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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

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(Amittuuq)

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(Gjoa Haven)

Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

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(Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu)

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(Iqaluit-Manirajak)

Deputy Premier; Minister of Health

Joe Enook
(Tununiq)

Deputy Speaker and Chair of the Committee of the Whole

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(Iqaluit-Tasiluk)

David Joanasie
(South Baffin)

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(Arviat North-Whale Cove)
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Steve Mapsalak
(Aivilik)

Hon. Johnny Mike
(Pangnirtung)
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(Iqaluit-Sinaa)
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Hon. Keith Peterson
(Cambridge Bay)
Minister of Finance, Chair of the Financial Management Board; Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission

Hon. Paul Quassa
(Aggu)
Minister of Education; Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College

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Table of Contents

Opening Prayer.....	374
Speaker's Statement	374
Ministers' Statements	375
Members' Statements	377
Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.....	382
Oral Questions.....	383
Tabling of Documents	400
Notices of Motions	400
First Reading of Bills	400
Second Reading of Bills	401
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters	402
Report of the Committee of the Whole	423
Orders of the Day	424

A.**Daily References**

Monday, March 17, 2014	374
------------------------------	-----

B.**Ministers' Statements**

030 – 4(1): Minister Absent from the House (Ugyuk)	375
031 – 4(1): NHC Tenant Engagement Campaign (Kuksuk)	375
032 – 4(1): Canada Appeal of Seal Ban at WTO (Taptuna)	376
033 – 4(1): Baby's First Library Book Bags (Quassa).....	376
034 – 4(1): 2014 Laura Ulluriaq Gauthier Scholarship (Okalik)	377

C.**Members' Statements**

083 – 4(1): The Need for Early Childhood Education (Mikkungwak)	377
084 – 4(1): Food Prices in Gjoa Haven (Akoak).....	378
085 – 4(1): Kugluktuk Participants at the 2014 AWG (Taptuna)	379
086 – 4(1): The Need for an Elders' Strategy (Angnakak)	379
087 – 4(1): Taking Advantage of Educational and Training Opportunities (Savikataaq).....	380
088 – 4(1): Financial Support for Seniors (Joanasie)	381
089 – 4(1): Appreciation for the Reopening of Pond Inlet Arena (Enook)	381

D.**Oral Questions**

083 – 4(1): Heavy Equipment Operator Training (Savikataaq)	383
084 – 4(1): Food Price Surveys (Akoak).....	385
085 – 4(1): Need for an Elders Strategy (Angnakak).....	386

086 – 4(1): Financial Support for Seniors (Joanasie)	386
087 – 4(1): NNI Policy (Hickes)	388
088 – 4(1): Status of Old Airport Terminal Building in Sanikiluaq (Rumbolt)	389
089 – 4(1): IQ Principles and Values (Shooyook)	390
090 – 4(1): The Need for Early Childhood Education (Mikkungwak)	392
091 – 4(1): Public Agencies Council (Angnakak).....	394
092 – 4(1): Supporting our Nunavut Nursing Graduates (Hickes).....	395
093 – 4(1): Baker Lake Elders’ Group (Mikkungwak)	397
094 – 4(1): Constituents Request for Funding (Shooyook).....	398
095 – 4(1): Need for Expansion at the Andy Aulatjut Elders’ Centre (Savikataaq)	399

E.

Tabling of Documents

024 – 4(1): 2007-2012 Early Childhood Development (ECD) Report (Quassa)	400
025 – 4(1): Student Loan Fund 2011-2012 (Quassa)	400
026 – 4(1): Student Loan Fund 2012-2013 (Quassa)	400

F.

Motions

011 – 4(1): Recognition of Inuit Societal Values and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit – Notice (Shooyook).....	400
--	-----

G.

Bills

Bill 03 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2013-2014 – First Reading.....	400
Bill 04 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2013-2014 – First Reading.....	401

Bill 05 – Interim Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, April 1, 2014 to July 31, 2014	
– First Reading.....	401
Bill 03 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2013-2014 –	
Second Reading	401
Bill 04 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2013-2014 – Second Reading	401
Bill 05 – Interim Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, April 1, 2014 to July 31, 2014	
– Second Reading	402
Bill 02 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2014-2015 – Health – Consideration in Committee	402
Bill 02 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2014-2015 – Nunavut Arctic College – Consideration in Committee.....	412

Iqaluit, Nunavut**Monday, March 17, 2014****Members Present:**

Mr. Tony Akoak, Ms. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Monica Ell, Mr. Joe Enook, Mr. George Hickes, Mr. David Joanasie, Hon. George Kuksuk, Hon. Johnny Mike, Mr. Simeon Mikkungwak, Hon. Paul Okalik, Hon. Keith Peterson, Hon. Paul Quassa, Hon. George Qulaut, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Mr. Alexander Sammurtok, Mr. Joe Savikataaq, Mr. Isaac Shooyook, Hon. Peter Taptuna, Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk.

>>*House commenced at 13:30*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. George Qulaut)

(interpretation): Ms. Ugyuk, can you say the opening prayer this afternoon, please.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good afternoon, Members, Ministers, Premier, as well as our visitors and all Nunavummiut. Before we begin, I would like to remind you to turn off your BlackBerrys or cellphones or put them on vibrate mode. They are quite loud when they ring inside the Chambers. Thank you.

Speaker's Statement

Thank you, members. Before proceeding with the orders of the day, I wish to make a statement.

I am very pleased to take this opportunity to announce that the 2014 nominations for the Order of Nunavut open today.

As the House is aware, the *Order of Nunavut Act* came into force on January 1, 2010.

The objective of the order is to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the cultural, social, or economic well-being of Nunavut.

The order is the highest honour of Nunavut and takes precedence over all other orders, decorations, or medals conferred by the Government of Nunavut.

The Order of Nunavut Advisory Council, which I have the honour of chairing, considers nominations to the order and makes recommendations to the Commissioner of Nunavut, who serves as the Chancellor of the Order.

Nomination forms are available from the offices of Members of the Legislative Assembly and can be obtained on the Legislative Assembly's website.

Nominations must be received by August 29, 2014 and the investiture ceremonies will take place later this year.

On behalf of my colleagues on the Order of Nunavut Advisory Council, I encourage all Nunavummiut to consider submitting nominations for the council's consideration.

That was my announcement regarding the order.

>>*Applause*

Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Member, Ms. Ugyuk.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 030 – 4(1): Minister Absent from the House

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to advise members that the Hon. Tom Sammurtok will be absent from the House today for medical reasons. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister, Mr. Kuksuk.

Minister's Statement 031 – 4(1): NHC Tenant Engagement Campaign

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Good day, my colleagues and all Nunavummiut. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to inform my colleagues in the Legislative Assembly about the Nunavut Housing Corporation's Tenant Engagement campaign. This campaign aims to inform tenants of the costs of public housing and also encourages tenants to participate in reducing the overall costs of Nunavut's public housing system.

The cost of maintaining one public housing unit is approximately \$23,000 per year, and reducing the cost of public housing is an important step to strategically address Nunavut's housing crisis, as outlined in *Igluliqatigilauqta*, the GN Long-term Comprehensive Housing and Homelessness Strategy.

Mr. Speaker, the Tenant Engagement campaign will help to improve communication between tenants and their local housing associations. It will

also provide tenants with the information they need to help them properly care for their homes.

The first major initiative of the Nunavut Housing Corporation's Tenant Engagement campaign is the 2014 Housing Calendar in four languages, which will be distributed to all public housing households. Mr. Speaker, this calendar offers tips and advice each month on basic home maintenance, damage prevention, and what to look for in terms of maintaining a safe and healthy environment inside homes.

The Nunavut Housing Corporation will continue to build on this multi-year effort for tenant engagement and communication. Mr. Speaker, our goal is to have strong and trusting relationships with all public housing tenants. Plans for future years include a new website, social media and radio initiatives and other tools such as how-to videos. I look forward to updating the members on these initiatives as they come online.

Mr. Speaker, a person's home has a deep impact on all other aspects of their life. The Nunavut Housing Corporation takes great pride in the housing it provides to Nunavummiut and hopes that everyone can share in this pride. (interpretation) Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Member, Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

**Minister's Statement 032 – 4(1):
Canada Appeal of Seal Ban at
WTO**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues, Kuglukturmiut, and Nunavummiut. Mr. Speaker, I would like to update members on the status of the World Trade Organization's ruling to uphold the European Union's ban on seal products and Canada's participation in the appeal hearing that begins today until March 19, 2014.

The Government of Nunavut wholly supports Canada in its appeal and presence at the Geneva hearing this week. We have been working closely with federal counterparts to provide the necessary and relevant information related to seal harvesting in Nunavut and the potential impacts of such a ban.

Mr. Speaker, the indigenous communities' exception has little, if any, value, as the European Union's ban has already devastated the market for seal products.

This ban, based on so-called public morality, sets a dangerous precedent that should concern any manufacturer seeking to export products arising from sustainable harvests and renewable resource industries.

Mr. Speaker, the World Trade Organization is expected to deliver its responses by mid- to late April on the hearing in Geneva. We are monitoring this situation closely.

Mr. Speaker, I ask members to join me and show support to Canada's delegation led by Canada's Minister of

Environment and MP to Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Member, Mr. Quassa.

**Minister's Statement 033 – 4(1):
Baby's First Library Book Bags**

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day. Mr. Speaker, our government has made education a priority area for action. As we develop education programs and services, it is important to recognize that a child's learning begins at birth and parents are the first teachers of their children.

We are taking funds from the 2013-14 fiscal year and using them to provide a series of culturally relevant books in Nunavut's official languages for every newborn in the upcoming year. The books will be presented to new parents in a tote bag designed to promote our new Literacy 4 Life project.

Mr. Speaker, learning does not begin when a child starts attending school. Research shows that reading to your children more than once a day when they are young has a positive impact on their future academic success. We want to give parents the tools they need to help them develop a strong teaching and learning relationship with their children as early as possible.

The 11 bilingual books in the book bag for new parents are being produced by Inhabit Media, a Nunavut-based

publishing company that produces Nunavut-themed children's books.

