new government I know that there will be better transportation links between the larger centres and more travel between the regions.

The companies will be looking at ways to revamp the schedules between regions, but as I stated I still have to meet with the airline companies to review the airline schedules, but they are fully aware of the fact that there are wishes to expand air travel.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral question. Mr. Kattuk.

**Question 94 - 1 (2): Socio-Economic Impact of Highway Construction**

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct this question to the Minister of Transportation. I am not trying to criticise you but I think it should be kept in mind for the people that are trying to build a highway, I have seen examples in James Bay where the roads to the south once they are created there are a lot of people who die as a result. It changes their lives and I know there has been loss of life because when they were travelling down that route they had accidents. I know it has been a concern raised, especially by the Cree and the other Indian tribes, once they got a road from the south they have said that a lot of their band members dies. So I guess I am asking the Minister if they are to construct a highway from the south, whether they have looked into the matter of socio-economic impacts of the proposed highway. That is my question to the Minister of Transportation. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kattuk. Minister of Transportation, Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): I am not really sure what will happen when that highway is made but I know that when we are dealing with the issue there will be a lot of questions about impacts and the pros and cons of the highway. Especially the people who will be impacted will be bringing up a lot of questions, but I am sure it can be brought up at that time. I do know that they are fully in support of the construction of the highway to the south, but it has not yet been developed, and we are not yet at the point where we can say that the highway will be constructed. These are the things that we will have to deal with. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral questions. Mr. Tootoo.

**Question 95 - 1 (2): Court Challenge to Gun Control Legislation**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have been pondering the answer the Premier gave me in response to my last question and I have another question in regards to the same issue.

Earlier he indicated that they are waiting to see the outcome of the legal challenge that is being put forward by the other jurisdictions in Canada. I am wondering, Mr. Speaker, are we just going to sit and wait to see what happens with that? Or are we going to file in order to participate and to have our concerns heard there. Are we going to be observers, or are we going to be participants in that? Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Two questions, Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. As I said we are looking at the situation, we have to weigh our options and see if we have a chance in helping them win the court case. So we have to weigh our options and other than that I can't answer anything else at this time. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Premier, Mr. Okalik. Oral questions, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am not asking whether we are going to file and try and win or not, I am just asking as a matter of planning or participating, are we just going to sit back and take it as it is? I understand that there are issues regarding our concerns all over and even in Nunavut, regarding gun safety. I am asking are we going to just sit and wait or are we going to try and establish some dialogue. I know the Premier said he is looking into it, are they looking into dialogue not just with the case itself but also with other plans for even having people there to observe, to gather information so depending on the outcome of the case, we have a base to go from instead of starting from scratch at that time? Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker (interpretation):** Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Premier, Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. As I said we are looking at the situation and we will continue to look at it and may...

>>audio unavailable

**Speaker:** Third question Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I am wondering if the Premier could commit to a time frame as to when the decision on behalf of the government will be made to whether we are observers or participators in this? Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Tootoo. I believe this is in court and we don't know the time frame. Mr. Tootoo?

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I wasn't asking when the Court case is going to be done, I was asking the Premier if he can provide us, he has indicated that they are looking into whether, what options are in front of us. And I was wondering if he can provide us with a timeframe as to when they are going to be done looking at those options and can provide us with an avenue that this government is going to take in that. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Tootoo. (interpretation) Premier of the Nunavut Government, Mr. Okalik?

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Yes I can't commit to an exact time, but my colleague Jack Anawak, the Minister for Justice, is meeting with the Justice Minister for the Federal Government on June 7<sup>th</sup>. I believe that we can provide information as to the outcome of that meeting as well. Other than that I cannot commit to an exact time because we are looking at the situation and we, it is beyond our control. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Premier. Oral questions? Oral questions. Mr. Irqittuq

#### **Question 96 - 1 (2) : Court Challenge to Gun Control Legislation**

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. In respect to the Premier. He has been given the same question, but I would like to ask the same question on the same issue and when ever we have a question, sometimes we get one standard answer when we are reviewing the issue. I know Mr. Speaker I can review this and I am reviewing this as I speak. And that's the usual answer. How, I guess my question is, in respect to the Gun Legislation, how much, what has he done, not just a review. Where are the letters that have been written or what are the issues that are dealt with. I think that these are the types of things we are asking questions about.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you two questions. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Yes, I do want to give a proper answer but whenever a case is before the courts we can never really make the information known because we cannot say, we cannot tell the court how it conducts it's business. And that's why, that's how we have to be very careful about our responses especially in cases before the courts. So I just wanted to clarify that Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** I think I will rule the questions out of order for the Gun Bill, because we cannot answer it when it is in the court. Oral questions Mr. McLean.

#### **Question 97 - 1 (2) : Student Summer Employment**

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Human Resources. As we know, the school year is coming to an end very rapidly, and we will have an abundance of High School students out looking for summer employment

opportunities. Is the Minister's department going to fund some summer student employment programs this year? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. McLean. Finance of Minister Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I am not sure about the, specifically the Department of Human Resources. I know some departments have within their budgets some flexibility for student hiring. We will have to find out the information collectively as a government and provide that to him. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Ng. Oral questions. Oral questions. Mr. O'Brien.

**Question 98 - 1 (2) :Health/Education Board Amalgamation Contract**

**Mr. O'Brien:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I posed some questions in reference to a contract that was issued to hire an individual to review, I guess some, and provide transitional details regarding the Health Board and Education Board. The Minister of Health indicated that the contract was being looked after by the Premier's office and the Department of Intergovernmental Affairs.

I wonder if the Premier the Premier, if he doesn't have his information today, if he would commit to provide the terms of reference for this arrangement. I searched through the Hansard and I see it is being called, that the individual is hired and I see other areas where it is a contract, a short term contract and so on. My question would be, would the Premier commit to providing this House with the terms of reference for this arrangement and also the time lines. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Before you answer I would like to address something. Yesterday, there was a question made to Mr. Picco regarding this contract and the name was mentioned. We do not mention names in here in the House when the person cannot defend himself. I would like to address that. Question was directed to Mr. Premier. Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I believe that this issue is being looked at, at the Justice Department whether we can actually file terms of reference for actual contracts before the House. Thank you Mr. Speaker and I will get back to the Member as soon as that determination is decided.

**Speaker (interpretation):** Thank you Mr. Premier. (English) Questions. Oral Questions, Mr. Nutarak.

**Question 99 - 1 (2):Pond Inlet Dock**

**Mr. Nutarak (interpretation):** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I apologize. This question is directed to the Minister of Public Works regarding the dock that was going to be built in Pond Inlet. That was, that project was to have started in 1997 and more work to be done

in 1998 with a break in between. Looking at the Capital Projects, I don't see this dock being built or maybe the contract was already awarded to build that dock in Pond Inlet.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Minister of Public Works, Ms Thompson.

