

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

Hon. Joe Enook
(Tununiq)

Hon. David Akeagok
(Quttiktuq)

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

Tony Akoak
(Gjoa Haven)

Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Hon. Pat Angnakak
(Iqaluit-Niaqunngu)

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

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak
(Cambridge Bay)

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

George Hickes
(Iqaluit-Tasiluk)

Hon. David Joanasie
(South Baffin)

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

Joelie Kaernerck
(Amittuq)

Mila Kamingoak
(Kugluktuk)

Pauloosie Keyootak
(Uqqummiut)

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

Adam Lightstone
(Iqaluit-Manirajak)

John Main
(Arviat North-Whale Cove)

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

Margaret Nakashuk
(Pangnirtung)

Patterk Netser
(Aivilik)

Emiliano Qirngnuq
(Netsilik)

Hon. Paul Quassa
(Aggu)

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

Allan Rumbolt
(Hudson Bay)

Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Hon. Joe Savikataaq
(Arviat South)

Minister of Family Services; Minister responsible for Homelessness; Minister responsible for Immigration

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik
(Iqaluit-Sinaa)

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

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Thursday, March 15, 2018

Members Present:

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

>>*House commenced at 13:31*

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

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. Premier and members, good afternoon. Nunavummiut who are watching the televised proceedings and listening to the radio broadcast, welcome to your Legislative Assembly.

We will now proceed with the orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Health, Minister Angnakak.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 034 – 5(1): Kivalliq Boarding Home Announcement

Hon. Pat Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon. Mr. Speaker, last week during question period I acknowledged some of the challenges when it comes to medical travel in the Kivalliq region, both for patients and for the Department of Health.

One example I raised was that we don't have a boarding home in that region, and I mentioned that I had spoken to the federal Minister of Indigenous Services about this issue in Ottawa last month.

Mr. Speaker, Health and our partners have been listening to Nunavummiut. I may have spilled the beans yesterday during Committee of the Whole, but I am pleased to report that I have received word that the Department of Indigenous Services Canada supports the need for a boarding home in Rankin Inlet.

>>*Applause*

There is no doubt we have a lot of work ahead of us over the next four years. My colleagues can rest assured that the Department of Health is working to bring positive change for our people who require medical services.

Mr. Speaker, Health will consult with stakeholders prior to releasing a Request for Proposal for the future facility.

I would like to thank the staff and my colleagues for their dedication, and for keeping this priority on the federal government's radar, and I thank the Government of Canada for recognizing the need for this facility. We look forward to the opportunities that a boarding home in Rankin Inlet will bring. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Premier of Nunavut, Premier Quassa.

Minister's Statement 035 – 5(1): Nunavut's Order of Canada Recipients

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say 'good day' to my fellow Nunavummiut and fellow Igloolikmiut, Members, all Nunavummiut, all those watching our proceedings.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincerest congratulations to Louie Kamookak of Gjoa Haven, James Eetoolook of Taloyoak, Andrew Karpik of Pangnirtung, and Douglas Stenton of Chatham, Ontario on their appointments to the Order of Canada.

The Order of Canada was established in 1967 by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and recognizes outstanding achievements and dedication to the community and service to the nation. The order recognizes people in all sectors of Canadian society, as long as they're Canadians.

Officers are recognized for outstanding contributions on a national level and members are recognized for outstanding contributions on a local or regional level or in a special field or activity.

Each of Nunavut's recipients has made significant contributions to the preservation, promotion and protection of Nunavut's culture and heritage.

Mr. Speaker, Louie Kamookak has long been recognized for his tireless dedication to collect and showcase the stories of Nunavut Inuit. His appointment to Officer of the Order of Canada is a great accomplishment and very well deserved.

James Eetoolook has been recognized as a member for his lifelong contributions as an advocate for Inuit rights, notably in protecting and fostering culture and heritage.

Andrew Karpik, who is a well-known artist showcasing the Inuit culture has been acknowledged as a member for his contributions to defining the visual culture of Nunavut as a master printmaker and sculptor.

Douglas Stenton, through his work in archaeology in the territory has made significant contributions to the preservation of Canada's northern heritage. He has shown how long Inuit have been around here so he has been recognized as a member.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my fellow members to please join me in congratulating these deserving recipients of the Order of Canada. They make Nunavummiut proud and we are very pleased that they have been honoured with this well-deserved accolade. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister for Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

Minister's Statement 036 – 5(1): Fire Fighter Training in Nunavut

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say 'good afternoon' to the people of Nunavut.

It is my pleasure today to share a good news story about firefighter training in Nunavut. Our firefighters across the territory are heroes who voluntarily respond to high risk situations to protect the safety of all Nunavut residents.

Within the Department of Community and Government Services, the Office of the Fire Marshal provides important training and support to all firefighters across the territory.

Through a memorandum of understanding with the Government of Saskatchewan, we are able to provide the opportunity for professional certification for firefighters in Nunavut.

(interpretation ends) Through our partnership with Saskatchewan, Nunavut is now permitted to conduct certification exams of Nunavut firefighters who have successfully passed their Level 1 and 2 firefighting training.

Upon successfully passing these certification exams, Nunavut firefighters will be certified by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress.

This important MOU allows us to offer professional level certification opportunities to Nunavut firefighters right here in Nunavut where they can stay close to their families.

We have concluded the training and testing of the first cohort of firefighters under this new program and I am pleased to report that all five participants received their professional international certification.

>>Applause

We are looking forward to working with the Government of Saskatchewan while increasing firefighter training in Nunavut.

(interpretation) On behalf of all my fellow members of the Legislative Assembly, I wish to express our heartfelt and sincere thanks to all firefighters across the 25 Nunavut communities for their service and dedication to keeping Nunavummiut safe. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Family Services, Minister Savikataaq.

Minister's Statement 037 – 5(1): Door to Door Homelessness Survey in Nunavut

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say 'good day' to the people of Arviat.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that my department is leading research on hidden homelessness in collaboration with Nunavut Housing Corporation and will be conducting door surveys in four communities. This research began in Pond Inlet on February 27 and the staff will be travelling to Clyde River, Arviat, and Gjoa Haven between now and May 2018.

These surveys will help us identify what kinds of housing solutions and supports are needed to prevent homelessness and assist Nunavummiut move towards a safer, more stable and self-reliant way of life.

Mr. Speaker, without a safe place to go, many Nunavummiut are at constant risk of homelessness. In our efforts to prevent homelessness, we must first better understand the specific housing and support needs of Nunavummiut who are experiencing homelessness.

Mr. Speaker, this is one of the many initiatives relating to homelessness that my department has been involved in. My department's *Angiraqangittuliriniq*: Framework for Action for Nunavut's Absolute Homelessness focuses on strengthening homeless support services and increasing resources for suitable, supportive, and permanent housing in Nunavut. We are happy to have funding support from the federal Homelessness Partnering Strategy's Innovation Solutions to Homelessness Funding.

Access to adequate housing affects our health and wellbeing, food security, and our ability to access opportunities for learning and work. My department remains committed to working collaboratively with other government departments and organizations, to support community-based solutions to homelessness that meet the needs of Nunavummiut across the territory.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Environment, Minister Sheutiapik.

Minister's Statement 038 – 5(1): Earth Hour

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, fellow members, it is my pleasure to announce my department will be hosting an event at the Elders Qammaq in Iqaluit on March 24 during Earth Hour.

Mr. Speaker, Earth Hour is an event held annually around the world to encourage individuals, communities, and businesses to turn off non-essential lights for one hour to spread awareness of environmental issues, climate change, and energy conservation.

Mr. Speaker, my department has been working with students from Inuksuk High School to host activities the week prior to Earth Hour.

Through these activities and resources, Mr. Speaker, it is my department's hope that students will be empowered to take positive actions that will make a difference in our territory's future. In addition, Mr. Speaker, my department invites Iqalumiut to celebrate Earth Hour at the Elders Qammaq on March 24 from 8:30-9:30pm with storytelling, tea, bannock, and country food, all under qulliq and candlelight.

Mr. Speaker, my department encourages Nunavummiut to take part in Earth Hour and show their support for climate change awareness. Together, we can make a difference. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Finance, Minister Akeeagok.

Minister's Statement 039 – 5(1): Summer Student Employment Equity Program

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce that the GN will begin accepting applications on April 6 from Nunavut students for summer work experience with our government departments and public bodies.

(interpretation ends) Through the Summer Student Employment Equity Program, secondary and post-secondary Nunavummiut students can gain meaningful work experience and get on-the-job-training in the public service.

Mr. Speaker, this program promotes youth development, encourages continuous learning and creates a pool of qualified employees for our government.

Last year, the GN hired a record 278 students of which 225 were Nunavut Inuit students, in 21 communities across our territory. Nunavut Inuit students represented 81 per cent of summer hires.

Mr. Speaker, I invite all my colleagues to share this information with students in their own communities so we can make the 2018 program even more successful than last year's.

Mr. Speaker, program information is available on the summer student page on the Department of Finance's website. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 075 – 5(1): Cheering for Sanikiluaq's AWG Athletes

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon to the people of Sanikiluaq and the people of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to start cheering for a fine group of Sanikiluaq Athletes who are on their way to this year's Arctic Winter Games in the NWT.

Johnassie Iqaluq,
Mike Kavik,
Davidee Kudluarok, and
their coach, Stephen Keoughan,

will be participating in badminton while Betsy Audla will be playing table tennis.

Mr. Speaker, it is Sanikiluaq's year for racquet sports! I will be cheering our athletes on as they do their very best. I wish all of Nunavut's Arctic Winter Games athletes a good competition, good results and, most of all, a lot of fun. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Kugluktuk, Ms. Kamingoak.

Member's Statement 076 – 5(1): Kugluktuk Elders Committee

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon colleagues, and the residents of Kugluktuk, and the residents of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kugluktuk Elders Committee on getting back up and running in the community. There was a bit of a break in their meetings but I was very glad to hear that in 2018, they revived their role.

Mr. Speaker, our elders have an important role to play in being the foundation of our great territory and in providing advice as we move forward in the future.

I would like to recognize the members of the Kugluktuk Elders Committee. They are:
Chairperson Lena Pederson;
Vice Chairperson Jack Ayaligak;
Mona Tiktalek;
Martha Ayaligak;
Jack Ovilok;
Colin Haviyok; and
John Ivarlok.

Mr. Speaker, it is very reassuring to know that our elders are coming together and are there to act as a resource for us to consult and listen to their words of wisdom and experience.

Mr. Speaker, our elders are also facing their own specific issues such as the need for support in meeting the costs of maintaining their homes and the need to stay closer to their families and communities as they age and can no longer stay in their own homes.

Mr. Speaker, our elders are there for us and we must be there for them.

At the appropriate time, I will have questions for the Minister responsible for Seniors Advocacy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

Member's Statement 077 – 5(1): Barren Beauty of Baker Lake

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Prior to making my statement, I wish to acknowledge one of my daughter's birthday, as she is celebrating today. Tina Mikkungwak, I hope you have an awesome day today.

As well, to my elder brother-in-law, Robert Seteenak along with my fellow Baker Lake residents as well as my fellow Nunavummiut, I wish you a wonderful day today.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw your attention to a very nice article that was recently published in the Winnipeg Free Press entitled “Barren Beauty.”

Mr. Speaker, this article was based on the author’s visit to beautiful Baker Lake,

>>*Laughter*

an inland community located right in the geographic centre of our wonderful country, Canada. There are pictures of people around the community, descriptions of common activities that show a slice of life and a snapshot in time.

Mr. Speaker, all of Nunavut’s communities are unique, beautiful and distinctive. Every community across our territory is worthy of a write-up with photographs and personal stories and perspectives on life in their hamlet, town or city.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly encourage our government, and in particular, the Department of Economic Development and Transportation, to work harder to promote our territory and to focus on more on getting the word out there about our unique communities, our unique lifestyles and the beauty of the land we live in.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the author of the article “Barren Beauty” for coming to beautiful Baker Lake and writing such a colourful article about our community.

I look forward to seeing many more such articles about each and every one of our beautiful communities across Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Members’ Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet South, Mr. Kusugak.

Member’s Statement 078 – 5(1): Canada 150 Recipient Rosemary Sandy

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to my fellow residents of Rankin Inlet. I rise today, Mr. Speaker, about my pride in the Canada 150 recipients that were awarded recently. Our senator, Hon. Dennis Patterson, was a past recipient for 12 years of service.

I am pleased to hear that another recipient was honoured from Rankin Inlet, Angugasak Rosemary Sandy, my colleague’s older sister. Angugasak has served for many years in the Kivalliq and elsewhere teaching sewing arts, handling skins and furs to Inuit, including youth and mothers-to-be and anyone who never learned those arts and skills as well as those who want to gain more advanced skills.

