

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

Hon. Joe Enook
(Tununiq)

Hon. David Akeegok
(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

Cathy Towtongie
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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Tuesday, March 20, 2018

Members Present:

Hon. David Akeeagok, Mr. Tony Akoak, Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak, Hon. Joe Enook, Mr. George Hickes, Hon. David Joanasie, Mr. Joeline Kaerner, 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 13:34*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): I now ask you to remain standing. The Joamie School Choir will be singing *O Canada*.

>>*School choir singing O Canada*

>>*Applause*

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

We will now proceed to the orders of the day. Item 2. Opening Address. Mr. Clerk, will you determine if Her Honour Commissioner of Nunavut is prepared to enter the Chamber to deliver her opening address.

Item 2: Opening Address

Commissioner Nellie Kusugak (interpretation): Elders, Premier, Mr. Speaker, Members of the Legislature, honoured guests, and all Nunavummiut, welcome to the opening of the Second Session of the Fifth Legislative Assembly of Nunavut.

I am pleased to be here before you to deliver the first Commissioner's address of this Assembly and our new government. This is an opportunity to look back at where we have come from and reflect on where we are going as people and as a territory.

Nunavummiut have put their trust in five Assemblies. Each Assembly has outlined its vision for Nunavut and its priorities for action.

Our First and Second Assemblies described hopes and plans for Nunavut, along with *Pinasuaqtavut*, that which we have set out to do.

The Third Assembly declared its belief in the vision of Nunavut and called upon all of us, *Tamapta*, to work together to achieve it.

The Fourth Assembly focused on stepping forward together, *Sivumut Abluqta*, to make Nunavut a better place for our children, grandchildren, and all Nunavummiut.

As we look back, we can see that the visions and the priorities of each successive government are related and beginning to tell a story about our people and our land in these times.

Our hopes and dreams for Nunavut remain intact and are inspired by those who envisioned our territory and negotiated the agreement that established it. Each government works in its own way at keeping that vision alive and realizing it.

The priorities of each government are anchored in the current realities of Nunavut. Our challenges are complex and difficult to resolve. Many of our opportunities as a territory are long term in nature. Each Assembly focuses its priorities on the progress it intends to make during its term.

And finally, each government affirms the Inuit societal values that will continue to guide its efforts.

Our Fifth Assembly recognizes the accomplishments of previous Assemblies and is honoured to build on what has been achieved.

The Assembly comes to this task with a bold and positive vision for our territory. This vision respects our elders and calls upon traditional knowledge-holders to help us remember the past and use it to shape our future. It looks ahead to a time when our positive-minded youth take full advantage of opportunities for education, travel, and employment. It envisions an inclusive society in which people and communities contribute to a positive future for all.

In this vision, Nunavut is known and valued in Canada and internationally as a distinct territory, with a different environment, a vibrant Inuit culture and language, a unique way of governing, and a distinctive perspective on issues and opportunities in the Arctic. We know where we want to go. The name of the Fifth Assembly's mandate, *Turaaqtavut*, will be the guide to where we are headed.

There is much work ahead of this government over the next four years. Our government is committed to action on five practical priorities that will make a difference in the lives of Nunavummiut.

Inuusivut

We will work towards the well-being and self-reliance of our people and our communities through *Inuusivut*.

Nunavut is a vast territory, comprising 20 percent of Canada's landmass. Our population continues to grow rapidly. More than 30 percent of our population is under age 15 and the number of seniors has doubled since 2004.

Our people and communities are widely dispersed across our land. Our ancestors thrived by making use of all that was around them and by working together in partnership to ensure that everyone was well taken care of. Today individuals, families, communities, and government share a responsibility to encourage and support self-reliance, which is the foundation of our way of life.

If it weren't for our ancestors, we would not be here. Those who came before us had the knowledge and skills to ensure that their descendants would thrive. It is due to their resilience and ongoing adaptation that we are here today in this land we now call Nunavut.

>>*Applause*

Our government values our elders and is making it a priority to meet more of their needs for care in the territory.

Food and housing are costly, and our housing stock is insufficient to meet the needs of our population. Our government will respond to the needs of Nunavummiut for safe and affordable housing and food security.

Too many of our people are sent out of Nunavut for treatment or ongoing care that could be provided in the territory. Our government will enhance the health care services that are available in the territory.

>>*Applause*

We want Nunavummiut to build good lives for themselves and treat one another with respect. Our homes and communities must be safe places for our youngest and most vulnerable Nunavummiut to grow, thrive, and succeed. Our government will increase support for community-based justice and healing programs to address family violence and sexual abuse.

Inuit have always been strong, resilient and adaptive people. We have used *piliriqatigiinni* to overcome even the harshest conditions and most challenging circumstances. Our ancestors left us lessons that can still help us in our lives today. We are making progress on improving the outcomes of mental health, addictions, and family counselling and are taking action to prevent suicide.

>> *Applause*

Our government will continue to use both contemporary and traditional counselling systems to achieve even better outcomes.

Pivaallirutivut

We will develop our infrastructure and economy in ways that support a positive future for our people, our communities, and our land through *Pivaallirutivut*.

Our infrastructure is aging and does not meet the needs of our growing population. We need creative and willing partners to address our most critical infrastructure needs. Our government will invest with partners in infrastructure that enhances the well-being of individuals and communities, including facilities for elder care and addictions in the territory.

>> *Applause*

We must create opportunities to connect Nunavummiut to one another and to the rest of Canada so that we feel that we are part of this country and that our voices are heard. We believe there is an opportunity for a modern-day nation-building exercise in Nunavut.

Our government will look for opportunities to invest with partners to meet our current infrastructure needs and explore opportunities to partner on other major projects, such as roads, telecommunications, and transportation.

Nunavut's economy is growing but continues to be under-developed. Our government will support diverse economic opportunities to encourage community self-reliance and provide more local employment.

>> *Applause*

Our territory is rich in renewable and non-renewable resources. However, arctic ecosystems are fragile and vulnerable to climate change. Our government will develop and manage our resources in a sustainable manner to ensure that Nunavummiut can enjoy a strong relationship with our land for generations to come.

Sivummuaqpalliajjutivut

We will provide education and training that prepares children, youth, and adult learners for positive contributions to society and for meaningful employment through *Sivummuaqpalliajjutivut*.

As a former educator, this priority is very close to my heart. As a mother, grandmother...

>> *Applause*

...and great-grandmother, I know that learning begins very early in life. Our government will support learning and development in early childhood through affordable and accessible daycare.

>>Applause

Our education system must help to provide a strong foundation for our young people and prepare them to make valuable contributions to our society. To achieve this, we must work together to shape education policies and practices that will improve education outcomes and strengthen Inuit culture, heritage and language.

We have listened to Nunavummiut about the need for stronger Inuktitut in schools...

>>Applause

...our government and our society. We need to support and encourage one another to go forward, working together as government, educators, district education authorities, communities, and families. Our government will amend the *Education Act* and the *Inuit Language Protection Act* to ensure quality schooling and improve student outcomes.

>>Applause

Nunavummiut have increasing choice in employment. Despite these opportunities, many people are dependent on social assistance, under-employed, or face barriers to entering the workforce. Our government will offer local skills and trades training to increase the participation of Inuit and Nunavummiut in the workforce, reduce the territory's dependence on imported labour, invest in supports such as child care, and support employment for people with disabilities.

>>Applause

Education is required to take advantage of many employment opportunities in the territory, including many jobs in the public service. Our government will improve the supports provided to post-secondary students and to the post-secondary programs that develop the knowledge and skills we need in Nunavut.

As the territory's largest employer, the public service must compete with other employers within and outside Nunavut to attract and retain skilled employees. Our government will provide workplace education and training for public servants...

>>Applause

...with an emphasis on increasing Inuit employment and developing strong Inuit leaders.

>>Applause

Inuunivut

We will strengthen Nunavut as a distinct territory in Canada and the world through *Inuunivut*.

Nunavut was created in 1999 under a comprehensive land claim agreement that was envisioned and negotiated by Inuit. Our territory is unique in its vast arctic geography, its majority indigenous population, and the model of governance established by the Nunavut Agreement.

Our public government must respond to the needs of all Nunavummiut while honouring Inuit culture and values; protecting and promoting the Inuit language; and respecting Inuit aspirations for Nunavut. Our government will ensure that programs and services are more effective and relevant through *Inuit Qaujimaqatuqangit* and Inuit societal values within legislation and policy.

>>Applause

The Inuit language is protected under legislation. There is no other jurisdiction in Canada that provides this level of statutory protection to an indigenous language. It contributes to Nunavut's distinct qualities. Our government will continue to enable the Inuit language as the working language of the public service and strengthen the foundations for a fully functional, bilingual society in Inuktitut and English or French.

>>Applause

Katujjiqatigiinnivut

We will work in partnership to advance the goals and aspirations of Nunavummiut through *Katujjiqatigiinnivut*.

Our ancestors made decisions by consensus and worked in partnership and through collaboration to ensure each other's well-being. These values and principles informed their way of life and still influence and add meaning to ours today.

Through *Katujjiqatigiinnivut*, we will work together to realize the vision for Nunavut that led to the creation of our territory and government.

Our government is committed to fulfilling our obligations under the Nunavut Agreement.

>>Applause

The Nunavut Agreement requires the territorial government to work in partnership. Our government will establish strategic partnerships with Inuit organizations, the federal government, and the private sector to meet the needs of our communities.

The public service has matured since 1999. However, our government must continue to develop capacity and capability while fulfilling our obligations under Article 23 to achieve a representative public service. Our government will refocus human resources policies and programs on Inuit employment at all levels of the public service.

>> *Applause*

At the same time the territory's public government must operate efficiently, effectively, and responsibly. Our government will ensure that the public service operates in a fiscally responsible manner that supports action on these priorities and meets the needs of Nunavummiut.

>> *Applause*

This is *Turaaqtavut*, what we are aiming to achieve. It is a very full agenda for the next four years. The budgets of our government will further outline the specific steps we will be taking to fulfill our mandate priorities.

Cooperation and collaboration will bring about the improvements we want as Nunavummiut. Partnership and determination will take us forward and secure a strong future for Nunavut as a distinct territory in Canada and the world.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Going back to the orders of the day. Item 3. Ministers' Statements. Government House Leader, Minister Sheutiapik.

Item 3: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 001 – 5(2): Minister Absent from the House

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to inform members that our colleague, Pat Angnakak, will be absent from the House due to illness. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Minister's Statement 002 – 5(2): Government Mandate, Turaaqtavut

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, my fellow members and Nunavummiut in the gallery.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would first like to thank Commissioner Nellie Taptaqt Kusugak for delivering today's Throne Speech which outlines the vision we have for our

territory and the pillars, principles, and values that will underpin our work as an Assembly over the next four years.

At the start of our first sitting, I thanked our regular members for their valuable input in developing the *Turaaqtavut* Mandate.

>>Applause

I would like to reiterate my appreciation for their feedback and hope that this is a document that we can all take pride in creating.

Later today I'll be tabling *Turaaqtavut* so that all Nunavummiut and interested stakeholders can read more about where we are aiming to go as a territory.

Mr. Speaker, we recognize that Nunavummiut have a desire to see new projects, services, and initiatives in a variety of sectors, regions, and communities in Nunavut. As we begin our budgetary processes to determine how best to use our territorial resources, both financial and human, we will do so through the lens of *Turaaqtavut* and the priorities that we have outlined within it.

If *Turaaqtavut* is our map toward where we are aiming to go, then our budgets will be the steps that get us there.

Mr. Speaker, I'm very excited for the journey ahead of this Assembly. I look forward to our spring sitting when we will announce our budget and show the ways in which we are moving closer to reaching our vision for this territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

I would first like to extend my appreciation to our Commissioner, Nellie Taptaqut Kusugak, for delivering today's Throne Speech outlining our government's vision for our Nunavut territory, and further, for mentioning the various foundational matters that this government will utilize in the upcoming four year mandate.

