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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Amittuq)

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(Gjoa Haven)
Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

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(Aggu)
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Steve Mapsalak
(Aivilik)

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(Hudson Bay)

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Hon. Johnny Mike
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(South Baffin)

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Hon. Peter Taptuna
(Kugluktuk)
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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Wednesday, March 16, 2016

Members Present:

Mr. Tony Akoak, Ms. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk, Mr. Joe Enook, Hon. George Hickes, Mr. David Joanase, 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 9:59*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. George Qulaut) (interpretation): Can you say the opening prayer, please, Mr. Taptuna.

>>*Prayer*

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

Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

**Minister's Statement 100 – 4(3):
Makigiaqta Inuit Training
Corporation**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Ullaakkut*, colleagues, Nunavummiut, and Kuglukturmiut.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to provide my colleagues with an update on the Makigiaqta Inuit Training Corporation. As you are all aware, we are committed to fully participating in the newly established Inuit training corporation with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated on the executive committee.

Mr. Speaker, the purpose of the training corporation is to provide funding and other support for training and initiatives and also to provide skills and qualifications to enhance the preparedness of Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, the Makigiaqta Inuit Training Corporation will provide unique opportunities previously not available to the beneficiaries of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* in the area of education and training in our territory.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent the Government of Nunavut as the Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs alongside Minister of Education and Nunavut Arctic College, Mr. Paul Quassa.

The Makigiaqta Inuit Training Corporation held its inaugural meeting on January 19, 2016 here in Iqaluit, where we planned for distinct opportunities for Inuit to attain higher education and training to strengthen our territory's workforce. I look forward to providing regular updates as we strengthen plans in these areas.

Mr. Speaker, we look forward to continuing our important working relationship with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated through the Makigiaqta

Inuit Training Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Minister's Statement 101 – 4(3): NHC
Moving Forward with Energy
Efficiency Measures**

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased once again to address energy efficiency efforts underway in Nunavut, this time at the Nunavut Housing Corporation (NHC).

Mr. Speaker, under *Sivumut Abluqta*, NHC is mandated to take the lead for the GN in developing more energy efficient and economical housing solutions.

On its recent 5- and 10-plex builds, NHC reached energy efficiency ratings of 83 percent based on Natural Resources Canada ratings. This efficiency rating is great news considering that power and fuel alone constitute over 35 percent of the annual costs to maintain a unit. However, more can be done and is being done.

In conversations with the chair and the president of NHC, I asked for a pilot project to determine the feasibility of switching from conventional halogen lights to LED lighting. This is an initiative that I personally hold dear, as I am currently replacing all the lights in my home to LEDs to save money on energy costs and reduce my energy consumption at home. NHC will now go forward with switching to LED lights in

new housing constructions and all major renovations that warrant the work. Although this initiative seems small, incremental changes like this are key to overall energy improvements.

Increasing energy efficiency and continuing towards greater innovation will take time and research. To this end, NHC actively participates in housing research forums, discussions, and best practice sharing related to northern housing and energy efficiency. Recently, NHC was an active participant in a workshop on arctic housing infrastructure hosted by Polar Knowledge Canada and included Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, or CMHC, National Research Council of Canada (NRC), Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN), and representation from the Northwest Territories and Yukon housing corporations.

Mr. Speaker, as much as NHC is committed to ensuring it continues to improve the energy efficiency of its new designs, the corporation is also concerned with the fact that approximately 72 percent of all public housing units, or 3,670 units, were built before 1999 and 30 percent of the stock was built before 1980. As the maintenance costs of these older units increase, NHC recognizes that savings through energy efficiency measures will be increasingly important.

Mr. Speaker, as part of the *Blueprint for Action on Housing* for the implementation of the GN *Long-term Comprehensive Housing and Homelessness Strategy* initiative, NHC will be facilitating engagement sessions on evaluating appropriate technological

innovation and its role in reducing the cost of housing in Nunavut.

I look forward to updating my colleagues as NHC begins its engagement sessions on this topic and on our continued progress on implementing small and large changes that improve the overall energy efficiency of housing in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Hon. Minister of Education, Mr. Paul Quassa.

**Minister's Statement 102 – 4(3):
Arctic Indigenous Education
Conference 2016**

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, my colleagues and residents of my community, as well as those who are in the House.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak to my fellow members about the 2016 Arctic Indigenous Education Conference being held this week in northern Norway. The Sami Parliament of Norway and the Sami University College are hosting this conference. Delegates from the circumpolar regions, including education officials from Nunavut, will meet to share research and achievements in:

- Revitalization of language and culture,
- Digital possibilities in indigenous education, and
- New practices in arctic indigenous education.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the conference theme is *Revitalization – Challenges and New Perspectives in Education*, focusing on current successes and best practices and identifying common challenges that offer new perspectives on arctic indigenous education.

(interpretation) This is the second circumpolar indigenous education conference. The first conference was co-hosted in Iqaluit by the governments of Nunavut and Greenland in November 2012.

(interpretation ends) The conference will bring together new theoretical approaches and practical models of arctic indigenous education that support arctic and worldwide perspectives.

Mr. Speaker, an educational ministerial meeting will be held during the conference on March 16, which is today, with the goal of signing a memorandum of understanding on circumpolar cooperation on indigenous education. The proposed MOU focuses on educational research, quality education programs, family and community engagement, and the planning and hosting of a triennial circumpolar indigenous education conference.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, this MOU will strengthen the working relationship between circumpolar regions. It will allow us to share research, curriculum, programming developments, and teaching practices that support academic success and indigenous culture and heritage. This cooperation will help us strengthen the delivery of indigenous education. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Members' Statements. Item 3. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, Ms. Pat Angnakak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 213 – 4(3): Iqaluit Fiddle Club Welcomes Youth Orchestra

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize the Iqaluit Fiddle Club and join them in welcoming members of the youth chamber orchestra from the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts in Halifax, Nova Scotia, who will be arriving for a six-day visit on March 24.

Mr. Speaker, in February, the Iqaluit Fiddle Club visited the conservatory in Halifax and played with a string orchestra for the very first time. During the visit to Halifax, the Iqaluit Fiddle Club and the youth orchestra worked together to create an orchestral work that incorporated throat songs and traditional songs from Nunavut.

For the Iqaluit visit, the Iqaluit Fiddle Club and their guests will be performing a special string concert on Monday, March 28 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Jude's Anglican Cathedral. It will be a wonderful occasion to enjoy some beautiful music.

Mr. Speaker, these two groups were twinned under a project funded by the Experiences Canada program. The exchange visit is also supported with input and sponsorship from local

businesses, families, community leaders, schools, and volunteers.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the long-time contribution of Ms. Darlene Nuqingaq, who is a volunteer instructor with the Iqaluit Fiddle Club, an interschool club providing lessons to over 60 participants from all of Iqaluit's schools.

Mr. Speaker, it is wonderful when such partnerships support our youth, encourage community pride, and promote a greater understanding of our Canadian heritage.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Iqaluit Fiddle Club on their accomplishments to date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 214 – 4(3): Wife Recovering in Yellowknife

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to inform you that my wife slipped and broke her leg just before Sunday. She had surgery in Yellowknife where she will be healing. Her surgery was successful and I was happy to hear when I talked to her on the telephone that she is healing now. Our youngest daughter joined her yesterday.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to say that one of our relatives left for medical travel to Edmonton. When she was

diagnosed, it turned out she had heart problems from a stroke. She has had heart surgery and she will be healing. I am happy to share that they will be healing. I would like my colleagues to be aware of that and be happy with them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Member's Statement 215 – 4(3):
Congratulations to Donna May
Kimmaliardjuk**

Mr. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I am very pleased to have the opportunity to rise today in recognition of Ms. Donna May Kimmaliardjuk. She's prominently displayed in the Canadian Inuit youth magazine.

Mr. Speaker, Donna May's family roots are in my hometown of Chesterfield Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, Donna May has completed medical school and is currently undertaking her residency at the University of Ottawa with the goal of becoming a cardiac surgeon.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this sitting, my colleague from Baker Lake paid tribute to two young Inuit with roots in Baker Lake who have become successful professionals.

Mr. Speaker, it should go without saying that there are no shortcuts to becoming a physician.

Mr. Speaker, Donna May's success is another example of hard work and perseverance, and I ask all members to join me in congratulating her for her accomplishments to date and wishing her well for the hard work to come. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 216 – 4(3): News
from Daughter, Lucy**

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good morning" to the people of Coral Harbour, Repulse Bay, and Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, I would like to say "good morning" especially to my daughter whom I totally love. She has been in Emsdale, Ontario for the past three years now. Mr. Speaker, our precious daughter in the south is named after her late mother. Lucy Agalakti Mapsalak is her full name and I know she is watching.

When she called me the last time, I really felt it inside. She goes to school to learn and is well taken care of there. She told me that they are painting the homeless shelter right now. She saw a hungry person close to the homeless shelter and she felt compassionate towards that person. She had a few dollars, so she bought a little bit of food from the store and gave it to that person. I was so proud of her for doing that. Even though she's there being taken care of by an institution, she is able to take care of another person. It touched me.

I started wondering why there are homeless people. When my daughter told me what she did, I really felt it in my heart for that homeless person. There are people out there who need other people to help them. I am very grateful because she is taken care of very well down there. I was so worried about her when she left. I just wanted to share this with my colleagues and the people of Nunavut. There is a very caring person down there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 217 – 4(3):
Appreciation of Mothers**

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to the community of Gjoa Haven, my colleagues, and visitors in the gallery.

I didn't have anything planned this morning, but I did something on paper in 10 minutes, so hopefully it turns out good.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, it's a story about thanking all the mothers of Nunavut. I will tell you a little story on it and this was written in under 10 minutes.

It's about a little boy going up to his mother one day while she was doing dishes. He gave the mother a piece of paper. The piece of paper the mother read, I guess, was an invoice. It said, "For shovelling snow, it will cost you \$2; taking out the trash, 75 cents;

keeping the little brother while you went shopping, \$1.75; for getting good grades on the report card, \$3.75; for clearing steps, \$1.75. Total of the invoice, \$10."

The mother looked at the invoice and on the back of the paper, she wrote, "My boy, for the nine months I carried you while growing up inside of me, no charge; for watching you, caring for you, and doctoring you and wiping your nose, no charge; for buying clothes, food, and toys for you, there is no charge; for staying up nights worrying about you, no charge. And to add it all up, the total cost of my love, no charge."

I would like to say "thank you very much" to my daughter, who is expecting, who gave us a little granddaughter who is very special. Thank you. Also to my wife, who gave us beautiful children, thank you very much. A special thank you to my mother, who is watching over from above, thank you very much.

Mr. Speaker, the total cost of real love, there is no charge. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 218 – 4(3): The
Importance of Nunavut
Sivuniksavut**

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) That's a tough act to follow.

>> *Laughter*

(interpretation) Welcome and good morning, Nunavummiut, people of Cape Dorset and Kimmirut.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge someone who has been a special person in the lives of many Nunavut youth.

Mr. Speaker, as you may know, over 450 other Nunavut youth, including myself, are proud graduates of the Nunavut Sivuniksavut program. It's a program that we all know has been an important step forward for young Inuit who are now contributing to all facets of Nunavut society.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavut Sivuniksavut has reinforced our pride in being Inuit and our respect for Inuit culture and our confidence and enthusiasm to contribute to the betterment of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, much of the credit for the success of that program rests with the founding partner of the program, Mr. Murray Angus. His unfailing commitment and dedication to Inuit youth have helped create one of the most unique and successful educational programs for aboriginal youth in Canada.

Mr. Speaker, this year, after 25 years of teaching in the Nunavut Sivuniksavut program, Mr. Murray Angus is retiring. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of his colleagues and all the Inuit youth who have participated in and benefited from this outstanding program, I would like to say an official "thank you" to Murray Angus for being our teacher and our friend.

Mr. Speaker, I would like all members to join me in saying "thank you" to Murray Angus for his contribution to Nunavut

youth and wish him the best in his retirement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 219 – 4(3): The Northern Youth Abroad Program

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, people of Pond Inlet and our fellow Nunavummiut. I am thinking of my family. I know you went through hardship yesterday and I have you in my thoughts today.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my pride today for the Northern Youth Abroad program. They have announced the participants for this coming summer. I was especially proud of my fellow residents when I saw their names on the list. The participants from Pond Inlet are as follows: Billy Tagak, good work, B.J., Cara Killiktee, and alternatives Michael Pewatualook and Rose Tagak.

