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**Wednesday, March 11, 2015**

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**Iqaluit**

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

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Amittuq)

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(Hudson Bay)

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(Rankin Inlet South)

**Pat Angnakak**  
(Iqaluit-Niaqunngu)

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(Aivilik)

**Hon. Tom Sammurtok**  
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**Hon. Monica Ell**  
(Iqaluit-Manirajak)  
*Deputy Premier; Minister of Economic Development and Transportation; Minister of Energy*

**Hon. Johnny Mike**  
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*Minister of Health; Minister of Justice; Minister responsible for Labour; Minister responsible for Immigration*

**Hon. Peter Taptuna**  
(Kugluktuk)  
*Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs; Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council*

**George Hickes**  
(Iqaluit-Tasiluk)

**Hon. Keith Peterson**  
(Cambridge Bay)

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

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk**  
(Netsilik)  
*Minister of Family Services; Minister responsible for Homelessness; Minister responsible for the Status of Women*

**David Joanasic**  
(South Baffin)

**Pauloosie Keyootak**  
(Uqqummiut)

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

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut**  
**Wednesday, March 11, 2015**

**Members Present:**

Mr. Tony Akoak, Ms. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Monica Ell, Mr. Joe Enook, Mr. George Hickes, Mr. David Joanasi, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak, 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. Alexander Sammurtok, Hon. Tom Sammurtok, Mr. Joe Savikataaq, Mr. Isaac Shooyook, Hon. Peter Taptuna, Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk.

>>*House commenced at 13:32*

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Speaker** (Hon. George Qulaut) (interpretation): Can you say the opening prayer, please, Ms. Ell.

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Good afternoon, Nunavummiut, members, ministers, (interpretation ends) Premier, (interpretation) and visitors. Good afternoon.

I would like to welcome all the students from Nakasuk School and their teachers. Welcome to the Gallery.

>>*Applause*

Item 2. (interpretation) Ministers' Statements. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements**

**Minister's Statement 122 – 4(2):**  
**Explore Bursary Program**

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleagues and the people of Nunavut. I say "good day" to them.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform my colleagues of the ongoing success of the Explore Bursary Program in Nunavut.

Explore is a five-week intensive French language immersion program offered in the spring or summer throughout Canada. Full-time grade 11, 12, and post-secondary students can apply for this \$2,200 bursary.

Mr. Speaker, the bursary covers tuition fees for the program, instructional materials, meals and accommodation, workshops, and other mandatory activities. Participants from Nunavut can have their travel fees reimbursed and can be granted five high school credits for their participation in the program. Bursaries are awarded to eligible students by random selection. No prior experience with the French language is required.

Mr. Speaker, the Explore program is one of the official languages programs of the Council of Ministers of Education of Canada funded through Canadian Heritage. The Explore program has been offered for over ten years in Nunavut and more than 25 students have participated in this program over the years.

Mr. Speaker, once again this year, there are already several applicants from all three regions of Nunavut. The deadline

for applications had been extended to March 6, 2015. The random draw to award bursaries will be done at the end of March.

The Explore program is a great way for our students to learn the French language. Mr. Speaker, learning our official languages helps strengthen and protect them and provides increased opportunities to our students.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ministers' Statements. Hon. Minister of Environment, Mr. Mike.

**Minister's Statement 123 – 4(2):  
Baffin Island Caribou  
Management**

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Welcome to the students and teachers attending here, as well to the people of Nunavut and Pangnirtung.

Mr. Speaker, I'm going to be talking about Baffin Island caribou management.

On January 1 of this year, the Nunavut government brought an interim moratorium on hunting caribou on Baffin Island into effect. The government made this decision because we, along with our co-management on wildlife partners, believe Baffin Island caribou are in crisis. (interpretation ends) As wildlife managers, sometimes we have to make difficult decisions about harvesting for today's generation of hunters. This decision is different; it is

being done for future generations of hunters

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, both scientists and hunters agree that current numbers for Baffin Island caribou are dangerously low. (interpretation ends) That said, I believe that under the right circumstances, the Baffin caribou population can recover. This will take some time and during this time, we will need patience.

(interpretation) My department has been working closely with our co-management partners to explore options for managing Baffin caribou. The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board is holding a public hearing this week to consider longer term management measures for Baffin caribou, with input from all co-management partners and interested parties.

(interpretation ends) Everyone has a role in managing the caribou population. This responsibility lies not only with the government and co-management partners, but also with harvesters. (interpretation) In these situations, we must all work together to ensure that future generations of harvesters have the same, if not greater, opportunities than we do today.

Mr. Speaker, putting this interim moratorium in place was a difficult decision, but I believe it was the only decision possible for the short term. (interpretation ends) I know that we will have some difficult times ahead of us, but our goal is to safeguard the sustainability of the Baffin Island caribou population as government and harvesters have done in the

past. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

### **Minister's Statement 124 – 4(2): A University in Nunavut**

**Hon. Paul Quassa:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to inform members of progress being made towards a university in Nunavut.

At our fall 2014 cabinet retreat in Whale Cove, direction was provided to my officials to develop a discussion paper regarding the pros and cons and possible options for the establishment of a university in Nunavut.

Attainment of post-secondary education is becoming more of a goal and reality for Nunavummiut. Mr. Speaker, the stated mandate and, indeed, the major focus of *Sivumut Abluqta* is education and employment.

Some possible options that we are currently exploring are a standalone university, a university college, a pan-territorial university, an Inuit Nunangat university, or some combination of those.

In collaboration with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Qikiqtani Inuit Association, Laval University, and Carleton University, an Inuit Nunangat university workshop will be held here in Iqaluit later on this month. This follows on the heels of my participation on a

panel discussion during the Arctic Change Conference in December. Other panel members included Mary Simon, past President of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and inaugural Chairperson of the National Committee on Inuit Education; Dr. Keith Chaulk, Director of the Labrador Institute of Memorial University; and Lars Kullerud, President of the University of the Arctic.

Mr. Speaker, we will be preparing an options paper for cabinet, and I hope we will be in a position in our spring session to announce the exciting plans and concept for the Nunavut university. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ministers' Statements. Hon. Premier, Mr. Taptuna.

### **Minister's Statement 125 – 4(2): Accountability and Transparency**

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues, Kuglukturmiut, Nunavummiut, and of course, our young students who are in the House here with us.

Mr. Speaker, one of the hallmarks of good governance is accountability and transparency in government, especially with respect to the expenditure of public funds.

>>Applause

On an annual basis, we table income and benefits received by ministers and Members of the Legislative Assembly in this House. Last year, at the request of



this House, we tabled salary and bonus payments of deputy heads.

Mr. Speaker, we have made it a priority under *Sivumut Abluqta* to continue to improve the fair and transparent practices of this government. Within that commitment, I have amended the terms and conditions of deputy head employment contracts, which includes Crown agencies. Deputy heads are now required to provide full disclosure statements to the Integrity Commissioner. The disclosure allows the Integrity Commissioner to review the statement and provide another level of accountability by an independent officer.

Mr. Speaker, to ensure more transparency, we added a condition to deputy head contracts to include the annual publication of salaries and bonuses. I have also directed my department to upload a copy of the general terms and conditions and disclosure forms of deputy head contracts to the Government of Nunavut website.

Mr. Speaker, governments have an obligation to be accountable to the public, and we must continue to strengthen the accountability of public funds on public programs and services.

Mr. Speaker, it is a priority of this government to practice good government through the wise use of our resources, and we are making progress on our commitments as outlined in the government's mandate *Sivumut Abluqta*. The direction I provided to amend deputy head contracts is indication to this House that we are indeed delivering on our promises. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Justice, Mr. Okalik.

**Minister's Statement 126 – 4(2):  
Status of Corrections in Nunavut**

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon. I wish to rise today as yesterday, we received the report of the Office of the Auditor General of Canada regarding their audit of corrections in Nunavut. I thank their office for their professionalism and diligence.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to update the House on actions that are being taken and have been taken.

For urgent issues, such as adherence to fire drills, the department has taken immediate remedial action. Staff in all correctional facilities received instruction on the requirement and importance of conducting evacuation drills. These drills have been occurring quarterly, most recently between February 6 and 18, 2015.

Ninety-eight new beds have been opened in the past two years, with the opening of the Rankin Inlet Healing Facility and Makigiarvik. Today, 24 inmates are being held at BCC, or 40 percent of its capacity. This space allows for important remediation to be undertaken at BCC. This work began Monday and will continue for 12 weeks.

Long-term solutions in corrections will be grounded in Inuit values, knowledge, and culture. During this session,

Members of the Legislative Assembly are reviewing amendments to the *Corrections Act*, beginning with protection of an inmate's human rights. In the coming months, the Department of Justice will consult with community justice committees, traditional counsellors, and others to seek out best practices for making the *Corrections Act* relevant to our territory.

In July 2014, the department met with outpost camp operators. These camps provide appropriate healing, mental health support, and skills development to our inmates. We will continue to strengthen the Outpost Camp program and use their experiences to help shape our legislation and policies for our other correctional facilities.

The core of a correctional facility, the programming and staff, will make the difference in an inmate's rehabilitation. In addition to our work towards a made-in-Nunavut *Corrections Act* and update of the policies, the department has undertaken a major initiative to hire Inuit staff for Makigiavik. In doing so, programs and services will be delivered in the language of the population and reflect the rehabilitation needed to enable an individual's full participation in society.

A detailed response to the Office of the Auditor General will be tabled in this House. In the meantime, I assure you that steps are being made and will continue.

Mr. Speaker, as a small jurisdiction, when we speak of corrections in Nunavut, we are speaking about people we know. Rehabilitation, based on Inuit societal values, will see these individuals

reintegrate in our communities as productive members of society. That's it for now, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Netsilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

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

#### **Member's Statement 259 – 4(2): Employment Readiness Program**

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to welcome our precious students from Nakasuk School to the gallery. I am quite pleased to see younger students in the House.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share in a piece of good news in Taloyoak, as there is a workshop being offered on arts and crafts as part of the healing process, and the facilitators offering this workshop are from the Cambridge Bay (interpretation ends) wellness centre. The Kitikmeot Inuit Association (interpretation) has funded this workshop to pay for the facilitators.

The people are taking this arts and crafts workshop as the skills taught revolve around family relations and community-specific traditions pertinent to the people. However, part of this course is specific towards job readiness skills. There are 22 participants in the course. There are 11 participants who are part of the Career Development Program.

I am gratified that some of my fellow residents in Taloyoak are participating in the training and that they are committed to this course. I am quite pleased with their progression. The teachers for this course are Ermie LeBlanc and Elisabeth Kaosoni from Cambridge Bay is assisting the teacher.

I will say the traditional Inuktitut names of the participants: Taraajjuk, Kanguaq, Napatsikallak, Kakiarniut, Ulliaq, Pauluhi, Pavvinaq, Pimmitsiaq, Maria Otak, Kanngualuk, and Qajuutinnuaq. Those are the participants of the Career Development Program being held in Gjoa Haven. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Mike.

**Member's Statement 260 – 4(2):  
Exhibit Featuring Carvings by  
Jayko Ishulutak**

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is one of the few instances where I am one of the first members to make a statement.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say “good day” to the people of Pangnirtung as well as my children, whom I have left behind.

I rise today to share in acknowledging and congratulating an artist, Jayko Ishulutak, who is a professional carver and well known worldwide in both the north and Canada. They are showing about 30 pieces of his work in a showcase that opened this winter on January 16 and ran to February 15.

This individual from Pangnirtung is very content when he is carving, especially caribou antlers, tusks, bones, and carving stone. Usually the subjects he carves relate to people, birds, and wildlife.

I would like to thank the Canada Council for the Arts and the Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association for an excellent showing of the works of Mr. Jayko Ishulutak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 261 – 4(2):  
Happy Birthday to Daughter, Nina**

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to celebrate an occasion and to congratulate my daughter whose birthday is today, Nina. I wish her a wonderful day today as she celebrates her birthday. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

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

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I would like to welcome our

visitors from Nakasuk School.  
(interpretation) Let us applaud them.

>> *Applause*

(interpretation ends) I would also like to welcome Principal Tracey MacMillan.

>> *Applause*

Along with the teachers, Shontel McInnis.

>> *Applause*

(interpretation) And Shannon Richardson.

>> *Applause*

(interpretation ends) As I said, with all their grade 4 students, I think this is a great opportunity for them to actually watch the leaders of Nunavut, and certainly they are our future Nunavut leaders. (interpretation) Please make them feel very welcome to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** The students of Nakasuk School and the teachers, welcome to the gallery. (interpretation) Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. (interpretation ends) Hon. Premier, Mr. Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is not too often I stand to recognize visitors and I'll take every opportunity to do that.

Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize my niece's children. There are Paul Hinnanik and Sherry Hinnanik. They are twins, but you wouldn't think so.

>> *Laughter*

Also, Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize my granddaughter who is sitting behind me, Desiree Taptuna. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names on my list. Welcome to the gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, Mr. Hickes.

### Item 6: Oral Questions

#### Question 431 – 4(2): Activities of the Qulliq Energy Corporation

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Welcome to all these great students.

Mr. Speaker, my question today is for the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

As the minister will recall, the Legislative Assembly's Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts had a very productive set of hearings last September on the business plan and annual report of the Qulliq Energy Corporation. As chair of the committee, I am very much looking forward to reviewing the government's responses to our recommendations from this hearing when the minister tables them in the House during the upcoming spring sitting.

Speaking of tabling, QEC's 2014-18 corporate plan was tabled in the House on June 12, 2014. When will QEC's

2015-19 corporate plan be ready for tabling in the Legislative Assembly? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have a date. I would hope that I'll be able to table it as early as this spring. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. Mr. Speaker, QEC's 2012-13 annual report was tabled on March 19 of 2014. When will QEC's 2013-14 annual report be ready for tabling in the Legislative Assembly? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I don't have a firm date. I have reviewed the document. There is some back and forth at QEC and the minister's office with some clarifications and edits, so I am uncertain of when I would be able to table it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just to keep with that theme, QEC's contracting, procurement and leasing reports for the 2012-13 fiscal year were tabled on October 21, 2014. My question

would be: when will the 2013-14 reports be ready for tabling in the Legislative Assembly? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Hickes for the reminders. We are working on those documents. I assure Mr. Hickes and all the members that we are reviewing all those documents again. There are some issues with the last document that we are clarifying. I don't want to table information that's potentially misleading or incorrect, so we're working on the finalization of edits and of course, we would have to get them translated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Question 432 – 4(2): Kimmirut Airport Relocation**

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Also, welcome to the visitors.