At the start of our first sitting I would like to thank our regular members for their valuable input in developing the *Turaaqtavut* Mandate. We worked very well together to produce that.

At the start of our first sitting, I would like to thank our regular members for their valuable input in developing the *Turaaqtavut* Mandate. We worked very well together to produce that. I would like to reiterate my appreciation for your feedback and hope that this is a document that we can all take pride in creating.

Later today I will be tabling *Turaaqtavut* document so that all Nunavummiut and interested stakeholders can read more about where we are aiming to go as a territory.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like my fellow Nunavummiut to have good expectations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Manirajak, Mr. Lightstone.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 001 – 5(2): General Rate Application

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address the issue of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's general rate application.

Mr. Speaker, in recent weeks I have had the opportunity to attend both of the Utility Rates Review Council's public meetings in Iqaluit to hear concerns about the GRA.

Mr. Speaker, I want to acknowledge and thank the members of the URRC for their hard work, as well as the staff from the QEC who participated in both hearings.

Mr. Speaker, I especially want to express my appreciation to the residents who took the time to attend the public meetings.

Mr. Speaker, plowing through hundreds of pages of detailed calculations about kilowatt-hours is no easy task, so I thank everyone who has taken the time to consider this issue.

Mr. Speaker, as one of Iqaluit's four MLAs, I would like to express my concerns about the potentially negative impact that the GRA will have on this community's economy.

Mr. Speaker, information published by the Utility Rates Review Council indicates that the QEC is proposing to hike power rates on commercial businesses in Iqaluit by 12.0 percent in the next fiscal year and by an additional 8.6 percent in the fiscal year after that. Mr. Speaker, that's a 20 percent increase in just two years.

Mr. Speaker, we need to grow our private sector in Nunavut and make it easier for businesses to expand and create more jobs.

We need to keep in mind that many businesses operate very close to the margin. In some cases, if they need to find extra money to pay the monthly power bill, they may have to look at laying off employees. That doesn't help anyone.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that utility regulation is a complex issue. Utilities are natural monopolies, and regulators have to balance many competing interests.

Mr. Speaker, there has been a lack of clarity about where we are at today in terms of the regulatory review of the current general rate application.

There's also a lack of clarity about what position the new government has on the basic question of whether or not it supports the main elements of the GRA, especially...

Mr. Speaker, I request unanimous consent to conclude my statements. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Mr. Lightstone, please proceed.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, there has been a lack of clarity about where we are at today in terms of the regulatory review of the current general rate application.

There's also a lack of clarity about what position the new government has on the basic question of whether or not it supports the main elements of the GRA, especially the proposed new territorial rate structure.

Mr. Speaker, I will have questions on these issues at the appropriate time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Netsilik, Mr. Qirngnuq.

Member's Statement 002 – 5(2): Supporting Our Arctic Winter Games Athletes

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will talk about something enjoyable today, Mr. Speaker.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in supporting our athletes who are currently participating in the Arctic Winter Games in Fort Smith and Hay River of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Speaker, three athletes from the community of Kugaaruk are also participating in these Games in the Arctic Sports event. I would like to recognize:

- Sabina Nartok,
- Amaiya Apsaktaun, and
- Veronica Anaittuq.

Mr. Speaker, the 2018 Arctic Winter Games began yesterday and they will continue for the rest of the week. I was happy to hear that Nunavut has already won some medals in wrestling and speed skating.

However, we all know that every one of Nunavut's 246 athletes are winners. They are doing their very best and I hope they are enjoying every minute of the Games.

I ask all Members of the Legislative Assembly to join me in supporting Team Nunavut. *Atai Nunavut atai!* Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

Member's Statement 003 – 5(2): Sale of Seal Products in Nunavut

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps if my favourite NHL team, the Montreal Canadiens players could be replaced by our best Nunavut hockey players, they may be in a better playoff position. Their current place is embarrassing so I would prefer that the NHL season end sooner rather than later.

>>*Laughter*

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, in the last few days the issue of the EU seal ban has been discussed. I would like to expand on this discussion, as the issue of the seal hunt is very important to the part of our culture and our way of life.

In my observation over the past years, the previous federal government fought very hard to support the Canadian Inuit way of life.

Mr. Speaker, for the first time in Canadian history was the statement standing up for the Canadian sealers ever mentioned in a federal Throne Speech.

This was supported by the federal government's efforts to fight the World Trade Organization to remove the EU seal ban, which resulted in the findings that the EU ban was unfairly discriminating Canadian Inuit, which resulted in an exemption similar to the one we see in Greenland.

(interpretation) Our previous federal government was instrumental in supporting Inuit in the sealskin trade exclusion as they voiced their support for fighting the anti-sealing initiative from the EU to exempt Inuit seal skins from the trade ban. We are very appreciative of their efforts and for being a voice for Inuit.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I believe we have a tremendous opportunity to do more. If our territory in Nunavut is truly going to reflect the 85 percent of the tradition

and culture and way of life of our people, the question is: what can we do more to tap into the talent and skills of our people?

We talk about language and incorporating *Inuit Qaujimaqatuqangit*. (interpretation) We were just apprised of the Turaaqtavut Mandate, which includes many desirable objectives. We are quite pleased with the details included in this mandate. With regards to *Inuit Qaujimaqatuqangit*, our territorial government uses this knowledge as a basis...

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I think I need a little more time to conclude my speech. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Mr. Netser, please proceed.

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

(interpretation ends) We talk about our language incorporating *Inuit Qaujimaqatuqangit* as an example of how we are building a government and territory that is reflective of the population. What can we do more around the seal hunt to support our hunters?

For instance, why don't we serve seal meat in our restaurants in our restaurants like Greenland does? Why don't we have sealskin processing plants in Nunavut to produce clean, tanned fur products like they do in Greenland? What are we doing to sell our sealskin in our communities to allow our ever so talented women to buy affordable pelts?

(interpretation) At this current time, Mr. Speaker, our territorial seamstresses have to order tanned sealskins from Montreal, where they are tanned in southern locales and pelts ordered. It showcases the fact that Nunavut should have its own tannery for our usage.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I have seen past sealskin products sold by Northern stores that were purchased from Greenland. (interpretation) The sealskin pelts were ordered from Greenland as most stores import these tanned skins from Greenland, and they in turn offer these pelts for sale within Nunavut as we have nothing here in Nunavut. This is unacceptable.

(interpretation ends) This is ridiculous that our federal government of the day fought so hard to remove the unfair ban of Canadian sealskin products in the EU, but right here in our own territory our retailers are selling products from Greenland. What a shame! So I provided a few examples and would like to know what are the barriers that are allowing full potential of this opportunity, what legislations are getting in the way of moving forward?

What legislation, territorial or federal, are getting in the way? If Nunavummiut are truly going to benefit from the EU ban, we also need to look at the obstacles that prevent us from selling the meats and pelts in our communities so we can provide further economic opportunities for our Nunavummiut and our hunters.

Mr. Speaker, I will be asking questions later today to the appropriate minister.
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 004 – 5(2): Problems with Air Transportation

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today as we are aware that particularly in the Baffin region air transportation is the sole means of travelling to other communities. When we wish to visit our relatives in other communities, the complexity of travelling between communities sometimes leads to difficulties.

And further, when residents want to travel to other communities, sometimes we have to fly routes that have us landing in other communities we don't wish to land in as these are the only scheduled flights that will bring us to the community of our final destination.

Additionally, delays in the flights sometimes cause issues for our residents as well. This applies especially to medical travel patients trying to fly home. They are forced to wait extensively long periods when the flights don't connect with other scheduled flights. We also have patients who have blood samples that are scheduled to be sent out to southern labs for testing, but when the plane is late these samples can no longer be sent out.

Another matter involves our residents who may have relatives in the next community over, but due to flight schedules they are forced to do a roundabout flight via a different community in order to reach their destination. They have to overnight in another community before the next flight heading to their destination.

In my case, from my home community, if I wish to travel to my other constituency community of Clyde River, I have no choice but to fly down to Iqaluit or Pangnirtung, and in order to get there, additional expenses are incurred such as accommodations and taxis.

This is becoming problematic for many of us, particularly for residents who don't have employment income and have no way to reach their relatives in other communities. This routing is becoming an issue for many passengers.

Mr. Speaker, because of scheduling conflicts or roundabout travel routes causing so many problems for our residents, it would make sense to look at resolving these problems by making changes to the flight schedules, especially where our constituencies are concerned and especially for residents who don't have the resources to make changes.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time I will be asking questions to the Minister of Transportation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement 005 – 5(2): Constituency Office

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Save the best for last.

(interpretation) I have yet to publicly voice my appreciation to the residents of Iqaluit-Sinaa during our session here as my focus has been on set on making minister's statements. At this time our constituency office is up and running and I want to inform my constituents that Lodie Maniapik is my constituency assistant and he now has a telephone. The number is 979-4750.

Our office is located at building 607. As well, for the information of younger constituents who have access to emails, my email is esheutiapik@sinaaMLA.ca, and you can send an email for any issue you may have that you want passed along.

I also want to voice my gratitude to the people of Iqaluit-Sinaa who voted me into this office to represent them in the House. I am now their MLA and I am now able to rise on your behalf as you elected me to represent you in the House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 006 – 5(2): Turaaqtavut Mandate

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to extend my thanks first of all to our Commissioner for delivering the details of the *Turaaqtavut* Mandate in her Throne Speech along with thanking our Premier Paul Quassa and the cabinet for working together on these matters.

I would like to speak about my personal views regarding the details of the *Turaaqtavut* Mandate, as it is called. This will be our vision for the upcoming four years. We all know that the details and contents spoken to are all completely truthful. I concur with these statements and members agree with this reality. We all know that.

Nevertheless, what I want remembered is something I wish to expound on. Throughout the world the richest people are just getting richer, and people in the lowest margins are facing food insecurity issues and becoming poorer every day. To describe it in English, (interpretation ends) income inequality.

(interpretation) That is the English wording. To clarify, the rich are getting richer, while the poor people just keep getting poorer. This also applies specifically towards our Nunavut territory, Mr. Speaker, the way I see it.

This applies as well to Nunavut with some communities that are increasing capacity, have more infrastructure projects and more employment opportunities while outlying communities in the same region are being left behind and losing out on possible benefits and we should note that they are getting poorer, Mr. Speaker.

With discussions about to begin related to increasing capacity in some communities such as facilities for our elders, treatment centres for our residents suffering addictions, various infrastructure projects and employment opportunities, my preference is to include all the communities within the regions and it has to include benefiting all of Nunavut's communities from these projects.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear!

>>*Applause*

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement today. Are there any nays? There are none. Mr. Main, please proceed.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleagues, though they probably may be tiring of listening to my rants.

>>*Laughter*

My vision is to have all communities benefit equally from this government's initiatives and to have equal opportunities, and further, to have Inuit in all of Nunavut's communities equally able to benefit from any type of project.

Also, with respect to private businesses, they also have to be enabled to benefit from government construction projects regardless of the type of infrastructure project. All businesses should be able to get sub-contracts from projects if they wish to work on a project. This would enable many businesses to grow, although I don't know the equivalent word for (interpretation ends) transparency (interpretation) as an example, to be openly visible in our operations.

When speaking about facilities for our elderly residents, if our government was amenable to constructing homes for our elderly, I would expect that local companies with the capacity to undertake these projects would be provided an opportunity wherever possible.

In the upcoming months and years I will advocate for these types of facilities, and to conduct myself following the transparency rule and the need to be open to suggestions. Our constituents have to be kept informed about the expenditures of our government on these projects to ensure that they aren't sidestepping their legal obligations.

I can use a specific example here, Mr. Speaker. Here in Iqaluit the companies should be able to approach the House and meet with the various ministers as they can already access them due to being in Iqaluit, at least in my mind. The companies located outside of Iqaluit, wherever they may be, let's say in Arviat, and don't have that similar level of accessibility to visit the House and schedule meetings with our ministers.

