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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

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(Amittuq)

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(Gjoa Haven)
Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

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(Arviat North-Whale Cove)
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Minister of Languages; Minister of Family Services; Minister responsible for Homelessness*

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

Pat Angnakak
(Iqaluit-Niaqunngu)

Steve Mapsalak
(Aivilik)

Allan Rumbolt
(Hudson Bay)

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk
(Iqaluit-Manirajak)
Deputy Premier; Minister of Economic Development and Transportation; Minister of Energy; Minister of Health; Minister responsible for the Status of Women; Minister responsible for Suicide Prevention

Hon. Johnny Mike
(Pangnirtung)
Minister of Environment; Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council

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(Rankin Inlet South)

Tom Sammurtok
(Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet)

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Paul Okalik
(Iqaluit-Sinaa)

Isaac Shooyook
(Quttiktuq)

David Joanasic
(South Baffin)

Hon. Keith Peterson
(Cambridge Bay)
Minister of Finance, Chair of the Financial Management Board; Minister of Justice; Minister responsible for Labour; Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission

Hon. Peter Taptuna
(Kugluktuk)
Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs; Minister responsible for Immigration

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Table of Contents

| | |
|--|------|
| Opening Prayer..... | 1417 |
| Ministers' Statements | 1417 |
| Members' Statements | 1420 |
| Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery..... | 1424 |
| Oral Questions..... | 1424 |
| Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery | 1441 |
| Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters..... | 1441 |
| Tabling of Documents | 1441 |
| First Reading of Bills | 1442 |
| Second Reading of Bills | 1443 |
| Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters | 1443 |
| Report of the Committee of the Whole | 1493 |
| Orders of the Day | 1493 |

A.

Daily References

Friday, March 11, 20161417

B.

Ministers' Statements

089 – 4(3): New Federal Funding to Support Nunavut's Sealing Industry (Mike).....1417

090 – 4(3): Community Wellness Coordinators Support Public Health Programming (Ell-Kanayuk).....1418

091 – 4(3): New Board Members for Nunavut Arctic College (Quassa)1418

092 – 4(3): Mentorship Program (Savikataaq)1419

C.

Members' Statements

191 – 4(3): Inuit Qaujimanituaqangit and the Government of Nunavut (Shooyook)1420

192 – 4(3): Sanikiluaq Success at Arctic Winter Games (Rumbolt).....1421

193 – 4(3): Medical Transient Centre for Rankin Inlet (Sammurtok, T)1421

194 – 4(3): Happy Birthday to Daughter (Keyootak).....1422

195 – 4(3): Growing Up in Pangnirtung (Okalik)1422

196 – 4(3): First Aid Course in Pangnirtung (Mike)1423

197 – 4(3): Cambridge Bay Participants at the Arctic Winter Games (Peterson)1423

D.

Oral Questions

260 – 4(3): Medical Transient Centre for Rankin Inlet (Sammurtok, T)1424

261 – 4(3): Language Instruction Requirements in Nunavut Schools (Angnakak).....1426

262 – 4(3): Update on the Fire Truck Replacement Project (Sammurtok).....1427

| | |
|--|------|
| 263 – 4(3): Northern Premiers’ Forum (Mikkungwak)..... | 1428 |
| 264 – 4(3): Social Passing in Nunavut Schools (Okalik) | 1430 |
| 265 – 4(3): Vacant Houses (Joanasie) | 1431 |
| 266 – 4(3): Support for Baker Lake Hunters (Mikkungwak)..... | 1433 |
| 267 – 4(3): New Search and Rescue Policy (Rumbolt)..... | 1435 |
| 268 – 4(3): Meat Testing Facilities in Nunavut (Sammurtok, T)..... | 1436 |
| 269 – 4(3): The Elimination of Plastic Bags in Nunavut (Okalik)..... | 1438 |
| 270 – 4(3): Nunavut Graduation Rates (Joanasie)..... | 1438 |

E.

Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters

| | |
|---|------|
| 011 – 4(3): Bill 15, An Act to Amend the Land Titles Act (Sammurtok, T) | 1441 |
|---|------|

F.

Tabling of Documents

| | |
|--|------|
| 095 – 4(3): FPT Ministerial Report – UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties COP21 in Paris, France (Mike) | 1442 |
| 096 – 4(3): Nunavut Airports 20-year Infrastructure Needs Assessment 2014-2034 (Eli-Kanayuk) | 1442 |
| 097 – 4(3): Contract Activity Report 2014-2015 (Savikataaq) | 1442 |
| 098 – 4(3): Procurement Activity Report 2014-2015 (Savikataaq)..... | 1442 |
| 099 – 4(3): Lease Activity Report 2014-2015 (Savikataaq)..... | 1442 |
| 100 – 4(3): Response Letter from Premier to the Airlines (Taptuna)..... | 1442 |

G.

Bills

| | |
|---|------|
| Bill 14 – Public Health Act – First Reading | 1442 |
|---|------|

| | |
|---|------|
| Bill 14 – Public Health Act – Second Reading | 1443 |
| Bill 13 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2016-2017 – Economic Development and Transportation – Consideration in Committee | 1444 |
| Bill 13 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2016-2017 – Nunavut Arctic College – Consideration in Committee | 1488 |

**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Friday, March 11, 2016**

Members Present:

Mr. Tony Akoak, Ms. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk, Mr. Joe Enook, Hon. George Hickes, Mr. David Joanasié, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak, Mr. Steve Mapsalak, Hon. Johnny Mike, Mr. Simeon Mikkungwak, Mr. Paul Okalik, Hon. Keith Peterson, Mr. Emiliano Qirngnuq, Hon. Paul Quassa, Hon. George Qulaut, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Mr. Alexander Sammurtok, Mr. Tom Sammurtok, Hon. Joe Savikataaq, Mr. Isaac Shooyook, Hon. Peter Taptuna.

>>*House commenced at 9:00*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. George Qulaut) (interpretation): Mr. Tom Sammurtok, can you say the opening prayer, please.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good morning, my fellow Nunavummiut. Members, ministers, (interpretation ends) Premier, (interpretation) and visitors, welcome to the House.

Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Environment, Mr. Mike.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 089 – 4(3): New Federal Funding to Support Nunavut's Sealing Industry

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, my colleagues, Nunavummiut, and my fellow residents of Pangnirtung.

Mr. Speaker, I am excited to inform the House that the federal government has signed a \$150,000 contribution agreement with the Government of Nunavut to support Canada's indigenous seal industry. This agreement, signed at the end of January this year, is the first to be signed under the federal Certification and Market Access Program for Seals – a five-year, \$5.7 million program established last year.

The money will be used to fund the development of certification and tracking systems that allow seal products harvested by Inuit in Nunavut to be certified and sold in the EU. (interpretation ends) It will also support capacity building so that communities can take advantage of the renewed market opportunities in Europe.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, my department will be working together with the Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association and other partners to ensure that this funding helps to reinvigorate the market for Nunavut's indigenous sealskin products. My department has always worked hard to support Nunavut's traditional harvesters, and this new contribution from the federal government will further strengthen our efforts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Ell-Kanayuk.

**Minister's Statement 090 – 4(3):
Community Wellness
Coordinators Support Public
Health Programming**

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Good morning, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) The promotion of health and wellness programming in our communities is important to the general well-being of Nunavummiut. Many communities now have community health and wellness committees whose goal it is to develop programs that are specific to needs of each and every community.

Mr. Speaker, we received feedback from the communities asking for additional manpower to work with their wellness communities to coordinate programs. The Department of Health, in collaboration with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, determined this gap could best be addressed through recruitment and training.

I am pleased to report that the Department of Health recruited six community wellness coordinators for the communities of Arctic Bay, Chesterfield Inlet, Baker Lake, Kimmirut, Kugaaruk, and Taloyoak. Two of the six are current employees of the hamlets of Kugaaruk and Taloyoak. They started a six-month mentoring and training program last October and will complete their training in March.

The training and mentoring is jointly offered by Department of Health staff and the Ilisaqsivik Society in Clyde River. The training is a combination of in-class learning and real-life job shadowing. The community wellness coordinators are learning to create

budgets, write reports, engage with people in their communities to find out what people want and need to be healthy, and lastly, develop projects based on priorities of their communities.

Mr. Speaker, due to the success of our training and mentorship program, we are planning to train another batch of six community wellness coordinators who are presently working in Pond Inlet, Cambridge Bay, Gjoa Haven, Arviat, and Grise Fiord, and eventually expand this to all communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 091 – 4(3): New
Board Members for Nunavut
Arctic College**

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, my colleagues, Nunavummiut, and residents of my community.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College and the Nunavut Research Institute, I am pleased to rise in the House today to announce the appointment of several new members to Nunavut Arctic College's board of governors.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to appoint Ms. Susan Ball from Arviat to a three-year term as the Kivalliq representative and Ms. Susie Evyagotailak from Kugluktuk to a three-year term as the Kitikmeot representative. Ms. Ball and

Ms. Evyagotailak bring with them a wealth of knowledge and expertise regarding the development and needs of education for Inuit, in particular their work as classroom teachers and principals in Nunavut schools.

Mr. Speaker, we are also pleased to appoint Larry Nalungiaq from Kugaaruk as the college's student representative for a two-year term. Mr. Nalungiaq is currently studying in the Nunavut Teacher Education Program at the college through the Kugaaruk Community Learning Centre.

The board of governors is also pleased to have Ms. Rhoda Ungalaq reappointed to a three-year term and Mr. Jason Carpenter reappointed to a one-year term as the staff representative.

Mr. Speaker, from determining the college's direction and mission to creating a climate for innovation and progress, the board of governors serves a critical role in setting and achieving academic excellence and in strengthening the college's systems and operations.

Mr. Speaker, members of the Nunavut Arctic College Board of Governors have demonstrated tremendous dedication and commitment to the success of Nunavut Arctic College and I look forward to working with them in the coming years. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Savikataaq.

Minister's Statement 092 – 4(3): Mentorship Program

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to acknowledge and encourage a very positive initiative within the Infrastructure Division of Community and Government Services (CGS). Three students from Inuksuk High School here in Iqaluit will be participating in a mentorship project to gain skills, knowledge, and experience with infrastructure design.

The goal of the project is that the students will generate design concepts and the CGS staff will guide them towards selecting and refining a final design. The students will work on the design of a small structure. The students will work together to gather and analyze population data and city maps, as well as research what has happened in other municipalities on similar projects.

Mr. Speaker, the students will develop a final presentation, which will include design sketches and a scale model, which they will deliver to senior executive staff of CGS and the City of Iqaluit. They will participate in the project after school and will work on it up to four to five days per month until the end of the school semester.

Although this project involves a hypothetical design at this time, we hope that the students will gain meaningful insights and experiences with drafting, design, planning, and community engagement. The professionals on our staff are proud to offer their expertise and support in all aspects along the way. I see this as a great opportunity for cooperation and community development and I commend everyone

involved for supporting the goals of this project. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Going to the orders of the day. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Isaac Shooyook.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 191 – 4(3): Inuit Qaujimanituqangit and the Government of Nunavut

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to Nunavummiut, residents of my community, those watching the proceedings, our (interpretation ends) Premier, (interpretation) ministers, and my colleagues.

I rise today to express a sense of total fulfilment and pride that I wish to share with my colleagues so that they can join in extending this acknowledgement wholeheartedly.

As you know, I am fervent and dedicated in the inclusion of *Inuit Qaujimaningit* within government, and I wish to provide a brief background. We hear the word used often.

I would be remiss not to mention three individuals in the House, whom I am extremely proud of and will publicly thank.

The first person is Allan Rumbolt and I now extend my gratification, as I am proud of his efforts in this House on

behalf of Inuit, as he is extremely dedicated.

Further, George Hickee is another person I wish to name for defending our *Inuit Qaujimanituqangit* principles and knowledge faithfully. To him I say, "I am proud of you!"

The third person I wish to name whom I also am very proud of for his efforts is Keith Peterson.

I am expressing my cognizance of their efforts and conveying my pride for their efforts, and I will voice the reasons for this expression of gratification. Ever since I was elected, I have been adamantly pushing and prodding this government to incorporate *Inuit Qaujimanituqangit* and to repatriate the usage of our ancient knowledge as part of this government.

Yesterday, I was taken aback as I was totally not expecting the reference, although I had an inkling. When the Minister of Finance made his announcement, he stated that he would follow *Inuit Qaujimanituqangit* as the basis for alcohol-related traditional healing practices and that in our future, IQ will be incorporated into this process and would form a vital component. This statement alone exploded the feelings of pride in my heart.

Due to this reasoning, as far as I know, the minister has no background as a counsellor as I have ever only seen him in his role as the Minister of Finance. As I face the government representatives in asking the ministers about IQ, he apparently garnered some understanding of my passion on this issue and his statement was completely heartwarming

to my person. As many Nunavummiut found out, I hope they also extend their pride to their representatives.

I would like to ask that we take a moment to express this appreciation for the efforts of these three members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 192 – 4(3):
Sanikiluaq Success at Arctic
Winter Games**

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good morning. I thank Mr. Shooyook for the kind words. We're all doing the best we can for the people of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, the other day, I rose in the House to commend four athletes who will be attending the Arctic Winter Games. Today, I rise in the House to talk about their success at the Games.

In the badminton division for bronze medal for double juvenile males, Janie Audla of Sanikiluaq and Mike Kavik of Sanikiluaq; bronze medal for double junior males went to Sappa Cookie of Sanikiluaq along with his partner Keane Sudlovenick of Iqaluit; bronze medal for single junior females went to Mina Mannuk of Sanikiluaq; and a silver medal for badminton doubles junior females went to Mina Mannuk of Sanikiluaq along with her partner, Myca Nakashook of Pangnirtung.

I ask all members to join me in congratulating these fine athletes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet and Chesterfield Inlet, Mr. Tom Sammurtok.

**Member's Statement 193 – 4(3):
Medical Transient Centre for
Rankin Inlet**

Mr. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I rise today to address the need for a medical transient centre for Rankin Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, my constituency office is located in the Siniktarvik Hotel. Day after day, I see people coming through on medical travel from other Kivalliq communities for medical services for themselves or their children. Sometimes these individuals wait all day in the lobby of the hotel and occasionally even have to take care of a baby or a young child's needs in public.

Mr. Speaker, although medical clients are often given a meal voucher, they still have to endure long waits for their flight, which more often than not is cancelled sometimes due weather and sometimes due to mechanical, while sitting in the public lobby of a hotel.

Mr. Speaker, these individuals are already stressed with having to travel to receive medical services. Having to wait for hours in a public area puts additional stress on them. Alternatively, medical travel clients sit on the metal benches at

the airport for hours on end, sometimes as long as eight hours, because they have nowhere else to go and rest.

Mr. Speaker, this situation cannot continue. It is not fair to those Kivalliq patients who are already experiencing the stress of needing medical care.