**Hon. Manikot Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I don't have anything with me on hand. I will give you information today once we have the documents.

**Speaker:** Thank you Ms. Thompson. Oral questions. Mr. Tootoo.

### **Question 100 - 1 (2) : Government Contracts made Public**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker my question has come about as a result of a comment made by the Premier, so I would like to ask him. He indicated that they wanted to find out whether they could provide contracts, public contracts with Government dollars, that information to members of this House. Mr. Speaker, I guess that leaves me asking the question. Is this, if they say it is not, does this government have the ability to enter into contracts with people or companies without having that knowledge being made public? Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Tootoo. (interpretation): Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. As I understand it this is an employment contract with an individual and it is in the authority of our department to hire employees and we have almost one thousand employees and each individual has a contract with the government and we are looking at whether we are allowed to table these in the House. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Okalik. Mr. Tootoo?

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker most employees of the Government are hired through the Department of Human Resources. I would think all of them should be. Mr. Speaker by going directly and hiring individuals in the departments, I am wondering is that in conflict with the way employees are hired, or, I will just start with that right now, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Tootoo. I hear no question, but if you want to respond Mr. Premier. Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Mr. Speaker. This was a short term contract and a scan was carried out as to the availability of individuals that could carry out the work in such a short period of time, and organising charts for some departments and carrying out the dissolution of the Boards and putting together a plan. These had to be done quickly. As



a government we had to organise ourselves and do that quickly and put together plans for the Minister to review. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Okalik. Third question Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker in these contracts, I know the government employees fall under the government contracts and are treated in a certain way. Is there any mechanism in place to ensure that there is a fair and equitable treatment of all employees of the government of Nunavut, or is this something that is outside that? Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Premier, Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** I will have to take this on notice. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Premier. Oral questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

#### **Question 101 - 1 (2): Insurance for Hunters**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker I have two questions. First one is to the Minister of Sustainable Development. In my community there is quite a lot of whales outside of our community. In the summer it is quite dangerous because of the large population of whales. Should there be an accident, what would happen if a boat was capsized by a bowhead? For example what kind of insurance or what kind of plan is there.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. (English) Minister of Sustainable Development Mr. Kilabuk?

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to respond first of all for example, outfitters are insured under the tourism policy, and there are the regular hunters who are covered or could make a request to the Workers Compensation Board. Those are two types of insurance that could be taken through the Nunavut Government and if he would like further information he can ask us another question.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Second question Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that direct response. I have another question regarding people from Clyde River we have a high density of polar bear population in that area. I am always opposed to the Polar Bear guidelines or guidelines where we are told that we can only hunt male polar bears which is totally opposite of the way I was brought up and the way I am. Now that there are too many young bears there is a lot of dangerous bears out there now and there is a large population of young bears. Can we make amendments to the present regulations so that we could alleviate this problem through the Nunavut Government.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you for your question. I will, not about his question, you should have asked the same, you started off by asking a question about bowheads. You should have kept to that subject. Question period is over Mr. Arvaluk.

**Hon. James Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. We should go back to Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. He is asking for unanimous consent to go back to number 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Any nays? Since there are no nays, we have unanimous consent.

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

**Hon. James Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker and thank you Members of the Legislative Assembly. I would like to recognize someone from the community of Coral Harbour, which is in my riding. Mr. Iqaqrialu said he was from the polar bear country but my riding is called Nanulik, right now there are a lot of geese. Mr. Speaker I would like to recognize, because everybody is different, in each of our communities but some are more essential than others, even though they do not belong to any boards or anything, so I would like to recognize Veroni Ell from Coral Harbour. If you would rise, Thank you Mr. Speaker.

>> applause<<

**Speaker** (interpretation): Welcome. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Akesuk

**Mr. Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you , Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize who was a very important in the education in the NWT, and who was also very important in seeing a deficit free Nunavut. Mr. Goo Arlooktoo.

>> applause <<

**Speaker** (interpretation): Welcome to our meeting Mr. Arlooktoo. Recognition of visitors in the Gallery. If that's the case, and like I said Friday our House starts at 10:00 and goes to 4:00. That is a slight change from the announcement I made this morning. At this time, since it is almost lunch hour we will take a recess until one thirty. Thank you.

Break

**Speaker** (interpretation): Good afternoon. Let's go back to our orders of the day. Item 7, Written Questions. Written Questions. Item 8, Returns to Written Questions. Item 9, Replies to Opening Address. Item 10, Petitions. Item 11, Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12, Reports of Committees on Review of Bills. Item 13, Tabling of Documents. Item 14, Notice 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**

Bill One. Appropriation Act 1999/2000. Bill Two. Boards of Management Dissolution Act. Bill Three, Divisional Education Councils Dissolution Act and Committee Reports 1-1(2), 2-1(2), 3-1(2) and 4-1(2) with Mr. Puqiqnak in the Chair. Sergeant at Arms.

**Sergeant at Arms:** Please be seated.

**Chairperson** ( Mr. Puqiqnak) (interpretation): Lets be seated and I hope you all had a great lunch. In regards to the Bills.

Bill One: Appropriation Act 1999/2000.

Bill Two: Boards of Management Dissolution Act.

Bill Three Division of Education Council Dissolution Act.

Standing Committee Report 1-1(2), 2-1(2), 3-1(2), and 4-1(2).

At this time I would like to ask the Members what the Members wish is now? Mr. Iqaqrialu. For community government, Mr. Iqaqrialu. I cannot hear you at this time, I have too many receivers. I am sorry there are too many receivers at this table.

>>Laughter

Mr. Iqaqrialu you may go ahead.

**Community Government, Housing & Transportation Main Estimates**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In regards to Community Government, Housing & Transportation department I would like to deal with that department again today. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. As Mr. Iqaqrialu has stated, is everybody in agreement. We will deal with the matters that we did not complete yesterday with Community Government, Housing & Transportation, with Minister Anawak at the witness table. You may go ahead.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Mr. Chairman the Deputy Minister is on his way; he is just trying to park his vehicle. The officials that were here yesterday with me will be the same people at the witness table.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): We will continue where we left off yesterday. We reported progress yesterday at 6 o'clock. So we will just continue with the Ministers' department of Community Government, Housing & Transportation. I will ask for general comments at this time before he starts with the Main Estimates. Minister Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Yes, at this time we are just waiting for our officials and the Deputy Minister is here now.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Are there any other general comments from the members? We will just continue on from yesterday so you may ask your questions. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman yesterday I took a look at one of the goals for the department. Having looked them over I saw another one there that I would like to ask the Minister about. The goal of the department is to improve client satisfaction, improve the monitoring and evaluation of community government performance.