Mr. Speaker, the Baby's First Library book bags will be an ongoing initiative that will help us promote the importance of literacy to families and emphasize the benefits that reading brings to young children.

Our department is also working with other departments, such as the Department of Family Services and Culture and Heritage, for opportunities to place these resources in other appropriate locations to make them more accessible to all Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Member, Mr. Okalik.

Minister's Statement 034 – 4(1): 2014

Laura Ulluriaq Gauthier Scholarship

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On this great day, please be welcome. Mr. Speaker, our government has made education one of its priorities and I am pleased to advise that applications are now being accepted for the 2014 Laura Ulluriaq Gauthier Scholarship. I encourage post-secondary students to apply. The \$5,000 scholarship is awarded annually to a Nunavut student.

The scholarship is in memory of Laura Ulluriaq Gauthier, who was instrumental in creating a made-in-Nunavut electrical utility. It celebrates her vision for leadership by Nunavummiut, inclusivity,

and personal excellence. In the past, recipients have been active leaders in their communities.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform Nunavut's students that the application is available on the Qulliq Energy Corporation's website, www.nunavutpower.com, or by calling 867-979-7534. The deadline for applying is Thursday, June 30, 2014.

Mr. Speaker, I have great confidence in our young leaders and see this opportunity as not only benefiting them, but benefiting the future of Nunavut. I wish all candidates good luck. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. I have no more names on my list for Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 083 – 4(1): The Need for Early Childhood Education

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to the people of Baker Lake and all Nunavummiut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a dedicated group of Baker Lake residents for their efforts to bring early childhood education programming to the community.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the population of Baker Lake is growing steadily with an average of almost 50

births every year and almost 12 percent of the population under the age of 5.

While there is a lack of daycare spaces in Baker Lake, there is an even greater need for early childhood education programs that will support parents, guardians and children to make healthy choices for their lives ahead.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, many young families in Baker Lake are still affected by the impact of the residential school experience. Many young people have lost touch with their culture and did not grow up with a stable family structure. (interpretation ends) Many have experienced a breakdown in their family units and some have been victims of neglect, abuse, or violence, which can lead to negative behaviour.

Mr. Speaker, there is a great need for programming that will not only teach learning and communication skills to young children and infants, but will also provide support to parents and guardians by showing them parenting life skills.

Mr. Speaker, the Aupilarturvik program ran very successfully some years ago, but the facility they operated out of burned down. While they can always rent space to deliver the program, they need support to get the program materials, educational resources, and food for the nutritional component of the program.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will have questions for the Minister of Education on how he and his department can help to get this much needed program underway. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Gjoa Haven, Mr. Akoak.

Member's Statement 084 – 4(1): Food Prices in Gjoa Haven

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to the people of Gjoa Haven. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the issue of the high cost of living in my constituency of Gjoa Haven.

Mr. Speaker, in March and April of last year, the Government of Nunavut's bureau of statistics conducted a pilot food price survey in 11 communities. This survey compared the prices of 28 different food items.

Mr. Speaker, the results of the survey concluded that Gjoa Haven had the highest food prices in all of the communities. On average, food prices in Gjoa Haven were almost 20 percent higher than in Iqaluit.

Mr. Speaker, the survey also compared the price of food in Nunavut communities with prices in the rest of Canada. Here are some of the results:

- On average, the price of milk was 38 percent higher in Nunavut.
- The price of apples was 94 percent higher in Nunavut.
- The price of onions was 233 percent higher in Nunavut.

An Hon. Member: Shame, shame!

Mr. Akoak: Mr. Speaker, last month's federal budget announced that funding

for the Nutrition North Canada Program will be “enhanced” to “help improve access to healthy food.”

The federal budget indicated that the current amount of funding for Nutrition North Canada is \$60 million per year. Although the federal budget did not indicate how much additional funding will be provided to the program, I am hopeful that the resources will be increased significantly.

Mr. Speaker, the issue of food costs and food security has gained much attention in recent years. I encourage our government to also take action in addressing the need to make food affordable for our families. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members’ Statements. Member for Kugluktuk, Mr. Taptuna.

**Member’s Statement 085 – 4(1):
Kugluktuk Participants at the
2014 AWG**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today with great pride and support to my constituents who will be participating in the 2014 Arctic Winter Games in Fairbanks, Alaska. I commend the wonderful achievements that Kuglukturmiut have made in joining the Arctic Winter Games to represent our wonderful territory.

It gives me great pleasure to wish the following great success:

Sara Power;
Julianne Angulalik;
Markus Kokak;
Ikey Bolt;

Cory Niptanatiak;
Dylan Kadlun;
Krista Niptanatiak; and
Aislyn Bolt.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to recognize the dedication and support of the parents and coaches, Attila and Maria Csaba.

Mr. Speaker, I wish all the best to Team Nunavut and I hope that they will enjoy their entire experience at the Arctic Winter Games. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

**Member’s Statement 086 – 4(1): The
Need for an Elders’ Strategy**

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) Good afternoon. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about an issue that is important to my constituents and to me as an MLA and as a Nunavummiuq. Mr. Speaker, I am referring to our elders in Nunavut and how important it is for this government to start developing a strategy now that will address the future needs of one of the growing sectors of our population, our elders.

Mr. Speaker, we often speak about elders in this House, and praise how elders are the foundation of a community. They hold the wisdom to the mysteries of life from yesterday and demonstrate how we can apply it to our lives today. We all need to work together as a territory, as communities and as a

government to promote and support healthy lifestyles for our elders.

However, Mr. Speaker, our support and helpfulness to our elders must not only be words. It behooves us to actually make our elders' lives easier through relevant and supportive programs and service delivery.

Mr. Speaker, our elders are among the most vulnerable members of our society. They deserve a life of peace and security regardless of which community they come from or what ethnicity they are. We need to ensure that services, care and facilities are in place to help all elders who need assistance or cannot look after themselves.

Mr. Speaker, many families are struggling to look after their aging parents because they want them close to home and often there is little help offered by this government.

Mr. Speaker, this issue has been brought forward many times in this Legislative Assembly as past MLAs saw how vital the need was to address this issue. You only have to do a little bit of research through past *Hansards* to see that this issue has been raised time and time again. I look forward to this government finally doing something about this serious concern.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will be asking the Minister of Health questions on this matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement 087 – 4(1): Taking Advantage of Educational and Training Opportunities

Mr. Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I say "good day" to the people of Arviat. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to encourage our government to live up to the promises we heard during the leadership forum of supporting and promoting education across our territory.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident that many of us agree that education is a key to our future. It enables our residents to take advantage of upcoming opportunities in sectors such as mining and related industries. Mr. Speaker, education also provides a solid foundation for the here and now in leading Nunavummiut to be more successful and productive.

Mr. Speaker, I commend our government for expanding education and trades training through the trade school initiative in Rankin Inlet. I'm looking forward to ongoing developments at the mine training centre in the Kitikmeot.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage our government not to limit itself in delivering training and programs in the meantime. While having a heavy equipment simulator program available to introduce trainees to the basic skills needed to operate a heavy vehicle is a good start, nothing takes the place of hands-on experience and instruction.

Our government should be seeking all avenues to get Nunavummiut onto the seats of heavy vehicles and working on sites at every opportunity. For the sake of our future and the future of this territory, we should not be satisfied with

limited training programs. I encourage our government to work harder towards meeting its promise to improve educational opportunities for all.

Mr. Speaker, I will have questions on this issue later today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Member's Statement 088 – 4(1):
Financial Support for Seniors**

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and my colleagues. To the young people who are visiting in the Gallery, welcome to the Chambers.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise a concern related to the well-being of Nunavut's senior citizens.

Mr. Speaker, as we all know, the cost of living in Nunavut is extremely high and making ends meet is even harder for our senior population.

Nunavut's Social Assistance program is only available to Nunavut residents between the ages of 18 and 59.

The Nunavut Senior Citizen Supplementary Benefit program is available to individuals aged 60 and over, but according to information available on the government website, this is only if they receive the federal government's Guaranteed Income Supplement or Spouse's Allowance.

According to the federal government's published information, the Guaranteed

Income Supplement is for low-income seniors who receive Old Age Security.

Mr. Speaker, an individual has to be over the age of 65 to receive Old Age Security benefits.

Mr. Speaker, there appears to be a gap in support for Nunavut seniors aged between 60 and 65.

At the appropriate time, Mr. Speaker, I will have questions for the Minister of Family Services on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Enook.

**Member's Statement 089 – 4(1):
Appreciation for the Reopening of
Pond Inlet Arena**

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, people of Pond Inlet and our fellow Nunavummiut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my appreciation to the Hon. Minister Mike, who invited me to participate in a meeting with the DFO minister. Thank you to the Hon. Minister Mike for having invited me to this meeting.

Mr. Speaker, I also wish to give further thanks as I was just informed about our local arena in Pond Inlet being opened for public usage. It is unfortunate that the Minister of CG&S isn't present today. (interpretation ends) Maybe the Hon. Premier (interpretation) can inform the minister of the gratefulness of Pond Inlet residents.

Additionally, I also hope that I won't need to raise any further questions about our arena for a long time. Thank you.

>>*Laughter*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister, Mr. Okalik.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today, we are graced with visitors who form our future. These students are taking the Sivuliqtiksat leadership program, and their instructor is the person I wish to recognize firstly, Becky Qilavvaq, and she is here with the following youth from Baffin regional communities:

From Grise Fiord:
Terry Noah and Olav Christensen;

From Resolute Bay:
Melissa Idlout,
Sky Kalluk, and
Tracy Kalluk;

From Arctic Bay:
Sereta Kalluk and Martha Leetia
Qaunnaq;

From Igloolik:
Alex Arnatsiaq and Emily Qattalik;

From Hall Beach:
Eric Tungilik and Cynthia Pialaq;

From Pond Inlet:
Sula Nutarak and Steven Innualuk;

From Clyde River:
Jordan Apak and another student not present here, Rose Sangoya;

From Qikiqtarjuaq:
Angela Kooneeliusie and Kathy Kooneeliusie;

From Pangnirtung:
Tina Mary Kooneeliusie and Gina Mike;

From Iqaluit:
Jennifer Kilabuk, Kelly Fraser, who is also not present currently;

From Kimmirut:
Dianne Ikkidluak and Willy Onalik;

From Cape Dorset:
Carmen Rosewell and Levina Toonoo;

From Sanikiluaq:
Lucy Mungi Cookie and Mina Mannuk.