I encourage the Minister of Health to consider establishing a medical transient centre in the community of Rankin Inlet.

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

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

**Member's Statement 194 – 4(3):
Happy Birthday to Daughter**

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my pride and love for my dear daughter who is celebrating her birthday today, so I wish her a wonderful day.

When she was born, I was there helping to deliver her when my wife went into labour.

To my dearest daughter, I extend best wishes for a wonderful day to Ms. Nena Elise Keyootak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Mr. Paul Okalik.

**Member's Statement 195 – 4(3):
Growing Up in Pangnirtung**

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is a gorgeous day out there and as the weather is becoming more beautiful with each day, exhilaration is in the air.

Mr. Speaker, I was born in Pangnirtung, which is very appropriate for caribou issues due to its naming after bull caribou.

I had a joyous childhood as I was growing up, as every year when school was out, every summer up to fall we would go camping at our traditional lands called Nattiliariaq and we spent many wonderful summers there. Further, there was a spot we would camp at and spent weeks enjoying the lands at Kangiavallaaq, which is, in my opinion, the most scenic landscape in the whole world of the lands I am familiar with. The reasons for these fond childhood memories of the lands are plentiful.

We had a small boat and although we had a large family within it and the kicker was not very powerful, we still seemingly sped along. My dear late mother would spend the time passing along our traditional names of lands we passed, pointing out areas that our ancestors named and what the purpose was along with the Inuit history particular to that land.

I recall these stories fondly, as we would go there every year to harvest caribou for our sustenance. When we would prepare to leave our camping site, our parents would have us collect all the garbage, as we were never to leave anything behind because caribou

inhabited the land and this was the sole purpose for keeping the land clean.

One exceptional memory I retain was when I was eight years of age and I shot my first caribou. When we eventually returned to the community of Pangnirtung, my parents invited the community for a feast to celebrate and share my first caribou harvest. I tried to emulate that special feeling of our traditional area by bringing my children to that same area, but by that time, no caribou were present and that was quite rueful as without caribou, my childhood memories became just stories.

Nevertheless, I am especially thankful that here in Nunavut, particularly in the Kivalliq region, I am invited to participate in caribou hunts when I travel to their areas and I am always grateful to my fellow Inuit. As such, I share your deep concerns about caribou due to their importance. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement 196 – 4(3): First Aid Course in Pangnirtung

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, people of Nunavut and Pangnirtung.

This morning, I just want to make an announcement in this House about the importance of (interpretation ends) first aid, (interpretation) as it is called, and of the training in this field currently taking place in Pangnirtung. Although the course is specific to Pangnirtung and is being offered only to the people in Pangnirtung, the attendees are being

trained to be trainers currently. The course commenced yesterday.

First aid is important everywhere and in everything we do, as people can get hurt at any time. In Pangnirtung, this is a very important skill, especially when residents go boating and offer tourist trips, which have become quite complex, and this includes certain jobs.

I am delighted to see people with the capacity to train other trainers. I wish to name the following people in Pangnirtung taking the course, as well as to recognize their trainer first, Randy Idlout. His class is composed of trainers in first aid and they are Poisey Mike, Jimmy Keenainak, Tommy Nakasuk, Daniel Mike, Jutanie Arnakak, Archie Uniuqsaagak, and Joe Keyootak, who are taking the three-day course within this "training the trainer" program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Keith Peterson.

Member's Statement 197 – 4(3): Cambridge Bay Participants at the Arctic Winter Games

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize some young athletes from Cambridge Bay who are part of the Arctic Winter Games team.

Mr. Speaker, we have Kanen Evalik, who is on the basketball team, Danielle Omilgoetok on the basketball team, Liza Crockatt and Alysha Maksagak, who are

on the basketball team, and Donovan Niptanatiak, who is on the tennis team.

Mr. Speaker, we are very proud of our athletes and we are very proud of the team representing us in Nuuk and here in Iqaluit. We're tuned to the radio every day listening to the medal updates as we are very proud of them. Congratulations to the entire team representing Nunavut at the Arctic Winter Games. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Moving on. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. 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: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This morning, I would like to welcome and recognize Hon. Alfred Moses sitting here in the gallery. Alfred Moses is my colleague from the Northwest Territories, where he serves as an MLA for Inuvik Boot Lake as well as Minister of Education, Culture and Employment, and the Minister responsible for Youth. I am pleased to welcome my fellow Minister of Education as he makes his way home from the Arctic Winter Games. (interpretation) Welcome. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Welcome to the gallery. (interpretation) Recognition of Visitors

in the Gallery. I have no more names on my list. Moving on. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet and Chesterfield Inlet, Mr. Tom Sammurток.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 260 – 4(3): Medical Transient Centre for Rankin Inlet

Mr. Tom Sammurток (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good morning" to the residents of Rankin Inlet and Chesterfield Inlet, as well as our fellow Nunavummiut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that we have some new faces at the table. We have a new federal government, a new federal Minister of Health, and a new opportunity to negotiate some support for opening health-related infrastructure in Nunavut.

Earlier today, I spoke of the need for a medical transient centre for those medical clients who have nowhere to go between travelling and their medical appointment.

Can the minister provide an update on what consideration has been given to opening a medical transient centre in Rankin Inlet for medical clients who travel to the community for medical reasons? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. As we know, Health Canada funds boarding homes, stays, commercial accommodations, and private billets for clients on medical travel.

Currently, there have been some discussions. I have just become the Minister of Health, so I'll be checking into what the discussions have been with Health Canada to date. As I am told, currently, the discussions with Health Canada have been advising them that boarding homes are being considered for Rankin Inlet and Cambridge Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tom Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the response from the minister. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that in communities such as Iqaluit, Ottawa and Winnipeg, non-government entities operate medical boarding homes, which can provide services for transient medical clients.

Can the minister provide an update on whether any non-government entities have put forward proposals or suggestions to open and operate a medical boarding home in Rankin Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, *Uqaqtitsijii*. (interpretation) I also thank my colleague for that question. I have not heard of who had put in proposals.

As I just recently became Minister of Health, I will look into it and I will update my colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I recognize that the federal government plays an important role in determining the services that are offered to Nunavut's medical clients under the Non-Insured Health Benefits Program. Will the minister commit to bringing forward the need for a medical transient centre in Rankin Inlet when she next meets with her federal counterparts to negotiate the funding and services provided under the Non-Insured Health Benefits? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Discussions with Health Canada are required as they fund the accommodations for medical travel through the Non-Insured Health Benefits Program. They fund the boarding home stays, commercial accommodations, and private billets for clients on medical travel. Discussions with Health Canada are necessary to open boarding homes as they set to reimburse rates that we will pay to Health. Depending on how the boarding homes are financed, they could have an impact on the Government of Nunavut's debt cap.

Mr. Speaker, I will be having those discussions with my officials and with

federal officials when the appropriate time happens. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 261 – 4(3): Language Instruction Requirements in Nunavut Schools

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to everybody.

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

Mr. Speaker, there is only one French language school in Nunavut. As you may be aware, Nunavut's *Education Act* has distinct provisions relating to education for French language speakers. Unfortunately, in upholding French language rights under the legislation, it seems that the Inuit language rights of those who attend the French school are not protected.

There is no requirement for the Inuit language to be taught in Nunavut's French language schools. Can the minister clearly explain why this is the case? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for that question regarding Inuit language in our schools. I will respond in English.

(interpretation ends) Of course, as everybody probably knows, *Language of Instruction Regulations* came into force

in September 2012. Of course, these regulations outline the ways in which school teams are to carry out language of instruction provisions in the *Education Act*.

You are right that the rights of the French linguistic minority population are protected under Section 23 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. In addition, as per section 158 of the *Education Act*, these charter rights prevail over any part of the *Education Act*, in particular, with respect to language of instruction.

Since the implementation of the 2008 *Education Act*, my department has been working with CSFN to provide a 0.5 PY in order to allow for Inuit language instruction. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to add that I had talked to the chair of CSFN and brought that issue up. As the Minister of Education, I am very looking forward to working more closely with CSFN on that issue. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate his response. Mr. Speaker, one of the lessons learned by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was that the residential school policy of forbidding children from speaking their mother tongue was devastating to their identity and future well-being.

Will the minister commit to upholding the Inuit language rights of all Nunavut youth and ensure that the Inuit language

is taught in all Nunavut schools without exception? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear!

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague as it is quite apparent how dedicated she is regarding this matter. I believe all of us should feel that way about our Inuktitut language and its importance to our people.

We should also remember that amendments are being drafted to improve the *Education Act* after the requisite legislation review called for in the Act. It includes the (interpretation ends) language of instruction (interpretation) that ended up being one of the main topics during the committee review of the *Education Act*. This has resulted in several options I have reviewed related to languages.

With the legislated requirements (interpretation ends) under the *Inuit Language Protection Act*, (interpretation) that is critical to this and I will work diligently to try to implement this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 262 – 4(3): Update on the Fire Truck Replacement Project

Mr. Alexander Sammurtok (interpretation): Good morning, my fellow residents of Rankin Inlet and Nunavummiut.

(interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

Mr. Speaker, during the fall 2015 sitting, the Legislative Assembly approved \$500,000 in capital funding for the department to begin replacing two fire trucks in Nunavut each year, beginning in the 2016-17 fiscal year.

On October 28, 2015, the minister at that time indicated that Rankin Inlet and Cape Dorset would each receive a fire truck in the 2016-17 fiscal year.

Can the minister provide a specific date in which Rankin Inlet will receive this replacement fire truck? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister for Community and Government Services, Mr. Joe Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his question. I can't give him an exact date, but by searift in 2016, a brand-new fire truck will roll off the ship onto Rankin Inlet. Thank you.

>>Applause

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

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) Awesome, so I thank you.

(interpretation ends) Can the minister indicate what the specific model of fire

truck his department has ordered to replace the aging fire trucks in Rankin Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, I don't have the kind of detail as to the make and model and how much water it can pump per minute. All my officials have gone through that, they know what is needed, and they have the specs. I can assure the minister that the new fire truck for Rankin Inlet will be adequate for its use and purpose. Thank you.

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

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize for referring to you as the Chairman.

(interpretation ends) Can the minister indicate what the lifespan for this new fire truck would be? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe the lifespan of most, if not all, fire trucks is 20 years. This new fire truck should be within service for 20 years. They may have to do renovations somewhere in between, but the normal lifespan of a fire truck is 20 years. Thank you.

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

Question 263 – 4(3): Northern Premiers' Forum

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to Baker Lake people and all Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Premier.

Last June, the annual Northern Premiers' Forum was held in the community of Kugluktuk. Following the meeting, the three territorial governments issued a joint statement. This statement indicated, and I quote, "Premiers noted the federal role in supporting the northern transportation system."

Can the Premier indicate if he has had discussions yet with his NWT and Yukon counterparts concerning the recommendations that were contained in the recently released final report from the federal *Canada Transportation Act Review Report*? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, the three territorial premiers met in beautiful Kugluktuk in June. Of course, in our discussions, one of our number one priorities is infrastructure or lack of infrastructure. The three northern premiers work very well together. We do get support from our southern colleagues. For the most part, there are

many things that we discuss in the Northern Premiers' Forum. Of course, infrastructure is one of the key components and it's a pillar of our northern vision.

Mr. Speaker, we haven't had a chance to review or look at the new Act that has come out on transportation. We intend to do that next month in Whitehorse when we have our Northern Premiers' Forum there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I have stated in the House a number of times that I come from the community of beautiful Baker Lake, which I represent.

>> *Laughter*

The Municipality of Baker Lake recently passed a formal motion concerning the need to support the Amaruq project near the Meadowbank mine.

Another one of the announcements made at last year's Northern Premiers' Forum was that, and I quote, "Premiers continue to support and endorse their joint proposal to the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency for new funding to support a Pan-Territorial Framework for Industry Training." Can the Premier update us today on the status of this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that

question. Mr. Speaker, during our Northern Premiers' Forum, we absolutely put in our wish list to the federal government. One of them, of course, is infrastructure capital base plus funding that we have been requesting from the federal government.

As you know, all three territories lack major infrastructure, highways, marine facilities, housing, and other necessary infrastructure that benefit our northern communities. At this upcoming meeting, I certainly will be pushing for more infrastructure funding from the federal government.

This framework for training, as the member is well aware, I have been recently appointed along with the Minister of Nunavut Arctic College to the Inuit Training Corporation and we intend to utilize that to our advantage for beneficiaries, whether we're partnering with municipalities, other organizations, the government, including the mining industry, to best find avenues of training our Inuit people for employment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To what extent are the three territories working together to make recommendations to the federal government concerning its review of the Nutrition North Canada Program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that excellent question. Although we are one of three territories, our uniqueness is slightly different when it comes to the Nutrition North Canada Program. I certainly have written a letter to the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs to voice our concerns.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, we do collect food basket prices from all communities and this is the data that we use to put forth our arguments on how the program can be improved. Mr. Speaker, we will certainly be talking about that.

Of course, the program is targeted mainly for the northern communities and this is one of the things that the federal minister is certainly willing to review and look at to improve the program for our northern communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Mr. Paul Okalik.

Question 264 – 4(3): Social Passing in Nunavut Schools

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

As you know, we have made education a priority and I believe our government committed to dealing with social passing in our schools. I would like to know the status of that situation in our classrooms. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for that question on that issue. What I can speak to with regard to (interpretation ends) social passing (interpretation) is that we look at it from a different perspective. We are trying to resolve this issue in a different way in such areas as literacy and reading skills.

We have started to implement stronger linguistic foundations within our schools for (interpretation ends) literacy (interpretation) courses due to its importance in education. Without strong literacy skills, it seems students fall behind when they can't read and speak properly. This is why literacy comprised of advancing reading skills is very critical. We have implemented (interpretation ends) literacy (interpretation) as a core course, including mathematics and (interpretation ends) science. (interpretation) These form the basic curricula we consider important to our schools.

In fact, we have started to develop new curricula for specific courses, especially in light of past comments about this issue concerning students who are particularly far behind on certain subjects to the point it is quite noticeable at times. That is why we are facing this challenge through this other venue of strengthening our courses to move from social promotion, which we don't support as a department.

Nonetheless, we have focused on other ways to combat this principle. In fact, we have introduced the concept of

parental engagement and increasing student attendance rates. These are some examples of how we are trying to resolve this challenge related to social promotion.

However, our efforts will continue. Further, it seems obvious that it will benefit our students as they work towards completion of their High School Diploma, along with the numbers of graduates who are on par with their peers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Can the minister explain when the department will get rid of social passing in our classrooms? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I can't really respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) There are no plans in place to get rid of social passing in our classrooms. Am I correct with that response? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation

ends) I think I answered the question on the first question stage where we are doing a lot of work in terms of improving our literacy rates. We're putting in learning coaches. We're putting a lot of emphasis on how we can ensure our students are graduating at the same level as any other Canadian schools across Canada.

