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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk
(Netsilik)

Hon. George Kuksuk
(Arviat North-Whale Cove)
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Minister of Finance, Chair of the Financial Management Board; Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission

Government House Leader; Minister of Family Services; Minister responsible for Homelessness; Minister responsible for the Status of Women

Hon. Paul Quassa
(Aggu)

Minister of Education; Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Tuesday, June 3, 2014**

Members Present:

Mr. Tony Akoak, Ms. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Monica Ell, Mr. Joe Enook, Mr. George Hickes, Mr. David Joanasié, Hon. George Kuksuk, Mr. Steve Mapsalak, Hon. Johnny Mike, Mr. Simeon Mikkungwak, Hon. Paul Okalik, Hon. Keith Peterson, Hon. Paul Quassa, Hon. George Qulaut, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Mr. Alex Sammurток, Hon. Tom Sammurток, 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): Can you say the opening prayer, please, Mr. Enook.

>>Prayer

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to everyone in the House, Members, Ministers, and all Nunavummiut. Good afternoon. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Sammurток.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements**Minister's Statement 026 – 4(2): Safe Boating Tips**

Hon. Tom Sammurток (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now that it's springtime again, people will start boating pretty soon as the ice breaks up. Good day to the people of Rankin Inlet and Chesterfield Inlet, as well as Nunavummiut.

(interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The summer months are a busy time of year for boating and fishing activities.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind Nunavummiut of the following safe boating tips when heading out on the water:

- **Inspect your boat** – make sure equipment is in good working order before leaving.
- **Monitor the weather** – check marine weather reports for the area to which you are travelling.
- **Make a sail plan** – leave trip details with someone, including the estimated date or time of return and the names of passengers on board.
- **Bring extra supplies** – bring enough fuel and extra food and water for each person on board in case of a weather delay.
- **Wear life jackets** – carry Canadian approved life jackets or PFDs for all passengers on board. These should be worn at all times, especially in smaller boats.
- **Carry safety equipment** – carry all equipment required by Transport Canada. This includes:
 - Lifebuoys and heaving line
 - Watertight flashlights
 - Bailers or bilge pumps
 - Distress flares and sound-signalling device (horn)
 - Fire extinguisher
 - Radio and marine emergency locator beacon. Borrow a SPOT device or radio from

your local RCMP, local hamlet, or HTA office.

Mr. Speaker, being prepared can save your life. Practise safe boating when out on the water this summer.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Mr. Quassa.

**Minister's Statement 027 – 4(2):
Nunavut Arctic College Launches
Culturally Relevant Assessment
Tools**

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) The Nunavut [Adult] Placement Assessment is Canada's first culturally relevant placement tool developed for a college system.

Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Adult Placement Assessment (NAPA) was a 27-month project that was completed in March 2014 and launched at the Nunavut Adult Basic Education Symposium last month in Whitehorse.

This new assessment tool will come into service this fall and was developed by a team of authors and specialists with expertise in test development, reading, statistics, question structure, design, and editing.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, Nunavut Arctic College staff and students were heavily involved in the focus groups and piloting of the assessment. Throughout this collaborative process, Cindy Cowan,

Director of Community and Distance Learning, and Daniel Page, Manager of Adult Basic Education Programs at Nunavut Arctic College, provided valuable advice and feedback.

The project objective was to develop an English language reading and writing assessment tool to effectively assess adult basic education English language reading.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut [Adult] Placement Assessment has many features and benefits. In addition to being culturally relevant, the test also is designed to reflect student prior learning. The assessment is valid and reliable, ensuring students are placed in appropriate college programs. The assessment is also easy to administer and score, which ensures that NAPA can be administered by a range of various people.

Mr. Speaker, we are very appreciative of the funding provided to Nunavut for this initiative from the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister for Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Minister's Statement 028 – 4(2):
Nunavut Food Price Survey**

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the last sitting of the House, I reported on the outcomes of the 2013 pilot food price survey.

I am pleased to be able to report that in March 2014, just last month, the Nunavut Bureau of Statistics, with the financial support of the Department of Family Services, has completed a second food price survey. This food price survey builds on the pilot survey and the lessons learned in that experience.

In the most recent survey, last month, the prices of 133 items in every store in every community in Nunavut were recorded. It will now be possible to compare food prices between Nunavut's communities and with communities in southern Canada.

The Nunavut Bureau of Statistics is currently conducting an analysis of the prices and this information will be available in the coming months.

(interpretation ends) A territory-wide price survey is a major objective of the Nunavut Food Security Coalition and is included in the recently released Nunavut Food Security Strategy and Action Plan.

As we learn more about the cost of food and other essential items, we will be able to address food insecurity and poverty reduction more effectively. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Mr. Kuksuk.

**Minister's Statement 029 – 4(2):
Nunavut Economic Development
Strategy 2014-2024**

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to my fellow Nunavummiut and colleagues.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak to update my colleagues on the renewal of the Nunavut Economic Development Strategy. This work is being done together with our many partners across the territory through the Nunavut Economic Forum, which is a member-driven organization with representation from the GN, CanNor, Nunavut Tunngavik and other Inuit organizations, NGOs, and business sector organizations.

NEF was established in 2004 as part of the Nunavut Economic Development Strategy, and its purpose is to share information on economic development activities in Nunavut and facilitate cooperation on the implementation of the Nunavut Economic Development Strategy.

The renewal of the Nunavut Economic Development Strategy will result in another broad economic plan for the future of Nunavut's economy.

Mr. Speaker, several steps are involved in the renewal of the Nunavut Economic Development Strategy. At the core of the overall consultative process were a series of round tables across Nunavut, drawing together NEF member organizations and other stakeholders. In 2013, NEF also commissioned the sixth Nunavut Economic Outlook. The focus of these reports has been to measure the progress of Nunavummiut towards a high and sustainable quality of life.

Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Sivummut IV Conference is planned for this coming fall, with the Nunavut Economic Development Strategy 2014-24 as the primary theme. From there, it is hoped that a new strategy will be drafted and adopted by 2015.

Looking 20 years into the future, we see a strong and prosperous territory with Nunavummiut as full participants in the world economy.

I look forward to the Sivummut IV conference leading to the renewed Nunavut Economic Development Strategy, and I look forward to updating my colleagues in the fall sitting on the progress of this important initiative. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Members' Statements. Member for Gjoa Haven, Mr. Akoak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 072 – 4(2): Support for Nunavut Daycares

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to all the people of Gjoa Haven and Nunavummiut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the need to support Nunavut's daycares and to ensure that they can remain operational and provide child care options for Nunavut parents.

Mr. Speaker, I was recently copied on correspondence from the president of the Kitikmeot Inuit Association regarding

support for the ongoing operation of Gjoa Haven's Pairivik Daycare.

Mr. Speaker, while the Government of Nunavut is responsible for licensing, inspecting, and providing some financial and other resources of Nunavut's daycare facilities, many daycares rely on additional sources of funding to operate. Unfortunately, when boards and societies run into governance and financial management problems, this in turn affects their funding and their ongoing ability to operate.

Mr. Speaker, I am quite sure that the Gjoa Haven Pairivik Daycare is not the first community organization to run into problems with their financial accounts and the various reporting and filing requirements. I believe it is a duty of our government to provide assistance to such organizations when they run into difficulties.

In addition, it is important that we ensure that adequate child care services are available in all our communities.

At the appropriate time, I will have questions on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Shooyook.

Member's Statement 073 – 4(2): Pangaggujiniq 2014 – Nunavut Quest

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I say "good day" to the people of Arctic Bay and Quttiktuq, as well as my fellow Members of the Legislative Assembly.

I rise today to speak about the Nunavut Quest that took place, which was organized very well. Sitting in the House at times, it is hard to smile when you're trying to understand what is being said. Nevertheless, I would like to share some joyful news so that we can enjoy our meeting this afternoon.

The first time the dog team race took place a few years ago. There were some statements made about the race. Joelle Qamanirq, Niore Iqalukjuak, and Piujuq Enoogoo were the principal people who collected donations and had meetings with the other communities. It became clear in that year that it would be possible to start to have the quest going. Finally, when the funds were sufficient, they were able to make it to Igloolik in the springtime.

I am very happy because they were able to organize the whole race without using mechanized snowmobiles. They collected dog food and they used traditional sleds. Everything was traditional in conducting the dog team race. They were able to organize the dog team races using traditional lines for the dogs. It is extraordinary that they were able to set that up.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, while they were trying to solicit funds, they had square dances, not necessarily every day, but there were some good prizes.

I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays?

(interpretation) I did not hear any nays. Please proceed, Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): As I was saying, there were some good prizes. During one of the dances, we were able to get there when the prize was a 24-foot sled, which is where we sit when we're out on the land. One of the prizes was a snowmobile. There were three prizes.

When the day of the draw came, my wife's younger sister's name was pulled out for the sled. I was very gladdened by that and after more square dances, they had another draw. All of us naturally wanted our names drawn. The same person's name was pulled out again for the sofa and chesterfield. After another hour or so of dancing, the third winner to be drawn for a snowmobile was her once again.

She was so happy that it became funny how the same person's name was drawn. I won't say her name because she is my sister-in-law.

>> *Laughter*

She was overcome with joy. I was near that place and people were dancing and it was a joyous occasion for all of us. I would like to express my happiness of these traditional games with the people of Nunavut and my colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 074 – 4(2): Cape Dorset Graduates of NTEP

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day, colleagues, the people watching the TV and listening on the radio. I would like to share my happiness with you, Mr. Speaker and colleagues, about the graduates from the Teacher Education Program who are from Cape Dorset.

I will mention the first two who graduated from the teacher training program from Cape Dorset. Their achievements will be recognized this afternoon for successfully completing their program. All together, there were six people, but I will mention the names of the first two graduates, Saimaiyu Akesuk and Rebecca Hutchings, and they will be here this evening in Iqaluit. Arctic College provided their way down.

The other graduates are Silaqqi Alariaq, Saizula Putuguq, Mary Taukie, and Jefferson Uttak. These people have completed the Teacher Education Program this year and I would like to share my happiness with all the members here. I went to school with Mary Taukie and Jefferson Uttak at Nunavut Sivuniksavut, which they also completed.

I am very proud of all the graduates and the fact that they're Inuit and were able to go on to higher education. We want to see teachers and nurses graduate and be able to work in various capacities among our people within Nunavut. I would like to add my additional support and encouragement to those who would take the challenge of pursuing those programs.