Please welcome these students to the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister, Mr. Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are several visitors from Pangnirtung who I want to recognize. First, this couple I wish to recognize is Adam and Joanne Eovic and their children. Also, I wish to recognize my brother's daughter Gina Mike and her friend Tina Mary Kooneeliusie. I wanted them recognized and further, my sister Becky I include in this recognition. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome. Thank you. Member Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's not every day that I get to rise in the House and recognize people from my constituency. Today, I would like to recognize Lucy Mungi Novalinga and Mina Mannuk and welcome them to the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to recognize one of my constituents, Becky Qilavvaq. I welcome you all. Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I too am quite proud for this opportunity and am quite happy in asking for recognition and a welcome to the following people. My brother-in-law Adam Evic and his wife, Joanne Evic, and their son A.J. Evic and my dear little sister-in-law, Amber Evic are the people I want recognized and welcomed to the Gallery.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome. Member for Arviat South, Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize my wife, Susan Savikataaq, my wife of 32 years, my daughter Wendy Savikataaq, her daughter Annabella Savikataaq, and Anannaut Aningat from Arviat. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Please acknowledge and welcome the visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names on my list. Oral Questions. Item 6. Member for Arviat South, Mr. Savikataaq.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 083 – 4(1): Heavy Equipment Operator Training

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to question the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College today.

Mr. Speaker, last week, the minister indicated that Nunavut Arctic College offered a heavy equipment operator course in Rankin Inlet. I would appreciate some further clarification on how this training is delivered.

Can the minister clarify whether the heavy equipment operator course in Rankin Inlet is delivered with training and practise on actual machinery or is the training based on using the simulator that was purchased in 2013? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Education, Mr. Paul Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for his question. With respect to the question he raised just now, yes, there is that equipment in Rankin Inlet. Perhaps if I state the name in English, a (interpretation ends) simulator (interpretation) is a part of that course. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am confident that the minister will agree that despite the benefits and cost saving of using a simulator, nothing gives real hands-on experience like using the machinery itself. Can the minister indicate how many Nunavut trainees are currently being sent to Morrisburg, Ontario each year to receive hands-on heavy equipment training? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is a good question. We all know that past students were sent out to Morrisburg for courses on operating a variety of heavy equipment. There are many graduates from Nunavut who have taken that course in Morrisburg. The numbers change annually depending on the number of applicants. I can't exactly state how many people are taking that course there at this time, but what I do know is that many people have taken that course originating from our communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe that it could greatly benefit both our communities and our trainees to have their training based within Nunavut, using actual machinery and possibly even helping to develop local projects. Will the minister commit to considering the delivery of a heavy equipment operator training course in the community of Arviat with trainees getting some real hands-on experience in the field? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his question. The member has lived in the Kivalliq for quite some time. There is a heavy equipment operator program offered in Rankin Inlet at this time

As we all know, with the mining companies starting up new activities and we talk about the Manitoba-Kivalliq winter road, if this goes ahead, we can look at having a training course because there is going to a demand for heavy equipment operators for that major construction project.

Yes, this is something we can take into consideration, albeit everyone should be aware that a course already exists in Rankin Inlet for (interpretation ends) heavy equipment training. (interpretation) With the possibility of more development, we can definitely

include that in our deliberations, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Question 084 – 4(1): Food Price Surveys

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

In my Member's Statement, I noted that the department's bureau of statistics conducted a food price survey last year in 11 Nunavut communities.

Can the minister indicate if his department's bureau of statistics will be conducting another food price survey in Nunavut this year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to defer the question to the minister responsible for that, Ms. Ugyuk, responsible for Family Services. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for Gjoa Haven for asking about food prices. If I understood his question correctly, I believe that the food price survey is still being carried out this

month for all of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Member Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I noted in my Member's Statement, the food price survey that the government undertook last year determined that my community of Gjoa Haven had the highest food prices in Nunavut. Can the minister indicate if his department's government liaison officers are monitoring food prices on an ongoing basis? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for Gjoa Haven for his questions. Yes, what I can respond with is that the government struck a committee to undertake this food price survey, and the surveyors are working with social service workers in Nunavut in the communities. The GLOs are also included by providing additional support. That is all I can respond with at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I noted in my Member's Statement, last month's federal budget indicated that funding for the federal Nutrition North Canada Program will be "enhanced." This program subsidizes the cost of transporting nutritious, perishable foods to remote communities. Subsidy rates differ between communities.

Can the minister indicate if his department's bureau of statistics is working with the federal government to share information from our food price surveys? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the Member for Gjoa Haven for asking about food prices. Yes, we are well aware as Nunavummiut that the price of food is very high, among other household items. The Nunavut government firmly supports food subsidies and we are given assistance from the federal government for air cargo costs. We also know that the federal government's food subsidy program is not adequate for everyone. As a government, we are studying to determine how the people of Nunavut can be better supported and allow them to keep up with rising food prices. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 085 – 4(1): Need for an Elders Strategy

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

Mr. Speaker, a number of issues and concerns have been brought forward in this House with respect to support for our elders, be it health insurance coverage, financial supports, housing, and end-of-life care. As we know, health status is strongly linked to housing,

poverty, nutrition, and lifestyle among other factors.

Can the minister indicate what consideration is being given to developing a comprehensive Elders' Health Strategy for Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I cannot report at this time because I don't have much prepared on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Joanasie. I'm sorry. I didn't see you raise your hand, Ms. Angnakak. Your first supplementary, Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: I just want to say, then, seeing the answer and that you cannot answer me today, I would like to say that I will be asking these questions again tomorrow regarding the elders. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell. (interpretation) Member for South Baffin, Mr. Joanasie.

Question 086 – 4(1): Financial Support for Seniors

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

Mr. Speaker, as I described in my Member's Statement, there appears to be a gap in financial supports available to Nunavut seniors aged between 60 and 65.

Can the minister clarify what benefits are available to Nunavut's single, low-income seniors who are between the ages of 60 and 65? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the youthful member for asking the question, Mr. Joanasie. In regard to the financial support for seniors who are between the age of 60 and 65, anyone can go see Family Services if you require any form of support or help. You can go see a social worker or income support worker if you need income support. You will be able to get detailed information on how you can be supported.

If the senior can't be supported, then they can be given an explanation why they are not eligible for senior support. Senior support programs are provided by the federal government and not the Nunavut government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand that entities such as Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated provide a variety of financial assistance to Nunavut

beneficiary seniors over the age of 55. Can the minister clarify whether or not her department regularly reviews the different types of financial support that are available across Nunavut to our seniors to ensure that they can adequately receive funds to meet their needs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for his question with regard to this issue. If any person needs income support outside of senior pension assistance, they can apply to income support by filling out an application form. There is supplemental support for those who receive seniors' pension. The income support workers do have all the necessary forms available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I recognize that Nunavut's Income Assistance program has been reviewed in the past and the amounts of assistance has been increased on a few occasions since 1999. The Nunavut Senior Citizen Supplementary Benefit is currently set at \$175 per month. Will the minister commit to increasing this amount to keep pace with the rising costs in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like my colleague, Mr. Joanasie, for asking the question. Both the supplementary benefits are being reviewed at this time and also we are now reviewing the various supplementary programs for elders. The review is supposed to be done by 2015. Once we get the results from the review, we will be making a report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 087 – 4(1): NNI Policy

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, whose department is responsible for the government's NNI Secretariat.

Mr. Speaker, a little over two years ago, the government announced that it would be undertaking a “comprehensive review” of the NNI Policy in cooperation with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. At that time, the government announced that it would also be conducting a “comprehensive internal review of public procurement practices.”

On September 16 of last year, the report of the NNI Review Committee was formally tabled in the Legislative Assembly. This report contained recommendations on almost two dozen issues.

Can the minister update the House today on what the government's next steps are

with respect to the review of the NNI Policy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for asking that question. He is correct. There were many issues we had to review in the NNI Policy. This policy is administered by my department and continues with this responsibility. There are still some final issues to be completed. That is all I can respond with to my colleague's question. Thank you.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of the recommendations in the report of the NNI Review Committee was that the government's current system of bid adjustments for Inuit owned firms, Nunavut businesses, and local businesses should be restructured. Can the minister indicate what the government's position is on this recommendation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member again. As per my earlier response, the NNI Policy stems from requirements under the land claims, and this government isn't solely

responsible in this review. As my colleague is well aware, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated has been our partner in this review of the issues that need to be included in this policy.

There are many different matters that are included which cuts across most departments that also have to adhere to this policy. Working with so many different departments has slowed down the process and we aren't quite finished with that comprehensive review. Thank you.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. While I understand and realize that your department is not the only member of this review committee, there are a number of recommendations that were brought forward in the comprehensive review that was tabled last year.

One of the other recommendations in the report was that the current system of bonuses and penalties under the NNI Policy should be reviewed. Can the minister indicate what decisions the government has made in this area? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member again. I prefer to table an entire document wherever possible, as we are the responsible department. As per my earlier response, there are still some issues that haven't

been resolved in this comprehensive review. Thank you.

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

Question 088 – 4(1): Status of Old Airport Terminal Building in Sanikiluaq

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my questions to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

As the minister will be aware, the old airport terminal building in Sanikiluaq has been abandoned for over a decade. The municipality was using it as a cold storage facility until about five years ago. However, the municipality was informed last year that asbestos is present in the building. Consequently, the community wants to see the building disposed of.

Can the minister indicate what the timetable is for disposing of the old airport terminal building in Sanikiluaq? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There were quite a number of old airports that had to be removed and Sanikiluaq was one of the communities included.

Mr. Speaker, whenever any type of work is needed in an airport, we have to always keep public safety in mind.