Certainly, this is something that the Department of Education has been eloquently working towards. With this new *Education Act* that was just being reviewed, these are areas that we certainly are working towards to ensure that all our students are graduating at the same level as any other Canadian students across Canada. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 265 – 4(3): Vacant Houses

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, Nunavummiut. Welcome, visitors in the gallery.

Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, as you are aware, there are a number of houses that were once owned by homeowners and have since foreclosed due to various reasons.

Mr. Speaker, the housing corporation and the banks have interest with many or perhaps all of these houses. However, these houses sit empty for much of the year, sometimes years at a time.

I would like to ask the minister: can he indicate how many foreclosed houses currently sit empty in Nunavut communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. George Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. When a resident of Nunavut goes through a foreclosure process, it is with a financial institution usually being a bank. When a bank forecloses on a property, they become the owner of the property. Unless the Nunavut Housing Corporation has an invested interest in the property, it is dealt with through the normal financial processes of a bank.

As the Nunavut Housing Corporation, the only involvement we would have is if we have a lien on the property or a mortgage that would be held through NHC, which then would be a quick claim where NHC would purchase the property back. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With the severe housing shortage in Nunavut, every house out there that sits vacant is seen as an empty home for a family who might not have a home or is living in overcrowding. I know that they go through the (interpretation ends) Office of the Public Trustee.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister: can he explain the working relationship the Nunavut Housing Corporation has with the

(interpretation ends) Office of the Public Trustee, (interpretation) who handled the estates that would involve the title to private homes? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not aware of a direct relationship between the Public Trustee and the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Whenever a property would be put up, it would typically go up for auction through the bank or a tender process.

Obviously, the Nunavut Housing Corporation would be interested in participating if the private market in that community is unable to purchase that home. It may be something that the Nunavut Housing Corporation might look at purchasing from the bank through its own capital expenditure dollars to be able to put either another staff housing or a public housing unit on the books for that community.

As far as I'm aware, there's not a direct relationship between the Public Trustee and the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although I know that there are foreclosed houses, there are public houses that are boarded up that need maintenance or renovations. I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker. In addition to private houses that sit empty, there are many public houses that are boarded up that

need maintenance and renovations. Can the minister indicate how many public housing units currently sit vacant due to the need of major renovation or repair? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Hickee.

Hon. George Hickee: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a question that has been raised to me a couple of times now in private from other members in my office of concerns with the lack of housing that we have in Nunavut.

We have almost borderline derelict properties that are in communities that are in dire need of upgrading to make them habitable. It's something that I'm very much aware of and it's something that the housing corporation staff has been looking at doing an inventory. I don't have that exact number right now, but it is something that the Nunavut Housing Corporation is working towards. We will be working with the LHOs in the communities to identify retrofit dollars to be able to bring those units up to code as fast as possible.

That being said, as I'm sure all members are aware, the Nunavut Housing Corporation is very tight for capital dollars. It is something that we're continuously striving to work towards. Some houses are extremely dilapidated, if you want to call it that, where we have to identify whether it's worth fixing them or replacing them, depending upon the age. Overall, our housing stock is, if I recall the number correctly, about an 83 percent ratio of quality. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 266 – 4(3): Support for Baker Lake Hunters

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. My question will be directed to the Minister of Environment.

Earlier this morning, the minister made a statement about sealing issues and funds made available by the government to assist hunters.

With that being the case, the Minister of Environment is well aware that I come from an inland community, representing inland Inuit who harvest only terrestrial animals during their hunting trips. I would like to ask the minister: what about our situation? Has the minister reviewed any issues particular to the inland Inuit who depend on the terrestrial furbearers and whether he would commit to the same kind of assistance for Inuit who harvest terrestrial furbearing animals for resale?

Can the minister elaborate on this issue and whether assistance will also be provided to them as well? Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for that question. Yes, that issue has been an ongoing undertaking throughout all of our work related to

terrestrial furbearing animals or as you said, animals with four legs that gallop.

This continues to be a matter that is continuously being worked on within the Department of Environment for the Nunavut territory. In my previous statements over the past two years, the Nunavut Harvester Support Program was identified for review, which was completed, and I expect to see the results in the short term once the cabinet has completed their review of this report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister commit to the same kind of announcement for this sector that he made for the sealing industry assistance program? What kind of funding assistance could be announced under the federal government funding agreement with respect to fur sales? Is there any agreement to that effect? Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, regarding my colleague's question, it is related to the sealing industry. The sealing industry and fishing industry, particularly marine fisheries, have comprised the main focus in the recent past, as seal fur prices suffered a drastic decline in prices after a ban was enacted. Sealing issues and sales of sealskins was our focus during the EU ban on sealskins. Just recently, the developments that transpired

overseas were our main focus. Due to the misinformation used to enact that ban, the sealing industry was misrepresented and misunderstood.

My colleague is asking about another matter, but the Department of Environment has continued to provide support through various initiatives for trappers or wolf hunters who depend on these furs. We have continued to provide support in selling their products. This is solely under our government and doesn't need to be part of a federal-territorial agreement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. The terrestrial animals that we rely on inhabiting the tundra include wolverines, wolves, polar bears, and grizzlies. Can the minister make an announcement in this House some time down the road on the types of assistance provided to Inuit who depend on these furs to supplement their incomes? Will the minister commit to making an announcement in the House as to the types of assistance our government provides through monetary incentives? Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to polar bears, what we consider true marine bears, I had already made an announcement to that effect here in the House about the drastic drop in polar bear fur prices recently. In addition, with

respect to our hunters who are impacted by this drop in price, I announced support initiatives specific to polar bear hunters and this was due to the drastic decline in pelt prices.

With respect to the other species he mentioned, I concur and I can commit to making an announcement at some point on the fur prices and support programs therein. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 267 – 4(3): New Search and Rescue Policy

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

Mr. Speaker, on March 9, I asked a number of questions regarding search and rescue in our communities. In one of the replies to my questions, the minister stated that “A draft search and rescue policy is complete right now, but it is not public yet. We are still consulting with the RCMP because they are part of the organization.” He also stated, “Once the policy is published, we will inform all search and rescue committees in all communities.”

For the record, when does the minister expect to have the new Search and Rescue Policy finalized and put into force? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the question. Since there is a third party involved that we have no control over, I can’t give the member a deadline as to when the policy will be rolled out, but as soon as practically possible. Thank you.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. “Practically possible,” I’m not sure how much of a timeframe that is. Years, months, who knows?

To continue, with the review of this policy, did the policy get a total review or were just certain sections of the policy reviewed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The whole policy was reviewed, but only certain sections of it would have to be added to or changed. A good portion of this is so that we will have the capability and processing to help volunteer searchers where, under normal wear and tear, the parts of their equipment that they use for searching are replaced plus also, if there are any new equipment that is needed. Right now, we use satellite phones, other communicating devices, and SPOT units, so we look to see if there is any new equipment that can be used that’s coming up. The big part of the review is so that we can help the searchers out when their equipment that they use on a search is broken down or needs repairs. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet and Chesterfield Inlet, Mr. Tom Sammurtok.

Question 268 – 4(3): Meat Testing Facilities in Nunavut

Mr. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College.

Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues are aware, there have been a number of occasions where meat such as walrus meat has been suspected of having trichinosis. Currently, the meat has to be sent out of the territory to be tested, which means long delays before communities know whether the meat is safe to eat.

The Nunavut Research Institute, which is part of Nunavut Arctic College, has a laboratory which handles testing such as water samples. Has any consideration been given to adapting the laboratory to permit the testing of meat? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for requesting information on that. I completely identify with the subject he is querying about since I am from Igloolik and our marine areas hold abundant walrus populations, which is also well known.

With respect to that issue, you are truthful in stating that the (interpretation ends) Nunavut Research Institute (interpretation) has adequate facilities to conduct this type of testing. Nevertheless, there are reasons related to public safety that we have to deal with. We work with them on these issues. They may have the facility, but an actual laboratory technician hasn't been available, although it has that capacity.

To date, we have yet to change the current set-up where we send samples for testing to Northern Quebec to their laboratory. However, we are trying to establish the mandated testing equipment to be able to assess samples at the (interpretation ends) Nunavut Research Institute (interpretation) to try to enable them to do this work. However, we also require the approval of the Department of Health prior to being able to do this work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker

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

Mr. Tom Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm sure that the minister is aware that when meat is sent out for testing out of territory, by the time the results come back, the meat is no longer fresh. People would like to have access to meat.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the good work that is done at the Nunavut Research Institute. The Environmental Technology Program, in particular, has been very successful in promoting the value of science and wildlife management.

Would the minister consider raising the issue of using the Nunavut Research Institute laboratory for the testing of meat samples with Nunavut Arctic College's board of management? Thank you, Mr. Speaker

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for proceeding with that question. Yes, let us be aware that samples requiring testing have 24 hours after the test for the results to be forwarded. I wanted to clarify that aspect.

Furthermore, as per my earlier statement as a resident of Igloolik with numerous walrus within our vicinity, there is a local research facility in Igloolik. We are reviewing the best avenue to house a laboratory to test walrus meat samples and the most appropriate placement for it. We are in the midst of this review.

As per my earlier comment of the facility in Igloolik, if you were to envision the community of Igloolik and perhaps if I were to say it in English, it is the (interpretation ends) mushroom (interpretation) building, as locals call it, which used to provide the testing of walrus samples in the past.

I reiterate that this is currently being reviewed to date where we would place this laboratory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tom Sammurtok: *Qujannamiik*, Mr Speaker. The community of Iqaluit is not only home to the Nunavut Research Institute headquarters but also has a full-time veterinarian in the community. Will the minister commit to working with local professionals towards establishing a meat testing facility in Nunavut so that hunters and other consumers of locally harvested game, such as walrus and polar bear, can get quicker results when there is a suspicion of trichinosis? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for that question. This is for all our information that samples are usually not tested immediately as it requires trained lab technicians. Perhaps we should request more information to that end from the Department of Health as it is more pertinent to their mandate.

However, it is impossible to conduct testing immediately upon receiving the sample. We require a lab technician present to conduct this testing. As per my earlier comments, the (interpretation ends) Nunavut Research Institute (interpretation) has been researching ways to implement this to allay concerns expressed in the past.

Your statement is truthful that to date, we've had to send our walrus meat for testing in Northern Quebec due to the availability of trained lab technicians. We have commenced preliminary discussions about possible locations for a lab.

Yes, walrus are quite numerous in the (interpretation ends) Foxe Basin (interpretation) where residents of Igloodik, Hall Beach, Coral Harbour, and Cape Dorset harvest from, and this includes certain Kivalliq communities. We must consider these issues. We are looking for a possible solution by reviewing all related factors. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Mr. Paul Okalik.

Question 269 – 4(3): The Elimination of Plastic Bags in Nunavut

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would now like to ask a question to the Minister of Environment.

As people are well aware, throughout Nunavut, many retail outlets still offer plastic bags that tend to litter our environment. Even with that knowledge, they still use the plastic bags. I wonder if this can be phased out in the future.

In the south, they use paper bags that are biodegradable and won't have a detrimental impact on their environment. My question to the minister is whether this practice can be implemented in our stores through legislation by our government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I refuse to answer the question of the Iqaluit-Sinaa member. Thank you.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We publicly state that the environment is of prime importance to this government, so I am asking if the department has any plans to ban the usage of plastic bags in our retail outlets throughout Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just indicated that I refuse to answer the question from the Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The minister refuses to answer the question. Therefore, I'll go to the next name on the list. Oral Questions. Member for South Baffin, Mr. David Joanasie.

Question 270 – 4(3): Nunavut Graduation Rates

Mr. Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Education.

He tabled yesterday the annual report for 2012-13. On page 36, I read that the graduation rate in Nunavut was 32.2 percent in 2013.

Can the minister indicate what the number one barrier is for Nunavut students completing their grade 12 certificate? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for asking questions relative to educational issues consistently.

There are different underlying reasons that are obvious, as no single barrier is the sole cause. Due to these issues, we are trying to resolve the challenges we face. Perhaps one reason can be inconsistent attendance.

As per my statement that there are various factors, parental engagement in their children's education and their encouraging their child to attend school consistently is one aspect for success.

Perhaps another matter we have noticed that I indicated earlier is how we can strengthen linguistic skills, such as reading and writing within (interpretation ends) literacy, (interpretation) which is another reason for our push towards literacy programming.

Another matter that faces us in this area is the concept of standardization or a (interpretation ends) standardized system (interpretation) that has been studied and which we are trying to resolve. These are some of the various factors that come into play, not just a simplistic barrier.

What I can state towards this goal is that ever since Nunavut came into being, the numbers of graduates have continued to rise, and here I am speaking about (interpretation ends) graduation rates (interpretation) from Nunavut's inception in 1999.

During our review of the rates in 2012-13, starting from the year 2001-02, the (interpretation ends) graduation rates (interpretation) rose from 117 in 2001 up to 216 in 2013. The numbers continue to rise from 2001 at a rate of 22.8 percent in the numbers of graduates.

With that being the case, we are trying to place an emphasis on the rising numbers of graduates since Nunavut's inception, which I take pride in, albeit rather slowly, but it is rising since Nunavut entered Confederation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister didn't indicate what the number one barrier is. He said that there are many factors and one of the responses, I believe, was attendance.

My next question is: what Nunavut-wide measures that promote attendance in schools does the department implement? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the member rephrase his question so that I understand it? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Please rephrase your question, Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What I'm trying to ask the minister is: what is your department doing to increase the

attendance rate of students in Nunavut's schools? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for rephrasing his question. As I indicated earlier, there are various reasons. We're also trying to increase the attendance rate. For example, we are looking at setting up different programs and curriculum in the schools.

Again, exercise is very important for the students. For example, we have team competitions in the various communities. Sports competitions are very important and help to increase the attendance rate because they want to participate in the team competitions.

We are also looking at the programs that are set in the schools and we have set up Nunavut-relevant programs because as people from Nunavut, we would like to see a made-in-Nunavut curriculum. We usually get parts of programs from other jurisdictions. When they come up here, we adapt them so that they become Nunavut-relevant and our students become more aware of their territory.

That's what we're doing to increase the attendance rate. Thank you.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is my last question. As I indicated earlier, in your annual report, it said that [32.2] percent

are graduating. Attendance was one of the problems and that usually leads to dropping out, as the minister is aware.

I would like to know from the minister what the dropout rate is and how many return to the high school after a short break. I hope I was clear. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The dropout rate is calculated using Statistics Canada methodology as a percentage of those aged 20 to 24 who are not attending school and who have not graduated from high school.

For a variety of reasons, the Department of Education does not report dropout rates. We do report the positive side of high school completion metrics in the form of graduation numbers and rates, which are presented in the report. Graduation rates are also available through the Nunavut Bureau of Statistics website.