She would spend many months away from home to other communities to teach other Inuit these sewing arts starting from the basics on skin and fur handling and their initial

preparation. This would include taking measurements and making designs. She also has taught kamik making, hat making, making mitts, parkas, parka shells and hunting parkas.

Ms. Sandy has taught a great many Nunavummiut women over the years. I am proud of her and we are all grateful for the endless hours, months and years she has given to her fellow Inuit and women to help them gain more skills and knowledge in the traditional Inuit arts. I am very appreciative of her and let's all congratulate her. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Kaernerck.

Member's Statement 079 – 5(1): Recognition of Youth in Constituency

Mr. Kaernerck (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues and good afternoon to fellow residents in Amittuq, to everyone as today is a new day.

I rise today, Mr. Speaker, to express my pride to these people. First of all, I wish to congratulate my fellow resident, Andy Qaunaq, who went out of his way to help provide transportation to those who don't have the means to travel out on the land, particularly youth. I am especially proud of Mr. Qaunaq for his selflessness, Mr. Speaker.

I also wish to express my pride in the following people. I used to say that I want to be a voice for young people and to take myself as an example, even though I am often shy, I try to stand up at every opportunity...

>>Applause

... so I am telling you, the young people, please try to overcome your shyness, wherever you are in Nunavut. Once you stand up in public, you will only get better at speaking to people.

>>Applause

Thank you. I also want to say my appreciation of members of our youth committee in our community:

Jacqueline Satuqsi,
Waylon Arnaqjuaq,
Willy Issigaitok,
Amber Angutautok.

These young people work hard in our community in various activities and help out parents and youth who have finished school. I am proud of you and I urge you to keep on your good works. Thank you for the opportunity to make my statement, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 080 – 5(1): Recognition of Sister Rosemary Sandy

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to rise today to recognize the man I call *Ungaruluk* (maternal uncle) Jerome Tattuinee, who is celebrating his birthday today. He turned 86 years old today, and he is the last surviving member of my mother's siblings.

If you are listening *Ungaruluuk*, I wish you a wonderful birthday. As well, I was loved by my grandmother, and grandparents with grandchildren totally comprehend this love of a grandparent towards their grandchildren.

I tend to use endearment terms ending in *piruluk*, and I rise today to acknowledge my older sister whom I use this endearment term *Angajuruluk*, Rosemary Angugasak Sandy. I am grateful to the Hon. Lorne Kusugak for recognizing her tireless work.

I would like to provide some background for the Canada 150 nominations, and when the list was provided to Senator Dennis Patterson, although we are advised to be proud of our older relatives and forefathers, due to the recognition she received I would like to provide more details.

She is now a widow, and her late husband Tungulak Sandy who was her life-long partner was cared for in Igloolik when she could no longer care for him, so I thank the residents of Igloolik. My sister maintains her gratitude to Igloolimmiut.

My *Angajuruluuk*, Rosemary Angugasak Sandy teaches sewing classes, using traditional sewing skills where a group of women makes kamiks, and most of the women are very young and inexperienced. When they couldn't clean improperly skinned sealskins, many of the young ladies would say the F-word.

In order to wean them from using that word, she penalized each woman a dollar which was put into a cup every time they swore using the F-word, and she made that known to them. She relayed that story to me, after she had finished teaching the class, that not only were they proud of their capabilities, but most of them no longer used swear words while sewing.

Young children ought not to hear them swearing, so these women were ingrained into no longer using swear words that their children ought not to hear. She is also a talented cook,

although she is now a widow, she owns her own home. She uses her house to create revenue through her sewing classes, and many of us siblings are extremely gratified of her work.

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Towtongie is asking for unanimous consent to conclude her statement. Are there any nays? I don't hear any nays, Ms. Towtongie, please continue.

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): I am well aware that many women in Nunavut no longer have husbands, so I am grateful to the men who contribute country food as a cultural tradition, so to the hunters who give my older sister caribou meat, char and sealskins, including bearded seal skins. On her behalf, I thank all of the hunters who provide the materials.

She is a certified teacher, and we are grateful to the Nunavut Literacy Council and the Nunavut Arctic College as she garners income from teaching classes. She stated that as a widow, it can be very intimidating to look at a whole un-butchered caribou or seal, due to the amount of work.

Just recently, at the healing centre she instructed a group of men on the preparation of skins for clothing and making traditional clothes. There was a man from Grise Fiord who I recently met, whom I had never met before, but his face lit up and asked me if Rosemary Angugasak Sandy was related to me.

When I affirmed that, he enthusiastically shook my hand and proclaimed that he had sewn his own parka. I was flabbergasted and so grateful at that moment. I am thankful to Dennis Patterson, who is a senator and who recommended her for recognition as part of the Canada 150 celebrations. I thank you for that.

The last thing I wish to speak to is that my *Angajuruluga*, Rosemary Angugasak Sandy, is involved in many things, nonetheless the biggest aspect of her life revolves around her status as a reverend, and she has been in that role for over thirty years now.

Thank you colleagues for allowing me to conclude my statement, and to the Hon. Lorne Kusugak, and to you, Mr. Speaker, I thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Arviat North and Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

Member's Statement 081 – 5(1): Desmond Okalik Catches His First Polar Bear

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day wishes to my colleagues, as well as the residents of Whale Cove and Arviat, if they happen to be watching the televised proceedings.

I have a short statement, Mr. Speaker, today as I rise today to acknowledge and congratulate Desmond Okalik, who harvested his first polar bear on March 3, and he was accompanied by George Okalik Sr., and they went to the *Imilijjaq* area, near the community of Whale Cove.

>>*Laughter*

I am not familiar with their land use area yet, so it was in that area that he harvested a large boar, measuring over nine feet, with an immaculate hide and George Okalik Sr., always takes the time to take younger hunters out hunting, while teaching them traditional skills.

I wish to acknowledge his contribution towards teaching the younger generations hunting skills, as it behooves us to provide assistance to our hunters, Mr. Speaker. All hunters in Nunavut deserve our gratitude, so on this day I voice my pleasure and appreciation to them all.

As well, I wish all hunters success that are out hunting today, and I am envious that you aren't stuck in an office setting and I hope you have a wonderful day today, Desmond. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Cambridge Bay, Ms. Ehaloak.

Member's Statement 082 – 5(1): Anti-Bullying Potluck in Cambridge Bay

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: *Koana*, Mr. Speaker. Today, I'd like to commemorate and applaud a community member of mine, who has worked hard and has dedicated her time for the residents of Cambridge Bay.

She has coordinated an anti-bullying potluck tonight at the high school, to encourage those to come out who are battling bullying. So I would like to say a big thank you, and help me to applaud her: Christina Teherak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

Member's Statement 083 – 5(1): Traditional Dog Sledding

Mr. Keyooktak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I rise, and as today, it seems to be geared towards our relatives.

Mr. Speaker, I too rise to voice my pleasure, actually not just for the two people, nonetheless, in our communities, not very many Inuit utilize dog teams.

As we can all recall, Inuit depended entirely on their dogs to survive in the past, and all of us are here due to our ancestors having Eskimo dogs, that were an integral part of traditional Inuit lifestyle. Inuit dogs were partners to our ancestors, as they depended on dogs for everything.

They allowed Inuit to survive, to hunt for food throughout our lands, prior to Nunavut being created, when Inuit lived entirely off the land.

Mr. Speaker, I want to express my pride in my older brother, as he is the sole remaining dog team owner who goes out sledding and maintains the traditional practice of hunting with his dog team. He also doesn't have any other hunting equipment other than his dog team.

In some of our communities, we still have Inuit practising the traditional skills and practices. We have to include these Inuit when we express our pride in Inuit, as they are maintaining the traditional Inuit cultural practices by keeping them alive and allowing Inuit today to remember how our ancestors were able to survive.

Inuit could only thrive with their dogs, whether it was winter or summer and we should always voice our pride in Inuit who continue to keep our traditional skills and practices alive, which our ancestors depended on.

I urge my colleagues to voice our pride in Inuit who are still using our traditional cultural practices such as using dog teams, and hunting with dogs that showcase how our ancestors were able to survive. They keep our links to our ancestors' cultural skills and practices. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Next item on the agenda. I'm sorry. Member for Arviat South, Mr. Savikataaq.

Member's Statement 084 – 5(1): Arviat Participants at the 2018 Arctic Winter Games

Hon . Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps my arms are now too short and cannot be seen anymore.

>>*Laughter*

Good afternoon to the people of Arviat. I share in their celebration of participating in the upcoming Arctic Winter Games. I will mention the participants a little later. But first, allow me to mention participants going to the hockey tournament:

Joy Angnetsiak,
Kadin Pisukti Copland,
Michael Illnik,
Cayla Kablutsiak,
Hailey Pameolik.

Also, those who will take part in the wrestling matches:

Natalie Baker,
Sylvia Kablutsiak.

for Arctic Sports:
Andrew Bell.

Those are the athletes from Arviat who will take part in the Arctic Winter Games. Go Arviat Go, Go Nunavut Go! (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Going on to the next item. Item 4. Replies to Oral Questions. Minister of Energy, Minister Sheutiapik.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return to Oral Question 033 – 5(1): Ikummatiit, Nunavut's Energy Strategy

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question was posed on March 8. (interpretation ends) Member George Hickes asked the question regarding the importance of updating our government's Energy Strategy.

I am aware of the need to address the context within Nunavut's Energy Strategy, *Ikummatiit*. While we are in the early days of this government, I know that my officials have begun preliminary work that will provide a roadmap for a Nunavut's sustainable energy future.

This month, my officials are hosting workshops to engage senior administrative officers in the communities, as well as officials from the Government of Nunavut, QEC, Nunavut Housing Corporation and NTL. These workshops will touch on climate change, clean energy and community energy planning. From these workshops, a report will be

presented which will provide options and how we may wish to proceed on updating or replacing *Ikummatiit*.

Community energy planning is a tool to help achieve energy goals and visions for the near and long-term. This process can create a road map grounded in the realities of energy systems in our territory.

I look forward to seeing the work my officials so that we can make evidence-based positions on how to move forward on adjusting *Ikummatiit*. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Replies to Oral Questions. Minister for Nunavut Arctic College, Minister Joanasie.

Return to Oral Question 037 – 5(1): 30th Anniversary of the Environmental Technology Program

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon. I have a return to an oral question, 37-5(1), asked by Mr. Hickes, Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk on March 8, 2018. This is in regards to the 30 years that the Environmental Technology program has been running.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, this return to Oral Questions is quite long, and I have filed it with the Clerk for transcribing it to the Hansard, for the public record, and for distribution for all members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Do members agree that this return to an oral question can be filed for inclusion into the Hansard as being read? Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): Returns to Oral Questions. Moving on to the Orders of the Day. Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Baffin South, Minister Joanasie.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have Maata Pudlat and Mary Kulu Macmunn. Please welcome to them to the House, they're originally from my community.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Please, welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery, Member for Rankin and Chesterfield Inlet. Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize and Leia Otak used to be my friend and I would billet at her place. I would like to recognize Toby Otak.

>>*Applause*

And I'm very proud of this individual, Alexina Kublu. Please welcome to the House.

Speaker (interpretation): Please, welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Proceeding with the orders of the day. I apologize, I think your arms are too short.

>>*Laughter*

Member for Amittuq, Mr. Kaernerck.

Mr. Kaernerck (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So my arms are short.

>>*Laughter*

I would like to recognize an individual who was originally from my community: Joanna Qamaniq, I would like to welcome her to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names on my list. Proceeding with the orders of the day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Ms. Towtongie.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 081 – 5(1): Mould Infestation of Public Housing Units

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

I want to revisit the serious issue of mould infestation of public housing units.

Earlier this week, the minister informed the Legislative Assembly that the NHC recently organized a workshop in Iqaluit for housing officials on the issue of mould.

Can the minister confirm if local housing staff from Rankin Inlet and Chesterfield Inlet participated in the workshop? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank you for asking that question.

The issue of mould in public housing is a serious issue. The leaders of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, the supervisors and staff were here. I cannot tell you exactly if Rankin Inlet or Chesterfield Inlet were included is something I am not aware of.

Nonetheless, the managers who design the working materials in this category were at that meeting, obviously, regional participants were not at that meeting. There will be an upcoming workshop on these matters. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now, in July 2016, the Nunavut Housing Corporation authorized a request for proposals to look into and undertake inspections for mould remediation work.

The total number of units in Nunavut identified for inspection was 241 units, infested with mould. This means out of that total, four units in Chesterfield Inlet are dilapidated due to mould infestation, and sixteen units in Rankin Inlet identified with mould.