I would like to share my appreciation for these successful graduates and hope that we will see a lot more graduates in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Item 4. (interpretation ends) Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. (interpretation) Member for (interpretation ends) Rankin Inlet South, Mr. Sammurtok.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize my wife, Michelle Sammurtok. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the House. Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to recognize, right behind me, my wife, Elizabeth Mapsalak, and our daughter Lucy Agalakti Mapsalak, named after my mother. She was my mother's favourite granddaughter, as well as her first grandchild. I would like to welcome them to the House and I am extremely happy that they were able to be here. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. I welcome the visitors in the Gallery. I don't have any more names. Going to the orders of the day. Oral Questions. Member for Gjoa Haven, Mr. Akoak.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 100 – 4(2): Support for Nunavut Daycares

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

Mr. Speaker, in my Member's Statement, I noted that governance and financial management difficulties at the Gjoa Haven Pairivik Daycare may mean that the daycare can no longer operate.

Can the minister confirm that he has received correspondence from the Kitikmeot Inuit Association on this issue and whether he has had an opportunity to review the situation? 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 hon. member for that question. I can say that we have received correspondence from the Kitikmeot Inuit Association in relation to the Gjoa Haven Pairiviik Daycare. We have received correspondence on that. The district education authority has provided financial assistance throughout the operation.

We are able to provide assistance for centres that are having difficulty. The

staff usually go there to provide education and financial services in terms of how they should be operating so that their society status can return to good standing. We are able to provide financial assistance to get them back on their feet. We can provide financial assistance as to how they can administer their finances much better than they had previously. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the answer. He answered my second supplement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is very important that the Gjoa Haven Pairivik Daycare continues to operate and provide much needed child care in the community. Will the minister commit to directing his officials to assist the Gjoa Haven daycare in getting back on its feet so that the board can continue to receive outside funding and continue operating, yes or no? 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 agree with the hon. member wholeheartedly. As I stated, we can provide assistance for daycare centres that are no longer running properly. We can provide assistance to them administratively because daycare centres are important and we will be able to have our staff provide assistance. I, too, have grandchildren who need to be in daycare centres. We consider that very important. Yes, we can provide

assistance so that they could operate in a better fashion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 101 – 4(2): Baker Lake Integrated Community Infrastructure Sustainability Plan

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I say “good day” to the people of Baker Lake. My questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

(interpretation ends) As the minister is aware, Baker Lake’s integrated community infrastructure sustainability plan was produced in 2010. This important document outlined a number of priorities for the community.

Can the minister indicate how frequently his department meets with the municipality to review progress on implementing Baker Lake’s integrated community infrastructure sustainability plan? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tom Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My department meets with any community on a need-to basis. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister is well aware, Baker Lake is a decentralized community that has experienced significant growth in recent years.

One of the main priorities in Baker Lake’s integrated community infrastructure sustainability plan is the development of a new water and sewage utilidor, which would service the community’s downtown core and some residential areas.

Can the minister indicate if his department will bring forward capital funding later this year towards the development of a new utilidor for Baker Lake, as recommended by the integrated community infrastructure sustainability plan? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Sammurtok.

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Every hamlet in Nunavut has been given a toolkit called “Building Nunavut,” where they can identify their priorities. However, any priorities that are identified by a community are, in turn, reviewed by the Nunavut Community Infrastructure Advisory Committee, who then prioritizes the infrastructure needs at the various communities in Nunavut. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his response. As the minister is aware, the Government of Canada recently announced a new Building Canada Fund. It is my understanding that projects which address drinking water and wastewater may be eligible for federal funding.

Will the minister commit to approaching the federal government to determine whether a utilidor for Baker Lake would be eligible for funding under the new Building Canada Fund? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) We are in the process of finalizing that agreement. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for (interpretation ends) Arviat South, Mr. Savikataaq.

Question 102 – 4(2): Piqqusilirivvik Centre

Mr. Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College and they concern the Piqqusilirivvik Centre in Clyde River.

The 2013-14 budget for the Piqqusilirivvik Centre was \$3,663,000. As of today, how many students are currently enrolled at this facility? Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for asking that good question. We should be very proud of Piqqusilirivvik because it provides a place to teach Inuit culture. In the 2013 school year, there were 18 students at the Piqqusilirivvik Centre.

They have a summer and fall program. They have another winter and spring program where they had 35 students. They have different seasons. They split courses up into different seasons. There is a winter program, spring program, summer program, and fall program. They had 18 students in the fall season and they had 35 students in the winter/spring session for the 2013 school year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of Nunavut Arctic College's ongoing priorities has been to expand the cultural school's satellite communities in places like Baker Lake and Igloolik. As of today, how many students are enrolled in programs in these two satellite communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to my colleague for asking that good question. Igloolik and Baker Lake are

satellite communities. Maybe I'll speak in Inuktitut. They are part of the college. I can't say right off the bat how many there are, but I know that in Igloolik, they teach caribou hunting, fishing, and the traditional Inuit way of making clothing. They use the skins from caribou harvested by the students.

In Baker Lake, they have the same program. They take a caribou and use the caribou skins to teach how to make clothing. In Baker Lake as well, they have three cabins that they wanted to build for the coming year to use for cultural programs through the Piqqusilirivvik program in or near Baker Lake. They will be building three cabins at some point. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In reviewing the list of programs that are offered at the Piqqusilirivvik Centre, I note that they include such courses as how to go fishing, how to play traditional games, and how to raise your children. As a father, I think I did a pretty good job in these areas.

Can the minister indicate what kind of certification graduates get from the Piqqusilirivvik Centre? What can the certificate be used towards? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I again thank my colleague for asking another good question. I'll try to give you a good answer. They teach different aspects of Inuit culture. It doesn't run like a normal school *per se*. We don't envision Piqqusilirivvik students to fail or not pass or not complete. They don't look at it that way. It's not run like a normal school; it's run the Inuit way.

Even though students don't receive a certificate *per se*, they get more proficient, for example, if they're going to be hunting or if they're going to be making something by sewing or other means. They become much more proficient in doing things like that. That is basically what they learn. They're not told, "If you don't do this, you're going to fail," at the Piqqusilirivvik. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 103 – 4(2): Update on Iqaluit Landfill Fire

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I've got a question today for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

Mr. Speaker, a week ago on Monday, I had asked the minister some questions regarding the fire here in Iqaluit at the dump and he had updated me that there are a number of consultations that are going on at the federal and municipal levels. Unfortunately, there's a limit of questions that I can ask at a time. I didn't get to do all the questions that I had on this topic.

Would the minister be able to inform me what type of actions his department is taking alongside with the City of Iqaluit and his federal counterparts? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tom Sammurток (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) What we're doing as a department is we're providing support and advice to the City of Iqaluit in monitoring the situation. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My office has received a number of phone calls and a number of emails over this past couple of weeks since this incident has been occurring. A number of the concerns that are being addressed and of which we were impacted in this House is that the fumes from the smoke and the toxicity of the materials that are being burned right now are a concern.

What I would like to know is if his department is planning on doing any air quality testing to make sure that the particles that are in the air don't pose a health hazard. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Sammurток.

Hon. Tom Sammurток: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am working with my colleagues in the Department of Environment and the Department of

Health in determining what needs to be done. Thank you.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think we all realize that there's some consultation that needs to occur amongst different departments on the actual action of what needs to be done, but base thresholds and base measurements of what is actually in the air that we're breathing when the wind comes our way need to be addressed. I would like a commitment from the minister that these air quality tests will take place in the very near future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Sammurток.

Hon. Tom Sammurток: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we all know, the City of Iqaluit and the fire department of Iqaluit is taking the lead role in this matter. However, I can commit to talking with them and see if there's any other support that we might be able to provide. Thank you.

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

Question 104 – 4(2): Management of the Public Service

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Finance.

Last week, the minister tabled the most recent public service annual report. According to the report, there are a total of 54 formal grievances filed by employees of the government during the 2012-13 fiscal year.

The 2013-14 fiscal year ended a couple of months ago. Can the minister indicate if the number of grievances is increasing or decreasing? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Angnakak for the question. I'm afraid I don't have that level of detail. Something tells me that the level of grievances is decreasing, but I just don't have that in my briefing note. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, minister, for the answer. The new *Public Service Act* requires the government to promote the incorporation of Inuit societal values in its operations.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that the issues of conflict management and dispute resolution are very challenging, especially in the workplace setting.

Can the minister provide the House with one or two specific examples of how Inuit societal values are being incorporated to improve the process by which disputes and grievances are managed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Angnakak for the question. Mr. Speaker, as I think I have indicated on a number of occasions in this House beginning in the winter session, we did pass the *Public Service Act*. We do have the various collective agreements. We do have the Human Resources Manual. Within all those documents, we do incorporate respect for each other, employer/employees. We do have, through the appeal process, the ability for people to be heard, get a fair hearing, and get a fair decision.

Of course, we also incorporate through the *Public Service Act*, as you said, we do promote it, we hire based on merit and you're promoted on merit. We're hoping to eliminate nepotism so that everybody knows it's a fair process and everybody is treated with respect.

We provide training to our employees where we can. We do show that training is available. We're also getting very strict on performance management for employees so that they know how they're performing, what training they need to do their jobs, and possibly even get promoted to higher jobs when they apply for those, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, minister. The new *Public Service Act* includes provisions that will allow the ethics officer, once he or she has been appointed, to refer a

matter to an alternative dispute resolution process.

Can the minister outline what types of alternative dispute resolution processes are contemplated under this section of the new *Public Service Act*? 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 indicated, our department is working very diligently on the regulations to govern and help the ethics officer, whoever that person is, to do their job. We are doing cross-jurisdictional reviews of what's incorporated in other jurisdictions in Canada, but at this time, I can't tell Ms. Angnakak what's being contemplated. There are obviously many alternatives. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for (interpretation ends) Rankin Inlet South, Mr. Sammurtok.

Question 105 – 4(2): Determining the Need for Medical Client Escorts

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

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, a number of my constituents have had the experience of travelling down south to have a medical procedure done only for the doctor to refuse to perform the procedure because the patient does not have an escort to help them after the

operation. The patient is sent home again, without the procedure being done, and the only result is a total waste of money by the government.

Can the minister describe how the opinion of southern doctors and specialists, who are booked to provide medical treatment to Nunavut patients, is taken into consideration when determining whether or not a patient requires an escort? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I heard two questions, but I'll try to respond to one of them. When patients going down south for a medical procedure see a doctor or nurse, either the doctor or nurse has to make a decision of whether or not the patient needs an escort. If they need an escort, it needs to be approved by the regional directors. When patients go down south for different medical procedures, I can't assume why some escorts were denied.