Mr. Chairman I would like to ask the Minister and his staff if he can elaborate exactly how they look at doing that or achieving that? Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you. The community governments, the Hamlet Councils have to operate within themselves, independently from the other communities. As a government we have to watch and monitor them to see if they are operating within their responsibilities. Some municipalities, a majority of the communities, are operating smoothly but some of the communities have debts. So we have to try and help the communities already running into problems, that's when we go help them out. In order to prevent the communities from getting into other problems we should work with them ahead of time, way ahead of time. Once we start realizing that a community requires assistance, we will try and assist them ahead of time so that they will alleviate most of the problems encountered. We did not go into detail as to how we can give them further support and how we can monitor the communities. We want to improve the monitoring and evaluation of community government performance, because if the communities govern themselves they can develop themselves and build capacity to ensure that the communities are prepared. However we all come from different communities; members come from different communities. We will keep updating you on the new issues coming up. Thank you Mr. Minister

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Pointing out some of the things on how it's been and things that they like to do, but again Mr. Chairman, I've ask the Minister and staff how they plan on doing that. It's all fine to say we want to do this, we want to improve this, I'm just wondering if there's any mechanisms or preliminary plans for the actual implementations to achieve this goal. Thank you Mr. Chairman

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Mr. Anawak

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** Well at this point, yes, we want to improve the way we deal with the communities and at the same time we want to make sure we have a plan that will work, rather than reacting to let's say one community, we will react to communities that are having a problem.

At this point it would be too soon to say we have a policy on how to deal with the communities that are having problems, because in developing those policies, we want to make sure that the Members as well as the communities have a role in developing those policies to ensure that the communities will know what to do if they start getting into some problems, whether it's financial or otherwise. We are just developing those and all I can say is that we will improve.

Regarding the relationship between the government of Nunavut and the communities, right now the only way we're doing it is electronic monitoring, but other than that we basically have adopted the policies of the Government of the Northwest Territories at this point in the actions of the Government of Nunavut.

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. They don't really have any concrete plans in how they're going to achieve this goal in dealing with finances and monitoring evaluating, performance. Could the Minister or his staff provide us with the time frame as to when they plan on having such policies in place. Thank you Mr. Chairman

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Mr. Anawak if you wish to answer this or your officials may respond to that.

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** (interpretation): Yes Mr. Chairman, we have not developed anything. We have just started and, again, even if we were to develop anything we would involve Members and the communities. If we were to unilaterally make a policy we would not meet the needs in the community, we want to involve the communities and the members. Perhaps my Deputy Minister can respond to the issues as to how our Department operates, if we are to develop new policies we want to involve the communities and the members and that is the reason why have not developed a policy today. My Deputy Minister will respond.

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Deputy Minister Mike Ferris you may proceed.

**Mr. Ferris:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. One other thing that we are exploring is using the new electronic highway, but we need to have discussions with our partners in the communities.

There will eventually be a government server in every community, there will be 1 or 2 staff from the IT Department in every community and we're looking at one of the avenues for better monitoring and evaluation being able to put electronically on the system community by-laws, community financial information, so we can share information back

and forth and we can get the early red flags before they become a real problem and were responding after the fact.

That is one of the avenues being looked at, but that's the time line on that, I can't tell you today it's going to be 2 months, 3 months or 6 months, we're meeting with the IT people, we've given them an idea where services are needed in the early process, because we got growth communities where we put in the decentralize positions into. But that's one avenue that's being explored, again we have to get current agreement from the Hamlets that they are willing to put all of the information into the system so that we could be reviewing it on a fairly regular basis rather than picking up on inspections or picking it up to ask them to mail a document specifically.

We do have some other options that we will be looking at, in my briefing with my counterpart in Municipal and Community Affairs, they are looking at enhancing the system and they are sharing some of the information, but it's to be preventive and proactive, in other words to identify work with the communities in positive way, to try to eliminate the problems as they occur and don't make it very difficult for the community to get back on it's feet. The Justice Minister indicated, that we're just a bit early in the process but it was important enough to put it as a goal and we've got the sub task, that we've got people now looking at.

**Chairperson:** Qujannamiik. Mr. Tootoo

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. The Minister indicated that they want to consult with the communities in regards to concerns and issues. I believe in December there was a conference here sponsored by the Department to hear those concerns and stuff. I'm just wondering, has any of that information been utilized to date in developing policies, law, along these lines and address the issues that the communities expressed at that time. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** (interpretation): Yes, regarding those concerns or issues, there has already been discussions on the issues raised by the communities. We have written to the communities and we will keep these in mind.

In respect to some of the issues, when the conference was held in December, there was still no Nunavut Government and they raised their concerns, issues and their priorities. With the new Nunavut Government in place now we have some of those recommendations and issues but we knew that if we were to state we were going to do it a certain way now it would cause problems, because we are the government of the people, and we should consult further with the communities.

We knew there would be concerns or problems raised and that's why I'm bringing it up now. If we are going to develop a policy, a proper policy that will address the needs of the communities and the community operations, we wish to use the community because

they're the ones who know what's going on in their back yards and the Members as well, because again we are the residents of the communities and when we are developing these policies, we will try to keep those in mind and whether we can co-operate more with the communities. We wish to consult them but in respect to the conference that was held in December and the report, the report has have been sent to every community. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes I'm a little confused I guess, if the Minister indicated that they want to consult with the communities in issues and concerns regarding what they have in their communities was not the goal conference that was sponsored, I believe by the Department of Community Government, Housing and Transportation, was that not for the purpose of them being able to express their issues and concerns, so I'm just wondering why is the Minister waiting to consult them to hear their issues, concerns.

If they're waiting to do that I've wondered what the purpose of the material if the material from that conference is going to be utilized and if it was even worth if they're not going to utilize those issues and concerns and go through the whole thing again. I guess I'm just wondering, you know is there a need to go back and consult was not done during the conference. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Mr. Anawak

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** I've lived in a small community and I do not consider one meeting to be consultation enough from the Government, however I can tell you about two measures that we've already started dealing with.

The first one is we are going back to quarterly funding for the communities; that was a recommendation by the conference. The other one, a single time zone for Nunavut, that were working on now. However again I say that if I was coming from a small community, I'm sure that I would rather want to be a part of the process in developing policies for the Government of Nunavut rather than just through the conference .

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Mr. Tootoo you may ask more questions, however there are other Members, so keep that in mind, so I will ask you to ask your last question, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I believe as elected members we're able to ask as many questions because were not limited by the time frame or any thing like that, I will stop after the other members ask. I do have other questions, but I would like to ask, what the Minister indicated, was that conference a first step in developing policy for the Department of Community Government, Housing and Transportation in dealing with the community government issues. Is that correct. Thank you Mr. Chairman

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Before you answer Mr. Anawak, Mr. Tootoo you asked earlier, I know you have more questions after the other members I know you can return to that issue. Mr. Anawak

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** Mr. Chairman, I expect to have an ongoing relationship with the communities at all times and again the conference was start , a new start for the Government of Nunavut in how it deals with the communities, but I expect to have ongoing dialogue with the communities improve the relationship between the communities and the government of Nunavut.