Is it possible to receive the proposed timeline for this work? Is there a month identified when remediation work would commence on these infested units? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I identified the units in a previous statement I made. The contractors conducted inspections on numerous units throughout Nunavut, whether the unit had mould infestation and the type of mould.

The mould species are not all the same, as some species of mould are particularly hazardous to health, while others don't pose a hazard and others are harmless. I suppose all types of mould have some potential dangers, but mould species are not as pervasive or dangerous to human health.

The inspections were undertaken, and the result was a local work plan for each community, as well as the identified types of remediation work required, and whether the mould is hazardous. There are locally trained moulds specialists, as certain types of mould can only be removed using HAZMAT suits. Some moulds can't be breathed into the respiratory system as it can damage lungs.

There are locally trained workers who will be working to remove the mould infestations, and if the units can be cleaned and materials replaced, then the work is ongoing to try to

remediate the units until they can eliminate the mould from the units. That is what we are doing now, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question concerns the impact of cannabis legalization on mould infestation in housing units.

The Government of Nunavut has recently been holding public consultation on the issue of cannabis legalization. One of the issues that is being concerned is whether or not to allow home cultivation of cannabis. The government's public information materials indicate, "The risk of allowing cultivation include health and safety risks. For example, fire and mould."

What is the minister's position on allowing home cultivation of cannabis in public housing units? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thought we were talking about mould in houses, but I don't have a position on cannabis and it being grown in houses, Mr. Speaker. That is not for me to decide.

I don't believe that this House needs to know what my personal positions are on any of these issues. I really the colleague for the question, but it's totally irrelevant to me, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) I guess we have our own, sometimes, interpretations of what the question was and what it relates to. (interpretation) Oral Questions. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

Question 082 – 5(1): Kivalliq Mental Health and Addiction Facility

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, I wish to direct my questions to the Minister of Health.

Yesterday, in the House, a discussion took place with many comments made, but what stuck in my mind was the statement that work will progress on the Kivalliq (interpretation ends) mental health and addictions facility (interpretation) in Rankin Inlet.

From what I recall, preparations have been made to move towards the (interpretation ends) pre-planning (interpretation) phase, to say it in English. I queried the minister as I wanted to understand how this facility placement was determined to go to Rankin Inlet.

I wanted to know if the previous government made the decision to place the facility in the community. Although the minister tried to respond, however, the minister also stated that

more background information was needed in order to comprehend how the previous government chose Rankin Inlet as the location.

(interpretation ends) So my first question is will the minister consult with her staff to understand how the decision was arrived at to place this proposed facility in Rankin Inlet and commit to providing that information to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Pat Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You are correct. It was something that I don't know right now of how that decision was made. I think that's something that we can look into if the member wants to have that kind of information I don't see why we couldn't inform him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I wonder if the minister would be able to inform the House whether any other communities have expressed an interest in hosting either a mental health or addictions facility in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Pat Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think we all know that the Member for Netsilik has been a real advocate for having a mental health facility in his community.

You know, if we had a blank cheque from the federal government we could put a mental health facility in every community. I would love to be able to do that. Perhaps if I had a magic wand I could do that too.

The reality is that we only have so much money. There's not an endless pot so we have to choose carefully where we are going to put these facilities. They're not cheap. It costs a lot of money to build a facility so we have to look at the economies of scale. We have to ask where putting this will be the most efficient.

I think I'm going to look back at why Rankin Inlet was chosen for the mental health facility but I would expect in the Kivalliq region that's sort of like the hub. So you'd want to put something like that there where more people can access it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Main: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the minister's viewpoint on this. I can provide an opposing viewpoint to that. I think I speak for a few of us in the House, Mr. Speaker, that there is building frustration in this territory, particularly in my home

community, with the lack of capital investment that is flowing to communities outside of regional hubs.

An Hon. Member: Coral Harbour, too.

Mr. Main: It is becoming very apparent that we as a House can now justify almost any expenditure in saying “Oh it must go to the regional hub.”

Particularly on this subject, Mr. Speaker, when it comes to mental health and addictions facility I believe there is a precedent across the country for placing these types of facilities outside of major centres, particularly for the reason that when you’re talking about addictions and mental health these are very complex issues and it’s always about dollars and cents, there are other factors that should be considered.

So my final question, Mr. Speaker, will the minister commit to an open process when it comes to these types of facilities including elders’ facilities and addictions facilities for Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Pat Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I feel your frustration on that. We also have our frustrations on our part too of not having the money that we want.

I think going forward into the future I truly believe in having partnerships because government cannot do everything on it’s own. That’s the reality of where we are going, hopefully forward. We hope to form solid partnerships that maybe we can get more into the communities, I’d love to do that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 083 – 5(1): Need for Increased Municipal Capacity

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say ‘good day’ to the people of Kuugaruk and Taloyoak. Let’s have a good day.

(interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

Mr. Speaker, the Municipality of Taloyoak does not have a space to adequately store and park its mobile equipment.

It is my understanding that the municipality is unable to secure such a space due to a lack of resources.

As the minister is well aware, the entire territory suffers from a massive infrastructure deficit. Municipalities experience the challenges of this deficit when working to provide municipal services, and when trying to maintain the equipment required to provide those services.

Can the minister indicate what specific actions his department is taking to help municipalities to build and grow their financial administrative capacity to independently construct facilities such as parking garages and office spaces? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And thank you to my colleague for asking that question.

In the communities the hamlets work hard and we work hard along with them. When their offices are getting too small and their garages are getting too small for their vehicles, it becomes very challenging to find out where we're going to get the money to do that and how we can run things more efficiently and to make sure that the communities stop lacking in stuff like vehicles and office spaces.

There was reorganization where communities could get vehicles and this improved some situations, but right now we're looking at the community funding to make sure they do get enough funding and to see where they lack in funds.

So, we're working with the Nunavut Association of Municipalities as well to see how we can improve things and also the lack of resources in municipalities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time, the municipality is not in a position to independently construct a parking garage.

Can the minister indicate what specific steps a municipality must take if they require a new construction project, but do not have the resources to undertake such a project? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And thank you for pursuing this matter. I can add my response by saying the hamlets each make up their own priorities for the coming years, they review what they're lacking and they look to see what they're going to need. We use that in working with the hamlets when they're requesting things like parking garages and things like that. We look at the community plan. It's called an ICSB, the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan. So we use that

to help us indicate which hamlet would have the most priority and then they get listed from the top priority to the lowest priority.

So we do work with the hamlets to try and find resources for their needs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. My apologies. Your final supplementary, Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) He sort of responded to my last question already, but to make sure everybody understands, I'll ask this. (interpretation ends) As the minister is aware, until such time as Taloyoak has the capacity to build its own parking garage, it will require assistance from the department.

Can the minister indicate if his department is currently working with the municipality to explore the possibility of building or leasing a parking garage in Taloyoak, and if not, will the minister commit to ensuring that his department looks into this matter? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank my colleague for the question.

We try to work with all the hamlets and sometimes it just becomes impossible for things to progress. We're not just standing idle. I know my department and hamlet officials are always communicating to see how hamlet requests can move forward. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 084 – 5(1): Program Reviews

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today my questions are for the Premier. Back in 2014, at the very beginning of the previous Legislative Assembly, the government of the day awarded a contract valued at over \$300,000; according to the procurement activity report, \$340,000, for consultants to do a so-called "operational audit" of all the government's programs. This process was being overseen by the Premier's department.

Mr. Speaker, on March 16, 2016, almost exactly two years ago to this day, the summary report on "phase 1" of the operational audit was tabled in the Legislative Assembly; all of its couple dozen pages or so.

Did the government ever actually receive a final report on this process, and if so, would the Premier commit to tabling it in the Legislative Assembly? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for requesting information on this.

Things can only run well if we understand what is happening. I'll try and respond in English. (interpretation ends) Right now phase one, as he said, was completed. So far phase two is near completion. Based on the recommendations, the Department of Finance took the lead, as you stated earlier, in hiring an organizational design consult to undertake to review the GN's shared services and develop options for improvements.

That's where we are right now, but like I said, phase two is almost completed and from there we will move on. Whether we will be able to table that, I cannot say at this time, but as I said, it's almost completed. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the update. Is the Premier aware if the government has actually made any major changes to any of its programs or services as a result of this exercise? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Quassa.

Premier Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As per my previous statement, the first phase was completed and the Department of Finance has now taken the reins and they have really reviewed it to determine which programs can be shared with corporate services. Perhaps I will switch to English to make it understandable for my colleague.

(interpretation ends) The Department of Finance, as I said, led the phase two service project to look at the most appropriate way to manage shared corporate services across the GN, which consists of Finance, Human Resources, Policy, Communications, IT Procurement and Project Management.

Those are the areas that I believe the Department of Finance is working towards. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hicks: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Uqaqtitijii*, over the past two decades, if memory serves correctly, just about every one of our governments has started its term by trying to do a comprehensive review of its programs.

In the first term, this process was referred to as a program review. More recently, we had report cards, and operational audits.

Uqaqtitijii, I absolutely agree that we need to focus and drill down on doing a better job of evaluating and measuring the actual outcomes and results of our spending, especially in some of the areas that my colleague from Arviat North – Whale Cove mentioned yesterday in his questions to the Department of ED&T.

But experience has taught us that trying to do a top-to-bottom review of every last program and service across the whole government simply allows ministers to spend the next few years saying that things are under review rather than taking action.

Mr. Speaker, we usually ask ministers to commit to doing things. But, in my last question today, I'm going to go a little off-track and a little bit different than usual.

Will the Premier commit to not doing another process where consultants are hired, for hundreds of thousands of dollars, to produce program review reports that go nowhere? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Quassa.

Premier Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We all prefer to see visually pleasing things and this applies to every member here. We too, on this side of the House also share that perspective.

If we can complete the process or review, we prefer to complete any task we undertake. Furthermore, we all know that the government isn't just about conducting reviews. As a government, especially as a new government, what I can state now is that this government will be, and I will say it in English (interpretation ends) action-oriented.

(interpretation) That is how we want to be different; perhaps we should stop comparing the last government as we formed a new government. This is what I wanted to relay here, and I will switch to English.

(interpretation ends) The final report of this project, is currently as I said, being reviewed and will be shared with the cabinet when finalized. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 085 – 5(1): Health Impacts of Cannabis Legalization

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. 'Good afternoon' colleagues and fellow residents of Pangnirtung. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health this afternoon.

Yesterday, my colleague from Baker Lake raised a question regarding some of the financial implications of cannabis legislation. My question today relates to the possible health impacts of cannabis on our residents if it is to be legalized.

Can the minister describe some of the main steps that her department is currently working towards to prepare for the upcoming legalization of cannabis? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Pat Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) When it comes to cannabis legislation and the role of the health department, we've been looking into the programming such as; developing the messages, what kind of message we want to give out, like to talk to inform Nunavummiut the risks of taking marijuana and we want to try and promote, I guess through education, not to take marijuana and what the risks associated with cannabis use would be and the impacts of the short and long-term effects of taking cannabis. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The information materials that the government has produced as part of its public consultations, it describes a number of short-term and long-term impacts of cannabis use including increased risk of mental health issues.

Can the minister describe some of the actions that her department will be taking to clearly communicate the health risks of cannabis use to the body and mind? Let me read this in English

(interpretation ends) Can the minister describe some of the actions her department will be taking to clearly communicate the health risks of cannabis use to Nunavummiut?

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Angnakak.

Hon. Pat Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the department of health will take the same approach as it does to anything that poses as a health risk. We're going to make sure that people are well informed of the risk associated with cannabis use or any other kind of use of any other drug.

We are currently engaging with identified stakeholders to inform people about the development of health programs and resources related to cannabis. The resources that are created will be reflective of the Inuit societal values and will provide education on the potential harm of cannabis use.

So in the communities, we want to be active with this. We want to use the resources that we have to try and educate Nunavummiut on what happens if they use cannabis. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank the minister for her response. My last question to the Minister of Health.

Can the minister indicate what additional resources her department will require to respond to the legalization of cannabis in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Angnakak.

Hon. Pat Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I would imagine the resources would be what we have in place now. We have resources in place to help people with their addictions and we have several options to try and help people with their addictions, so cannabis would be no different in what we have in place now. We would just be including it as part of the addictions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 086 – 5(1): Patient Travel and Escort Policy Inconsistency

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

Obviously, this relates to medical travel issues faced by patients as we continually receive complaints, and just this morning we were informed that last week, a patient was scheduled to travel home, but was only able to travel home today. The patient's travel arrangements took a long time to be finalized, resulting in this delay. I am just trying to let the minister know of this matter as this is unacceptable.