Mr. Speaker, my questions are directed to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Mr. Speaker, my questions are related to another project that I hope to see completed in my lifetime. Mr. Speaker, for over two decades, residents of Kimmirut have been raising concerns about the location of the community's airport. Kimmirut has the shortest runway in Nunavut, which severely

limits the type of aircraft that can take off and land at the airport.

Mr. Speaker, on May 27, 2014, the House was informed that in 2011, “\$1 million was spent on the Kimmirut Airport Relocation Study.” I would like to ask the minister if she can indicate what the Kimmirut Airport Relocation Study concluded and when she will table it in the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Ms. Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for his question on that issue. The airport issue is a major concern as it provides a vital service for the community and elsewhere, especially in light of the fact that regulations are subject to change related to airport operations and public safety.

The statement I made previously related to the deliberations on the challenges we face in airport operations, especially the external factors that require further review in the future related to airports, airstrips, and how these plans can be implemented. This includes the priorities.

We are aware that the Kimmirut Airport has one of the oldest landing strips still operating. I believe it is about 25 years old. We are currently deliberating on whether we would need to change the location of the terminal, as we also need to look at the airstrip location. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for her response. Mr. Speaker, in May of last year, when I raised concerns about the Kimmirut Airport, I noted that I had been told by the government that a “capital project will be submitted for consideration for fiscal year 2015-2016.” However, the Kimmirut Airport is not included in the 2015-16 capital estimates.

Can the minister indicate where the Kimmirut Airport relocation project is at in her department’s capital planning process? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Economic Development and Transportation, Ms. Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for raising that issue. However, I don’t have the particulars related to this single airport at this time. Once I have information relevant to the member’s question after requesting the information from my officials, I will provide it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, last week, I was pleased to hear the minister assure my colleague representing Baker Lake that her department will address the important airport needs of small communities.

Can the minister assure my constituents that the Kimmirut Airport relocation project is clearly on her department's radar? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Ms. Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank the member. It was back in 1976 that the airport in Kimmirut was constructed. Its possible relocation or replacement is currently under review by our officials. As I stated earlier, I will look into it and once I get more information, I'll provide it to my colleague. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Question 433 – 4(2): Support for Apprentices**

**Mr. Sammurtok**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the minister whose department is responsible for supporting apprentices in completing their training, the Minister of Education or the Minister of Family Services, as both ministers' departments look after this program.

Mr. Speaker, in order for an apprentice to finish their training, they need to work under a qualified journeyman. It has come to my attention that career development officers are telling apprentices to look for their own employment opportunities to complete their training. This is not an easy task.

Can the minister clarify what steps should be taken by his or her departmental staff to provide support to apprentices as they try to obtain employment that will allow them to work towards their certification? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Please identify which minister you are directing your question to, Mr. Sammurtok.

**Mr. Sammurtok**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll try the Minister of Education.

>> *Laughter*

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Paul Quassa**: Mr. Speaker, I believe the member is asking for the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

>> *Laughter*

**Hon. Paul Quassa**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for asking that question. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe apprenticeship is very important to us. In Rankin Inlet, the training is ongoing and it is successful. No matter which Arctic College you're going to, we look for certified (interpretation ends) journeymen (interpretation) who could take on

apprentices in the communities. I apologize that I don't have a term in Inuktitut for journeyman.

We urge and encourage journeymen to take on apprentices. In having said that, there aren't too many journeymen around in Nunavut available to apprentices in the communities. We look at local housing organizations and those who carry out work on government projects. We constantly encourage them to work with apprentices when they are not taking their courses. We do want that hands-on learning to take place, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Sammurtok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) As the Minister of Nunavut Arctic College just indicated, or Education, whichever the case may be, their priority is education.

Mr. Speaker, our government has stated that education is its number one priority. However, the lack of support or assistance to individuals who are trying to complete their education to get a career makes it appear that it is not a priority.

Can the minister explain why the departmental staff are unwilling to provide assistance to apprentices who need to find positions where they can work towards completing their apprenticeship? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for voicing his concern about this matter. There will be an announcement forthcoming later on when Nunavut Arctic College is on the agenda, later on hopefully today. The Nunavut Arctic College presentation will include details on this issue that the member referenced in his question, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Sammurtok**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I recognize that there is some shared responsibility between the departments of Family Services and Education with respect to the apprenticeship program and career development opportunities. Will the minister commit to looking into this matter with the assistance of his or her colleague to ensure that apprentices receive the support they need as they work towards completing their certification? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa. (intepretation) I apologize...(interpretation ends)...responsible for Nunavut Arctic College.

**Hon. Paul Quassa**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) We do collaborate with the family services department as well as others. I just want to inform the member that there is a



committee that looks at these issues and (interpretation ends) apprenticeship and trade certification board (interpretation) is the title of this committee. I have been informed that there are currently vacancies in the committee looking after the apprenticeship file, but that is something we want to restart.

I will work with my colleague, obviously the Minister of Family Services, as this is an important matter. Further, the objectives laid out in *Sivumut Abluqta* speak to the need to make this a priority and this will be looked after carefully. I want my colleague to know that this will be a priority. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 434 – 4(2): Addressing Mental Health across Nunavut**

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

Mr. Speaker, during the sitting, we had a number of discussions on the impact that poor mental health, addictions, and other societal pressures have on our health and well-being. Can the minister describe what steps his department has taken to study and evaluate the range and extent of mental health issues that plague our population and what resources are allocated to address these issues? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Health, Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me first start with my expression of gratitude to my colleagues for approving the operations budget. This will provide assistance and a good starting point for people suffering from mental health. These programs will now be funded properly for all communities in Nunavut through the local health centres that will look after the mental health cases. This initiative will now commence.

Further, for Iqaluit, we have been running more programs to see if we can look at the places where people suffering from mental health will be assisted. I believe this program is improving and the focus is starting to shift more towards youth. We believe that early detection for younger people can make a significant and positive difference in their lives. This early diagnostic process is continuing.

We will always try different ways of finding out how we can help people with mental health challenges. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his answer. He made reference to the recently approved Department of Health's proposed budget for 2015-16. That included a significant investment in hiring more staff to work in the mental health field. Can the minister provide an update on exactly how many mental health staff, including mental health workers and psychiatric nurses, would

be employed by the government in 2015-16? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Health, Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We already have sent some mental health professionals into a few communities, especially the mental health nurses. We already have staff positions filled in Iqaluit. We are not quite finished in this area, so I will see how we can actually further help every community. We will continue to look for new options and put together a solid plan this year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Angnakak**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank once again the minister for his response. That sounds very promising.

Mr. Speaker, given the mental health issues faced by so many Nunavummiut, it was very surprising that the Department of Health cancelled the mental health counsellor training program at Nunavut Arctic College. Will the minister commit to reconsidering the need for a program to train and certify mental health counsellors in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health, Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I said at Committee of the Whole, this was a pilot

project with funding from the federal government. We did not stop that program, but because the funding arrangement with the federal government expired, we had no choice but to end that pilot project. I stated that I will be speaking with the minister responsible for the college to see how we can set up something similar. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Question 435 – 4(2): Review of Harvester Support Programs**

**Mr. Savikataaq**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister of Environment.

As the minister will recall, I have asked him questions on his department's hunter support program in the past. Mr. Speaker, Arviat has many fur harvesters and hunters and they appreciate the hunter support programs that are offered by his department, but these programs have not been changed or updated since we were still the Northwest Territories.

The last time I asked the minister about the hunter support program, his response was that they were under review. Can the minister give us an update on the review and if the review process is being done in-house or with outside agencies? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Environment, Mr. Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for asking that question. The

current hunter support program has been in place within government since 2005. It was never reviewed since that time. Last summer, we wanted to start a review of that hunter support program. It is of utmost importance to this government to provide assistance to our hunters as the reason.

When questions were raised about this review, I had responded previously that our expectations were for this winter. To date, the report was submitted to my attention on the review, but I felt that it required further work, so I tasked our officials to conduct more consultation to ensure that this review was more consistent.

With respect to your second question, yes, this issue is currently being worked on outside of the government. They are conducting the review of this program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for the response. I understand that the review process was done but sent back for more review. I didn't hear it, but can the minister indicate when the second review process might be done and completed and the program updates, if there are any updates done, when will the new program with the updates be ready for us to see? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Environment, Mr. Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The harvester support review is a very important file and initiative, and my department is totally committed to a comprehensive and useful review. Therefore, I can say now that I feel that further consultation was required on the conclusion and recommendations with the Nunavut HTOs and communities. I'm hoping that the final product can be here in the early spring or before the spring session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Fur Pricing Program, which is one of the programs under the hunter support program, I assume, is being reviewed too.

I would just like to point out to the minister that in 2013-14 on the main estimates, the budget for the Fur Pricing Program was \$70,000. In the 2013-14 *Annual Report on Grants and Contributions*, which was tabled in November of 2014, indicated that only \$33,735 of the budget was used. Roughly half of the budget of the Fur Pricing Program was used. Mr. Speaker, this suggests to me that there is room to increase the amount that is currently paid for long fur, such as wolves, wolverines, and foxes, and short furs such as sealskins.

Mr. Speaker, I have also asked the minister on many occasions about his department's paying for the shipping costs of fur harvested in Nunavut by Nunavut hunters and trappers.

Currently, the Department of Environment only pays for the shipping of fur to one fur buyer in Canada. I'm asking the minister, because the minister's staff would put the parameters on the review, I would think, as part of the review, to start paying for the shipping of fur harvested in Nunavut to any fur buyer in Canada, not just one. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Environment, Mr. Mike.

**Hon. Johnny Mike** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As per my previous response, I personally wanted it back so I can hear from hunters and community members that support harvesters and when they access programs for hunters. As I stated, I have directed my staff do more work in this area. This spring, I want to bring the findings of this work to the House. I will be able to provide a better answer at that time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Question 436 – 4(2): Medical Travel Contracts**

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

Mr. Speaker, up until a short while ago, the residents of Repulse Bay had airline services from both First Air and Calm Air. However, it seemed that the majority of medical travel bookings were made on Calm Air, which had an effect on First Air's decision to stop airline service to the community.

Can the minister explain how medical travel contracts are allocated so that one airline does not have a distinct business advantage over another? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health, Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. These contracts have different conditions depending on the community and the airline in Nunavut. Following these, medical travel is spelled out as to the breakdown of patients, each airline getting about half the travellers. The agreements are set to follow this model and we follow this today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now that Calm Air is the only airline flying into Repulse Bay, there are often extensive delays. Sometimes medical travel clients are arriving in Winnipeg well after midnight. Some even miss appointments due to airline slowness. It is directly related to having only one airline. Can the minister look at fixing this problem to make it better for people going south on medical travel? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Health, Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want my fellow member and all of you to know and be aware that I have directed my staff to explore ways to improve any

parts of the medical travel system and those on contract to us. The system has to adapt for the better where identified. I have wanted an open dialogue for improvements to happen and an atmosphere of openness. This is not finished and we will see how things are improving over time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My last question has been answered, but I will ask whether the minister can comment as to the upcoming renewal of these contracts for medical travel patients. When does this process start? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Health, Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The agreement was affirmed last year, it is going to end in August this year, and we have an option to renew it for another year. After talking to the airlines, we will explain what is going to happen, but before the contract actually expires, I can't really get into what is going to happen. We would have to talk with the airlines first and we know that the prices will increase. Those are some of the things we will have to consider as a government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 437 – 4(2): Office of the Fire Marshal**

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to the people of Pond Inlet and fellow residents of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services, whose department is responsible for the Office of the Fire Marshal.

As the minister is aware, one of the government's assistant fire marshal positions is located in Pond Inlet. Last summer, the minister advised me that the department was in the process of recruiting for the position.

Can the minister update me today on the status of filling the assistant fire marshal position in Pond Inlet? Have you hired someone yet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tom Sammurtok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. People of Chesterfield Inlet, Rankin Inlet, and Nunavut, as well as my colleagues, it is great that I am able to come back. When you miss one day, it seems like you are missing a lot.

In regard to the question, there is a job advertisement out there, but we haven't hired anyone yet. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The correspondence I received from the minister about this issue arrived on August 26 of last year. It states that this position is currently under competition at this time. The letter states that and I received this in August 26 of last summer.

Your response just now was that the process to hire the person is still underway, if I understood your response. Can the minister explain why it has been taking so long to fill this vital position? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tom Sammurtok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Office of the Fire Marshal has vacancies in their division and they are undermanned. The vacant position the member is referring to is in Pond Inlet and we face the same situation in Rankin Inlet.

They tried to revamp the job description. However, as per my earlier response, the advertisements are out in the public realm. If applicants will be submitting their resumé's, we hope to have this completed in a faster manner. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is added to our list of expectations.

Nonetheless, I want to ask this question. The 2013 annual report of the Office of the Fire Marshal was tabled in the

Legislative Assembly on October 22, 2014. The report indicated that there were a total of 16 fires in Pond Inlet. This illustrates the importance of training particularly for our volunteer fire departments. I would like to ask the minister if he can indicate when a general level firefighting course will next be offered in Pond Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tom Sammurtok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Every year, we try to hold that kind of course during spring and summer. People from the communities, some of whom are fire chiefs and some who are regular firefighters, would be sent out for training. For example, if they go to a course in Iqaluit, the ones who took that course would, in turn, train their fellow firefighters in their communities. However, if firefighters in other communities specifically request for training courses, we can take that into consideration. Thank you.

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

#### **Question 438 – 4(2): Coral Harbour's Municipal Garages**

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for recognizing me again.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Community and Government Services.

It is important that municipal vehicles are stored and maintained properly to ensure the delivery of essential services. That being said, Coral Harbour's parking garages are extremely overcrowded and there is no room to house some of their equipment. When it is extremely cold outside, it is especially hard on that equipment.

Can the minister indicate, as it is obvious Nunavummiut watch the proceedings, how his department is assisting the municipalities to address this issue and provide more support for hamlets to get extra garage space? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tom Sammurtok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Indeed, I can only reiterate my usual response, although I don't like repeating it. Nonetheless, the communities have to submit a request through the process. When they use the capital planning process to identify their needs, there is an alternative. When our departmental officials visit the communities, they can also look at these issues. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will ask this question in English. (interpretation ends) Coral Harbour's 2011 sustainability plan recommends that this issue be addressed in the long term by constructing a new five-bay parking garage in the community.