The Department of Education feels that all Nunavummiut who have not completed high school are encouraged to have the opportunity to do so at any age. We, therefore, feel that a dropout rate which suggests that a portion of the population is incapable of succeeding in school takes away from that focus.

(interpretation) It is primarily due to this reason that we put more emphasis on the ability of students to resume their studies and we send out encouragements to that effect. Our focus is to have students who quit for any reason return to their class using the (interpretation ends) PASS

(interpretation) program. This is our primary focus to try to resolve that challenge. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The time for question period has expired. Moving on. (interpretation ends) Mr. Premier Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek consent to go back to Item 5 on the order paper. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The member, (interpretation ends) Premier, (interpretation) would like to return to Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Are there any nays? I don't hear any nays. (interpretation ends) Mr. Premier, (interpretation) please proceed.

Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in the past and this morning, we work very well together with our sister territories, Northwest Territories and of course, the Yukon.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize in the House today Northwest Territories Member of the Legislative Assembly Kieron Testart.

Again, Mr. Speaker, both legislative assemblies work very well together administratively and politically.

I am quite pleased to welcome also the Minister of Education from the Northwest Territories to the House.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. (interpretation ends) 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. Member for Rankin Inlet and Chesterfield Inlet, Mr. Tom Sammurtok.

Item 12: Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters

Committee Report 011 – 4(3): Bill 15, An Act to Amend the Land Titles Act

Mr. Tom Sammurtok: *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Land Titles Act*, has been reviewed by the Standing Committee on Legislation and that the bill is ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Bill 15 will be placed on the order paper for Monday, March 14.

Item 13. Tabling of Documents. The Hon. Minister of Environment, Mr. Mike.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 095 – 4(3): FPT Ministerial Report – UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties COP21 in Paris, France

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I am pleased to table the *FPT Report on the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties COP21 in Paris, France, November 30 to December 11, 2015*. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Member of Economic Development and Transportation, Ms. Ell-Kanayuk.

Tabled Document 096 – 4(3): Nunavut Airports 20-year Infrastructure Needs Assessment 2014-2034

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I am pleased to table the *Nunavut Airports 20-year Infrastructure Needs Assessment 2014-[2034]*. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Tabled Document 097 – 4(3): Contract Activity Report 2014-2015

Tabled Document 098 – 4(3): Procurement Activity Report 2014-2015

Tabled Document 099 – 4(3): Lease Activity Report 2014-2015

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the following three documents:

- *Contract Activity Report 2014-15;*
- *Procurement Activity Report 2014-15;* and
- *Lease Activity Report 2014-15.*

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Tabled Document 100 – 4(3): Response Letter from Premier to the Airlines

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the *Response Letter from Premier to the Airlines*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. I have no more names on my list. (interpretation ends) Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Monica Ell-Kanayuk.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

Bill 14 – Public Health Act – First Reading

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon.

Member for Tasiluk, that Bill 14, (interpretation ends) *Public Health Act*, (interpretation) be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The motion is in order. All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister of Health, Ms. Monica Ell-Kanayuk.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request consent of this Assembly to waive the one-day notice requirement to allow for the second reading of Bill 14, *Public Health Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The minister is requesting that Bill 14 be read for the second time today. Are there any nays? There are none. Please proceed, Ms. Ell-Kanayuk.

Bill 14 – Public Health Act – Second Reading

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member of Tasiluk, that Bill 14, *Public Health Act*, be read for the second time. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, this bill provides for a modern and comprehensive public health system for Nunavut. Specifically, it provides for the requirements to be met in order to protect public health and for duties and powers of the minister, the chief public health officer, and other

officers in ensuring the protection and promotion of public health. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill.

An Hon. Member (interpretation): Question.

Speaker: Question has been called. All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 14 is referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Item 19. [Consideration in] Committee of the Whole on Bills and Other Matters. Bills 10, 11, 12, and 13 and Tabled Documents 73 – 4(2), 116 – 4(2), 140 – 4(2), 149 – 4(2), and 70 – 4(3) with Mr. Enook in the Chair.

In accordance with the authority provided to me by Motion 16 – 4(3), the committee will stay in session until it reports itself out.

Before we proceed to the Committee of the Whole, we will take a 15-minute break.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 10:37 and Committee resumed at 10:56*

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

Chairman (Mr. Enook)(interpretation): Good morning, Nunavummiut watching the televised proceedings and listening

to the radio broadcast. Welcome to your committee. Good morning, Minister.

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 10, 11, 12, and 13 and Tabled Documents 73 – 4(2), 116 – 4(2), 140 – 4(2), 149 – 4(2), and 70 – 4(3). What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good morning again. Mr. Chairman, we wish to continue with the review of the 2016-17 Main Estimates of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation, followed by Nunavut Arctic College, the departments of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Environment, Culture and Heritage, Justice, and the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker...I mean Mr. Chairman.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 13 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2016-2017 – Economic Development and Transportation – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister, as you only made your opening comments yesterday, I didn't get a chance to ask you and I'll now ask if you

have officials that you would like to bring to the table. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Yes, I have officials that I would like to bring to the table.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Do members agree to bring in Minister Kanayuk's officials?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my right is Deputy Minister Sherri Rowe and on my left is Jim Stevens, our Deputy Minister for Transportation. In the gallery, we have Tanya Winmill, Manager of Finance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Rowe and Mr. Stevens, welcome to the Assembly. Let us continue. Minister Kanayuk already gave her opening comments yesterday and the standing committee's opening comments were read.

Before we proceed, I would like to remind you that if you have questions, please wait until we get to the appropriate page. Are there any general comments? There was no show of hands. We are on page K-4 and we will start from there. Does anyone have questions

or comments on that page? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a few questions regarding grants and contributions. There's a line item for grants and contributions, so I'll take a chance and ask my questions in this particular area.

In my opening comments, I spoke about the importance of providing clear information about the purpose of each of the department's grants and contributions expenditures as well as the actual results and outcomes, especially when it comes to handing out money to for-profit businesses.

I'll take a company like Arctic Kingdom for an example. In 2013-14, your department provided a total of \$219,000 in three separate contributions to the company. What was the purpose of each contribution? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think he's talking about the (interpretation ends) Strategic Investments Program. (interpretation) I'll refer that to my Deputy Minister, Ms. Rowe, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Rowe.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In 2013, we funded Arctic Kingdom under our Strategic Investments Program. The Strategic Investments Program has two streams to it, one for not-for-profit businesses and one for actual businesses. That's called the Nunavut Economic Investment Fund.

The actual details of what we funded Arctic Kingdom for, we do not have that information with us today, but what we can do is we can provide that information to members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Before to I return to Mr. Rumbolt, I wish to remind all ministers, even the ministers who haven't appeared before the committee yet, that as part of your preparations prior to the documentation reviews, it would be very advantageous to all parties if you brought the relevant information related to your presentations. It would also behoove us if some forethought was given to the contents, particularly matters that may raise questions.

Even when members try to ask questions on specific line items, the rote answer is always, "We don't have that information," and it really breaks down the review process. You are also well aware that members are very inquisitive about certain matters, particularly regular MLAs. I urge you to be more cognizant of this requirement and it applies to every minister here and those who will appear before us as witnesses. Again, this is just a recommendation. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I realize that they will have to get back to me with the information, but I will continue my questions in this particular area. I chose Arctic Kingdom because they are a for-profit organization. My next question is: how does your department evaluate or measure the results of the spending that you provide to for-profit organizations? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation) Thank you, Ms. Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just for the member's information, Arctic Kingdom is from the fiscal year 2012-13. We can't be bringing everything to our table all the time, but we would be pleased to provide what we can to members when asked. I'll ask my deputy minister to answer his question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Rowe

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For our Strategic Investments Program, before we fund the clients or an applicant, we have an assessment process. In the contribution agreement, if a project is approved, it outlines the outcomes we're expecting. What we do is the payments to the clients are spread out. We have the first payment on the initial signing of an agreement, and then we do not release the second payment until we've got the accounting and the activity reports from that client.

First of all, we're approving a project where we have already stated what the expected outcomes are of this project, and then before we release the final payment, we go through the reports that they give us to make sure they have done what they were supposed to do with that money. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Rowe. I would like to remind the members that if you have questions, please raise your hand so that we can write your name down. Mr. Rumbolt

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the fact that they

may not have the information from 2013-14. I'm trying to use Arctic Kingdom as an example because they're a for-profit company that received quite the substantial amount of money from the department. I will continue to ask these kinds of questions and hopefully, when they do come back to us, we will have clear information on how the money is spent.

Again with Arctic Kingdom, did the money that was provided to them create any full-time or part-time jobs for Nunavut residents, with the money that they received from this government? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. The program that we're discussing allows us to support strategic businesses and economic development projects proposed by businesses as well as not-for-profit organizations and municipalities, so there are two streams.

The funding Schedule A, which is for Nunavut equity investment funds, this fund provides the maximum equity contribution of \$250,000 to larger Nunavut business ventures in strategic sectors and where businesses have export potential.

For the other one, Schedule B, which my deputy minister explained, Nunavut Economic Foundations Fund, this provides support to a maximum of \$50,000 to organizations and municipalities to carry out activities that improve the abilities of Nunavummiut to participate in Nunavut's economy.

For his latter question, Mr. Chairman, we can get back to all members. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We shall expect that information. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Like I said, I know she didn't have the information before and I still have questions regarding this particular company, so I'm going to read off the rest of my questions because I know the same answer is going to come for each question, so just to speed up the process a little bit.

My next question was going to be: did this particular company, Arctic Kingdom, build any physical infrastructure in Nunavut communities with the money that they received from the government? Another question I had was: can the department explain exactly how Nunavut benefits from providing this money to Arctic Kingdom?

Another comment I will make is I think this particular company is in Mississauga, Ontario. When ED&T is reviewing requests for grants and contribution funding, does it give priority to Nunavut-based companies? I'll accept any comments that the minister may have on those particular questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Ms. Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we're talking about two fiscal years ago. It's not from the present time. Mr. Chairman, through you, we

will provide the response because I don't have that information right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister. We will expect that then. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you and welcome. In your business plan, page 191, it talks about the NNI Policy and creating a new NNI Policy. You say that the final draft has been completed and is being reviewed. When will the implementation of it be in place? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have been dealing with this issue in great detail and we have completed this.

The NNI Secretariat was negotiating with Nunavut Tunngavik and many other government officials. We will be coming up with a new, amended NNI Policy aimed at helping more Inuit and businesses in Nunavut. We will be taking better advantage of the (interpretation ends) *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*.

(interpretation) It's on this basis that we're now starting to plan the approval of this policy and we're expecting to have it approved some time in the near future. However, even after the NNI Policy is approved in the House, we expect its implementation will start in the spring of 2017 because we have to make consultations on how the policy was amended. Thank you, Mr.

Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Where are the changes made? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The proposed amendments are numerous and I'll cite a few examples. Some recommendations under consideration will be put forward for approval, if they are passed. The usual bid adjustment today goes up to 21 percent in the (interpretation ends) bid adjustment formula (interpretation) for approved Inuit businesses. We have recommended changing that from 21 percent to 25 percent.

There are several different changes as well, such as a 5 percent change in the three levels of approved Inuit businesses. These are sole proprietorships, 100 percent Inuit owned businesses, that can have their (interpretation ends) bid adjustment (interpretation) included.

The second tier of Inuit businesses is where Inuit are the majority owners but share ownership with other Inuit from Nunavut or elsewhere. If the other owners are from Nunavut comprising 51 percent up to 100 percent, this would add to their approved adjustments.

The third level relates to the commitment to hire Inuit or when they have an Inuit employment plan and they reach the level they identified.

Conversely, if they didn't reach the level stated on their application, the original method was to penalize them financially. Now, when their commitment to hire Inuit with specified numbers of employees was not fulfilled, the business would be excluded from any future bids on other projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you. It is very interesting to hear the changes to the NNI Policy. Also regarding the (interpretation ends) NNI Policy, you have a current NNI Contracting Appeals Board. Is that going to be changed, and will the board have a broader mandate to hear appeals? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this time, the board gets direction from the government about appointees, as well as from Nunavut Tunngavik and business representatives from the (interpretation ends) Baffin chamber of commerce. (interpretation) Together, we are able to appoint board members.

In the new system, although I don't have the briefing notes in front of me, the government can make an appointment to the board, along with Nunavut Tunngavik. The total number of members is set at five appointments from the government and they sit for a period of three years. The (interpretation ends) appeals board, (interpretation) as it

was called in the past, would be renamed as the (interpretation ends) NNI Tribunal. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the business plan on page 188, (interpretation ends) it talks about initiating “activities to further support community economic development initiatives...” Who does the department work with on a regular basis to achieve that goal? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): I’m sorry, Mr. Chairman, I only heard part of her question, so if she could ask that question again. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) On page 188 of your business plan, under Priorities (2015-16), you talk about how you work with communities to “support community economic development initiatives...” I’m wondering exactly who you work with within the communities. How do you go about doing that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I’m looking for page 188. Perhaps my deputy minister has that information, so I will ask her to respond. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Rowe.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What we do is we work with the communities and we work with the economic development officers. We work with hamlets. We work with other government departments that have offices in the communities.

What we try to do, especially with the hamlets, is work with them in looking at their community economic development plan and then try to see how we can assist them with accomplishing their goals. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to community economic development plans, are they all up to date? If a community doesn’t have one, how are they assisted? Is this something they do on their own or is this something the department will help them with? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can say that if communities request assistance from (interpretation ends) Economic Development, (interpretation) we are able to provide support to them. Perhaps my deputy

minister can respond as to how many economic development officers there are in each community, as I don't have that information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ms. Rowe, do you have that information? Go ahead.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. How up to date the plans are in each community definitely varies from one community to another. The one problem that we have encountered is there is a high turnover of economic development officers, which then leads the plan in different stages. If they do not have a plan, we assist them with funding and we also fund their economic development officer. We work with the hamlets closely to make sure that their plan is either up to date or, if it's not, helping them bring the plan up to date. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is that something that the economic development officer would do automatically, to ensure that their plans are up to date? Is the economic development officer's work plan under your oversight? Is that something that you look at through a contribution agreement? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We work with the community economic development officers who are hired by the hamlets. They are trained on

an ongoing basis, but there are turnovers. People quit and we have new people coming in all the time. That has been happening for a very long time now.

We have the community economic development officers meet once a year for a training session. At that time, we have agreements between the hamlet and (interpretation ends) Economic Development (interpretation) on how we are going to work together on economic development in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the things that have often come up, to everybody's interest, is when we talk about economic development initiatives at the community level, we always want to know how many businesses were created and maintained, did people get jobs, and how many people came off income support. Is that the kind of information that you would collect through these contribution agreements? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My deputy minister handles those agreements, so she can respond to that, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Rowe.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What we do is, in our contribution agreements, we specify reporting

requirements. Everyone who signs a contribution with us is required to provide reporting to us. What we now are just starting to work on is trying to combine all the information we gather from all our different programs and through other agencies, for example, Community Futures, to try to get statistics in place that we can rely on.