As well, the Premier just stated unequivocally that this government will be unlike previous iterations of our governments. That is a position that is good to hear, and I appreciate that perspective so I thank the Premier for stating that this government will not be like past governments as they will be action-oriented.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health regarding the medical travel escort policy. I recognize that the minister's department is currently undertaking a review of medical and I do understand that it's a broad and complex area of service.

Many of my constituents have been raising concerns with regard to the medical travel escort policy, which does not seem to be applied consistently or fairly between clients. There seems to be a double standard with respect to how some of them are being treated.

(interpretation) They are treated differently, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Some clients receive escorts while others don't even, even though they have the same condition. Some clients get a second escort while others are denied.

(interpretation) While others are denied. (interpretation ends) It seems that needs and abilities are not being taken into consideration.

Can the minister confirm that her medical travel review will also consider its medical travel escort policy and bring forward recommendations so that the policy can be applied consistently and fairly? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Pat Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, this issue obviously is disconcerting to many patients; however, we have identified it as one of the issues to be reviewed. This review will include a review of the escort policy, so we will be including in the review. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, it's not clear to me why a medical client who is perfectly able to travel alone, who is bilingual, and independent, can be allocated an escort, while another medical client who has difficulty with English and is unfamiliar with travelling by themselves, as well as being able to lift anything following their medical treatment, is not allowed an escort.

Can clarify what criteria are being applied to ensure that the medical travel escort policy fairly to those who really need it? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Angnakak.

Hon. Pat Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Everybody's case is different. A lot of times one person doesn't know... . For example, if one of your constituents came to you and said "I didn't get a medical escort", sometimes we don't know the whole information.

For example, if somebody is going to have an operation, they may not need an escort right away. Maybe they need an escort after their operation that somebody can carry their stuff. There is always a different reason why these kinds of decisions are being made.

I also acknowledge though, sometimes some of these decisions where there should have been approval but there wasn't needed to be addressed and reversed. Sometimes people make the wrong decisions when it comes to escorts or any other kinds of situations that may come about because of medical travel.

Like I stated before, I think it was last week, this is a complex thing. It's very difficult to give one answer to why somebody didn't get an escort and somebody else did. Everybody's situations are different and when we're taking into consideration whether or not somebody should have an escort or not, there are a lot of variables that come into play. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I think one of the problems, is some people playing nepotism in the system.

Mr. Speaker, one of my constituents has a letter from their medical practitioner stating that they need a medical travel escort; however, they had been denied an escort. Does the medical professional not have the final say in deciding if a patient needs an escort, and if they don't have the final say, exactly who does? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Angnakak.

Hon. Pat Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know there are medical doctors that like to say "Well this person needs an escort or not", but actually they don't have a say. Actually, it goes into the department, one of our directors is the one, with a clinical background, will make that decision. When it comes to other decisions like having a second escort, that goes up to our ADM.

There are levels within the department. If we left it up to doctors in the south to figure out if you need an escort or not and be the sole one to make those decisions, I mean, we can hardly afford what we have now.

We have a process in place. It might not be 100 percent the right process but we are trying to fix it. If you, yourself, have any kinds of ideas in how we can go about fixing such a policy, we open. We are open. Let us know. If you think something else is going to work better, then we're open to hearing your suggestions; anybody here, anybody in Nunavut. If you think that something can be working better, write to us. We want to hear from you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Kugluktuk, Ms. Kamingoak.

Question 087 – 5(1): Support for Our Elders

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Seniors Advocacy.

I've already asked the questions of the minister while she was wearing her Minister of Health hat about the plans for long-term care facilities in Nunavut.

Can the Minister responsible for Senior Advocacy clearly describe what other kinds of initiatives are underway in Nunavut to provide specific support to Nunavut seniors? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for Seniors, Minister Angnakak.

Hon. Pat Angnakak: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member. This is my first question under this portfolio.

I am a new minister under this portfolio for seniors advocate, but we are still working on what exactly that means. I can commit to a full response by the time we present our interim O&M budget for approval because we still have to announce our mandate and I still want to work with my department and with some other advocacy groups to see what best role we can take within the government when it comes to elder advocacy.

As the minister I will advocate for the needs of our elders however I can. I am ready to listen to anyone who wants to advocate for elders, and in fact, next week I'm having a meeting with the Nunavut Elders Society to discuss their roles and our roles and how best we can work together.

Currently we do help elders as a department because the seniors advocacy is located within the Health department and so of course we have a cross engagement when we help elders, and we help elders through long-term care, through home care, through community wellness committees, through our health centres, and we also work with elder committees as well.

For example, when we were in Pond Inlet a couple of weeks ago we met with the elder committee, all of us actually did, who were supported by health in learning about healthy foods and we all had a game with them that was quite fun.

That's like an example of how we help our elders. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. She answered my first question so I'll go onto my next.

Mr. Speaker, the minister of health is aware of my interest in supporting the establishment of a long-term care facility in Kugluktuk.

Will the minister responsible for Seniors Advocacy also commit to supporting the opening of more long term care beds in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Angnakak.

Hon. Pat Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think its common knowledge here that this government does not want to see any more elders being sent down south. Period.

So, care closer to home, that's our goal and if that means opening up more beds then that's what we would support. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 088 – 5(1): Addressing Staff Burn-Out in Education

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon colleagues, in the community of Gjoa Haven and my family watching.

(interpretation) I would like to direct my question to the minister of education.

Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that the Kitikmeot School Operations Division, which is based in Kugluktuk, is currently experiencing staff shortages.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, can the minister clarify whether he is aware of this situation and, if he is, can he explain what his department is doing about it? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank Mr. Akoak for posing that question.

If I understood your question correctly, you were talking about the Kitikmeot School Operations Division or are you talking about the school itself? From what I understand, it was the Kitikmeot School Operations Division. I'm not exactly aware of the situation but I do know that we'd like to get more employees over there.

Not only in the school operations but we do want to fill the positions that are currently vacant. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we're talking about the Kitikmeot School Operations Division in Kugluktuk which is experiencing staff shortages.

Mr. Speaker, when staff positions are vacant, it falls to the staff that remain in the office to do all the work. I've experienced that part of a shortage of staff myself and tend to take two jobs to fill the other position to make the office work. Sometimes staff are trying to fulfill the job requirement of two or three positions at one time.

Can the minister explain what efforts are being made to support the Kitikmeot School Operations Division in meeting its obligations without burning out the limited number of employees who are working in the office? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for posing that question. I can say that if there is a vacant position, we try to fill it with a casual employee if there is one available in the community. Sometimes, we have to look outside of the community to fill vacant positions within the government in order to make sure we are up to date with all the work we have to do. Thank you.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate that the Department of Education is trying to deliver a good education system across the territory. In our system, the children rely on the teachers, the teachers rely on the principals and they all rely on the regional school operations divisions to support them.

If the support structure fails, then the children will suffer. Will the minister commit to providing adequate staffing at the Kitikmeot School Operations Division as soon as possible so that the good people who are still working there don't burn out and so that we don't lose them as well? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends)
Thank you, Mr. Akoak for bringing light to this issue.

It gives me an opportunity to say we're recruiting. We need workers in a lot of different fields in our government, not within Education but across the board. I encourage people to submit their resumes and work for our government. I think there are many opportunities that are there. I would like to also explain that I agree with him that we don't want to fail our students and we need to do our best to support their learning environment.

I want to do my best through our department and maybe working with the other departments who might have extra workers. Maybe we can have some on loan to help the Kitikmeot School Operations to function more fully. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Kaernerck.

Question 089 – 5(1): Public Service Management

Mr. Kaerner (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say “good afternoon” to the people of Amittuq.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Finance who is responsible for the *Public Service Act*. I believe that it is important for our government to support work places that are free from harassment and bullying. I wanted to bring that up.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that the government has a lot of different policies, directives and guides concerning this issue. Can the minister confirm that the government’s policies on work place harassment and bullying apply to all of its employees? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for bringing up the issue of harassment and bullying.

We value our employees and we want them to be in a harassment-free work environment. All the different policies, directives and guides are used at the workplace and we have had workshops with our employees so that they know about the workplace harassment and bullying.

We have workshops and we also have information on the harassment and bullying policy. If you’re getting harassed or bullied, then these are the steps you have to take. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Kaerner (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for his response.

Yes, this government also believes in service provision, as that was the previous direction and since government employees provide services to the public. The reason why I brought up this issue is that one of my constituents in Igloolik who resides in the Amittuq riding provided the information.

As we all know, many of our employees are members of the union. There are also employees who are not members of the union, or non-unionized positions, irrespective of whether they are female or male, who bully their fellow employees and this has to be resolved to our satisfaction.

Now, with respect to the non-unionized positions I would like to ask if they are beholden to the same requirements as the union members. Are they subject to the same requirements regarding this matter? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I also thank the member for that relatable question.

Yes, employees who are members of the union have conflict resolution avenues, and they can include these employees in the mediation process. This is outlined and some complaints are dealt with using that process.

For the non-unionized workers, since you asked about these positions. The conflict resolution process is the same; however, they don't have the union representation. Nonetheless, with that being the case, non-unionized employees also have policies on how to address conflict resolution and they have to follow these policies.

We keep these policy directives on the websites, and we provide conflict resolution workshops on how to deal with various conflicts in the workplace and which process to follow. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Kaernerker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for his understandable response.

This leads me to ask this question. Can the department create a new policy that would apply across all employee categories related to work place bullying? Can this government develop a brand new policy to that effect? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for asking that question.

The policies and regulations pertaining to that area are constantly being monitored and reviewed, especially when problematic areas crop up, and we sometimes have to change the policies based on these incidents, and this includes other interjurisdictional legislation within Canada, where conflict resolution initiatives are set out.

Some of the conflicts reach the court system and the judgements made can cause changes. The policies continue to evolve, and we see various sections being changed. This policy we are discussing here was just recently amended in 2016.

Currently, whenever new findings come up or changes are required, we will have to enact the changes. This government is very protective of our employees and we want them to work in a safe work place. When a work place has a welcoming environment, the employees work far more efficiently.

I am also proud of our employees, as well as for your questions related to this issue and that we can speak to this matter, which is beneficial to all of us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 090 – 5(1): 2018-19 Public and Staff Housing Allocations

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

Earlier this week, the minister committed to me, that he would be tabling in the Legislative Assembly, the Nunavut Housing Corporation's 2018-19 public and staff housing community allocations, as well as the Nunavut Housing Corporation's updated housing allocation system backgrounder.

Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, my colleague from Netsilik emphasized the importance of ensuring that all Nunavummiut are clearly aware of where their communities stand in the Nunavut Housing Corporations current ranking of housing need.

Mr. Speaker, the best way to accomplish this goal is to table the information in this house so that it can become public knowledge and become accessible to all residents of the territory, and not just MLAs or local housing organization staff.

Mr. Speaker, will the minister fulfill his commitment to me, before the end of the current winter sitting by tabling the Nunavut Housing Corporation's 2018-19 public and staff housing community allocations as well as the Nunavut housing corporations updated housing allocation systems backgrounder? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question.

As I indicated earlier, I told him that I would be tabling the documents as soon as their available and I haven't changed my decision yet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if the minister can confirm to date when he would be able to table these documents? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is a little bit more to tabling documents than just walking in here and giving my colleagues a piece of paper. As soon as we are able to table it, we will Mr. Speaker, once they're ready for tabling, I will be more than happy to do that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is equally as important to keep members up to date on new construction.

Will the minister commit to providing a formal update to the house during the upcoming spring sitting on the status of the Nunavut Housing Corporations tendering for the public and staff housing units that are planned to be constructed during the 2018-19 fiscal year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe when we were discussing that earlier in the week or in the previous week I had made commitments to my colleagues that I would keep them informed on the progress of the housing projects that we have underway. I've committed to that and I will Mr. Speaker, keep them informed at times when there is new information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 091 – 5(1): Security at Health Facilities

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my questions at the minister of health.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues have recently raised a number of concerns with the respect to security issues at our medical boarding homes.

It is also very important that all health facilities, such as our health centres and our hospital, have adequate and appropriate security services. I note that the department has a standing offer agreement for security services at the Qikiqtani General Hospital and more recently awarded a contract for security services at ten health centres across the territory.

Can the minister update the House on the current status of security services at the Qikiqtani General Hospital and the ten health centres? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Pat Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his question.

The Qikiqtani General Hospital, we have 24-hour security there. We also have camera monitoring of the clinics and other areas of the hospital and furthermore, we also security in ten of our health centres. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the minister for that response.

Mr. Speaker, providing security services in a healthcare setting requires very specific training. It's very important that the appropriate procedures are followed, especially when incidents occur and physical intervention may be necessary.