Inspections are very important, especially in looking for hazardous materials in a building's foundation. Those have to be dealt with first. Thank you.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I noted in the preamble to my question, the community of Sanikiluaq has concerns about the presence of asbestos in the old airport terminal building. The GN has known about this for at least a year now. Can the minister indicate whether his department will undertake an inspection of the old airport terminal building to determine the extent of the problem? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. As I said earlier, the foundations of the old airports will have to be removed in the identified communities, and my colleague's community is included in that work. Hazardous material removal is very regulation-intensive. Even the old foundations have to be cleaned up if there are hazardous materials in the buildings, so remediation includes the lands as well. Thank you.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the minister commit to providing a formal written update to the

Municipality of Sanikiluaq on the status of this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I again thank the member for his question. This is part of the mandate of my department, and once I have researched the issue and, if a written report can be completed, then I will ask that an update be given to your community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Shooyook.

Question 089 – 4(1): IQ Principles and Values

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Culture and Heritage.

With respect to Inuit culture, are we receiving the proper support as it relates to traditional social protocols in Inuit society for the people of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Culture and Heritage, Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is an excellent question. The issue is quite complicated and involves a depth of cultural knowledge, especially in how the question was asked. I believe this is more of an overall government

operational issue. However, the Department of Culture and Heritage has developed plans on how to incorporate more of our Inuit societal values throughout the Government of Nunavut.

I also tabled a report that was put together last year on what the departments and agencies have undertaken in the implementation of the values. I know that this list isn't complete, but it was a start to see where we are on Inuit societal values and what direction we need to pursue. We will continue to be open for further direction. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I really wish to be enlightened with absolute certainty by the minister if he has fully supported the wishes of Inuit in Nunavut on their social practices. It has become very urgent in light of the fact that we are unable to change many social practices in place today.

The social practices we had back when our way of life was still untouched, even if we applied a part of them today, it would have a tremendous positive impact because that knowledge still lives today. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Culture and Heritage, Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we are well aware that it could be very beneficial if it was further implemented.

In our own department, we are all working toward a representative workforce in our government. We also have a committee that advises us on what we, as a government and as a department, should be doing in implementing Inuit societal values. The committee advises us on a regular basis on what more we should be doing in each individual department. We keep pushing towards that direction, but we are keenly aware we're not moving fast enough as there are a lot of things we are required to carry out in our departments. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On the basis of Inuit social practices, I will not be opposing what direction is taken. However, this system has to be repaired.

We know that Inuit social practices worked before changes brought into the modern era took effect. Our life was not perfect by any means, but we had mechanisms to bring about resolution of conflicts among the families. It also allowed us to have a leadership structure with the father as head, mediator, and counsellor.

Today, when so many different social practices are a part of our life, it creates a daunting atmosphere of mutual mistrust when one set of social practices are irreconcilable with the other. It is only when the Inuit and non-Inuit social practices can come to a working co-existence and harmonized can we finally start to bring about lasting healing. That is why I will continue to press hard on

this issue during my time here in this House until that relationship has been established. To that end, I will persist in raising questions because the traditional ways are increasingly necessary to bring about social peace. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Culture and Heritage, Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased that the member will keep on pressuring our government. Yes, we need to better represent everyone and we need to keep trying new things until we find those that work. Some of what worked in the past have been lost or misplaced to some degree.

In the past, I have tabled what things we are trying to do in this House and using this issue as a starting point with the participation of all departments. Those goals have been established for each individual department, so I am eager to work closely towards this goal.

The member is far more wise and knowledgeable than I am on traditional Inuit knowledge, so I urge him to never stop giving us direction. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 090 – 4(1): The Need for Early Childhood Education

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Today, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education.

Mr. Speaker, in my Member's Statement earlier today, I spoke of the great need for (interpretation ends) early childhood education programming in the community of Baker Lake.

Can the minister explain how his department assesses the need for early childhood programming across Nunavut's communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Welcome to the Gallery, former MLA for Hudson Bay, Mr. Kattuk.

>>*Applause*

The Hon. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) The department offers support for early childhood programs and services through various programs like licensed child care facility programs, healthy children initiatives, and we do provide funding for the district education authorities' childhood education programs in every community. We do support programs such as Young Parents Stay Learning and early childhood education training.

As of now, we have 32 daycares in Nunavut and I can break that down by the regions. For example, we have 10 approved early childhood education programs in the Kitikmeot, we have 2 in the Kivalliq and then we have 11 in Qikiqtani. In total, again, that's 23 early

childhood programs that the department provides.

As I was saying earlier, it is the local district education authorities that do make applications to the department to provide early childhood programs.
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.
(interpretation ends) I would like to thank the hon. minister for his answer. As I indicated in my Member's Statement, the Aupilarturvik coordinators have put in a request for support to reinstate their early childhood education program in Baker Lake.

Can the minister describe how his department reviews applications under the Healthy Children Initiative and how long it takes before a decision is made to provide funding? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to your question, as per my earlier response, the local district education authorities are the bodies that have to apply for these programs, although I haven't personally seen any requests from Baker Lake. The funds are set annually for the entire year and part of that comes from local school plans.

I can also state now that all new schools constructed will include a daycare centre as well as (interpretation ends) early childhood education. (interpretation) Due to these reasons, that initiative continues, but I am quite happy to make a statement about the fact that all new schools will include these daycare facilities specific to our high schools.

To date, we do set aside monies that will be budgeted for district education authorities and we set aside \$1.6 million for this purpose. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.
(interpretation ends) I would like to thank the hon. minister for his response once again. There is a desperate need for early childhood education programs in Baker Lake. Will the minister commit to having his departmental officials review the Aupilarturvik proposal as soon possible and get this project up and running? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We receive proposals from most communities in all regions and they are carefully scrutinized. Also, I can inform my colleague representing Baker Lake that their proposal will be reviewed carefully when the proposal is submitted to our department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 091 – 4(1): Public Agencies Council

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Finance, who is the Chairperson of the government's Public Agencies Council.

The mandate of the Public Agencies Council is to support the cabinet and the Financial Management Board “regarding matters of governance for public agencies,” which includes all of our government’s territorial Crown corporations.

Can the minister describe what specific priorities the Public Agencies Council is currently working on under his leadership? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Public Agencies Council hasn’t met this year yet, but one of my priorities is to look at giving the Public Agencies Council more teeth. Currently, we just make recommendations to ministers. I would like it to have a bit more teeth so that when we do actually advise the minister, he knows they have the full support of the Public Agencies Council and cabinet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: On September 17 of last year, the Minister of Finance tabled the 2013-14 annual letters of expectation that were sent to the relevant chairpersons of the government’s major territorial corporations and Crown agencies. These letters of expectation outlined a number of goals and priorities for each public agency.

One of the specific priorities contained in the letter of expectation to the Qulliq Energy Corporation was for the QEC to, and I quote, “continue to seek alternatives to diesel fuel for electricity generation, concentrating on renewable energy sources in Nunavut, such as hydro, wind and solar power.” Can the minister confirm that the Public Agencies Council will ensure that this priority is included in the upcoming 2014-15 Letter of Expectation to the Qulliq Energy Corporation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will assure the member that when we do meet with the minister responsible for public agencies, we will discuss their business plans for upcoming years and the status of some of the initiatives underway. If the minister responsible gives us some information that is a priority, I will ensure that that is in the letter of expectation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Each of Nunavut's territorial corporations and Crown agencies has its own minister, as well as a board of directors or board of governors. One of the responsibilities of these boards is to provide oversight and strategic direction to the corporation or agency.

In circumstances where the priorities of a given board are different from those of the Public Agencies Council, can the minister clarify the process for resolving the differences? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I had indicated earlier, the public agency only makes recommendations to the minister. The minister is overall responsible for the public agency. I believe it would be in the best interest of the minister and the public agency itself to resolve the issue. If the minister needs additional assistance or advice, then they can come to the Public Agencies Council for that assistance. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 092 – 4(1): Supporting our Nunavut Nursing Graduates

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

Mr. Speaker, as the minister is aware, the Nunavut Nursing Program has been

delivered at Arctic College for a number of years now with the intent to have our own Nunavummiut helping to provide health care in Nunavut.

Can the minister clarify whether the intent of Nunavut's Nursing Program is to have certified nurses who are able to work in health centres across Nunavut's communities and, if so, what extra support is provided to these newly qualified nurses to mentor them as they begin their careers? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for raising that issue through his questions. The students who take the Nursing Program at Nunavut Arctic College are prime examples of how we want to see a measure of success, to see them take local positions in their health centres. It is obvious that improvements are required in these types of programs since we need to support our nurses in Nunavut, especially if we want nurses to work in health centres in the smaller communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I fully recognize that the lack of full-time nursing staff is not only an issue across Nunavut but is an issue across Canada. The minister has indicated before that we rely significantly on agency and casual nurses to staff positions at our community health centres.

With the lack of long-term indeterminate staff at our health centres, newly certified Nunavut nurses are often faced with a series of mentors of differing levels of competency and commitment. Can the minister elaborate on what consideration her department has given to providing newly graduated Nunavut nurses adequate support and mentorship as they begin their careers in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think we are having a bit of a translation issue. In my previous comment, I mentioned that we do need to work to improve the support to our nurses in the field.

Currently, as of February 2014, we have about a 67 percent vacancy rate for nurses. We are trying to improve to get rid of that vacancy rate. We are working with our recruiters, other nurses, and the Nunavut Employees Union to reduce the vacancy rate, including implementing job share agreements and improving training and orientation programs.

There's a shortage of nurses. We're not only competing with nurses in jurisdictions in Canada; we're also competing with the United States and elsewhere. So we're trying to work to make recruiting better. As you know, in August 2008, we developed a Nunavut Nursing Recruitment and Retention Strategy and that's still in place. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister for that response. It sounds like she fully understands the need of support and study mentorship to be in place to assist our newly graduated nurses in Nunavut to help them find their feet and enable them in handling the unique set of challenges that face the health care profession in the north. It is with our investment in this program that these individuals will be successful in their careers.