Will the minister commit to allocating funds under of the government's capital budget for the construction of a new parking garage in Coral Harbour? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tom Sammurtok**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Once we receive a request from a community, it goes into the Nunavut community sustainability committee. Based on the recommendation of that committee, then we would consider funding for a project. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It looks like this plan had been looked at and it was left behind. I go there and I see it myself. Some of their vehicles have to be outside because the garage is so full. Can the minister indicate to the hamlet in the near future that he will direct his staff to look into the matter? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tom Sammurtok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Nunavut sustainability committee will look into that and after they do the work, I will inform the House. Thank you.

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

**Question 439 – 4(2): Building Canada Fund Committee Membership**

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have some follow-up questions to the Minister of Community and Government Services from some questions that I had asked on Monday. Mr. Speaker, I was asking some questions regarding the Building Canada Fund and going over the *Blues*, I would like to get some further clarification and maybe a little bit more detail on some of the questions I had asked then.

In one of the responses when I was asking about how the department ranks and prioritizes infrastructure projects that are submitted under the New Building Canada Fund, he had mentioned that there is a committee of departmental staff and members from outside the department. I was wondering if the minister would be able to elaborate a little on the membership of that committee. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tom Sammurtok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned previously, the Interdepartmental Committee on Capital Planning reviews a list of projects that fall under the Building Canada Fund eligibility criteria listing. All the projects are ranked and prioritized based on the GN's approved ranking criteria. I'll just give you a few examples of what these are. For example, health and safety is

rated at 40 percent; program and services at 35 percent; and sustainability and economic factors at 25 percent. The allocation of funding is based on highest points scored during the evaluation process. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister answered a portion of my second question, but I would like to go back to my first question, please, and if the minister would be able to tell me who is on the committee from departmental staff and again, like I said, from members outside of the department. Who and how many make up that committee? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tom Sammurtok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do have that information. The committee is made up of five members from the Interdepartmental Committee on Capital Planning, two representatives from Community and Government Services, two representatives from Finance, and one representative from Education. Those are the ones that I can list off at this point. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that clarification. Mr. Speaker, within the criteria that the minister just spoke to with the different



percentages, in his response on Monday, he said that all departments have submitted a list of projects for consideration in the New Building Canada Fund and that these projects have been ranked and prioritized.

Now that I'm aware of what criteria and rating that the ranking gets, one of the questions I have is that the submissions come from different government departments. I was wondering how the department involves local organizations and municipalities when determining projects that are going to be submitted under the New Building Canada Fund. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tom Sammurtok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure if I'm going to be able to properly respond to that question. I'm assuming he is asking about projects submitted outside of the government, for example, let's say, from an Inuit organization. We assume that whoever submits those projects for consideration already have a committee or working group anyway to determine which projects they want to submit. We take that at face value that they have been approved by that committee or that group. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

#### **Question 440 – 4(2): Visitation of Children in Care**

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

Mr. Speaker, I have an understanding about parents whose children have been apprehended by social services. In cases of abuse occurring in the household, the child is sent out to another community. This can lead to stressful situations for the parents, who want to see their apprehended children in the other community.

What types of support services are available for those families with apprehended children? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for asking about this issue. If they have gone through the court system where the family receives conditions that have to be followed, then those conditions apply.

However, if the apprehended child is receiving treatment or other services through the system, then the parents have visitation rights with their child where they can visit twice in one year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Shooyook** (interpretation): Thank you for responding to my question. I still have another question to ask. The reason I speak to this issue is to gain a clear

understanding of this wording used to define a household.

Sometimes the adolescents ranging from age 13 to 16 are the victims of abuse within their homes, and it is a very difficult situation when the abuse is discovered. The example of a court case where the abuser is held in remand or not allowed to see the victim, in most cases, they are sent out to another community. This is the current practice, which is why I ask if support services are provided. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the lawyers and the court system that is used up here to deal with these cases have set conditions, our department has to acquiesce to the conditions since these are legal conditions that have to be followed, although we provide the services. The conditions are all different and we can't ask for a generic condition, but we can only follow the conditions and that is the only way we can provide assistance. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Shooyook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am thankful for the clear and understandable response.

Instances like these are very difficult to experience, such as the condition to keep the child out of the community for a year. There is a case here and the parent requested my assistance to pay for their

ticket to visit their child. This occurred during our last session and I paid for the parent's ticket to visit their child.

At that time, I hadn't requested any information about services available to the parents, but I do understand the services are available now. The parent wanted to have his airfare paid again, but I didn't comply with that request. That is why I wanted to ask about whether or not services are provided to parents in those situations. Your response was very clear, leading to my understanding of the issue, so I thank you for that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. I believe that was just a comment. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, Mr. Hickes.

#### **Question 441 – 4(2): Building Canada Fund Priorities**

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to, for one, clarify the response that I got from the Minister of Community and Government Services on the last one and continue on with a similar but different line of questioning.

When municipalities get together and submit a list of priorities of infrastructure projects and they submit it to the Department of Community and Government Services and then different government departments submit their list of infrastructure requests to the Department of Community and Government Services, how are those projects amalgamated and go through the ranking process in a weighting? Are the municipal organizations and the Inuit organizations at the same level as departmental requests or is there a

separation? How is that ranking accomplished? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tom Sammurtok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From my understanding, when the requests are given to our department, we treat them all the same. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Hickes**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When a list of projects is submitted to the Department of Community and Government Services and it falls under the New Building Canada Fund allocation or submission criteria is the word I was looking for, how then is it decided on which of those projects are actually going to be submitted to the federal government on an application for funding basis? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Tom Sammurtok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) When the committees are determining on the ranking here, I previously mentioned some of the criteria that are used, and also most importantly is that this committee will determine on the most needs assessment as well. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

**Mr. Hickes**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With the infrastructure needs in Nunavut, I don't envy that job of deciding what is the highest of priorities.

I'm just going to go specifically to the portion of the community that I represent here in Iqaluit. The other day, I had asked the minister to provide a list of projects in Iqaluit that have been submitted for funding under the Building Canada Fund. In the response, he stated that there were a number of projects being reviewed by the federal government and he wasn't able to provide me with the level of detail at that time.

I was wondering, since that question on Monday, if the minister has been able to get a list of the projects that have been applied for specifically for Iqaluit and the nature of those projects. 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) With respect to his specific question to the application from the City of Iqaluit, again I cannot give that information at this point because, as I mentioned earlier, we are still waiting for approval from the federal government on all of these projects. Until such time as I have that approval, I'm unable to provide that information at this point. (interpretation) Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. The time for question period has expired. Item 7. Written Questions. (interpretation ends) Item 8. Returns to

Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

### **Item 13: Tabling of Documents**

#### **Tabled Document 116 – 4(2): Public Service Code of Values and Ethics**

**Hon. Keith Peterson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the *Nunavut Public Service Code of Values and Ethics*. I encourage all Government of Nunavut and public agency employees to read them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. Rumbolt.

#### **Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills**

#### **Bill 21 – An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, the Legislative Assembly Retiring Allowances Act and the Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act – Notice**

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Friday, March 13, 2015, I will move that Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, the Legislative Assembly Retiring Allowances Act and the Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 14, 15, 16, and 18 with Mr. Enook in the Chair.

In accordance with the authority provided to me by Motion 19 – 4(2), the committee will stay in session until it reports itself out.

Before we proceed to the Committee of the Whole, we will take a 30-minute break.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:04 and Committee resumed at 15:41*

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

**Chairman** (Mr. Enook)(interpretation): Good afternoon. I would now like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bills 14, 15, 16, and Bill 18. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good afternoon. We wish to continue with the review of the 2015-16 Main Estimates of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation, followed by Nunavut Arctic College, followed by the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs and, if time

permits, the Department of Environment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Are we in agreement that we first deal with the main estimates for the Department of Economic Development and Transportation?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Bill 16 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2015-2016 – Economic Development and Transportation – Consideration in Committee**

**Chairman** (interpretation): Are you in agreement that the Hon. Minister's officials can go to the witness table?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister's officials in.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. Minister Ell, for the record, please introduce your witnesses. Madam Minister.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is the Deputy Minister of Economic Development, Pauloosie Suvega, and to my left is Jim Stevens, Assistant Deputy Minister of Transportation. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. Mr. Suvega and Mr. Stevens, welcome to the Chamber. We left off on page K-5. Are there any questions to that page? Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Hon. Minister, staff, all members, and

Nunavummiutat. My first question is: when you are promoting tourism, how do you promote tourism? Do you go to each community of Nunavut or are you just sending flyers to each community and promoting it that way? That would be my first question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Akoak. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. The Department of Economic Development works closely with Nunavut Tourism regarding their goals, *Sivumut Abluqta*, and the *Tunngasaiji* strategy. Nunavut Tourism would like to deal with that so that they can make plans for the future. There are many aspects to the plan and work outlined. Due to this, some of the funds we are requesting and if you want to question it, it will show what Nunavut Tourism is doing for Nunavut in all aspects of tourism. It involves phone and computer or even going to communities to train following the plans set for us. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In your opening statement yesterday, you said that the increase of contributions to tourism and culture total up to \$3.8 million, an addition from last year from \$1.8 million. You said that you just promote tourism by telephone and stuff like that. Do you not send people to each community to educate or to set up something for tourism into the communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think there are miscommunications maybe through interpretation.

I did say that depending on whether it's staff from Nunavut Tourism or staff from Economic Development, we do travel to communities to either facilitate training for the industry or assist in providing visitor information and services, as well as marketing Nunavut as a tourist destination, along with other things on the telephone, Internet, video links, and what have you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the increase in funding, will we now be sending people into the communities more often? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The increase in funding is to do several things. It is to undertake the priorities that are identified in the Nunavut tourism strategy to help them build capacity and strengthen that industry. As members know, tourism has been a difficult time for them in Canada, with GDP revenues that have fallen while tourism in other countries has increased. The Nunavut tourism industry has had a similar impact.

Nunavut Tourism has not had an increase in the last four years and this increase in funding would allow for Nunavut Tourism to hire a training coordinator position that would work directly with operators and communities to identify training needs and major gaps in training available to determine available funding sources that they could access. They would help the tourism industry identify other sources of funding other than government that they could access, such as the regional Inuit organizations or IIBAs that are set with mining companies, and work with them for their desired training needs.

They would also hire a conference and meeting recruiter that would attract meetings and conferences to communities throughout Nunavut by preparing an inventory of each of the communities' accommodations and meeting spaces. They would not do the conferencing, but they would try to provide ways in which those conferences, meetings, and retreats can go to more or all the Nunavut communities.

The funding would also undertake enhanced development activities, including a broad-based awareness campaign focusing on Nunavut, its many unique attributes, products, and services, and providing assistance to Nunavut operators to develop their tourism product line and packages. You can do that in one of two ways: having a group from the tourist industry go to a specific location or with staff and other members going to them. It depends on the situation and the topic. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Does the Government of Nunavut have a strategy on how to link the tourism industry towards the Franklin find for Gjoa Haven? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask my Deputy Minister, Mr. Suvega, to respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Suvega.

**Mr. Suvega:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the recent discovery, it is critical that we have conversations with many of the jurisdictional partners; federal departments, agencies, Inuit organizations, the community, the tourism industry, of course as well, to plan and prepare in going forward.

We are aware that Parks Canada and other federal departments will be going in and assessing the site itself further, but we need to have much more comprehensive discussions with these various agencies on how we best go forward to plan and mitigate how some of these impacts might be. More importantly, we would also like to hear from the community on what they wish to see, what they want to see, and how they would feel about it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was just going to ask if you're going to be in contact with the hamlet. Also, is this funding from CanNor and how will the funding be linked with the Franklin tourism program or industry? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask Mr. Suvega to answer that question. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Suvega.

**Mr. Suvega:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The joint funding is meant to address a lot of tourism-related activities. Some of them may be directed towards this, but not in its entirety. Some of them will be directed towards this activity and there are a variety of other things that we're trying to go after with this joint funding. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Mr. Joanasie.

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I welcome the minister and her officials. I have some questions on the food distribution program. It states that \$1,868,000 is geared toward this program. Was the entire budget of the program spent last year? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The entire budget was not spent. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Joanasie.

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you. Further, if the minister can elaborate on how many proposals the department receives for this amount listed here at \$1,868,000. Has her department had to decline any proposals? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The response I am providing only references parts of the question related to the expenditures. I will use an example from the budget for fiscal year 2013-14. There was a new community freezer in Kugaaruk with a total cost of approximately \$206,400. Igloolik also received a new community freezer with a total cost of \$391,486. For Rankin Inlet's request for a community freezer, the feasibility study ended up costing \$24,010.

As to the amounts not expended, perhaps my deputy minister can provide that level of detail. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. If you are able to elaborate on the details, Mr. Suvega.

**Mr. Suvega** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Based on the information we have on the proposals, there haven't been any denials. Nonetheless, there are many communities that have identified the need, but they haven't been able to forward their proposals to our department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Mr. Joanasie.

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the official for answering that question. In looking at the departmental business plan for 2015-18, the department identifies that the Country Food Distribution Program has been operating smoothly within Nunavut. Perhaps you could provide a breakdown of the communities that benefited from this fund. Can this information be provided to us, Mr. Chairman? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague for asking about that issue. Perhaps through your role as the Chairman, we can provide that information at a later date once the report has been compiled. We can't provide it now, but once the information is ready, we can provide it to the members. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. We will expect that information when it's ready. Mr. Joanasie.

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Indeed, we will welcome that information that the minister will provide as it will assist us to understand the issues.

Another question relates to whether or not this issue has been taken into consideration in light of the Baffin Island caribou moratorium. As an example, I wonder if this can be your first priority in the Baffin region



communities to provide funding to procure country foods. Can the department take this idea into consideration? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Joanasie. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The communities are able to request funding assistance only if the local organizations are going to hand out country foods within their community. There is wording stating that country food that is specifically towards local consumption and that will be shared amongst residents is eligible for this funding assistance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiiktauq*, Hon. Minister. Mr. Joanasie.

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to the leftover funds, I seriously doubt it would be used to ship caribou meat outside of Baffin Island. Sorry, I was joking there.