Can the minister clearly explain what specific kinds of training are required for security staff who work in our hospital and health care centres. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Angnakak.

Hon. Pat Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have the list in front of me but I would assume if I was going to choose a security guard, we want to make sure the security guard knows how to handle serious situations should they arise, how to be alert for things that might happen and make sure that they have the proper training to address all of those issues.

Although I can't tell you exactly line by line what that would be, CGS would have looked at qualifications as well once the contract was signed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Lightstone: Mr. Speaker, I understand that security staff in health care facilities in Nunavut must complete a security officer course, as well as training and non-violent crisis intervention techniques; however, it is not clear that any organization within Nunavut delivers these required certified training programs.

Can the minister explain how her department ensures that security staff in Nunavut's health facilities here in Iqaluit and other facilities have the appropriate and adequate training? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Pat Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess that would be up to the organization who hires their security guards to ensure that they have the proper training and I'm sure that's part of the review when you're awarding a contract. You want to make sure that you have trained people.

Just for accreditation; you know our hospital is accredited, but there are no specific standards for security. However, if there are critical incident reports and, or client and

staff feedback, then the accreditation would ask the organization to provide a list of measures, security guards, cameras, et cetera that are in place to protect the staff and clients. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members, please note that oral question period is over. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Rule 39(7), I move, seconded by the Member for Uqqummiut, that time allotted for Oral Questions be extended. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. There is a motion on the floor and the motion is in order. Those in favour of the motion. Thank you. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried and Oral Question Period is extended by 30 minutes starting now.

Oral Questions. Member Uqqummiut, Mr. Keyootak.

Question 092 – 5(1): Caribou Management

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

Last week I asked the minister to update the House on the number of caribou that have been harvested on Baffin Island. The minister was unable to give me an exact number at the time. As the minister is aware, the government lifted the hunting ban on Baffin Island caribou in August 2015.

At that time, the government introduced a quota of 250 in total for all Baffin Island communities. I believe that it is important that we monitor how many caribou are being harvested each year to determine the effect that hunting may have on the caribou population.

It is my understanding that the wildlife offices and the Hunters and Trapper Organizations work together to track the number of Baffin Island caribou that are harvested each year.

Will the minister to commit to collecting that information and tabling it in the house before the end of the current sitting? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I signed a letter yesterday to that issue remembering his question on how many caribou have been harvested on Baffin Island. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister commit to tabling a detailed list of all population estimates and research projects on Baffin Island caribou that her department has conducted since August 2015? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will direct my staff to have that available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate when her department plans to meet with Nunavut's wildlife organizations to discuss an evaluation of the current Baffin Island caribou total allowable harvest? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can say right now that our office, when there is a meeting, we're not the ones who deal with caribou. There are co-management stakeholders, but I cannot tell you when the next meeting will be. On the information I just signed, I will include when the next meetings will be. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 093 – 5(1): Status of Remediation in Baker Lake

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

As the minister knows, the Qulliq Energy Corporation's headquarters are located in Baker Lake, and we are very proud of that fact.

As the minister is aware, a longstanding issue of concern for the community is the environmental clean-up at the old power plant site that was inherited from the Northern Canada Power Corporation. As the minister is also aware, this has been one of many contaminated sites in Nunavut.

Can the minister provide an update today on the status of the cleanup in Baker Lake? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (Interpretation ends) Qulliq energy endeavors to monitor, mitigate, and remediate contaminated sites which may occur at any community power plant.

As Mr. Mikkungwak mentioned, there was a spill in the 1970-80s which was administered by the Northern Canada Power Corporation. The remediated site was contained, remediated in September 2016. It was removed and placed on QECs land farm.

At that time, the human and health risk assessment and ecological risk assessment of the Baker Lake site was done in the summer of 2016. The contaminated hot spot was removed and placed in the land farm.

QEC has been working diligently with municipality of Baker Lake to remediate the rest of the sites, but that is not considered high risk or a hazard health to the community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for her response. Just now, her response that was contaminated was only partially cleaned up. Only a small part of it, only the end of the contaminated site was worked on and the rest of the spill has not been cleaned up.

They did a study and cleaned only a part of it and I'm aware of that in the past year, I've been councillor in the hamlet, and we have been pushing for is as Baker Laker residents, so my question now is: the contaminated site, the whole of the contaminated site, is responsible for the federal... will the federal government have to fund it for the complete cleanup or is the Government of Nunavut have to foot the bill? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) QEC does not possess the funds to remediate contaminated sites, but we did do the remediation site in Baker Lake with QEC funds as this was required by health risk and because of the hot spot. QEC is willing to work with the municipality of Baker Lake to remediate the rest of the site.

A final report was prepared and given to QEC to review. QEC has been trying to meet with the Hamlet of Baker Lake so that we can further administer and remove the contaminated site, but we they have not returned our calls to meet with them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister provide an estimate... She said that it was already cleaned up but a lot of the land has a diesel or oil spilled on it.

Can the minister provide an estimate as to the total cost of cleaning up the site in Baker Lake? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Yes, I can give you an estimate.

The cost estimate for the remediation of the site in Baker Lake cost QEC \$1.68 million. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Kugluktuk, Ms. Kamingoak.

Question 094 – 5(1): The Effect of Predation on Nunavut’s Caribou

Ms. Kamingoak: Koana, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Environment.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, I asked the minister a number of questions concerning her department’s work to monitor the effects that predators are having on Kugluktuk’s caribou populations.

In her response, the minister indicated that this situation is, and I quote “being studied”, end quote.

Will the minister commit to tabling the results of her department’s studies on this subject in our upcoming spring sitting? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Thank you for that question.

I will gladly provide it once...I think any study should be provided to this House. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Kamingoak: *Koana*, Mr. Speaker. Our elders tell us that historically there was more harvesting of wolves by hunters to ensure that caribou populations remained abundant.

In today's age, not all hunters have the opportunity to harvest wolves and focus on harvesting on other animals in order to feed their families. To address these concerns, the government has previously set up incentives for hunters to harvest more wolves in a specific area.

Can the minister tell us today, does she support the implementation of incentives for our hunters to harvest more wolves in the areas where caribou populations are declining?
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Great question. I fully support it, as we said, this government that we're going to diversify our economic opportunities, and obviously, this particular species is not at risk, so for sure we support it.

That's why there's incentives with our department. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for that answer, minister.

Will the minister commit to looking into the possibility of setting up an incentive program for hunters to harvest wolves in Kugluktuk? Koana, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And thank you for that question. I think that incentive is available all across Nunavut, and it is set up for all of Nunavut.

(interpretation ends) If they want to tap into the program, the programs are for all communities of Nunavut. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 095 – 5(1): Tracking Inuit Labour Content

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I'd like to ask questions to the minister of community and government services.

Now, we are all aware, Mr. Speaker, in our communities there are many unemployed

Inuit, but it's great in another way that different departments provide different services under contracts. When they produce contracts, they mention the content of Inuit hires that are to be included, such as a percentage.

My colleague was asking questions about this just recently. First of all, I would like to ask the minister this question. Did her officials look into past contracts to determine if the provisions stating the content of Inuit hires were attained? Did any contracts reach the stated percentage of Inuit hires or if they fell short?

If they don't understand me I can say it in English. (interpretation ends) Does the department track the numbers in terms of recent contracts that met their Inuit labour content levels or exceeded their labour content? If so, would the minister commit to sharing that information with the House? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I agree with my colleague and I thank him for the question.

When any position is created or if construction projects for major infrastructure is contemplated, it includes a requirement for a percentage of Inuit hires. This includes the number of Inuit employees or a requirement to purchase a certain amount of goods from an Inuit company, and this requirement is included in the contract.

There are different requirements for the different types of contracts. Some sectors have Inuit workers readily available in the positions required, and in those cases the requirement may be higher or if the sector doesn't have enough Inuit content, then it is lowered.

The minimum requirements are weighted differently based on the sector or contract that is offered, and there are listed percentages for each category. Some sectors have very low thresholds or (interpretation ends) minimum requirement (interpretation) figures. Every effort is made to try to surpass the Inuit content requirement listed in each contract.

As well, companies that are able to surpass the listed requirements are viewed favourably on future contracts, and it can be added to their incentives. And further, when they fall short of the Inuit content requirement or didn't hire any Inuit, this information can also be used for any future contract.

When they apply for a future contract, this information is referenced to the contractor and they are informed that they also made that promise in a previous contract but they didn't reach the minimum requirement or they fell short of the required numbers. In the example you used, this can be incorporated into the next contract.

I'll say it in English, (interpretation ends) All the contracts are tendered out and if some contractors do not meet the minimum threshold requirement it could be used against them if the contractor or the contractors should bid again.

Those kinds of information are kept on file. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask if these previous study results, which the minister is referencing, if they can be tabled in the House? Can the minister compile them into a (interpretation ends) summary report? (interpretation) It would allow members to fully understand the examples used in the response. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I cannot commit myself to that right now. The people who work on these, the contractors, they have certain rights as well. We don't just hand out contracts and I can't commit myself to that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Main: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although I appreciate the minister's response, that is unfortunate. It would behoove us to fully understand this process to determine the level of benefits that can be accrued to our people.

Other information exists that can also provide assistance to our officials. There are existing mineral extraction agreements as well as RIA negotiated IIBAs that list these requirements, so examples abound that officials can use. This government should be using these various agreements to try to increase the number of Inuit workers.

I would like more information to clearly understand how the requirements are reached. To use an example, if a large infrastructure project were to be planned in Iqaluit, would the officials only look at the workforce available in Iqaluit, or do they look at the whole Baffin region, the south Baffin Region to see what workers are available in the nearby communities.

Let me ask the minister if his department, if he can consider this with his officials and also measure how much this has actually benefited the people and if there are any other ways to help benefit Inuit that they can present to the house here? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will read... it is in the NNI Policy and anybody can read that too. You can look in the government's website for it. I'll read it in English. (interpretation ends)

“The Government of Nunavut in its methodology for the NNI Policy shall establish the mandatory minimum Inuit labour level requirement for each procurement process. Where such Inuit labour level requirements can be calculated, taken into consideration the following factors:”

I think this addresses your questions, Mr. Main.

“A: The nature of skills required to perform the work at issue;

B: The Inuit labour available within the necessary skills to perform the work at issue in Nunavut and in the subject community or communities for the contract including Inuit apprentices and Inuit students registered in training programs who are, or will become available to perform the skilled work;

C: Other ongoing or anticipated projects in the subject community or communities for the contract that may impact the availability of necessary Inuit labour and any other factors relevant to the work at issue.”

I think that answers the questions of my colleague, Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 096 – 5(1): Summer Student Employee Equity Program

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the minister of finance.

During the ministers statement about the summer student employment equity program he had identified April 6 as a date of which the department was accepting applications for the program. I would just like to mention that I was a summer student myself for a number of years, for four summers actually, and on a number of occasions I came across timing issues with the end of the semester exams starting in mid-April, sometimes ending in mid-April and then I would fly up as soon as I could to come and start work but I could never get the dates to line up perfectly.

I really counted on the number of hours I could work throughout the summer in order to pay off my student debt and my credit card which I racked up throughout the semester but unfortunately, sometimes it would take a number of weeks before I could actually start work due to paperwork issues.

I would just like to ask if the minister if he would be willing to possibly amend the April 6 starting date of the application process and probably incorporate it in March to overlap interviews with the students reading weeks? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Lightstone, and I am very proud and happy that you were able to take part in the summer student program.

I tabled this today to inform the students today, if the students can hear me, please start preparing for this because applications will be accepted on April 6, so please apply to which and where you want to work. Please start applying; April 6 is the accepting date for applications. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Once again, I'd just like to ask the minister to amend the April 6 starting date of accepting applications in order to expedite the process of hiring these summer students, to allow them to complete all of the interview process and all the paperwork to enable them to start their work as soon as they finish their semesters. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The various work places we have, will be offering summer placement positions through advertisements.

If someone were to start on April 6, they would have to apply way before that, but that can be accommodated. However, in coming up with this date, we reviewed the school semester end dates, and we try to align the dates in conjunction with the various ending dates of the semesters.

We also provide a lead time to notify interested students. I urge that students commit this information to memory, as we would like to hire students for the summer, and I encourage all members to relay this message to students in their ridings. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For my last question, I'd just like to ask: what is the exact process for departments requesting summer student employment opportunities within their offices?

When do they begin the hiring process? When do they submit applications to the department requesting summer students? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Akeeagok

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Finance provides approximately \$1 million to the departments specifically for the summer student hires during the summer months.

At this time, departments should have already begun preparing their applications for the positions to be offered under this program, and what level of students they wish to hire for these positions.