I kept stating that if patients want to appeal, there's an appeals process in place for patients to use, not just for plane tickets. For example, if you need to find out where the birth certificates are, you can contact the Office of Patient Relations and you can make an appeal to them in any form. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. I did hear one question. Please proceed with your first supplementary, Mr. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have heard of several cases where patients have returned home without a medical procedure being performed because they did not have anyone to assist them after the operation. Is the minister aware of these types of cases and, if so, can she update this House on whether she and her officials have determined how much these wasted trips have cost the government to date? 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 believe we discussed this issue when we appeared before the standing committee. When there are many patients going down, only a few of the patients, approximately 1 percent of all patients, their appointments are not done properly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) The minister must recognize that denying an escort to someone who is booked to have an operation in the south is a waste of time and effort when the patient has to return home without treatment. They simply have to be sent out again to get the treatment they need. Will the minister commit to reviewing this aspect of the Medical Client Escort Approval Policy and changing it so that the doctors who are delivering a medical service can have a say in determining whether a client should have an escort? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the member for that question. I have said several times in this House that we are committed to reviewing the Medical Travel Policy after the one year has come up, which will be in June. We have already started the process of reviewing the Medical Travel Policy. Senior officials from the department have already met and discussed the Medical Travel Policy and we will continue to do that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for (interpretation ends) South Baffin, Mr. Joanasié.

Question 106 – 4(2): Capacity Issues in Education

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

Mr. Speaker, it is understandable that schools in some communities, as with any other organization, may experience some capacity issues during the year.

Given that education is a top priority identified in *Sivumut Abluqta*, the mandate of this government, and in ensuring that the classrooms in Nunavut schools stay open for business, can the minister describe what kinds of capacity issues his department faced during the 2013-14 school year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank my colleague for that question. I can immediately respond by saying that we lack bilingual Inuktitut-speaking teachers, although we are now starting to graduate more bilingual teachers. There are capacity issues with the number of bilingual teachers that are available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the 2013-14 school year, was any school in Nunavut forced to cancel classes due to a lack of teachers and/or substitute teachers? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have not heard of such issues where they had to cancel classes due to lack of teachers or substitute teachers. I have not heard of any cases if we ever had to cancel classes. Many of our students have to attend school because education is very important. We are very cognizant of this. I have never heard of any schools being forced to cancel classes due to lack of teachers or substitute teachers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister

confirm whether all positions for teachers and support staff for the 2014-15 school year have been filled? 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 would also like to thank the member for his question. To date, as far as I know, we are now starting the selection process for the teaching positions in the Baffin region. I haven't heard of where the positions are in the Kivalliq and Kitikmeot regions, but in the Baffin region, we needed to find 95 teachers. I believe there are 63 substitute teachers, but we are still in a shortage for teachers for 2014-15, but we are looking to hire teachers before the school year starts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Tununig, Mr. Enook.

Question 107 – 4(2): Homelessness in Nunavut

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, fellow residents of Pond Inlet and Nunavummiut. Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Minister responsible for Homelessness regarding her Minister's Statement yesterday. I need clarification on what was stated yesterday. It states that "93 people completed surveys," but that there were 98 homeless people.

Mr. Speaker, I have a question on the Minister's Statement. Yesterday, the

minister informed the House that her department's recent homelessness study was undertaken in Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, and Cambridge Bay.

As the minister will be aware, the Nunavut government's 2010 Nunavut Housing Needs Survey indicated that approximately 1,200 residents of the territory are homeless.

This report also indicated that Pond Inlet was one of the three communities in Nunavut with the "highest proportion of temporary residents without a home elsewhere." Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for Homelessness, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Tununig for asking about the survey that was done in Nunavut. We did a survey in the three regions of Nunavut. I just want to let the Member for Tununig know that I'm not exactly sure how many people are homeless in Tununig. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The government's Long-term Comprehensive Housing and Homelessness Strategy, which was tabled in the Legislative Assembly over a year ago, indicated that 32 percent of households in Nunavut had "housed temporary residents in the past twelve months."

I would now like to ask the minister this question: can the minister explain how

her department's latest survey is intended to improve on the information that we already have concerning homelessness? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for Homelessness, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Tununig for asking important questions about homeless people. Some live in tiny tents and some live in shacks. That's the type of survey we did in Nunavut. We did the survey to help the people of Nunavut's communities as to how we can make improvements and how we can work with Nunavut Tunngavik to alleviate homelessness. We're also working with the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The survey reveals that we have a lot of problems. Ever since we got Nunavut, one of the things that has been very important is having study done and to address homelessness in Nunavut.

The minister stated that they are looking to solve this problem. You did a survey and there are not enough homes in Nunavut. Now that you have done the survey, what is going to happen with the department in trying to find homes for those people? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for Homelessness, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Tununig. With respect to his question, the member wants to know what is going to happen after the survey has been done. We are going to be doing some stuff so that the homeless people can get some assistance.

There are homeless people in Yellowknife, Winnipeg, and Ottawa and there are many people out there without homes. The NWT government has also stated that there are homeless people in their communities. We did a survey here in Nunavut. We want to help them out, to try and get some help for the people who are homeless in Nunavut within five years. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 108 – 4(2): Provisions for Local Hires in Government Contracts

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Sammurtok.

Mr. Speaker, for people who are jobless, it is very important for me and Mr. Speaker, if I'm directing my question to the wrong minister, please correct me. When his department constructs buildings in Nunavut or when funding is available for constructing buildings, they

need to be approved by the Legislative Assembly.

When they do construction, how do they make sure that the construction companies hire Inuit people in each community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When there's a contract given to a certain construction company, there is an agreement in place whereby when the contract is signed, after we made sure that the construction company is doing their job, we make sure that we find out whether they will hire Inuit. Thank you.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that there is going to be a lot of construction started in the five years, especially capital buildings. How often do they try to find out from the people who receive the contract to see whether they are hiring Inuit beneficiaries? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Sammurtok.

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We usually send our staff to each community to see and talk with the people who received

the contracts in each community to find out if they are hiring Inuit. Thank you.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I realize that in my community of Repulse Bay, there was construction done and they did not hire any Inuit beneficiaries at the time that I was a settlement secretary. Can the minister agree with me that when there's going to be a large construction project in the community, his inspectors would go and carry out their inspections, especially with construction contracts for large buildings? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Sammurtok.

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before the contract is issued, the government has to go by the policies that is in place. There are provisions for inspections and we can certainly follow through with those. Thank you.

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

Question 109 – 4(2): Support for Foster Homes in Nunavut

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

Mr. Speaker, as the minister is well aware I am very concerned by the numbers of Nunavut children who are sent out of the territory to receive care, either residential care or foster care, in southern jurisdictions.

Can the minister provide an update on what steps her department is taking to increase the number of foster homes in Nunavut and to ensure that those foster homes are assessed before children are placed in them? 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 thank the member for that question regarding children. There is a shortage of foster homes. However, we are grateful that they are able to take in children that are not their own. In Iqaluit itself, there are over 20 foster homes. Sometimes children go back to their biological families and some take longer to go back to their parents.

In terms of how we're providing assistance to foster homes, I can endeavour to answer her by meeting with her personally. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I look forward to our meeting to discuss this.

Mr. Speaker, while it is important to ensure that foster homes can provide a good environment to children placed in their care, it is also important that families understand what happens when their children are placed in foster care.

Can the minister clarify how her departmental officials work with the families of children who may be apprehended to explain how the foster care system works? 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 thank the member for Niaqunngu for the question relating to foster homes. In Nunavut, we don't have a foster care association. It's only the people in the Department of Family Services and government officials that have discussions about how they would deal with them in relation to children. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister update this House on what steps her department has taken to consult with families and individuals who provide much needed foster care in Nunavut to determine whether the current practice meets the needs of children who are being fostered and the families they are associated with? 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 thank the member for Niaqunngu for asking a question about foster parents. We have provided assistance to foster parents and continue to assist them in order for them to create associations so that we can work with the associations. In the absence of that, I can tell her that foster parents in Canada, in relation to that issue, are identified and we participate with them. Our department participates and has discussions with them. We keep in touch by way of correspondence.

In spite of the answers of an association that could deal with these things on an ongoing basis, social services and my department are able to work with the foster homes and we will be continuing to provide with assistance. We will continue to seek better care whether the foster homes are becoming overwhelmed or whether they need to take breaks from providing child care services to children that are not their own. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Tununig, Mr. Enook.

Question 110 – 4(2): Definition of a Homeless Person

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to ask a question today relating to homelessness to the Minister responsible for Homelessness in relation to what she provided by way of information.

Let me first ask: how do you define a homeless person? Do you base that on Canadian standards assigned for determining who is homeless? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for Homelessness, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Tununig for that question in relation to the definition for a homeless person. Somewhere near 2010, the housing corporation did a survey on how many people are totally homeless and don't have homes. The people surveyed were also determined, such as those who stay in tents, sheds, or garages were included. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) Let me then ask this question. You have stated that you base homeless people as those who are living in sheds and garages. Are you saying that the government, whoever may just be visiting, is considered to have a home even if they're just rooming or imposing himself or herself on people with homes? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for Homelessness, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Tununig for his question in relation to our definition of

homelessness. In Taloyoak, our community has been affected by people without homes. I will be working hard to address this issue continually in relation to people who are considered to be homeless, people who have to live in sheds or tents.

We have memorandums of understanding with Inuit organizations, such as Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, in terms of how to define who is homeless. We will be putting that into a specific policy so that we will consider people who have to stay in non-permanent homes as being homeless. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) I am happy that our government will be addressing homelessness issues. Regular MLAs and I will be wanting to keep eliciting specific answers because we need to know the situation too. When we're asking questions, we are working just as hard. The survey was done in the three communities of Rankin Inlet, Cambridge Bay, and Iqaluit. In that statement, they said that all of Nunavut was surveyed. What other communities were visited besides the communities of Cambridge Bay, Rankin Inlet, and Iqaluit? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for Homelessness, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Tununig for expressing

interest in being supportive of homeless people because, obviously, nobody wants to live in homes like that. In my Minister's Statement yesterday in relation to the homeless people, I made that announcement and we have indicated that we would be going back to the communities and our staff will be going back to the communities in relation to the number cited.

They're doing a survey in the communities of Cambridge Bay, Rankin Inlet, and Iqaluit and they still have provisions. We still can't say that the survey was done wrong because pretty much all of us know the situations in our communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members will note that the time for question period has expired. We will move on. Item 7. Written Questions. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Joanasie.

Item 7: Written Questions

Written Question 002 – 4(2): Implementation of the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy and Action Plan

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written question today is for the Minister of Health and they concern the implementation of the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy and Action Plan.

Mr. Speaker, my written question is very detailed, so I ask that it be entered into the record as read.