I am just using this example, as this needs to be our foundation to allow for equal opportunity for all Nunavut communities, all of the Inuit within Nunavut as well as businesses.

In the coming years, we will make progress in this regard if we undertake this equitable provision of opportunities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for the High Arctic, Mr. Akeegok.

Member's Statement 007 – 5(2): Counseling Services

Hon. David Akeegok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my appreciation firstly, and to inform my constituents that there is assistance available for people in distress and people with mental health issues.

It has been quite a few years since assistance has been available and people now have different avenues to receive this assistance. I am glad that people with mental health issues now have counselling opportunities provided by our government, by individuals as well as our elders, and people now have choices to access assistance.

My constituent communities have faced this problem particularly this winter, especially related to suicides. There are now places for our residents undergoing mental trauma even though they may feel everything is hopeless, especially when one loses a close relative in that manner.

Nevertheless, we should provide advice to people in need as there are now avenues for them. This includes our public servants who are flown into a community facing traumatic situations such as the counsellors from Ilisavik who have received adequate training and who travel to the communities and work with the affected families, and even into people's bedrooms to begin the path to healing.

With our current lack of local resources, we should acknowledge these invaluable service providers, and when we need their services, we should try to set aside places in our communities where counselling can take place with our residents for them to be able to release their innermost feelings.

This is how we can start to get back on our feet. We can all get back up when struck down. I thank the people who provide counselling services. We just listened to the Commissioner's opening address.

The subject of this address will eventually be brought forward, especially in facing our current reality. However, with respect to the individuals flown into communities to provide counselling services, we should express our gratitude and I voice our immense appreciation to the people who travel to our communities to deal with mental trauma or difficulties. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 008 – 5(2): Update on the Arctic Winter Games

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Nunavummiut, with our small population, we can only progress by working in together.

What I wish to speak to today is the fact I am totally homesick at this moment. Next week I will be attending the Easter holidays in Rankin Inlet and I want residents to be aware of the fact that I will be home for a while. We can look forward to getting together and enjoying a cup of coffee, and catching up on local issues. That is my expectation and I look forward to it.

Tomorrow, I will be visiting the athletes at the Arctic Winter Games. I wish to inform my colleagues that the first athlete to get a gold ulu was an Iqaluit resident competing in speed skating or (interpretation ends) short-track speed skating. (interpretation) Ms. Emma Carpenter got the first gold.

>>Applause

As well, in Arctic Sports, in the (interpretation ends) one arm reach a new world record (interpretation) was just set by Mr. Andrew Bell of Arviat, who won our second gold ulu. To date, we have won five medals; two gold medals, one silver medal, and two bronze medals. Thank you.

Let us have a good day, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Congratulations! Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Moving on. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Aggu, Mr. Quassa.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, I rise again to re-acknowledge individuals who are my guests here. I recognized them yesterday, but he is one of our esteemed elders so we can recognize them multiple times if need be.

You probably know them by now, as I stated their names yesterday but to reiterate: Louie Alianakuluk Uttak, and his wife Therese Uttak.

>> *Applause*

Also, I am especially happy to acknowledge my wife as she is able to attend today and I have rarely acknowledged her in the past. Now I have the opportunity to recognize her and express my gratitude to her. It has been many years now since we got together. She has raised our children. Although I rarely seemed to recall seeing them growing up she has been able to raise our children, for which I am especially grateful.

I am always thankful as she is a strong woman, and for many years, although she is younger than I am, I am always asking her questions related to words by asking "How would I say this in Inuktitut?" Though she is a younger person, she is much more knowledgeable than me and that is Elisapee Malaya Quassa. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery of your Legislative Assembly. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Kaerner.

Mr. Kaerner (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day to my fellow residents of Amittuq. I also say "good day" to my fellow members.

Today I rise to again recognize this person. If I were alone I wouldn't have had the nerve to do so. I completely concurred with my colleague about the feelings of homesickness, as I feel it too.

Even though my wife gets homesick and feels down, I always encourage her and she reciprocates in that regard as well. She helps me. She wanted to go home when her sister became ill but she is trying to be strong and as I stated to our youth earlier, try to stand up and deliver your message.

She is a very strong woman, and I am appreciate arrangements were made for her to travel here. When we were going to be sworn-in she also made kamiks for that occasion.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize my partner, Samantha Morgan, as she is very capable at many things.

I too, even though I am older, am consistently asking for her opinion on matters.

>> *Applause*

Although these people were already recognized, I am quite proud of these individuals. This man provides assistance and provides advice on specific issues. In being brought up in a traditional manner I can't state their proper names, so I will just state their surnames, Mr. and Ms. Uttak, and I will keep acknowledging your assistance, and I thank you for your unending assistance. I will also continue to approach you for advice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for High Arctic, Mr. Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize four people in the gallery for providing unending support to me. First of all, my thanks to my sister-in-law, Ragilee Attagootak.

>> *Applause*

My elder sister-in-law is always providing our family support and I am always thankful to Mimi Akeeagok.

>> *Applause*

And yesterday I was able to recognize my sister who travelled from Grise Fiord, Naomi Kuka Kuluguqtuq.

>> *Applause*

And last but not least, this woman who acts as both my mother-in-law and mother, as well as being my teacher with suffixes to Inuit words such as *mataqai* or *mangaata*, as she tries to teach me the differences, but without much success yet.

She is also my sole in-law now, my precious mother-in-law, Leah Kalluk.

>> *Applause*

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to your Assembly. Please always feel welcome. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. People of Baker Lake, Nunavummiut, I don't usually recognize people of beautiful Baker Lake. If the weather allows it we will be going home. I would like to welcome Nancy Tupik. I will try and go home with her to beautiful Baker Lake. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

>>Laughter

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My wife and I lived here for about 11 years. We were very welcomed by Iqalumiut, and my child moved to Rankin Inlet, five of my children live in Iqaluit and Iqalumiut welcome them but we don't say anything. Our good friend who always welcomed us and prayed for us, Jonas Allooloo. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Allooloo, welcome. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My friend and I think this person is more capable in financial matters; Adla Itorcheak. I worked with him. Welcome. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I definitely have no more names on my list. Let's proceed to the orders of the day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Netser.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 001 – 5(2): Sale of Seal Products in Nunavut

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated in my member's statement, my question is for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation regarding the sale of skins and furs.

I would like to ask: has there been any planning done about the sale of furs? Is there any new planning? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank you for asking that good question. I can say right now that my department is always working with the federal government.

I can also say that I have been speaking with Elisapee Davidee, who has received funding from the Department of Economic Development to get a shearing machine, a machine that takes off the fat or blubber. Right now she is working with the QEC because that equipment uses a lot of power, so it needs to be hooked up properly.

I have agreed with her because I have heard that in Greenland they now have two different types of tanning machines outside of Nuuk. I have asked Elisapee if she would like to do research there on (interpretation ends) tanning (interpretation) as there are two different methods, and to review these two different tanning processes. I have discussed this with her. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the past my sister used to tell me a story about our brother-in-law. When sealskins were being bought all the time, he was a great hunter and he would catch seals, but then Green Peace had stopped the sale of sealskins. They had come back to town with a whole bunch of sealskins that they could no longer sell. At that time the Inuit reached an impossible place.

Has the government made any considerations to take Green Peace and other environmentalists to court on our behalf to try to get money out of them? Has there been any planning done to that effect like a lawsuit? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can't state anything on that because I haven't heard anything about it. This affects our operations and I haven't heard if they're taking anyone to court. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have the Nunavut Development Corporation. I haven't seen them do anything with seal products or sell seal products. Have you considered to using the NDC to sell seal meat through them? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know, obviously, as a government, when we're doing planning, those were some of the things that I was going to look at. (interpretation ends) The Nunavut Development Corporation (interpretation) sells arts and crafts. They had a presentation at Northern Lights, especially the things made from Arviat. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Question 002 – 5(2): Government Liaison Officers

Mr. Kaernerck (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Last week the minister made a statement about government liaison officers.

Here is my question to the minister: does the Department of EIA keep track of the actual number of enquiries or requests for assistance that GLOs receive on an annual basis and, if so, would he commit to tabling this information in the Legislative Assembly at a later date? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my fellow member for requesting that information. I haven't really heard a report on this, but I can look into it along the lines of his question. Once I can present something about it, I will do so. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Kaernerck (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for your response. The department's current budget for the GLO program is \$3,927,000 per year. How does the department evaluate the effectiveness of the GLO program in all of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for requesting more information on that. I can't really tell him right now as to how it is because I haven't looked into this yet. Perhaps next time I can respond more properly, but at this time I would just like to apologize as I can't really respond to that because I haven't checked into it. Maybe the next time I will have checked into it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Kaernerker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Perhaps I'll ask this question. I know that government liaison officers have been created throughout Nunavut. What do you think about this book? I looked for that office. It's not in the phonebook. I looked for it and it's not there. Their office is not listed there. I know they're online and available for younger people. What about older people? How am I going to find the number to reach them? It would be good if they could be published in phonebooks on the government pages.

Also, when they're not attached to the hamlets, it would be good if it could be promoted so that the people of Nunavut can know where to turn to. That shouldn't be impossible to do. He can say yes or no. I think it really should be published like that, especially when they are responsible for informing the public about information coming from the government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't know what year that phonebook is from. There is a new phonebook out there now, so let us all be aware of that. The GLOs in the communities are almost all in government buildings and all the government buildings have telephone numbers. You can find their office through the government office number.

I know that some communities generally have one telephone, even though there is more than one department in that building. I know that GLOs have to always be available and their phones have to be promoted. I would like my colleague to know that I will look into this to make sure that the phones are out there.

However, the government liaison officers are always available, not just online. If there is a local radio, they're supposed to use it to inform the people. They have different responsibilities. The GLOs are given responsibilities and they are kept informed in the communities that they have to let the community know what's coming out of the government. Their job is to inform the people.

I would like to inform my colleague that I will check into this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 003 – 5(2): Problems with Air Transportation

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

Mr. Speaker, as I stated earlier in my member's statement, travel in the Baffin region sometimes is very inconvenient, especially for families. When people in the communities that I represent try to visit their family in another community, the travel is very inconvenient.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask if the minister can provide information on whether the airlines are flexible in reviewing requests when they are contemplating seasonal changes to their flight schedules. With regard to these flight schedules, would these companies be amenable to route changes where Inuit want a simpler route?

This relates to making improvements to flight schedules and whether these requests can be sent to the airlines about routing. Can Inuit be included in these types of discussions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know it's difficult. We have no choice but to travel if we want to go anywhere. We have heard that more than once here. I can say that in October 2017 there was a direction about the airlines. It is still under review, but the review is supposed to end in August. Right now they are doing a survey and consulting different stakeholders, but we will hear more about this in August. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have two constituency communities I represent, namely, Qikiqtarjuaq and Clyde River.

In the wintertime, during December around the holidays, on occasion, a seasonal flight is scheduled where it departs from Iqaluit, passes through Pangnirtung and Qikiqtarjuaq, lands in Clyde River and then more northerly destinations. This flight is scheduled once a year during the Christmas season.

Once residents are made aware of this flight up-island they quickly buy up the seats. This usually happens way before the actual flight date, once people are aware of this flight. People with relatives are usually the first to make reservations because they are able to arrive to the communities without delay, and the seats are rarely available.

Residents on the east coast of Baffin Island like this up-island flight, especially residents of my constituency. Many people have asked me whether these types of flights can be scheduled at other times. This applies especially to Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq residents because this is the only time they can fly directly up-island, and they wanted this concern voiced.

Is there any possibility of having a similar flight outside of winter months, such as during the summer months? People would like to see even a single flight up-island that would allow them to land directly in the communities their relatives live in. They have made requests to have this type of flight.