The dates are slightly different, but at this time, most departmental officials should be preparing for this program. I am also glad that this program will again be offered. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 097 – 5(1): Impaired Driving Convictions

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thought I would run out of time before my name was called. Thank you for acknowledging me.

Last week, I directed questions to the minister who was just queried, specifically the minister of finance about the people who have been charged with impaired driving, and many of them are disqualified or no longer allowed to work in the schools.

What is the position of the minister on people who apply for positions, but who have DUI charges on their record? If they have been charged, does this mean they can no longer work within our schools? What is the position of the minister on this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for reiterating your question about this matter.

With respect to people who have been charged with DUI and who are in the court system, and for people who have received their court sentences are perceived in different lights. If they are a prospective teacher, more investigation is required, such as a criminal records check.

This includes any incidents of criminal charges, including DUI charges and if they are looking to take courses involving driving, then that is considered a dangerous combination. Nonetheless, if they are applying for a teaching position not involving any driving responsibilities, then the case can be reviewed.

They ascertain whether this would place the person in a dangerous situation if driving is required, or if they are not a danger to the public, using... to say it in English (interpretation ends) low, medium and high risk (interpretation) scales. It would depend

on the responsibilities entailed with the position, so that is how they approach each case. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to that response, I have seen in past cases where this was applied to hunters or people who were going to take students out on the land, which includes driving the snowmobiles to their destination.

Personally, I don't see why this should be an obstacle in that case. I now want to ask this question, Mr. Speaker, when people have been charged with DUI and several years have passed without further incidents, how long before the (interpretation ends) criminal record (interpretation) listed can be pardoned?

If the past charges are pardoned, would that person be once again eligible to work with the schools? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, when the criminal record listing the charges surpasses a certain number of years, it would depend on the severity of the criminal charges, and due to the differences, it would be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Some charges can be pardoned, by applying for a pardon after a number of years through I believe the Department of Justice. They can submit their application and reason for requesting a pardon of the past charges either by showing the adherence to the probation or after having completed their sentence. They can state the number of years and ask for a pardon.

There is that opportunity for Nunavummiut to go through that process. Thank you for asking me that question, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for his attempt to provide assistance in this regard. Can the minister clarify that and inform the general public, as many people don't know they have a (interpretation ends) second chance (interpretation) and we ought to provide second chances to our people as many Inuit are unemployed.

Further, people sometimes make mistakes when they are in their younger years. It would be good to relay the information on how their (interpretation ends) record (interpretation) can have certain charges expunged. Can the minister provide that information to the House? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If this isn't within my department, I can work with another ministerial colleague to provide that. Yes, we have to provide this information, and it has been publicized in the past.

It is good to inform our citizens that they can have second chances, as certain positions require stringent paperwork, and sometimes as Inuit we forget that the information exists, so a reminder can always benefit people who can then move ahead.

If there are ways to provide further information on the employment requirements for some positions, then absolutely I would support that type of initiative and agree with my colleague on that point, and we will try to provide that information to all Nunavut residents about this matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members, please note that oral question period is now over. We cannot extend it again today.

Going back to orders of the day. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Ms. Towtongie.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 023 – 5(1): Photographs of Housing Conditions in Rankin Inlet

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table a collection of shocking photographs depicting housing units in my constituency where a family resides.

Mr. Speaker, these photographs clearly show that poor condition of many units and urgent need to address such issues as mould infestation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Notices of Motion. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills. Motions. First Reading of Bills. Second Reading of Bills. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 1, 2, 3 and 4 with Mr. Mikkungwak in the Chair. In accordance with authority provided to me by motion 10-5(1) the committee will stay in session until it reports itself out.

Before we start the Committee of the Whole we'll take a 20-minute break. Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*Recess at 16:02 and resumed at 16:27*

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

Chairman (interpretation): Good afternoon. As a reminder to the members and while we are going to be proceeding with the Committee of the Whole. (interpretation ends)

In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bills 1, 2, 3, and 4. what is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and good afternoon. Mr. Chairman, We wish to continue with Bill 1 and commence with the review of the Capital Appropriation for the Department of Justice followed by: the Department of Culture and Heritage, and if time permits, the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs and the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Do we agree that we deal with the Department of Justice?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 01 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2018-2019 – Consideration in Committee

Chairman: I would now like to ask Minister Ehaloak, do you have officials you would like to appear before the committee?

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I do.

Chairman: Thank you. Does the committee agree to let the ministers officials go to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

And for the record minister, please introduce your witnesses.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) To my right, your left: William, but we call him Bill, Mackay: Deputy Minister. To my left and your right: Jeeloo, Director of Corporate Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Please, be welcome. You can proceed with your opening comments, Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appear before the Committee of the Whole today, to present the Department of Justice's draft 2018-19 Capital Estimates.

We are seeking approval of \$1,350,000 for the Department of Justice's capital expenditures for the 2018-19 fiscal year. This is for two purposes: renovations to Justice Headquarters and minor capital.

The department requests \$450,000 for renovations of its headquarters located in the Sivummut Building in Iqaluit to create additional workspaces.

The office is occupied by five divisions for the Department of Justice: the Directorate, Policy & Planning, Legal and Constitutional Law, Legislation, and Corporate Services with 54 fulltime positions, plus some casual and summer positions.

There are not enough workspaces to accommodate these employees to carry out their daily functions.

In the departments consultations with the department of Community and government services, it was determined that renovation was the best option since no alternative office space was available.

The Department of Justice is also requesting \$900,000 for a number of important minor capital expenditures including:

- The replacement of four department vehicles;
- Updating the fire alarm system at the Uttaqivik Community Residential Centre (the halfway house);
- Updating the security camera system at the Ranking Inlet Healing Facility;
- Updating information technology systems in the department; and
- Maintenance and repairs for the outdated Baffin Correctional Centre to ensure health and safety of staff and inmates until the Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre is completed.

With respect to the Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre project, \$5,438,000 in capital expenditures for the 2018-19 was already approved at the fall legislative session and is therefore not part of this current request.

Having these funds previously approved has allowed the department to move forward with the project given its timelines and sealift scheduling. The project remains on time and on budget. Construction is scheduled to start in the summer of 2018.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my opening comments. I will now take any questions from the committee members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Opening comments from the Committee, Mr. Qirngnuq. You can proceed.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank you madam minister and your officials. (interpretation ends)

I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Regular Members' Caucus concerning its review of Part II of the 2018-19 capital estimates of the Department of Justice.

Members note that the department's proposed capital budget for the 2018-19 fiscal year is \$1.35 million. The department's capital budget for the 2017-18 fiscal year was \$1.512 million.

Mr. Chairman, the department's proposed 2018-19 capital estimates include \$900,000 for its various small capital projects, as well as \$450,000 for a new project to renovate the department's space in the Sivummut Building, located in Iqaluit.

During its spring 2017 sitting, the previous legislative assembly approved \$5.438 million in capital funding for the Department's project to renovate and replace the Baffin Correctional Centre.

The Standing Committee notes that, once completed, this project will increase Nunavut's capacity to house adult male offenders by 120 beds. As well, the newly renovated space will allow the department to house medium- and maximum-security offenders within the territory.

Mr. Chairman, the department's first annual report on the operations of its corrections division was tabled in the House on November 6, 2016. In this report, the department indicated that the corrections division housed more than thirty medium- and maximum-security inmates in the Baffin Correctional Centre during that year, however the Baffin Correctional Centre is only designed to house inmates classified as minimum-security.

In his 2015 Report on Corrections in Nunavut, the Auditor General of Canada noted that while the Baffin Correctional Centre was upgraded to increase its security levels in a number of areas, recent reports have concluded that the "Baffin Correctional Centre still lacks the basic security requirements of a correctional facility greater than minimum security."

The standing committee cautions the corrections division to make every effort to house inmates in appropriate facilities according to their security levels.

Mr. Chairman, the department's 2015-16 annual report on the operations of its correction's division includes comprehensive information concerning the capacity and inmates counts for each of Nunavut's correctional facilities. The standing committee strongly encourages the minister to table her department's 2016-17 annual report on the operations of its corrections division at the earliest opportunity.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2018-19 capital estimates of the Department of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Are there any general comments? Ms. Towtongie. General comments. I don't have any names. We're on page E-3. (interpretation ends) Directorate. Total Capital Expenditures. \$1,350,000. Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to welcome the minister and her officials.

(interpretation ends) I just have one question for the minister. In her opening statement she says that they will be replacing four departmental vehicles and yesterday when we were in COW with the Department of Health, they informed us that the vehicles had already been ordered prior to us approving their capital budget.

Just a question to the minister: have these vehicles been ordered before sealift? (interpretation) Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, very much. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Two of the vehicles have been ordered. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The two vehicles that have been ordered, is that from this year's capital budget? That is my question. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Mr. Chairman, thank you for the question. The money was used from revenues and excess money from last year, so they haven't been for this year's O&M costs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) That's good to know, but the other two vehicles are depending on whether we approve this budget or not. I just want the assurance that they won't be ordered prior to us approving the capital budget. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister of Justice, Ms. Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can concur, they have not been ordered using... . None of the vehicles have been purchased yet to date. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you. (Interpretation ends) I thank the minister for her hard work and it's good to know that we have some departments that are responsible in how they do business with our badly needed public money. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) That's just a comment. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you for the comment. Following the list of names, Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I have a question. During its spring 2017 sitting, the previous assembly approved \$2.53 million in capital carryovers for the minister's department.

At that time the legislative assembly also approved \$5.438 million for the same project and that was to replace the Baffin Correctional Centre with the Qikiqtani Healing Centre.

Can the minister clarify why this project is not included in the department's five year capital plan for the 2019-2023 period? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank you for the question.

The \$5.348 million was previously approved by the previous government, so that's why it's not in the capital plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you. So can you provide an update on the status of your department's project to replace the Baffin Correctional Centre? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The status of the project: in the summer of 2017, fall of 2017, light preparation work began.

In March of 2018, the tender was sent out. In April of 2018, the tender got awarded; the contract will be awarded. In the summer of 2018, Phase One of Construction will begin, which is the new addition. In the spring of 2020, Phase One: Occupancy. All inmates and staff will move into the new facility.

In the spring of 2020, phase two construction begins of the old Baffin Correctional Centre. And in the fall of 2021, will be Phase two, occupancy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just one final question. Can the minister clarify if this incident has caused any delays in the department's Qikiqtani Healing Centre project? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are no delays and the project is on schedule. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to follow up on Ms. Towtongie's question. When you say its on track and on budget in phase one of the capital budget and the last assembly approved a capital carryover as well as new capital dollars to make sure that this project proceeded as planned.

When you say it's on track and on budget, when I look at the project schedule, the final specs and drawings are supposed to have been completed last year, so I'm going to assume that that is done, but in spring of 2018 which is where we're sitting right now, Mr. Chairman, phase one of the construction (Piling) and phase one and two of the contract and tender award was supposed to be completed. Can that be confirmed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister of Justice, Ms. Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank Mr., Hickes for the question. On April 18, the expected closing date of the public tender. Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also in the process, it talks about key activities that the development procurement process with the City of Iqaluit, the final review of the drawings for construction and planning in the GN. Preparing documents for tenders as they're closing soon, I can safely be assured that that's been complete. The project phasing, ensuring that operations in the existing facility continue during construction, a combination of GN, department of justice and facility maintenance and operations planning are key activities that are outlined in the presentation that we were provided by the Department of Justice.

Are all of those activities on track as well? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes they are Mr. Hickes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am sure the minister is very familiar with this report from the office of the Auditor General, although it was from 2015, titled: Corrections in Nunavut: Department of Justice.

I'm sure that any returning members or anybody who has followed proceedings over the past four years, I am a very big plan of action plans. I know that there was a number of capital related as well as other issues outlined in this OAG report and I don't recall seeing an action plan tabled recently in the legislature. I was looking to get a commitment from the minister that an updated version of their action plan will be tabled in the very near future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that question Mr. Hickes. We can provide that for you once it's complete. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Sorry, I would just like some clarification for that Mr. Chairman. Once the action plan is complete or once the update of it is complete? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister of Justice, Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the updated version Mr. Hickes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm going to just go back to the question that my colleague Mr. Netser had mentioned or requested a confirmation of on two vehicles being ordered already, although the minister said they haven't been paid for yet.

In the response provided, it was given that they were ordered from this current fiscal year's budget, of a surplus in that budget as well as listed revenue. What type of revenue does the department get that they can convert over to capital projects? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I should have corrected myself; it's from surplus from O&M. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No revenues, just surplus. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have some comments later on, probably today or tomorrow.