The Northern Youth Abroad program is extremely important for students and youth in general. They get to meet other people from different parts of the world and learn from them. I am very proud of the members from my community and everyone else on the list. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, Mr. George Hickes.

Member's Statement 220 – 4(3): The Arctic Inspiration Prize

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is with great pleasure to have in the legislature today two special visitors who are no strangers to Nunavut and the north, Mr. Arnold Witzig, Co-founder of the Arctic Inspiration Prize and Chris Côte, Manager of the Arctic Inspiration Prize with the Rideau Hall Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, the Arctic Inspiration \$1 million annual prize was founded in 2012 by Mr. Witzig and his partner, Sima Sharifi. It is the largest annual prize in Canada and is focused strictly on projects that benefit the people of the Canadian Arctic.

The AIP encourages knowledge to action, plans in the fields of education, human health, socio-cultural issues, environmental stewardship, and the economy. Mr. Speaker, since its inception, the AIP has awarded a total of \$4.5 million to 11 teams. Eight of those awards have directly benefited Nunavut totalling nearly \$3.7 million.

Two teams from Nunavut were awarded prizes just this year, Mr. Speaker. They are Qaggiq: Nurturing the Arctic Performing Arts, who received \$600,000 for their plan to strengthen northern performing artists and improve resiliency, self-worth, belonging, and pride, particularly among youth at risk.

Also, Better Hearing in Education for Northern Youth, or BHENY, who received \$300,000 for their plan to improve the lives of youth with hearing loss living in the Qikiqtani region of Nunavut.

The AIP is in the process of handing over project ownership to northerners. The AIP trust and the Rideau Hall Foundation have entered into a collaboration agreement. The Rideau Hall Foundation will be responsible for operational management with accountability to the AIP trustees. The Rideau Hall Foundation will mobilize resources to cover the operational costs associated with this prize.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement today.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? I don't hear any nays. Mr. Hickes, please proceed.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, colleagues and Mr. Speaker.

Further, the prize money for 2015 has been increased to \$1.5 million and it is the goal by 2017 to further increase the prize amount to about \$3 million annually, with \$2 million provided by the founders and the rest by the many partners from the north and south.

All past, current, and future development plans of the AIP have been and will be based on the overwhelming participation of many northern partners and ambassadors.

Mr. Speaker, for this reason, the AIP, through Mr. Witzig and Mr. Côte, is in the process of reaching out to additional Nunavut ambassadors and partners.

In Nunavut, each community has already at least three designated ambassadors. Among them are Nunavut government

liaison officers, the economic development officers, and the board members and liaison officers of all the regional Inuit associations. This support at the ambassador level may be the reason that Nunavut has received the largest share of prize laureates.

Among the Nunavut prize partners are Inuit owned corporations and industry partners like Baffinland and Agnico Eagle. Many other partners from other arctic regions and governments are also part of the Arctic Inspiration Prize family. This partnership of north and south, private and public is literally the foundation of the prize. Without it, the AIP would not exist.

I would like to thank Mr. Witzig and Mr. Côte for their commitment to continue to develop strong partnerships for the benefit of northerners. At the appropriate time, I would like to formally welcome them to the legislature today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 221 – 4(3):
Update on the Pangnirtung
Fishery**

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to provide further commentary on a statement I made when we first started our session, and this is an addendum to that information.

Indeed, personal independence and self-sufficiency are very dear and thoroughly

enjoyed by the residents of Pangnirtung. Our community received a fish plant over 20 years ago. Twenty-two years, to be exact, have passed since our community supported and planned for the creation of a local fish plant. Since that time, the Pangnirtung fish plant has provided enormous benefits to locals.

When we first started this session, I made a Member's Statement about the turbot fishery that exists in our community with an update of the status of the sector. At this time, I will provide further details that I want publicly known due to the beneficial relationship with our community.

To date, the fishers have harvested close to 300,000 lbs. of turbot. There are 62 fishermen and one lone fisherwoman. There is one woman who is part of the fishers, but unfortunately, no other women have joined. Nonetheless, one woman is fiercely practising her right to fish independently. The associated income from the current harvest that I mentioned was close to 300,000 lbs. reached about \$335,000 earned by these fishers.

Further, the numbers have not really changed with respect to the fish plant workers, which averages around 40 positions. If you total the fishers and fish plant employees, we have approximately 200 Pangnirtung residents involved in the fishery when the season opens.

This sector provides much-needed income and economic development to Nunavut. This is a tremendous source of pride to the residents, and it looks as if this fishery will be sustainable for some time to come. Obviously, this kind of fishery can also succeed in other

communities if residents are fully supportive of the initiative.

I take pleasure in announcing the continuing developments, which is why I rose today to express my gratitude to the fishers who make this possible. 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. Minister of Family Services, Mr. Johnny Mike.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return to Oral Question 230 – 4(3): Amending Eligibility Criteria for Senior Fuel Subsidy

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll read the return in Inuktitut. The question was asked by David Joanasie, Member for South Baffin. He asked Johnny Mike, Acting Minister of Family Services. The date was March 7 and the subject was increase in senior fuel subsidy.

The question was:

“Every year, a specific budget is allocated for the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program. I would like to ask the minister: can he confirm whether or not the full budget is expended every year and, if not, why not?”

Response:

The Government of Nunavut has not fully spent the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program's annual budget in recent years.

The senior fuel subsidy budget for fiscal year 2012-13 was \$478,000 with expenditures of \$227,000; for fiscal year 2013-14, the budget was \$478,000 with expenditures of \$250,849; and for fiscal year 2014-15, the budget was \$478,000 with expenditures of \$289,524.

The department will continue to actively promote the program to Nunavummiut. Frontline income assistance workers are available to help Nunavummiut apply for the subsidy. The department will continue to monitor the gap and make adjustments as appropriate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Returns to Oral Questions. Hon. Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Joe Savikataaq.

Return to Oral Question 244 – 4(3): Search and Rescue Contribution Policy

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Return to oral question asked by Mr. Rumbolt, asked of the Minister of Community and Government Services, No. 244 – 4(3), date asked March [9], 2016, subject, Search and Rescue Contribution Policy.

The question Mr. Rumbolt asked was:

“Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his comments on that issue and we look forward to more information on exactly what types of parts will be covered under that program.

Schedule 1 of his department's policy regarding community-based search and

rescue contributions for local search and rescue organizations also provides that, and I quote, ‘Where unusual circumstances warrant special consideration, the Deputy Minister or delegate may deem excluded items to be eligible expenditures.’

Can the minister indicate roughly how many times this authority has been exercised over the past year to authorize payment to repair equipment damaged in searches? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.”

In my response, I’ll give him not “roughly how many times” but the exact number.

Excluded items have been deemed eligible expenditures six times in the past year. These items include Sanikiluaq, various equipment; Hall Beach, trailing arm and ski; Hall Beach, replaced damaged track; Pangnirtung, ATV battery; Taloyoak, repair ATV motor; Nauyasat, new sled/qamutik. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Returns to Oral Questions. The Acting Minister of Family Services, Mr. Johnny Mike.

**Return to Oral Question 256 – 4(3):
Repatriating Nunavut Elders**

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. I will also speak in Inuktitut with my return to oral question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question was asked by Pat Angnakak, MLA for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, asking the Minister of Family Services, date March 10, 2016. The subject was repatriating Nunavut elders.

The question was:

“Can the minister provide an update on how often his department re-evaluates the status of clients who are receiving continuing care services in the south with a view to repatriating them back home to Nunavut?”

Response:

The Department of Family Services conducts annual reviews for both children and adults receiving care in a residential care facility in or out of territory. Occasionally, reviews occur with greater frequency if a client’s circumstances or plans of care change. The review is conducted through the Placement Planning Review Committee. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Return to Oral Question 259 – 4(3):
Departmental Vacancies**

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Return to oral question asked by Mr. Enook and he asked of the Minister of Community and Government Services, No. 259 – 4(3), the date the question was asked, March 10, 2016, the subject, departmental vacancies.

The question Mr. Enook said:

“Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is my last question. I know that there are empty staff housing units in Pond Inlet and I keep saying that in the House. However, the job advertisement for the position of regional project manager

indicates that no staff housing is available. Let me ask the minister: can he clarify whether this is because there are no units available in Pond Inlet or is it because his department did not request a unit to be allocated to this position? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.”

Mr. Speaker, my response:

Currently, CGS is in the process of staffing the following position in Pond Inlet:

- Regional Projects Manager
 - Competition is currently advertised without housing as there is a lack of available staff housing in Pond Inlet and there are existing staff who are interested in applying who already have housing.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Returns to Oral Questions. Acting Minister of Family Services, Mr. Johnny Mike.

**Return to Oral Question 274 – 4(3):
Nunavut Food Strategy and the
Niqittivak Committee**

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question was asked by Tony Akoak, Member for Gjoa Haven, asked of the Acting Minister of Family Services on March 14, 2016, Nunavut Food Strategy and the Niqittivak Committee.

The question was:

“Mr. Speaker, on June 9, 2014, the 2014-16 *Nunavut Food Strategy Action Plan* was tabled in the Legislative

Assembly. This action plan indicates that the Department of Family Services is the lead for the Niqittivak Committee, whose purpose is ‘to explore the factors that influence the cost, quality and accessibility of food in Nunavut, and to make policy and program recommendations with the ultimate goal of improving access to market food for Nunavummiut.’

Can the minister describe who sits on the Niqittivak Committee and can he indicate how often the committee meets?”

The response:

The Niqittivak Committee was established in 2013 as an interdepartmental committee with membership from various Government of Nunavut departments, including the Department of Family Services, as well as representatives from Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and the three regional Inuit organizations.

The purpose of the committee was to review the factors that impact the cost, quality, and accessibility of food in Nunavut.

The committee’s mandate has now been taken on by the Nunavut Food Security Coalition, a working group of the Nunavut Roundtable for Poverty Reduction. The coalition is co-chaired by the Department of Family Services and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and further membership consists of other GN departments, Inuit organizations, community-based organizations, and the private sector. The coalition meets on a monthly basis. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Returns to Oral Questions. (interpretation) I have no more names on my list. Moving on with the orders of the day. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Peter Taptuna.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The government liaison offices are a public, central point of contact for our government. The government liaison office ensures government programs and services are easily accessible to every Nunavummiuq. This week, they have met in Iqaluit to attend a workshop.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please help me welcome all the Government of Nunavut liaison officers from throughout Nunavut. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, Mr. George Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like I mentioned in my Member's Statement today, I would like to formally recognize Mr. Arnold Witzig and Mr. Chris Côte to the legislature here today.

I had the opportunity to attend, in person the Arctic Inspiration Prize presentation this year. I got to see first hand the impact that it has on people across the north.

I just commend Mr. Witzig for co-founding the Arctic Inspiration Prize and look forward to many years of hearing great news out of it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Aggu, Mr. Paul Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The GLOs have been recognized, but there are some individuals here from my community. Johnny Kublu used to be called Malaya a long time ago. Johnny Kublu is the (interpretation ends) GLO (interpretation) in Igloolik. Although Abraham Qammaniq is not from Igloolik, I would like to recognize him. I ask my colleagues to acknowledge and welcome them to the gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to recognize some individuals from my constituency who were acknowledged earlier. I wish to recognize today a fellow resident of my community, Morris Kuniliusee, and my constituent from Clyde River, Janet Joanas. It is obvious to see their participation and I am grateful for that.

Furthermore, I wish to also acknowledge another visitor, my son Adamee Keyootak. My son Adamee is named after the late Adamee Nookiguak, who was instrumental in our community during the land selection process, so he is named after that elder.

Additionally, on another related issue, this selfsame son I am acknowledging was one of the last Inuit born in the 20th century, when we were still in the 1990s, as he was amongst the last babies born in the Baffin region and perhaps in all of Nunavut. He would be the youngest person in that century as he was born just before we moved to the year 2000, shortly before midnight, as he was born just as the 1900s were coming to an end. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Laughter

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, Ms. Pat Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) I would like to recognize and welcome my constituent, Mr. David Akoak. Welcome. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Rankin Inlet and Chesterfield Inlet, Mr. Tom Sammurtok.