Nonetheless, I'll move to another subject related to tourism. Under (interpretation ends) divisional operations (interpretation) on page 184, which you also referenced in your opening comments, the line item has been increased by \$620,000 for the (interpretation ends) divisional operations, (interpretation) if I am not mistaken. Let me first ask for further clarification on this line item, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My Deputy Minister, Mr. Suvega, can respond to this question. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. Mr. Suvega.

**Mr. Suvega** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This will be for the operations, field development corporations such as Nunavut Tourism and Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association, and also looking for staff and services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Joanasie.

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can you identify how many staff members will be added? Will you add PYs or not and, if so, how many? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There will be some increases. These funds are being proposed for a lot of things. If he's asking about community tourism or cultural industries, it will assist the communities and the sites where tourists can visit. There will be maps with information about the surrounding landmarks, training of the guides, heritage sites, and on Inuit culture. That has to be promoted, not to mention the trails that people can walk on because they would be different in each community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. Mr. Joanasie.

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I didn't seem to get the response I was looking for, whether or not they're going to hire more staff. That was my question, if you can respond to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There will be one person hired for the Nunavut Film Development Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Joanasie.

**Mr. Joanasie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank you too for the response. Let me move on to something else. For the Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association, there's an increase of \$100,000. The two communities that I represent are very well known for their artists. Can you describe what your department will do with the \$100,000 in respect to the two communities that I represent? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to your community, in the past in Cape Dorset, I believe it was in 1998 when it was first brought out. The Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association was created. We know that Cape Dorset is the longest running carving community. That funding of \$400,000 is an increase of \$100,000 that NACA usually gets for

their O&M or core funding. We want them to look more into hiring Inuit for the future with an Inuit employment plan and also try to be more visible in Nunavut. That would be the purpose of the extra funding that they are asking for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. Moving on, Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I've got a few questions here. In one of the responses to Mr. Joanasie's question regarding new employees, just for clarification, was that specifically just to Nunavut Film or was that for all the tourism programs, the one new PY? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There would be one person hired for the Nunavut Film group. That's what the intention of that funding is for. The actual main estimates are for many things in the cultural sector and programming for artists. It's also for them to set up strategic priorities. They will look for other things that they can do in the future. That's what the money will be used for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under that same category, the Nunavut Film, Television, and New Media Program, how many employees are currently employed under that program? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for asking that question. Right now, there is just one person working there and if this proposal goes through, there will be two employees with an addition of one. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to go down to the line item, again that Mr. Joanasie I believe raised, the \$1.55 million for the Community Tourism and Cultural Industries Program. It goes from a zero budget to a little over one and a half million. Are there PYs associated with that program as well? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is the program I was referring to in the earlier question. Maybe Mr. Hickes can elaborate a bit more in his earlier question, as I may have been referring to the wrong line item. When he was asking earlier for positions, I was referring to the Community Tourism and Cultural Industries Program funding for \$1,550,000 in my earlier answer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Hickes**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My apologies if I'm all over the board on this one. Previously I was asking

about Nunavut Film. If I heard correctly through the response to one of Mr. Joanasie's questions, you said that there's another PY that's going to be added to that program. I was under the impression during your previous answer that there already was one PY under the Nunavut Film category and that you are adding one to make it two PYs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Nunavut Film would get one person year and Tourism and Cultural Industries would get two person years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell, for clarifying that. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes**: Thank you for that clarification, Minister Ell. My apologies if I made it confusing in my questions.

Within the category of the community tourism and cultural industries, it speaks to "strengthens community infrastructure and readiness for tourism and enhances economic development" in different sectors. Now, is this done in partnership with Culture and Heritage? When we are looking at community infrastructure from a cultural standpoint or historic sites, doing infrastructure investment, I'm just wondering: is there a partnering of dollars? It's a brand-new budget, so it's safe to assume it's a brand-new initiative.

Where I'm getting at is: what kind of collaboration has been done with the Department of Culture and Heritage to

identify which sites have the most tourist attraction as well as the highest need for further investment? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to clarify. Nunavut Tourism would get those two person years that I was just referring to.

I will ask Mr. Suvega to answer Mr. Hickes' question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Suvega.

**Mr. Suvega:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If we are talking specifically about infrastructure, it can be rather complex, but the critical partners that we are talking to would be folks like Culture and Heritage, Parks Canada, Transport Canada, DFO, Inuit organizations, and communities. It really depends on what type of infrastructure you're looking at.

Cruise ships is something that has picked up in terms of activity recently, so it's critical to have conversations with groups and organizations like communities, hunters and trappers organizations, and Inuit organizations on the types of access and activities that these tourist groups are proposing.

All of it depends on the type of activity and the critical conversations we need to have with various stakeholders. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Suvega for that response; it kind of leads to where I was going. If there is one and a half million dollars...

Let me take just one step back, Mr. Chairman, if you will indulge me. We are getting all confused with the PYs associated with some of these programs. Are there any PYs associated with the Community Tourism and Cultural Industries Program? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. She said, "No." Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again just for clarification, this program is a departmental run program unlike Nunavut Tourism, as an example, which is an arm's-length entity that runs the program dollars, just for clarification. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Can you please explain that, Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that statement is true. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. While we are on PYs, if we're adding two PYs to Nunavut Tourism right now, how many existing PYs are there

currently right now before this budget is approved? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are looking for that answer right now. Right now, there are seven PYs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Hickes**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just going through the *Blues* from yesterday with some of the responses and it's kind of leading me to more questions.

I understand there has been a challenge with identifying numbers. I'm just trying to see the exact response and how it was responded to, but if I recall correctly, there has been a challenge in tracking the numbers of tourists. One of the staffing positions that are being looked at is to assist with the tracking of that information that seems to have been a challenge to get.

With the seven PYs with Nunavut Tourism right now... . Again, I am fairly new to the tourism side of things, so I don't really know how a tourist office should work for a jurisdiction the size of Nunavut. We are a very large territory. Are these positions based in an office or are they scattered around the territory in different communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are a total of 12 positions, including part-time employees at the visitor centre here in Iqaluit and in Cambridge Bay, of which five are Inuit beneficiaries. For Nunavut Tourism, there are a total of seven staff positions in the headquarters here in Iqaluit, one of whom is a beneficiary, and there are nine visitor centre staff, four of which are full-time staff, two are beneficiaries, two part-time beneficiary staff, and three summer students, of which two are beneficiaries.

As an example of the Iqaluit visitor centre, one would be a manager, a senior information counsellor, and a part-time information counsellor. They work all year, evenings and weekends, including a beneficiary, and then in the summer, there are three summer students, of which two are beneficiaries. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe one of my cousins was one of those summer students last year with tourism. From what I understand, she had a lot of fun working there.

One of the focuses that was mentioned in one of your responses earlier, I can't recall if it was from the minister or one of her witnesses, is that current training for outfitters and people in the tourism industry is done through Nunavut Tourism, or is it done through the Department of Economic Development? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's mostly through Nunavut Tourism, but it can be both. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In addition to the conference and meeting recruiter, in one of the responses was a training coordinator to work with operators and different communities to identify gaps in training. Out of the seven PYs that are located in Iqaluit, how many of those are currently used as trainer positions? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask Deputy Minister Suvega to answer that question. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Suvega.

**Mr. Suvega:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It depends on the type of activity and the training taking place at the time. There have been projects in the past where individual staff have been tasked to undertake certain training. We're always looking to try and go after resources and funding for new training initiatives.

An example would be something like certification in small vessel operation, but it also depends on the types of partnerships we can strike with, for example, federal departments and/or agencies, even industry and/or the private sector. It really depends on the

type of training and activity that takes place. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess that's kind of where I was going with my question. Hiring a training coordinator, to me, it means that there's a bunch of trainers that are in place that need to be coordinated or different training programs that need to be coordinated. Again, I don't understand the tourism industry inside and out. I was just looking for some type of clarification or maybe the minister is able to just convince me that the need for a coordinator of training is so desperately needed that we're looking at increasing the budget so substantially. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The increase in funding for Nunavut Tourism for the 2015-16 fiscal year does include the hiring of a training coordinator position. This position would work with the tourism operators in the communities and the communities would help identify what training needs they require and also identify major gaps in training needs that might be made available to them and determine the available funding sources, as I said earlier. They would help to identify either RIA money, IIBA money, or other monies that could be made available to them, other funding sources, so that they could increase the tourism in their communities. They would help coordinate those resources in order for

them to achieve the training results that they desire.

The funding, as I said, also is to hire a conference and meeting recruiter. One other thing that I didn't mention earlier is the additional funding would also help smaller operators properly develop tourism packages that will help create opportunities for participation of Nunavummiut in the sector at the community level, the opportunity to engage with tourists who are interested in a Nunavut experience, and can enjoy means of earning wages by that way while still permitting people to support a more traditional lifestyle or augmenting income from other artistic endeavours, such as carving, sewing, or cultural activities.

This funding would help build stronger Nunavut-based operators and prevent the erosion of tourism efforts whereby southern-based operations remove potential wealth from the territory, leaving only marginal returns to the few Nunavut residents who are only able to secure positions as a short term. As needed, support staff from tourism would assist in that. As I said earlier, Nunavut Tourism has had no increase in funding for the last four years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I acknowledge there hasn't been an increase for tourism. Personally I think that it's a challenging endeavour for Nunavut with the cost of travel and everything to get here. I can understand some of the challenges that are going on. It almost looks like we are catching up

for the last four years of funding in one year with such a substantial increase.

My next question would be: as Nunavut Tourism currently trains outfitters and hotel operators and such, according to a response yesterday, that have to deal with tourism in Nunavut, what are some of the identified gaps right now? I don't think we need a review or a report if there are people out in the field, and I'm sure your officials have had discussions with Nunavut Tourism and identified how these funds, if approved, are going to be utilized to maximize the tourism industry in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My Deputy Minister, Mr. Suvega, will respond to the question. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Suvega.

**Mr. Suvega:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Some of the known gaps can be things such as industry standards, whether they be hospitality or guide and tourism outfitting. There are also some more recent ones such as regulatory and legislative gaps that are starting to be highlighted on things like cruise ships, for example, or park visitations on both territorial and federal type parks, and also the types of resources that are on the ground in the communities or with the various partners and stakeholders.

Again, it depends on the type of activity. It also points to the need to have that critical conversation with a variety of

stakeholders to ensure that as a group collectively, they are prepared going forward on how they mitigate the types of activities that they are willing to take on or not willing to take on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With good timing, there seems to have been an announcement just made yesterday with CanNor increasing some funding, according to the article, in the amount of funding for tourism in the amount of \$802,800 over a two-year period. It talks that this is going to a community tourism project. Maybe if the minister could just elaborate on which project that funding is being allocated to. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. As this is just coming out, we do have little information. I'll ask Mr. Suvega to answer that question. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Suvega.

**Mr. Suvega:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The various types of partners are fairly good at trying to spread the dollar out as much as they can and utilize as much they can from multiple partners.

An activity like this could be used to try and capture things like visitor exit surveys going forward, which would be a very useful tool to try and gather information and data on how we best

align the industry going forward, and perhaps use that as a decision-making tool in future fiscal years on how and when to allocate resources or whether that could be used to determine to go after additional resources in different areas.

One of them could be things like legislative or regulatory gaps amongst the various stakeholders or it could be with some of the gaps in resources on the ground in communities or with local tour operators. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are these federal dollars going specifically right to Economic Development and Transportation or are they going with some caveat? I'm sure, with federal money, there is always some conditions on reporting that they be spent in the tourism sector. If that's clear, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. These funds will go more towards (interpretation ends) Economic Development and Transportation (interpretation) and some will go towards tourism. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Out of the Economic Development and Transportation's component of this new



money funding, the \$715,500, for tourism across the territory, I'm assuming all these monies get pooled together. How much of this funding is going to stay within the department and how much is going to be put out to programs such as Nunavut Tourism? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For funding such as these, typically 10 percent goes to administration and the rest to the department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With this \$715,500 that is being contributed by Economic Development and Transportation, under what budget line would those dollars come from? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The funding would go to Cultural Tourism and Industries. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I just have one more question on that specific amount. With the \$715,500, is that an annual contribution or is that spread over the two years like the federal money? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's spread over two years. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know it is an election year for the federal government, so they sometimes have their chequebook fairly handy, but with this \$802,000 from the federal government, was that provided under a proposal or did they approach the department with money left over in their budget that they are looking to spend? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It was a proposal. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Within the proposal, there is always a request to outline what specific goals are going to be accomplished. I understand, through Nunavut Tourism, they've got some components that you've listed already with some of your responses. What are the department's goals out of these dollars to measure success or to measure growth in the tourism industry? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Nunavut Tourism to achieve their goals is through the *Sivumut Abluqta* and *Tunngasaiji*, the Tourism Strategy for Nunavummiut. Economic Development and Transportation works in partnership with Nunavut Tourism to help achieve those goals that are in the strategy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Was the Tourism Strategy accompanied with the proposal to CanNor for this funding? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Ell.

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

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Ell. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I would like to welcome the minister and her officials. I say “hello” to Nunavummiut and the people of Baker Lake.

Nunavut Tourism has staff in Iqaluit. Is there a staff position for advertising Nunavut attractions? There are 25 communities in Nunavut. Do they have staff in all the communities right now? That’s my first question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague. There are nine visitor centres in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. I’m sorry. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Not all staff are working in the visitor centre. For example, in Baker Lake, some tourists go up the river by boat and they take some of the tourists up the river. As I stated yesterday, we have two Heritage Rivers in Baker Lake, Savvaqtuuq and Kangirjuaq, the Thelon River and Kazan River. (interpretation ends) From time to time, we do see canoeist that are from either Europe or from Germany or somewhere. Would Nunavut Tourism look after this portion in that essence? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It would depend on whether the tourists were seeking information from the visitor centre. The additional funding that we’re asking for would help smaller operators such as that properly develop tourism packages if that is what they needed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that response. Looking at Nunavut Tourism, my

question is a bit long, so I will just start off with my preamble.

In Baker Lake, there are two Heritage Rivers and we are inland people. My colleague who is sitting beside me lives in Gjoa Haven and I know that he has to advertise Gjoa Haven and they could use the old ship as their attraction.

Pangnirtung has their mountains. We have various attraction sites in our communities. We also have cultural people who perform for the tourists.

Sometimes we see the east coast people on TV. They have advertisements about their province. Have you ever considered, as a department, to make sure that we at least advertise Nunavut to the public out there? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The additional funding would help to attract tourism destinations. That would be for their activities and their products. It would help the communities by providing them with excellent tourist services through a well-trained workforce and start strong marketing campaigns that are essential for Nunavut to capture a fair share of the tourist dollars.