When we were looking at these budgets, whether it be capital or O&M, there is usually a very good outline of what the outcomes are that are expected from these dollars that we approve in the legislature and I do understand that sometimes there are costs saving measures that are taken or received through different ordering procurement practices that can lessen the impact on the burden of the budget so that some surpluses can arise.

I'm looking at approving a budget that, for example, includes a purchase of two vehicles. I'm surprised that the budget amount wasn't reduced by that amount if they were able to purchase those vehicles under the existing budget. I'd just like some confirmation of that, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Ehaloak.

Mr. Hickers: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate that information, although it wasn't really relevant to my question.

If the two vehicles that are being proposed to be purchased out of the 2018-19 capital budget have already been purchased under the 2017-18 budget, why do they need the funds in the 2018-19 budget? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get my Deputy Minister, Bill MacKay to answer that specific information for you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. MacKay.

Mr. MacKay: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question, Mr. Hickers.

The way this happened is we had a minor capital budget. It included \$200,000 to cover repairs to BCC from different things including vandalism. It turned out that there wasn't as much damage to the facility this year as we anticipated, so we had \$110,000 extra.

We used that money to fill a need in Rankin Inlet for two new vehicles which were budgeted for, as you noted, for the next year. We only became aware of that surplus in the last few months, so we weren't able to adjust our budget for the next year.

Typically with minor capital budgets we have an estimate. From previous years we try to understand what we will need in terms of minor capital. It's a fund but it's not an exact science, so we kept the budget the same assuming that there may be more damage or different things that come up over the next year that we need to budget for minor capital repairs to different facilities.

That's why we didn't account for those two vehicles being purchased in 2017-18 and 2018-19. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand there are some variables in the budgeting process. I've had to do them in my previous lives as well too, but it sounds to me like there is kind of a little slush fund that is available. I know the department just found out about the availability of these dollars in recent months and weren't able to adjust their budget in time.

What would the minister think if I could help out the department in putting a motion forward to reduce the budget by the amount that applied for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister of Justice, Ms. Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this time, as Minister of Justice, I'm not in support of the motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask for a five-minute recess and ask my regular members colleagues to meet in the lounge. Thank you.

Chairman: We will take a five-minute recess. Thank you.

>>Committee recessed at 16:54 and resumed at 17:01

Chairman: I call the committee meeting back to order. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hope all members of the Executive Council are paying attention especially the Minister of Finance.

Over the last few days we have had a number of incidences where monies were either spent in unapproved dollars or in a case like this where monies were expended through normal surplus processing yet, the budget was not reduced by the amount of those purchases made.

At this time, through consultation with my colleagues, I will NOT be putting forward a motion right now to remove this item from the budget but I will have some further comments as we proceed through our legislative process and that's it for me for now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Justice: Directorate. Total Capital Expenditures: \$1,350,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. They are not asking for anything else under the other branches so please go back to E2: Justice. Total Capital Expenditures: \$1,350,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Do members agree that we have concluded the Department of Justice?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sorry; I must have not had long enough arms.

>>*Laughter*

I find that hard to believe. I had a few questions for the minister if you'll allow it?

Chairman: Does the committee agree for Mr. Main to ask his questions?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Justice: Directorate. E-3. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll keep this brief. The minister was talking about discussing the plans for the replacement of the Baffin Correctional Centre, should be called the Qikiqtani Healing Centre or something like that. She mentioned that the contract would be awarded within the next month. It's likely that the contract process will be concluded.

I wonder if the minister could provide information in terms of the Inuit employment levels which will be part of that capital process. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of Justice, Ms. Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Main for the question. It is in the public tender document but there are no specific numbers as to how many Inuit will be hired. Not at this point. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I guess I'll ask for a clarification. The Inuit employment level for that contract will be zero? I would like a clarification. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe I can clarify it a little bit more. In the public tender document that was advertised on March 7, any tendered documents will include exactly how many Inuit employees they intend to hire during the phase of the contract. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sorry, Mr. Chairman. It will be reviewed by the selection committee. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to encourage the minister and her staff to aim high when high when it comes to that particular factor. When we look at other major projects that have been built in recent years, I think if we're talking about a new jail... I'll call it a jail because that's what it is, for Nunavummiut, to have such a facility that's built by from outside of our own territory, if we can't get people working to build these types of facilities, then I think we're doing something seriously wrong.

I understand there are timeline pressures in there in terms of the inadequacy of the current facility, but I would like to encourage the minister and her staff to aim high when it comes to Inuit employment and look beyond just Iqaluit. Look at the surrounding communities; Cape Dorset, Pangnirtung, are there people in those communities who can work, who would want to help build this facility.

I don't stray too far into O&M territory, but as this pertains to capital, I would like to hear the minister's opinion on this very matter in terms of Inuit employment as it pertains to the future facility. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I totally agree with you, Mr. Main. I will make sure that we aim high in Inuit employment in this specific project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Main: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's great to hear. I won't dwell on this any further. You look at the Iqaluit airport; 17 percent we are told. You look at the size of that facility and 17 percent of that facility; I would say that is not enough, Mr. Chairman. I'll stop talking and get to my last question item here.

We had some discussion regarding the use of the term "healing centre" and I think it's a term that is problematic particularly when it comes to Inuktitut speakers. (interpretation)

They call them “healing centres”. For people who speak only in Inuktitut, it’s a jail. It’s a prison.

Has the minister made any considerations about this? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank Mr. Main for that question.

The reason for the name of this Qikiqtani correctional facility is just the planning and construction phase; the name itself. There is an elders committee that is a part of the planning phase of the construction of this facility. A new actual long-term name will be decided upon before the actual opening of the facility.

So right now, it’s called the Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre, through the construction phase like I said, and a new name will be established in consultations with the elders group. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It’s good to hear that elders will be involved in naming the facility. The English term Healing Facility. I believe a correctional centre would be a better name for it because it is a jail. It’s just a general comment, Mr. Chairman. I don’t have any more questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) I’ll take that as a comment. Justice: Directorate: Total Capital Expenditures \$1,350,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Go to Page E-2. Justice: Total Capital Expenditures: \$1,350,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Do members agree that we have concluded the Department of Justice? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Closing comments. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the committee members and I would also like to applaud my staff Mr. Mackay, Mr. Loo for their

assistance in helping me start my position as Minister of Justice and I look forward to working with the Committee Members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>*Applause*

Chairman: Thank you. (interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms could you please escort the witnesses out of the witness table?

We will proceed to the Department of Culture and Heritage. I'll ask Minister Joanasié if he would like to have his officials join him at the witness table for the Committee of the Whole?

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Yes, I do Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Members do you agree to have the witnesses at the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

For the record Minister Joanasié, please introduce your officials. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon my colleagues. To my right Deputy Minister Louise Flaherty. To my left Director of Finance, Corporate Services, Regilee Adla. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the Legislative Assembly. We'll move on. Minister Joanasié, you can do your opening comments.

Bill 02 – Interim Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, April 1, 2018 to June 30, 2018 – Consideration in Committee

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members. I am pleased to have this opportunity to present the Department of Culture and Heritage 2018-19 Capital Estimates.

The department holds a leadership role within the Government of Nunavut for the preservation, development and enhancement of Nunavut's culture, heritage and languages.

Mr. Chairman, the Capital Estimates for the Department of Culture and Heritage for the 2018-19 fiscal year is \$630,000.

The department is requesting \$130,000 of the capital estimates to purchase a vehicle for the Iqaluit office and to replace the carpeting and office furnishing at the Igloodik office.

It is important for the Department to have a reliable vehicle in Nunavut's capital city for the safe passage of our visitors which includes Inuit elders. There are Inuit elders representing all the regions in Nunavut with the two board members that are overseen by the department.

They meet a minimum of three to four times a year and some of the meetings are held in Iqaluit. One of the boards is in the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Katimajiit, also referred to as IQK, which is administered by the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Branch.

Mr. Chairman, the Inuit Uqausinginnit Taiguusiliuqtiit also referred to as IUT, is funded by the department and who also administers their own board, the IUT Board. There are usually nine IQK Board members and at least five Inuit Uqausinginnit Taiguusiliuqtiit Board members.

Currently, the department is only able to provide taxi vouchers to the visitors, including to the Inuit elders, during their meetings in Iqaluit. However, with the one-time purchase of a vehicle, the department will be able to create a welcoming atmosphere that will ease the stress of travel on our visitors, especially the Inuit elders. Use of taxi vouchers may still be used in case of periodic vehicle maintenance.

Mr. Chairman. The department would also like to replace some of its existing furniture in its Igloolik office, specifically its aging carpet and office workstations. The Igloolik office includes eight positions from the Elders and Youth Branch, six positions from the Heritage Branch and six positions from the Official Languages Branch.

The department has been working closely with the Department of Community and Government Services and has obtained permission from the buildings landlord to replace the carpet.

Mr. Chairman, the department is working hard to address the need to display and preserve our heritage within the territory. The department has collaborated with other partners and has started to successfully display parts of our heritage collection in the territory. The department is committed to addressing Nunavut's long term vision for the storage of heritage collections and to support economic development initiatives that build on and add value to heritage, arts and tourism sectors within Nunavut.

Mr. Chairman, therefore the department is requesting \$500,000 of the capital estimates to be used for current and future heritage infrastructure across Nunavut under our heritage facilities contribution funding.

We provide this funding to non-profit, community based organizations and municipal corporations for the development and/or renovation of heritage facilities, or relevant associated structures and objects.

Mr. Chairman, I will be pleased to respond to any questions that members may have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Does the chair of the committee have opening comments? Mr. Keyootak.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the regular members' caucus concerning its review of Part II of the 2018-19 capital estimates of the Department of Culture and Heritage.

Members note that the department's proposed capital budget for the 2018-19 fiscal year is \$630,000. The department's capital budget for the 2017-18 fiscal year was \$560,000.

Members note that the department's proposed 2018-19 capital estimates include \$500,000 for its capital contribution program to renovate heritage facilities across Nunavut, as well as \$30,000 for its small capital projects.

Mr. Chairman, the department has indicated that funding under its capital contribution program is allocated to non-profit community-based organizations and municipal corporations for the development or renovation of heritage facilities, with the ultimate goal of storing and displaying all of Nunavut's cultural artefacts within the territory.

Mr. Chairman, this capital contribution program was first introduced in the department's 2015-16 capital estimates and has been operating for three years now. The standing committee strongly encourages the minister to begin the practice of providing a detailed breakdown of how this contribution funding has been allocated after each fiscal year. The standing committee also encourages the minister to work closely with organizations and municipal corporations in Nunavut to develop a strategy to ensure that artefacts are distributed fairly throughout Nunavut, as well as a timeframe by which the department plans to repatriate all of Nunavut's artefacts. The standing committee is of the view that such initiatives will allow the department to track and monitor its progress in completing this important project.

Mr. Chairman, on November 19, 2015, the governments of Manitoba and Nunavut announced their agreement to extend their five-year memorandum of understanding. In its announcement the government indicated that "the Winnipeg Art Gallery will become home to thousands of pieces of fine art from Nunavut and the gallery will develop special programming and educational opportunities through the display of the works. Each government will provide up to \$500,000 to support research, documentation, and exhibition of this artwork."

The Standing Committee strongly encourages the minister to begin the practice of providing regular updates on the specific ways that Nunavummiut are being given

opportunities to contribute to the research, documentation, and exhibition of Nunavut's cultural artefacts at the Winnipeg Art Gallery.

Mr. Chairman that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2018-19 capital estimates of the Department of Culture and Heritage. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Please go to Page F3. Culture and Heritage: Directorate: Total Capital Expenditures: \$630,000. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On November 6, 2017 QIA issued a news release stating that QIA as well as NTI will pledge \$5 million each to the creation of a Nunavut Heritage Centre.

In this news release, it indicated that these organizations plan to approach the Government of Nunavut to prioritize the establishment of a Nunavut Heritage Centre.

Can the minister indicate if his department has been approached by QIA or NTI regarding this project and can tell us whether or not the Government of Nunavut plans to construct a Nunavut Heritage Centre in the future? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank Mr. Hickes for his question.

I believe we all have heard through the media, and during when we were first elected, they were requesting to have a meeting... these entities were asking to have a meeting with all members of the legislative assembly, and as a government we have met with QIA along with the Inuit Heritage Trust but I cannot exactly tell you at this point.

We're in our capital estimates and I cannot tell you at this time when this will be built but we'd like to see that in the future. That's all I can say at this point.

We have not identified that it would be built in the fiscal year 2018-19 for a Nunavut Heritage Trust. Perhaps sometime further in the future, it could be within the radar and we'll need to plan for it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I went to that presentation and it's quite an interesting proposal that they've brought forward.