Preamble:

On September 12, 2011, the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy partners (Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Embrace Life Council, and Royal Canadian Mounted Police "V" Division) released the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy Action Plan. On March 20, 2014, the partners announced a "one-year extension to the first phase of the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy and Action Plan" and that "considerable progress has been made on all eight commitments outlined in the Action Plan."

1. With respect to each of the 41 objectives listed in the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy Action Plan, what specific actions, initiatives, and expenditures were undertaken between September 1, 2011 and March 31, 2014 by the identified partners/stakeholders responsible for achieving each objective?
2. With respect to each of the 41 objectives listed in the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy Action Plan, what is the current status of achieving each objective's anticipated result?
3. With respect to each of the 41 objectives listed in the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy Action Plan, what specific mechanisms and methodology are being used by the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy partners to measure the extent to which each objective's anticipated result has been achieved?
4. Between September 1, 2011 and March 31, 2014, what were the total

expenditures incurred by the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy partners for the purpose of implementing the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy Action Plan?

5. Between September 1, 2011 and March 31, 2014, what funding was provided by the Government of Canada for the purpose of implementing the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy Action Plan?
6. Between September 1, 2011 and March 31, 2014, what funding requests were submitted to the Government of Canada by the Government of Nunavut for the purpose of implementing the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy Action Plan?
7. The Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy can be downloaded by the public from the following URL on the website of the Government of Nunavut's Department of Health:

http://www.gov.nu.ca/sites/default/files/files/NSPS_final_English_Oct%202010%281%29.pdf

What is the URL on the website of the Government of Nunavut's Department of Health at which the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy Action Plan can be downloaded by the public?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Do the members agree that the written question be entered into the record as read?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: Thank you. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Replies to Budget Address. Item 11. Petitions. Item 12. Responses to Petitions. Item 13. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 14. Tabling of Documents. The Hon. Minister of Justice, Mr. Okalik.

Item 14: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 018 – 4(2): Report on the Meeting of the Council of Ministers Responsible for Securities December 17, 2013

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the December 17, 2013 Report on the Meeting of the Council of Ministers Responsible for Securities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. Item 15. Notices of Motions. Item 16. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 17. Motions. Item 18. First Reading of Bills. Item 19. Second Reading of Bills. Item 20. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 2 and Bill 3 with Mr. Mikkungwak in the Chair.

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

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>> *House recessed at 15:01 and Committee resumed at 15:26*

**Item 20: Consideration in Committee
of the Whole of Bills and Other
Matters**

Chairman (Mr. Mikkungwak) (interpretation): Good day, people of Nunavut. (interpretation ends) I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bills 2 and 3. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to continue with the review of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, followed by the Department of Family Services. If time permits, we will commence with the review of the Department of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Are we in agreement that we continue with the main estimates for the Nunavut Housing Corporation?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Bill 02 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2014-2015 –
Nunavut Housing Corporation –
Consideration in Committee**

Chairman: Thank you. Does the committee agree that Minister Kuksuk's staff go to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. *Iqsuktii*, please assist the staff.

For the record, Minister, please introduce your staff.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I say "good day" to everyone here and the people watching in Nunavut. With me today from the housing corporation to my left is Heather Moffett, our Chief Financial Officer, and to my right is the Interim President, Lori Kimball. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Welcome, Ms. Moffett and Ms. Kimball. (interpretation ends) Members, please turn to page L-3. Details are on pages N-IV-1, N-IV-2, N-IV-3, N-IV-4, N-IV-5, and N-IV-6. Department Summary. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. L-3. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a few questions for the minister. Mr. Rumbolt covered off some of them yesterday that I was anticipating on asking, but I would like to start off with the Government of Nunavut's Long-term Comprehensive Housing and Homelessness Strategy. There's a lot of good information in the strategy, yet I don't see an action plan. Can the minister answer on what the status of the development of the action plan is? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for asking that question. Mr. Chairman, the long-term plan that he first refers to will include an action component. It's an integral part of proper planning to incorporate action

plans. I can respond to you with that right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe the minister could clarify what the action plan schedule is going to be. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The planning is still in process and I can't give him a definitive answer right now. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I look forward to seeing some further information on that, Minister Kuksuk.

Mr. Chairman, in the business plan on page NHC-3, it talks about interdepartmental collaboration focusing on "the appropriate mix of stakeholders to organize government action to meet the goals and objectives of the Strategy." Can the minister maybe define for me what an appropriate mix of stakeholders is and who they have anticipated to be collaborating with? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for asking a good question. Mr.

Chairman, if you don't mind, so that the member can get a proper response, I would like our interim president, Ms. Kimball, to respond if it's okay with you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the things that NHC is working on right now is a blueprint for action where we're defining the various stakeholders that relate to each of the goals, objectives, and strategies that were outlined in the strategic plan. Examples would be various departments in the government; for land planning, for instance, obviously the departments of CGS and Finance as well. We would want to talk to the communities from NAM, NAMA, and those types of entities. It's based on each initiative. We're identifying a whole range of stakeholders that would need to be part of the solution. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Kimball. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In that same section, I'm going to quote from the business plan, if you will allow me, Mr. Chairman. It says, "Through this collaboration structure, the GN will have a mechanism to define housing demand, ensure more affordable housing options and alternatives are available to meet the varied needs of Nunavummiut, including the needs of a growing elder population."

What is the anticipated... ? Throughout this collaboration, what are... ? I see what they're trying to achieve, but what are some of the actions that they're

actually going to be achieving out of that collaboration? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like Ms. Kimball to respond to this as well. It's a continuation of your last question. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe if I take one example, I can walk it through. If we're talking about seniors, for instance, there's a range of different levels of assistance that a senior might need. To start they might need a smaller apartment where they can be self-sufficient. As they age, they might need some supportive assistance that would come into that home, as they get older they might need a full-time care facility with nursing.

Through collaboration, the Department of Health gathering statistics on various age groups and what we should be planning, we know the population with our new rent-scale system of who is in our public housing rental units. We know how many people are 50-59 right now, so if we can project their needs for the next 30 years based on historic trends that the Department of Health is seeing, then we can better plan and do more long-range planning. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Kimball. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To use Ms. Kimball's example, I applaud the Housing Corporation for some of the buildings that they've done to specifically support elders.

Is the Nunavut Housing Corporation looking at building more housing with assisted living? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I didn't understand the question. Can you please explain it better and ask again? I would like a clarification on the question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes, if you can rephrase your question. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sometimes my brain works faster than my mouth. Mr. Chairman, in Ms. Kimball's response, she alluded to one of the progressive steps of care for elders are assisted living residences. Is Nunavut Housing Corporation, in conjunction with the Department of Health, looking at building facilities of that nature? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, I understand that fully now. As Ms. Kimball stated earlier, the Nunavut Housing Corporation is involving other departments in order to plan these things. I'm sure Ms. Kimball can add to my response to you can get a more full response. Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this point we are in more of a research phase in looking at what we can do with the existing housing stock rather than looking at specifically new construction, like a large-scale care facility. That might be more suited to a Community and Government Services function than a Nunavut Housing Corporation function at this point.

We are trying to make sure that designs for new housing are adaptable. This includes things like making sure the doorways are wide enough for wheelchair access. That as we are designing, it has got the structure to support handrails and things that we can install more easily after the fact. It's a lot cheaper to do it up front during construction than it is to modify a home.

At the same time we are looking at existing dwellings that we have in our public housing stock. For instance, if we have a five-plex that might be suitable to have a care provider and, say, four residents in a five-plex. We are exploring and having discussions. It's still at the very preliminary stage and a research level stage in talks with the Department of Health.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. To remind everyone, the interpreters have to be able to keep up with you and you have to make sure that the audience out there understands what is being said here. Please don't speak too fast. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This goes to some of the homeownership programs that are out there. In the long-

term strategy that was tabled last year by the previous minister it talks about some of Nunavut's housing priorities, one of them being the strategic direction of identifying and addressing gaps in Nunavut's housing continuum. They identify a couple of gaps that they've already identified including purpose-built transitional and supportive housing like I was just talking about and affordable market rental options.

I think as most members are aware from their time in Iqaluit, affordable market rental options are few and far between here in the City of Iqaluit. What kind of role is the Nunavut Housing Corporation playing through their affordable housing programs to assist people with market rent basis? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Your question involves a lot of things that we have to consider when we are looking at building houses. Also, to use elders' homes as an example, to explain what plans we have for that effect. I would like to give this over to Ms. Kimball.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The housing strategy identifies two continuums. The continuum of care and a continuum of affordability. In the strategy we identify various goals and objectives. What we are working on now is the blueprint for action which is really the plan of how we are going to consult and identify all the stakeholders that we need to solve each of those problems.

The issue of affordability, specifically in Iqaluit, one of the main challenges is lack of supply. Lack of supply is really coming down to the lack of land availability and the rate at which the city is making land available.

As we develop that blueprint for action, we would be identifying all of the stakeholders which would include; Community and Government Services, the City of Iqaluit, Department of Finance and really identifying everyone who needs to work together to develop a plan or solution to address that problem. Thank you.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm going to jump in on Ms. Kimball's response. With a lack of land availability within the City of Iqaluit there has been a proposed Road to Nowhere subdivision. What type of communications have you had with the City of Iqaluit on that topic?

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you again for your comments. I don't have that information. Like you said, the city and the Nunavut Housing Corporation have had talks. I would like Ms. Kimball to respond to that.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: That's definitely something we want to expand more. We have had some chats with the city, particularly in regards to the current

capital funding and looking for lots for our current year's funding. They are aware that we are looking forward to future plans and we look forward to working with them as we move forward. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Kimball. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sometime ago there was a ten-year Inuit Housing Action Plan that was developed in coordination with NTI and the Nunavut Housing Corporation. That plan is at the end of its lifecycle. Are there continuing talks with NTI on updating that ten-year housing strategy? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I again thank my colleague. Mr. Chairman, the question of whether the Nunavut Housing Corporation and NTI will be coming up with a new agreement, at the housing corporation, we want to go ahead with it. That's all I can say. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand that you want to go ahead with it, but have there been any preliminary talks with NTI on researching and developing changes to the housing strategy with NTI? Have there been any talks so far? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To date, we haven't had any new talks with NTI. I don't have any new talks with NTI to report about. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll switch gears into public housing. We have all been made aware of the extreme costs to maintain and operate a public housing unit in Nunavut. On average, it's just under \$24,000 a year per unit.

We have also understood that CMHC, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, funding has been declining and will continue to decline to nothing in 2037. I know that sounds like a long time away, but with the funding continually declining, it's obviously a concern.