Nunavut Tourism works within the four pillars that are identified in the Tourism Strategy, which includes education, training, partnerships, and products. The products could be part of marketing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. (interpretation ends) With that, I have made an executive decision to take a five-minute break. (interpretation) Thank you.

*>>Committee recessed at 16:43 and resumed at 16:49*

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. We are now back. We are on page K-5. Branch Summary. Economic Development and Transportation. Economic Development. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$27,659,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

**Committee Motion 002 – 4(2):  
Invitation to Nunavut Tourism to  
Appear Before the Standing  
Committee on Oversight of  
Government Operations and  
Public Accounts**

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that this committee recommends that representatives from Nunavut Tourism be invited to appear before the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts to publicly account in detail for the association's expenditures, activities, and initiatives. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Can I have a copy of the motion brought forward to the table, please.

The motion is in order and we will proceed. Before we proceed with debate on motion, I have a few comments to make as to procedures. Every member has a right to speak once to the motion for a total time of 20 minutes. The mover of the motion speaks first. The mover of the motion has a right to the last reply, which closes the debate. To the motion. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I moved this motion because I feel that Nunavut Tourism is a very important entity in Nunavut and having them come before the standing committee on oversight of operations and public accounts will give all of us a better understanding about their mandate and about what they are doing in each of our communities. Having them here, we will be able to ask them direct questions and get a better understanding of what has been accomplished over the last few years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. To the motion, any comments? Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I can only vote when I am sitting in my chair.

My question is: ever since they started, did you want a report or which fiscal year are you asking for that you are seeking information on? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. You will be able to exercise your vote from your seat, even though you are at the witness table.

Additionally, if the motion is carried and the matter is before the review of the Committee of the Whole. That is when it would be finalized.

Are there any comments to the motion? I could now hold a vote. All those in favour, please raise your hand. Thank you. It is unanimously carried. Thank you.

We will proceed with our consideration on page K-6. Mr. Keyootak.

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yesterday, in her opening statements, she had stated the \$500,000 for small craft harbours. My first question is if it's just for one small craft harbour. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Keyootak. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is for all the communities.

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

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When I was running for election, I had stated to the communities that I would be working on trying to get them small craft harbours, which is very important to the two communities that I represent. Are the small craft harbours in any business plan for these two communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Keyootak. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They could be, if they make request or proposal. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This has been discussed and brought up by my community. It's unfortunate that we didn't have an MLA for a long time, so we were really behind in different things. That is why I wanted to ask questions under Transportation. My constituency would really like to hear any information they can regarding small craft harbours. I just heard from the minister that if they make a proposal, they could be considered. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Keyootak. I am not sure if you actually asked a question, but Minister Ell may comment if she likes. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. These funds are trying to be increased by \$1 million. It was \$500,000 in the 2014-15 budget and it was used just for roads, but the Small Craft Harbours Program can be included in that now.

For example, in Qikiqtarjuaq, they used \$30,000 from these funds in 2014. I'm just using this for example. Sometimes there are big boulders that need to be removed at the beach during low tide. They make it flatter so that the boats can easily go in and out. That's what it's mainly used for, to get boulders out of the bay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Along the same lines with the transportation policy and planning, and like the minister just stated, that extra \$1 million is mostly for roads, what is the department's long-term marine infrastructure plan? I'm not talking about great big ports or anything like that we wish they had built in Iqaluit, but just basic docks and protected waters for personal use craft.

I have spoken to a number of people and there are some pretty pricey boats out there that people use for hunting, camping, and travelling from community to community. In some families, that's the most valuable asset they have and not all communities have a basic dock or a basic breakwater or protected waters. I'm just wondering: what is the department's long-term strategy to meet some of these objectives across the whole territory? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask Mr. Stevens, the Assistant Deputy Minister in charge of transportation, to answer that question. Thank you.

**Chairman**: Mr. Stevens.

**Mr. Stevens**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our strategy for marine infrastructure is basically to see basic marine infrastructure comprising breakwaters, improved beaches, and that type of thing in every community. We continue to

advocate the need with the federal government, I would suggest, in every venue and every possible discussion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Stevens. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have heard numerous times, whenever we're short money or need major infrastructure investments, we go to the federal government and we lobby for money. I know that's not going to stop and I know we're going to have flashes of success here and there, but to me, asking the feds on one specific project overarching the whole government, with all of our infrastructure needs, may not be the only strategy that we can utilize.

I'm wondering: have there been other communications at the cabinet level of maybe looking at increasing funding for smaller scale community infrastructure staged over a period of years? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask Mr. Stevens to answer that question.

**Chairman:** Mr. Stevens.

**Mr. Stevens:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Some of our advocacy is relative to the statutory requirements for the federal government to provide this infrastructure and that's why we spent a lot of time promoting it with them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Stevens. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate that, actually. I read that somewhere and it filed off into the wrong memory bank. I appreciate the obligation that the federal government does have and I just wish you well in your endeavours. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Hickes. That was just a comment. (interpretation) Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I welcome the minister and her officials. I believe we're on page K-6, but my questions are on the business plan, page 197, the 2014-15 priorities, fourth bullet.

Last year, I asked about the GPS systems. I don't have a date when I asked the question, but I would like to get some information. Representing Baker Lake, I asked questions as an MLA. I was told that I would be given a letter in response, but I didn't receive it.

You work with the federal government, NAV Canada, and Nunavut Airports. The first question I would like to ask is: where exactly is Baker Lake in this regard? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Since you last asked the questions, I would like my Assistant Deputy Minister, Mr. Stevens, to respond to that. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Stevens.

**Mr. Stevens:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have initiated the preliminary design work for GPS approach for Baker Lake and the relative other improvements that have to go along with that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Stevens. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you for the response. When would that initially start? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It just started. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for her response. If this is being worked on, how long are they planning to work on it? If the GPS approach system is going to be installed in the community, are they going to be installing them in one year or two years? Can you explain that, please. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It will take about six

months, but the airport will need to be fixed up. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much. The Hamlet of Baker Lake and the community has been pushing hard to get this. Will Baker Lake have to make another proposal for this or is the work already in progress? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will have to finish the design work before we can go further on the discussion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Once the design work has been completed, will there be a delay in the planning stages for the construction or would all the appropriate proposals or contribution agreements have to be completed before the actual construction? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. We would have to source the work for that to move forward. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On that fourth bullet in the status, it also indicates NAV Canada. Would that be a joint funding proposal? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask Mr. Stevens to answer that question. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Stevens.

**Mr. Stevens:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Any improvements required for GPS approach would be sourced through GN and/or Transport Canada funding through their ACAP program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Stevens. Are you done? Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With that ACAP funding, would that initiate all the upgrades necessary so that GPS approach is constructed within the community of Baker Lake's airport? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

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

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for the response. When I look at the GPS

approach for the runway and with all that, I understand that the minister has seen our terminal building with a number of other ministers that were able to come to my community. The actual terminal building in Baker Lake, according to the information and I have seen the plaque at the terminal building, was completed on May 16, 1983. Would that terminal building be renovated or upgraded with the GPS approach system being constructed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you as well. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, that would not be part of the project. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the instrument package, would that not require any upgrades for the people who are monitoring the flights coming in or monitoring the flights going out from the terminal building? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will ask Mr. Stevens to answer that question. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Stevens.

**Mr. Stevens:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The initiation of a GPS approach would be independent of any ATB requirements. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.



**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Stevens. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you for the direct responses. Now I would like further information. The air terminal building that is used for people who are travelling is really old. As I stated earlier, it was built on May 16, 1983. Sometimes it gets too cramped and it gets too cold. I would like to know if it's going to be on any future considerations for capital projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Mr. Mikkungwak, the question you are trying to ask has more to do with capital expenditures, so if you can rephrase your question or ask a different question. Are you done? Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before I ask my question, I've got to go back in history a little bit. When I was elected in 2008, one of my priorities was to have the old abandoned airport terminal in Sanikiluaq removed. I have questioned the previous minister many times and in many letters, and still the building is there today. It seems I am having more success with new infrastructure than I am getting rid of old infrastructure.

Anyways, in your priorities for 2014-15, it stated that you were conducting planning work for remediation and removal or demolishing airport terminal buildings in Qikiqtarjuaq, Coral Harbour, Nanisivik, Sanikiluaq, and Resolute Bay. In particular, I'm just going to ask about my own community. Up until this fiscal year, 2014-15, what planning has been done to date? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The study for the old air terminal building for Sanikiluaq has been done. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for her update. If we move on to priorities for 2015-16 and again, priorities for 2016-17, they both say conduct and complete planning toward the removal of these buildings. If your study is done, why do we need another two years of planning and preparation to remove the building? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are other old airport terminal buildings in other communities that still require a study, but currently for Sanikiluaq, the department is preparing a funding request to cover the decommissioning. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When can we expect this funding proposal will be put forward and when can we actually see some actual work happening in the community to have this building removed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We can expect that to be in the capital estimates for the fall. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know one of the issues and the reason it's taking so long to have this building removed is because I think there is asbestos in the building. When the time comes to remove the building, how will this asbestos be disposed of? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask Mr. Stevens to answer that question. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Stevens.

**Mr. Stevens:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The decommissioning study just alludes to the asbestos being delivered to a licensed facility. At this time, I don't have the location of that, but I can get that information if the member requires it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Stevens. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When you talk about a licensed facility, if you could explain that a little bit, please, and whether we have licensed facilities to accept this kind of material in Nunavut or will it

have to be shipped south? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We don't have any licensed facilities in Nunavut. Therefore, the asbestos would have to be sent south. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Ell. Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to refer back to the question that was posed by Mr. Keyootak and the minister's response that there will be an increase of \$1 million that we can access by way of a request. Can that money be used for roads? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it was \$500,000. With your approval, we will add another \$1 million and you can access it for roads. Over and above that, it could also include the small craft harbours. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): You have already responded to a question I wanted to ask, but the two communities that I represent, Repulse Bay and Coral Harbour, use a lot of this money that is made available for building roads. It is very useful and beneficial to the communities. There is a high

unemployment rate in our community. It also benefits and is utilized with the small amount of tourists received.

If we make a request, is there a cap to how much money we can access from this pot of money if we are going to use it for roads? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank the member for his question. At this time, if there is an increase in the funds, one community can access up to \$100,000. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We use quite a lot of money for building roads and access roads because of the benefits it provides to the community.

In the other community, the road that they are building has been stopped because it has to be inspected first. They have to survey the land prior to continuation of the building of the road. Can we use that money for surveys such as that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In Repulse Bay, there's the (interpretation ends) North Star Road. (interpretation) They are not asking for funds from that program. We are not sure what is going to be

happening there right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Mapsalak.

**Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's called (interpretation ends) the North Pole River. (interpretation) We are trying to build a road up to that river. We call it *Niaqunnguut* in Inuktitut.

In the other community, they have a very long road in Coral Harbour. You can drive for at least five hours and just keep going. Because they have accessed very little money, it has taken a long time to build that road. Even \$100,000 is not enough to complete the building of the road. If there is a cap of \$100,000, would it be possible for the communities to ask for more money or to access more money from that pot if there is a surplus in that fiscal year? Is it possible to do that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. All communities make requests for money from that pot of money. With the program currently at \$500,000, the previous cap was \$50,000 for each community. Therefore, if we increase that by \$1 million, each community would then be eligible for up to \$100,000. Most communities usually request this cap. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell. We will proceed then. Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a few questions. One is on a topic that is talked about a lot, the Motor Vehicle Information System, MVIS, I think it's called. I would just like to ask the minister if all of the hardware, software, equipment, everything is purchased now. Thank you.

**Chairman** (Mr. Mikkungwak) (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The request for proposals has been prepared and it is currently being advertised. It is set to close on Friday, March 27, 2015. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was under the understanding that this would all be operational in the 2014-15 fiscal year. Was I mistaken? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the 2014-15 capital estimates, targets were \$2.8 million and was proposed for 2014-15, \$1.2 million in 2015-16, and \$500,000 for 2016-17. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just for the information of the audience, this equipment will also be used to make general identification

cards. If it's used for that, will the people who go in for general identification cards be able to walk in and walk out with their card? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They would be able to walk out with a temporary document. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister explain document? From previously questioning the previous minister, I know that the driver's licence will still be outsourced and they still have to be mailed in from out of Nunavut, but I thought that the general identification cards would be able to be a walk in and walk out. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The document would look like a GIC and it would look like the real card, but the actual card would come after. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will just go on to a different topic now about airports and GPS approaches too. The minister informed my counterpart that they are working on Baker Lake's GPS approach right now as we speak. I did ask your predecessor

before about this and was informed at the time that Arviat was going to be first one. I would like to ask the minister if Arviat is done. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Arviat Airport has a GPS instrument approach procedure and currently, NAV Canada is designing to improve the GPS/LPV instrument procedures and should be published August 2015. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that because when I'm here for long time and I'm on my way home, a missed approach just makes it that much longer. It just makes it easier to get home, so I thank the minister for that.

I have more questions, but they are on grants and contributions, if I would be allowed and if I'm not, then the Chairman will let me know.

Going through these grants and contributions for 2013-14 because 2014-15, I believe, is not published yet, there are a couple of grants that I would just like a little clarification on. There was one for a numbered company that is for \$500,000, it's a private business, and it is under the Strategic Investments Program. I know there are confidentiality issues, but what are the strategic investment programs that a private numbered company can get half a million dollars? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So we can follow the member, can I get clarity on the question? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Please clarify your question, Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm reading from the tabled document from October 28, 2014, grants and contributions, tabled by the Department of Finance, all the grants and contributions that this government has made in 2013-14. I don't think there is a page number here, but under Economic Development and Transportation under grants, there is a numbered company that received \$500,000 under the Strategic Investments Program. It states that it is a private business under the category. I would just like to know what the Strategic Investments Program is. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have Strategic Investments Program briefing in front of me and I could get back to the member on the details of that program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I look forward to getting that because it just seems like red flags

should or might go up when it's a numbered company.

Staying on with grants, there is a number of municipalities that got grants under anti-poverty. It totals almost \$900,000. There was one for the Municipality of Igloolik for \$497,000 and a bit. I'm just wondering if the minister can explain how other communities like Arviat can apply for half a million dollars in grants for anti-poverty. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It would depend on the application. The funding I believe he is referring to was when anti-poverty was under the Economic Development portfolio; it's now under Family Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I will be asking Family Services because in 2013-14, almost \$900,000 was given out to municipalities for anti-poverty programs.