Can the minister provide information on whether a special flight during the non-winter months can be scheduled once in the summer for an up-island trip? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's a very good question. We hear the complaints about the airline scheduling and we will inform the airlines. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister tell us if once the scheduling is changed you'll be informing the communities, especially my two ridings once they make a decision? Will they commit to communicating that to us? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, clearly the airlines have an impact on all of the government. I'll be tabling that information, perhaps at the end of August. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North and Chesterfield Inlet, Ms. Towtongie.

Question 004 – 5(2): The Sale of Caribou Meat

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Environment, Hon. Minister Elisapee Sheutiapik. We have recently started to receive information that in the Kivalliq there is ongoing trade in caribou with the Baffin and other regions.

In the Baffin region there was a moratorium on caribou where they now have a quota. One whole caribou costs \$450, and we have found carcasses where only the choice parts are taken, especially if the caribou has no back fat. They slice open the caribou rump and if it has no back fat, they leave the carcass behind, just taking the tongue.

We have seen it more than once. Sometimes an individual harvests nine or over 10 caribou, and we have seen people who have bought snowmobiles from selling caribou

meat. I know of two individuals who have purchased snowmobiles with the sale of caribou.

Some Inuit in the Baffin region have sent \$450 for a whole caribou, and some orders are never fulfilled and their caribou order never arrives. With respect to these environmental concerns, and of the commercialization of caribou, is she aware of this reality today? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My mouth is watering talking about caribou. Yes, I have heard that and it has affected all the communities, especially in the Baffin region. There are no caribou, so they even purchase caribou meat from different regions. Even the airlines make the cargo price lower for shipping the caribou. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): This is entirely aside from the concept of survival and subsistence on country foods to provide nutritional food for Inuit. This is the commercialization of the harvest of caribou, or (interpretation) commercial trade.

(interpretation) This is in light of the fact that no organization is responsible for the (interpretation ends) Beverly Qamanirjuaq herd (interpretation) monitoring the caribou. We are aware that the agreement provides for these rights where Inuit can barter or trade animals legally harvested. Nevertheless, this seems to be a liberal interpretation of the right, as some Inuit have commercialized this traditional harvest by trading for cash.

There is no organization is monitoring the effects of this current trade in caribou. Neither the (interpretation ends) Beverly Qamanirjuaq (interpretation) co-management committee nor the NWMB or the regional bodies or HTOs are monitoring this trade.

We, as Inuit, didn't traditionally commercialize our harvesting by indiscriminately killing animals, neither is it our traditional culture to justify commercialization of animals, as this practice is fairly recent.

Can the minister deliberate ways to conduct a study on this ongoing trade or, at a minimum, to assign monitoring of the harvesting practice? If we don't emphasize more monitoring in this regard as Nunavummiut, it won't be long before our caribou populations are decimated, if harvesting exceeds the replacement ratio of caribou by allowing this commercialization of the caribou harvesting, where caribou carcasses are left behind. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) When it comes to caribou management, the co-management partners are keeping their ears to the ground when it comes to caribou and the herds in our territory so that if they see a huge decline, they will take steps, but it's co-management. It's not just our department that would make that decision. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Based on my knowledge, the language seems adequate when speaking about co-management as it relates to caribou and that they are managing the caribou herds carefully.

What I can state in this regard is that there is nothing in place today in Nunavut, at least in our opinion. We call a specific period *amirraq* when the caribou migrate north in late June and early July, when the caribou start moulting their fur, and there are roughly 250,000 caribou crossing the rivers in our region.

The first animals crossing are not to be bothered, as our elders advised us. Many elders have passed on, but they would go on the local radio to make these pronouncements about the caribou herds that are crossing the rivers. They advised that no one is to disturb the herds or to attempt to harvest the caribou. The advice was that if people shoot the first herds crossing the rivers, they will just return and take a different route.

Today nobody is informing the public through the local radio station. I can inform you, from my opinion, caribou are not managed. We are just sitting and waiting. The last question I have is: can the Minister of Environment commit to make sure that there's monitoring in place to make sure that there's monitoring occurring with the help of other entities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Our department is in the process of completing population analyses following the June 2017 population assessment for the specific caribou herd in her region. There are different herds in our territory, Mr. Speaker. As an example, for the Dolphin and Union caribou management, there was a plan that was released in 2017. Different herds are in different stages. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 005 – 5(2): Alternative Energy Initiatives

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question again to the Minister of Energy.

On Wednesday, March 14, I brought up the topic of the new federal infrastructure bank. In one of her responses, the minister said that she has been having dialogues with all ministers and would certainly have conversations when it comes to financing.

My first question is: when it comes to the GN's involvement with things like the new federal infrastructure bank, which department takes the lead in supporting the Minister of Energy? Is it ED&T, Environment, Finance, or another department? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, (interpretation ends) for that question. To me, as part of the energy, that's a very good question. Obviously under Environment, there is the climate change that has an energy component to it. I know that for the QEC, they also look at different energy alternatives. As government, we do look at different alternatives and engage with each other to plan forward. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In budget 2017 the federal government lays out plans to invest almost \$22 billion in green infrastructure spending. Of that, the Canada Infrastructure Bank, at least \$5 billion will be available over the next 11 years for green infrastructure projects, including those that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote renewable power.

In addition to that, the federal government is also helping to reduce reliance on diesel in indigenous and northern communities to support the deployment of renewable energy projects in communities that rely on diesel for electricity and heating, like all of our communities, Mr. Speaker. Budget 2017 proposes to provide over \$21 million over four years starting in the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Mr. Speaker, what projects will be considered by this government as priorities to gain access to these federal investments in green energy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) As you know, the audit came out and it clearly says that there was a strategy but no plans to implement. The strategy itself was not finalized. Our department is in the process. Our first priority is actually to go back to the drawing board with a strategy to see what needs to be updated so that we can use it as a tool. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. These federal investments are starting in the next month.

Mr. Speaker, there have been varied levels of work and analyses in projects, such as hydroelectric power here in Iqaluit, the transmission link from Manitoba to the Kivalliq, to modernization and improving efficiency of existing power infrastructure. Mr. Speaker, there has already been a lot of work in a lot of these projects.

My question again to the minister is: what are this government's priorities to gain access to these new, never-before-seen investments in green energy that are specifically available to northern communities across Canada? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I certainly had a great conversation with my department and the auditor talking about solar panels. I have one house in the neighbourhood that has that. There are hunters that bring small, mobile wind generation. Our department will certainly look at that.

I stand here today to say that as a leader, my priority is going to be to create the strategy because under the strategy are an adaptation strategy, an energy strategy, monitoring public reporting, and reduction targets. That's going to be my priority because this is the conversation I had with the auditor. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 006 – 5(2): Casual Staffing

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, my colleagues.

My questions are for the Minister of Finance, (interpretation ends) who is responsible for the *Public Service Act*.

The 2016-17 *Public Service Annual Report* indicates that, and I quote, “The *Priority Hiring Policy* is applied when staffing casual and relief employment.”

As the minister is well aware, the *Priority Hiring Policy* gives priority consideration to Nunavut Inuit in the government's hiring process, as required by Article 23 of the Nunavut Agreement.

And I am really happy to hear it as well in our mandate that the Hon. Commissioner, Nelly Kusugak stated that our government will refocus human resources policies and programs on Inuit employment at all levels of the public service.

I am asking the minister: what actions is your department going to take to ensure that the Priority Hiring Policy is followed by the government's departments in the casual staffing process? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for that good question. We utilize the planning that takes place. Inuit are our priority for casual employment and when we advertise for positions Inuit are given priority.

It is in three parts. Inuit are considered first when casual positions are created and they make a list of Inuit who have the qualifications. Human resources follows that process when they hire casual employees. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Directive 206 of the government's *Human Resources Manual* indicates that preferential treatment or nepotism is not allowed in the government's hiring process.

(interpretation) Can the minister describe what actions his department takes to ensure that this directive is followed (interpretation ends) by the department, government departments in the casual staffing process?

Can the minister describe what actions his department takes to ensure that this directive is followed by the government's departments in the casual staffing process? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Whenever there is a request for a casual staffing action our department, the Department of Finance provides a listing of qualified Inuit if they can be matched to the job. If that's not the case then we go category one, category two, and so on.

If there are casual staff that have been hired that are outside then as a department we go and ask the departments to give justification why they have chosen an individual that might not be in that casual staffing or if there is any report that there is nepotism or preferential treatment, then we ask each of our staffs to report that and we will investigate it. If there is any, then we take corrective actions.

For casual staffing, that's a term position, and we can cancel a casual staffing action at any time or not renew their term. There are different mechanisms to ensure this is not happening, and if it is happening, and if it is happening, I would like to know about it and our department can do something about it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his response. My last question is, the 2016-17 (interpretation ends) *Public Service Annual Report* indicates that, and I quote, “There were a total of 872 casual work assignments in the GN, an increase of 110 casual assignments from the previous fiscal year.” Can the minister identify the main reasons for this increase? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It goes up and down. For instance, in 2016-17, according to my document, there were 152 and in 2017-18 from the beginning of March there were 145. There will always be a different number of casual positions. When a staff member resigns, we always need to have the position filled. For instance, nurse position or financial worker, they always need to be filled and they use that process. That’s where we stand right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 007 – 5(2): Polar Bear Sales Auction

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to the people of Sanikiluaq.

My questions today are for the Minister of Environment.

As the minister is well aware, many Nunavut harvesters sell their polar bear furs through the Fur Harvesters Auction in North Bay, Ontario. This partnership is coordinated through the Department of Environment.

Mr. Speaker, in recent years, the demand for polar bear fur has dropped, and the sale of polar bear fur through the Fur Harvesters Auction has stalled. I have heard reports from harvesters who have waited years before they saw a return on their fur products.

On June 8, 2016, nearly two years ago, the minister of the day indicated that, at that time, more than 300 polar bear hides remained in stock at the auction’s facility in North Bay.

Can the minister provide an update on the number of polar bear hides that are currently stocked at the Fur Harvesters Auction facility in North Bay, Ontario? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I had a question about fur yesterday, and they're actually compiling the outcome of the fur auction. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We'll await that information. A few days ago, the minister did state that the auction had taken place recently. Can the minister indicate how many polar bear hides were sold at the auction and at what the average price was? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) No, I can't because when I inquired about it, the reply I got from the department is they're compiling the data from that auction. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my understanding that there are hundreds of hides still in storage, some for three or four years. It is also my understanding that after a couple of years, the hides turn yellow, which could make them worthless. What does the Department of Environment plan to do with all the polar bear hides that are currently in storage? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Even if it's yellow, there's a lot you can do with polar bear fur. Every year I hang one on my Christmas tree because polar bear hunters of the day didn't like the coloured bear skin. I think it might have been in your community in Sanikiluaq. There's a huge show in Montreal and they sold a bunch here. Because it's yellow doesn't mean it's not usable. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 008 – 5(2): Tracking Shipments of Caribou Meat

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to direct my questions to the Minister of Environment.

First of all, it isn't purposeful where only one minister is being peppered with our questions, but we just happened to ask our questions at the same time. This isn't intentional but just happenstance.

Actually, within the Kivalliq region, our caribou herds are the source of many concerns. I just received correspondence from one hunter who stated that he was expressing another hunter's concern, who is an Arviat resident. His cause for concern was specific to caribou, primarily the commercialization of the caribou harvests.

The minister made a statement earlier that certain country food freight rates are provided discounts from both airlines. With that fact, has the Department of Environment approached the airlines regarding this discounted rate? Perhaps I will switch to English as the information is in English.

(interpretation ends) Does the Department of Environment have any information obtained from the airlines regarding the quantity of meat being shipped across Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) No, I don't know the numbers. We look forward to the results of that consultation. It has taken this long because they're talking to many different people about what's going on in the airline industry. Obviously one of them would be that question. I would certainly bring it forward to the consultants that have been hired to look at the airline industry of Nunavut. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Main: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll rephrase my question. Can the Department of Environment obtain the information from the airlines?