Mr. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize my niece, Doriana Sammurtok, who is here for a meeting. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Gjoa Haven, Mr. Tony Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I stand up to recognize visitors in the gallery. I would like to recognize a constituent from Gjoa Haven who is the GLO, Ms. Lena Tiriraniaq, and I know he has been recognized already, my brother, David Akoak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Simeon Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. My colleague said that he doesn't get up very often to recognize individuals, but this time around, I would like to recognize and welcome our (interpretation ends) next door neighbour. (interpretation) Mr. Speaker, she is one of my relatives and I would like to welcome Marianne Uqayuittuq. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Joe Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From one of the most picturesque communities, (interpretation ends) from beautiful Pond Inlet, (interpretation ends) I also wish to recognize a fellow resident, Rebecca Qulitalik. Welcome to the gallery.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Johnny Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. From one of the outstanding communities with the most economic development...

>>Laughter

...I would like to recognize my constituent, Eena Alivaktuk. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker: Welcome to the gallery. (interpretation) Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Allan Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good morning. Mr. Speaker, it's not too often I get to stand and recognize my constituents in the gallery, but today I get the opportunity to welcome the GLO from Sanikiluaq who is not only the GLO; she's also very active in the search and rescue program in our community. I would like to welcome Christine Ekidlak to the gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Keith Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize a constituent from beautiful Cambridge Bay...

>>Laughter

...in western Nunavut.

My constituent is actually from the Baffin, but she went over to the Kitikmeot. I guess she really likes it there. She has been there for many years. She was a community corrections officer for a long time, so she is quite busy. She is now the government liaison for our area. I would like to welcome and recognize Miali Dimitruk. Welcome.

>>Applause

Speaker: Welcome to the gallery. (interpretation) Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for South Baffin, Mr. David Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize two individuals from my constituency. First is Kitty Barrieau from Kimmirut and the other person is Elisapee Qaumagialuk from Cape Dorset.

I would also like to recognize the pages who I am very proud of. They did an excellent job during the session. They are Pauloosie Ningeongan, Gooteliak Ekho, and Moses Pitseolak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names on my list. I apologize. Member for Netsilik, Mr. Emiliano Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to recognize a person from Kugaaruk, which is also one of the most scenic communities in my opinion.

>> *Laughter*

I would like to recognize this person from Kugaaruk, Alex Ningark, who is working as the government liaison officer in our community. He is also John Ningark's son, a former MLA from our constituency. I would like to have him acknowledged and welcomed to the gallery and I am happy he is visiting us today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names on my list. Moving on. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, Ms. Pat Angnakak.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 288 – 4(3): Collective Bargaining

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

As the minister is well aware, a significant number of my constituents in Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu work for the Government of Nunavut.

Last week, the minister was asked for an update on the status of the GN's collective bargaining with the Nunavut Employees Union. At that time, the minister indicated that the government and the union may be going to mediation.

For the benefit of Nunavummiut who are watching our televised proceedings today, could the minister provide a brief but clear explanation of the difference between "mediation" and "arbitration"? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Angnakak for the question. I don't even like talking about collective bargaining in a public setting. I'm not at the bargaining table, but this is just one of those things where either party can apply to have an independent mediator sit down with the two parties and see if we can work out an amicable agreement to certain terms and conditions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I didn't hear a very good definition for "arbitration," but I'll go on to my next question.

Last year, we went through a difficult time when workers at the Qulliq Energy Corporation went on strike, following what I recall were unsuccessful attempts at mediation. I do recognize that the strike was ultimately resolved, but many

of my constituents have told me that we should not be in those situations to begin with.

For the benefit of Nunavummiut who are watching on TV and are listening on the radio, can the minister provide a brief but clear explanation as to why we do not have a system of binding arbitration here in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Angnakak for the question. I can't provide a clear and concise explanation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister open to reconsidering this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in my first answer, I don't even like talking about collective bargaining in a public venue. We have the Qulliq Energy Corporation we settled last summer. Currently, we have the Government of Nunavut employees who are in negotiations now and we've got the Nunavut Teachers Association coming up. I really don't want to jump in and start talking about collective bargaining or whether we will consider this or consider that. It's just something I

don't want to talk about here in a public venue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 289 – 4(3): Funding for Arena Upgrades and Repairs

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

As the minister will recall, Baker Lake's mayor, Joedee Joedee, addressed a letter to the minister on February 25, 2016 concerning the municipal council's request for funding to install thermosiphons in the community's arena. Can the minister indicate if he has sent a formal reply to this correspondence as of today? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, a reply was sent. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier during this sitting, my colleague, the Member for Hudson Bay, asked the minister a number of questions concerning the government's recent announcement that Nunavut will be receiving funding under the New Building Canada Fund's Small Capital

Fund for a number of projects, including a project involving community arena repairs and upgrades. In response, the minister indicated that specific arena repairs and upgrades would be determined according to community requests.

Can the minister describe the specific steps that a municipality must take to formally request approval for projects under this funding? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the question. As I said in that statement, we said that this is from small community funds for arena upgrades and we have budgets. We're hoping to do nine, but it depends on the work that has to be done on each arena.

We haven't formalized which communities will get the upgrades and renovations yet, but there will be grading criteria. As in all projects, safety ranks high up in the reason for renovations. There will be an application and a proposal process that will have to be done. Each project for each community will be judged on its own merit and there will be a criteria rating system.

We know that there will be more requests than the funds will allow for. We are hoping it will be the neediest communities, but some communities will get the funding. I can tell the member right now that the requests will certainly outweigh the demand. Thank

you.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister is aware, many communities in the territory can benefit from receiving funding to repair and upgrade community arenas. Can the minister explain how his department will prioritize which communities will receive this funding for arena repairs and upgrades? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I just told the member, there will be rating criteria and one of the highest criteria in any project is always safety. If there is a safety concern in any facility, then that rates higher than aesthetics, just the way it looks. Each proposal will be judged on its own merit. Like I just informed the member, safety will be very high on the rating criteria and aesthetics will be lower. I can't give the members the exact rating criteria right now, but safety will be on top of the list. Thank you.

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

Question 290 – 4(3): Government Presence in Non-decentralized Communities

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be

directed to the Premier.

Mr. Speaker, I worked very hard for a long time as a Member of the Legislative Assembly in my first term and this term. The smaller communities in Nunavut have no jobs available, especially with no government decentralization. That being the case, jobs are very difficult to come by in the smaller communities.

I have asked this question before more than once. Does the government have any vision, as a government with two more years in their term, on how government can have capital projects that can create jobs in the smaller communities? Does our government not have anything in the future for these kinds of projects? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the Member for Aivilik for asking me about this issue. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, as I have indicated in the past, we do have corporations that try to assist non-decentralized communities, the smaller communities in the arts and crafts and other projects that the communities are hoping to do within their own communities. One of the corporations we do have is the Nunavut Development Corporation.

I know that we can't assist some of these smaller communities in better ways and again, when it comes to capital infrastructure building, it's based on a five-year capital plan. For the most part, although we are aware of some of these economic deficiencies in the smaller

communities, it's very difficult at times to get more employment into the smaller communities.

Mr. Speaker, there are opportunities for the smaller communities to create projects through their economic development officers that the hamlets have. Mr. Speaker, again, with requests from these smaller communities in whatever project that they may want to be assisted in, we do have Economic Development and Transportation that has many programs, including CanNor, that can assist small communities as per their applications or even proposals of what projects they may want to do in their smaller communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I keep hearing that issue in all the responses to date that he mentioned. However, what I want to state here and I want to be clearly understood that when you live in a smaller community, economic development opportunities don't exist at all. With the lack of job opportunities exacerbating this in our smaller communities, the economic programs offered through the CEDO rarely get off the ground. In smaller communities, the majority of residents have no job prospects.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to make the following statement. We heard an announcement earlier about the lack of additions programs within Nunavut. With that kind of basic need, does this government have any visions or plans

for creating such a facility? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that excellent question. Mr. Speaker, in the Department of Health, there's action taking place to try to come up with a strategy that's in place and come up with action items to ensure that these facilities that Nunavummiut want are looked at very carefully. Through the departments of Health and Family Services, that work is ongoing.

The member is absolutely right, Mr. Speaker. In these smaller communities, it's very difficult to have any kind of economic activity happening within them. Again, as the member is absolutely right, they do have economic development officers to try to do what the community wants for economic development and employment.

Again, it's very difficult if we do not get any indication from the communities on exactly what they want when it comes to possible economic funding both not only from this government, even from the federal government, there are many programs that are accessible. I know that some smaller communities have accessed federal funding for youth initiatives or elders initiatives through the federal Department of Justice. There are many other programs.

Mr. Speaker, this government funds hamlets in getting economic development officers within these communities so that they can help their

small communities access funds not just from this government but also from the federal government and outside sources.

Mr. Speaker, there are many programs that are out there. At times, we may have to assist our economic development officers in ensuring that they're putting applications out there on behalf of the communities that they represent. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me ask the Premier this question. There is a definite need to have a treatment facility for either alcohol or drug addictions in Nunavut. Has the government ever considered establishing such a facility? Perhaps if the government was going to establish such a facility, they could locate it in a smaller community that is non-decentralized. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last week, we released the action plans for suicide and mental health. Mr. Speaker, we released that document last week and within that, there are initiatives that we can look at. Mr. Speaker, the smaller communities have to be part of this whole process and we will certainly look into how best we can serve Nunavummiut when it comes to that.

On the one hand, the member is talking about economic development and how to

assist in employment. I'm sure we could tie the two in together, but as the action items are taking place, there are still some key components that have to be included into the action plan. Of course, the smaller communities will be taken into consideration.

Mr. Speaker, the member is well aware that I have been making efforts to try to find ways to increase the economic activity within the smaller communities and that doesn't mean we have stopped trying to find ways. We still continue to try to find ways to ensure that these smaller communities have economic means and employment within their smaller communities. It is very difficult at times, but this government is not going to stop trying to find ways to ensure that these smaller communities are economically viable with good employment within their communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 291 – 4(3): Meeting with DEA of Cape Dorset

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Education.

Mr. Speaker, you probably recall that I asked the minister earlier on in this winter sitting about the Peter Pitseolak School schedule and the difficulties faced by the students, teachers, and the wider community to accommodate the semester schedule.

Can the minister indicate what options the department has developed and will

present to the district education authority when the minister meets with them in the near future? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for that question. Education is important. We have waited and my colleague knows that. We are going to be meeting with the district education authority in Cape Dorset on Friday or Saturday. We are trying to schedule it for one of those days, but we haven't heard back from them yet. I expect to hear from them though.

We don't have anything new to report, but we have said that we are going to bring five portable classrooms to the community and that is going to proceed. That's what I can say. In addition, there are two classrooms being used at Nunavut Arctic College by the grade 11 and 12 students, so there are those.

My colleague is aware that we were looking for other classroom spaces, but we could not find any. We've had to continue with split shift classrooms and we're going to have to stay with that system until the end of the school year.

However, at the beginning of the new school year, when the very first sealift ship comes in to Cape Dorset, the five portable classrooms will be brought in. We expect that and the split shift schedule where they share classroom space will stop at that time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had also asked the minister about school attendance and whether that has changed since implementing what he called the split shift schedule this semester. What has the attendance rate been in the last two months? I would like to know what has happened with the attendance rate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe I reported on this previously. We have been monitoring the schedules and attendance. From the information I have received, it has not really changed. I don't know what information my colleague has, but school has continued and students are going to school. I know that all students' attendance is recorded and we have been keeping track of it. We know that students are going to school and our records show that since November, the school attendance numbers haven't really changed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the response. I wanted the figures or the statistics, but he probably doesn't have them.

My final question to the minister is: can the minister indicate if the schedule where they start at 12:40 in the afternoon

to 7:30 at night will be adjusted to better meet the needs of the students, teachers, and the community or if that changes, will the world end? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Firstly, I don't want the world to end as well.