I have some more questions on some more companies that received funding under the Strategic Investments Program, but I believe the minister said that she doesn't have that or she didn't have it just for the numbered company or for all of them. Clarity, please. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. (interpretation) If you can explain that further, Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have Deputy Minister Mr. Suvega answer that question. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Suvega.

**Mr. Suvega:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of the funding provided through grants and contributions to businesses and organizations, we do have program guidelines that are outlined and approved on our website.

Specifically for the Strategic Investments Program, there are two schedules to that, Nunavut Economic Foundations Fund and Nunavut Equity Investment Fund. One would be for profit and the other one would be for a non-profit. As for numbered companies, that depends on how the companies are registered to do business within Nunavut. On the application amounts or funding amounts, that depends on the applications and the conditions within that program application.

We will have to perhaps ask for some clarity on what specific amounts and numbered company you are referring to and we would be happy to get back to the member on them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I sort of get his explanation. I know he said that there is an application process for these companies and they get money. Some of them are quite huge amounts. It would be nice if we could get some information on what the money was going to be used for, like another column there. Was it used to make jobs?

Was it used to bring in products to sell cheaper?

Some of the strategic investment amounts are huge amounts. The government gives out lots of money in grants and contributions. We are accountable to government public money. We don't get to see it. I guess they get to see it. My short question would be: do you check to see if you actually get results for the money that you have given companies and that they actually do what they stated they were going to do? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The grants and contributions, the way those programs work is that most of the time, contributions are provided to the various organizations or businesses. Most of the time, they are given a certain amount with a withheld [amount]. After a reporting period and if it's satisfactory, then the withheld amount is given to the company. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just by looking at more companies here, there is a company called Arctic Kingdom that received grants four times. I assume that you can apply as often as you want because this company received grants on four different occasions. I guess a company can apply as often as they want. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It would depend on which type of application they're providing to and which program they're requesting funding for.

The Government of Nunavut supports business development in the territory in five principle ways. It's either through financial contributions for business development projects; access to credit for investment in business development projects; information and advice, including efforts to reduce the burden of red tape; support for business and trade associations; and preferential treatment for Inuit and Nunavut business in government contracting through the application of the NNI Policy.

We also have \$21.7 million that the department allocates through contributions. That was in 2014-15 and they were aimed at assisting small businesses, which includes the Small Business Support Program of \$823,000; the Strategic Investments Program, a large part of \$3.9 million; the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation, \$600,000; business development centres, \$1.5 million; and the Baffin Chamber of Commerce at \$195,000. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do you have to be a registered business and do business in Nunavut to receive grants under your department? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know Mr. Suvega touched on this a bit, but I didn't get the gist of it. Can he just explain what the Strategic Investments Program is? What is the purpose of it? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica El:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask Mr. Suvega to answer that question. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Suvega.

**Mr. Suvega:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Strategic Investments Program is largely aimed at the more mature business sector or business organizations, both for profit and non-profit. It could be a municipal corporation. It could be a not-for-profit hunters and trappers organization, just as an example.

The types of projects that are starting to surface throughout Nunavut, depending on the types of activities, are starting to get more and more mature as development starts to occur across the various economic sectors. Fisheries, for example, we're starting to see some pretty exciting things across the board. There are some tourism-related activities as well and some business growth activities.

Again, it depends on what type of applications that applicants are seeking. We also try and look to partner with other lending organizations to see if we can partner up or match up on dollars that we can provide to various organizations and/or companies within Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I heard the explanation. I'll ask it simply. Can it be used to buy capital or does it have to be used just to create jobs or can it be used to buy a boat or help buy another restaurant or another hotel? What can it be used for? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like Mr. Suvega to respond. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Mr. Suvega.

**Mr. Suvega:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Typically with the type and nature of this program, most times, I think new organizations will utilize it for things like business start-up, match funding from other lending organizations. Again, a lot of organizations that are, let's say for example, not-for-profit tend to look at this program to augment some of their activities. It really depends on the types of applications that we receive. As I mentioned, it does touch across most, if not all, economic sectors. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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



**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think he stated that it could be used for almost anything. Earlier, he said that it was used for mature companies, but now he just stated that it is for new start-ups. Can he just clarify the statement? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask my colleagues if Tanya Winmill can go to the witness table so that she can respond to the question and sit to the right of me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Does the committee agree for the new official to enter the witness table?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. (interpretation): Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the new witness in and the other witness out.

Thank you very much. Mr. Savikataaq, please repeat your question so that you can get your response. Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ms. Winmill, welcome back.

My question was, earlier Mr. Suvega said that the Strategic Investments Program is for mature companies and later on, he said it is for new start-ups. I was asking on exactly what it can be used for. Can it be used to buy capital like a new boat, a hotel, a restaurant, or additions? I just want a general description of what these funds can be used for and what it is used for. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like Ms. Winmill to respond to that question. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Ms. Winmill.

**Ms. Winmill:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Strategic Investments Program provides funding for a variety of things.

For example, the project that you were asking about earlier about the numbered company is actually the Arctic Haven Wilderness Lodge in Arviat. We have also funded for the purchase of a boat in another program. We have provided additional funding to support training in a wide array of fields throughout the territory. Rehabilitation work, for example, there was a company and their building didn't pass the code, so we assisted them with partnering with lending organizations like the deputy minister alluded to previously.

There are many different projects that can be considered under this program and looked at by the department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This numbered company that is apparently in Arviat must be Arctic Haven. They're well camouflaged, I'll tell you. I live there and I don't know about it. That's just a comment.

I think there would be fewer questions here if we knew exactly what this money

was being used for. The Minister of Finance produces the report and he tables it, the grants and contributions. Maybe through you, could I ask him if he would be willing to add another column for the next time that the grants and contributions report comes out? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Are you done with your questions? Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) We are on Economic Development and Transportation. Branch Summary. Transportation. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to talk about transportation. I want to talk about the limited marine infrastructure that we have in Iqaluit. I don't see it mentioned anywhere in the business plan, yet I think everybody knows how much we need better marine support for our hunters and those who enjoy boating. What we do have is really inadequate. I don't even want to call it a loading dock because it's basically just a gravel road kind of going down into the water. The causeway is almost unusable.

I'm wondering what plans the department has in regard to fixing that to where it's actually usable. I know that sometimes the department puts a few thousand dollars into it and throws down some gravel, but I think we need a lot more than that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (Mr. Enook)(interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I agree. We are doing an RFP this spring for the maintenance of the causeway. I agree that Iqaluit has no modern marine facility and requires one in order to provide safe anchorage for marine carriers. The work that we are proposing for this year is to do the upgrade for what is currently there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that every year, an RFP goes out. Last year, it was very late. It came out in mid-July and that was really unfortunate. People wanting to go out boating had to really literally go over boulders of rocks. I personally saw a boat come right off of the trailer because it was bouncing so much. I think it was mentioned earlier that those are significant investments that people have in order to maintain their way of life and going out hunting. I think we all like that.

The thing that concerns me is because there are so many boaters, and I'll use the breakwater as an example, there are a lot of boaters and every summer, the number of boaters or boats needing to launch off or come back to Iqaluit are growing. I know that personally, my husband and I have waited over an hour sometimes to get into the water. You are lining up and you are lining up through that road right across from all the public housing units.

The kids are everywhere. There are trucks going back and forth. I think it would be proactive of the department to really go and take a look now before an accident is going to happen because of the number of people and kids going back and forth with trucks. I think you really need to look at perhaps adding another, I don't know what you call that, launch pad or whatever because with only one, it creates a huge backup.

Maybe if you want to meet with... . There's a group that has started in Iqaluit and I'm sorry I can't remember the name of the group, but I have communicated with them through Facebook. These people are boaters who have the same concerns and they have been on their own. You know, they volunteer and they go around the beach area to clean up and try to move a few rocks. It would be good, I think, for your department to meet with them and say, "How can we address some of your concerns?" Because you know what, I think some of those concerns are really doable; it just takes some organization.

Throwing \$30,000 something, although that is a lot of money, every year, that's about the amount that goes towards fixing up our limited marine infrastructure and I don't think it's enough. You need to put more into that. Instead of just putting gravel down, we need to have something that will stay.

I would just like your thoughts and your comments on that, and if you can ask your department to meet with this group and with hunters or whoever wants to meet to talk about this and also to address the safety issue that I raised. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have met with the group that the member is talking about. We are always open to meeting anyone, actually. I always have an open door approach and I can be approached at any time.

We have discussed ways in which to improve the work that is being done. Instead of waiting for the fall, this year we are putting an RFP out earlier in the spring. We have discussed ways in which we can improve the work that is done there. Also, we are working on increasing the grants and contributions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ell. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister share with us what came about from those discussions with the group? What are the next steps? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My deputy minister met with this group and I would like him to respond. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Suvega.

**Mr. Suvega:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We were invited a few times and have actually sat down with the Facebook group that was formed in town. Although they are not a formally recognized not-for-profit organization

yet, I think that's one of the things that the group recognize that they will need to do to maybe perhaps move towards things like next steps and identifying some of the things that they want to go after.

We have sat down with them on a few things to try and identify how we can best go forward. We took some of their suggestions in, such as getting out the RFPs earlier for the maintenance of the marine facilities. We also talked a little bit about things like safety. Having discussions with various other organizations such as the city will also be critical in addressing some of those safety concerns going forward.

This is very typical of the types of conversations that departmental officials will have with communities. This isn't unique to Iqaluit. There are quite a few other communities that are starting to see expanded growth in the number of personal boaters and the number of vehicles that are growing all the time. We have committed to continuing to meet with not just the group here but all the communities that do continue to approach us on a regular basis. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can I ask the minister or the department what they're planning this year in regard to the RFP? What is it that you're asking for? Are we asking for the same thing that we asked for last year to throw down some gravel or are we doing something a bit different this year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We want to proceed with the regular things that we have, but we have room to consider. The fund that is available for Nunavut is only \$500,000, but if you approve this budget, it will increase. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister also look at the safety issues, especially around the breakwater issue? Can you get somebody to really go and assess that, take a look and take pictures, to try and come up with a different way of maybe how boats are being launched into the water? With only one, it really does create such a backlog and we don't want it to get it to the point where somebody gets really hurt because that's going to happen. We have a lot of kids there. It's in a very busy area with the coffee shop right there. I really believe that it's vital to take a look at the safety issue there too because it's getting to that point. That's all. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Yes.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Moving on. Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a question on page 197 of

your business plan on the Northern Aviation Scholarship. I think that's a \$5,000 scholarship. I'm just wondering if that's used up or do you get six people that apply. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If they're pursuing an aviation-related career in the north, they can each receive 1 of 16 \$5,000 scholarships. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you. Is that just within Nunavut or can they go outside of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) It's for Nunavummiut who are pursuing aviation-related careers anywhere. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Akoak.

**Mr. Akoak:** The reason I got to this is because I had one of my constituents that tried and got the scholarship of \$5,000 and he was short \$10,000. He had to look for more funding from somewhere else. If that does ever happen, I can now go back and ask for more scholarship funding? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is for one student only, \$5,000. That's the limit per student. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. (interpretation ends) Mr. Akoak is done. (interpretation) We're on Economic Development and Transportation. Branch Summary. Transportation. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$28,516,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Let us go back to page K-3. Department Summary. Economic Development and Transportation. Detail of Expenditures. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$68,000,101. Do you agree?

I'm sorry. Let me say it properly this time. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$68,101,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. My colleagues, do we agree that the Department of Economic Development and Transportation is concluded?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister, as we conclude your department, if you have any closing comments, I give you the floor now. Minister Ell.

**Hon. Monica Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank my fellow MLAs for asking all the good questions about our programs.

I thank my officials for coming here and for being very helpful, as well as all the staff everywhere in the Department of Economic Development and Transportation.

I would also like to thank George Kuksuk, the previous minister of the department that I'm in now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister's officials out.

As we proceed, perhaps we will take a 10-minute break to prepare for the next department. We will return in 10 minutes. Thank you.

>>*Committee recessed at 18:09 and resumed at 18:25*

**Bill 16 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2015-2016 – Nunavut Arctic College – Consideration in Committee**

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you for coming back. I would now like to call the committee meeting to order. We will be dealing with Nunavut Arctic College. The minister is ready now. First of all, before we proceed, I would like to ask Minister Quassa, do you have officials that you would like to bring to the table? Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I do. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Does the committee agree to bring the minister's officials in?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister, (interpretation) please introduce your witnesses. Minister.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for welcoming us. To my left is Peter Ma, President of Nunavut Arctic College, and to my right is Marcelo Parungao, Financial Comptroller. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Welcome to the House. We will now proceed. I first give you the opportunity to make your opening comments, minister.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and my colleagues. I am pleased to present to members today Nunavut Arctic College's 2015-16 main estimates and business plan.

As members know, as we fully know, one of the priorities in *Sivumut Abluqta* is self-reliance and optimism through education and training. That is the key to starting it. Nunavut Arctic College has a key role in advancing this priority.

The college's total budget for 2015-16 is \$47.9 million, which is a \$2.5 million increase from the 2014-15 total budget of \$45.4 million. The majority of this increase in our proposal, \$1.8 million, is from outside of the Nunavut government. Total third party funding

from outside the Nunavut government is \$11 million. The contribution from the Government of Nunavut of \$32.6 million is slightly up from \$32.2 million. The balance of the college's revenues is from tuition and other sources totalling \$4.3 million.

The total number of PYs will increase from 211.6 to 224.6. Eight of the PYs are a result of Nunavut government funded third party agreements and out of that, five positions are funded through the Inuit Language Implementation Fund and three are funded for the delivery of the Early Childhood Education Program. The remaining five positions are to enhance student services.

The college will continue to deliver its core programs, such as the Nunavut Teacher Education Program and the Bachelor of Arctic Nursing Program. For the older adults who are too old to go to our schools and they want to pursue further education, the Pathway to Adult Secondary School (PASS) graduation program will be expanding to additional communities.

(interpretation ends) Ongoing funding is a continual challenge for the college for its non-base funded programs, such as the Early Childhood Education Program and adult basic education programs. Our partner, the Government of Canada, is a good partner, but either an annual funding proposal is required or longer term multi-jurisdictional proposals are needed to secure funding. The Early Childhood Education Program, which includes an Inuit cultural component, will enhance the skill set and knowledge of daycare workers throughout Nunavut.