Mr. Speaker, I would assume that the airlines know the volume of cargo travelling from one place to the next. I'm assuming that they have records in place, every shipment has an invoice, in terms of how much red meat is travelling within Nunavut and particularly it appears that the trend is the red meat is travelling from west to east, with a lot of paperwork and waybills attached to it.

Will the Department of Environment provide that information to the House after obtaining it from the airlines? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I would gladly ask if they will provide it to me. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister. This issue, by dint of our concerns, proves we must fully comprehend the annotated issues that are

attached to the issue of management concerns and how this issue can be resolved to our satisfaction. It should be a subject where all members deliberate upon.

Now, with regard to my last question to the minister, if the caribou population is decreasing territorially, as she stated earlier in this House, a future population study will be undertaken in 2018-19. If the Kivalliq caribou herd population survey results show that the herd is decreasing, will this not mean that we are already too late then? I feel we may be way too late to resolve this concern, especially as it relates to concerns of numerous Kivalliq residents who have voiced these concerns.

Instead of grandstanding with our verbal sparring, we should be making it a priority to hold meetings about these outstanding concerns regarding caribou in the Kivalliq. I would like to know the minister's position, if she would be amenable to hosting caribou management meetings in the Kivalliq region with these other (interpretation ends) co-management partners, (interpretation) Inuit organizations, and to work towards addressing these concerns related to the caribou herds in the Kivalliq region. Can the minister arrange meetings in the coming months? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I think last week I committed to ensuring that the co-management team, hunters and trappers, Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, our government, get together to talk. They do have ongoing discussions for the different caribou herds. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 009 – 5(2): General Rate Application

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

On November 9, 2017 the QEC submitted its general rate application. As we know, the GRA has been under consideration by the Utility Rates Review Council, which submits its report and recommendations to the minister for discussion with the cabinet.

The QEC has applied to have the rate changes come into effect on April 1, 2018, which is just 12 days from now. My question for the minister is this: will the power rates change on April 1, yes or no? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) No, the power rates will not go up on April 1, 2018. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. I'm really glad to hear that.

As it turns out, I do not actually have a supplementary question.

>>*Laughter*

I would just like to thank the minister for that response. Thank you very much.

>>*Applause*

An Hon. Member: Good job.

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

Question 010 – 5(2): Poverty Reduction

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the (interpretation ends) Minister responsible for Poverty Reduction.

Mr. Speaker, hunger and homelessness are two of the most serious consequences of poverty. As the minister is well aware, too many of our people are homeless and too many of our people are hungry.

My questions today will focus on the issue of food security.

As the minister is aware, the Government of Nunavut has been a member of the Nunavut Food Security Coalition. In January of this year the coalition was scheduled to hold a meeting in Iqaluit, the focus of which was, and I quote, “the renewal of the Nunavut Food Security Strategy and Action Plan.”

Can the minister update the House today on what was achieved at this meeting? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for Poverty Reduction, Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, they did have their meeting in January. The focus of that meeting at that time was five different categories and I'll read them off to make sure that you get them right:

- Access to country food;
- Store bought food;
- Local food production;
- Life skills programs; and
- Policy and legislation.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Different departments of the government have different responsibilities in relation to the issue of food security. For example, the Department of Economic Development and Transportation is responsible for government's Country Food Distribution Program, but other departments have responsibility for such matters as school breakfast programs and food allowance rates.

Can the minister indicate if he is planning any major changes to the way in which the government coordinates its action to reduce poverty and food insecurity? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Next month Poverty Reduction will be holding roundtable meetings in Rankin Inlet from April 17 to 19. This topic will come up and there may be new ideas and new action plans that come out of these meetings.

The best I can tell the member is we'll be working on that at the meetings and hopefully come out with other plans and strategy because I agree with the members that there are too many hungry and there are homeless people. Even one homeless is too many, but we will do the best we can to tackle the problem of food insecurity and homelessness whether it's hidden or visible in our communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Under the collaboration for poverty reduction, the minister is required to table an annual report in the Legislative Assembly concerning the government's work to reduce poverty. The 2014-16 report was tabled on March 13, 2017, over a year ago. When will the 2017 annual report be ready for tabling in the Legislative Assembly? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As soon as the annual report is ready and gone through the proper channels that it has to, to be tabled by the government, it shall be tabled as soon as possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 011 – 5(2): Staffing Vacant Positions

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

I know it's obvious that some jobs have never been filled within our government. The question I have is: are positions that have never been filled in Baker Lake going to be advertised this year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When each regional office of the departments is required to advertise positions, they advertise the positions.

At this time with regard to a specific position within the Department of Finance, I believe it is vacant, but I may be mistaken here with the actual reality. The vacant positions are the subject of a further directive to review the positions and, if we are required to advertise the positions, to prepare the advertisements. That would be the preferable approach. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister. If he's going to be doing that, his department is responsible for human resources for advertising jobs. The question I have is, it us under the Nunavut Agreement Article 23. How important is that to the government? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Article 23 is the first thing that is looked at. If there is a position that falls under that category, then the person would get selected first, but if there are no people like that available, then the next person is chosen for the job. People who fall under Article 23 are always considered priority. They have different responsibilities whenever a job has advertised. There are three categories, then there is a list of Inuit that are interested in that job, and then there are other categories too.

Turaaqtavut was just announced, so we will work harder towards that. If it seems to be too weak, we will have to create something stronger. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What the minister said earlier about *Turaaqtavut*, it's very good to hear and we have to really support it.

My questions mainly deal with Inuit who try to get government jobs. In Baker Lake some people try to get government jobs in the Nunavut government and never get selected. However, they are qualified to work for the federal government in Ottawa. When they keep trying to get jobs and never get selected, is there a place where they can submit their complaints to? Where is this avenue to submit their complaints about the process? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. People who try to apply for jobs have rights under the *Public Service Act*. If they want to complain, they can and their complaint will be reviewed, not by our staff. They would be reviewed by an appointed panel. They review the application and the job, and the person would be assessed as to qualifications. If they see that the person is qualified, the panel would go back to the department and suggest that they hire the person.

I believe we can make this stronger. Whenever an Inuk doesn't get a job, they should be able to make a report about it. If you don't get hired for a job, call them. If they don't hire you, call them and ask them why didn't hire you, what was the reason why they didn't pick you. Sometimes we try to go for jobs that we're not really trained for or educated for. There are many types of jobs available out there that anyone can try for and that's great.

We want to work closely with Nunavut Tunngavik about these things. We can't just complain; we can turn to other groups that can help us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 012 – 5(2): Energy Strategy

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to follow up with the Minister of Environment this time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, in the Minister of Energy's response to me when I was asking about the federal infrastructure bank, she stated that the Nunavut Energy Strategy would be worked on again. I would just like some clarification on whether they will be starting over with that strategy or updating the existing strategy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) We would be updating the strategy. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the OAG's report on climate change in Nunavut that the minister had spoken to earlier, it has 10 recommendations. As I have mentioned a couple of times in the House how fond I am on action plans, when can we expect to see the current action plan on the OAG's report for climate change in Nunavut? I will note that the hearing is upcoming and I strongly recommend the action plan to be in place before that hearing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I can't give a definite date, but we certainly had agreed on timelines. Our department is continuing to work with the Auditor General. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the 10 recommendations that I spoke to in the Office of the Auditor General's report on climate change in Nunavut, it has a number of different stakeholders involved from two government departments, Environment, which also houses the Climate Change Secretariat, to Community and Government Services, two Crown corporations, the Nunavut Housing Corporation and the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

I know there are different responses to the recommendations in the report. I would like a commitment from the minister that meetings from the Climate Change Secretariat and the Department of Environment would be meeting very soon to coordinate the action plan so that it can be available to members before we sit down with the Office of the Auditor General. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Yes and I may add also that when it comes to the audit, we were no different than the rest of Canada. It was very clear from the Auditor General that we're not alone and they also understand the capacity our government has to try to meet these. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members, please note that the time for question period has expired. Mr. Rumbolt.

Motion 001 – 5(2): Extension of Question Period

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to Rule 39(7), I move, seconded by the Member for Baker Lake, that the time allotted for oral questions be extended. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

An Hon. Member: Agreed.

>>*Laughter*

Speaker (interpretation): Please give me an opportunity.

>>*Laughter*

The motion is in order and is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Thank you. All those opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried and starting from now, question period has been extended for another 30 minutes. However, before we proceed any further, we will take a 20-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:55 and resumed at 16:14*

Speaker (interpretation): Let's proceed with the orders of the day. We are on Oral Questions. There was an extension to question period. Member for Iqaluit-Manirajak, Mr. Lightstone.

Question 013 – 5(2): Educational Leave Policy

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister responsible for the *Public Service Act*.

As identified in the Commissioner's opening address, education is required to take advantage of many employment opportunities in the territory, including many jobs in the public service. Unfortunately we are at a point where the required qualifications are preventing many Inuit from achieving professional and other specialized government positions.

Mr. Speaker, many of my constituents have voiced their concern that the government's education leave policy has not been applied to allow employees in the lower job categories such as administrative or paraprofessional, to take advantage of this policy, while at the same time it is these types of positions or these employees in the lower job categories that have the most benefit from the program.

Would the minister provide the Assembly with the current number of employees on funded education leave and provide that information broken down by department, job category, Nunavut Inuit and community, using the same format as the Inuit employment figures that are identified in the "Towards a Representative Public Service" report?
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Finance, I'll allow you, Minister Akeegok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. These items are quite numerous. Further, it would be quite visibly appealing to see all of these items put into place. Perhaps it would be easier if the member submitted his questions as a written question. It would allow the member to provide the level of detail he would like to have answered in this area related to his question. That would be my preference. During this question period, without that level of detail available in front of me, I can't respond immediately to the questions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. A gentle reminder to the members that when you are directing your oral questions to the ministers, due to the level of details being asked about, that level of detail is rarely included in their notes, so they may be unable to immediately respond in this House. If your intention is to ask the minister about the level of details in question period, it would behoove you to use the appropriate item, Written Questions, and your question about details can then be responded to. Again, this is a reminder to members.

Your first supplementary, Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be following up with a written question, but at which time I would like to ask if the minister would commit to providing the Assembly with the figures on the current GN employees which are funded by the education leave policy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I commit to it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 014 – 5(2): Nunavut Polar Bear Management

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) For the record, (interpretation) I won't be asking the minister about caribou *per se*, but rather my intention is to provide some background.

With respect to the caribou and the trade in caribou meat, the concern is the indiscriminate harvesting of caribou, as other members alluded to. One of the underlying reasons is the unlimited harvesting of caribou by non-beneficiaries, who are harvesting caribou past their allowable harvests, as other people have inferred. This is in addition to the concerns expressed, but it is one of the primary concerns of Inuit and not just beneficiary harvests. (interpretation ends) That's for the record, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to direct my questions again to the Minister of Environment. It's interesting to note that my colleague from Sanikiluaq will know what to do with the yellow polar bear skins come Christmastime. (interpretation) The HTO's chair has asked about the

polar bear MOU. It has not been negotiated since the division from Northwest Territories, before the creation of Nunavut. This MOU is quite old.

It's becoming evident that there are many polar bears with cubs coming into the communities. Harvesting 70 percent male and 30 percent female polar bears is insufficient and there are many female polar bears with cubs that are coming into the communities.