As I stated earlier, I am just waiting for the local district education authority and I know that will be discussed and we want to give them options when we meet with them. My colleague, the member for Cape Dorset and Kimmirut, will be the first to know when the date has been set for the meeting. I expect to hear from them and we can look at different options at our meeting in Cape Dorset with the local district education authority. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. I have no more names on my list. Member for Netsilik, Mr. Emiliano Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to know if we can go back to Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. We are still on Oral Questions. I don't really understand your request. I will go on to the next name on the list. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Mr. Paul Okalik.

Question 292 – 4(3): Alternative Energy Solutions

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation.

Our present federal government has stated that they want to help us look for energy alternatives other than fossil fuels. I would like to know what we're going to do along those lines.

Firstly, looking at what they have done in the NWT and Yukon, they used to get many energy subsidies and they were able to make hydro dams through the federal government, but we were too late for that in Nunavut. That's why the federal government really hasn't helped us. We can use the example of the precedents set in the Yukon and NWT to urge the federal government to help us with alternative energy programs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Mr. George Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the member bringing this issue to light, as you could say.

In ongoing discussions that I've had with my federal counterparts and my peers at the cabinet table, we recognize that Nunavut doesn't have the capital capacity to do a large-scale project such as hydro development. It is a continuing discussion that I have brought up with my federal counterparts that there has to be some recognition that Nunavut has

not been able to participate in large-scale alternative energy solutions.

That being said, we also have a dire need to replace our existing infrastructure for more efficient generation plants across the territory. We have 17 plants that are already exceeding their lifespan. We need to make sure that we have stable, reliable power for our communities in as efficient a model as possible.

That being said, I will continue to work towards dealing with not just the federal government but with other stakeholders and potential partnerships that can be explored to look at larger scale alternative energy solutions. As the member is very much aware, this is something I have brought up myself over the years. I can assure the member this is very high on my list. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In Manitoba, I used to meet with representatives of the power line extension proponents, who want to extend their provincial hydropower lines to Nunavut. The studies related to this project are ongoing and are not quite finished. I would urge the minister to look at pushing for the completion of these studies and preparatory plans so that this project can move forward in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This goes back to just recent

discussions at the Hudson Bay round-table meeting that was held in Churchill in early February where they did pass a resolution to identify and source dollars to work more towards the feasibility study and to identify the path of the potential project and to help identify funding to complete such project.

Again, like I stated in my first response regarding hydro development, this is a very costly capital investment that Nunavut alone cannot do, but I can assure member again that there is a lot of will to further a project such as this to offset a lot of the carbon fuel that is being burned in the Kivalliq region. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, our session will be wrapping up today and the next session is in the spring. I would like an update on these issues in particular. It would be nice to be provided an update on this at our next session. I wonder: can that information be made available by that time? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can assure the member that I will keep this House up to date with any potential progress and any major infrastructure development that could be used by Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 293 – 4(3): Senior Fuel Subsidy

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask another question to the Acting Minister of Family Services based on a return to oral question regarding the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program.

I had asked a question about the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program. In the minister's response, it states that the funding for this program is not fully spent, yet we know that on December 29, 2015, they increased the funding for the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program.

I would first like to ask why the elders who receive income support from the Department of Family Services or (interpretation ends) social assistance (interpretation) are not eligible for this fuel subsidy. What is the basis for making them ineligible? That's my first question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Acting Minister of Family Services, Mr. Johnny Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, that is a very good question on this matter related to the senior fuel subsidy, particularly heating fuel assistance. Elders who are on income support is something I will have to carefully research. Actually, what I am trying to say is that I will look into your question. The income support workers or social workers in the communities are responsible for income

support. That's how I can respond to your question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We appreciate the increase for the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program. I believe the subsidy is up to 3,500 litres in total. I would like to ask: if they're income support recipients and their fuel is depleted in the wintertime, will they be eligible for support in emergency cases through this program? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Joanasie, I'm not the Chairman; I'm the Speaker.

Acting Minister of Family Services, Mr. Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During emergency cases, I'm sure that they can discuss it, but I cannot tell you exactly what is the case. I apologize. I will have to look into the member's question regarding emergency cases and income support. I will have to look at the procedures to see how this is dealt with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize for not addressing you properly.

Mr. Speaker, I have been advised by many seniors who are not eligible for the senior fuel subsidy. Perhaps their salary was above the cap or it may have been for other various reasons, according to

the Department of Family Services' policy.

I would like to ask if the minister could commit to reviewing the eligibility criteria for this policy. Can there be a review of the criteria to make sure the majority of elders or seniors are eligible for the senior fuel subsidy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Acting Minister of Family Services, Mr. Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for that question. I would like to state that 108 Nunavummiut received the senior fuel subsidy as of December 31, 2015.

As I stated in the House previously, the department is now reviewing the Income Assistance Program and Senior Fuel Subsidy Program. Once the review is completed, we will be able to respond as to how they will be set up. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. I have no more names on my list. I'm sorry. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Simeon Mikkungwak.

Question 294 – 4(3): Senior Fuel Subsidy

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. My colleague for Baffin had asked a question to the Acting Minister of Family Services with regard to the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program. I, too, have a question on this issue and I would like to get clarification.

It is obvious that some Bake Lake elders have received subsidies under this program, but the subsidy they receive for heating fuel seems to continually miss the coldest months. In reading the letter, it falls short of meeting this need.

I first want to ask if the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program has a limit imposed by the department. Do the amounts have a cap? Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Acting Minister of Family Services, Mr. Johnny Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for that question. In 2015, the Department of Family Services increased the amount of the subsidy to 3,500 litres for Nunavummiut who receive the subsidy. This increase was a result of past studies, but this will allow us to ascertain if this increase is sufficient or falls short of the needs. This increase was just implemented last year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I understand the minister's response. However, since the expenditure is smaller than the actual budget, what will you do with the remaining budget? Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Acting Minister of Family Services, Mr. Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My colleague, Mr. Joanasie, was asking a question with regard to this issue. The department is now reviewing the subsidy. I can only say that we are doing the review for this program in order to ensure it will be adequate for Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Since there is going to be a review of this program, as some elders are not eligible, can the minister clarify how old you have to be and if you need to be a homeowner to be eligible for the Senior Fuel Subsidy Program? Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Acting Minister of Family Services, Mr. Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for that question. This is a subsidy program for seniors. Let's be clear on that. We call it a subsidy. If they are Nunavut residents who are 60 years of age or older, they can apply to this program. If they are homeowners and reside in the home, as long as they aren't receiving income support, the salary cap is \$100,000. If you make over \$100,000, then you are not eligible for the subsidy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. I have no more names on my list. Moving on. Item 7. Written

Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, Ms. Pat Angnakak.

Item 7: Written Questions

Written Question 007 – 4(3): Government of Nunavut Responses to the Resolutions Adopted at the 2014 and 2015 Annual General Meetings of the Nunavut Association of Municipalities

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written questions today are for the Minister of Community and Government Services and they concern the Government of Nunavut's responses to the resolutions adopted at the 2014 and 2015 annual general meetings of the Nunavut Association of Municipalities.

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

1. What were the Government of Nunavut's responses to the resolutions adopted at the 2014 and 2015 annual general meetings of the Nunavut Association of Municipalities?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The member has asked that the written question be entered into the record as read. Do members agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Written Questions. Hon. Member for Qamani'tuaq, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Written Question 008 – 4(3): Government of Nunavut Presentation to the Canada Transportation Act Review

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written questions today are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation and they concern the Government of Nunavut's presentation to the *Canada Transportation Act* review.

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

Preamble:

On February 25, 2016, the *Canada Transportation Act Review Report* was tabled in Parliament by the federal Minister of Transport. On page 61 of volume 1 of the final report, it is stated that the Government of Nunavut's Department of Economic Development and Transportation made a presentation to the *Canada Transportation Act* review on June 23, 2015.

1. Who appeared on behalf of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation at its June 23, 2015 presentation to the *Canada Transportation Act* review?
2. Where did the presentation take place?
3. What were the specific contents of the presentation?
4. What is the timetable for tabling a copy of the presentation in the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut?

5. At which URL can a downloadable electronic version of the presentation be located?
6. What other presentations and/or submissions did the Department of Economic Development and Transportation make to the *Canada Transportation Act* review?
7. What formal recommendations did the Department of Economic Development and Transportation make to the *Canada Transportation Act* review?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

**Written Question 009 – 4(3):
Economic Activity, Tax Revenues,
and Tax Rebates**

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) My written questions today are for the Minister of Finance and they concern economic activity, tax revenues, and tax rebates.

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

Preamble:

A development partnership agreement between the Government of Nunavut and the Meadowbank Mining Corporation concerning the operation of the Meadowbank mine was signed on February 17, 2007. A copy of the development partnership agreement was subsequently tabled in the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut on March 12, 2008. The Meadowbank Mining Corporation changed its name to Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. in 2013.

The Government of Nunavut's publication, *Budget 2016-2017 - Fiscal and Economic Indicators*, indicates that "It is important to note that mining firms themselves do not pay much income tax in the short term, as Canadian law provides significant flexibility in terms of when and where mining companies pay taxes. However, if the sector continues to develop, we expect that the Nunavut-based firms catering to the mining sector (construction, logistics, transportation, etc.) will generate profit and thus raise tax revenues."

The Government of Nunavut's publication, *Budget 2016-2017 - Fiscal and Economic Indicators*, also indicates that the territory's Nominal Gross Domestic Product in 2015 was calculated at \$2,628,000,000. Real Gross Domestic Product was calculated at \$2,068,000,000.

On page III-4 of the "Environmental Scan" section of the Government of Nunavut's 2016-19 business plan, it is stated that "The gold production of the Meadowbank mine represents about a fifth of Nunavut's GDP."

1. What was the Government of Nunavut's methodology for calculating the value that is cited on page III-4 of the "Environmental Scan" section of the Government of Nunavut's 2016-19 business plan concerning the Meadowbank mine's share of Nunavut's Gross Domestic Product?
 - a. 2010-11
 - b. 2011-12
 - c. 2012-13
 - d. 2013-14
 - e. 2014-15
 2. For each of the following fiscal years, but without identifying specific companies, how much corporate income tax revenue was generated by the Government of Nunavut in relation to the operation of the Meadowbank mine?
 - a. 2010-11
 - b. 2011-12
 - c. 2012-13
 - d. 2013-14
 - e. 2014-15
 3. For each of the following fiscal years, but without identifying individual tax filers, how much personal income tax revenue was generated by the Government of Nunavut in relation to the operation of the Meadowbank mine?
 - a. 2010-11
 - b. 2011-12
 - c. 2012-13
 - d. 2013-14
 - e. 2014-15
 4. For each of the following fiscal years, but without identifying individual tax filers, how much payroll tax revenue was generated by the Government of Nunavut in relation to the operation of the Meadowbank mine?
 - a. 2010-11
 - b. 2011-12
 - c. 2012-13
 - d. 2013-14
 - e. 2014-15
 5. For each of the following fiscal years, but without identifying specific companies, how much fuel tax revenue was generated by the Government of Nunavut in relation to the operation of the Meadowbank mine?
 - a. 2010-11
 - b. 2011-12
 - c. 2012-13
 - d. 2013-14
 - e. 2014-15
 6. For each of the following fiscal years, but without identifying specific companies, what was the value of all rebates paid to companies by the Government of Nunavut under its Fuel Tax Rebate Program in relation to the operation of the Meadowbank mine?
 - a. 2010-11
 - b. 2011-12
 - c. 2012-13
 - d. 2013-14
 - e. 2014-15
- Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
- Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The member has asked that the written question be entered into the record as read. Do members agree?
- Some Members:** Agreed.

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

Written Question 010 – 4(3): Annual Fuel Purchases by the Government of Nunavut

Mr. Alexander Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written questions today are for the Minister of Community and Government Services and they concern annual fuel purchases by the Government of Nunavut.

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

1. Expressing the information in the same format as that which the Government of Nunavut provided in Return to Written Question 10 – 4(2), what quantities of fuel were purchased and delivered during the 2015 calendar year?
2. As of March 1, 2016, what is the current bulk fuel storage capacity in each of Nunavut's communities?
3. Which communities in Nunavut received fuel deliveries by airlift during the 2015 calendar year?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Written Questions. The Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Mr. Tom Sammurtok.

Written Question 011 – 4(3): Services and Benefits for Out-of-Territory Dialysis Patients

Mr. Tom Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written questions today are for the Minister of Health and they concern services and benefits for out-of-territory dialysis patients.