Have there been any other negotiations initiated by the Nunavut Housing Corporation to replace some of the funding that is being lost? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I again thank the member. In regard to the housing shortage, we are still lobbying for additional funding. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. While I appreciate that continued lobbying to build new houses, for every house we build, it's costing your

corporation almost \$24,000 a year out of the public housing stock to maintain it. Is that part of the negotiations that you're having with the federal government on assisting Nunavut with the O&M to any housing built? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Hon. Minister of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we will continue to lobby for additional funding for Nunavut in any form. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Along that same line with looking at the cost of maintaining a public housing unit, we're all aware of some of the energy efficiency challenges and education that needs to be made to assist people in making wiser decisions on maintaining or reducing the costs to the Nunavut Housing Corporation to operate these units.

What type of education program is in place to assist people in public housing or what incentives are in place to assist people in public housing to lower their energy costs? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want my colleague to remember that last fall or winter... I know it's very expensive to operate housing. We need energy-efficient homes. It is very expensive to

operate those public homes for that reason.

Mr. Chairman, because of that, we had tabled an information and orders for the renters so they can have better efficient homes. To be used for the tenants, we sent out the information to be used by the tenants. That was part of that. I just alluded to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think all members here have seen and are aware of some of the practices when people aren't fully responsible for their utility costs. Not saying that it is a waste, per se, but there are practices that can be utilized by the tenants.

Is there any kind of incentive program that could be offered to our tenants to reduce their energy costs which would overall save your corporation dollars which might lead to more units being built on the ground? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank the member. As I started earlier on, last fall and in early spring we distributed calendars to all the homes in Nunavut to remind the tenants on how to maintain their homes at energy-efficient levels. They are to maintain their homes properly because it is expensive to operate and maintain. We printed and distributed calendars. They were distributed to all homes in Nunavut. It was to help the tenants. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate that. I actually have one of those calendars in my constituency office and I make note of it on numerous occasions. Is it a capability of the Nunavut Housing Corporation to show residents of public housing units what their actual energy costs are so they can see the ramifications of what costs are for their units and actually be able to identify cost-saving measures where they can measure to show how they are saving energy, water, any of the other expenses that are associated with housing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I stated earlier, I talked about the calendars to provide more help to the tenants in order for a home to be energy efficient. That's why we had created the calendar. Perhaps Ms. Kimball can provide a supplementary response, if you don't mind, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do have software that tracks the usage per household. We don't yet have the ability to produce that in a statement format for the tenants, but it is something we have identified that we want to do. We have identified kind of an IT strategy to get there. We're a few years away from that, but it is something that we are moving towards. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much, Ms. Kimball. Following my list of names, next is Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, hon. minister. I would like to ask a short question to the Nunavut Housing Corporation. First of all, let me ask about allocating units in the communities and also about the local housing organizations. The housing needs survey that was done by the Nunavut Housing Corporation states that Pond Inlet was the third community. This was written in 2010. Pond Inlet was the third community where homeowners have to take in renters.

Also, at the time when the Nunavut government received funding, I think it was \$100 million, and I was trying to request more units for Pond Inlet because the survey states that the community was the third community in all of Nunavut that the homeowners had to take in renters. Could you elaborate further, hon. minister? Are you using the survey to allocate units at the community level? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank the member for his question. The issue that the member is speaking about, if I understood the member correctly, the funding was allocated to the Nunavut Housing Corporation, as the member stated, and the funding was utilized properly.

In regard to allocating units in communities by using that funding, we

have a good policy and the communities have a good policy. According to the most need, we set out the policy and that's how the funding was used, with the use of the policy.

However, in regard to the member's comment, I don't want to give a wrong answer with respect to homeowners who have to receive renters. Maybe because of our dialectal differences... The member had stated that Pond Inlet was the third community that takes in tenants or homeowners take in renters. I just want the member to clarify that. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kuksuk. Maybe, Mr. Enook, you can rephrase your question. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I stopped my time because I'm asking the same question. Let me read it in English. Perhaps we can understand each other in English.

(interpretation ends) The report also indicated that Pond Inlet was one of three communities in Nunavut with the highest proportion of temporary residents without a home elsewhere.

(interpretation) That's what I'm basing my question on. I believe you understand my question. In regards to the survey that was done it states that Pond Inlet.... It seems that the survey was not used to allocate housing units to the communities. Why was that so, and which policy were you using? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for his question. I can understand him a lot better. Perhaps you have to keep talking in English. Mr. Chairman, like I stated earlier on, using the distribution of public houses whether it be in Pond Inlet or any other community. We looked at the distribution system that we use, but if I mislead the member in any way I would like to get Ms. Kimball to respond partly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. I will allow that. Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The survey that the member is referring to was conducted in 2009-2010. Subsequent to the timing of that survey, a number of housing units were constructed in Pond Inlet under the Nunavut Housing Trust as well as the \$100 million that we previously received for Canada's Economic Action Plan.

Of course, we had to update our numbers to re-look at which community had the greatest need. It was determined that the approach that would be the most equitable and fair across the communities would be wait list as a percentage of stock. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Kimball. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) With all due respect, Ms. Kimball, (interpretation ends) I do not agree with Ms. Kimball. I will look into the questions that I want to ask a little bit better and then ask some more questions later on.

Continuing on to another question, I asked this question before with respect to the Nunavut local housing associations as a chairperson I stated that something the Nunavut Housing Corporation is usually bullying the local housing boards. They want the local housing associations to do what Nunavut Housing Corporation wants them to do.

My question is: the local housing associations and Nunavut Housing Corporation... we want them to work together. However, I realize I don't know whether it was the hon. minister who responded to the question or whether it was one of his staff. If the Nunavut Housing Corporation agrees with the local housing boards that they can go ahead and do what they have to do. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I remember the questions that the member was asking in this House. With respect to part of the question that he is asking we have a policy in place, if the policies cannot be followed by the local housing organizations and the Nunavut Housing Corporation, it has to go the cabinet for approval before it becomes a policy. That's when it finally gets adhered to. Thank you.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister stated that the cabinet has to approve the policy before it's used. That, I understand. I would like to ask a question: Does the local housing organization have to

follow the policy provided by the Nunavut Housing Corporation? Do they have to always watch their back to make sure if the policy was being followed that was approved by the cabinet? Do I understand that to be the case? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for his question. Mr. Chairman, the local housing organization is what the member is talking about. The LHO boards and the Nunavut Housing Corporation work together. The local housing organizations are a board on their own and elected. They have to follow what the rules are. There is a management agreement in place between the Nunavut Housing Corporation and LHOs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do I understand that if the management agreement is not being followed? Are you saying that you'll overrule their decisions? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for his question. That management agreement that in place between the LHOs and the Nunavut Housing Corporation, is fine. Is the Nunavut Housing Corporation going to have the last decision? If I understood him to say that, then the management agreement that is in place will be used to

the best of their abilities between the LHOs and the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

If the management agreement is not being followed with respect to renovation of houses, and if there is a disagreement between the LHOs and the Nunavut Housing Corporation, we have to talk with them about what they're job is supposed to be. If we don't agree with each other, we can take over what the LHOs are doing.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kuksuk. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): So the local housing offices know what to do. Are you telling the local housing office boards in the communities that if there is a disagreement between the Nunavut Housing Corporation and the local housing office they can remove members from the local housing offices? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, with respect to local housing office boards of directors have their own policies and they also can vote for people that can be in the boards. It is using that management agreement that we can work together.

I would like to make the member understand that the Nunavut Housing Corporation will not be controlling the local housing boards. They have their own policy. We have to follow the management agreement. So long as they are going by the management agreement, the local housing office board of directors should work closely together

with the Nunavut Housing Corporation. I hope I was understandable. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you very much. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If you can respond to me properly I can really understand you so perhaps it would be better, and we can understand each other, that the Nunavut Housing Corporation can, through management agreement, can distribute housing in the community. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Those questions are the same that you are asking but I am sorry if you are misunderstanding me. We have an agreement in place between the local housing boards and the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

As long as they go by the rules that are in the management agreement, the Nunavut Housing Corporation cannot stop what the board is doing unless we know that they are breaking a policy or the agreement that is in place... If the local housing offices are not doing what they are supposed to be doing under the agreement then we can take over. Otherwise, we follow the management agreement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just trying to help the minister out. What I want him to know because they have different understandings of what is expected of

them and I am just trying to represent my community. I think I finally understand about the management agreement that if the management agreement is not followed then they would take over. Who would say, who has the say that the local housing boards are not following the management agreements? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To make sure that I understand properly, and if he doesn't understand me properly, I would like to have the interim president respond to the member's question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the LHO board is not in compliance with a cabinet-approved policy, we would usually advise the board of our concerns and have the dialogue back and forth. Generally, when we bring forward our concerns, the LHOs will, on their own, make a change to their decisions. If the matter is really significant, a really serious breach of policy, then NHC staff can raise it to the minister.

There is an article in the management agreement to place the board either on probation or on suspension, and we reserve that for really serious issues. We've had some serious financial issues where we've had to step in and put a board on suspension in order to make sure that we secure our assets. That's very, very rare that we would take it to that degree. Most of the time, we're able to work with the LHO and simply point out the

cabinet approved policy and where we have concerns with a decision was made, and usually, we able to work together. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Kimball. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you. I guess I will not be answered. I asked about, (interpretation ends) according to who, when does the Nunavut Housing Corporation take over? Who decides if the agreements are not being adhered to, and when do they decide to take over? (interpretation) Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Ms. Kimball just stated clearly, if all other avenues in dealing with the issue of the Nunavut Housing Corporation and the LHOs does not work, according to the stated management agreement, then the Nunavut Housing Corporation minister would be obliged to follow the procedures set out by cabinet in resolving the issue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. (interpretation) Let me remind that we are at department summary. Nunavut Housing Corporation. L-3. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the local housing organizations needed to be removed, would the Nunavut Housing Corporation then determine that the local housing organization boards needed to be replaced? Or would the Nunavut Housing Corporation officials go to them and say, “You guys aren’t dong

your job. Therefore you need to be removed.” Would the minister go and do something like that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for his question. If a situation like this should arise, let me see if I can phrase it in a better way. If, for cause, the local housing organization boards needed to be replaced, then there would certainly be at least three months where the disagreement is about could be revisited. If local housing boards would be suspended for a cause according to the policy and according to the law, as stated by cabinet, then they could be reinstated after three months if the situation has been resolved. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sometimes it’s unclear and I won’t be stating a specific community. Perhaps there is a situation in community in Nunavut where housing corporation officials have come into a community and then begin to bully and boss local housing associations. However, even though you have stated that there was never a case, I have heard cases like that.

For example, last year, your department caused a policy to appear before the Legislative Assembly where it stated that certain protocols needed to be carried in terms of when local housing associations can or should not be

consulting with the housing corporation. That was why I stated that.