Are they negotiating the MOU with the HTO? Have you discussed this matter with the HTOs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for his question. I can say no because I have not met with the HTOs in regard to polar bear management. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We keep hearing from across the table that they will want to with Nunavummiut and that the government wants to move forward with Inuit. Can the minister commit to making sure that they start negotiating with the HTOs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I agree with the member of course because we have to work together in Nunavut. As we keep saying that, I can say that since we were elected, I'm learning on the management. We are now planning as to who will be meeting with, but it's very important that we work together. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister going to commit to asking his officials to start negotiations for MOU? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm sure I will have to ask my officials because all the officials watch the proceedings. When you request, it's evident that we agree, and I'm sure that this will proceed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 015 – 5(2): Dust Control

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

In a few months the Municipality of Kugluktuk will be preparing for massive amounts of dust that rises each summer. It is my understanding that each municipality, with the direction of the minister's department, selects an approach for its own dust control each year.

Can the minister tell us what solution Kugluktuk will be using to control the dust in the community this summer? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank you for asking about that. (interpretation ends) I think each year our department looks at trying to find ways to keep Nunavut from becoming a dust bowl and it's always a challenge. I think the flavour of choice has been using calcium chloride, but that's not the best. Although it's one that has been used the most, it's not the best because it causes dust and you can't use it unless you're a certain distance from airports and stuff like that.

Our department has tried Dustop liquid, liquid Tide. We have tried Dustop liquid. That doesn't seem to do as well because of storage issues. There are four communities that are going to try this summer Dustop municipal blend. Hopefully it will prove to be successful and we will go from there, but there are four communities along with Agnico Eagle near Rankin Inlet that are going to try this new blend to see how it survives. The best thing about going with that is it has a better shelf life, it can freeze and stuff, and so you can order it before summer instead of on the last barge and stuff. Hopefully that will be the blend of choice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. He answered my first question, so I'll go on to my next one.

Mr. Speaker, in Kugluktuk most of the dust that plagues the community comes from the gravel runway as well. Can the minister indicate if his department has had any discussions with the Department of Economic Development and Transportation to explore the possibility of paving Kugluktuk's runway to reduce the amount of dust that rises during summer months? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for the question. I'm not aware of any discussions regarding that matter, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Question 016 – 5(2): Old Health Centre in Taloyoak

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be directed to the Minister of Community and Government Services.

During the final year of the Fourth Assembly, I submitted questions regarding the old health centre in Taloyoak, as the local elders were requesting the use of the building. At this time no department is using this old building.

I would like to ask the minister, which hopefully he will understand, although I am unsure if he can answer my question or not. Nonetheless, my question to the minister is: can the minister outline any specific plans today regarding this old health centre located in Taloyoak and what the plans for it are? I would like to understand the situation with the facility, hence my question, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, perhaps he can repeat his question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Qirngnuq, please clarify your question. Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister is aware, the old health centre building in Taloyoak has been vacant for a number of years. Can the minister tell us today what will be done with the building? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to any old government facility, old offices or old government facilities, when the government declares them as surplus buildings, the last department utilizing the facility has to declare a statement on the building and whether it is no longer usable or not. Once they make the declaration to this government and other departments that this office is now available for usage, if the building is required by any other department, and once it is determined that no department requires the building, then it is usually submitted to the local hamlet to see if they would have any interest in it, and so on. That is the process they follow. It is just following that process, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister clarify if his department has received a request from the Department of Culture and Heritage to use the old health centre as space for elders and youth to meet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To date I don't know who they've talked to. I don't have the information in front of me but I can look into it on whether anybody has requested that building. If the Department of Health is going to surplus it then the process is being followed, as I stated earlier. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I thank the minister for his response. It's clear now. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, since the building was vacated by the Department of Health, elders in the community have lobbied for the building to be used as space for elders and youth to meet and hold activities.

Can the minister describe the specific steps that must be taken in order for Taloyoak elders to request and receive a designated meeting space in the community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In terms of the response I gave regarding this building, it's just going through the normal procurement or procedures within government.

Again, if the department deems that building a surplus then there is a call from all the other government departments to see if they are interested in that infrastructure. If it goes past that without interest, then interest is asked if there is any from the municipality from the hamlet. If there is not, then there is one put out for non-profit organizations barring that, then the general public.

It's just going through that procedure at this time, Mr. Speaker. If there is interest, I encourage them to talk to their municipalities and the appropriate department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 017 – 5(2): Eligibility Criteria for Grants and Contributions

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When I was talking about caribou I'm going to table, I'm talking about the commercial use which has changed from the domestic use of meat. That is just for the record. It's commercial trade I was referring to, which is a change in the Inuit culture.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask a question to the Department of Education, Hon. David Joanasie. He announced that the Department of Education is providing a top-up O&M program contribution funding to eligible licensed care facilities. Is that proposal-driven or grants and contributions-driven? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member, Ms. Towtongie, for her question. It's proposal-driven. We give funding to child care centres annually. It will be proposal-driven and they have to provide reports on how the money was spent. We are trying to increase the funding to child daycare centres. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The daycare in Chesterfield Inlet is fundamentally flawed; the foundation is sinking. In saying that, your announcement as the Minister of Education said it's a three-year action plan that develop for early learning and child care bilateral agreement, which was signed in September 2017 with the Government of Canada. If it was signed in 2017, when would we expect the agreement to end? I'm just trying to think of the lifetime in which we could write proposals. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Ms. Towtongie. The agreement that was signed in September 2017... (interpretation ends) We're looking at this agreement. It's going to be retroactive to that fiscal year. (interpretation) It would start 2017-18 and end after three fiscal years. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 018 – 5(2): Devolution Agreement in Principle

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Premier.

We had talked about this in the Legislative Assembly on devolution and the Premier had stated that this is still under negotiation.

First of all I would like ask: when there is an agreement in principle and once that is in place, what do we do as members? Would we see a copy? What would be the process in the Assembly? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Premier Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for asking that question. When we're under negotiation on the land claims agreement, we need more responsibilities in the Government of Nunavut. I would like to mention our goal right now is to come up with an agreement in principle.

I'm being kept updated. They report to our department as we have given them the chief negotiator. That being done, right now we don't have any information on when the agreement in principle will be in place, but we know that the federal government gives themselves a deadline for the agreement in principle in 2018, this year.

I would like to be clear to my colleague that we would like to see a good agreement ourselves. It would have to be a proper agreement. We will be the first ones to be informed once the agreement in principle can be signed. Our chief negotiator will come to us for devolution. I can't really say right now what stage they're at. I'll keep the House informed on where we stand. Once we are ready to sign the agreement, we will keep the House informed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the Premier. It's very interesting to find out about this because Nunavut has never gone through this before. I would really like to know what it entails. Once we get the agreement in principle, will it be made available to the regular MLAs before it is finalized? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To explain further, quite recently they reached an agreement. We're always kept informed because the government is a big part of it. I know that once we are ready to sign it, we will have to consider it as a government. I can tell my colleagues that once we have the agreement in principle, we will keep everyone and the House informed.

To further say, we're not the first territory to go through negotiating devolution. The NWT and the Yukon have completed their negotiations. They keep us informed as to what's the best way to negotiate because they have gone through that already. We check

with them as to what they tried to get that they couldn't quite get enough of and what we should push more for. We ask them because they have the experience.

Like you said, this is the first time we have gone through it. We are referring to the territories that have gone through it. We want a better deal for devolution. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the Premier. I know we don't live in the NWT, but when they were working on an agreement in principle, I could read in the news that they were even going to take the government to court because they didn't like the agreement that was struck.

I expect that this will be a big deal. I want to make sure that all the people of Nunavut know what they are agreeing to. I think it would be best if we did it that way. I ask the Premier if he can indicate today if that is the process he will be following to involve all the regular MLAs and follow our government's consensus model once we have the agreement in principle to make sure that all regular MLAs are involved afterwards. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I completely agree with the MLA. We will include the House and all MLAs and inform them of where we are at now with the agreement. We will have to see if it is good or not good for us. I will tell my colleague that we will keep you properly informed as to where it's at now and where the negotiations are at. We're going to be grabbing something real big.

Right now, looking at Nunavut, 80 percent of the land is still held by the federal government and once we have that agreement, all the lands of Nunavut can be held by the Nunavut government. That's what we're striving for. There are government offices and federal government staff that we're trying to take over. There are many things like that that we're trying to take over, so it's a big thing. We will keep all the MLAs informed about this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 019 – 5(2): General Rate Application

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A minute to spare.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, earlier in the day today she had mentioned that the rates will not be increasing on April 1. I would just like clarification on why the rates, as requested by the Utility Rates Review Council report, as requested by the QEC itself to increase the rates effective April 1. Is the reasoning because the URRC report was rejected or is it because the government hasn't made a decision on the URRC report as of yet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I would like to thank my colleague for that question. The reason the rates were not April 1 is URRC has not submitted their report to myself as Minister of the QEC for that recommendation, so I can't make that recommendation to cabinet until I get that report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know there is a lot of work that goes in to URRC's report on this. It's not like a space army out there just doing work out in the middle of nowhere.

Mr. Speaker, is one of the options being considered by the government, by the Qulliq Energy Corporation, instead of a territorial rate... ? I know it has been floated before, a territorial capital fund which would lessen the impact on larger communities' dramatic rate increases that were proposed and it would also allow smaller communities to not have such a dramatic impact on their rates for any infrastructure development in their community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, we have not reviewed any rates. We have not discussed any of the rates or what they plan on proposing to me as Minister of QEC, so there are no discussions on what the rates are going to be. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With the URRC report being brought forward to the Qulliq Energy Corporation and the government on the 26th of this month, if they so choose to follow along with the QEC's recommendation, when will these rate increases take effect? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated earlier, the document or the request has not come to me and I have not presented to cabinet for review, so we don't actually know when the rates will increase or if there will even be a rate increase. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members, please note that the time for question period has expired and we cannot extend it again today.

>>*Laughter*

Let us go back to the orders of the day. Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) With your permission, and my colleagues, I would like to go back to Item 5. (interpretation) Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Member Netser is requesting consent to revert back to Item 5 in the *Orders of the Day*. Are there any nays? There are none. Please proceed, Mr. Netser.

Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleagues for allowing us to come back to Item 5.

I would like to recognize my wife. She is here right now. We have been married for 38 years. I wouldn't be able to stand here without her support. I would like to welcome her. She was a little girl in Coral Harbour and she's an extremely good person, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Laughter*

>>*Applause*

(interpretation ends) I would like to recognize too a dear friend of ours who is no stranger to the audit world, Mr. Shawn Lester. Welcome to the House. (interpretation) Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Item 5 in the *Orders of the Day*. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names on my list. Moving on. Item 7. Written Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Item 7: Written Questions

Written Question 001 – 5(2): Public Housing Units

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written questions today are for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation and they concern the subject of public housing.

Mr. Speaker, my written questions are detailed, so I ask that they be entered into the record as read.

1. With respect to the Nunavut Housing Corporation's current *Public Housing 5-Plex Type 'AA,' 'BB' and 'CC'* designs:
 - a. When did the Nunavut Housing Corporation officially approve each of the current public housing five-plex design types for use in its annual public housing construction program?
 - b. What was the process by which each of the current public housing five-plex design types was developed?
 - c. To what extent were local housing organizations consulted in the development of the current public housing five-plex design types?
 - d. What are the most significant ways in which the current public housing five-plex design types differ from the design type or types that were previously used by the Nunavut Housing Corporation in respect to:
 - i. Size;
 - ii. Architectural and engineering features; and
 - iii. Construction costs per square foot?
 - e. In what specific ways have the current public housing five-plex design types been developed to resist mould infestation?
 - f. In what specific ways have the current public housing five-plex design types been developed to facilitate the storage and preparation of country foods, as defined by the Government of Nunavut's *Country Food Distribution Program Policy*?
 - g. What expenditures did the Nunavut Housing Corporation incur in developing the current public housing five-plex design types?
 - h. How many units of each of the current public housing five-plex design types have been constructed to date in Nunavut as part of the Nunavut Housing Corporation's annual public housing construction program?
 - i. In which communities were the units constructed?