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

1. How many Nunavut residents underwent dialysis treatment outside of the territory during the 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, and 2015-16 (to date) fiscal years?
2. Broken down by fiscal year (2011-12 to 2015-16 (to date)) and health care facility, where did the residents undergo dialysis treatment?
3. Broken down by fiscal year (2011-12 to 2015-16 (to date)), what is the average length of stay outside of the territory for a resident undergoing dialysis treatment?
4. Broken down by fiscal year (2011-12 to 2015-16 (to date)), what expenditures have been incurred by the Government of Nunavut in respect to providing dialysis treatment for residents?
5. Broken down by fiscal year (2011-12 to 2015-16 (to date)) and health care

facility, how many Nunavut residents undergoing dialysis treatment were accompanied by a Client Escort within the meaning of the Department of Health's Medical Travel Policy?

6. What specific allowances and/or benefits for accommodation, local transportation, daily living, and personal expenses are provided to Nunavut residents undergoing dialysis treatment at health care facilities outside of the territory?
7. What specific allowances and/or benefits for accommodation, local transportation, daily living, and personal expenses are provided to client escorts accompanying Nunavut residents undergoing dialysis treatment at health care facilities outside of the territory?
8. What specific entitlements do Nunavut residents undergoing dialysis treatment at health care facilities outside of the territory receive for periodic home visitation travel to their communities of residence in Nunavut?
9. What specific entitlements do Nunavut residents undergoing dialysis treatment at health care facilities outside of the territory receive in respect to visits from immediate members of their families (spouses/partners, children, siblings, parents, grandparents, and grandchildren)?
10. With respect to the allowances, benefits, and entitlements referred to in questions 6, 7, 8, and 9, what differences, if any, exist in respect to

allowances, benefits, and entitlements provided to beneficiaries of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* and allowances, benefits, and entitlements provided to non-beneficiaries of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Written Questions. I have no more names on my list. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Enook.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 115 – 4(3): Correspondence from the Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Organization

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a copy of correspondence that I have recently received from the Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Organization. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Tabling of

Documents. Member for South Baffin, Mr. David Joanasié.

Tabled Document 116 – 4(3): Petition – Kimmirut to Keewatin Air

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table today a copy of a petition that has been signed by close to 150 residents of Kimmirut. My constituents have requested Keewatin Air to introduce scheduled passenger air service to the community. Mr. Speaker, I am hopeful that Keewatin Air will respond positively to this request. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Justice, Mr. Peterson.

Tabled Document 117 – 4(3): Department of Justice 2014 Minimum Wage Rate Annual Report

Tabled Document 118 – 4(3): Nunavut Law Foundation Annual Report December 31, 2014

Tabled Document 119 – 4(3): Nunavut Liquor Licensing Board Annual Report 2014-2015

Tabled Document 120 – 4(3): FPT Ministers of Justice and Public Safety January 21, 2016

Tabled Document 121 – 4(3): Family Abuse Intervention Act Annual Report 2013-2014 and 2014-2015

Tabled Document 122 – 4(3): Nunavut Victims Services Annual Report 2014-2015

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I several documents that I'm going to table. Please bear with me.

Mr. Speaker, I'm tabling the Department of Justice's 2014 *Minimum Wage Rate Annual Report*.

I'm also tabling the Nunavut Law Foundation's Annual Report for the year ending December 31, 2014.

I'm tabling the Nunavut Liquor Licensing Board 2014-15 Annual Report.

I'm tabling the FPT Ministers of Justice and Public Safety Report for January 21, 2016 in Quebec City, Quebec.

I'm tabling the 2013-14 and 2014-15 *Family Abuse Intervention Act* annual reports.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I'm tabling the 2014-15 Annual Report for Nunavut Victim Services. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. The Hon. Minister of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Hickes.

Tabled Document 123 – 4(3): NHC Contracting and Procurement Activity Report March 31, 2014

Tabled Document 124 – 4(3): NHC Contracting and Procurement Activity Report March 31, 2015

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Nunavut Housing Corporation's Contracting and Procurement Activity Report for the period ending March 31, 2014 and the Contracting and Procurement Activity Report for the period ending March 31, 2015. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. The Hon. Acting Minister of Family Services, Mr. Mike.

Tabled Document 125 – 4(3): Director of Child and Family Services Annual Report 2014-2015

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I am pleased to table the *Director of Child and Family Services Annual Report* for 2014-15. (interpretation) Thank you.

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

Tabled Document 126 – 4(3): Summary Report on Phase 1 of an Operational Audit of Government of Nunavut Programs, October 2015

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the *Summary Report on Phase 1 of an Operational Audit of Government of Nunavut Programs*, October 2015. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. The Hon. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Mr. Hickes.

Tabled Document 127 – 4(3): QEC Annual Report 2014-2015

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Qulliq Energy Corporation's 14th Annual Report for the period of 2014-15. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. Hon. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Mr. Okalik.

Tabled Document 128 – 4(3): Correspondence to NTI Vice-president James Eetoolook

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I wish to table today a copy of correspondence that I have sent to the Vice-president of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Mr. James Eetoolook.

Mr. Speaker, my correspondence, which I have prepared in both Inuktitut and English, concerns the issue of the Government of Nunavut's obligation to consult Inuit under Article 32 of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* in relation to the issue of allowing retail sales of alcohol in the territory.

Mr. Speaker, I will be tabling Vice-president Eetoolook's reply in the spring sitting. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. I have one.

**Tabled Document 129 – 4(3):
Outstanding Statutory Tabling
Requirements**

Thank you, Members. I wish to table today a list of outstanding statutory tabling requirements. This list is current as of the end of the March 16, 2016 sitting of the Legislative Assembly. (interpretation) Thank you.

(interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. (interpretation) I have no more names on my list. Moving on. (interpretation ends) Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions.

Members, we will take a break and report back to the Chamber at 1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 11:56 and resumed at 13:29*

Speaker: Item 16. Motions. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, Ms. Pat Angnakak.

Item 16: Motions

**Motion 023 – 4(3): Addressing the
Needs of Elders**

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS the Government of Nunavut's most recent *Elders Program Strategy* was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on March 3, 2011;

AND WHEREAS an updated and comprehensive strategy and action plan to address the needs of Nunavut's elders is urgently required;

AND WHEREAS concerns have been identified that the Government of Nunavut's current approach to addressing the needs of Nunavut's elders is fragmented and not sufficiently coordinated;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Nunavut's report, *Continuing Care in Nunavut, 2015 to 2035*, has recommended that responsibility for all elders homes be transferred to the Department of Health;

AND WHEREAS the Premier of Nunavut has designated his office as being responsible for seniors' advocacy;

AND WHEREAS the current business plan of the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs indicates that it now "coordinates matters related to programs and services for Seniors";

AND WHEREAS Members of the Legislative Assembly recognize and respect Nunavut's elders as being our territory's living repositories of the Inuit language, *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*, Inuit societal values, and Inuit customary law;

AND WHEREAS it is important for the Government of Nunavut to take action to provide more opportunities for elders to actively participate in such areas as

family counselling, suicide prevention, and substance abuse;

AND WHEREAS Members of the Legislative Assembly are of the view that far too many elders in today's society are vulnerable to abuse, exploitation, neglect, and social isolation;

AND WHEREAS services for elders are lacking in such areas as dedicated facilities in their home communities, the provision of client travel escorts during medical travel outside of their home communities, and measures to ensure comfort, security, and dignity in the home;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Quttiktuq, that this House formally urges the Government of Nunavut to develop an updated and comprehensive strategy and action plan to address the needs of Nunavut's elders, including the thematic areas addressed in this motion;

AND FURTHER I MOVE that this strategy explicitly address the importance of ensuring that core health and social services for elders are delivered in a coordinated manner by a single department that is accountable to the Legislative Assembly for its performance;

AND FURTHER I MOVE that this strategy explicitly address the importance of ensuring that services which are provided to elders, including services provided by entities in the private sector under contract by the Government of Nunavut, are done so in a respectful manner that fully complies

with the *Inuit Language Protection Act* and other authorities;

AND FURTHER I MOVE that the strategy and action plan to address the needs of Nunavut's elders be tabled in the Legislative Assembly for consideration by all members no later than the first sitting day in the fall of 2016.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. To the motion. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, Ms. Pat Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the mover of the motion that is before the House today, I am very honoured to have the opportunity to speak in strong support of its passage.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin by thanking my colleagues on both sides of the House for their many thoughtful recommendations, suggestions, and contributions. The motion is that much stronger for the hard work that many hands have put into it.

Mr. Speaker, I particularly want to thank and acknowledge the Member for Quttiktuq for having seconded this motion.

Mr. Speaker, I have brought forward this motion today in order to encourage our government to develop and bring forward a coordinated strategy to address the needs of elders in Nunavut's society.

Mr. Speaker, every successful society, group, or organization recognizes the

specific strengths of its members. Every successful society also acknowledges the challenges that face its members. A successful society provides roles and responsibilities to those who have knowledge and expertise and supports those who need assistance in order to thrive and participate. These activities go hand in hand.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavut's elders need us and we, as members of Nunavut's society, need our elders. We need their knowledge, guidance, and expertise. They need our respect, support, and commitment.

Mr. Speaker, I have listened as many of my colleagues on both sides of the House have spoken eloquently of the desire of elders in their communities to participate more meaningfully in promoting a healthy, vibrant, and harmonious Nunavut.

Elders are the primary source of knowledge in the areas of culture, language, and tradition and they are the keepers of specific skills that are integral to our collective identity, such as techniques for sewing and hunting.

Elders can and should play a valuable role in providing guidance and counselling with respect to family relationships or alternative approaches to addressing such harmful behaviours as suicide, substance abuse, and violence.

Mr. Speaker, in order to be able to play these important roles, our elders must first be safe, secure, and comfortable. We hear all too often of situations of abuse, neglect, or financial insecurity.

Mr. Speaker, it is painfully clear that there are many challenges that prevent our elders from living comfortably and with dignity. There are too few elder-designated housing units and there are too few beds in elders' homes or continuing care facilities. There are very limited services for such programs as assisted living, rehabilitation, and dementia care.

As a result, too many of our elders are sent away from their homes, their communities, and their families to receive the care that is not available at home. This leads to isolation and loss of communication. Mr. Speaker, that loss of communication deprives all of us of the opportunity to be a healthy and complete society.

Mr. Speaker, I acknowledge that there are a number of programs currently available to Nunavut's elders. However, they are delivered piecemeal, by different departments, under different divisions, with a different set of phases at every stop. This fragmentation needs to stop.

Mr. Speaker, we need a comprehensive, coordinated, and cohesive strategy to ensure that our elders can access the services they require that will enable and empower them to continue being full members of Nunavut's society.

Mr. Speaker, as is noted in the motion, the government's most recent *Elders Program Strategy* was tabled in the Legislative Assembly over half a decade ago. It is time for an update.

Mr. Speaker, the development of a comprehensive strategy and action plan

will serve to strengthen the foundation of support for our elders.

Mr. Speaker, I would also note that I fully anticipate that the government will heed the words of my colleague from Cambridge Bay and ensure that its pencils are sharpened when the strategy and action plan is being developed.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that the strategy and action plan incorporate a comprehensive and realistic analysis of what financial and human resources will be required to ensure its successful implementation.

Mr. Speaker, please let me conclude by again thanking my colleague from Quttiktuq for his work on this motion, which I respectfully ask all members to support today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) To the motion. Member of Rankin Inlet South, Mr. Alexander Sammurtok.

Mr. Alexander Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak to the motion that is before the House.

Mr. Speaker, as you and my colleagues will be well aware, I have been a strong advocate for elders services in the community of Rankin Inlet.

At every sitting, I have asked to government to reconsider its plans for renovating the children's group home in Rankin Inlet into an elders' home.

At every sitting, I have noted the number of Rankin Inlet elders who have been sent away to other communities for care when they want nothing more than to be

close to their families and their community.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident that many of my colleagues also have elders in their communities who deserve and expect their respect and support.

I feel strongly that our government needs to ensure that our elders are well taken care of, not on a case-by-case basis but by looking at the overall needs of our elders across our communities, across our regions, and across the territory.