The one thing is that now when someone reports that they have created five jobs, what we're doing is we're asking them, "What were those five jobs? Are they full-time jobs? Are they part-time jobs? Are they seasonal jobs?" We're getting much better at asking and requiring that information from people, but we are just getting started at the level of being able to combine all the information together. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Once you have all that information, how will you use that information? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Minister.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, we would use that information to ensure the municipalities are meeting the objectives that were in the agreement, some of which are the community economic development plans and strengthening, supporting the participation of Nunavut communities in economic development opportunities and initiatives, and supporting the ability of the municipalities to leverage other funding.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to come back again to community economic development plans because you just mentioned it again. Under whose initiatives do these plans get developed? Some don't and some do. Whose responsibility is it? I'll just leave it at that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. It's the hamlets' responsibility. We provide them with \$190,000 a year made available to each community to do those types of work. We don't go to them and tell them how to do their work; they have to initiate that process themselves. Thank you, Mr. *Itsivautaaq*.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think it's an important component for future economic development initiatives and perhaps it should be a discussion once the economic development officers meet because I know they meet once a year.

Just one more question in this area. One thing that's always lacking is capacity. For example, when somebody wants to start a job, who is going to write the business plan is a challenge at the community level. How do you address

that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like my deputy minister to respond to that through you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Rowe.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What we do is small businesses that are looking to get a business plan done in a community can apply for funding through either our Small Business Support Program or they can apply to the Baffin Business Development Centre to seek funding in order to hire someone to do their business plan.

We also provide some tools to them if they are interested in trying to write the plan themselves, in which case there is information available online which is basically how to write a business plan. It's already set up for them, so they basically just have to fill in the information.

Now, it might not be at the same level as a professional business plan that is written, but at the same time, you get the business much more involved in what they are setting out to do instead of having someone else write things for them. There is a benefit to both. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you. I'm going to go on to a different area here, page

189 of your business plan. I note with interest that you're working with "communities and other stakeholders to assess potential for alternative energy systems in Nunavut." The status that you claim is that "The department is working with the Nunavut Housing Corporation to determine the feasibility of solar hot water systems..." Has this assessment been completed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That has not been completed to date. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister tell us if she expects this to maybe start as a pilot project in some communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did not seem audible for a bit.

With respect to that, in 2015-16, the (interpretation ends) Energy Secretariat (interpretation) held discussions with various Nunavut government departments, including the Nunavut Housing Corporation, to initiate the review of the solar hot water, perhaps to create electricity in future buildings. We imagine the study will cost about \$7,000

and that is the purpose. To date, the study is still in its infancy as discussions are still ongoing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's very interesting. I look forward to finding out more about that.

Under the same department, what other alternative energy things are you looking at for the future? Maybe to give an example, I read with interest in a country where they were using all their garbage to produce energy and that they were buying other countries' garbage. Is that something along those lines or are we working towards other alternative energy systems in Nunavut maybe in other areas? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. That was Norway that is buying all the garbage. Madam Minister.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, *Itsivautaaq*. (interpretation) I also thank my colleague for that question. At this current time, the (interpretation ends) Energy Secretariat (interpretation) is up and running, but we currently lack staff and have advertised positions to remedy that. However, as it stands now, we are understaffed.

Nonetheless, every year, we have paid \$50,000 in membership fees to the (interpretation ends) Arctic Energy Alliance. (interpretation) In conjunction with that group, we are studying energy conservation initiatives that we have produced as well in Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, Arviat, and Cambridge Bay.

We also took the opportunity to visit private homes to conduct a thermal imaging test designed to spot leaks and drafts, such as via their doors or windows. We used monies from this fund to conduct these tests. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It has been pointed out to me on K-7 under the Energy Options Working Group that there's actually no budget whatsoever. That doesn't look very promising. Can the minister tell us why there's no money put towards that area? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will refer that question to my deputy minister. Thank you.

Chairman: Ms. Rowe.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our compensation and benefits is the largest item for the Energy Secretariat. We also have \$50,000 that gets paid to the Arctic Energy Alliance through our contract services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you. I take it that they don't go to meetings or anything. They would just stay here because there's no travel budget, or is that part of the travel budget of your other staff

members as well? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like my deputy minister to respond to that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Ms. Rowe.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The only travel cost that the Energy Secretariat would have would just be travelling with the minister to attend federal/provincial/territorial energy meetings. Those costs are covered in our travel for corporate management. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we talk about alternative energy systems in Nunavut, it makes me think of the dam project. Is this department part of it?

>>*Laughter*

Is this secretariat part of that work? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is the responsibility of the Qulliq Energy Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you. It probably just adds to the list of things I don't understand about the government.

They're talking about energy efficiency and alternative energy sources, and then QEC is doing that too. Why aren't you guys working together? How do you see yourselves working together, if you're not now, and what would you like to see? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do have a very good working relationship with the Qulliq Energy Corporation. For example, we worked closely with them when they were putting in a (interpretation ends) solar system (interpretation) for their building.

Regarding the dam to generate electricity, we have a very close working relationship to find and develop cheaper energy once it has been built. We work closely as we look at what may not seem too visible and slightly different things. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In keeping with alternative energy systems, in your business plan, you talk about the 2015 Oil and Gas Summit where leadership was provided to develop stakeholder consensus on a proposed strategic environmental

assessment where you wanted to address petroleum exploration and development.

Over the years, I have always heard that it's just too expensive to do that kind of work in the Arctic. Is that the determination of your department as well and, if so, why are we working in this area still? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that question. This is something that is very useful. The Nunavut government had a meeting in January 2015 to talk about petroleum exploration and how we can rely on that in the future. The report will be tabled in the House and we will provide a copy to all the individuals that attended the meeting. We've had meetings with companies, but it is in the planning phase. There still has to be many studies done. We all know that there is seismic exploration in the eastern part of the Arctic. We can't talk about that because it's in the courts. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: I'll leave it there for now.

Chairman (interpretation): Before we proceed, it is now almost lunchtime, so we will take a break and resume at 1:30 this afternoon. We will take a lunch break at this time. Thank you.

>>Committee recessed at 11:42 and resumed at 13:29

Chairman (interpretation): Good afternoon, my colleagues and Nunavummiut. Welcome to your committee once again.

We will continue where we left off. I would just like to remind you as we proceed that we are on page K-4. I'll just follow my list of names and we will begin with Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, Minister Ell-Kanayuk, your officials, and Nunavummiut who are listening to the proceedings.

Yesterday, in your opening comments, you stated that there's \$292,000 that you will be setting aside to be used for country food distribution. Is the \$292,000 for only one PY? That's my first question, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you. Let me look for the information.

It would be for one PY. I believe his question was how much we would set aside for that one PY. This money is for the Country Food Distribution Program in Nunavut. I saw it in here, but I can't find it at this time. Perhaps my deputy minister can respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. The question was: is the \$292,000 for one PY? I believe that was Mr.

Joanasie's question. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you. This \$292,000 would go to the department, not just for salary and benefits, but also for travel. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister. Do we understand that it would be for salary and benefits, as well as the office? You are agreeing with me, so I understand that correctly. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Would this individual be travelling to each of the Nunavut communities over the year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Yes, part of it would be for travel. I don't have the information on whether this individual will be going to all Nunavut communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do you have a breakdown of the \$292,000? Can we have a breakdown of the salary, benefits, and travel? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Perhaps my deputy minister can respond to that question.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Rowe.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can you repeat the question?

Chairman (interpretation): Can you repeat your question, Mr. Joanasie?

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you. In your opening comments, you indicated that \$292,000 would be set aside or it's re-profiling funding in the amount of \$292,000 to create a PY. Could you give a break down of how much will be used for salary and benefits for this person and how much is set aside for travel purposes? That's what I'm trying to find out. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The detailed breakdown of the \$292,000 is not in my briefing note, so I will refer it to my deputy minister. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Rowe.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We don't have the exact details of the breakdown, but I can tell you that what is happening with the program is that we have a full-time position now that will support the country food program. With the remaining amount of money, that money will be used for the country food person, the employee to be able to travel to communities to assist communities in preparing applications for the program for community freezers. We want to

make sure that all the money is used in a given year and so this will support that initiative. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is a little disconcerting to me, especially if the salary is that high. If I may, I would propose a breakdown in this manner: \$200,000 for salary and benefits and \$92,000 for travel purposes. That still seems rather extravagant for a single employee.

Can you provide a more detailed breakdown? As an example, I imagine it hasn't been planned out properly, although I know that changes are forthcoming for the job description for the country food position. Nonetheless, this is a large amount just for one position's travel budget. I wonder: is the salary range set for this position? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The actual salary will not be that high for this position, but as we all know, travel within Nunavut is extraordinarily expensive when touring communities. It seems plausible that the travel budget would most likely be spent entirely. It includes travel as well as meetings within communities.

If members recall, in the 2014-15 fiscal year, an amount of \$254,000 was approved for this country food fund and the majority of funds were used for

community freezers. However, the fund hasn't been used completely. We wanted to change the amounts based on the feedback from the communities that once they had the freezers, there were no funds for maintenance.

To ensure that fund is utilized further, as well as to see if communities can use that funding, we decided to conduct a comprehensive review. It was decided that one employee responsible for this program would suffice and that position would liaise with the communities on the program and eligible projects. That is why it is now set up that way. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Where would this position be located? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The position would be based here in Iqaluit. Thank you.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you. Why can't it be located in Baker Lake? Why did you choose Iqaluit? Is that the only place with adequate space or did you not bother to consider any smaller communities where employment opportunities are hard to find? Did you not consider smaller communities in

your deliberations? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Joanasie. Or even Pond Inlet. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this time, we cannot respond to that question. Perhaps we can use your intermediary role to submit the response later on. Neither of us was here when that decision was made or rather, my deputy minister was not present for this decision. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. For my own understanding, are you informing the committee that after your research into this matter, you will submit the response via the Chairman? Is that what I understood your response to be?

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Yes, you understood correctly.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We will look forward to that information. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have asked this question on a number of occasions. On March 10 last year, I asked the same question in the House about the Iqaluit airport. We know that it is a contract that was awarded and there is a clause in there where there has to be a certain percentage of Inuit workers. Could you give us an update on the Iqaluit terminal and what the Inuit employment percentage is and so on? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Joanasie. Minister Kanayuk, I know and I do realize that we're going to be going to transportation, but I'll leave it at your discretion whether or not you want to answer this question now. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you. Sometimes I can't see the little light that goes on in front of me, Mr. Chairman.

I do recall the member asking questions on the Iqaluit terminal. Their Inuit employment rate is set out in an agreement and their obligation is 18.09 percent for Inuit employment. They are a little over what they agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for responding to my question. In your business plan for 2016-19, it is on page 189 and that's why I asked that question. It also indicates on the third bullet that the contractor has submitted the monthly monitoring reports. Will those reports be tabled in the House? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): We have a coordinator working on this at this time. However, it's not going to be a monthly report; it's going to be an annual report. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister. Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We look forward to seeing a copy of that report. It indicates here that the contractors are, I think, audited on an annual basis and that there will be one due in April. Is it possible for your department to produce those reports and table them in the House? That's my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

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

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. As a reminder, we are on K-4. Following my list of names, Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the minister for more information on page 186 of the business plan. We're on page K-4 and on pages 186 to 187 regarding the Directorate, I would like more information on the Energy Secretariat. It's not included in the budget, but they have set aside \$697,000. Can the minister give us more information on what this \$697,000 will be used for? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 187 of the business plan, he's talking about the Energy Secretariat. It is identified as \$697,000, but we're on K-4 under Corporate

Management. It's contained in there and it's not written separately. I hope that clarifies the question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it's clear now. My second question is still on page 187, fifth paragraph. I would like information on Sustainable Development. Is that for land surveys or is it for airports? I would like clarification on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under Sustainable Development is "the GN's participation in processes mandated by the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* for environmental assessment, land use planning and general monitoring." Through discussions, they review where they stand and how they can move forward. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is the money divided by the hamlets for their use? That's my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr.

Chairman. This is more towards the meetings of the assessors on where things stand today. They cooperate on many things. They've had negotiations with many people from the government, Inuit, the regional Inuit associations, the federal government, and other people involved in the planning and regulatory activities. They do that type of work. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Within the year, how many times do they travel to the communities to identify land? That's my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ell-Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like my deputy minister to clarify that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Rowe.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The people who are employed in this division work on environmental assessments. It's not that they're travelling to communities. They are actually attending meetings, but also reviewing information that comes into the department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Rowe. Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Whether they go to

one community annually, we never hear about it when they travel. Do they actually go to the communities? I'm asking that for clarification. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They don't travel so much to the communities, but they would go to a community if they were holding a meeting there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a different question. On page 187 under training and development, it was mentioned this morning. With respect to the training program, do they train the development officers in the communities? That's my question and if you don't understand me, I can elaborate. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank him for that question. For the community economic development officers, in the 2016-17 training program, Economic Development contributed \$50,000. The community economic development officers from the hamlets travel once a year for training to a community and that's how the money is spent.

To further clarify, the \$50,000 is only for that one training program. The operating funding is over that amount. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is it divided by the communities or used only for one community? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you. I'm sorry I wasn't clear, Mr. Chairman. The expense in 2016-17 of \$50,000 is for training for all communities. It's only for the economic development officers getting together when their training workshop is being planned. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Moving on, this question was asked earlier, but I need clarification on hydro development. What kind of hydro development is it? Is it within the communities or outside the communities? That's my question. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The work being done by the Qulliq Energy Corporation is an example that my cabinet colleague can

use to answer the question. If there was going to be hydro development in Iqaluit, for example, it would be targeted not just for Iqaluit. I think they would look into involving nearby communities, but that would involve additional spending. If the Qulliq Energy Corporation was planning a project like that, they would have more to speak about it. We are more into saving on energy consumption, although hydro development plays a part, as it would bring a reduction in energy costs. We would be working with them on that basis. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, Minister. I just have one question. It's on 187 and it was touched on a bit by Ms. Angnakak.

The NNI Secretariat is responsible for the facilitation, coordination, and implementation. In this area, it talked about penalizing companies that didn't hire enough people or got rid of some people. I'm just wondering: how severe of a penalty do they get? Would it be big enough to deter them from saying, "We will just pay the fine and get other people to come in"? That's my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you. My deputy minister will respond to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Rowe.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the proposed changes in the NNI Policy is making it so that penalties will be of such significance that it will deter companies from doing that. Over the years, they have been seeing situations where people's bids are adjusted for that penalty in case they have to take it, which then doesn't serve the Government of Nunavut well.