- j. During which fiscal years were the units constructed?
- k. What was the total cost of constructing each unit?
- l. Between January 1, 2000, and March 1, 2018, broken down by date and community, how many public housing five-plexes were destroyed by fire?
- m. What is the average cost to construct a three-bedroom stand-alone public housing unit?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is asking that his written question be entered into the record as read. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Entered.

(interpretation) I'm sorry. Written Questions. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Netser.

Written Question 002 – 5(2): Government of Nunavut Responses to the Resolutions Adopted at the 2016 and 2017 Annual General Meetings of the Nunavut Association of Municipalities

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written question is for the Minister of Community and Government Services. My written question is quite detailed, so I ask that it be entered into the record as read.

1. What were the Government of Nunavut's responses to the resolutions adopted at the 2016 and 2017 Annual General Meetings of the Nunavut Association of Municipalities?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is asking that his written question be entered into the record as read. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Written Question 003 – 5(2): Government of Nunavut Expenditures on Overtime Pay

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For those in the last Assembly knew that I made this request every year the first couple of years and I missed a couple of years, Mr. Speaker.

My written questions today are for the Minister of Finance and they concern the subject of overtime pay. I did get a little bit of a variable from my previous request. It is quite detailed, so I ask that they entered it into the record as read.

1. Expressing the information in a comparable format to that which was provided in Returns to Written Questions 7 – 4(2) and 15 – 4(3), what were the Government of Nunavut's expenditures on overtime pay for indeterminate, term, casual, and relief employees during the 2016-17 fiscal year for each of its departments, Crown agencies, and territorial corporations?
2. Broken down by employing entity (department, Crown agency, and territorial corporation) and employment status (indeterminate, term, casual, and relief), how many employees received between \$0.01 and \$25,000.00 in overtime pay during the 2016-17 fiscal year?
3. Broken down by employing entity (department, Crown agency, and territorial corporation) and employment status (indeterminate, term, casual, and relief), how many employees received between \$25,000.01 and \$50,000.00 in overtime pay during the 2016-17 fiscal year?
4. Broken down by employing entity (department, Crown agency and territorial corporation) and employment status (indeterminate, term, casual and relief), how many employees received between \$50,000.01 and \$99,999.99 in overtime pay during the 2016-2017 fiscal year?
5. Broken down by employing entity (department, Crown agency, and territorial corporation) and employment status (indeterminate, term, casual, and relief), how many employees received in excess of \$100,000.00 in overtime pay during the 2016-17 fiscal year?
6. What specific audit activities are undertaken by the Department of Finance in relation to departments, Crown agencies, and territorial corporations that incur annual overtime costs in excess of \$1,000,000.00?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is asking that his written question be entered into the record as read. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): There is agreement. Thank you. Written Questions. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

Written Question 004 – 5(2): Status of Decentralization

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) My written questions today are for the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs and they concern the subject of decentralization.

Mr. Speaker, my written questions are detailed, so I ask that they be entered into the record as read.

- 1) Expressing the information in a comparable format to that which was provided in Returns to Written Questions 12 – 4(2) and 26 – 4(3), what was the status of the Government of Nunavut’s decentralization initiative as of March 1, 2018?
- 2) As of March 1, 2018, what was the status of the implementation of the “Key Actions,” “Key Recommendations,” and “Timelines” contained in the Government of Nunavut’s *Decentralization Action Plan*, which was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on June 5, 2012?

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is asking that his written question be entered into the record as read. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): There is agreement. Thank you. Written Questions. Member for Gjoa Haven, Mr. Akoak.

Written Question 005 – 5(2): Government of Nunavut Responses to the Resolutions Adopted at the 2016 and 2017 Annual General Meetings of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written questions today are for the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs and they concern the subject of the Government of Nunavut’s responses to resolutions adopted by the Kitikmeot Inuit Association.

Mr. Speaker, my written questions are detailed, so I ask that they be entered into the record as read.

1. What were the Government of Nunavut’s responses to the resolutions adopted at the 2016 and 2017 Annual General Meetings of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is asking that his written question be entered into the record as read. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. We have agreed. Written Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Written Question 006 – 5(2): Staffing Status of the Department of Health

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written questions today are for the Minister of Health and they concern the subject of the department staffing.

My written questions are detailed, so I ask that they be entered into the record as read.

1. Expressing the information in a comparable format to that which was provided in Return to Written Question 6-4(2), what was the status of the Department of Health's staffing as of March 1, 2018?
2. As of March 1, 2018, which departmental positions were vacant?
3. What specific criteria, methodology and formulas are used by the Department of Health to determine the number and type of positions located at community and regional health centres?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is asking that his written question be entered into record as read. Do you agree? There is agreement. Thank you. Written Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Manirajak, Mr. Lightstone.

Written Question 007 – 5(2): Administration of the Government of Nunavut's Staff Housing Policy

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written questions today, I have two of them, the first is for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. They concern the subject of staff housing.

My written question is detailed, so I ask that they be entered into the record as read.

1. As of March 1, 2018, broken down by community and size of unit (within the meaning of Schedule E of the Government of Nunavut's *Staff Housing Policy*), how many staff housing units were maintained (within the meaning of page NHC-3 of the

Business Plan - Government of Nunavut and Territorial Corporations - 2017-2020) by the Nunavut Housing Corporation?

2. As of March 1, 2018, broken down by community and size of unit (within the meaning of Schedule E of the Government of Nunavut's *Staff Housing Policy*), how many of the staff housing units referred to in question No. 1 were owned by the Nunavut Housing Corporation?
3. As of March 1, 2018, broken down by community and size of unit (within the meaning of Schedule E of the Government of Nunavut's *Staff Housing Policy*), how many of the staff housing units referred to in question No. 1 were leased by the Nunavut Housing Corporation?
4. As of March 1, 2018, broken down by community and size of unit (within the meaning of Schedule E of the Government of Nunavut's *Staff Housing Policy*), from which entities were the units referred to in question No. 3 leased?
5. As of March 1, 2018, broken down by community, employing entity (Government of Nunavut department, Crown agency, and territorial corporation) and category of position (within the meaning of subsection 2(c) of Schedule A of the Government of Nunavut's *Staff Housing Policy*), how many staff housing units were rented to employees who were Nunavut Inuit?
6. As of March 1, 2018, broken down by community, employing entity (Government of Nunavut department, Crown agency, and territorial corporation) and category of position (within the meaning of subsection 2(c) of Schedule A of the Government of Nunavut's *Staff Housing Policy*), how many staff housing units were rented to employees who were not Nunavut Inuit?
7. As of March 1, 2018, how many employees under the jurisdiction of the Government of Nunavut's Senior Personnel Secretariat (within the meaning of the "Definitions" section of the Government of Nunavut's *Staff Housing Policy*) were renting staff housing units?
8. How many of the employees referred to in question No. 7 were Nunavut Inuit?
9. How many of the employees referred to in question No. 7 were not Nunavut Inuit?
10. As of March 1, 2018, what was the average monthly value of the staff housing subsidy provided to employees under the jurisdiction of the Government of Nunavut's Senior Personnel Secretariat (within the meaning of the "Definitions" section of the Government of Nunavut's *Staff Housing Policy*) renting staff housing units?
11. As of March 1, 2018, broken down by community, how many individuals were on the Nunavut Housing Corporation's staff housing waiting list (within the meaning of

subsection 4(c) of Schedule A of the Government of Nunavut's *Staff Housing Policy*)?

12. How many of the individuals referred to in question No. 11 were Nunavut Inuit?
13. How many of the individuals referred to in question No. 11 were not Nunavut Inuit?
14. As of March 1, 2018, what was the average length of time for an individual to remain on the Nunavut Housing Corporation's staff housing waiting list (within the meaning of subsection 4(c) of Schedule A of the Government of Nunavut's *Staff Housing Policy*)?
15. As of March 1, 2018, broken down by community and employing entity (Government of Nunavut department, Crown agency, and territorial corporation), within the meaning of the "Sponsoring" provision that is provided for in Schedule A of the Government of Nunavut's *Staff Housing Policy*, how many non-employees of the Government of Nunavut were residing in staff housing units?
16. How many of the individuals referred to in question No. 15 were Nunavut Inuit?
17. How many of the individuals referred to in question No. 15 were not Nunavut Inuit?
18. As of March 1, 2018, broken down by community, employing entity (Government of Nunavut department, Crown agency, and territorial corporation) and category of position (within the meaning of subsection 2(c) of Schedule A of the Government of Nunavut's *Staff Housing Policy*), how many employees were participating in the Rental Assistance Program that is provided for in Schedule F of the Government of Nunavut's *Staff Housing Policy*?
19. How many of the individuals referred to in question No. 18 were Nunavut Inuit?
20. How many of the individuals referred to in question No. 18 were not Nunavut Inuit?
21. On what date did the Government of Nunavut's current *Staff Housing Policy* come into effect?
22. What specific amendments to the Government of Nunavut's current *Staff Housing Policy* have been made to date?
23. On what date does the Government of Nunavut's current *Staff Housing Policy* sunset?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is asking that his written question be entered into the record as read. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): There is an agreement. Thank you. Written Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Written Question 008 – 5(2): Annual Fuel Purchases by the Government of Nunavut

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My other written questions today are for the Minister of Community and Government Services and they concern the subject of fuel purchases.

Mr. Speaker, my written questions are detailed, so I ask that they be entered into the record as read.

1. Expressing the information in the same format as that which the Government of Nunavut provided in Returns to Written Questions 10 – 4(3) and 22 – 4(3), what quantities of fuel were purchased and delivered during the 2017 calendar year?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is asking that his written question be entered into the record as read. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): There is agreement. Thank you. Written Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Written Question 009 – 5(2): Correctional Facilities and Programming

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written questions today are for the Minister of Justice and they concern the subject of correctional facilities and programming.

Mr. Speaker, my written questions are detailed, so I ask that they be entered into the record as read.

1. As of March 1, 2018, how many adult and young offenders were serving sentences in territorial custody at the Baffin Correctional Centre, the Rankin Inlet Healing Facility, the Ilavut Healing Centre, and the Iqaluit Young Offenders' Centre?
2. As of March 1, 2018, how many individuals were incarcerated in territorial correctional facilities awaiting trial?
3. As of March 1, 2018, what is the average period of time before an individual on remand in territorial custody goes to trial?

4. As of March 1, 2018, what is the rate of recidivism for male adult offenders in territorial custody?
5. As of March 1, 2018, what is the rate of recidivism for male young offenders in territorial custody?
6. As of March 1, 2018, what is the rate of recidivism for female adult offenders in territorial custody?
7. As of March 1, 2018, what is the rate of recidivism for female young offenders in territorial custody?
8. As of March 1, 2018, what rehabilitation, counselling, and education programs are offered to adult offenders in territorial custody?
9. As of March 1, 2018, what rehabilitation, counselling and education programs are offered to young offenders in territorial custody?
10. As of March 1, 2018, how does the Department of Justice measure the effectiveness of its rehabilitation, counselling and education programs for adult offenders?
11. As of March 1, 2018, how does the Department of Justice measure the effectiveness of its rehabilitation, counselling and education programs for young offenders?
12. As of March 1, 2018, what percentage of adult offenders in territorial custody participates in rehabilitation, counselling and education programs?
13. As of March 1, 2018, what percentage of young offenders in territorial custody participates in rehabilitation, counselling and education programs?
14. As of March 1, 2018, what rehabilitation, counselling and education programs are offered to former adult offenders who have completed sentences in territorial correctional facilities?
15. As of March 1, 2018, what rehabilitation, counseling and education programs are offered to former young offenders who have completed sentences in territorial correctional facilities?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is asking that his written question be entered into the record as read. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): It looks like they almost didn't agree. There is agreement. Thank you. Written Questions. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

Written Question 010 – 5(2): 2018 Northern Lights Conference and Trade Show

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) My written questions today are for the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs and they concern the subject of the 2018 Northern Lights Conference and Trade Show.

Mr. Speaker, my written questions are detailed, so I ask that they be entered into the record as read.