Mr. Speaker, our government needs to develop a comprehensive strategy that takes into account the needs that have already been identified, sometimes many times over.

Assessments on one aspect of service delivery have been undertaken by one department while assessments on another aspect of service delivery have been undertaken by another department. For some reason, these efforts never seem to be coordinated in a way that informs and guides our government in addressing the needs of our elders.

Mr. Speaker, I agree that an elders strategy and action plan should be developed at the earliest opportunity to ensure that our elders get the support, respect, and care that they deserve.

I will be supporting this motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) To the motion. I have no more names on my list. Mr. Premier, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleagues for giving me the opportunity to speak on behalf of the motion. I appreciate Ms. Angnakak's effort and the Hon. Member from Quttiktuq in providing the motion to the House.

Mr. Speaker, I'm fully aware of these situations that I see. My wife's aunt is 102 years old in a home in the Kitikmeot. We see the struggles the families go through and at times, it is very tedious. As the mover of the motion has indicated, it takes a lot away from the families who are trying to stay together. It takes a lot of self-esteem and all these other things that are going on in keeping a family connected.

Mr. Speaker, as the Premier, I have made efforts to consolidate and coordinate some of the existing programs that are in many different departments. Again, I appreciate the fact that I'm supported by my fellow colleagues and my fellow cabinet members in making efforts to ensure that we do the best possible thing for our elders.

Mr. Speaker, I'll be supporting this motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) To the motion. I have no more names on my list. Does the mover of the motion, Ms. Angnakak, have any final comments? Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As mover of this motion, I will request a recorded vote. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) All those in favour, please stand and sit down when I call your name. (interpretation) Thank you.

Ms. Pat Angnakak.

Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. David Joanasie.

Mr. Alexander Sammurtok.

Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak.

Mr. Paul Okalik.

Mr. Johnny Mike.

Mr. Joe Savikataaq.

Mr. Peter Taptuna.

Mr. George Hickes.

Mr. Paul Quassa.

Ms. Monica Ell-Kanayuk.

Mr. Keith Peterson.

Mr. Joe Enook.

Mr. Simeon Mikkungwak.

Mr. Tony Akoak.

Mr. Steve Mapsalak.

Mr. Tom Sammurtok.

Mr. Allan Rumbolt.

Mr. Emiliano Qirngnuq.

(interpretation ends) The motion is carried unanimously.

>>*Applause*

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. [Consideration in] Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 10, 11, 12, and 15 and Tabled Documents 73 – 4(2), 116 – 4(2), 140 – 4(2), 149 – 4(2), and 70 – 4(3) with Mr. Akoak in the Chair.

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

I ask members to remain at their desks so that we can immediately proceed into the Committee of the Whole.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 13:50 and Committee commenced at 13:54*

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

Chairman (Mr. Akoak): Thank you. Good afternoon, Inuit and colleagues. I would 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 15 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 afternoon. Mr. Chairman, we wish to commence with

the review of Bill 10, Bill 11, Bill 12, and Bill 15. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Are we in agreement that we first deal with Bill 10?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 10 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2015-2016 – Consideration in Committee

Chairman: Is the committee agreed that Minister Peterson's staff go to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. *Iqsuqtii*, please assist the staff to go to the witness table.

Minister Peterson, please introduce your staff. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Chris D'Arcy, Deputy Minister of Finance, and to my left is Peter Tumilty, Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson, opening comments. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Members. I am appearing before you today to present Bill 10, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2015-2016*.

Bill 10 is for capital supplementary appropriations for 2015-16 totalling

\$20,426,000. It consists of the following items:

- \$150,000 to the Office of the Legislative Assembly to cover a budget shortfall for the legislative improvements project relating to security enhancements and improvements;
- \$801,000 to Nunavut Arctic College to award the contract for the student record system upgrade to the preferred proponent;
- \$5 million to the Department of Education previously disbursed as a special warrant to allow the purchase of five portable classrooms and washroom facilities; and
- \$14,475,000 to the Department of Economic Development and Transportation to finalize the technical accounting adjustments and to increase the contingency for the Iqaluit International Airport Improvement Project.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my opening comments. I would be pleased to take questions. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. The floor is now open for general comments. Seeing none, we will now proceed to the page-by-page review of the department's estimates starting on page 4. Government of Nunavut 2015-16 Supplementary Appropriation Capital No. 4. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Capital. Not Previously Authorized. Total Assembly Operations. \$150,000. Total Department. \$150,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Page 5. Finance. Capital. Not Previously Authorized. Total Centrally Administered Funds. \$801,000. Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a request for clarification on your opening comments. The way I understand it, Arctic College will be awarding a contract and they're requesting \$801,000 for the student record system upgrade. If I'm understandable, I would first like to know when this project is scheduled to start. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mapsalak for the question. Just to clarify, they would like to award the contract. It went to tender and they have a proponent. They haven't awarded it. It is subject to approval. Today, they would likely award it in a very short period of time to undertake the work. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Maybe I didn't understand the response properly. Have you set a date for the awarding of the contract? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mapsalak for the question. We don't have a specific date, but it would be some time before the end of this fiscal year, likely within the next couple of weeks. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. We're on Finance. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, Minister. I have a question about the same thing. \$800,000 is a substantial amount of money. Why was this not introduced under the usual budget estimates? Why is it under supplementary appropriations? If it was really needed, why was it not put in the main estimates? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. Mr. Chairman, they thought they would fund internally, they were unable to, and then they missed the capital cycle, which was last October, so then they came to the Financial Management Board seeking additional funds, which we approved. Before we can give them the green light to proceed to award the contract, we need approval in the House through this capital supplementary appropriation bill. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. We're on Finance. Capital. Not Previously Authorized. Total Centrally Administered Funds. \$801,000. Total Department. \$801,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Page 6. Education. Capital. Special Warrants. Corporate Services. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the

minister a question. Let me get this clarified. I imagine that when someone talks about portable classrooms, they are separate buildings. I just want to know if that is what it means. I am wondering what they look like. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. It's a good question. I don't know how they would be connected. The portables could be separate or they could be connected together. I don't have any specific information on that, unless I could deflect the question to the Minister of Education, Mr. Chairman, with your permission.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson has requested to go to the Minister of Education. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague for requesting clarification. There will be five portable classrooms that will be separate from each other. There are five all together and they are all separate buildings. To help you picture it, we have separate little buildings that are classrooms in Naujaat. These ones are going to be very close to the main school, but they will be in separate little buildings. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you. Aside from those five portable classrooms, are you going to be building an actual new school as well? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. The five portables will come in on the next sealift and provide classrooms for our students at the same time the school is being constructed and it's planned to be replaced for 2019-2020. That's the short-term plan, which would be only three years.

We have money in another supp bill for additional funds that you will see later for 2016-17. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This money was brought out through a special warrant and I know that there was a request for proposals put out. As to who would put that together, I would like to know if that contract has been awarded. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Joanasie for the question. We had the special warrant, the \$5 million, because it's very time sensitive. There were some issues in Cape Dorset that resulted in us having to go the portable classroom route. We had to special-warrant it and approve it so that the departments of CGS and Education could work together to put together an RFP to request the portable classrooms. I don't have the information here that tells me whether it has been awarded or not. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you. Can I ask the minister if his ministerial colleague knows? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: I'm not ignoring you, Mr. Chairman; I'm just reading a briefing note here.

The briefing note we have is that CGS was supposed to try to go out with an RFP in February. It may be a bit early for it to be awarded, but I don't have that information. I don't know if the Minister of CGS or the Minister of Education could provide any more light, but we don't have anything in our briefing note that indicates whether the contract has been awarded.

However, the whole purpose of this special warrant is so that we could go ahead, as I said in my last answer. We have to be very fast and the contract will have to be awarded, portable classrooms be designed, constructed, and be marshalled through the sealift so that they can come up on this summer's sealift. It's very time sensitive and we have to make the sealift. That's why it was special-warranted.

I don't expect too many delays in awarding the contract, if it hasn't been awarded already. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As a supplement to Mr. Enook's question regarding these portable classrooms, have you already found lots or have sites already been

developed for those portable classrooms? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Joanasie for the question. I believe, if I heard the Minister of Education earlier, he said that it would be next to the current school in Cape Dorset. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that the sites have already been discussed for the portable classrooms. Will the Hamlet of Cape Dorset or the local DEA take part in the discussions for where the locations are going to be for the portable classrooms? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Joanasie for the question. Mr. Chairman, I have been following this entire matter with a lot of interest since the fire destroyed the high school in early September.

The Government of Nunavut has made every effort to accommodate the students and the community of Cape Dorset. There have been extensive consultations and I think we're on the third location for the high school now. That's part of the reason why we're going to these portable classrooms. There have been extensive consultations, as the minister has indicated.

I don't have any information in my briefing note that indicates whether the

DEA itself was consulted on the specific location of the portable classrooms, unless Minister of Education could supplement my answer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for his response. I know that when sealift opens this coming summer, these portable classrooms are to be shipped at that time to make sure that they arrive in time for the next school year in the fall.

Is there any concern that we might have to defer the beginning of school if the sealift does not make it due to unforeseen circumstances such as ice? Do you have any contingency plans for unforeseen circumstances? Education is very important to us and so is the work on the schools. Do you have any contingency plans? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Joanasie for the question. I share Mr. Joanasie's concerns. Cambridge Bay had a high school burn down in 1998. It took several years. It's quite a traumatic event and it has the tendency to pull the community together. We were all concerned about it.

I have to tell you that the Government of Nunavut, through the departments of Education and CGS, is pulling out every stop to get these portable classrooms into Cape Dorset. I would like to think I'm a glass-half-full guy. They are going to be

designed and can get to the marshalling yards and they're going to get into Cape Dorset this summer. That's the plan.

If they don't, we already know what the Department of Education can do currently. That may be the backup plan if the portables don't get in; we revert to the plan that's already in place. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is not going to be a question, but a comment.

Today, I was asking the Minister of Education about the school operation in the community because it's very difficult for the students and teachers. I thank the government for their hard work in order for this to go ahead. The students and the teachers have been impacted by having their classroom time cut in half, with the students divided up into separate classes. Sometimes they end up staying in class until very late at night.

I would like to see this go ahead and to make sure that the portable classrooms arrive in time to start the school year, along with the rest of the communities in Nunavut. I'm sure that this situation will improve, so I can only be optimistic. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. That was just a comment. Mr. A. Sammurtok.

Mr. Alexander Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have one question in regard to this. When you construct the new school, what are you going to do with the five portable classrooms when they

are no longer used? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. A. Sammurtok for the question. Mr. Chairman, currently, we don't have a plan for the portable classrooms. We're talking three years out. Between now and the end of three years, I'm sure the Department of Education will have a good use for them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. A. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) No plans for what the use is going to be after they have used them as portable classrooms. I would like to make a suggestion to the government: turn them into public housing. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. A. Sammurtok for the suggestion. Mr. Chairman, the Minister of Education would like to comment with your permission. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson is deferring to the Minister of Education. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We usually plan these things when they're no longer used. For example, in Naujaat, we use the same process with the portable classrooms. In Cape Dorset, our teachers need staff housing and we're considering

the possibly of converting the five portable classrooms into staff housing once the new school has been constructed. We believe that if there were another case similar to that in the future, we would use the same solution. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. We're on Education. Capital. Special Warrants. Corporate Services. Total Corporate Services. \$5 million. Total Department. \$5 million. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Page 7. Economic Development and Transportation. Capital. Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Every time this comes up, I always have a concern. I have been asking questions regarding the work for the airport terminal in Iqaluit. I know that it is going to use large sums of money. Although I heard from the minister that it will not have an impact on other communities in Nunavut waiting for terminal buildings, we have to approve large sums of money for this.

In your opening comments, you had mentioned the \$14,475,000 is just a technical accounting adjustment from one pot of money to another. I don't understand why we have to approve it even though it is coming from the same department. It doesn't seem to be coming from another area. Can you clarify that for me? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mapsalak for his question and concern. The Government of Nunavut understands his concerns about ATBs (air terminal buildings) in the smaller communities.