When will the housing corporation be holding workshops with the local housing boards? Do you have local housing boards so that they could understand that there are protocols in place everywhere and that they can't just be... ? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member again. In terms of training and so on that needs to be taught through workshops in relation to new board members who are selected by their community to sit on local housing boards, if the managers could identify the needs for things of this nature, there are various training workshops that could be undertaken by the housing corporation, whether it's to housing managers or finance officers or board manuals.

The moves could be initiated through regional offices and so on. There are protocols in place that can cause these things to take place. I think that is the hon. member's question and if that is the case, then that is what the housing corporation does and can do. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister stated that he can say "yes." Do new housing board members need to be trained every time there's a new board elected? In the event that they request information and for workshops for housing corporation

officials to come and talk to them about management agreements and protocols and the reasoning behind them... .

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I agree wholeheartedly about local workshops that could be initiated with the new board members in the community in terms of talking about all the laws, as stated by the government and cabinet, what exists in the law, management agreements, and all of these other various things. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me then just ask and there have been cases where workshops have been held. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This has always been a policy, I think, by our predecessors. Whether they are hamlets and all other various boards they go through protocols and workshops like this. I think our predecessors do that and we will do that in the same way that they did.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page NHC-8 in your business plan, you state there that you have completed a comprehensive

organizational structure review, and then for 2014-15, it states “Implement approved recommendations of the result of the comprehensive organizational structure review.”

Can the minister give us an update on structure review? I ask that because seven positions were taken from Arviat and they were not replaced. Does the minister have plans to rob more PYs from my community? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for that question. At the present time, in relation to this question it has not been approved by cabinet yet the reorganization plan, that is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Will the minister have a public announcement once this reorganization has been approved by cabinet? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Once the reorganization plan has been approved... I don't see any reason why I would say no to such a thing like an announcement announcing approval by cabinet of something like this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. I would like people to remind you that we're on Department Summary.

Nunavut Housing Corporation. L-3. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The reason I ask that is going to implement it that means it is non-debatable and whatever they decide will go ahead as they plan with no input from committee members? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is an excellent question. In terms of implementing the process of implementing the reorganization, if Ms. Kimball could answer that if you don't mind, Mr. Chairman, that is.

Chairman: Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regards to the overview, obviously if we're going to be adding positions it is going to have a financial impact and that financial impact would flow through to the House for approval by all of the members. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Kimball. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I ask the minister then, as long as there's no financial implication, like if you're taking jobs from one community and probably putting them here in Iqaluit, that's okay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In reference

to the question framed in this manner, it could not be the case. I think it would be simplistic if we answer yes or no to that, for example, yes, it can be done, taking employees from one place and putting them in another place.

Just moving them around at any director's or minister's whim, I think, is inappropriate because there are various regulations, policies, and protocols that need to be followed. Therefore, I don't think anything like this could be done. They would need to go through cabinet and cabinet can't, but needed to deal with it.

If my answer is inappropriate, in the event that it could be, then I will ask Ms. Kimball to provide clarification in a more technical manner, if you don't mind. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this point, what we are proposing does not involve reducing the number of staff in any of our decentralized communities. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Kimball. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you very much for the assurance. We will go on to other stuff now.

The homeownership policy was talked about and the minister did state that it's under review. One of the recurring themes is that the threshold income is too low. Can the minister give us a date of when this review will be done and a

new or revised policy would be ready? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Chairman, while this is being reviewed, I don't want to guess and I can't really answer that because the work has not been completed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the minister can't give us a date of when the review is done, I would think that a prudent manager would, once they start a review of any program of any department, have a set date of when they want the results. If a program is being reviewed, there should be a timeline. Otherwise, we can just say that a program is under review for the whole duration of our term. Is there any set date for the completion of the review? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (Mr. Enook)(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Savikataaq. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I again thank the member for that question. Many things can be reviewed and this is one of the things that need to be reviewed. Private homeownership is one of those things that are under review. I want to respond to you properly, but I would have to guess and I don't want to guess. All I can say is that it's still under review. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's obvious that this program is going to be under review for an extended period. I guess nothing is changing in the near future, so I'll just leave that subject here.

Another different topic is the new rent scale. It is in effect now. I don't know what you call it, the particulars, I guess. Can the minister give us a rough idea... ? Using his figures here, it states that if a household income is making over \$97,200, they will pay up to the maximum rent. I know there is a formula.

Can the minister tell us what that maximum rent would be if the household passes \$97,200 and they have three kids, if kids are factored in? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (Mr. Enook)(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Savikataaq. Hon. Minister.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We look at how much that person or people are making. They would first look at the salary that the household is making.

Mr. Chairman, hold on, I don't want to keep you waiting. I'm looking at the same time. I know my deputy minister can respond to that properly if you don't mind. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The rent scale is actually based on the income of the two primary tenants. We do not factor in a deduction for children; however we do factor in a deduction for overcrowding.

We calculate the number of bedrooms required based on the national occupancy standard and compare that to how many bedrooms they have. For every bedroom short, they do get a credit on their rent. A family earning with two primaries that make a total of \$97,000 the calculated rent would be about 20 percent of their income at \$1,600, \$1,604 to be precise.

In terms of maximum rent, we have made it equivalent to the staff housing rate for the same sized unit. If that family was in a two-bedroom unit, the maximum rent for a two-bedroom unit in the territory is \$1,466. In this case, if they were in a 2-bedroom unit their maximum would be \$1,466. A three-bedroom maximum is \$1,792. So if they were in a three-bedroom, they would only pay \$1,604. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Kimball. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you for that clear response. On another matter, we know that the government is the biggest economy in Nunavut in terms of staff being hired and construction. The housing corporation's new tendering process calls for supply, ship, and erect. I think most of us know why it turned out to be the way it is right now.

What I ask is if there's anything being done to help the local small contractors in town that cannot bid on these huge

mega contracts that are supply, ship and erect because most of the houses are also five-plexes? In supply, ship and erect you have to buy the materials, you have to ship it, and you have to get it to the community. You need lots of money for that.

Most small construction companies in the smaller communities just don't have access to that kind of funding. Is there anything being done to try and help these small contractors or to help local people get employment because most mega-companies that get these contracts bring in their own workers? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that question. Mr. Chairman, for the larger units, the contracts have a ship and supply clause in it. If a company is going to tender for one of those contracts, when they would need to have good finances available and be very proficient, because these things are very expensive, if they're going to try and ship, supply and erect. If the companies are not able to ship, supply, and erect because they generally don't have that much cash available because they are a smaller company, it's impossible for them to get that much cash.

Mr. Chairman, because of those smaller companies and our efforts to support them, we get the larger contractors. The larger contractors are hired and the smaller company is told that they can become a sub-contractor for the larger contractor. We try to encourage partnerships like that so that the smaller

construction companies can also benefit and be part of the development in the community.

That is how smaller companies can get involved in larger contracts if they can't get them on their own. We really want to support the smaller companies. We would like them to work together like that in the communities. We always want to see smaller contracts be given out to smaller companies, like for the renovation of houses. The local housing authority could bring in the material and the smaller construction companies can do the labour aspect of it. That's how the smaller businesses can be made to become involved.

That is what we support. That's what we have tried to support within the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister stated that he encourages the smaller companies to work the larger companies. Is there anything in the contract, or does someone from the Nunavut Housing Corporation talk to the successful bidders? Can the minister just explain a bit on how they support these smaller contractors who get work from the larger contractors? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to the larger contractors having to use the smaller contractors, and for smaller

companies to work with the larger companies when they can't get the contracts on their own, there are many guidelines and policies that we have to consider: there is the NNI Policy, as well. We have to really apply that to the contractors.

For contractors that are going to be working in the communities, for example, larger companies have to come into the communities, and then we have to really apply the NNI Policy and make sure we adhere to it, as well as make sure the housing association and contractors are adhering to the NNI Policy. That's how we can look at the larger companies that come and do contract work up here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister stated that NNI has to be followed. I'm aware of that. I'm talking about after the contract is awarded. Some companies probably bid just on paying the NNI penalty because if you don't follow NNI, you can pay a penalty and you still get the contract. I believe that some of these big companies just bid accordingly. They factor in the penalty for NNI and bid.

I just want to know if there's anything being done for the smaller contractors that aren't getting the work. I'm not saying that they have to change their policy because we all know why the policy was changed. How are the small contractors or local employment being pushed forward as part of the agenda for the housing's contract on houses? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Savikataaq. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I previously stated, if the larger companies go to the communities, then that smaller company in that same community was not, for example, able to get the contract that the big contractor is coming to make because it's too expensive and they couldn't initiate it on their own, being a smaller company and having less money. There are different reasons like that.

What I'm saying is that the larger company would work with the SSE and then utilize the small company as a subcontractor. Although the smaller company is not an actual contractor for the project, they can negotiate a subcontract with the larger contractor that they can work under and become part of that project. That contractor can talk with the larger contractor on their own, and we have supported that process and we would like the larger companies and the smaller companies to work together like that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand that the housing corporation is pushing to have the small contractors or local employment. I just want to know how it's being done. Is there a policy, is it on paper, or is it part of the contract? How is the housing corporation's policy encouraging the big contractors to work with smaller contractors or to hire local employment? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I stated earlier in regard to the member's question, although there is no such policy stating that the big contractors are to subcontract to smaller contractors, although there is nothing written in the policy, we encourage the contractors to subcontract or work with the smaller contractors when they're working on a project at the local level.

We expect that they can work together, but we expect the larger company to work with the smaller company at the local level. That's what we expect to see, but there is no set policy on that.

Perhaps, Mr. Chairman, in the future, we can consider such policies. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With that, I think the minister should be considering that. Thank you very much for that, because we need all the employment that we can in the smaller communities. The only employment that smaller communities get are construction jobs during construction season.

On a different matter, one of my colleagues asked about the rental arrears from local housing associations, and you stated that you have a new collections policies, and we heard that in March, 2013, the arrears were at \$22.7 million. Do people get evicted from public

housing units if their arrears get too high? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Savikataaq. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to the question, if people have too much arrears and have to be evicted, it's very difficult and challenging for local housing organizations. When can we evict the tenants? The practice is quite long, so if you don't mind, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to have Ms. Kimball respond. Thank you.

Chairman: Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the minister mentioned, the process and protocol to move forward an eviction is quite lengthy and involves a number of stakeholders. Our focus has been on the development of our collection policy and focus on training to ensure that we have all the appropriate documentation and recordkeeping facilitating that process, so that we can get more aggressive on the eviction side. So we're focusing on making sure that we are everything properly so as we take that through the process, we can actually successfully get to the eviction phase.