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Iqaqrialu

**Mr. Iqaqrialu:** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In respect to the issue that Jack was alluding to they are true, it's only when the community gets visited and inspected that the only time that they get a true idea what the community needs are, but perhaps if I ask this question it would be better because you're dealing with transportation and housing as well as community government. The communities being visited by the official, if they were inspected at the same time I think that would allow the Department to understand all of the community concerns and issues, that's why I'm asking that question, I will ask a further question later Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Anawak

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** (interpretation): Yes, yesterday I believe Mike stated something yesterday on the visitations made either from the headquarters or the regional offices. We're trying to give them more of a mandate to deal with the issues such as that I hear you express Mr. Iqaqrialu, because if we were to send an official to inspect the government, they would only deal with the Municipality or with the Hamlet, but we would like to develop that when we are dealing with all three of these issues and the one department that if there is going to be a visitation to one community that official would be able to deal with all three issues within the department. When he goes to help the communities or when he goes to consult with the communities, we can use that suggestion Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu

**Mr. Iqaqrialu:** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I don't have a whole lot of questions but I find it good to hear those kind of comments, but in these main estimates or in respect to the paper work my communities five year plan that were dealt with by the GNWT and now with the Nunavut Government, when they were given to the Nunavut Government I want to show you something in one of the report.

There's three different things if we were to look at these main estimates those are very different from what my community wanted or what they had as their priorities. When our community plans for five year Capital plan, we know when we saw the amounts have been changed from when these were transferred to Nunavut Government, and I'm not too



pleased with the way that was done, but I know that we have to be physically responsible, but if we are to do that, if we are to look at a Capital Plan whether these can be deferred till next year or to see a larger amount allotted for the next year that could be done, than our Capital plans for the year, I would not have too many regrets about.

This year if these were to be deferred until next year, because it could be built or constructed in the next year if it were done that way, again bearing in mind fiscal reality we have to look at the capital plans I think that would help the problem. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Anawak

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** (interpretation): Thank you, regarding the five year Capital Plan for the communities as well as the funding, when they were given the funding by the GNWT for example, when they sent the Capital Plan it would come back and be completely changed. I would like to look at how we do the capital planning program, I think there are still some difficulties in it so we need to improve it. The communities and ourselves we've got to get together and deal with these kind of issues properly with the communities involvement perhaps because they are expecting to get something when they make the 5 year capital plan.

When they submit it to the government it usually returns as a completely different capital plan, because they don't work together at the same time. In respect to the five year capital plan exercise perhaps if we were involved either our staff or if we were involved to some extent, the capital planning exercise for communities would be better in that way. I recognize that problem and when we have finish these issues we will speak to the community capital plans and I think we can meet with the communities as to how we can better plan for this year. In respect to his comments we will look at those things, but again when we are trying make improvements perhaps if all were involved even if not actually present, but if we were to work closely with the communities on their priorities I think it would be better that way. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Mr. Iqaqrialu do you have further questions or comments.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu:** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I really cannot try and challenge them because he states what I want to hear and I hear the proper comments and I've been dealing with this issue ever since. If we are to proceed smoothly, if we are to have more benefits for the community those of us from Nunavut I know we're going to have to proceed with that. But I think it's clear that, because of the limited funding we cannot get everything on our wish list because we have agreed for this first year that we need a balanced budget because that's been our goal all along. I know that seems to be the goal but if we are going to have a 5 year capital plan, I think that exercise is good but I think it should be done that way. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. I really think that was more of a comment, therefore when there's no question, I want to make a short statement again. All of us members of the House and also our Ministers who are from Nunavut and from our communities our Constituents are expecting that we were expecting a proper policy.

I know we want to see that as soon as possible, but again the Nunavut Government is very new and it's still in infancy and we know were tired of waiting. Even the Ministers and I know all the Members and our constituents, I know expecting a lot of good things, in order to make the Government proceed smoothly. We know in the future that were keeping the future in mind and what journey will end up, I think we have a clear goal. I know that some people are getting impatient but were expecting this government in this day and age will be closer to the communities and the people, there are some people who have raised their hands.

Mr. Akesuk.

**Mr. Akesuk:** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. David probably mentioned a portion of my question that I was going to ask regarding the Municipalities in the Nunavut area and them being more involved, but I think that the communities weren't consulted enough. They wait anxiously to see those projects being done at the community level and I think that it would be best if the Ministers talk to the communities before they make any changes on the projects that are going to be taken off from their communities. I think that it would be better working relationship between the two, so that was my question Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Akesuk

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** (interpretation): When the communities are fixing up their five year capital plan, they do it individually on a community basis and then their request is given to the government and they are adjusted and then given back to the communities which doesn't work very well. People's expectations are raised and then they are given a lot less than they thought they were going to be getting.

I think that the Nunavut Government and the Municipalities can work a lot closer together, if they work together so that the expectations are not raised too much at the community level, there would be a better understanding between the two, the government and the municipality. The Nunavut government shouldn't be looked at as an opposition but should be in co-operation between the two and I think that the government could run a lot smoother, if we work on the plans together or if there's going to be any projects changed or anything different than I think that the government should take the initiative and talk to the Municipalities, so that they'll know exactly why the proposed projects were taken out of the 5 year capital plan or something different done.

So I think that it's best if there's a closer working relationship between the two governments than things would be able to go forward. Sometimes we just argue about the things that are taken out of the Capital plan and if they were well informed we won't unnecessarily have to go through that debate. Thank you Mr. Chairman

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Mr. Akesuk

**Mr. Akesuk:** Thank you for your response Mr. Minister I hope to see that the close working relationship between the two governments shortly in the future and of my next question regarding the Appropriation, there's some for Baffin, there's some for Keewatin, there's some for Kitikmeot they're all hearing the main estimates and exactly how much will be given where. I hear that in the Keewatin they tried in the communities to have the Mayors set up the Capital Plan or set up the block funding to be given to the Mayor. My question is would you consider giving block funding to the Baffin, so that the Municipalities could look through it and see what would fit in to their communities. Do you have any such plans in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** (interpretation): We're looking at means to make improvements on how we deal with the governments and how we can work closer together with the Municipalities.

**Chairperson:** For those members who have comments or questions. Mr. McLean your name is next on the list.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. In regards to, I'll be all over the place here. In regards to the MDAP program where people are eligible from 5% - 7% of the purchase price of a house. In dealing with myself and in the business community, I think it is basically for new homeowners, and the feedback that I am getting, and it is just the feedback that I am getting, it doesn't necessarily represent Nunavut, but I have to bring it forward anyhow. A young person gets a job, they go out and want to purchase a house on the open market, the house is worth 200 thousand dollars and they are eligible for 70% of the purchase price of a house, which works out to 140 thousand dollars of the purchase price of the house.