Mr. Chairman, as I'm sure you're aware, the Department of Culture and Heritage has provided contribution funding to the Nunavut Heritage Society for a number of years and during the winter of 2015 sitting, members of the previous legislative assembly asked a number of questions concerning the activities of the Nunavut Heritage Centre Society. At

that time, departmental officials stated that the Nunavut Heritage Centre Society was organized so that they can make plans for a heritage centre and to see how they can raise the monies to build such a facility and they do fundraising for the Nunavut Heritage Centre.

Can the minister clarify that the Nunavut Heritage Centre Society submits supports to his department? And if so, will you commit to tabling the Nunavut Heritage Society's most recent report? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you, Mr. Hickes.

There was a Nunavut Heritage Centre Society and they were also given some funds and I can say that they had two meetings in 2013 and 2014, but they have never submitted a report to our department nor any of their activities reported. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll just take a page out of my colleague, Mr. Main's book. Whenever we're providing public dollars out to these types of societies or different projects around the territory, we want to see what type of value we're receiving from it. I would encourage the minister to follow up with the heritage society and get some kind of an accounting of what they do with the funds. I believe it was \$200,000 last year.

I would just like to get some type of recognition from the minister that he will look into following up with his department's practices on accounting for how these grants and contributions are provided and what benefit Nunavut gets from them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Regarding the amount of funds that you stated, it was Vote 1 funding if I understood it correctly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, I'm not trying to be nitpicky here. These are public dollars that are being expended and I would just get some type of a comfort level that no matter what the source of the funds come from, we want to make sure that any monies we expend, whether it be Vote 1 or Vote 4 or Vote 2, Vote 3, that they are expended in a way that provides a benefit to Nunavummiut.

It's more of a comment than anything, Mr. Chairman. I would encourage the minister with any of their grants and contributions that they follow up to make sure that they can prove a value to the investment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I would like to thank Mr. Hickes. We're listening to all of the comments that are being made around the table. Yes, those are. If we're going to be using public funds for any reason, and of we'd like to know if there was value to our contribution.

If allowed Mr. Chairman, I would like Ms. Adla to make a supplementary comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Adla (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Regarding that amount, it wasn't even \$30,000 and it was for travel and accommodations when a meeting twice. We paid for the travel and accommodations, and the \$200,000 we set aside was given to another organization that made a request. We do get a lot of requests and it's very good. We provide grants and contributions for a variety of activities.

We contributed to an organization with that \$200,000 amount.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know I'm kind of treading on dangerous ground here when we're talking about Vote 1 funding. Going back to information from the 2017-18 main estimates, it included \$200,000 in grants and contribution funding for the Nunavut Heritage Centre Society.

I'm getting conflicting information. Are the main estimates incorrect? I'm a little confused, Mr. Chairman. I'm just wondering if the minister or his officials can clarify. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Culture and Heritage Hon. Minister, Mr. Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you. If I recall correctly, it was a Vote 1 amount. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do realize and appreciate that, but when the response of the role of this society is to raise capital funds for a project, I just want to ensure that their doing their job and that the department has some type of confidence that they're doing their job.

I appreciate that they're voted out of Vote 1, but their purpose has a direct relation to Vote 2, so I would appreciate if the minister could elaborate a little bit on what type of funding that society receives and what benefit Nunavummiut get from that expenditure. Thank you.

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

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like this to be understood and from what I can understand, this society was created and we indicated that they won't be provided funding anymore from 2018-19. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome to the minister and his officials. I have a question.

From your opening comments on page 2. It's the second paragraph in the middle regarding Inuit elders who are representing all the regions in Nunavut. Could you elaborate further on what the Inuit elders do? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you Mr. Qirngnuq.

We are talking about the board members. We have two different bodies and they're elder board. There is the Inuit language authority. There are five members sitting on it, and the other one is the IQ board with nine representatives sitting on the board.

They usually have meetings here in Iqaluit, and because they're elders, we are requesting to buy a vehicle through our department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for his comments. In my other community, I had a meeting with the elders. They were talking about sending an elder to the legislature so that they can give us advice and to have this elder as an advisor to the legislature to help us make decisions.

What I would ask the minister what he thinks about having an elder representative, not all the time but to be on hand? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Qirngnuq. With the Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Katimajit, the IQK, are appointed to sit on the board and they are advisors on government operations, Inuit cultures, beliefs and values and what their priorities are and what's important to them. Usually we use them as advisors for the government departments and they are also our advisors.

They are usually coming to Iqaluit to coincide with one of our sittings and if that's not possible we have an individual in our office who is usually the coordinator for the IQK and they schedule their meetings and locations. If at all possible, I can direct this individual to make sure that the IQK have a meeting to coincide with these sessions. Usually they can sit right behind the members. They are available, not only, but they have a representative in each region and they are more than welcome to come and sit here and watch the proceedings. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. As a reminder, we are on capital estimates. Following my list of names, Ms. Kamingoak.

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you minister, and your officials for appearing before us today.

In your opening comments on Page 2, you say the department is requesting \$130,000 of capital estimates to purchase a vehicle for the Iqaluit office and to replace carpeting and office furnishings at the Igloolik office. How did you determine this replacement of carpeting, because in Kugluktuk their office also needs replacement of their carpeting as well? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman and thank you Ms. Kamingoak. We have three offices, one here in Iqaluit, Kugluktuk and Igloolik. And if any one of those offices need to be renovated, what we usually do is try to go from Kugluktuk, Igloolik, Iqaluit and so on rotation basis. We try to do one office renovation at a time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So you state that you go from Kugluktuk, Igloolik and onwards?

Chairman (interpretation): Yes, Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For instance, we're planning for 2018-19 for Igloolik and the following year... Won't be in Igloolik the following year.

>> *Laughter*

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

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister update me when that office will be considered? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I will keep you updated and I'll reiterate once Igloolik is completed, we will either go to Kugluktuk or Iqaluit, whichever has the most needs. But we collaborate with Community and Government Services on which projects are prioritized. I would like Ms. Adla to add some more. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Adla (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll be meeting with the Community and Government Services staff and we'll be discussing the Kugluktuk Office. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Moving on. In your opening comments on Page 3, you state that on the second paragraph that Igloolik office includes eight positions from the Elders and Youth Branch, six positions from the Heritage branch and six from the official languages branch.

Can you give an update on how many positions are there in the official languages office in Kugluktuk? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If you can wait a moment, we'll look for the exact number.

Ms. Flaherty can respond. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Flaherty (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are a total of 25 interpreters in Iqaluit, Igloolik, and in Kugluktuk. There are six Inuinnaqtun interpreters. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Correct me if I'm going in to O&M but are all the positions filled in the office? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Even though its an O&M, is it okay Mr. Chairman?

Chairman (interpretation): As it is in your opening comments on the positions, it touches on the vehicle purchase, but as it's included in your opening comments I'll allow it. Ms. Kamingoak, you have another question?

Ms. Kamingoak: Are all the positions in the Kugluktuk Official Languages office filled? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask my deputy Ms. Flaherty to respond. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Flaherty (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Currently there are two casual positions, one of them is in another community but the Inuinnaqtun interpreters are all in Kugluktuk and when we are not able to fill them we use casual employees. Thank you.

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

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister update me when all the positions will be filled because they are very short staffed and as we know there aren't as many Inuinnaqtun translators but they're over worked? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): I'll make that the last one on this O&M question. We are dealing with capital if you want to respond, Minister Joanasié?

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Ms. Kamingoak for asking for an update. To my understanding, we are seeking people for the vacant positions. We are working with HR for instance. How can I phrase it? The department of finance probably has applications for different kinds of positions and departments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In November 19, 2017 the government of Nunavut and Manitoba has an MOU of \$500,000 for the Winnipeg arts gallery for Inuit artefacts.

I'm proud of that, but I've seen, travelling around the world for example, in Pangnirtung, there used to be whalers, and when I was in Boston, I have seen that their descendants today should be able to see them and switch around Inuit artefacts and there are pictures with names on them.

So I would like to ask... I'll speak in English. (interpretation ends) Information provided by your department indicates that Nunavut artefacts collection are spread amongst various facilities, not only outside of Nunavut territory, but internationally.

Can you, as a department, do you know where these artefacts are currently being stored at each of these locations or each country? Do you have a list so we, the descendants could see these artefacts? That's my final. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you, Ms. Towtongie.

We have an agreement with the Winnipeg Art Gallery and the Museum of Nature in Ottawa. We have signed agreements with the two outside and within Canada. There are two agreements there but I'll have my Deputy Minister elaborate on that to provide better information to the question if you approve, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Flaherty (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the minister just stated, the Canadian Museum of Nature belong to the Government of Nunavut. There are over 170,000 artefacts. There are also 8000 artefacts in Winnipeg owned by the government.

There are many museums. There are many museums around the world but they don't belong to the government. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Culture and Heritage. Directorate. Total Capital Expenditures. \$630,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Go to page F-2. Culture and Heritage. Total Capital Expenditures. \$630,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Do members agree we have concluded the Department of Culture and Heritage?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. (interpretation) Do you have closing comments, Minister Joanase?

Hon. David Joanase (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you members for your good questions.

I would like to thank my officials; first of all, my deputy minister. It's the first time; Ms. Flaherty and Regalee Adla, thank you. Also present here in the gallery is Gideonie Joamie is the acting assistant deputy minister. I would like to thank them and my staff at Department of Culture and Heritage, they have provided help today. I thank you all. I wanted to say we answered only in Inuktitut, you probably noticed that and that's what we would like to do. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms if you could escort the officials out.

Before we proceed to the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, we'll break for 10 minutes. Thank you.

>>Recessed at 18:00 and resumed at 18:08

Chairman (interpretation): We'll resume the meeting. We're going to review EIA. We'll be reviewing Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. You may proceed with your opening comments Hon. Paul Quassa.

**Bill 03 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 3,
2017-2018 – Consideration in Committee**

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleagues.

I am pleased to present the 2018-19 Capital Estimates for the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. The Department of Executive and Intergovernmental affairs as we're aware is a central administrative department that provides leadership and management support to departments and the delivery of their programs and services. (interpretation ends)

The department also houses the divisions of communications, protocol, intergovernmental relations, and government liaison which provide services that welcome dignitaries, government employees, federal counterparts, and other Inuit stakeholders on a day to day basis. (interpretation)

The department is requesting a modest capital budget for office space renovations and that's in order to meet the current operational needs of the department. The amount requested for the 2018-19 fiscal year is \$250,000.

Minor renovations are required to create closed in office space for senior management positions. As well to ensure that all staff pertaining to the branches is housed together for improved functionality and flow of information once they are in the same building.

The renovation will allow the department to use available space to create a more cohesive environment by reorganizing office space and bringing the divisions together into sections.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to present the EIAs department capital estimates. I welcome comments from members and if they have any questions I look forward to answering them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Are there any general comments on the opening remarks? Ms. Nakashuk.

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I am pleased to provide brief opening comments on behalf of the Regular Members' Caucus concerning its review of the proposed 2018-19 capital estimates of the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

(interpretation) The departments proposed capital budget for 2018-19 is \$250,000. This funding is to be used for office renovations.

(interpretation ends) Members were advised that this project has been necessitated, in part, by the repatriation to Nunavut of a department position from the government's Ottawa liaison office. Members support such repatriations.

(interpretation) Members were advised that this project has also been necessitated, in part, by the need to accommodate an employee with specific medical needs.
(interpretation ends) Members note that Government of Nunavut's *Return to Work Policy* provides that it has a "duty to accommodate employees who, as a consequence of disease, injury or condition, become unable to perform the duties of their job."

(interpretation) The policy also indicates that "undue hardship" means "excessive hardship as determined by evaluating the adverse consequences of the provision of an accommodation by factors such as health and safety, disruption to the public, effect on contractual obligations, cost and business efficiency."

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman. That concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2018-19 capital estimates of the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish to make a motion to report progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) we have a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? The motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress.

Speaker (interpretation): Back to the orders of the day. Item 20. Reports of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 1 and would like to report progress. And that one committee motion was almost introduced.

>>*Laughter*

And, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. There is a motion on the floor, is there a seconder? Mr. Lightstone. Thank you. The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion, raise your hand. Thank you. Opposed. Thank you. Motion carried.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. Orders of the Day. (interpretation ends) Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Orders of the Day for March 16:

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

9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Responses to Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 1
 - Bill 2
 - Bill 3
 - Bill 4
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

>>*Laughter*

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Clerk and you actually kept up with our interpreter.

>>*Laughter*

(interpretation) Thank you. This House stands adjourned until Friday, March 16, at 9:00a.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>> *House adjourned at 18:20*