We made a commitment in the last government when we were having a discussion about this whole airport project that we would not use all of the capital budget for a single project. Our commitment was that we would have at least \$110 million annually for capital, but in fact, we have been averaging well above that for the last several years. That is not a concern. With respect to this particular project, the project was approved at \$298 million with an upward limit of \$321 million.

The amount that is in my opening comments is composed of two amounts. One is a technical accounting adjustment for \$7,617,000. As I have mentioned previously, this is the first true P3 project in Nunavut's history and it's a very large one. We are learning as we are going about how to do the proper accounting. We are getting help with the Office of the Auditor General through discussions about how to do the accounting. We have made some errors early on with our accounting, so we are just fixing that accounting up. This \$7,617,000 is a technical accounting adjustment. It doesn't affect money; it's just accounted for in a different way.

The second amount is \$6,858,000. That is part of the original contract. We set aside a \$10 million contingency for items such as contaminated sites, asphalt, and interest rate adjustments. From the time when we negotiated the contract to when we signed the contract,

it was six months and interest rates changed, so it cost us an extra \$6,858,000, so we had to take that out of the contingency. Now we have about \$3 million in contingency that is earmarked towards some liabilities, contaminated sites, and asphalt. What we want to do is get approval to increase the contingency by this amount, \$6,858,000, so that it's back up to \$10 million less the \$3 million that is already sort of committed.

If we get our contingency increased, this would allow us to not slow the project down in case there are other issues with contaminated sites or asphalt as the project proceeds. If we had to stop the project to get funding for the contingency to pay the contractor, we could be waiting months for approvals because we would have to come to the House. If we can get this funding increased, then that would just allow us to, once we agree on the amount to pay, pay it and then the project continues unimpeded without any delay. We want to keep this project on schedule and on budget. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hope that explains it.

Chairman: Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is not the first time. If I remember correctly, it happened last year and there had to be another technical accounting adjustment. Are we going to be seeing this on an annual basis and we have to approve for some accounting adjustments? Is it going to happen every year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mapsalak for his very good question. As I said, we're learning as we're going. We've got two years under our belt on this project. We're learning as we're going with that and talking to the Office of the Auditor General. We have completed an audit on the project. I believe we have ironed out all the technical accounting issues, so we shouldn't see it again, but I'm like 99 percent sure; I'm just going to leave that 1 percent there just in case. We're very confident that we shouldn't see this again. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Economic Development and Transportation. Capital. Not Previously Authorized. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have one additional question in regard to the contingency of \$6,858,000. This is a P3 airport project. I believe it's P3 Canada. Are they also paying for part of the costs as they are under a P3 partnership? Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hope I'm clear.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Joanasie for the question. P3 Canada approved up to \$73 million or \$74 million towards the project and they will pay us that amount upon substantial completion of the project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You are asking for additional money for the Iqaluit airport.

Are you going to be making more requests from P3 Canada because of the increased costs, including the contingency fund? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Joanasie for the question. I think, as I recall telling everybody, this is a very complex project. The contract alone is probably a thousand pages. We have some very complicated clauses in the contract. We have a team that meets regularly on a monthly basis to discuss issues.

P3 Canada isn't going to give us any more money. That will be the amount of money, as I said, upon substantial completion. As of last week or two weeks ago, the information I had is the project is proceeding on time and on schedule, so we don't see any problem there.

The \$10 million contingency fund we are talking about is the GN's responsibility. It's our responsibility to ensure that the contingency is in place and that the funds are available. There's another term, "retain risks."

I'm not from Iqaluit, so I have to rely on information, but it's an airport that comes from the '40s or '50s, so there is potentially a lot of contaminated sites out there that nobody knows about when people and the contractor start digging. If they dig and find some contaminated waste or old army vehicles or other items that are considered contaminated liabilities, we would meet, discuss, and agree or not agree.

If we agree that we pay them for their costs, then that is when we would use the contingency. We have that \$10 million there so that we can pay them, so that the project can continue to be constructed. We can't afford any delays or any other hiccups in the project. Otherwise, it could go off budget and off schedule. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. We're on Economic Development and Transportation. Capital. Not Previously Authorized. Transportation. Total Transportation. \$14,475,000. Total Department. \$14,475,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Now go to Bill 10 in your legislation binder. Everyone has their copies?

An Hon. Member: Yes.

Chairman: Bill 10, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2015-2016*. Clause 1. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Now go to Schedule on page 2 in English and page 3 in Inuktitut. Schedule. Supplementary Amounts Appropriated for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2016. Vote 2: Capital. Total Supplementary Appropriation. \$20,426,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Back to page 1. Clause 4. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 7. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree to Bill 10 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree, pursuant to Rule 62(2), that Bill 10 can immediately be placed on the orders of the day for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson, closing comments. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I again thank you and your committee for your good questions and scrutiny of Bill 10. It's very important that the Legislative Assembly be open and transparent with our decisions on how to spend public money, so my cabinet colleagues and I appreciate your scrutiny of Bill 10. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Bill 11 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 2, 2015-2016 – Consideration in Committee

Chairman: We will now proceed to the review of Bill 11. Please proceed with opening comments on Bill 11. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before we proceed, if I may, can I bring in another witness and have Mr. Tumilty go to the gallery? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Does the committee agree to let... ?

Some Members: Agreed.

>> *Laughter*

Chairman: *Iqsuqtii*, can you escort the witness in.

Thank you. Minister Peterson, would you introduce your staff. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The new witness to my left is Colleen Stockley, Deputy Minister of the Department of Health. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Your opening comments for Bill 11, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Members. I appear before you today to present Bill 11, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 2, 2015-2016*. Bill 11 is for operations

and maintenance supplementary appropriations for 2015-16 totalling \$28,982,000. It consists of the following items:

- \$232,000 to the Office of the Legislative Assembly to fund three new positions created in the Office of the Representative for Children and Youth;
- \$4,800,000 to the Department of Justice to cover a projected budget deficit in the policing and corrections branches;
- \$21,900,000 to the Department of Health to cover a projected budget deficit in a variety of health programs;
- \$1,286,000 to the Department of Community and Government Services to fund expenses relating to a public awareness campaign in 2015-16 and to conduct a territory-wide referendum on the alienation of municipal lands; and
- \$764,000 to the Nunavut Housing Corporation to cover an uncontrollable increase in water rates for the Public Housing program.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my opening comments. I would be pleased to take questions. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Any general comments on the opening statement? Seeing none, we will go to a page-by-page review starting on page 4. Government of Nunavut 2015-16 Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) No. 2. Office of the Legislative Assembly.

Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Independent Officers. Total Independent Officers. \$232,000. Total Department. \$232,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 5. Justice. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Total Law Enforcement. \$2,580,000. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question on this line item. It indicates here in English that they're projecting a budget deficit. Will the deficit go way over or just close to budget? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. That's the department's projected shortfall, a total of \$4.8 million. It's our best figure at this time. We're hopeful that that's enough and we don't go over. If we do, we will have to come back in the spring sitting. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Is there any chance it could be lower? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. There's always a chance it could be lower, but that's the projection right now. Until we get the year-end

figures, we don't know. We won't know for a month or two whether funds have lapsed or been completely spent. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Justice. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Total Law Enforcement. \$2,580,000. Total Corrections. \$2,220,000. Total Department. \$4,800,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Page 6. Health. Operations and Maintenance. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you. I think I might have asked this question or maybe it was somebody else, but this \$21 million, it seems like the Department of Health always get a supplementary appropriation. Is it not possible to get a number that's accurate? Why don't you give an increase to all the line items when we're drafting the budgets so that you don't have to ask for millions and millions of dollars? Is it not possible to get a more accurate number during drafting? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. I wish I could say yes.

I recall being an MLA on that side starting in 2004 asking many of the same questions of the Department of Health. It's a very unique department. It touches on all of us every day, all of our friends and relatives in Nunavut. If there is a medevac, you can budget for X amount

of dollars for medevacs, but you could use more medevacs than you budgeted for.

Physician service contracts, because it is more expensive down south than bringing people up here... . The use of agency nurses and casual nurses is quite expensive because we do have to keep our health centres and our hospitals staffed. There is no way around that. I know that the department is working very hard on trying to contain costs and understand the costs.

That was one of the questions I asked Ms. Stockley when I met her the first time. She came from Newfoundland. The Minister of Finance for Newfoundland and her had similar conversations that the Minister of Finance for Nunavut has. I know that she's working very hard.

With your permission, Mr. Chairman, I brought Ms. Stockley in here specifically that if there are some detailed questions you want to ask, she can answer them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Stockley.

Ms. Stockley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Minister Peterson said, we're really trying to get an idea on where our cost pressures are. We know that on average across the country, health spending increases by about 6 percent per year. Ironically, this supplementary appropriation is approximately that.

Some of the areas that Minister Peterson just mentioned, medical travel of \$6.7 million, we requested and approved in Committee of the Whole a couple of

weeks ago about \$4,880,000 extra in 2016-17. We think that will get us a little bit closer. We don't want to keep going back for supplementary appropriations either.

A couple of things are happening with medical travel. The costs are going up. We had medical travel volumes. That's not the cost of the airplane tickets; that's the number of people travelling have increased by 8 percent over last year, so that's an increase. Now, the good news is our medevacs have only increased by 1 percent. It means that people are able to wait or be on scheduled travel.

With regard to our agency nurse contracts, we have an RFP out right now for a new agency contract that will give us a little bit better rates and bring things a bit more in line, but I can't go into any detail on that because the RFP is out right now.

Mental health contracts, \$5.1 million, are a supplementary appropriation. Some of that is toward addictions. You will recall that we requested and you approved \$6.2 million for next year. Some of that should alleviate this pressure.

Physician services contracts are over by \$1.7 million. Again, we requested and you approved \$1.3 million in 2016-17 and that will cover off the cost of paediatric services. We didn't ask in 2016-17 for the same amount that we're over this year because we're also trying to do some cost-containment, try to get a little bit more bang for the buck, so to speak.

Does that answer your question? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) In my humble opinion, every dollar we spend in the health service is bang for the buck. Do we spend it or don't we? The answer is no, we cannot not spend it. There's no issue there.

I'm just trying to get a handle on how big or how far actuals can be from projections. We're out \$21 million in this case. I'm just trying to figure out if there is any way we can be like \$10 million out instead of \$21 million. That's why I ask that question and I appreciate your answers. I think I'll leave it at that. (interpretation) Thank you. It's not a question.

Chairman: Thank you. Next name on the list, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In reference to this \$21.9 million and as the official indicated, agency nurses, casual nurses, and medevacs are about \$6.7 million, it's very distressing at times when you're having shortages of nurses within your community. Having been an MLA now, it seems to be taking turns by community, but at the same time, I understand that you are trying to contain it.

My first question is: what is the difference between an agency nurse and a casual nurse, and is there a break-up of how much money for each line item on that particular area? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for the question. I'll ask Ms. Stockley to answer that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Stockley.

Ms. Stockley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A casual nurse is a nurse that is hired under a casual basis as an employee of the Government of Nunavut. Those tend to be up to four-month increments like all casual employees that we would hire in government.

An agency nurse is a nurse that is supplied under a contract that we have with various agencies. That's what we have just gone out with a new RFP for and we are looking for some better rates in this RFP for the agency nurse contract. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we look at these agency nurses, which are by contracts, as indicated, and we are aware that there is a shortage of nurses across Canada and at the same time, they are very essential services within our communities, are they fixed by a number of years or is each contract unique to its own contract's signature per particular agency nurse or are they fixed for so many years, for example, "Three years or five years, you're going to be in this community" or are they unique by case by case? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for the question. The contract would be with, my recollection, an agency nurse contractor because there could be as many as seven nursing agencies, so the contracts would be with them. If the Department of Health needed a nurse or nurses for a specific community, they would contact any of those nursing agencies to supply a nurse for that community, whether it's for two weeks or two months or six months, as the case may be.