I encourage the minister to commit to continue to look into the issue of developing additional support programs so that these newly certified nurses coming out of Nunavut's Nursing Program have what they need to succeed in both a community health centre or a regional hospital. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although I didn't really hear a question in there, I will comment. The Department of Health is committed to supporting its frontline workers, who are essential to a strong health system. We will continue to grow our Nunavut nurses and provide Inuit with an opportunity to succeed in the nursing profession. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 093 – 4(1): Baker Lake
Elders’ Group**

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister responsible for Culture and Heritage.

There is no question that Baker Lake has one of the highest numbers of elderly citizens in all of Nunavut. In past years, the Baker Lake elders were involved in meetings about language and culture, but they aren’t as involved in this process anymore and this concern was brought to my attention.

I was told to ask the minister whether he has any plans for including our Baker Lake elders in future endeavours. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Culture and Heritage, Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is a very pertinent question because I met with those precious elders when I happened to visit Baker Lake last fall. They wanted assistance on administrative matters and be involved more intensively and to get registered as a society.

What I can state now, by using my other portfolio authority, perhaps wrongly, I really urged the lawyers to make this happen, and now I can state that the Qilautimiut society received formal registration on March 4. I am very happy for the elders’ success in this registration as they will soon receive official registration via correspondence. They will now be able to meet as a recognized body.

Wherever I can assist, I will be open to providing that assistance, especially in how our government can provide more support and to see how elders and our offices can be of mutual benefit to one another. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for his response. I now have another question since you stated that meetings will be held with the elders. In the past years, they weren’t too involved. Listening to the minister’s earlier response that there will be future meetings with the Qilautimiut elders’ committee in Baker Lake, my question is: when would the meetings commence in Baker Lake? That is my question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Culture and Heritage, Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the upcoming years of this legislature, the Language Act will be reviewed further. Based on my experience, we will be looking at consulting with most groups, especially in making improvements to the legislation.

Also, our elders, based on past meetings, have the strongest language skills and it is only through utilizing their immense linguistic skills will we be able to make improvements to the legislation in our future. I will ensure our elders will be consulted and will be part of this process, and here I mean elders

throughout Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for his response. In the community of Baker Lake, we have many local Inuit who are quite ardent and passionate about the language. Based on my knowledge of our community, there are 12 different clans with different dialects and cultural practices. With that being the case, can the minister consider including local elders from our local elders' committee on the IQ committee for Nunavut? Can he consider that idea? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Culture and Heritage, Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, most departments and decentralized offices have elder advisory committees. The current elders appointed to the committee are still appointed, but I can't recall the length of these appointment terms. However, it is obvious that vacancies will occur and we want to be open to every elder interested in partaking in these committees.

I am also quite glad that Baker Lake will now have a legally registered elders' group and I know for a fact that that will be a mutual benefit to us both in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Shooyook.

Question 094 – 4(1): Constituents Request for Funding

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a short question I wish to direct to the Minister of Health.

There is an individual in Resolute Bay who was seeking assistance for a child. That child has had a disability since birth and requires care at all times. I would like clarification about this person's request for assistance from the department, as they requested my assistance as their representative.

Does the department have any funds specifically for providing financial assistance as in this case? They submitted a proposal for assistance, so I want to know if there are no funds earmarked for this type of assistance. This question to the minister is just a request for information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We did receive the request, but it just came in recently. We have to review the request and prepare our response, so I can't answer the member's question at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member Savikataaq.

Question 095 – 4(1): Need for Expansion at the Andy Aulatjut Elders' Centre

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just in the nick of time, eh?

>>*Laughter*

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my questions to the Minister of Family Services.

Mr. Speaker, as the minister will be aware, the Andy Aulatjut Centre in Arviat provides basic level of residential care to the elders in the community. With the steady increase in the number of people who need care, the facility desperately needs to be expanded.

Can the minister clarify how her department keeps track of growing needs for residential care services in communities such as Arviat? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member from Arviat for asking that question. Yes, social services are involved when elders have nowhere to stay and the numbers are increasing. This is now being reviewed at this time.

In the Department of Family Services, we have officials who are looking at this situation, especially where elders are moved out of their communities into a different community, and to ensure that they receive the proper service provision

in the place they are staying at. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Andy Aulatjut Elders' Centre is operated by an independent contractor, which employs trained personnel from the community. However, it's not the contractor's responsibility to undertake renovations or an expansion of the building. Can the minister indicate what steps should be taken to receive government support for renovating and expanding the Andy Aulatjut Centre? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member from Arviat for asking about the elders' centre in their community. If the member sent correspondence to our department requesting information on this issue, then that would be my preference. The CG&S officials would be involved, especially if there is any maintenance or renovation work required at the centre.

Our department does not do the actual work, so I can't state that our department will resolve this issue, as we can only resolve the issue with the collaboration of the CG&S department. That is the way government operations work with respect to our territorial facilities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The time for question period has expired. Item 7. (interpretation ends) Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Hon. Minister, Mr. Quassa.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 024 – 4(1): 2007-2012 Early Childhood Development (ECD) Report

Hon. Paul Quassa: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the 2007-2012 Early Childhood Development Report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. Mr. Quassa.

Tabled Document 025 – 4(1): Student Loan Fund 2011-2012

Tabled Document 026 – 4(1): Student Loan Fund 2012-2013

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to table Student Loan Fund Report for the years 2011-12 and 2012-13. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Shooyook.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Motion 011 – 4(1): Recognition of Inuit Societal Values and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit – Notice

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, March 19, 2014, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for South Baffin, that this House express its strong support for the integration of Inuit societal values and *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* into the laws, policies, and activities of the Government of Nunavut.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

Bill 03 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2013-2014 – First Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Netsilik, that the following bill, Bill 3, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2013-2014*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried.

First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

Bill 04 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2013-2014 – First Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Netsilik, that the following bill, Bill 4, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2013-2014*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried.

Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

Bill 05 – Interim Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, April 1, 2014 to July 31, 2014 – First Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Netsilik, that Bill 5, *Interim Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, April 1, 2014 to July 31, 2014*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills.
Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills**Bill 03 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2013-2014 – Second Reading**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon.

Member for Netsilik, that Bill 3, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2013-2014*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes supplementary appropriations to defray the operations and maintenance expenses of the Government of Nunavut for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The motion is in order. To the principle of Bill 3. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion has passed and Bill 3 is referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

Bill 04 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2013-2014 – Second Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Netsilik, that Bill 4, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2013-2014*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes supplementary appropriations to defray the capital expenditures of the Government of Nunavut for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The motion is in order. To the principle of Bill 4. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion has been passed and Bill 4 is referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

**Bill 05 – Interim Appropriation
(Operations & Maintenance) Act,
April 1, 2014 to July 31, 2014 –
Second Reading**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Netsilik, that Bill 5, *Interim Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, April 1, 2014 to July 31, 2014*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill authorizes the Government of Nunavut to make interim operations and maintenance expenditures for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2015. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The motion is in order. To the principle of Bill 5. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion has passed and Bill 5 is referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Item 19. Committee of the Whole Bills and Other Matters. (interpretation) Bills 2, 3, 4, (interpretation ends) and 5 with Mr. Mikkungwak in the Chair.

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

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:23 and Committee resumed at 15:49*

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

Chairman (Mr. Mikkungwak) (interpretation): I would now like to call the committee meeting to order.

(interpretation ends) In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bill 2, Bill 3, Bill 4, and Bill 5. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to continue the review of the capital main estimates for the Department of Health, followed by Nunavut Arctic College and the Department of Environment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Does the committee agree that we deal with the capital estimates of the Department of Health?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 02 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2014-2015 – Health – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell, do you have witnesses that you would like to bring to the table?

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Yes.

Chairman: Does the committee agree to having the witnesses?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

(interpretation ends) Minister Ell, for the record, please introduce your staff.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to introduce to my right Rosemary Keenainak, Acting

Deputy Minister, and to my left, Bill Neish, Acting Executive Director for Corporate Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. My colleagues, (interpretation ends) please turn to page H-3. Corporate Services for the Department of Health. Health. Branch Summary. Directorate. H-3. Total Capital Expenditures. \$12,423,000. The floor is now open for questions. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe I left off questioning on Friday, so I just thought I would finish off.

I would like to ask the minister if there are any plans on the horizon to build a continuing care facility in Nunavut, in which communities, if so. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our plans right now for the current future are to start including some beds that would do some continuing care right in the health centres. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer. I just want to further clarify whether or not that would involve more staff. How would that all work? The way I understand it now, nurses have a really hard time dealing with what they have to

deal with now, providing 24-hour care to residents of the communities. I'm just wondering what kind of impact that would have on the nurses. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, *Itsivautaaq.* (interpretation) We're now in preparations. If you don't mind, through you, Mr. Chairman, I would like to have Ms. Keenainak respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Keenainak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are looking at doing an assessment of long-term elder needs in Nunavut and that would be one of the ones that we need to take a look at. Right now, Health only manages the two facilities in Gjoa Haven and Igloolik. We are looking at altering some designs to look at expanding for long-term care facilities, but right now, we don't have anything in our current capital plan at this moment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What criteria does your department use to determine whether or not a community requires a new health centre? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) Indeed, if we are going to speak to some of these facilities, the first step is to conduct inspections on the building, determine the date of construction, and any deficiencies or building design flaws are reviewed. This includes the population growth of the community, which determines need and is part of the criteria. Perhaps I can ask that my deputy minister provide more details on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Keenainak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the minister's response was accurate and true. Also, regarding maintenance and how maintenance is undertaken was part of that review. The other matter we have to consider is the building (interpretation ends) codes. (interpretation) This is a major concern when changes have to be made to abide by these building codes, especially when we look at new health centres.