The college has submitted a 2015-16 funding proposal to the Government of Canada. The three territorial colleges, in the fall of 2014, submitted a business case to the Government of Canada for pan-territorial funding for industry training. It is anticipated that the Government of Canada will favourably receive this business case, which will replace adult basic education funding that is expiring in 2015-16. The Pan-territorial Framework for Industry Training has been designed to respond to existing and emerging industry-specific requirements across the north, with an emphasis on collaboration and capturing efficiencies across the three territories.

(interpretation) I had the opportunity in January to visit the trades and technology training centre, and I hope you understand what that means, in Rankin Inlet. It was good to see the diversity of students attending classes in a variety of trades. Trades training continues to be an area of opportunity for Nunavummiut to enter the workplace because of the myriad of employment opportunities after they complete their courses in Rankin Inlet. The college is continuing to expand its suite of programs where possible to provide even more training possibilities.

As members know, Piquisilirivvik, in addition to its facility in Clyde River, has satellite operations in Igloolik and Baker Lake. We know that Nunavut is comprised of three regions. Efforts are being made to identify opportunities to provide programming in the Kitikmeot region.

The college has recognized that its students are becoming more of a computer age generation. This means

that the college needs to identify how to increase bandwidth capacity to increase online course delivery. Distance learning has the advantage of allowing students to stay in their communities to receive their education.

(interpretation ends) One of the goals of the Government of Nunavut is to create a diversified workforce to meet the needs of communities and Nunavummiut. As such, the college is looking into ways to expand its programming to provide appropriate training in public administration, to increase not only the number of public servants in management positions, but also to increase the likelihood of these individuals reaching senior positions, such as deputy heads. This also contributes to the Government of Nunavut's goal of achieving a representative workforce under Article 23 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement.

Aside from program delivery in 2015-16, the college will be examining how it can continue to enhance its student services to ensure that the health and well-being of its students is maintained. Academic success is both physical and mental well-being.

The college will be continuing its development of the Inuit Language and Culture Centre of Excellence. The Inuit Language and Culture Centre of Excellence is part of the foundation for the eventual creation of a university college. The establishment of the Inuit Language and Culture Centre of Excellence will enable the college to:

- Develop, maintain, and deliver quality, comprehensive, relevant

Inuit language and culture curriculum;

- Provide consistent best practice based instruction;
- Provide a network of support, direction, and collaboration of Inuit language and culture personnel;
- Maximize efficient use of human and physical resources; and
- Provide an actively maintained accessible repository of resource materials.

(interpretation) As the college looks towards the future, it needs to consider securing long-term non-Government of Nunavut funding sources which would address the ongoing funding challenges noted earlier. This means cultivating individuals, corporations, or foundations that will eventually become future endowers.

Attainment of post-secondary education is becoming more of a goal and reality for Nunavummiut. At our fall 2014 cabinet retreat, direction was provided to my officials to develop a discussion paper on the establishment of a university in Nunavut. The college is preparing a discussion paper that will examine the pros and cons and possible options and models for the establishment of a university in Nunavut.

Some possible options are a standalone university, a university college, and possibly there are the three territories, the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut, where we considered a pan-territorial university, an Inuit Nunaat university, or a combination of



these options. There are a number of other considerations that will also need to be explored, such as a governance model, enabling legislation and infrastructure. Those are other considerations we have to keep in mind.

(interpretation ends) I believe in the importance of communication. Communication is important in order to ensure that the college facilities are utilized to the extent possible and Nunavummiut take advantage of the training and education opportunities available to them. The board of governors has expressed the same desire and initiated a student stories contest. Students write and submit stories describing their experience at the college and how attending the college has impacted their lives. A prize is also going to be awarded.

(interpretation) The college has been examining how it can improve communication within the college to potential students and to the community at large. I am confident that forthcoming changes will only serve to enhance communication.

Even though the college's overall budget increase is minimal, I would like the members to know that a significant amount of future planning is being undertaken in 2015-16. This is the reason why I spoke about some of the aforementioned items.

Mr. Chairman, I would be pleased to answer any questions that members might have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Does the Chair of the Standing

Committee on Social Wellness have opening comments? Mr. Joanasié.

**Mr. Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the Chair of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness, I am pleased to make opening comments as we begin deliberations on the proposed 2015-16 budget of Nunavut Arctic College.

Mr. Chairman, the college's total budget is made up of a base contribution from the Government of Nunavut, third party funding, and revenue from other sources, such as tuition fees. The Government of Nunavut's proposed contribution of \$32,625,000 to Nunavut Arctic College for 2015-16 is a slight increase over the contribution amount approved for 2014-15. Nunavut Arctic College anticipates an overall budget of close to \$48 million for 2015-16, including third party funding and other sources.

Mr. Chairman, Nunavut Arctic College plays an important role in preparing, training, and educating Nunavummiut for our economy, our public service, and our future. The standing committee recognizes that the college will focus on training in early childhood education, strengthening Inuit language and culture components within several fields, as well as working closely with the government and other partners to improve employment opportunities for Nunavummiut through training and education.

Mr. Chairman, standing committee members have noted a significant need for training and certifying Nunavummiut in health and wellness careers, specifically in the area of mental health counselling and social work. Members

strongly encourage the college to renew its focus on course delivery options in this area. While the committee has noted the ongoing success of the Arctic Nursing Program, members encourage the college in its efforts to provide additional supports for new graduates and ensure that they receive the necessary instruction, mentorship, and assistance to truly succeed in filling nursing positions across our territory.

The standing committee continues to recommend that the college increase programs relating to language services and in particular, stresses the need for the development and delivery of Interpreter/Translator Programs and certification. Members recognize that investments are being made in the college's Inuit Language and Culture Centre of Excellence as well as in the Piqusilirivvik Cultural School and look forward to receiving updates on progress in this area.

Mr. Chairman, community learning centres play an important role in the delivery of programs at the community level, enabling community residents to improve their skills as well as to prepare for opportunities in further education or employment. The standing committee recognizes that there are significant challenges in delivering courses and programming to communities and regions using online distance learning. The standing committee encourages college representatives to continue working with officials from the Department of Community and Government Services and the Department of Education to find cost-effective solutions for providing sufficient bandwidth and satellite access for online learning opportunities.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening remarks. Individual members may also have questions and comments as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Joanasie. (interpretation ends) Well read. (interpretation) If members have any general comments on the opening comments, I now give you the floor, but please note that the contents of the opening comments are covered in the branches of the college. If you have detailed questions, ask them under the appropriate branch.

If there any general comments, I now give you the floor. There being none. We will go to page M-3. Department Summary. Nunavut Arctic College. Nunavut Arctic College. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to start off with one of the comments that were put in the business plan on IT bandwidth and satellite access for online learning activities. I was noting with some interest in the document that the minister tabled yesterday on enhancing adult basic education in Nunavut. I noticed that there was a section in there that highlights some of the work that has been going on in the e-learning sector.

As the minister is, I'm sure, very much aware, I have brought this up with a couple of ministers of the challenge that we have in Nunavut of accessing suitable bandwidth, especially for education purposes, as I have spoken about in the House here. What ongoing discussions are occurring? As I stated to

the Minister of Community and Government Services just a couple of weeks ago, there just doesn't seem to be a light at the end of the tunnel for increasing bandwidth for Nunavummiut. Maybe if the Minister of Arctic College would be able to respond to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague for that question. If it is okay with you, Mr. Chairman, we have another official who is sitting in the gallery and I would like to introduce her. Elaine Uppahuak-Prusky works with Nunavut Arctic College. She is one of the officials here and I just wanted to introduce her to my colleagues.

(interpretation ends) The college certainly has had discussions with Industry Canada regarding the bandwidth capacity. Certainly, as the member stated very clearly, there are no short-term fixes at all for this issue and at this time, influencing the future direction of industry of policy is the focal point.

We certainly continue working with the Department of Community and Government Services to find ways to increase bandwidth capacity. Again, because the college and the Department of Education share a core business network, we have agreed to work together to identify potential opportunities to maximize bandwidth usage and plan for anticipated future growth.

I don't know if I specifically answered your question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Hickes**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister may want to defer this to the Minister of Education, but one of the concerns that I have been trying to focus on and as the minister just alluded to, there is a focused bandwidth that is used for education purposes.

I believe, during Education's appearance, I asked the minister a question on this topic. The response was that they were looking at scheduling different peak hours for different regions for different schools. I realize that it's not as simple to increase the bandwidth, but that seems like a fairly arduous task in itself to try and coordinate different schools across three time zones to achieve maximum availability of what bandwidth is available.

I can't stress enough and I truly hope Industry Canada is paying attention to the proceedings and to this topic that I keep bringing up. You had mentioned that you yourself had brought this to the attention of the Minister responsible for Industry Canada. In the dialogue with the federal government, has there been any progress? Is there a light at the end of the tunnel? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Hon. Minister.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
(interpretation ends) To see the light at the end of the tunnel, if you don't mind,

Mr. Chairman, I would like my president of Nunavut Arctic College to further respond to this wonderful question.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Ma, to the wonderful question.

**Mr. Ma:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the minister has indicated, the lead is actually with the Department of Community and Government Services.

However, having said that, I had the opportunity in December, I think it was, to speak to some officials from Industry Canada that were here at the time. I was given a short presentation on some of the opportunities for Nunavummiut to participate in the workforce.

Thanks for reminding me to speak slow; I tend to get a little excited.

At that time, we had some discussions and basically, as the minister indicated, the view is that if we can influence their longer term thinking from a policy perspective, then we can kind of move forward.

Now, I could be wrong because I didn't really listen intently when the Department of Community and Government Services was up, but I think, at that time, they indicated also that they had some conversations with Industry Canada as well.

I think you yourself indicated that there was a report. I think it's called Canada 150 or something like that. Because Canada's anniversary is coming up in 2017, the federal government also has a dream. If we're going to get there with them, they kind of need to help us out.

We're kind of hoping to draft most of the policy document that will make us see the light at the end of the tunnel. It should be coming sooner rather than later. I would like to say that progress is moving fast, but as you know, working with our federal counterparts sometimes is a bit arduous and slow. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To use a poor analogy, I hope that the light at the end of the tunnel isn't a train.

I would like to draw attention to the letter of expectation. I believe it's on the second page where it speaks under the topic of achieving academic excellence and it speaks to the PLAR program, or recognition of prior learning, for people who aren't familiar with it, and that it be incorporated into all programs.

Now, in the letter of expectation, the minister is requesting quarterly reports. I think it's safe to assume that the minister and his officials will be up to speed on how the PLAR program is working. I was involved with some of the early design of the program and helping roll it out a little bit when I was with the Department of Education. We saw a lot of potential for that program. I would just like to see: is that potential being realized? Maybe if the minister would be able to just update me on how the PLAR program is working and what type of results are being achieved. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If it's okay with you, Mr. Chairman, my president will respond to the question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Ma, nice and slow.

**Mr. Ma:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the gentle reminder.

As Member Hickes has indicated, PLAR, prior learning and recognition, gives you credit for things that you already have taken in school so that you don't have to repeat something again. It doesn't make sense to repeat something if you already have done it.

I would say at this point that progress is slow and I'll tell you why. The individual who was in charge of what we call the academic affairs section recently passed away. That's a huge gap that we need to fill. In addition to that, two of the people who actually work in that area have resigned and one of them has left the territory.

Having said that, we've had a conversation because I know the individual personally and she is willing to help us get some things going until we can hire an individual to replace her and others. I would say at this point that it's a bit of a challenge because of those human resource capacity issues at this point. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Ma. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the frankness of that answer and it's something I will probably follow with down the road. I'll let you guys get

on your feet first before I start asking any more questions on that topic.

Mr. Chairman, maybe if you can just clarify if this is under M-3, which is just all-encompassing, or am I limited to the scope of questions I can ask? For clarification, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Everything is under M-3; all is under M-3. The information items start at N-I-1, for your information. Anything and everything under Nunavut Arctic College is fair game. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for that clarification. I appreciate it.

One of the priorities in the business plan for 2015-16 is to develop coursework for entrepreneurship training. We had some early discussions on this. Again, I very much appreciate how much work a new entrepreneur has to... They kind of have to be a jack of all trades, whatever business that they're specializing in, from finance to human resources to a number of different avenues to run a successful business.

I was just wondering if the minister could just describe the entrepreneurship program, what it will deliver, and who will be eligible to enrol in it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that good question. Let us be aware that this is a new program and it's in the early stages. We want to look at tourism and I believe that we discussed this quite lengthily earlier. Perhaps we will

probably be able to get assistance from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, Kakivak Association, and Nunavut Tourism. With their assistance, we want to work on that. As I stated, we're in the early stages of dealing with this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll follow up with that at a later date as well, Mr. Chairman.

One of the things that intrigued me within the administrative services was the Department of Family Services with its FANS database and the Department of Education with its student records database have updated their student information systems. As I was speaking to summer student employment and linking academic studies to employment opportunities, in my opinion, it's kind of a natural progression for the college to modernize its student records system as well.

What are the college's plans and if those plans are ongoing, what consideration has been given to linking with the other two databases? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe I'll give you a brief response. Through Arctic College, we have allocated \$150,000 for that. If it's okay with you, Mr. Chairman, the president of Arctic College could explain further. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Mr. Ma.

**Mr. Ma:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. By way of background, the student records system that we have is pretty antiquated. It goes back to the days when we were still part of the Northwest Territories, so it obviously needs replacing. In moving forward, we have to think about other systems that are connected to it. For example, we have something called Multiview, which is basically our accounting and finance system that needs to tie into this. The second system that needs to tie into this is also the curriculum management system. All three systems have to tie in together.

At the current time, we're also upgrading to the latest version of Multiview, which is the accounting and finance system. Because we're not the information technology experts, the Department of Community and Government Services is working with us on this. We just recently met with them and our officials. Coincidentally, the GNWT is also looking to replace their student records system at the same time. We're having some early discussions of, perhaps, working together because this will not be an easy process. We're looking at a number of different software platforms that we could possibly use.

I think this is probably, again, one of those items that we will continue to update members with. At this point in time, we know that we have somebody set aside to do an initial feasibility study. The actual cost of the student records system is something we're probably going to have to come back into the House for additional monies in terms of the capital plan at some point in time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Ma. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask probably just one final question because there are other members that want to get their points across as well.