Another couple, working and been in the job market for quite a while, are working hard and progressing through the system whether it is government or private sector, their incomes are higher, they apply for MDAP and they get 5% of the purchase price of a new house. My community, as an example, I have heard a lot of potential homeowners and people that purchased houses, and the total inequity of the system. It even went so far that people who do qualify for the 70%, their spouses, whether it is him or her, may take time off so they can qualify for that extra grant. I have heard stories, I don't know if they are true or not, that people are getting 120 thousand dollars for the purchase price of a house.

Nowhere else in Canada, does anyone get 70% free money for the purchase price of a house. I am not condemning the program, what I am talking about is, wouldn't it be far better if people were given a straight, across the board 40 or 30 thousand dollars, to purchase a house? The average price of a house up here, aside from Iqaluit, everywhere else in Nunavut, is probably, roughly a three bedroom 1200 square foot bungalow is 200 thousand dollars.

If a lot more of these 70%'s are given out to homeowners, doesn't that restrict the amount of housing that we can put on the open market, and say if 40% of the purchase price of a house was given to residents of Nunavut that have been here for 5 - 10 years, whatever the criteria, wouldn't that stimulate twice as much, or wouldn't that stimulate more housing for people in need?

In my community I have people in public housing that are paying more rent because for some reason, past banking experiences and things like that, are paying more in public housing than the subsidized government staff housing. The reason they are not in the subsidized government staff housing is because they don't work for government, they work for the Hamlet or the Housing Association or things like that. It is just that, it was a good program, it served its' purpose, but I think in this day and age, Mr. Minister, somebody getting 70% of the purchase price of a house, I think has got to come to an end.

I think 40 or 50 thousand dollars on a 200 thousand dollar house is more than fair for anybody today, and it may open up more, and if it opens up more maybe we can get the pressure off the public housing units. We have been saying that for the past three months that we need more public housing units for the people in need, that don't have the employment opportunities that a lot more people have. So I won't dwell on that much longer, other than that I think it should be looked at. I can go on and tell you cases of where somebody got 5% and they're walking around with a lip on and I feel sorry for them and they came to me and said, "Glenn we only got 5%", and I've been working and trying to improve our lives and this person got 70%, but I don't want to pick on it anyhow.

Community Empowerment. Baker Lake and I think Cape Dorset, and I think there are a few other communities, really went out and wanted to take control of their own destiny and decision making and thinks like that. But we have an old saying now in places where we have taken over everything, "the government wants to give us all the empowerment we want without the money." I think it is a good program my experience with community empowerment while I sat on the Hamlet Council for five or six years was, yes it gave more decision making to the Municipalities and that is a step in the right direction.

I don't think communities should be forced into community empowerment, I think that should be their decisions. At this point or stage in the game the only thing that Baker Lake hasn't taken over, to this point today, is hiring nurses and teachers. So community empowerment has worked in our community, I think it should be a priority of this government, at the community's own pace. We have in Baker Lake, 120 full time employees, and one non-aboriginal employee, so through the training programs that MACA provided to that community, the community of Baker Lake has really, really taken upon itself to train local people to fill all the positions. It has been a successful endeavour.

So I don't want to see us deviating from community empowerment or to de-emphasize it, don't take this wrong, where the government may want to take some of the things back. This is where it comes to where I hope the government will help more in monitoring and evaluating and training in regards to community empowerment. I don't think we are ready for block funding yet but that may be down the road.

Getting back to housing again, there is one issue that was brought up in my community and I am sure every community in Nunavut has to deal with it every day, is the serious state, and I know it is your issue but also probably a couple of other departments issue, is the serious state of elders' housing, in a lot of the Keewatin communities if not Nunavut communities. I think there is a tremendous, tremendous lack of recognition for elders' housing in communities. Talking with Mayors and just people on the street, I know in my community we have four designated elders units and we have over 100 elders. We are trying to convert single one bedroom units that were designed for single people into elders' residences.

We talk about public housing and the shortage of it, we are almost at the point now where we are at elder neglect in regards to houses. We prioritised public housing, so I am hoping when we talk about public housing we are talking about elders in our communities and trying to make their lives easier too in regards to housing. We all know the dark side when elders are living in houses with extended families and the drain on them financially. Sometimes it is not very good what happens to them. I am hoping the department and the Minister responsible, I don't know if it is that department or not, but I think that I speak for a lot of people when I say elders' residences and housing is not up to par in Nunavut.

You can comment on this if you like, but it is just statements again. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. McLean. Minister Anawak, would you like to make a comment to his statements.

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** Thank you. EDAP is the program which pays a percentage of down payment; MDAP is the program that was put forward by the government of the NWT when it was on its' last legs. Again, these are the kinds of issues that we ran for to try and better serve the residents of Nunavut. If there is a better way to deliver something like EDAP then I am sure we would take a look at it on how better to serve the people who utilize programs like EDAP.

Again, going back to my comments earlier, in changing policies I am sure we will be looking at policies that make more sense and will be using the assistance of the members as well as the public in terms of coming up with policies for assistance programs like EDAP. I just want to repeat my comments about MDAP which basically anybody is eligible for, when I think we should have been targeting it more to people who need it more than people who can raise the 15 thousand dollars or whatever.

On the issue of community empowerment, again, we're not going to backtrack on an initiative that the communities like, nor are we going to offload certain parts of government programs that we don't like. In terms of community empowerment we'll go along with the program, again if we are looking at Kingait and Qamanittuaq where there have been successes, then those are the kinds of areas we want to see. If a community wants to go into discussions on community empowerment it should be at their speed instead of us pushing it down their throat. I have a hard time thinking of these Qallunaat sayings, "down their throat."

In terms of community empowerment, we want to continue the program of enabling communities to do more for their communities, without necessarily putting a financial burden on them because of a lack of planning. It will be at the community's speed.

We will take the issue of elders' houses as advice, but I agree that the communities should have a role in determining elders' facilities. The Government of NWT went into this program without necessarily asking the communities, which communities might want elders houses, and as a result I know of one community where the elders four-plex was not necessarily a welcome thing whereas it is in others. So I think it is just a matter of contact and staying in touch with the communities needs and wants, to determine whether we should build an elders' facility or not. Again, knowing that there are certain communities where there are a lot more elders, like Qamanittuaq and Arviat. These are two communities where there are a lot of elders. Those are the areas where we want to focus since part of the basis for Nunavut is respect for our elders.

I think that this is the kind of thing that we can take a look at once we get into the planning for what we are going to do about the issue of housing. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Before anybody speaks I would like to recognize the QWMB and Mr. Picco's friend, Joanasi Akumalik, Mr. Picco's constituent. I would like to welcome you to the Assembly. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** This will be my final question Mr. Chairman, Thank you. Mr. Anawak on elders' residences and commitments and things like that, I know it is late in the game and we are drawing close. I think I am correct in saying that in the current budget no money has been designated for elders' residences this year?