These form part of the deliberations when the department considers new health centres, however, CG&S is the department we have to work with to assess each facility, and this includes our priority listing of which facility would be the first to be built. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: After you identify a need in a community for a new health centre, for example, Arctic Bay, how long does it take from the time that you

did the assessment to the time that a building actually has a plan and that it's implemented and that you have a new health centre? What's the timeframe there? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. From the consideration stage, it takes approximately five to seven years to complete a project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you for that answer. What plans does the Department of Health have to provide a standalone addiction facility in Nunavut, Nunavut's own addiction facility where we can treat addictions? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Currently, we have the Cambridge Bay facility that is in operation right now as a pilot project. Moving forward, we're hoping to go ahead with the Rankin Inlet mental health facility and it would be called a mental health transition house. It was an old children's group home and we're working to renovate that to become a mental health facility. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just for clarification, so there's a standalone facility for addictions treatment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Those facilities are for mental health and addictions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I didn't expect my name to be called so promptly. I just have a couple of questions for the minister today.

During the recent campaign, I had the pleasure of going to a number of doors in the constituency that I ran and successfully won. Some of the doors that I went to were transient housing for the Department of Health. I actually had some concerns brought to me by the people who were staying in there. They felt that they were over-housed. Some of these transient workers who come up are single individuals and they're being placed in two-bedroom units.

I'm just wondering if the department has taken it into consideration. I totally empathize and realize that any access to housing is a challenge, especially for staff housing, but I'm just wondering, with the housing shortage that we have in Iqaluit and all over Nunavut, if it could be looked at to properly house

transient workers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Although transient units are not in the capital plan, the transient centre is just for temporary use. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do agree with the minister and appreciate the comment. I guess it was along the lines with staff housing to make sure that all staff are being able to be housed in appropriate accommodations. I'll leave it at that. I'll go on to my next question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Recently, I've had some discussions with your department on the status of Building 1079 here in Iqaluit and the impending lapse of lease. From what I understand, it has been assured that the lease will not be renewed. Can the minister update me on the status of how the services that are being provided in that building will be transitioning to a new facility or facilities across the city? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I feel like I'm in oral question period. This is not a capital plan, but if you would like, my deputy minister can

answer that question, as I left my briefing binder over there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Keenainak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do have issues with Building 1079. We have been working with CGS and alternate office space has been allocated. We are working towards moving our staff from that facility. The lease is expiring and we are working with CGS on the lease. It's supposed to expire at the end of March, but we are working with CGS and we have acquired alternate space for the staff there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you very much for that response, Ms. Keenainak. I guess the reason I was asking that is I haven't seen anything on the capital plan for additional office space or facilities to do with the hearing section, the speech therapy, but I understand that physiotherapy has already been moved out of there, the Home Care Division of Health. So I guess that's where I was getting at. I don't see anything in the long-term capital plan for a facility. Is it safe to assume that you will be utilizing leased space? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) As this is more of an administration issue, I would

like my deputy minister to respond. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Keenainak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the 1079, a lot of the offices in Iqaluit, and that can be verified with CGS, are leased, so it is on the O&M side. The cost of the lease for 1079 is going to be carried over to the other new building, so it is, hopefully, cost neutral. That's what we're working on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The Mental Health Transition House project in Rankin Inlet proposed to re-profile a children's group home. Many children with mental or behavioural difficulties are sent to facilities outside of Nunavut. Why was the decision made to reduce services for children within Nunavut and focus on providing mental health services instead? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (Mr. Akoak): Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That question should be directed to the Minister of Family Services, it is under her department. That question should be directed to her instead, with regard to the children's group home. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok: Going to a different topic. If the community health centre vehicles are not used to transport medical clients, for example to the airport or the health centre, how does the department establish transportation contracts with the local businesses to provide that service? (interpretation)
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Going to the health centres in the communities, there is no funding available for that purpose. That is not the intention for the health centre vehicles. People are supposed to go to the health centres on their own.
Although some communities setup with the hamlets' bylaw officers to do something like that, from what we hear. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Baker Lake's health centre has been around 25 years and our population is 2,400 plus and an additional 400 to 600 people that are working at the Agnico-Eagle mine site at Meadowbank. Presently, at the local health centre we have two full-time nurses and the rest are casuals. As we are slotted to have six full-time nurses, at present, our health centre has a public health, mental health, three proper clinic rooms, telehealth, labour clinic, emergency clinic. Age of facility, overcrowded programs and forced growth from population and mine.... When will Baker Lake be considered for a new health centre? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is a good question originating from MLA for Baker Lake about their local health centre, which was built back in 1985. At this time, that is still under consideration as we are trying to agree on the priority listing.

Also, Sanikiluaq and Cape Dorset are the first priority communities so when their centres are completed, then the next three communities on that list are discussed in that process and Baker Lake is included in that group along with Kugluktuk and Qikiqtarjuaq.

A decision will have to be made as to which of these communities would advance up the priority list in the immediate future, after the other centres identified as priorities have been completed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the minister for the response. What factors are taken into consideration for building a new health centre? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That question was already asked by one of the members, but I'll respond to it again. There are several factors that determine the assessment process, including population growth, the age of the health centre, and age isn't the only criterion as we also

have to look at the way the facility was used.

It includes the building design, as well as the other issues Ms. Keenainak spoke to in her response. An example was whether our facilities are in step with the newest building codes and we have to review these (interpretation ends) building codes. (interpretation) And this includes the other factors we must consider in these types of assessments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for her response. Baker Lake really needs a new health centre. (interpretation ends) Will the minister commit to putting it on the capital plan? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This issue was discussed in the past for the situation that exists in Baker Lake; however, there are several communities ahead in the priority list. As I stated earlier, several health centres are in poorer condition with numerous deficiencies based on the usage of the facility.

So facilities that are in poorer condition must be higher on the priority list, and as I stated earlier, after the completion of the facilities ahead on the priority list, Baker Lake and the other two communities will be next in line. The decision will have to be made as to which of these facilities would be the next priority, as we still have quite a

number of facilities on that list to ponder. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for the response. Is Baker Lake in the long-term plan for a health centre replacement? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for the response. Switching onto small capital, does the department have an overall plan to upgrade all the office equipment and medical equipment at the health centres across Nunavut instead of piece-by-piece band-aid solutions? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. These funds are allocated to the department with different categories and amounts. When looking at priorities, we have to ensure that the most urgent cases are reviewed firstly.

Additionally, part of process includes local health centres providing a list of their requirements to our department, and they first have to identify them to our department whenever any type of equipment if required and we

occasionally have emergency situations where the equipment earmarked for one health centre is set aside to re-equip the health centre in that emergency situation.. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you to the minister for the response. Earlier, the minister indicated about a common design. What I would like to know is: when did that come into force? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The common design was developed in 2008 to deal with the Repulse Bay Community Health Centre and two other health centres that we're currently starting to develop. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to once again thank the minister for the response. My question in addition to that is: with the common design being put into force in 2008, how is this beneficial to all communities across Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) Actually, at this moment, the health centres would fall under a common design with roughly the same design. Perhaps, as we

stated earlier, in our future the need for extra beds are needed for the 24-hour intensive care patients so that room is available for this type of care.

It is slowly changing in this manner, however, the ultimate beneficiaries will be the nurses who are either replacing a nurse, or are temporarily replacements from an outlying community so that they are familiar with the health centre as the designs would be similar from where they came from and this forms part of our decision making in this area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome to Minister Ell's officials.

I want to now ask this question about the Cape Dorset facility, as the community needs a new health centre and it is identified as one of the communities on the list. Prior to CG&S undertaking the design plan, they will require an assessment of the existing facility to determine if Cape Dorset needs a new health centre.

It is noted within the documentation provided to the membership that this health centre was built in 1983, and I was actually born in 1983 so we are the same age. I just wanted to ask this question about the common design plans. This facility will be built based on that plan and I assume it would include staff housing or rooms. If there are going to be staff rooms, how many staff would be accommodated in the health centre based on that common design? Thank you.

Chairman (Mr. Mikkungwak) (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The facility for Cape Dorset that is being planned would house five nurses and it would also staff visiting specialists and have adequate work space to deliver the existing and new programs that have been introduced over the year. This is one of two facilities that we are proposing to put three or four beds for clients requiring long-term care. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank Ms. Ell for her response. Our community is extremely grateful for the future plans to replace the health centre in Cape Dorset, to hear that news is good. Based on your explanation, would you require more staff for (interpretation ends) specialized or new additional programs (interpretation) if that were to be the case? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): The specialists would just come in and then leave. They wouldn't live there permanently. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, based on the documentation

provided to us, it outlines that this common design will proceed in 2015-16 fiscal year. It also explains the health centre construction will begin in fiscal year 2016-17 and it is scheduled for completion in fiscal year 2018-19. Is the timeline identified here still on schedule? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The pre-planning for the Cape Dorset Community Health Centre is scheduled to start in 2014-15, the capital plan for construction, we're hoping, is for 2016-17, and the anticipated completion date would be March 2018. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank Ms. Ell. Again, what about the current health centre? Once the new health centre is built, what are you going to be using the old building for? I hope you understood my question. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): At this time, we are currently having discussions with CGS and other departments, as well as the hamlet councils. It's still in the planning stages. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you. On a different matter, I now have a question about this matter that was spoken to briefly. It is regarding transportation vehicles for the health centres. I would like clarification on transportation issues, as vehicles are required in the communities to transport patients.

To use Cape Dorset as an example, the elders have their own van used solely for the elders and this includes local transportation of elders to medical appointments. Has your department ever considered whether or not an MOU could be struck to resolve the use of local vehicles during emergencies? Thank you, that is provided my question is clear.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I said previously, Health does not provide transportation just for patients to go to the hospital, but there are emergency cases where ambulance could be provided. With your permission, Chairman, I would like Ms. Keenainak to further that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Keenainak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When an individual has to go to the health centre for an appointment, transportation is not provided either by any of the health care programs that we currently have either within the GN or even under non-insured health benefits insurance. If there's an emergency or

ambulance, let's say, in Iqaluit, that component is covered.