What they're looking at now are different types of penalties that are being proposed. If that was the case that there is a penalty, it will be something other than financial. Overall, maybe let's say as an example, they might not be able to bid on a contract the following year. Of course, these are still all just proposed because they're not approved yet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Rowe. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon. The first question I want to ask is on K-4. The (interpretation ends) Nunavut Development Corporation, (interpretation) to my knowledge, provides many benefits to the communities, but it seems that the bigger communities benefit the most. Can that be looked into? NDC creates many new jobs and we would want to benefit the smaller communities so that they are provided more jobs. Is that being reviewed? That's my first question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) With

respect to the assistance provided by the (interpretation ends) Nunavut Development Corporation, (interpretation) with several subsidiary companies, it has resulted in the creation of quite a number of jobs, contributions to our economy, and their sustained growth benefits Nunavummiut. As an example, they assist people in the carving industry, the fishing industry, commercial harvesting, tourism, as well as foodstuffs they sell. They provide assistance in these sectors.

With regard to the actual amounts, this isn't the first time the creation of jobs has been discussed and whether positions have been created. We met with the (interpretation ends) Nunavut Development Corporation (interpretation) on future positions, how to identify future jobs for projects they may contemplate, and if there is any way to increase these numbers as their company grows. This has been under discussion for quite a while now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For example, in Qikiqtarjuaq, they do clam digging. If they could provide more support, I know it could create more jobs at the local level, especially in the smaller communities where there are opportunities. If they can do more testing and provide more support in this area, I know that they can find more economic opportunities in the smaller opportunities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The (interpretation ends) Nunavut Development Corporation (interpretation) has, and I reiterate, 127 permanent employees currently in these sectors: fisheries, carving, handicrafts, and food processing. The manager, Darren Nichols, obviously would be happy to hear about more opportunities to take on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, in looking at the figures, it is fairly easy to realize the breadth of support they provide. There is this other line item in here referring to the Toronto [fair] event that is supported with \$200,000. What is the status of that contribution? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have my deputy minister respond to the question through you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Ms. Rowe.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, NDC is still providing that funding. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Rowe. Mr. Okalik

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this time, I would like to ask if they can elaborate further on

what the funds are used for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This gallery is still a focal point of sales, many carvings are down there, and several projects are still undertaken at the facility. Nonetheless, maybe my deputy minister can explain that office in greater detail. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Rowe.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Toronto is a sales division for NDC and so NDC markets Inuit sculptures, crafts, sewn goods, and jewellery through its sales office in Toronto. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) There are Internet and those technologies that you can use for the sale of those things, I think. Has anybody thought of maybe using that money for a Nunavut community instead and using online technology to promote Nunavut products? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We agree with the member.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Paul Okalik (interpretation): I'm very pleased that they agree with me, so I'm satisfied now. Thank you.

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

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Are we still on K-4? Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also would like to welcome the minister and her officials at the witness table.

I have a question on Corporate Management, which I am at a loss to understand. It states that the government is working on training future leaders by implementing the priorities listed in *Sivumut Abluqta* for manager and director level positions. It also talks about incorporating Inuit traditional practices and societal values through hiring Inuit employees.

Can you elucidate further on exactly which Inuit traditional practices are contemplated by this language used here? Can you clarify that for me? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The language as written on that page is specific to that, particularly where it speaks about (interpretation ends) corporate management. (interpretation) For example, the business development corporation

leadership has to implement projects and manage the funding for their subsidiaries, legal requirements, and operational items, such as their employees. This is how it is written.

As per our Premier's past statements about the *Sivumut Abluqta* Mandate, the document speaks to many guiding principles, such as Inuit societal values like *Tunngasainiq* amongst others, but they are in that document that we have to include for any draft legislation or policies within our departmental operations. Further, it speaks to hiring more Inuit employees within that mandate.

At this time, most of the employees in the various divisions are Inuit within our department, as that is our goal and directive that we use. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the business plan, page 187, I'm not sure if this was asked, but under Business Development, the amount has remained steadily the same. I'm not overly concerned about the amount, but my question here is for people who are starting up a small business. On that last sentence there, it indicates financial support. For any individual who is starting up a small business, how long is the financial support aspect? Is that accounting provided to the individual who is starting up a small business or is that just financial support to get them up and running? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Economic development is aimed at the start-up of new private businesses. It's also targeted for operational improvement of businesses. The department works with other entities that provide large sums of money for employment purposes in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we look at that particular budget line under Business Development, which is available to people within our territory, does that money or that budget line get exhausted year by year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this time, the staff is set up that way. We have not changed the number; it remains status quo. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Moving along on that same page again, when I look at the Nunavut Economic Developers Association, the last sentence is referring to coordinating "training and certification for community economic development officers." Right beneath it, one of my

colleagues had asked about this \$50,000, which is also covering training for economic development officers or municipal community economic development officers. Would you not see these two go hand and hand and why are there two separate budget lines? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. The Nunavut Economic Developers Association is a territorial organization representing community economic development officers. The department provides \$225,000 in core funding annually to the Nunavut Economic Developers Association to assist them with their operational cost. The \$50,000 to NEDA is to support regional training workshops and for the delivery of training courses to the community economic development officers during the fiscal year 2015-16. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for the response. When we look at regional training, seeing that it's only \$50,000, even though \$50,000 could be a substantial amount, and when we look at economic development officers within Nunavut and if there's one in each community for training so that we can have certified EDOs, is the department satisfied with that amount? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. NEDA is developing a Nunavut economic development organization certification program. This project was made possible by using \$20,000 of the CEDO training fund and obtaining a contribution of \$125,000 from the SIP program. They're able to access extra money, if required and if approved. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Onto page 188 of the business plan, the Nunavut Broadband Development Corporation receives core funding. Where is that presently located? Is that in various communities or is that centrally located? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Nunavut Broadband Development Corporation advocates for the delivery of affordable public access to reliable high-speed Internet services in all the Nunavut communities. I'm not sure if they actually have an office, but they do have a board and they do get together to discuss that.

In terms of office and staffing, I'll ask my DM to answer that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Mikkungwak, are you done? Oh, I'm sorry. Ms. Rowe.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is an office space in Iqaluit with one employee. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Rowe. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Does that one employee visit remote communities or do they just communicate by...? In this case, I'm assuming they would communicate by Internet or computer system. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: You might think, eh?

>> *Laughter*

(interpretation) Thank you, Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They don't have much travel. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. I'll again recognize Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize that I didn't even see one of the items I wanted to query about, but I had previously asked the minister about this matter during question period about country food.

I enjoy the fact that country food is included in this section. In perusing your business plan, particularly page 193 of the English version, there is a section stating that more effort will be put

towards obtaining country food and that they would study more hunter support programs. I would first like to know what is entailed in this planning exercise. That's what I would first like to know. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) An internal study estimated that the value of country food, if it were to be replaced, would be \$32 million in a year, just for country food, if we ever had to replace our country food. This is a very important program.

The Country Food Distribution Program has been reformed to better fit the needs of the communities and there has been a greater use of the program to date as a result. We have simplified the schedules for hamlets and HTOs and the necessary supports that are required for community freezer projects. The old program was under-spent, as I mentioned earlier this week.

We are still working to improve the viability of the harvest economy and we have been involved with Family Services to date to do more of that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister. The opportunity for growth is intriguing and seems appropriate for further study. It is such that we all can't just be employees in our case, and this applies

to many Inuit who prefer to go hunting. This can be a perfect career for Inuit hunters who love to be on the land.

I know for a fact that in Nunavik, they offer hunter support programs and they use the funds to provide country food for their communities. The harvests are gathered and distributed to residents who otherwise would not have country food, such as handicapped people and widows/widowers.

That is what I had envisioned occurring in Nunavut, especially for our smaller communities that lack employment opportunities that could use this avenue to employ hunters. This ought not to be just a hunting trip assistance fund, but assistance for all the equipment required to provide country food. It seems plausible to search for more ways to do so. I would like to know if the set-up in Northern Quebec can be researched. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What he's saying is true. We would like the money to be used more in the communities and that's what we're trying to do. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): If you're going to be reviewing this again, then I will just totally support your efforts. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We are on Economic Development and

Transportation. Branch Summary. Corporate Management. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$12,026,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Let's move on to page K-5. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a few more questions along the same lines I was questioning earlier. I'll start off by going back to my opening comments where I talked about your policy that stated, "the Minister is accountable for the overall program funding and results, and will table annually in the Legislative Assembly, or otherwise make available to the public, a summary of contributions detailing the name of each successful applicant, the amount of each contribution, the type of investment being supported, and the community," but these documents have not been tabled in the Legislative Assembly.

The first question would be: will you follow your own department's policy and start tabling detailed annual reports on your spending under such programs as the Strategic Investments Programs in the House? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member for asking about this very important matter. Yes, we have to follow the policies and we try to do so. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Earlier again when I was questioning, I specifically mentioned a company's name about my questioning and this time I want to keep it more general. I'm just wondering what types of proposals from for-profit businesses does ED&T approve. Do you look at whether the company creates jobs in Nunavut or whether they build infrastructure in the territory or even other factors that you consider? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): It is reviewed. For example, the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation, in 2015-16, needed (interpretation ends) media equipment and equipment training (interpretation) prior to the grand opening of their facility. Our officials had to be aware of the parameters, as they contributed \$250,000 in 2015-16.

This includes many training programs provided to other organizations, such as the (interpretation ends) Kivalliq Mine Training Society, (interpretation) as an example. The training is specific to career development, so funding was provided for that purpose.

Other types of start-up funding included contributions to tourism outfitters or for proposals to purchase heavy equipment for their projects that will hire Inuit. I am just using examples of the types of proposals that are reviewed under this program, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When you give out money to these particular companies for various reasons, how does your department, over the coming years or the following months or years, measure or evaluate the results of the money that is given to these companies? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like my deputy minister to respond to that question. Thank you.

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

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the contribution agreements that we sign with businesses, they will have reporting requirements in it. What we will do is we will look at the project when it's completed to determine if they have met the objectives that were set out for it. For example, if it was training money, we would make sure that the training has taken place and whether any jobs were created from that training money. If we're funding infrastructure, we would want to determine that whatever they said that they were going to be building or renovating, those renovations have taken place. We don't release final payments to them until that has taken place. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Economic Development and Transportation. Corporate Management. Following the list of names, Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 192 of your business plan, if you go down to the third paragraph, there is an issue I wish to ask about. It refers to the Small Business Support Program.

Residents in the smaller communities especially rarely see any advertisements for positions or employment opportunities. If a local Inuk wants to create their own job by starting a new business, who do they contact first to start researching relevant information, such as manuals or pamphlets to start up a business? Can the communities receive this information readily or do you have to personally request the information to start your business? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Every community has (interpretation ends) economic development officers (interpretation) called CEDOs who work for the hamlets and can be approached for further information on starting up a business that they may require. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is why I asked the question, as the average Inuk in a smaller community rarely gets the training opportunities offered in the larger centres, including job advertisements, and employment opportunities don't come by very often and they rarely have a choice to pick a career. That is why I asked about the information and if there is any kind of video or other viewable materials to make it easier for Inuit in the smaller communities.

The other item I want to move on to is directly underneath and it is listed in the fifth paragraph with a larger pot of funds for private business assistance programs. Perhaps I can provide an example. When a prospective business owner wants to create or manage a project that can be a source of revenue within their community, do they also need to approach the CEDO or the ED&T department for relevant information pertaining to their ideas? That is my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I am right, I believe he is referring to the (interpretation ends) regional chambers of commerce (interpretation) and they are also supposed to provide support for smaller community businesses in their region. The regional chambers of commerce are mandated to provide support to private businesses and they offer training, skills courses, addressing business concerns via meetings, and developing regional

plans. That is what is supposed to be conducted.

The reason for the regional bodies is that each region has slightly different practices. They are supposed to handle local requests or regional priorities within the context of Nunavut-wide plans. There are supposed to be representatives on the regional chambers of commerce to provide that information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I didn't quite understand the minister's response. I was asking about (interpretation ends) business development centres (interpretation) listed in the fifth paragraph.

Now, if an individual wishes to enquire about information requests, such as a private entity that may want to expand their business, what types of assistance would be available that they can request or where can they submit their application for funding assistance? That is my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Now I understand his question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague for that question. The business development centres are located in the Kitikmeot, Kivalliq, and Baffin regions. They are basic, (interpretation ends) non-profit organizations (interpretation) that

provide the most support for new business start-ups or in assisting existing businesses to expand or receive funding assistance. It includes business planning or (interpretation ends) strategic planning (interpretation) or if you just want to get more information. In the case of an existing business that is concerned about their future sustainability or if they are in financial difficulty, they can search for information from this body or can be linked to places that have the information.

I believe we have set aside \$1,050,000 for the business development centres for 2015-16 and \$300,000 for the Kivalliq and Kitikmeot and \$450,000 for the Baffin business development centers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In your business plan, I'm going to be referring to page 190, Priorities (2016-17), second bullet. Your department's draft 2016-19 business plan indicates that one of its priorities for the 2016-17 fiscal year is to "promote a regulatory regime that will attract responsible resource developers." What specific actions will your department take to address this priority? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The information is not in front of me. My deputy minister has the information, so I'm asking if you will allow her to respond. Thank you, Mr.

Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Rowe, before you speak, for your information, if you need to confer, there is a mute button in front of you. We don't mind waiting because we know we will get the good answer after you have conversed. Ms. Rowe.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What that statement means is that the Government of Nunavut considers each project on a case-by-case basis and will recommend to the proponents and regulatory agencies that local communities, stakeholders, and governments must be adequately informed and consulted on projects, and that projects use excepted best practices and techniques to minimize potential impacts on the environment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To what extent are the municipal councils of impacted communities participating in this initiative? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They are going to be consulted on how both parties will work together to do the project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I'll move on to something else, which is pretty well in line with the two questions earlier that I just finished off here.

When we look at resource development or, in my case, when I asking about responsible resource development, as the minister is very well aware, there is an operating mine north of my community. Your department is responsible for administering the government's Development Partnership Agreement Policy. What is the status of negotiating new development partnership agreements with any mining companies? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. The development partnership agreement is a requirement for the mining company in order to be eligible to participate in the fuel tax rebate and this is handled by the Department of Finance. The Department of Economic Development and Transportation is responsible for coordinating the negotiation of that agreement.