Previously, the minister and officials and I have brought up the topic of nursing grads. I have spoken to the House in past instances of making sure they have the supports that are needed upon graduation to be able to flow seamlessly into the workforce.

One of the issues that I was kind of surprised when we were talking was that during the learning period, during the practicum where they actually go out into the workforce for short periods of time to actually get hands-on experience, there is no instructor participation during that component of their education.

From what I understood from our discussions, in other jurisdictions, an instructor goes along with the nursing student during the practicum experience. If they're in ER, for example, they're working with ER nurses, but the instructor is also there to help evaluate, coach, and teach at the same time. From our earlier discussions, has there been any progress on that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for that question. What I can say is that we're waiting for the recommendations from the (interpretation ends) Registered Nurses

Association (interpretation) to see how we could improve this program for the nursing students. As we know, the (interpretation ends) Registered Nurses Association of Northwest Territories (interpretation) and Nunavut has reviewed this fall and we're waiting for recommendations from organizations or groups to see how we can improve the Nursing Program. I'm sure that it's going to be reviewed properly because we would like the students to succeed at Nunavut Arctic College. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My apologies for having another question.

With the organizations that are doing this review and evaluating the progress of this program, would it not be a good idea for your facility to approach that topic now to make sure that it's included in the review process? Other jurisdictions do it and some don't. As part of an evaluation process, it might be a good tool to utilize now instead of waiting for a review or a report or at the very least, have it included in that review or report. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I said before, it's under review at this time. For that reason, we want to wait for the report first so that we will know what the recommendations are. That's a very good question, though, but we want to wait until the review and report is done.

We thought that it was better this way. Your question is a very good one to consider. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister Quassa. Mr. Hickes, you wouldn't want to waste the rest of your time, would you? Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have just made a liar out of myself.

When is this review due? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have been expecting it for quite a while and we're still expecting it. That's all I can respond with, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the headquarters office was established in Arviat, the president's position used to be there and then they moved it away. I would just like to ask the minister if any other positions have been temporarily or permanently moved out of Arviat in the last 12 months.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Savikataaq. Hon. Minister.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If we remember, during 2007, it was moved from Arviat. I don't think we understood the second question and I apologize. Mr. Chairman, perhaps he can repeat it.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Maybe you can repeat your question, Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Arviat is one of the decentralized communities and I would just like to ask the minister if any positions from Arctic College headquarters, any PYs have been moved out of there temporarily or permanently in the last 12 months. Thank you.

**Chairman** (Mr. Akoak): Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the clarification. Elaine is here now and she is the (interpretation ends) senior business officer. (interpretation) She is the only one that we have moved. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the decentralized plan or agreement, if you move a position out, you have to move one back in. Can the minister state what position he is moving back into Arviat and when? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for that question. We do believe in decentralization because it's our responsibility. Please note that the position will not be permanently moved here. It's going to be moved here for three years and then it will return to Arviat. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.



**Chairman:** Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister clarify why it has to be moved here for three years? Thank you.

**Chairman:** Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps my boss... I mean he is not my boss.

>>> *Laughter*

The president of Nunavut Arctic College can answer that, Mr. Chairman, if you don't mind.

**Chairman:** Mr. Ma.

**Mr. Ma:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think both the minister and I are both a little bit scared because our former boss is sitting right over there, Mr. Keyootak. We all used to work for him at Qikiqtani Inuit Association.

If I can answer Member Savikataaq's question, I think part of the rationale for moving it here at the time was that it would give Elaine, who is sitting behind me, some exposure to some of the day-to-day activities that go on in the senior business officers' area. For example, she has to work very closely the bursar, who is Marcelo, who is sitting beside the minister to his right.

In my personal conversations with Elaine, and maybe she wants to get up and answer herself, she has felt the experience so far in Iqaluit has really helped her. I think it is important to have decentralized positions. The front and key positions like that, because they are

not in sort of the headquarters area or in Iqaluit, that person in that position misses out on some of the growth opportunities by actually physically being here.

For example, coming here to the Assembly this evening is a great learning experience for her. She can see how well or not well we're answering your questions. All those things will help her grow, I think, as the senior business officer. Certainly, at this point in time, the plan is to have her return to Arviat, but I think the experience will really make her a much better person within the college. That is my personal perspective on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Ma. Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Was that the original plan, to start the position off in Arviat and move it here or did it evolve? When someone drew up the proposal to open up a job there, the whole program must have been laid out. I was wondering if that was part of the whole program. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Savikataaq. Hon. Minister.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also want my fellow member to understand that it is only a temporary move. They are only here for a while. I can say that it is not a total move here. It benefits the position and it will go back to Arviat as part of decentralization. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will ask the same question again to the minister. Was that part of the proposal in the beginning or did this plan evolve? That's a simple question. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It was not originally planned like that. However, job positions are sometimes moved to Iqaluit to help them realize more things and it helps them understand how we operate in Iqaluit, but it was not originally planned like that at the beginning. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister just stated that it's just for a short while, but he did state three years. Is there anyway he can put a position there temporarily for three years? Maybe there is one here in Iqaluit that needs some decentralized training or something like that. Are there any plans for him to put another position in Arviat for three years? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We haven't made any plans or considerations in that regard. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would recommend that he think about it, though. Arctic College headquarters was quite a bit bigger at one time and it's just slowly being dwindled down. The three years is temporary, but things change in three years. Just like when the position first opened up, he stated that there were no plans to bring that position out of Arviat, but now there is. If he could reconsider putting something there in the interim, there must be something. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) I don't know if there was a question there, but I think Mr. Savikataaq is strongly urging the minister to reconsider. Hon. Minister.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for thinking about this. The (interpretation ends) manager of finance trainee (interpretation) has been in Arviat for three years. There is that position.

As I stated earlier, our workers sometimes move to different communities with their jobs. We would like our staff to become more proficient and transfer them temporarily somewhere else for a while with plans to bring them back to their community. We believe in what we call (interpretation ends) decentralization. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Minister. Mr. Savikataaq.

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thought I was done, but the minister just stated that it's better for the workers and the trainees to come to Iqaluit. Does he have any plans of moving any more jobs to Iqaluit? Thank you.

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

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is just a comment. I thank him for not wanting to move any more jobs out of Arviat because we need every job we have there. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Savikataaq. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome to the minister and his officials. I guess I will start off by (interpretation) Nunavut Arctic College funding for language programs, including the interpreter/translator programs, which has not been increased for 2015-16. It has not been increased at all.

(interpretation ends) Given the ongoing need for trained and certified language specialists across the government, what supports and resources are being provided to deliver the interpreter/translator diploma courses across Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for asking that question. Right now, for the very first time in Kugluktuk, there is an interpreter/translator program happening and right now, there are eight students taking part in that program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) So there are eight students. I asked about (interpretation ends) mobile training to entice, introduce, or promote more of this interpreter/translator course. Has there been any movement in that direction? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can you explain your question better? I didn't really understand it.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Please reiterate your question, Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the minister may recall, I did ask him an oral question. I'm not sure when now, but I did ask him an oral question regarding mobile training. For example, in my community of Baker Lake, there are individuals who are interested in an interpreter/translator

course. There are some who do not want to take the course here, but they would like to try it out at the beginning stages in Baker Lake. I was thinking more in the lines of a mobile pilot project for an interpreter/translator course. Maybe there, you could really determine if there are individuals who are very keen and interested in the Interpreter/Translator Diploma Program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We haven't really heard about what my colleague is talking about, but please be aware that in Baker Lake, there are three courses in the Interpreter/Translator Program. They will start in the spring of 2015 in Baker Lake. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak**: Are those three courses in modules or can he elaborate a little bit more in detail? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We can probably give you more information on the three courses that I referred to at a later date, but I'm not able to give you details on it right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. We will expect the details at a later date. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the minister has indicated, I look forward to those documents. I'll patiently wait for those documents.

In addition to that, the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut has encouraged the college to focus on providing opportunities for interpreter/translators to train for careers in legislative interpreting or as court interpreters. What is the progress in this area? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. From my understanding, the president of Nunavut Arctic College has met with Clerk John Quirke recently and talked about just that. That's my reply. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I can say that being bilingual in Inuktitut and English can be somebody's strength to get jobs. With that being the case, what has Nunavut Arctic College planned in that regard? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is very important and interpreters are used all over the place. Sometimes we're lacking in interpreters, so we need new interpreters.

As I stated earlier, for the very first time in Kugluktuk, there is an interpreter/translator program happening and we would like to see those continue because they are very important. We want to make sure that we work hard in communications to see how our students can become teachers and we want to make sure that people who are interested in further education know that we are available for their education. We know how important education is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I would like to move on to a different line of questioning.

We know that in Nunavut, we have the Piqqusilirivvik Cultural School and it has (interpretation ends) satellite communities. (interpretation) One of the satellite communities is Baker Lake. I'm always supporting the one in Baker Lake and they teach the people of Baker Lake. I have seen and have heard that they teach culture and other things.

How is Nunavut Arctic College going to help Piqqusilirivvik more and the (interpretation ends) satellite communities? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. These communities that are outside of Clyde River where Piqqusilirivvik is doing progress. There is one in Igloolik and

Baker Lake. Ever since I have been in Igloolik, we have seen the progress ourselves and we're proud of it and they're still progressing. We would like them to continue like that.

As I stated earlier, we really want to see something like that happening in the Kitikmeot region. We are looking into that because it really helps with the Inuit culture. As a government, the Inuit culture and societal values are our foundations for the work that we do for the future. We totally support those programs and would like them to continue, even though they are outside of Clyde River.

Clyde River has 22 students right now and I know the communities will benefit from these. The communities are proud of them. We would like it to continue and we totally support it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The minister seems to be psychic and knows what I'm about to ask.

He already responded to one of my other questions that I was going to ask. In regard to the satellite communities of Baker Lake and Igloolik, how many students do they have or how many students have gone to those satellite communities to date? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Hon. Minister.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have

the figures in front of me, but I'm sure that there are different modules or different courses offered in the winter, spring, and summer. I will be able to get those numbers and give them to you. I don't have them in front of me at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. We will look forward to that. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman and the minister. We will look forward to getting that information.

Moving on to another subject, the community learning centres, looking at the monies and looking at the funding that will be given to all the communities, there is a decrease in the amount. Why is it that there is a decrease to this amount? That's the amount of funding allocated to community learning centres. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member for that question. I told you that I have information that is outstanding. Please look forward to this information again. Marcelo will be responding to the question, if it's okay with you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Parungao.

**Mr. Parungao**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have to go in the detailed analysis of the decreased budget and we

will provide you the information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. We will also look forward to that information, minister. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Mr. Mikkungwak**: Thank you. I understand the information will be provided for the decrease, but in addition to that, maybe the minister and the officials can answer this. Maybe it will be provided in the document also. Is it because the number of students across Nunavut has declined for adult learning in the community learning centres across Nunavut?

I'm just puzzled. When we look at *Sivumut Abluqta*, education is number one. When you look at a decrease in community learning centres, I'm just puzzled by the decrease as to why that is. Maybe if they can include in the document that there aren't enough students applying or what. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Mr. Mikkungwak, I believe that was just a comment. Could you also have that information be made available so that we will know exactly where we stand? Did you understand Mr. Mikkungwak's comments, (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister?

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I understood his comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. We also look forward to that information that you said you will provide. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask just a few questions. Something that came up when we were last sitting in the fall was issues surrounding the students at Ukiivik and some of the concerns that were raised there by the students in regard to the asbestos. I'm just wondering if you can give us an update on that. What's going on with the courses there? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are working with the Department of Community and Government Services and to date, we haven't heard any more concerns regarding Ukiivik. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's good to hear because I think there was a lot of concern there. It is good that those concerns are being addressed.

This is something totally different. I'm just looking at your business plan, page 15, and I look at the third party contracts. The first bullet under it was to "Deliver a first year Management Studies program," but that couldn't be delivered because the funding was not secured.

How many courses do you offer that depend on third party contracts and how many courses were not offered because you didn't get the funding? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague for that question. I can't give you the numbers right now. I'm sure that there were quite a number of programs that didn't go ahead, but I can't give you a definite number. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can I get the minister to agree to provide that information? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Will you agree to provide that information, Hon. Minister?

**Hon. Paul Quassa:** Mr. Chairman, I agree.

>> *Laughter*

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ms. Angnakak.

**Ms. Angnakak:** Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The other thing that is on my mind is the mental health program and I brought it up with the health minister because I understand that the funding came from them. Where are you at with your discussions over the delivery of that program? When do you expect to be able to deliver that program again? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member for that question. Just recently, we had a meeting with the Department of Health. I think it was on March 6 last Friday. We call it *niaqulirijit* in Inuktitut, (interpretation ends) the mental health worker program, (interpretation) and we discussed how we can resurrect that course. We are also going to be working closely with the (interpretation ends) the Department of Family Services (interpretation) to get that program going again. It's in the works. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Are you done, Ms. Angnakak? Thank you. We are on page M-3. Department Summary. Nunavut Arctic College. Nunavut Arctic College. Total. Operations and Maintenance. \$32,625,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Do the members agree that we have concluded Nunavut Arctic College?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister, (interpretation) as we conclude this item, I would like to give you an opportunity to make any closing remarks. Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I would like to thank my colleagues for their questions. I will make sure that all the detailed information will be made available. All this information has been very helpful to us.

I would also like to thank Peter Ma, Marcelo, and Elaine for being here with me and putting all the information together.

Have a good evening. Thank you.

**Chairman:** *Qujannamiik*, Hon. Minister (interpretation) and your officials. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister's officials out.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to report progress.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. We have a motion on the floor and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour, raise your hand. Thank you. I will now rise to report progress.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Enook.

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

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 16 and would like to report progress and that one committee motion was adopted. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Joanasie. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried.



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

**Item 22: Orders of the Day**

**Clerk** (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A reminder of meetings for tomorrow, the meeting of the Regular Members' Caucus at nine o'clock in the Nanuq Boardroom and at ten o'clock, a meeting of the Management and Services Board in the Tuktu Boardroom.

*Orders of the Day* for March 12:

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
  - Motion 20 – 4(2)

17. First Reading of Bills

18. Second Reading of Bills

19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

- Bill 1
- Bill 11
- Bill 12
- Bill 13
- Bill 14
- Bill 15
- Bill 16
- Bill 17
- Bill 18
- Bill 19

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 Thursday, March 12, 2015, at 1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 19:56*