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** There has not been any identified at this time.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. According to the list that I have, Mr. Alakannuark is next.

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Although I forgot what I was going to say, it is more of a comment than a question in regards to housing. When we are trying to develop a housing program in Nunavut, it is very important. How can

the communities give your department more support in public housing. I know that the budget is very limited. You stated that you would consult with the communities, I know that you will do that and you will require the assistance and support of the community housing organizations. In view of that the Hamlet Councils in the community is the governing body in the community.

In one of my communities the Hamlet Council has been allotted contributions and grants to maintain the roads, and they are given the funding and then the Co-op is then contracted out to clear the roads and they end up maintaining the roads. For housing maintenance I feel that we could utilize the Co-ops to do that housing maintenance because there are so many homeless people in our communities. I know that we have to work on this issue, for I don't know how many years. I just wanted to throw that suggestion out. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. I don't think this was a question, I think it was more in line of a suggestion for the future. Mr. Minister you can respond to it, if you like but I think it was more of a suggestion. Thank you. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. This morning I asked the Minister responsible for Public Works about a docking facility for Pond Inlet. I didn't realize that the Transportation Department was responsible for that. So my question is about the docking facility in Pond Inlet which was proposed in 1977, with a year off in between. It was slated to be built in 1999, this wharf or breakwater. I don't see it in the budget estimates, did you move this breakwater to the next year?

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you. When you asked me earlier today I didn't think I was going to be answering you for the same question. This was not included in the GNWT budgets. They had one slated for the Qikiqtaaluk, Baffin Region, a breakwater, this breakwater was slated for Pond Inlet, but it turned out to be on the B list. So therefore it is now slated for next year. They haven't awarded any contracts for this but we feel that for some communities that have been requesting programs such as this, if there were any funds available later in the year, we can look at this but the program you are talking about is on the B list.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you. Now I understand his explanation so I have no further questions. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, just a couple of points first in regards to some of the comments that were made by the Minister and his staff earlier in regards to some of the technical positions that were staying within the Housing Division.

He indicated that these technical positions would be providing assistance to people in homeownership programs. Mr. Chairman I know from past experience that has always been an area that the Corporation has stayed away from as those contracts between the actual homeowner and the contractor, the Corporation stayed away from providing technical advice due to a possible liability factor. I am wondering if the Minister or his staff could explain why there has been such an about face in that.

Also it was mentioned that they didn't want to be stove piping services. Mr. Chairman, I know that previously local housing organizations had only to deal with the Housing Corporation in every case because the staff housing went through there as well in most cases. Now under the current system the LHO has to deal with the Department of Community Government, Housing & Transportation, it has to deal with the Department of Public Works, Telecommunications & Technical Services, it has to deal with the Department of Finance. Within the Department of Community Government, Housing & Transportation it has to deal with two different divisions in there, the community government division, and the housing division.

I am wondering if he could explain how that is not a, to me that seems more of a stove piping of services, if he could explain how that is not I would appreciate it. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** I would like to answer part of it. In terms of providing technical assistance, if there are people who want to become homeowners, and we are assisting them somehow then I would think that we would have no problem assisting them in the areas that they need technical assistance on, if they need the help.

In terms of the other areas, maybe I might get Mike to respond to that as well as the technical positions.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Deputy Minister Mike Ferris, you may proceed.

**Mr. Ferris:** Mr. Chairman, on the first point, the technical people will provide assistance to anybody that asks related to the potential of new homeownership. That is in their planning stage when they are looking at different designs, different types of programs. That request stemmed directly from the District Offices of the Housing Corporation and some of the client groups. That was the basis of getting the technical positions back to provide that type of program assistance to the client group.

In terms of stove piping, when we talk about stove piping, we are talking about individual departments having all the same or duplicated services. One of the things in Nunavut that there has been an attempt to break down stove piping, where department A has all technical staff, department B has all technical staff, department C has all the same type of positions, all working to provide service to a client or a specific community.



What we are looking at trying to do is to maximize efficiency, to recognize that if we look at sharing some of that responsibility, and it is critical that we find the mechanism in doing that, that the clients, the people of Nunavut that we serve are getting a high level of service, easily with less red tape. That's one of the goals of Nunavut, is to make it a user friendly type of government.

So, we're looking at where we can utilize sharing of those types of functions and deliver a good level of service. So when I talk stove piping, rather than within the department, even if we just look at this department, rather than building three different branches, which you see on the org chart, hopefully by the time the dust settles, those, even though there would still be responsibility for housing, responsibility for transportation, responsibility for community government, there will be a melding of those into one department recognising that we would still have the independent Nunavut Housing Corporation to manage and deal with the contracts and the dollars that come from CMHC.

That's what we're talking about and that's happening as well across departments. We have had discussions and we are working with public works and local authorities, housing authorities, to try to make access to technical information and access to the departments easy. At the Deputy Minister's level we have talked a bit about the possibility of having a dedicated team that just deals with the housing type issues, so that they can link up with people in my department and go into a community together and provide a more united service to the community.

Some of it is still in the planning and discussion stages, we have just started to have discussions and so has public works with the LHO's, on public works having a contract with them for the maintenance. On the break water, usually we get contributions from the year before and I know that it will continue on to this year. And the main estimates \$ 175 thousand dollars but our plan which we agreed to \$ 250 thousand that's the only problem I have, but I don't have any problems with the B list. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. When we go to the Transportation Department, you will have that opportunity to talk about that issue under 7 – 13 can you wait till we get to that item. You could wait till we get to that item Mr. Iqaqrialu. At this time we haven't reach that item yet and you may ask the question to the minister. If you have any questions in regards to that issue, do you have any other concerns or comments. No, Thank you. Mr. Tootoo

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. I just realised looking over some of the other things I know the Minister and the aim of the government in general, had been looking at the stream lining the government making it more efficient. This one looking in their information provided to standing committee back last month it shows the total of \$ 11 and a half million dollars in salaries for the departments.

The 3 regional functions, the 3 regional offices all together equal only 47% of those salaries. To me looking at it having been involved with the government and always also in the past looking at it from outside no matter where I lived there's always been a cry of not having the resources for the man power for the staff at the regional level as those are the people that are doing the hands on delivery of the programs and services of the departments. Mr. Chairman I was wondering if the staff can explain why over half of that salaries for the entire department are in the Headquarters function and rather than the regional function. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Either the Deputy or the Minister can respond to him. Mr. Anawak

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. I cannot really say exactly why it happened this way, but I can say that at the start up of the new government of Nunavut, there is a need to really set up well in the Headquarter in order to ensure that the operation of the government flows through to the Regions. So I suspect that this point in time the reason we have more people at the Headquarters level is because of the need to set up and maybe that percentage will change later on but we need the people at the Headquarters level at this time for the implementation of the department.