- 1) With respect to the 2018 Northern Lights Conference and Trade Show that was the subject of Minister's Statement 4 – 5(1):
 - a. Which members of the Executive Council, within the meaning of section 60 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*, attended the 2018 Northern Lights Conference and Trade Show in an official capacity on behalf of the Government of Nunavut?
 - b. Which members of the Nunavut Public Service, within the meaning of section 2 of the *Public Service Act*, attended the 2018 Northern Lights Conference and Trade Show in an official capacity on behalf of the Government of Nunavut?
 - c. Which persons, within the meaning of Schedule A and Schedule B of the *Public Service Act*, attended the 2018 Northern Lights Conference and Trade Show in an official capacity on behalf of the Government of Nunavut?
 - d. Which ministerial staff, within the meaning of subsection 2(4) of the *Public Service Act*, attended the 2018 Northern Lights Conference and Trade Show in an official capacity on behalf of the Government of Nunavut?
 - e. Which other persons attended the 2018 Northern Lights Conference and Trade Show in an official capacity on behalf of the Government of Nunavut?
 - f. Which other persons attended the 2018 Northern Lights Conference and Trade Show as an official partner to persons referenced in questions 1(a), (b), (c), (d), and (e)?
 - g. With respect to each person referred to in questions 1(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f), what expenditures were incurred in relation to their attendance at the 2018 Northern Lights Conference and Trade Show in each of the following categories:
 - i. Airfare and/or aircraft charter expenses;
 - ii. Accommodation expenses;
 - iii. Per diems and other personal allowances;

- iv. Registration fees; and
 - v. Other expenses?
- h. With respect to each person referenced in question 1(a), what was his or her official event participation schedule in relation to the 2018 Northern Lights Conference and Trade Show?
- i. What specific sponsorship activities, expenditures, grants, and contributions did the Government of Nunavut undertake and/or provide in relation to the 2018 Northern Lights Conference and Trade Show?
- j. What were the total aggregate expenditures, including in-kind contributions and/or donations, incurred by the Government of Nunavut in relation to the 2018 Northern Lights Conference and Trade Show?
- k. What contributions, including in-kind contributions, did the Government of Nunavut receive from third parties in relation to its participation in the 2018 Northern Lights Conference and Trade Show?

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is asking that his written question be entered into the record as read. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): There is agreement. Thank you. Written Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Manirajak, Mr. Lightstone.

Written Question 011 – 5(2): Report on Education Leave Utilization for Fiscal Year 2017-18

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written questions today are for the Minister responsible for the *Public Service Act* and they concern the subject of education leave utilization for the year 2017-18.

Mr. Speaker, my written questions are detailed, so I ask that they be entered into the record as read.

- 1) As of March 1, 2018, broken down by employing entity (department, Crown agency, and territorial corporation) and category of position (executive, senior, management, middle management, professional, paraprofessional, and administrative support), how many employees were receiving funded education leave?
- 2) How many of the individuals referred to each entity and category of position in question No. 1 were Nunavut Inuit?

- 3) How many of the individuals referred to each entity and category of position in question No. 1 were not Nunavut Inuit?
- 4) Provide a breakdown of each entity referred to in question No. 1, how much each entity is providing education leave financial assistance by:
 - a. Compensation and benefits;
 - b. Travel;
 - c. Tuition;
 - d. Textbooks;
 - e. Other expenses.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member asking that his written question be entered into the record as read. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): There is agreement. Thank you. Written Questions. I have no more names on my list. Moving on with the orders of the day. Item 8. Petitions. Item 9. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 10. Tabling of Documents. Premier Quassa.

Item 10: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 001 – 5(2): Turaaqtavut

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table today the document titled, *Turaaqtavut*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Tabled Document 002 – 5(2): Contract Activity Report 2016-2017

Tabled Document 003 – 5(2): Procurement Activity Report 2016-2017

Tabled Document 004 – 5(2): Lease Activity Report 2016-2017

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am also pleased to table three documents and they are:

- (interpretation ends) *Contract Activity Report 2016-17*;

- *Procurement Activity Report 2016-17*; (interpretation) and
- (interpretation ends) *Lease Activity Report 2016-17*.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Member for Gjoa Haven, Mr. Akoak.

Tabled Document 005 – 5(2): Excerpt from the Western Canada Lottery Corporation

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table an excerpt from the *Western Canada Lottery Act*.

Mr. Speaker, this excerpt highlights subsections 5(b) and 6(1)(e) of the Act which provides the government with the power to make regulations concerning the specific information that must be provided in the annual reports. For example, the government may introduce regulations to require that all future annual reports on Nunavut's lottery include detailed information on how profits from the lottery are used each fiscal year.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all members to review these sections with care, and I encourage the government to consider the possibility of introducing such regulations in the near future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Item 10. Tabling of Documents. Moving on. Item 11. Notices of Motions. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

Item 11: Notices of Motions

Motion 002 – 5(2): Extended Adjournment – Notice

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I give notice that on Thursday, March 22, 2018, I will move the following motion:

I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, that pursuant to the provisions of Rule 3, that when the House concludes its present sitting, it shall be adjourned until May 24 of 2018.

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Item 11. Notices of Motions. Item 12. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Justice, Minister Ehaloak.

Item 12: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills**Bill 01 – Corrections Act – Notice**

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I give notice that on Wednesday, March 21, 2018, that Bill 1, *Corrections Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Item 12. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Akeeagok.

Bill 02 – Chartered Professional Accountants Act – Notice

Hon. David Akeeagok: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, March 21, 2018, that Bill 2, *Chartered Professional Accountants Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Justice, Minister Ehaloak.

Bill 03 – Cannabis Statutes Amendment Act – Notice

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, March 21, 2018, that Bill 3, *Cannabis Statutes Amendment Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Item 12. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 13. Motions. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

Item 13: Motions

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

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

Motion 002 – 5(2): Extended Adjournment

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

(interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, that pursuant to the provisions of Rule 3, that when the House concludes its present sitting, it shall be adjourned until May 24, 2018.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried. Thank you.

Item 13. Motions. Minister of Justice, Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I request consent of this Assembly to waive the two-day notice requirement to allow for the first reading of Bill 1, *Corrections Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): I'm sorry, Minister Ehaloak. You can make your motion once we get to Item 14. We're still on Item 13 in the *Orders of the Day*. If I wasn't clear, I apologize.

Item 13 in the *Orders of the Day*. Motions. I have no more names on my list. Item 14. First Reading of Bills. Minister of Justice, Minister Ehaloak.

Item 14: First Reading of Bills

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I request consent of this Assembly to waive the two-day notice requirement to allow for the first reading of Bill 1, *Corrections Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The minister is seeking consent of this Assembly to waive Rule 62(1) so that Bill 1 can be read for the first time today. Members, do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): There is agreement. Please proceed, Minister Ehaloak.

Bill 01 – Corrections Act – First Reading

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Quttiktuq, that Bill 1, *Corrections Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Thank you. You have voted unanimously in favour. The motion is carried and Bill 1 has been read for the first time.

Going to the orders of the day. Item 14. First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request consent of this Assembly to waive the one-day notice requirement to allow for the first reading of Bill 2,

(interpretation ends) *Chartered Professional Accounts Act*. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The minister is seeking consent to waive Rule 62(1) so that Bill 2 can be read for the first time today. Members, do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Bill 02 – Chartered Professional Accountants Act – First Reading

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleagues. I move, seconded by the Member for Cambridge Bay, that Bill 2, (interpretation ends) *Chartered Professional Accountants Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion.

An Hon. Member (interpretation): Question.

Speaker (interpretation): All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Thank you. You have voted unanimously in favour. The motion is carried and Bill 2 has been read for the first time.

Item 14. First Reading of Bills. Minister of Justice, Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I request consent of this Assembly to waive the one-day notice requirement to allow for first reading of Bill 3, *Cannabis Statutes Amendment Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The minister is requesting consent to waive Rule 62(1) so that Bill 3 can be read for the first time today. Members, do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Bill 03 – Cannabis Statutes Amendment Act – First Reading

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Hon. Member of Quttiktuq, that Bill 3, *Cannabis Statutes Amendment Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion.

An Hon. Member: Question.

Speaker (interpretation): All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Thank you. You have voted unanimously in favour. The motion is carried and Bill 3 has been read for the first time.

Item 14. First Reading of Bills. Item 15. Second Reading of Bills. Minister of Justice. Minister Ehaloak.

Item 15: Second Reading of Bills

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I request consent of this Assembly to waive the one-day notice requirement to allow for the second reading of Bill 1, *Corrections Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The minister is seeking consent to waive Rule 62(1) so that Bill 1 can be read for the second time today. Members, do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Bill 01 – Corrections Act – Second Reading

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Hon. Member of Quttiktuq, that Bill 1, *Corrections Act*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill provides for a modern corrections system for Nunavut, in particular it provides for robust appeals and grievance mechanisms for inmates, introduces an independent investigations officer, and establishes an Inuit societal values committee. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion.

An Hon. Member (interpretation): Question.

Speaker (interpretation): All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Thank you. You have voted unanimously in favour. The motion is carried and Bill 1 has been read for the second time and is referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Item 15. Second Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request consent of this Assembly to waive the two-day notice requirement to allow for the second reading of Bill 2, (interpretation ends) *Chartered Professional Accountants Act*. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The minister is seeking the consent of this Assembly to waive Rule 62(1) so that Bill 2 can be read for the second time today. Members, do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Bill 02 – Chartered Professional Accountants Act – Second Reading

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, my colleagues. (interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Cambridge Bay, that Bill 2, *Chartered Professional Accountants Act*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill, together with the parallel statutes to be introduced in the Northwest Territories, establishes the organization of chartered professional accountants which will be responsible for regulating the professions of accounting in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

This bill merges the existing professions of certified general accountant, certified management accountant, and chartered accountant into a single profession and repeals the statutes governing those formally separate professions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion.

An Hon. Member: Question.

Speaker (interpretation): All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Thank you. You have voted unanimously in favour. The motion is carried and Bill 2 has been read for the second time and is referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Item 15. Second Reading of Bills. Minister of Justice, Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I request consent of this Assembly to waive the one-day notice requirement to allow for the second reading of Bill 3, *Cannabis Statutes Amendment Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The minister is seeking consent to waive Rule 62(2) so that Bill 3 can be read for the second time today. Members, do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Bill 03 – Cannabis Statutes Amendment Act – Second Reading

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Hon. Member of Quttiktuq, that Bill 3, cannibal...*Cannabis Statutes Amendment Act*, be read for the second time, not cannibal.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, this bill amends several Acts to regulate the usage and regular transport of cannabis and makes a number of terminological clarifications with respect to the term “drug” in response to the legalization of non-medical cannabis being contemplated by Parliament. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion.

An Hon. Member (interpretation): Question.

Speaker (interpretation): All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Thank you. You have voted unanimously in favour. The motion is carried and Bill 3 has been read for the second time and is referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Item 15. Second Reading of Bills. Item 16. *Orders of the Day*. (interpretation ends) Mr. Clerk.

Item 16: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for May 24, 2018:

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
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Clerk. (interpretation) Before we adjourn, I wish to take this opportunity to thank the staff of the Legislative Assembly. If it wasn't for them, we would not have been able to proceed. In particular the interpreters, we thank all of you.

>> *Applause*

Also our pages in the House, we thank you as well.

>> *Applause*

I also thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms, for your ability to manage the operations of this House.

>> *Applause*

To my colleagues, especially those who will start their travel home this week, I wish you a safe journey home, or rather that all members travel home safely and that we enjoy our stay in our constituencies, as we will be scheduled to travel back for the spring session. To each and every one, I thank you.

To the residents of Nunavut, along with the listening and viewing audience, I am appreciative of your inclusion in our proceedings. You are always welcome to your Legislative Assembly.

>>*Applause*

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 17:24*