Hopefully, we can work something out with our tenants to avoid eviction, but for tenants that are not working with us and appear to have the ability to pay but are choosing not to pay, those are definitely the tenants that we're going to work more aggressively with. We do recognize some people are just really

struggling, and we do make every effort to work with those tenants. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Kimball. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think what Ms. Kimball said is right. The ones that can't pay that are struggling that the local housing association work with them. That's commendable. The ones that appear that don't want to pay, is there a process where they're wages can get garnished? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we have a policy like that where the wages can be garnished. There is a policy like that in place. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that rent collection is the responsibility of the local housing associations but I think more emphasis has to be placed on them from your department to collect more. The arrears are at almost \$23 million. That will build a lot of houses that people need.

I assume that when rent is not being collected, either the local housing association is less that much money, or the Nunavut Housing Corporation, I'm not sure how that works. So I think more emphasis has to be put into collecting rental arrears and that's not a question, just a comment. I'm done. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Hon. Minister, although that was just a comment but if you'd like to respond or make supplementary comments to that, I'll allow you to do that. Hon. Minister.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also would like to thank the member. I would like to supplement by saying that for arrears looking at the amount of arrears as my colleague had stated earlier on when do we evict the tenants. Both the local housing organizations and also the Nunavut Housing Corporation and the government could utilize the amount of arrears that is there.

All of us, Mr. Chairman, should pay close attention to make sure that the tenants pay their rent so that it can be utilized more. It's very difficult and challenging to get the arrears paid. Mr. Chairman that was just a comment so I'll conclude with that.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Just to remind the members that we are on page L-3 in English. In Inuktitut, R-3. Moving on, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just going straight to my question. First of all, I'll be asking about the homeownership program. (interpretation ends) There are various programs here. My first question will be Nunavut Downpayment Assistance Program, Tenant-to-Owner Program, and Interim Financing Program. Is there a household eligibility threshold limit? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. Hon. Minister.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you. There is a threshold at \$125,000. I can respond by saying that. Thank you.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the answer. How long has this threshold been in place? Thank you.

Chairman: Hon. Minister.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I personally do not know how long it has been in place so therefore I'll ask Mr. Kimball because I'm sure she is aware of that. If you don't mind, Mr. Chairman, I would like her to respond.

Chairman: Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not sure of the exact year that came in but I know that has been in effect for many years, at least seven years that I'm aware of, if not longer. That is part of what we are doing right now with our review is looking at what has happened with wage increases, consumer price index. We are looking at a whole bunch of factors as a basis for our analysis for an adjustment to that income threshold. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Kimball. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Thank you to the minister and the official for their response. My next question to that

would be, with the current private home owners across the territory that have mortgages that have been signed off by the private home owners and the Nunavut Housing Corporation would that have to be adjusted if the eligibility threshold has been adjusted? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. Hon. Minister.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regards to the Member's question... (interpretation ends) There would be no impact. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman (Mr. Mapsalak): Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you. Under home ownership again the renovation program, senior citizen's home repair, emergency repair, heating oil tank replacement repair programs which are available to private home owners. Is there an eligibility threshold? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman, but I thank the member for his question but I didn't get your entire question. I missed the beginning of your question. I understood or heard part of your question. If you could repeat your question, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman: Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. These renovation programs

under the Nunavut Housing Corporation; home repair program, senior citizens home repair program, emergency repair program, heating oil tank replacement program. Do they have a household eligibility threshold to be eligible for these various programs? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I understand your question now. No, there is no threshold for those things that you're talking about.

Chairman: Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for his response. What would, for example in my community a number of private access home owners who are now paying off their premiums stages and who have resided in their private homes for 15 years now were almost half concluded their 15-year mortgage. What would they have to do in order to get a visit in the community to possibly look at these programs to get assistance? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Like I said to his last question, I'm sorry I gave him the wrong answer. Not the very last one but whether there's a threshold in how much that individual has to make in order to get assistance for renovations of his house. On the emergency side or whether the individual is an older person, the Senior Citizens Home Repair Program, and if he needs a new tank and

he asked about the threshold would be, as I said, there is no threshold to his question, but I'm sorry that some of them have a threshold.

For instance, the income threshold for the Home Renovation Program is around \$100,000. For the Emergency Repair Program, the income threshold is \$125,000. For the Senior Citizens Home Repair Program, the income threshold is \$125,000. However, we don't have an income threshold for the Heating Oil Tank Replacement Program.

Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry for making a mistake in my previous response to the member. We can now get back to his other question. If it's okay with you, Mr. Chairman, I would like to hear the member's question again. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. I think your apology is accepted. Mr. Mikkungwak, can you repeat the question?

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll rephrase my question now after hearing the answers. With these people who do have private homeownership, the Home Repair Program and other emergency repair programs, seeing that there are a number of private homeowners within my community who have not received any visitation for an audit or an inspection to see how well off they are doing in their private homes, what does it take for them to receive a visit by an inspector or a home audit? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand his question perfectly. For instance, if a homeowner has to get visitation from housing corporation staff to see whether the individual needs some renovations done to his house, they can request to get visitation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for his response. I'm sure the private homeowners are very happy to hear that in Baker Lake.

Moving on, the Nunavut Housing Corporation, as a department, will be working with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated regarding affordable housing needs in Nunavut, and they will be discussing and meeting. Is that looking at the design models of public housing units that may be constructed in the next coming years? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This question has been asked before, whether we are in talks with NTI. We don't have that talk in place at the present time, but we would like to be able to work with Nunavut Tunngavik in the future. We will be talking with them to see what things that we can agree upon, whether what would be the design and other things that we have to do before we build a house. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will speak in Inuktitut. The Nunavut Housing Corporation and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, before they start negotiations, would you be using *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*? Some houses that are being built presently, when the door faces south, there is usually a lot of snow that builds up, but according to *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*, the elders can tell you that it would be best to have the door facing a certain direction. Why aren't you doing that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for his question. That question was asked before and I remember it a little bit. I agree with the member that the house has to not face the prevailing winds, or whatever. We have to think about the lighting and the direction of the winds, and also we have to be able to listen to the hamlets because they provide the lots in the communities. The size of the lot depends on the size the house that we would build in each community.

I can say to the member that those types of things have been talked about by the Nunavut Housing Corporation, because we want to be able to have proper lighting and the doors not face the prevailing winds, and we have to have good air quality. Those types of things have been talked about and we will think about those when we do. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for the response. Will the Nunavut Housing Corporation, or the minister, be tabling the *Aajiiqatigiinni* between his department and NTI to the House? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If he could rephrase his question. I want to know exactly what he is talking about. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You can rule me out of order, but I'll rephrase my question. The minister and his department, the Nunavut Housing Corporation, will be working collaboratively with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated on affordable housing, which is titled *Aajiiqatigiinni*. How they plan to look at more affordable housing, I'm assuming a report will be compiled. Will that be tabled in the House? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. On the business plan, NHC-9, the fourth bullet. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Presently there is no annual report to table. It is just a discussion, a consultation, a need for consultation and ongoing

consultation at the present time, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On priorities 2014-15 NHC-8, second bullet, "more energy efficient." Are they applying that to all public housing units so that the utilities bill which was indicated by one of my colleagues won't be so substantial? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes to the new housing units five-plex, the long ones I mean. What we call the long ones in Inuktitut. These kinds of energy-efficient homes are things that are being looked at. It seems that his question is related to that. Yes, to new housing requirements that would be built by contractors. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On NHC-11 moving on priorities 2014-15 on the ninth bullet. I know one of my colleagues asked about local housing offices arrears. Has your department also considered possible awards incentives for the actual tenants who are trying to make payments for their debts? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. About the question, we are looking at various options that could be considered. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mikkungwak

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under NHC-14 going back to objectives of home ownership I just have one more question there. The Government of Nunavut staff condominium program, which communities does that apply to? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If you don't mind, Mr. Chairman, if it's alright with you could I have one of my staff, Ms. Kimball, answer that?

Chairman: Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Currently, NHC has delivered three condo programs. All three of them have so far been in Iqaluit. We are interested in looking at options for condo programs in other regions, but we want to do that in the context of the long-term comprehensive housing strategy and make sure that we've got all the barriers to a successful condo program reviewed and addressed before we would roll that out. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the official for the

response. On NHC-13, I'm not sure if one of my colleagues had asked this, but leases for staff housing rental units, when you look at the program budget from 2013-14 to 2014-15, you have an increment of almost \$2 million. Can the minister indicate why an increase in that area, considering the fact that they may be in long-term fixed agreements? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. I would like Ms. Kimball to provide a detailed response, if you don't mind, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The \$2 million that we received in additional funding for 2014-15 is to allow us to lease additional staff housing units. Right now, GN recruiting is being impacted by the lack of available staff housing, and we would be looking at short-term leases. Generally, we don't find any leases longer than three years, which would give us some flexibility to be able to hire for now, but address the staff housing costs on a longer term. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On that note, so does that open up the renegotiations for the binding agreement, which may be adjusted? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like the member to indicate which binding agreement he is referring to in his question. Thank you very much.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In NHC-13, previously I asked about leases for staff housing rental units and I did get an answer for that. On that same note, my follow-up question to that was: would that impact the lease agreement and would that open up renegotiations for a binding agreement that is in place or would it not impact that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. If I understand his question correctly, the regional lease agreements (interpretation ends) would not be impacted. (interpretation) Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. The next on my list, Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just wondering if you can explain the difference between a housing authority and a housing association, and how the roles and responsibilities differ from each other. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for that good, clear question. Mr. Chairman, if it's okay with you, Mr. Chairman, can I have Ms. Kimball elaborate on the exact differences between the local housing associations and local housing authorities? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of the day-to-day operations and roles and responsibilities, there are actually no differences between an association and authority. The difference lies in how the entity is legally structured.

An association is created under the Registrar of Societies under the *Societies Act* while an authority is created under the *Nunavut Housing Corporation Act*. With an association, the board members are locally elected. Within an authority, we can choose to have a local election process, but the minister has to actually do the formal appointments for the board members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation)(Mr. Mikkungwak): Thank you, Ms. Kimball. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Why is there a difference? Why do you choose to have the two models? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for the question. A few minutes,

as an extension of that, can I ask Ms. Kimball continue with the answer on the elaboration of it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To maintain their status as a registered society, there are a number of reporting requirements and annual filings, hoops to jump through. The authorities are actually a little bit more streamlined, a little bit easier to maintain and we don't run into some of the logistical challenges of having the societies lose their status. So it is actually easier for us if we maintain them as authorities. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer. Can you tell us which came first, the authorities or the association? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, can I have Ms. Kimball continue with that elaboration, if you don't mind, Mr. Chairman? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The associations came first. At one point, we had municipalities that were also delivering housing. As we switched from municipalities into LHOs, independent local housing organizations, we converted them to authorities. Since

then, as we've had challenges with maintaining status of associations, we have converted to authorities just to keep things simple. Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. How many authorities and how many associations do we have in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you very much. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The numbers that were just given to me says there are five local housing authorities in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you very much for that answer. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is Iqaluit an authority or an association, the Iqaluit Housing Authority board? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you very much. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, Iqaluit is recognized as a housing authority. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you very much. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When a board is the authority, because they are not being elected by the community, does that

mean that the Nunavut Housing Corporation has more control over that board? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is an excellent question and therefore I would want the answer to be crystal clear in terms of whether the Nunavut Housing Corporation would have more authority so could I have Ms. Kimball answer that if you don't mind?