As you know, we just have the one existing DPA and that is with the Agnico Eagle Meadowbank mine agreement at this time. Moving forward, we are looking to change the way the DPAs are structured. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wholeheartedly understand that you are, along with the Department of Finance, working on a DPA with the current operating mine with Agnico Eagle. Until you guys have reached an agreement, that will not affect the operation of the mine. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

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

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would first like to ask the minister about page 192. There's a community capacity building section. There should be community economic development officers because your department provides funding to the hamlet councils for that purpose. Is there one in each community? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague for that question. Yes, through an agreement, all communities have an economic development officer. Thank you.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you. I know you have signed an

agreement. Are all of these economic development officer positions filled? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The community economic development officers have a high turnover rate. I don't have the current figures of which communities are staffed and not staffed at this time, but if the member wishes that information, we could get back to him. Thank you.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll look forward to seeing that information. It is something of concern to me when there's a high turnover of economic development officers. Why is there a high turnover rate? Does the minister know what the reasons are? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps my deputy minister can provide a proper response to that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Ms. Rowe.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are many different reasons. A lot of times, what we see is once someone is trained, they then end up getting a better job offer and we can't stop people in

wanting to improve themselves. Another reason is really the economic development officer, although working for the hamlet, it's one of those positions where they're really working on their own and some people prefer not to be in a position like that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do know that they are working under the hamlet council, in my community anyways, and these positions are usually held by hamlet employees. As a government, have you looked at how you can restructure their positions? Of course, most communities have GLOs. I'm not sure how we can improve it so that there is a lower turnover rate. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the workload is quite heavy for these positions and they largely work on their own, as their work is specific to their community. There are funding agreements with the hamlets in the communities that administer the workload with a substantial list of duties, primarily focusing on economic development within their communities.

Some of them are quite capable while others require further training, but we would like to see all incumbents be strong in offering opportunities to develop economic development within their communities. That is why we have earmarked additional funds for training,

including other professional development courses. When they have discussions through training, they discuss improvement opportunities and other training opportunities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for her response. Again, I appreciate hearing about these training opportunities, as they are the main contacts for economic development and opportunities for growth to the community. What other assistance outside of the community or within your department is available for these positions to ensure they provide the services that are outlined as their duties? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you. I'll refer the question to Ms. Rowe.

Chairman: Ms. Rowe.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The community economic development officers can also work with our regional staff. In each regional centre, we have economic development staff that they can work with to provide them with further assistance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you. I will offer my support and urge the department to commit to supporting these employees in the communities who work in this field. They do provide valuable development assistance to the community and offer more programming assistance and opportunities to the local residents. I would like to see more exposure about their roles to Nunavummiut.

I would like to go back to the question about country food. I didn't ask this question. The fiscal year is almost ending and last year, you put aside funding for country food distribution of \$1,868,000. How much of that funding has been used? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Just one moment, please. It was right in front of me, so bear with me.

For 2015-16 expenses, we are expecting an approved budget of \$1,868,000. We believe \$1.2 million will be spent this fiscal year. I hope that's clear. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for the response and it's understandable. I think they amended their policy. I can't recall if it was tabled in the House. Maybe they can refresh my memory. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The policy is available to the public on the website, but we haven't tabled it in the House. We amended it in 2015 for the (interpretation ends) Country Food Distribution Program. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps if she tables it in the House, we can all see it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm done.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. I think that's just a comment and I didn't hear a question. I'll again recognize Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My one last question is on page K-5. Business plan, 195, Community Tourism & Cultural Industries Program. (interpretation) I see Nunavut Inuktitut singers on the computer, some are youth, and they sound very good. How are you going to make the budget grow for performing arts so that it can be promoted more? Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to the funding for (interpretation ends) cultural tourism, (interpretation) perhaps my deputy

minister can clarify that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Rowe.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Currently, we are working on monitoring and supporting activities in cultural tourism. What we have is we have funding available to individuals that they can apply for and we can help them or get them started with a business or to get training. What we are trying to do is promote all forms of art across the territory. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Rowe. We are on Branch Summary. Economic Development and Transportation. Economic Development. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$27,659,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. As you have just agreed, I would like to take a 15-minute break. At this time, we will break for 15 minutes.

>> Committee recessed at 14:54 and resumed at 15:18

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We will continue with the review of the main estimates for the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. We will go to page K-6. We will get started right away. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My questions are going to be related to page 202 of the business plan and I'll quote from the business plan before I ask my questions.

One of the department's priorities for 2015-16 was to "Conduct planning work for remediation and removal of decommissioned airport buildings in Qikiqtarjuaq, Coral Harbour, Nanisivik, Sanikiluaq and Resolute Bay." Their status says, "A cost estimate has been determined for the work required at Sanikiluaq." Cost estimates have not yet been established for the other communities.

One of your priorities for 2016-17 says, "Complete planning work for remediation and removal of decommissioned airport buildings" in the communities I named before, Qikiqtarjuaq, Coral Harbour, Nanisivik, Sanikiluaq, and Resolute Bay.

I'm wondering if the department can update us today on... You have secured the funding for Sanikiluaq and not the others. Is it your intent to secure funding for all the other communities before any work is done? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank him for the question. We don't have the planning right now. To say it in English, (interpretation ends) there are currently no definitive plans in place at this time. However, the department continues to assess options and they will complete planning work as soon as possible. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It states in here that you secured funding for Sanikiluaq's remediation and removal. Is it your plan then to go no further with the planning of this community's removal of the old airport terminal building until you secure funding for the other communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Once we have funding, we will do Sanikiluaq. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. According to your business plan, it says that you have secured funding for Sanikiluaq. When can we expect planning to commence for the removal of the Sanikiluaq old airport terminal building? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the member can point us to where he's seeing that there have been monies assigned. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Mr. Rumbolt, please.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe I read this wrong, but on page 202 of your business, it says,

“A cost estimate has been determined for the work required...” Okay, I guess I misread that. I thought it was that they secured the funding for that particular community. I guess I’ll change it a bit. When do you expect to have the funding secured for all the communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Madam Minister.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for those questions. It’s subject to programming reviews. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What kind of programming review has to be done in order to carry out this work? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I’ll have our ADM, Mr. Stevens, answer that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Stevens.

Mr. Stevens: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Basically, we haven’t completed the studies for the other ATBs. What we are going to be doing is probably an omnibus kind of approach to remediation. Maybe I’ll stop there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is it the department’s plan to secure funding and have a plan in place to deal with all the communities at once or will you be dealing with each community individually? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are four airport terminal buildings that need to be decommissioned. It would be for four of those projects, which are Sanikiluaq, Qikiqtarjuaq, Coral Harbour, and Resolute Bay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is your plan then to issue, maybe when the time comes, one RFP or one tender in order to deal with all the airport terminals at the same time or will they be done individually for each community? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this time, we are not at that stage yet and once we have better knowledge of the company that did environmental assessments for all four projects, we will be able to answer that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Alex Sammurtok.

Mr. Alexander Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) On page 202, Priorities (2016-17), fourth bullet, "Begin construction of the new Kivalliq Regional Visitors Center, as per Capital Plan." Can the minister indicate which community it's going to be built at? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It would be built in Rankin Inlet. Thank you.

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

Mr. Sammurtok: In your opening remarks, you indicated that there will be two new positions for vehicle clerks, one in Rankin Inlet and one in Cambridge Bay. (interpretation) At this time, I know that in Rankin Inlet, there's a (interpretation ends) casual worker (interpretation) position being held. (interpretation ends) Would the one in Rankin Inlet be put out for competition or will the person who is there who already knows what they're doing get a direct appointment? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this time, the Department

of Economic Development and Transportation has two (interpretation ends) long-term casual employees (interpretation) for the Motor Vehicles Division, one in Rankin Inlet and one in Cambridge Bay. They will be (interpretation ends) direct appointed (interpretation) if approved. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Sammurtok: In your business plan, page 209, PYs, 2015-16, 141 PYs, but for 2016-17, 137. Why are you decreasing the PYs and what accounts for this decrease and in which departments? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, *Itsivautaaq*. (interpretation) With respect to these positions, this year, the four positions are specific to the Iqaluit International Airport project. The contractor has taken on some of the responsibilities of these positions. However, there are other duties left over that are required under the contract. We had to hire a manager to administer the contract. That is the main reason for that position. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The minister (interpretation) should recall that I frequently have asked this question related to access road funding.

Mr. Chairman, I was diligent in trying to increase that amount with the underlying reason that this fund is heavily utilized by my constituency in relation to economic development opportunities. This would allow communities more opportunities to develop tourism destinations and further, it would create opportunities for existing businesses or fisheries or other sectors.

With that being the case, we were initially quite pleased with the increase to access road funding. I would first like to ask the minister: last summer, in this fiscal year, did they deplete all the funding for this line item? That's my first question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank the member for asking that question because access roads are very useful in the communities. There are access roads to parks and recreational facilities. If they want to build an access road near the community, it is very useful.

From our department, in 2015, \$3,199,000 was requested by 19 communities. All the applicants divided up the funding. They had to reduce the funding so that it could be utilized in all communities because there is a large uptake of the program, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it's very good

to hear that because there is a lot of interest for the funding. With that, the minister and the assistant deputy minister for transportation are aware that Coral Harbour, which I represent, has built an access road quite far from the community and they have almost reached their destination. It's a little over 30 miles, if not longer. That's how far the access road has to be developed. The summer season is quite short. Is there a funding cap for each community? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is no cap. For example, the project you referred to in Coral Harbour, the Kopak Hill to (interpretation ends) Duke of York Bay (interpretation) project is fairly close to the end of the specified destination. However, we expect this to continue for another two years prior to reaching that point. I reiterate that there is no hard cap, Mr. Chairman. It will depend on the project, the ultimate destination, and the number of jobs created, which are reviewed for approval. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Mapsalak, are you finished?

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Yes, I'm done. Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) I would like to ask about the aviation scholarships. How

many Nunavummiut participated in that and how was the money used? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. The money is used as a scholarship for students wanting to pursue aviation-related careers in the north. They can receive up to a \$5,000 scholarship. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you. Can the minister tell us how these applicants are chosen? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The 2015-16 approved applicants for a \$5,000 scholarship are: Brian Aulajut, Todd Ryan, Ethan Komaksiutiksak, Richard Manitok, and Jeremy Maley. Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you. Can the minister tell us how they're chosen and what is the criteria? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Scholarships are offered

to full-time residents of Nunavut and they have to have a two-year minimum residency requirement. They need to pursue full-time aviation related studies. The studies can be related to airline or airport operations or management, aircraft maintenance, and/or pilot training. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister tell us then, once somebody has been accepted and he or she attends school in that area, what kind of follow up is done, if any? Do you just give this \$5,000 or do you have some kind of follow-up? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We don't have a formal follow-up procedure at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If somebody says that they're going to this type of school and then they drop out one month later, do you have any way of knowing that that has happened? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Chairman. I thank the member for that question. We don't do a follow-up at this

time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister commit to maybe working with her staff that there is a follow-up? Since this is public money, we want to ensure that the money is being spent the way that people say they're going to. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

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

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you. I would like to go to on to something else and that's the airport here in Iqaluit. I'm going to ask a little bit of a different question.

A while ago, and I can't remember when, it could have been last year, I think the department put out a call for the new airport. They wanted a restaurant or something like that and other things like little stores. Can you tell us the status on that and who was chosen? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you. (interpretation) I will have my Assistant Deputy Minister, Mr. Stevens, respond to that. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Stevens.

Mr. Stevens: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There was an RFP process and that RFP has resulted in some recommendations. I believe negotiations are still ongoing with a successful proponent. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the department tell us how many proponents were successful and they are in negotiations with? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. It's not one of my day-to-day duties, so my assistant deputy minister will respond to that. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Stevens.

Mr. Stevens: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have that information available with me. I will endeavour to get back. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the department tell us how many areas are going to be used for commercial use then? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To date, we don't have that information, but we can provide it to you once we get it. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We will be expecting it. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you. One last question about the airport. We have discussed it many times before and I'm not too sure if we got anywhere with it and I don't even know what you call it, you know, to get on the plane so that you don't have... If you've got mobility issues, you don't have to go up by a wheelchair or anything like that. I know that the department before had said that that was not going to be included in the new airport, but every time they come before us, we always like to ask if there's any change in that area. On behalf of those who have mobility issues, I'm asking if you have put any consideration into that since the last time we talked about it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are trying to work collaboratively with those who travel via air transportation to ensure that they are properly served, especially in the embarking of handicapped passengers in the easiest and least intrusive way. Nonetheless, as to the actual status today, I will have to defer to my Deputy Minister, Ms. Rowe, to delve into the details. Thank you.

Chairman: Ms. Rowe.

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Currently where we are with that is, as a department, EDT is looking into other types of devices that can be used to help individuals board an airplane with dignity. In the actual capital budget of the airport, it was determined there would be no boarding bridges, which are the large bridges like in southern airports.

What we're now looking at is how to determine if we can fund mobile devices. They're just like little ramps with wheels that can go up to the plane. It's good not only for people with disabilities but also for people with young children because, when you're walking up those steep stairs and you're carrying bags and your children, that poses quite a bit of danger too. We are looking into what we can do about the situation because we would like to see devices in place at the airport. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Moving on, Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question related to page 202, where it is stated that work on the Taloyoak Airport terminal will commence on that date. I am quite happy that it is listed in the 2016-17 capital items.

What I want to ask about is the materials to construct this building can only arrive via sealift in the summer. Obviously, it would be prohibitively expensive to transport the materials other than through marine transportation.

Upon their arrival to the community, will the project be immediately started in

the community for the airport terminal building? That is my question to the minister.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. This is specific to capital items, but I imagine people expecting this would want to hear the update, so Minister Kanayuk, can you respond to his request?

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Taloyoak terminal project is currently under the design phase and it was awarded in October 2015. Now the design phase is expected to be completed by March 31, 2015. Perhaps I will say it in English. (interpretation ends) The tender for construction is expected to be issued by March 31, 2015. (interpretation) The contract will be awarded in that year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. You just stated that construction would start in March... . The RFP would be in March 2015. Have you finished with the RFP? Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): I'm sorry. There was a typo here. Thank you for correcting me. It's March 31, 2016, which is in the very near future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. To Mr. Qirngnuq's question, if the material comes in on this summer's sealift, will construction start right away this fall? If you could respond to that question, Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you for asking

that question. Yes, we expect that work to start this summer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you for explaining that, Minister. Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's like she read my mind. She answered my next question, so I thank the minister.

My other question is on the 2017-18 priorities, when the Taloyoak Airport is supposed to be completed. Will it be completed in 2018 or 2019, even though it's not written there? That's my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We expect it to be completed in 2018. Thank you.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a couple of questions. In your business plan on page 202, the bottom bullet... . We are always wanting to keep jobs in our communities and wanting more jobs in our communities. This one says, "Review the capacity of the Transportation Policy & Planning division to determine the optimal staffing required, ensuring that proper oversight is given to the department's operations in Gjoa Haven and Rankin Inlet." Can you explain to me what that means? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Transportation Policy and Planning Division makes sure that there are enough staff in the communities. We are responsible to ensure there are enough staff. My deputy minister can add to my response. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Rowe, would you like to supplement that response?