At this point, discussion will need to occur with the Department of Health as well as CGS because they deal with hamlets. We are aware that in some communities, by-law vehicles have been used to transport particular elders. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Are there any further questions to Health? Branch Summary. Directorate. Total Capital Expenditures. \$12,423,000.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. We will now go back to page H-2. Department Summary. Health. Detail of Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$12,423,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Are you agreed that Department of Health is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Thank you very much to the Hon. Minister of Health and the officials. I would now like to ask the Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell, for closing comments. Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the members and my colleague for approving the Department of Health capital estimates and also my officials. With regards to your questions and the recommendations that were made, I will make sure that my department will look

into them and see what we can integrate.
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Sergeant-at-arms, if you could escort the witnesses out please? Thank you. (interpretation ends) We will take a short break, come back when the bell rings. Thank you.

>>Committee recessed at 16:27 and resumed at 16:42

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Good afternoon. We will proceed with other items. (interpretation ends) I would now like to ask Minister Quassa, responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, to proceed with his opening comments. Mr. Quassa.

Bill 02 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2014-2015 – Nunavut Arctic College – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to be here today to present and discuss the proposed 2014-15 capital plan for Nunavut Arctic College.

As the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, I am looking forward to the opportunity to advance the mandate of the Government of Nunavut, especially as it applies to Nunavut Arctic College.

Nunavut Arctic College has taken on the responsibility of their capital planning-linking facility development and delivery strategy. They continue to develop their internal capital planning capacity to build a firm infrastructure for Nunavummiut.

As the only post-secondary institution in the territory, Nunavut Arctic College plays a central role in providing Nunavummiut with adult learning programs and services. Our core business is training for employment. Building self-reliance through training and employment is our goal.

This year's submission requests \$9,748,000 in capital funding and \$500,000 from the project initiation envelope. The focus is to build infrastructure which allows program delivery in all communities.

(interpretation ends) You will see on the plan that construction continues on the Kitikmeot Residence and Daycare Centre in Cambridge Bay at \$5,172,000. Student accommodation and services is a foundational piece for program delivery at the [campus] level. Arctic College can only train as many students as we can house when taking campus-based programs. This supports the continued planning and development of the Mine Training Centre/Kitikmeot Campus in Cambridge Bay and will allow the enhancement of health and education programs in the region. This project also provides us with great opportunities to build relationships with the Canadian High Arctic Research Station, which is scheduled to be completed by 2017.

The future design and construction of the Kitikmeot Campus and Mine Training Centre will ensure each region has a campus facility and the ability to deliver innovative and diversified programs. Design money for this facility is requested for 2015 in order to be completed by 2019.

(interpretation) Nunavut Arctic College's roots are the services provided to our students in the communities. The core of our program delivery is in the community learning centres.

There are three new CLCs in the planning stage: Iqaluit, Grise Fiord, and Whale Cove. Completion of these three facilities will provide a physical space for CLCs in all Nunavut communities and strengthens the number of new initiatives which can be offered at the community level. Increased delivery at the community level is a strategic direction of the college. These community learning centres have been in the capital planning process for several years and are moving forward.

The Grise Fiord CLC is a renovation to the existing hamlet building in the community at \$326,000. The start date of the project is dependent upon the completion of the new hamlet facility, allowing us to renovate the existing building as a CLC. The new hamlet office is scheduled to be completed April 2014.

Whale Cove planning continues and a site has been selected. Design of the facility was initiated and will be completed by 2014-15. Construction of the new facility is scheduled to be initiated in 2015-16 at \$2,750,000.

Our plans to develop a CLC in Iqaluit are in progress. Site selection was completed in 2013 and design of the facility initiated with completion of the design in 2014-15. The site work and materials will be ordered in 2014-15 at \$2 million. The project is intended to be completed by 2015-16.

(interpretation ends) Small capital of \$250,000 is also being requested in order to ensure that we are able to meet growing demands for the replacement of equipment and vehicles. This allows Arctic College the flexibility to address aging equipment for effective program delivery in the college but also Piqqusilirivvik and the Nunavut Research Institute.

The aging infrastructure requires significant attention which is currently not being addressed by the minor capital budget. Nunavut Arctic College is requesting an additional \$1 million per year for ongoing lifecycle maintenance. This additional funding will provide the college with some of the resources necessary to tackle the larger projects that have not been addressed with our current minor capital budget.

In the pre-planning process is a project we feel worthy of mention. The equipment training centre provides the delivery of equipment operation and maintenance programs as planned in the Nunavut Trades Training Strategy of 2006. The occupations of heavy equipment operator and heavy duty technician remain in high demand in Nunavut communities, airport facilities, and private industry, especially the mining industry. Interim program delivery is planned using the old trades training facility in Rankin Inlet and in partnership with institutions in southern Canada. The equipment training centre builds continued capacity in Nunavut to deliver these important programs in our own territory. We will be able to meet the needs of industry in heavy duty and automotive mechanics and heavy equipment operators needed by industry.

Initial planning dollars of \$500,000 is indicated in the capital plan.

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to be here today to discuss Nunavut Arctic College's capital plan for 2014-15 and the subsequent four years. This is a critical government investment in training Nunavummiut for employment. I look forward to your questions, comments, and discussion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

(interpretation ends) Do you wish to have staff at the witness table?

Hon. Paul Quassa: Mr. Chairman, yes, I would.

Chairman: Does the committee agree to let the minister's officials go to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms.

For the record, minister, please introduce your officials.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank my officials. On my right is Michael Shouldice, who is the President of Nunavut Arctic College, who is located in Rankin Inlet. On my left is Eric Corneau, who is Dean at Nunavut Arctic College. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Are there opening

comments from the Regular Members' Caucus? Please proceed, Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Regular Members' Caucus as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the proposed 2014-15 Capital Estimates for Nunavut Arctic College.

Nunavut Arctic College's proposed capital budget for 2014-15 is \$9.7 million which will be allocated to four community-specific projects as well as towards two minor capital projects which will include upgrades and renovations to current facilities.

Funding is also included within the 2014-15 capital estimates for the Department of Community and Government Services for two projects under the 'Initiation Envelope.'

Mr. Chairman, members support Nunavut Arctic College's role in providing educational opportunities to adults across Nunavut. It is important that the college has the basic infrastructure from which to deliver the relevant programs.

Mr. Chairman, members have noted that Nunavut Arctic College's biggest proposed project for 2014-15 is \$5,172,000 for ongoing work on the Kitikmeot Residence and Daycare Centre in Cambridge Bay to support services at the regional campus.

Three community learning centre projects are planned for the communities of Grise Fiord, Whale Cove and Iqaluit.

Mr. Chairman, members have noted that while community learning centres support Nunavut residents in working towards their educational advancement and employability while in their home communities, it is also important that sufficient daycare spaces are available in those communities to enable parents to take advantage of learning opportunities.

Members encourage college officials to make efforts to ensure that the need for daycare is taken into consideration when allocating space in all college infrastructure, both at the community level and at the regional campus level.

Mr. Chairman, the regular members would appreciate receiving regular updates on partnerships that are being considered in conjunction with mining companies and other entities to invest in Nunavut-based infrastructure which can lead to employment and careers within the mining industry and other sectors.

Mr. Chairman, members have noted that plans are under consideration through the initiation envelope of the Department of Community and Government Services to work towards delivering more trades training, such as heavy equipment operating courses, within Nunavut. Given the high capital costs for basic heavy equipment, members encourage Nunavut Arctic College officials to work with hamlets and other organizations to access previously used equipment for this purpose.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2014-15 Capital Estimates of Nunavut Arctic College. I am confident that my colleagues will wish to offer further

comments of their own. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Joanasie. Do my colleagues have any questions on the opening comments? Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Minister, you mentioned in your opening comments that you are going to have three new community learning centres. When will these facilities be open and how many students will these centres hold? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): If the regular members don't have any general comments, (interpretation ends) do you have any questions on the minister's opening comments? Ms. Angnakak.

>>*Laughter*

Ms. Angnakak: We will try again.

You mentioned in your opening comments that there are three new community learning centres. When will these facilities be open and how many students will these centres hold? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Nunavut Arctic College, Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague for asking a good question. In regard to the three community learning centres that she mentioned, Gjoa Haven, Iqaluit, and Whale Cove are the only three communities in

Nunavut that do not have a community learning centre. We're expecting to have it completed by 2016-17. Please note that they will be different sizes. Looking at Whale Cove and Iqaluit, these are two different communities, but they should be completed by 2016-17. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) Will all of those community learning centres include a daycare? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are all of these current facilities to be constructed going to include daycare centres? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Arctic College, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is a good question to ask and I want everyone to remember that some of our adult education centres also house daycare centres, albeit not every facility will include daycare space. Just to look at Iqaluit as an example, there are various daycare centres already in existence. So based on current space, the building in Iqaluit won't include a daycare, but definitely Whale Cove would need daycare space as no facility exists there. That is currently our only

identified facility to include a daycare. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You mentioned small capital of \$250,000. What kind of equipment and what will the vehicles be used for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Arctic College, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. These are all quite good questions I have been hearing. As per our earlier response, the \$250,000 is for purchasing different equipment such as computers. Perhaps 325 computers would be purchased, and further, there are different needs such as (interpretation ends) student records system.

(interpretation) Those are the types of systems we would be establishing, but for fiscal year 2014-15, there are no funds earmarked specifically for vehicles. Vehicles are included in this category. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) You mentioned \$1 million for ongoing lifecycle maintenance. Can you expand on what kind of larger projects you are speaking of? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Arctic College, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It will be used for different projects. Perhaps you will be able to get more details if you allow Mr. Corneau to answer the question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Corneau: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The funding for this \$1 million next year, we are looking at different options. One of them is, here in Iqaluit, with the Q-units, which need to be re-levelled, because they are not in very good shape. There are some issues with the Taloyoak community learning centre, as well as with the Gjoa Haven community learning centre.

We are also looking at the option of relocating part of the CLC, where the CLC in Nuiyak School in Sanikiluaq. Those are the projects being looked at and considered. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Last question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the answers. You talk about building capacity in Nunavut for the trades. Would people get their Red Seal in the facility you are talking about? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask you to have the president of the college provide a proper response. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Shouldice.