Chairman: Thank you very much. Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The way the authorities work is the minister formally appoints the board members. However, we do encourage the local housing offices are welcome to use an annual general meeting process and use an election process to identify who they want to recommend to the minister. The minister has indicated that he is happy to support the community involvement. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: When you have a situation where you get more names than positions how do you decide which of those members will be the board members if they are not elected by the community? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you very much. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The names of prospective board members, once people have indicated their interest, there is a

committee that would review the names. It is an independent selection committee that would handle the names. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Which leads me to the question of who makes up the selection committee? Is this outside of government? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I stated it is an independent committee that is necessary to review prospective board members. As to who would sit on the committee, I would like Ms. Kimball to answer that question, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When it comes time to change the board, usually the board is involved in recommending who the selection committee will be comprised of and usually try to take different senior positions in the committee that are independent from the local housing organization. It has varied over the years between the different communities and the different authorities. It is developed in association with the local housing organization and with the board before we assign that selection committee.

Chairman: Thank you very much, Ms. Kimball. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can you give an example of who might be involved in the community for the selection? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can't think of a way to answer that question, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Angnakak

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe he can get one of his staff to answer the question. If you have gone through this before then you will be able to give me an example of who has been on the selection committee representing the community and not the government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With your permission, I would like Ms. Kimball to respond to the question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you very much, Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Unfortunately, I have not been directly involved and we haven't had one since I have been in the acting president role, but it's definitely something I can get.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. We will be expecting that. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: I have one more question. Can the minister commit to tabling the management agreement plans between the Nunavut Housing Corporation and the local housing associations and the local housing authorities in this House during this session, yes or no? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can respond to my colleague by saying that it would have to go through cabinet before it gets to the House. That's all I can say. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Is that all? Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Okay, that would be great, but in the meantime, can we get a blank management agreement to be tabled in the House this session? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. That's what I'm talking about. It would have to be approved first by cabinet. It would have to go through cabinet and possibly tabled in the fall session. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hear that the minister is committing to providing a copy in the fall session once it has gone through the approval of cabinet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. I take that as a comment. Moving on with the names, Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also have a question. I'm not sure if you will allow me to ask the question, but you can rule me out of order and I'll ask a different question. The main reason for asking this question is that apparently the Nunavut Housing Corporation can't build new homes in Cape Dorset because the power plant is at its maximum capacity. What has the Nunavut Housing Corporation done to try and correct that problem? So if you can allow me to ask that first question, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for that question. Mr. Chairman, as to where this is at, if you don't mind, I would like to defer your question to Ms. Kimball. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Last spring, when we were advised of the new \$100 million from CMHC, we did meet with QEC and discussed the waitlist, the percentage of stock, our allocation methodology, and

which communities had the highest demand.

Cape Dorset wasn't at the top of the list, but they did express that if we had additional funding, Cape Dorset was kind of next on the list and could be impacted by their power plant issues and they did express concern.

We are going to continue to show them our demand figures and share that both with QEC, PPD, CGS, all of the stakeholders that need to work on infrastructure planning for each of the communities so that we, for housing, can address the housing need as we get funding. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much, Ms. Kimball, for your response. (interpretation ends) Just a reminder that we are on Bill 2, Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance), not on capital. Department Summary. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you for allowing me to ask the question and I thank the official for her response. There are people waiting for homes and the number of people waiting for homes is increasing all the time. That's why I asked that question about Cape Dorset.

I have asked this question a number of times before regarding subsidies for private homeowners. Can the same person request additional financing? For example, if a person's house is being renovated and the renovation didn't run so well, can the person request for more money from the housing corporation? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I understand him correctly, please explain if I don't seem to understand you. For example, a person who owns a house accesses some renovation money, if he got approval for some money to fix up his or her house, can that person ask for more? Is that what you're asking? Do I understand you correctly? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you very much. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): As an example, a person owns their own house and the roof has to be fixed because it's leaking or the windows need to be replaced with better windows. If more work needs to be done, even though they had the work done under housing corporation program funding, can they ask for more money? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I understand the question. Even if it's a new house and the roof was not built properly and the roof leaks and more work needs to be done on that unit, then it would seem to be under warranty work. However, if I misunderstood your question, I would like Ms. Kimball to respond to that, Mr. Chairman, if you don't mind. Thank you very much.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think there are a couple of

different scenarios and if I understand the member correctly, if a client were to access our Home Repair Program and has the maximum dollars worth of work, which is \$50,000 under home repair on its own, there is a time limit before they can come back and request additional home repair funding.

Just because we only have so much homeownership program funding available, we want to make sure we limit the amount each client can access. However, we do have different programs. If you have window replacement done under the Home Repair Program, but you have an emergency situation where your furnace breaks down, you can access the Emergency Repair Program, even though you have already accessed the Home Repair Program. So you can access different programs, but there is a time limit before you can reapply for the same program.

If work is done under the Home Repair Program, we contract with the contractor. If that contractor's work was not completed properly, then we would go back on that contract and expect that contractor to resolve it. If you had windows repaired and then they still leaked, obviously we would go back after the contractor to get that resolved and it wouldn't be something that you would have to wait to reapply. Thank you.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand your response. I thank Ms. Kimball for the response. On another topic, public

housing that is owned by the Nunavut Housing Corporation, (interpretation ends) is there a standard condition when a public housing unit is being occupied by new tenants? (interpretation) That is my question, (interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is the normal practice. If it's a newly renovated house, then the local housing association would ensure that before a tenant moves in, it would be properly inspected to make sure all the work that was supposed to be done has been done. They would inspect that first before a tenant would be allowed to move in. If I understood your question, that's my response. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you. The main reason for asking that question is the way that some of the units' interior or exterior is built. Are they fixed up before new tenants move in or if they need to be renovated before a new tenant moves in? Do they always paint the walls before a new tenant moves in? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize to my colleague. Although I am very pleased in Inuktitut, but due to dialectal differences, we lack understanding, Mr. Chairman. I'm sure the interpreters had interpreted that into English. So therefore, I would like to ask if Ms.

Kimball to respond to that question, if you don't mind. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As part of the check-in process with our tenants, we do a detailed check-in form to identify any issues that the new tenants may have. Of course, the LHOs do endeavour to do anything that's obvious if they have maintenance staff or the materials available. Some larger renovation projects may have to wait until the summer season for larger M&I projects, but we do have a detailed check-in process that will identify any of the issues.

We also do regular condition ratings at least once every two years. The condition rating actually impacts a client's rent. If the unit has some issues, the tenant does get a deduction in their rent until such time that we fix those issue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you. I thank Ms. Kimball for that response. Moving on to a different topic, I need clarification on the (interpretation ends) Tenant-to-Owner Program. (interpretation) How many clients do you have for the Tenant-to-Owner Program? (interpretation ends) How many individuals take advantage of this program? (interpretation) Thank you.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have the figures of how many people utilized the Tenant-to-Owner Program. If you don't mind, Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask Ms. Kimball to provide the figures. Thank you very much.

Chairman: Thank you very much. Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Tenant-to-Owner Program is actually a program that was under review. One of the challenges is that we don't have enough public housing. Our needs survey identified that we needed more than 3,500 more units to address the housing crisis in Nunavut.

At this point, we aren't really encouraging the Tenant-to-Owner Program because it really reduces our stock and causes us to have to spend half a million dollars to replace the unit and provide the desperately needed public housing. Until we can address some of the shortfalls that we have in our need for social housing, at this point, we're not really pursuing the Tenant-to-Owner Program. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Since it's now being reviewed, when do you expect to have the review completed, Mr. Chairman? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We don't want to guess the length of the review of this program, so I'll just leave it at that. Thank you.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the Tenant-to-Owner Program, if it includes... I know that the majority of the communities are expected to be like that. For example, the same family members would live together in this unit for the rest of their lives. For example, the grandparents would have that unit and then the grandchildren can take on the unit through the Tenant-to-Owner Program. I just want NHC to consider that, if you're going to go ahead to use the Tenant-to-Owner Program, so that the younger generation can access or obtain the unit. This is just a comment.

Moving on to another topic, in the Nunavut Housing Corporation's business plan on page 10, for debt recovery, there is \$14,815,000 remitted to CMHC to pay down the debt. How long do you expect this to be used and when can we expect to complete it, Mr. Chairman? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you very much. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I believe I understand his question. It is to be completed by 2037. It's just the same as the funding we receive from CMHC, which is going to lapse in the year 2037. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kuksuk. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank minister for his response. My last question. In June

2011, the Nunavut Housing Corporation legislation was amended and it was approved in the House. The amendments gave the Nunavut Housing Corporation direction to have boards. How many times have these boards met? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Nunavut Housing Corporation Board of Directors meets three times a year. I could be wrong, but that's how it is set up. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So that everyone can be aware. If the minister can us who the members are for the Nunavut Housing Corporation Board of Directors? If you'll me to ask that question, Mr. Chairman. That was my last question.

Chairman: Thank you very much. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I can tell you the members of the Board of Directors, as to who they are and where they're from. I don't have that information in front of me. If you don't mind, Mr. Chairman. I'll be able to provide my colleague with information as to when the members term would be over, and also as to who the chair and vice-chairman is. I can provide that information to the member at a later date. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Department Summary. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Total operations and maintenance. To be voted. \$172,873,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree that the Nunavut Housing Corporation is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Does the minister have any closing remarks? Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the members for asking questions during our deliberations of the Nunavut Housing Corporation. I thank my officials for being able to respond to some questions that were asked by the members. I would like to say thank you to the members for having me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

(interpretation ends) As per Rule 6(1), I now recognize the clock and will report progress to the Speaker. Thank you, minister and your staff.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Item 21. (interpretation ends) Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Item 21: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Mikkungwak: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 2 and the main 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 (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Hickes. The motion is in order. All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried.

Item 22. Third Reading of Bills. Item 23. *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

Item 23: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for June 4:

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

20. Report of the Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) This House stands adjourned until Wednesday, June 4, at 1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 18:02*