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Mr. Tootoo

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman is the Minister stating that this is more of one time cost that going to disappear over time or some of these positions that are being staffed at the headquarters level or are they just short term positions or are they going to be positions needed to be there for the long haul and as far as the regional functions go, looking at this budget is for the whole year and that's including the complete regional function for the department or is it just a partial I guess that's my next question.

If the headquarter salaries which is just over \$ 6 million dollars and the other the 3 regional ones are all two of them under \$ 2 million and one just under 3. Are those going to grow in the future or are those only partially filled does that not encompass the provision of services at the regional level with the entire complement of staff that are already existing in place that have been carried over from the GNWT.  
Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Anawak

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would be somewhat premature if I said I know exactly what's going to happen because I don't but at the same time I'm just saying that there is a need this time to make sure that the government is up and running. Now if the Member is concerned that there is too much money at the Headquarters level in Iqaluit I can assure him that many of the headquarters positions are in the regions and therefore funds are spent in the region.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. No that's not what I'm getting, I guess what I'm getting at is, we talked about the streamlining of government, becoming more effective, more efficient. That should those resources and I know that they're not just here in Iqaluit and there all over the place but in 5 or 6 different communities, you had your headquarters, but in the past we've seen the bureaucracy build upon itself, I think we all want to see more resources dedicated at the regional level, the program delivery level and that's what you want to see, I'm just wondering, I don't see that reflected here. Is there something that, as a result of amalgamation, more of a building a huge bureaucracy than about putting the dollars in the regional level in providing the system to each of our communities at that level. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Anawak

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** Well I'm not too worried about the percentages as long as those people whether they're headquarters or regional are dedicated to serving the interests of the people of Nunavut.

**Chairperson:** Thank you Mr. Anawak. Mr. Tootoo

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. I'm concerned about it because I know that we are working with the very limited dollars out there and the more dollars that we can spend out in the communities and at the regional level is what benefits the people, it is not building a bureaucracy that builds upon it self. Mr. Chairman, I guess another question is he indicated headquarters in a number of different places in the information that was provided to us last month.

It shows Iqaluit having office of the Deputy Minister, community government, policy and planning, finance admin, community development and the emergency services of 35 positions. Since then I understand the Assistant Deputy Minister for community government is planning on being relocated to Rankin Inlet. I'm just wondering if that has been something that was in Footprints II or why that's happening and also will the staff that fall underneath that division that are here, will they be following the Assistant Deputy Minister to Rankin Inlet. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Anawak

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** (interpretation): Thank you, in respect to the staff who are headquarters staff they are there in the communities and also we're trying to look at ways to save our funds. We'll keep looking because for Nunavut staff that'll be one of their prime goals to try and lessen the expenditures and that's what I thought when the deputy minister alluded to this.

They were not in the Footprints II model when I was Interim Commissioner. I hired the Deputy Ministers, there were 11 of them and only 3 of them were Inuit, however, the Assistant Deputy Ministers when we implemented those positions out of the 13 there were 12 Inuit Assistant Deputy Ministers, but that was also not in Footprints II. We hired the Assistant Deputy Ministers outside of Footprints II model and because the majority are Inuit they're more aware of Inuit culture and language as the government is evolving.

But in respect to lessening the funding or ensuring that we're not spending our funding. The Assistant Deputy Minister for housing would be moved to Rankin Inlet and it's right in the middle.

Regarding the assistant deputy ministers, for example, when Glenn McLean asked the question yesterday whether they would be travelling to the communities, our Assistant Deputy Ministers, we have instructed them to make more community visits and if they undertake that, our assistant deputy minister would be based out of Rankin Inlet. They would travel to Cambridge Bay or Kugluktuk, Repulse Bay, Igloolik or the other communities. That would lessen the cost of the travel if it were based in Rankin Inlet. So again we're looking for ways to cut down the costs. At this time the Nunavut government with the model of decentralization, it's clear now that with the telephones and the information highway with that kind of technology you can communicate wherever you are and you can have an office wherever you have a connection and again we're looking at lessening the costs when we're looking at those options.

These are some of the things that we will look at to ensure that the Nunavut government is close to the people and we will be looking at ways of lessening costs for the employees because that would mean there will be more money to spend on our people. Mr. Chairman Mike Ferris would like to make an addition.

**Chairperson:** (interpretation): Sometimes I forget your name. Mr. Ferris you may proceed.

**Mike Ferris:** Mr. Chairman, I just wish to assure the member on this question, we're not building a bureaucracy. There has to be some rework of the salary figures but just so the members are aware there are 98 positions regionally and there are 87 headquarters positions. The regions are already larger than headquarters combined and the minister indicated a number of headquarter positions outside of Iqaluit and we will be operating very close to those communities.

I think some of the difficulty in the clear identification of the salaries is trying to capture the housing salary component and there's a tendency to lump those salaries in under headquarters even the district operations. We will be working with Finance and we started that process just to make sure that the charges we have to capture for housing are clearly identified in one budget area. I think that's where you look at the percentage it may not reflect exactly what's in the field, there are 98 in total regional positions in present time versus 87 in headquarters.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Ferris. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I would just like to confirm what the Deputy Minister was saying is that the headquarters amounts for salaries includes all the housing costs for the entire department. Is that what he is saying Mr. Chairman? Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ferris.

**Mr. Ferris:** Mr. Chairman, I can't say that it includes all the costs for housing. It does include some of the salaries for what were the District Offices and that is because we are trying to find a mechanism to load into the budget the ratio of costs for the delivery of the housing program so that we can justify the dollars we receive, the 58 million from CMHC.

I think in that process we have identified a couple of areas where the numbers don't reflect exactly where the positions are. That will be sorted out and that will be much clearer once we have had an opportunity to work it through the full process.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Will we be provided with that information at some point in the future? Because if the information that we have isn't totally accurate, it would be nice to have the information that is accurate. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Deputy Minister Ferris.

**Mr. Ferris:** That would be made available through the Minister, but as I say that is where the trick is, is working out the Housing Corporation and keeping those figures as separate for accounting purposes.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. I guess that we touched on and mentioned a position here that is a headquarters position that is now being moved to Rankin because it has been deemed cheaper to do so. Mr. Chairman, I know that as a result of Iqaluit being the capital of Nunavut, it was agreed that because of all the headquarters positions that would be coming here, that the regional functions would be moving out to the communities.