Mr. Shouldice: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the trades training strategy, the first round, I guess to call it that, phase 1 would be the construction trades, so Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, and Cambridge Bay, and those are all Red Seal trades. Of course, there's an exception with housing maintainer because it's a trade unique to the north, but still, it's a licensed trade within our territory and in the Northwest Territories. Heavy equipment is not a Red Seal trade, but it's a certified trade, so there would be training that would come to national standard.

In the mine training centre, in an ideal world, as that moves forward, there would be millwright and welding, and both of those are Red Seal. Currently, Nunavut Arctic College partners for the trades beyond the first and second level with other institutions. However, we do up to the Red Seal with carpentry/oil burner mechanic, and we do the completion of the Housing Maintainer program ourselves. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to take one of my colleague's questions a little bit further, she had asked some questions on the ongoing lifecycle maintenance, you had mentioned the Q-unit re-levelling, the

Taloyoak flooring, windows, and paint, and Gjoa Haven with further flooring, water pump, window, air exchange replacement, according to the substantiation sheets. You had also mentioned the Sanikiluaq relocation of the CLC into the school. I don't see an amount associated with that. Have there been some preliminary estimates on the cost of that within the lifecycle replacement, \$1 million? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If you will allow, the official to my right, Eric, can provide a proper response to my colleague. Thank you.

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

Mr. Corneau: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There have been some preliminary estimates for your questions about the Sanikiluaq relocation and that varies between \$200,000 and \$250,000, which means that one of these other projects will have to be reconsidered or downsized depending on if we choose to prioritize that project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess that's what I was trying to get into. There were amounts associated with the other three projects that were already in the substantiation sheets totalling \$1 million. What is the college's plan if something unforeseen arises on an emergency basis that needs

repairing? I don't see any emergency type fund associated with any of these budgets. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We believe the question is directed more towards CGS. They are the department that provides information on whether an emergency occurs. Our department just follows the set up laid out to deal with these issues. I certainly hope that is understandable or if you understood my response. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you for that response, Minister Quassa and I do understand it, but it also leads me to another question that it raised. Are these projects in consultation with CGS to determine the priority on the budget allocations for these projects? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask Mr. Corneau to provide a detailed response. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Corneau: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do work very closely with project officers and project managers with CGS to prioritize the urgency of intervening in some of these

projects and tend to make the technical assessments on the work necessary on the projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is directed at the minister based on my understanding earlier when you spoke about pre-employment training in our adult education centres.

In the past, there have been students who have graduated from adult education courses with certificates provided upon graduation. The students provided with this certificate state that when they include it in their resume, it doesn't have the same effect as other diplomas.

I wonder whether or not the current system could be changed so that students graduating from the pre-employment courses can have better chances to be employed than their predecessors who graduated from this course with a more meaningful certification process? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. We are discussing the capital estimates at this time, but I'll leave it up to Minister Quassa to respond.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This question isn't related to the capital estimates we are reviewing, and even though that is the case as the Chairman stated, the member asked the question about certification programs that have existed for quite some time through the community learning centres for adults and students receive certificates upon

completion. That is our expectation that there will be more certification courses, as that is part of our departmental goal.

The students who graduate sometimes find that there are no employment openings, but as part of our mandate, we want more people to get certifications, then it becomes possible to use that certificate for applying towards job openings in the future. We want to share those expectations about proper certification especially as mines are being developed as well as other sectors.

The students receiving certificates should have a better chance of being hired and I hope that our expectations will be reached. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. My colleagues, I would like to remind you to keep your questions on the capital estimates. Are you done, Mr. Shooyook? Thank you very much. Mr. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the minister's opening remarks, he indicated the Nunavut Trades Training Strategy and they plan to have the heavy equipment operator and heavy duty technician. When do they plan to start this program? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This forms part of our future plans and it shows what needs to be undertaken for these programs.

As per my earlier opening comments, the mining sector has several projects on the verge of opening along with other developments, and we have prepared that strategy towards that goal. Perhaps my official can provide a bit more detail on this issue as he is the President of Nunavut Arctic College, Mr. Shouldice, with your permission Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Mr. Shouldice: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for his question. The Trades Training Strategy speaks of a phase 2 for the development of an equipment training centre. This includes heavy equipment operator and two trades; the heavy duty mechanic and the automotive mechanic.

The plan is dependent upon capital construction, of course. I think that it would be a two-year build, all things being equal. It's most likely 2018-19 before that would be realized, if indeed that went forward. We are at the stage right now of looking for the design or planning for this facility to move the trades training strategy forward. Very much so is what we are doing with a mining centre in Cambridge Bay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My questions are on the opening comments too, almost same as my colleague, Mr. Sammurtok. The Nunavut Trades Training Strategy of 2006, heavy equipment operators and heavy duty technicians remain high in

demand. Is that because the strategy is not producing enough certified heavy equipment operators and mechanics or is it that the demand is just too high that they cannot keep up to capacity? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We did a thorough review, ran those programs, as I stated before, we get good support as to what kind of training programs at Arctic College. They can make that recommendation and we follow their recommendations, and also they are prepared a year in advance, the training programs are prepared a year in advance and even with that we have recognized, as I have stated, that heavy equipment operators and heavy duty technicians remain high in demand. We need to have more certified heavy equipment operators and heavy duty technicians and we recognize that. Perhaps I will have the President of Nunavut Arctic College, Mr. Shouldice, respond or supplement my response, through you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Mr. Shouldice.

Mr. Shouldice: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 2006 is when we started. The second phase of the plan was heavy equipment operator. That was the decision that was made within cabinet at that time. So I would agree with you.

We are playing a bit of catch-up in terms of trying to get people trained in heavy equipment. The pattern has been to send

them south. There are two organizations, one in Alberta that people use, but the majority of them are going down to Morrisburg, Ontario, and as you have mentioned earlier in the House today, you know those resources are better spent in the north. I think building our own infrastructure to do so.

We are at the stage of trying to move the facility forward. It remains a high-demand occupation, I think, because of the opening of the mines. If you look at their HR plans, those change from time to time. There are a significant number of operators and there are a significant number of heavy duty mechanics that we need to train for. Thank you.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you. This is borderline O&M but its part of this here. Is there any thought of partnership with mines in order to produce more journeymen technicians and heavy equipment operators? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's a very good question and I thank the member for asking it. As these mining companies start developing their projects, they have queried our department about possible partnership with our department. We expect that to succeed, at least that seems obvious at this point.

Furthermore, our Inuit organizations also have the right to negotiate agreements with the mining companies so they

(interpretation ends) negotiate (interpretation) impact and benefits agreements for the communities. That is another opportunity to have partnerships with these organizations.

Also, that is part of our overall goal, to work with the mining companies and Inuit organizations to create (interpretation ends) partnerships (interpretation) with emerging projects. That is what we can create, and as per my earlier response, we have already received partnership requests from mining companies as well as other development sectors. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Are there any more questions to the minister's opening comments? I have no more members on my list for general comments. We will now proceed to the page-by-page review of the capital estimates starting with.... .

Members, I would like to note that Arctic College is under the auspices of the Department of Finance under page C-3. However, the details of the college's proposed budget can be found on page M-3 and the detailed breakdown is on page M-4. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a couple of questions on M-4, if that's okay.

You touched earlier a little bit on what you're trying to accomplish in Sanikiluaq with additional classroom space for Arctic College. The community learning centre is a one-room, standalone building in our community and there is a need for

additional classroom space. Right now, the college is running two programs, one at Arctic College and one elsewhere in the community.

I know that in the past, there was communication between Community and Government Services, DEAs, and the college to plan renovations at Nuiyak School to accommodate Arctic College classrooms. So my question is: what is the current status of this plan and why was it not included in the 2014-15 capital estimates? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's a very good question and I thank my colleague for asking it. I would like to ask you, Mr. Chairman, to have Mr. Corneau provide a detailed response. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Corneau: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we were looking at the options of moving into the school, the estimates grew quite significantly to the point where we didn't have the minor capital or the ongoing lifecycle budget in our 2013-14 capital plan. Therefore, we could not proceed with the plan. We decided to wait until we had further funds to proceed with the project, which is what part of this ongoing lifecycle budget is about. We just didn't have the capital to go forward with the project at that point. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Nunavut Arctic College. Branch Summary. Headquarters. Total Capital Expenditures. \$9,748,000. On M-3. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did have a couple of other questions.

You stated that this ongoing lifecycle, the \$1 million, could possibly accommodate the renovations to the Nuiyak School under this budget. Would you be anticipating that we would see these renovations happen this fiscal year or are we talking two years down the road? I'm just wondering if you can give us the status of when this construction will take place. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's another good question. My response to you is yes. It is one of our priorities that you were asking about. It's up there in our priorities. I can't give you a date, but it is one of the priorities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When you stated that you would be putting some funds from the \$1 million towards this project, it makes a person thinks that if we approve this budget, then part of this \$1 million would be used for the renovations at the school. So can the minister clarify

whether this renovation will happen this summer? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We all know that everything comes on sealift in Nunavut and they only come in the summertime. So if the material can come in this summer, then it will proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Do members have any more questions? (interpretation ends) Nunavut Arctic College. Branch Summary. Headquarters. Total Capital Expenditures. \$9,748,000. On M-3. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Back to page M-2. Department Summary. Nunavut Arctic College. Mission. Detail of Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$9,748,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Are you agreed that Nunavut Arctic College is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much, Minister Quassa and your officials. (interpretation ends) Minister Quassa, closing comments.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleagues for asking very good questions and requesting information on the 2014-15 Capital Estimates for Nunavut Arctic College. You asked

some very good questions and I hope I responded to your questions properly. We will proceed with our plans for 2014-15. Thank you for your support. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I move to report progress.

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

Speaker: Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 2 and the capital estimates, and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Is there a seconder? Mr. Okalik. The motion is in order. All those

in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. *Orders of the Day*. Item 22. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A reminder that there's a meeting at ten o'clock tomorrow morning of the Regular Caucus in the Tuktu Room.

Orders of the Day for March 18:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Responses to Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions

17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

- Bill 2
- Bill 3
- Bill 4
- Bill 5

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

Thank you.

Speaker: This House stands adjourned until Tuesday, March 18, at 1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 17:40*