Ms. Rowe: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Transportation Policy and Planning Division has staff in Iqaluit but also has staff in Gjoa Haven and Rankin Inlet. What we are looking for is reviewing to see if we maybe need more positions in that division. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think we do need more positions in Gjoa Haven, at least one more. I think the lady there was asking for another person for the last while. Thank you.

The other one is on page 205, the very bottom bullet. It has to do with GPS systems. Your department's draft 2016-17 business plan indicates that one of its priorities is to "Complete the identification of community airports which would benefit" - I think all the airports in Nunavut would benefit - "from the installation of GPS systems, and continue to work with Nav Canada and private consultants to implement changes to those airports which require

immediate change." As of today, what is the status of this work? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This technology is critically important here in Nunavut for (interpretation) instrument approach procedures. (interpretation) We have been in discussions with NAV CANADA. We expect this technology to be installed in Pangnirtung, Qikiqtarjuaq, and Kimmirut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Akoak: Just one more question. Would there be anything done in the Kitikmeot region? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): I'm sorry, but can he repeat his question? I didn't hear it. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Akoak, if I understand you, let me ask the question for you. Will there be any kind of GPS work done in the Kitikmeot region? That was his question. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk

(interpretation): I apologize, as I wasn't listening to the floor as I was discussing it with my official.

There are seven communities in Nunavut that are identified for installation of this technology. However, we have to request funding from NAV CANADA. Three requests have been approved for the communities I listed. We expect the other communities to be approved eventually.

Nonetheless, the other airstrip equipment requests will require that we submit them for approval. I don't have the information as to their status, but I can provide it later. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Before I return to the member, once the information has been received, can you ensure that you provide it to the Chairman so that we can have the information for our review? Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Yes, the other communities where plans have been made to install this equipment include Baker Lake, Kugluktuk, and Igloolik. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. I don't think we should have any further expectations of this information as it has already been provided. Thank you, Minister.

We are on page K-6. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank Minister Kanayuk-Ell for the 20-year capital plans and I have made sure to do some reading.

I would like to make a supplement to the Iqaluit airport terminal and I asked questions about it last year on March 10, 2015. I'm sure the minister remembers the questions on this issue. The minister indicated that they were in the process of drafting up the report and it would be made available on March 10 in the spring sitting. Why haven't we seen the report yet? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are your questions on the Inuit Employment Plan? We had to get the information on the Inuit working at the terminal. Is that the question, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, he's nodding his head. If you would proceed, Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Every month, our staff puts together information about Inuit working at the airport. They have numerous discussions about Inuit employment to ensure their numbers are adequate, as indicated previously and as part of the monthly review. As I indicated earlier, Inuit employment was at 18.9 percent at that project, which is higher than was originally intended. The reviews are almost completed and as I said earlier, we will make an annual tabling of the report to the Legislative Assembly as soon as we have completed it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister tell us how many employees is 18.9 percent? If we look at all the people working at the Iqaluit air terminal and 18.9 percent are Inuit, could the minister elaborate further on that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. I can only give him a percentage of Inuit employment at this time. The first annual audit of the project company's Inuit engagement in the construction aspects of the project has been completed. The audit indicates that AILP, the contractor, met their obligations with the 18.09 percent Inuit employment at their site. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Last year during my questioning, they were getting more people employed from outside of Iqaluit. Is it the same case with the Inuit? Is it at the discretion of the contractor to get employees from anywhere in Canada? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think what we can do is put community engagement and Inuit employment in the data that we would table. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We will look forward to that. Mr. Keyootak.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As you probably know, I am reading the business plan in Inuktitut and the references to pages is quite divergent from the English pages. In the Inuktitut version, it is on page 217, but I don't know the corresponding page in the English version. It speaks to two bullets. It states, "Plans to develop a marine facility in Pond Inlet were announced by the Federal Government in June 2015. A business case has been completed for the Qikiqtarjuaq facility. The department will continue to lobby the new federal government on the remaining harbours." What is the status of that? That is my first question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We were very pleased that the federal government provided funds for Pond Inlet and Iqaluit. They will proceed with these two projects and we look forward to making an announcement in the House if these projects will go ahead.

We will be initiating new projects and we are very pleased that we are able to start them. I also talked to the federal government about looking at future infrastructure projects. The one in Pangnirtung has been completed, but we would like to start similar projects in Qikiqtarjuaq and Clyde River under the Small Craft Harbours program. We also look forward to initiating that type of

work in other communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask another question on that. Is the small craft harbour for Qikiqtarjuaq expected to be included in the plans for 2015-16? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, it's not included in the business plan for this year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. T. Sammurtok.

Mr. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want further clarification (interpretation ends) on page 202, Priorities (2016-17), third bullet. (interpretation) It states, "Begin upgrading work on the Taloyoak air terminal building." (interpretation) Does that mean that they are just going to be upgrading the Taloyoak air terminal building or will they construct a brand-new air terminal building? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's going to be a new air terminal. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister. We are on Economic Development and Transportation. Branch Summary. Transportation. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$29,352,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Let's go back to page K-3. It reads, Department Summary. Economic Development and Transportation. Detail of Expenditures. Total Operations and Maintenance, to be Voted. \$69,037,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Are you agreed that the Department of Economic Development and Transportation is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kanayuk, we have concluded your department. If you have any closing remarks, I now give you the floor. Minister Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would first like to thank the members for their excellent questions because we obviously have to be well coordinated.

I also thank my staff, my Deputy Minister, Sherri Rowe, and my Assistant Deputy Minister, Jim Stevens, and Director of Finance Tanya Winmill for being here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

We will proceed with the review of Nunavut Arctic College, but while we get the paperwork prepared, we will take a five-minute break.

>> *Committee recessed at 16:06 and resumed at 16:15*

Bill 13 – Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, 2016-2017 – Nunavut Arctic College – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to call the committee meeting back to order. We will now be dealing with Minister Quassa, Minister of Nunavut Arctic College. At this time, I would like to ask Minister Quassa, if you have any opening comments, you can now proceed. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good day, my colleagues.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Please note that I will be making my comments in English.

(interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Today, I am pleased to present to members Nunavut Arctic College's 2016-19 main estimates and business plan.

One of the priorities in *Sivumut Abluqta* is self-reliance and optimism through education and training, and Nunavut Arctic College has a key role in advancing this priority.

The college's total budget for 2016-17 is \$45.5 million, which is a \$2.4 million decrease from the 2015-16 budget. The majority of this decrease is from the reduction in third party funding, including the phasing out of federal funding for the Nunavut Adult Basic Education Program and the Early Childhood Education Program.

Total third party funding is \$11.1 million for this fiscal year, down from \$15.3 million in the previous year. The college is actively working to renew and expand these funding agreements.

The contribution from the Government of Nunavut will be increased to \$34.4 million from \$32.6 million. The balance of college revenues are from tuition and other sources of \$4.1 million.

Early Childhood Education

Since 2013, Public Health Canada and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada have invested significant funds that have allowed the college to develop and pilot early childhood education programs in Nunavut.

Nunavut is the only jurisdiction in Canada that does not have a permanently funded Early Childhood Education Program. Research clearly shows that quality early childhood programs from infancy to six years of age help a child thrive all throughout their life.

With this funding, the college aims to graduate 70 students with a Diploma in Early Childhood Education and certify an additional 150 child care workers through the applied certificate over the next five years. In doing so, this government is recognizing the

importance of early childhood education to prepare children and their parents for a successful start in life and school.

Environmental Technology Program

The college is also requesting an additional \$255,000 to increase the staff of the Environmental Technology Program from two PYs to four. This would allow for a new instructor position to be created that would be staffed through the competitive process by an Inuk that has the necessary skills and expertise to better incorporate Inuktitut and *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* through the program while also lending much-needed assistance with course instruction.

It is also requested that an additional PY be funded for an equipment technician that is required to maintain the growing inventory of equipment used during course delivery throughout the year, including skidoos, boats, motors, and a functional lab.

Social Worker Program

The college is recommending investments in the Social Services Worker Program so that it can graduate sufficient students to make a material impact on services that are offered to clients who need access to social services.

The Social Worker Program trains people for employment in a number of critical areas, such as social work, probation officers, school counsellors, wellness centre workers, and addictions counsellors. In doing so, this initiative supports many of *Sivumut Abluqta's* objectives, including:

- Supporting labour force training, development, and employment through strategic alliances with sector partners;
- Addressing mental illness, addictions, and domestic violence by recognizing and providing resources for community-based solutions; and lastly,
- Working with our partners, renewing and strengthening our efforts towards suicide prevention.

The college is requesting that this budget be increased by \$215,000. This would provide the necessary resources to hire a program manager and pay for additional contract services to complete the review of the program to ensure it meets the employers' expectations.

Pan-territorial Funding for Industry Training

The college is working with the Government of Canada on a long-term, multi-jurisdictional proposal to continue enhancing the delivery of non-base funded programs such as the Adult Basic Education Program.

The Pan-territorial Framework for Industry Training currently being reviewed 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.

Makigiaqta Inuit Training Corporation

If my colleagues remember, in October during NTI's annual general meeting,

Premier Taptuna and President Towntongie jointly announced the formation of Makigiaqta and its incorporation.

Going forward, we will be actively working with our partners at NTI to bring unique opportunities for Inuit to have access to post-secondary education and training. The investments from the Makigiaqta Inuit Training Corporation will be dedicated to increase significantly the availability of programs to focus on building capacity for a representative workforce in all of Nunavut. This investment is key to attaining our objectives outlined in Article 23 of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*.

Going Forward

In 2016-17, the college will continue to deliver on its core programs. In particular, I would highlight the cultural programming at Piquusilirivvik, which strengthens and enhances student connections to their cultural identity as Inuit.

Satellite delivery of Piquusilirivvik programming in the communities of Igloolik and Baker Lake has been very successful. The delivery of similar programs could be facilitated through the community learning centre network or other groups that may be interested. There are 25 students from across Nunavut that have been invited to the spring session in Clyde River.

In 2015, the college established a publishing division that provides an opportunity to publish research and other materials. In this past year, the college

released eight new publications, including:

- *Utkuhiksalingmiut Uqauhiitigut Uqauhiliurut, Dictionary of Utkuhiksalingmiut Inuktitut Postbase Suffixes*;
- *Tukisigiaruti Timittiarangnirmut – Health Glossary for Nunavut Educators*; and
- Six publications of the early childhood education series: *Anguit The Hunter, Helping Friends, Nanuq and Avinngaq, Northern Lights, Owl & Raven*, and the *Sister & Brother*.

The college is currently working on three new publications with various authors and editors. This continues to grow as we are actively seeking new authors and editors to get engaged in our publishing program.

The college will be continuing its development and implementation 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.

In support of this, I will be travelling next May with senior management of Piquusilirivvik to meet with senior officials in Greenland. During those meetings, we will be exploring the possibility of staff exchanges and resource development.

In order to move forward with the implementation of the *Inuit Language Protection Act*, Nunavut needs more bilingual teachers. To support this initiative, I have recently given direction

to the college to promote and revitalize bilingualism in the curriculum for the Nunavut Teacher Education Program.

The college is looking into ways to expand its programming to provide appropriate training in public administration to increase not only the number of Inuit public servants in management positions, but also to increase the likelihood of these individuals reaching senior positions.

As the college looks toward the future, it needs to increase Inuit professional employment. The college has been strengthening its core instructors through the Instructor Development Program and the recruitment of bilingual adult educators. Next steps in this process will be to identify succession planning and mentorship for management positions.

Mr. Chairman and Members, in conclusion, the work undertaken at the college is critical to meeting this government's mandate as well as to meeting the long-term challenges Nunavut faces.

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman, I would be pleased to answer any questions that my colleagues may have. (interpretation ends) *Qujannamiik. Merci.* Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Does the chair of the standing committee have any opening comments? Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (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 2016-17 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 to Nunavut Arctic College for 2016-17 is approximately \$34.4 million. The standing committee notes that the college's overall budget for 2016-17 is somewhat less than anticipated due to the loss of third party funding. However, members encourage the minister and the president of the college in their efforts to acquire additional third party funding for 2016-17.

Mr. Chairman, Nunavut Arctic College works closely with the government and other partners to improve employment opportunities for Nunavummiut. Preparing, training, and educating Nunavummiut to enter the labour force not only supports our economy and improves our public service, but also helps to ensure that the services delivered match Nunavut's needs. The standing committee is hopeful that the college's proposal, in conjunction with the colleges in our two fellow territories, for federal pan-territorial industry training funding will be successful

The standing committee recognizes and supports the college's proposed focus on environmental technology and the social worker programs in 2016-17. Members also look forward to updates on new programs being offered at the college in such areas as law enforcement and denominational minister training.

Mr. Chairman, one area in which services are greatly needed and for which the necessary education and training programs must be maintained is in the area of early childhood education. It is well recognized that early childhood education plays an important role in preparing children for a life of learning. Early childhood development is a critical stage in a person's life that can determine their quality of health, well-being, learning, and behaviour in the future. The standing committee would support a stable and long-term financial commitment from the government to ensure that early childhood educator certification programs are not affected by a lack of stable funding.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee supports the college's ongoing efforts in training and certifying Nunavummiut for health and wellness careers. Members look forward to receiving regular updates on the numbers of college graduates who go on to successfully fill health care positions across the territory.

The standing committee also supports the college in its efforts to improve programs relating to language services and encourages potential candidates across Nunavut to apply for interpreter/translator programs and certification programs. Members recognize that investments are being made in the college's Inuit Language and Culture Centre of Excellence, but have yet to receive any specific 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 the college faces some challenges with its aging infrastructure, the lack of space in some facilities, and a shortage of housing for instructors. The committee commends the ongoing dedication of adult educators who continue to work hard to deliver programs despite these and other difficulties.

Mr. Chairman, during the minister's appearance before the standing committee to present and discuss his draft 2016-17 budget and business plan for Nunavut Arctic College, members were given to understand that the college will be playing a lead role in representing the Government of Nunavut on the Nunavut Inuit Training Corporation Advisory Council. Standing committee members look forward to updates on the status of applications which are successful in the Nunavut Inuit Training Corporation review process.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening remarks. Individual members may also have questions and comments as we proceed. Thank you.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to report progress to the Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. There is a motion on the floor and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion. Thank you. I will

now rise to report progress to the Speaker.

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 13 and the main estimates, and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Keyootak. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried.

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

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *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
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 10
 - Bill 11
 - Bill 12
 - Bill 13
 - Tabled Document 73 – 4(2)
 - Tabled Document 116 – 4(2)
 - Tabled Document 140 – 4(2)
 - Tabled Document 149 – 4(2)
 - Tabled Document 70 – 4(3)
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.
(interpretation ends) This House stands
adjourned until Saturday, March 12, at
1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 16:45*