Now, I am concerned and we are seeing more headquarters positions, leaving here. I am just wondering, will there be other functions that are going to be moving into Iqaluit to replace these positions or is it just that one position, or all the rest of the staff that fall underneath that particular Assistant Deputy Minister will be moving. I would just like to clarify that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. In respect to the question posed by Mr. Tootoo, I believe it's within 7-4 under the Directorate and I believe that it is listed there. Perhaps when we reach that page you can repeat your question at that time Mr. Tootoo? I believe it is on page 7-4. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Actually Mr. Chairman, I believe it is the Assistant Deputy Minister for Community Government. But as it is, I am not dealing just with that department, it is a departmental headquarters function I am wondering about. It is not just specifically to that department, it is more of from an overall department that they are moving headquarters positions from out of Iqaluit. I would like some clarification to that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Deputy Minister Ferris. I am sorry Minister Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): There will be only one position that will be transferred out. There is the one position, however, we will look into that and especially with the positions being transferred to the communities. But as the staff transfers to the communities occurs, we will be dealing with that, but in the meantime there is only that one position is moving.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. I no longer have anybody on my list for questions. Now to get into the Main Estimates. As to the members' wishes, do you want to go into the details of expenditures. Starting with 7-4 listed as the Directorate. Operations & maintenance. Total operations & maintenance 12 million 255 thousand dollars. Are you agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Capital items. Total Capital, nil. Therefore the total expenditures for the Directorate is 12 million 255 thousand. Are you agreed? Wait a second. There is a question from one of the members. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman this is the Directorate and covers emergency services. I am wondering if the Minister could provide us with some detail in regards to that division. It is something that there does not seem to be a whole lot of detail or any detail on these services here in the Main Estimates. I wonder if he could provide us with that information. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): There is a question in respect to emergency services by a member. Perhaps the Deputy Minister Mr. Ferris, can respond. Mr. Ferris.

**Mr. Ferris:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. In the emergency services division there will be eleven PY's. We have identified special initiative funding of 350 thousand to improve

and enhance our fire prevention training. That is coupled with some additional dollars for general training in the EMO.

There is also, within the travel and transportation amount, which would be under your other operations & maintenance figure, would be the dollars for the travel by the staff of emergency services into communities. We are looking at enhancing the preventative side of, whether it is search and rescue, or fire training.

There is an enhanced budget for that in what is being proposed here. There is also, we want to breakdown the fire training dollars a little better. There is 150 thousand that we will hold in headquarters to allocate to new training initiatives. The regions will get 50 thousand in the Baffin, 50 thousand in the Keewatin, and 88 thousand in the Kitikmeot, because there are some commitments to enhancing training given the major school fire there.

We will be offering training for fire-fighters in three levels. Basic fire fighting, fire investigation, and fire command officer training. That is part and parcel of the Directorate operation.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Ferris. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Maybe just for clarification, I don't know if I should ask it here as it is emergency services, or ask it in transportation. In regards to the services that are going to be developed for the airport. I am just wondering if that is something that is more properly addressed in the transportation part. Maybe I could just ask for some clarification on that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Deputy Minister Ferris.

**Mr. Ferris:** In the emergency services branch will also be what was known as the protective services unit for airports. It will be a combined emergency services unit that responds to all the peacetime emergencies whether they are wind oriented or aircraft oriented. In the regulatory requirements that is identified as a separate item and it should really be titled instead of ERS at 1.3 million, it should be phase 1 regulatory improvements to Iqaluit airport. There is a requirement for us to re-establish ERS.

We have allocated that 1.3 for that and in discussions with Transport Canada, in terms of getting cost shared, not only on that item, but on other items for that regulatory requirement.

The Iqaluit airport has now been designated as part of the national airport system, because this is the Capital now of a Territorial jurisdiction, so we join the other capitals with having a national airport. That has done two things, it has changed the level of security requirements at the airport and it requires the return of the ERS services.

**Chairperson:** Thank you Mr. Ferris. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the Assistant Deputy Minister indicated the return of the ERS services. Did we used to have those services in the past and since they have been gone, who was providing them? Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Deputy Minister, Mike Ferris.

**Mr. Ferris:** Mr. Chairman. Yes there were ERS services operating at the airport and they were part of the GNWT deficit recovery, I guess. They were eliminated there was strong argument on this side of the division to keep those there, or at least just parts of them until Nunavut came along, because we knew that as soon as Nunavut came along, because the capital vote had already been taken, Iqaluit would be the capital, and there would be a requirement to return them.

What we are looking at is bringing them on in a phased approach and offset as much of the capital outlay with funding from Transport Canada. They haven't given us sufficient funding. Why did the GNWT give us very little? There have been cuts in all the existing programs that we have had for a number of years and it causes us problems. If there are going to be cuts it is not going to be very good. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu Thank you. He'll get advice from his advisors first. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): As I said before we grandfathered these from the Government of the Northwest Territories. Once these Estimates are approved we can shuffle the numbers around. It's a very small number that we are talking about here. I can't say directly but I can say that we can shuffle some numbers around.

There was one community that came over and told us that we were supposed to give them some money and it was deferred for another year. So they were proposing to do whatever project they wanted to do this year and then get reimbursed the following year.

So the communities can do the same thing. If the community wants to take the initiative and go ahead with the project they can do so on the understanding that they will be reimbursed the following year. It is only 2 thousand we are talking about here and I can only tell the member that once these are approved we can always shuffle things around a little.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Akesuk. Mr. O'Brien.

**Mr. O'Brien:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I would like to make a motion that we report progress.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): The member for Arviat moves that we report progress and it is not debatable. Agreed?



**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): All those agreed, show of hands. The motion is carried.

**Sergeant At Arms:** Please Stand.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, please be seated. Item 20, Report of Committee of the Whole. Mr. Puqiqnak.

### **Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, your committee has considered bills 1, 2, and 3 and committee reports 1, 2, 3, and 4. Mr. Speaker, we are still considering the same department. Mr. Speaker I move that the committee report be concurred with.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Mr. Puqiqnak has made a motion. Is there a seconder. Mr. Nutarak seconds the motion. Motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed. Motion is carried. Item 21, Third Reading of Bills. Item 22, Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

### **Item 22: Orders of the Day**

**Mr. Quirke:** Mr. Speaker this evening at 7 o'clock at the bed and breakfast with the Speaker and members and European journalists. Tomorrow 8.30 am, meeting of the regular caucus here in the Cadet Hall.

Orders of the Day for Thursday, May 27, 1999.

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. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
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 - Appropriation Act 1999/2000.
  - Bill 2 - Boards of Management Dissolution Act
  - Bill 3 - Divisional Education Council Dissolution Act
  - Standing Committee Reports 1-1(2), 2-1(2), 3-1(2) 4-1(2)
20. Report of Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Clerk. I would like to take this time to thank the six pages who have been here this week, this is their last day here for the Legislative Assembly. They are the students from Inuksuk High School in Iqaluit, if I don't pronounce your names properly I apologize.

Edward Kipanik, Fiona Kingdon, Jay Mahoney, Jocelyn Morrison, Robert Peter, let's welcome them.

>>Applause

I would like to invite all of the members of the Legislative Assembly, especially the Iqaluit members. There is going to be a photograph taken with the pages and on behalf of all the members thank you for assisting us and good luck in your school studies.

This house adjourns until Thursday May 27, 1999, at 10.30 am.

Sergeant At Arms.

>>House Adjourned at 5.58 pm.