The actual contract would be with the agency nurse and then they would submit the billings to the Department of Health with all of their backup, and then the Department of Health would process their bills through to the Department of Finance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Health. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Total Community Services. \$21,900,000. Total Department. \$21,900,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Page 7. Community and Government Services. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Total Community Services. \$1,286,000. Total Department. \$1,286,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 8. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Total Nunavut Housing Corporation. \$764,000. Total

Department. \$764,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Now go to Bill 11 in your legislation binder. Everyone has their copies? Page 1. Bill 11, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 2, 2015-2016*. Clause 1. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to Schedule on page 2 in English and page 3 in Inuktitut. Schedule. Supplementary Amounts Appropriated for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2016. Vote 1: Operations and Maintenance. Total Appropriation. \$28,982,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed

Chairman: Back to page 1. Clause 4. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 7. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree to Bill 11 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree, pursuant to Rule 62(2), that Bill 11 can immediately be placed on orders of the day for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Closing comments, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank you and your committee again for your scrutiny of Bill 11. Very good questions and again, it's very good that we have transparency and when we're discussing spending public monies. I appreciate all of your questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Bill 12 – Supplementary
Appropriation (Capital) Act, No.
1, 2016-2017 – Consideration in
Committee**

Chairman: Thank you. We will now proceed to Bill 12. Minister Peterson, please proceed with your opening comments on Bill 12.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Members. I am here today to introduce Bill 12, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 1, 2016-2017*.

Bill 12 is for capital supplementary appropriations for 2016-17 totalling \$14,302,000. It consists of the following items:

- \$1,740,000 to the Department of Family Services to implement a new case management system for the Children and Family Services Division;
- \$1,918,000 to the Department of Family Services to award a contract for the Rankin Inlet Group Home Renovation Project;
- \$1,500,000 to the Department of Education to fund part of the design costs for the new high school in Cape Dorset;
- \$1,065,000 to the Department of Community and Government Services to fund the Government of Nunavut portion of the Small Communities Fund part of the New Building Canada Fund for 2016-17;
- \$3,079,000 to the Department of Economic Development and Transportation to award a contract for the replacement of the Motor Vehicle Information System; and
- \$5 million to the Department of Economic Development and Transportation to fund the 2016-17 portion of the Iqaluit Marine Infrastructure Project.

In addition, we are increasing the original value of Bill 12 to include \$1,200,000 for the Department of Economic Development and Transportation to fund the 2016-17 portion of the Pond Inlet Marine Infrastructure Project. This will bring the total of Bill 12 to \$15,502,000.

At the appropriate time, I will bring forth the motion to amend Bill 12 when the

committee proceeds with the clause-by-clause review. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Are there any general comments? Seeing none, we will go page by page starting on page 4. Government of Nunavut 2016-17 Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) No. 1. Family Services. Capital. Not Previously Authorized. Total Corporate Management. \$3,658,000. Total Department. \$3,658,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 5. Education. Capital. Not Previously Authorized. Total Corporate Services. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question here is: when you look at the design model, is that a design model for all high schools within Nunavut or is that a design model concept that can be either a middle school or a high school? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for the question. I believe the design is unique to this school in Cape Dorset. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The design model is unique to Cape Dorset. Is the design model for high schools across Nunavut or just that one community and, if so, is that a secondary high school or is it equal to a

middle school design also within the territory? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: The page says that it's for Cape Dorset. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for his question. I don't have that level of detail in my briefing note, but fortunately, my colleague, the Minister of Community and Government Services, is here and he would like to respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson is deferring to the CGS minister. Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The design for the school will be specifically for Cape Dorset and for that location where it will be built. It will be designed to be built on that land with this specific type of foundation for that location. It will be a unique build for the design and where it is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Education. Capital. Not Previously Authorized. Total Corporate Services. \$1,500,000. Total Department. \$1,500,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Page 6. Community and Government Services. Capital. Not Previously Authorized. Total Community Services. \$1,065,000. Total Department. \$1,065,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Economic Development and Transportation. Capital. Not Previously Authorized. Total Transportation. \$9,279,000. Total Department. \$9,279,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to Bill 12 in your legislation binder.

Bill 12, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 1, 2016-2017*. Clause 1. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3. Minister Peterson.

**Committee Motion 006 – 4(3):
Supplementary Appropriation
(Capital) Act, No. 1, 2016-2017**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that the Schedule to the bill...I'm sure I'm at the right place...that the Schedule to the bill be amended by:

- (a) striking out "\$8,079,000" in Item 4, Economic Development and Transportation, and replacing it with "\$9,279,000";
- (b) striking out "\$14,302,000" after "Total Capital" and replacing it with "\$15,502,000"; and
- (c) striking out "\$14,302,000" after "Total Supplementary Appropriation" and replacing it with "\$15,502,000."

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

An Hon. Member: Agreed.

>>*Laughter*

Chairman: Thank you. The motion is in order. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried. Clause 3 as amended. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 4. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 7. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree to Bill 12 as amended?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree, pursuant to Rule 62(2), that Bill 12 can immediately be placed on the orders of the day for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Keith Peterson, closing comments.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I again thank yourself and your committee for all your good questions and scrutiny over the last

several months in standing committee and Committee of the Whole.

I would like to thank all our directors in corporate services for their work on the O&M and capital supplementary bills.

I would like to thank my officials in the gallery, Camilius Egeni and Peter Tumilty. I would like to also thank my Deputy Minister of Finance, Chris D'Arcy, and a special thanks to the Deputy Minister of Health, Colleen Stockley, for appearing today to help answer the questions on the Health supplementary requests. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. We will now take a 20-minute break. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses.

>>*Committee recessed at 15:09 and resumed at 15:35*

Bill 15 – An Act to Amend the Land Titles Act – Consideration in Committee

Chairman: Thank you. I would like to call the committee meeting to order. The Committee of the Whole proceeds. I would now like to ask Minister Peterson: do you have officials that you would like to appear before the committee? Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I have officials that I would like to appear at the witness table. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Does the committee agree to let the minister and his staff/officials go to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

For the record, Minister Peterson, please introduce your officials. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Bill MacKay, Deputy Minister of the Department of Justice, and to my left is Stephen Mansell, Director of Policy and Planning. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson, please proceed with your opening comments. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to appear before the committee for the review of Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Land Titles Act*.

With me today is Deputy Minister Bill MacKay and Director of Policy and Planning Stephen Mansell, and in the gallery is our Legislative Counsel, Thomas Ahlfors, also from the Department of Justice.

On May 9, 2016, municipal voters in Nunavut will vote on whether or not to allow municipalities to sell or otherwise transfer fee simple title to municipal lands. A “yes” vote could mean that Nunavummiut who currently hold leasehold property title could apply to convert that title to fee simple.

Mr. Chairman, the purpose of this bill is to ensure that if leasehold titles do convert, the Nunavut Land Titles Office has sufficient legal authority to transfer all encumbrances and registered interests

on the leasehold title over to the new title.

Without this bill, there is a concern that current encumbrances, such as mortgages or liens, may be extinguished upon transfer. Without assurance of transfer, mortgage lenders and other institutions may stop lending in Nunavut and the extinguishment of these interests could have legal consequences for homeowners and the registrar of land titles.

It is important to stress that this bill is technical in nature and in no way attempts to impact or presuppose the May 9, 2016 vote. The Department of Justice is simply seeking to ensure the Land Titles Office has the authority it needs in the instance of a “yes” vote.

The bill is also proposing to correct some minor grammatical and typographical errors in the current Act.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would be pleased to answer any questions from the members of the committee. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Does the Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislation have any opening comments? Mr. T. Sammurtok.

Mr. Tom Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislation, I am pleased to make some brief opening comments as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Land Titles Act*.

The standing committee has no objections to the purpose of Bill 15,

which was described in detail by the minister in his opening comments.

The standing committee recognizes that the proposed amendments to the *Land Titles Act* will ensure that instruments, such as mortgages, may be transferred from leasehold titles to fee simple titles in the event that the majority of residents in a municipality vote to permit the sale of municipal lands during the upcoming land referendum.

The standing committee recognizes that this merger may only occur on the occasion that a municipality votes “yes” to allow the sale of its municipal lands in the upcoming May 9, 2016, land referendum, and that the proposed amendments will not impact the titles of current leasehold owners if a municipality votes “no” to not permit the sale of its municipal lands, and therefore maintain the status quo in their municipality.

The standing committee notes with concern that the department has not provided explicitly clear information on the process by which a merging of leasehold and fee simple titles would occur, if a municipality votes “yes” to allow the sale of its municipal lands.

The standing committee emphasizes the importance of providing clear and comprehensive information to residents throughout Nunavut to ensure that all voters have the opportunity to make an informed decision in the May 9, 2016 land referendum.

The standing committee encourages the Department of Justice to work with the Department of Community Government Services in its efforts to undertake public

outreach and consultations to inform Nunavut residents of any consequences that may arise from the upcoming land referendum.

Specifically, the standing committee recommends that these two departments work to ensure that Nunavut residents are provided explicitly clear information regarding the processes that may become necessary in the event that municipalities vote to sell municipal lands and, subsequently, if current leasehold title owners acquire the free simple titles of the land that they are currently leasing.

The standing committee notes with concern that the proposed amendments in Bill 15 do not explicitly indicate how the merging of leasehold into freehold titles may affect the priority ranking of different instruments against the same property. The standing committee recognizes that issues involving multiple instruments against a single property may be uncommon and may be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments. The standing committee recommends the passage of Bill 15 to all members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Do members have any general comments? Seeing none, we will now proceed to the clause-by-clause review of Bill 15 in your legislation binder.

Thank you. Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Land Titles Act*. Questions? Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is the floor open for general questions about this now? Yes.

Thank you. This is just a request for clarification about the bill. In its legislative proposal for Bill 15, your department indicates that it is “asking for an amendment that mirrors the Ontario model, which will clearly preserve existing encumbrances registered against leasehold properties...”

Perhaps you can allow me to ask two questions, Mr. Chairman. Have you considered any other options to address this issue besides the Ontario model and why do you feel that the Ontario model is best suited for Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. Yes, we did look at other legislation in other jurisdictions in Canada. We looked at Ontario and we felt that the language Ontario had was more straightforward and best met our needs. It's a very technical language and we just thought that we could borrow their language and use it for our needs, but we did look at other jurisdictions' legislation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you. As the minister stated, the contents of the bill are very technical. I'm not an expert on land titles. The only thing I know is that I own a house and I'm leasing the land. I don't have any other knowledge in regard to that.

Let me ask this question. (interpretation ends) If Bill 15 passes, it would provide for the addition of section 108.1 to the *Land Titles Act*, which would provide

for the merger of leasehold into fee simple estates and provide for the transfer of instruments in the event of such a merger. If Bill 15 is passed, subsection 108.1(2) would also provide an exception for certain instruments that may not be transferred in a merger.

Can you explain why subsection 108.1(2) is necessary and what specific instruments may be included under the exception that is described in this subsection? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. Section 108.1(2) will be where a lender and borrower would agree that that security doesn't need to be transferred. It just specifically excludes that if they agree and it could be any type of asset that the bank or lender loaned to the borrower. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) And it's that simple, yeah?

(interpretation) In the event that a municipality votes to sell municipal lands... I'll use myself as an example. In Pond Inlet, if there was a “yes” vote and they were able to sell the land, do I have to apply for ownership of the fee simple title on my property or would the owner of the leasehold title in the municipality automatically acquire the fee simple title? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. In the event of a “yes” vote, if the leaseholder wants to acquire fee simple, they would have to apply to the hamlet or the city and then land titles. Everything else after that would be automatic. For example, the security would transfer. They wouldn’t have to do anything with their bank or anything. The lands titles office would take care of that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you. If my understanding is correct, and I own my house and once the plebiscite results allow the purchase of said lands, would I have to apply for the lot where my house is located? That is if there is a “yes” vote in my community. Alternatively, does that mean they can deny my application to purchase the lot although I own the house sitting on it? Can they deny my application? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. Just for clarity, an individual doesn’t even have to apply if they don’t wish. If they don’t want to own fee simple, they can just do nothing and they will still have a lease. If they applied for fee simple and they owed money to the city or the hamlet, it might present an issue for the applicant. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That confuses the issue further in my mind. Now I am even unsure of where I stand on this issue, as I am rather perplexed.

Let me use an example. Let’s say I own a house today as a private homeowner and my house has leasehold on the lot currently, at least that is what we do today, perhaps from the hamlet. If our community votes in the affirmative to allow the purchase of municipal lands, I am referring to the lot that I lease for the home I own. Do I have to apply fee simple title to my lot or would the municipal government automatically transfer the ownership to me? Do I have to file applications towards this lot? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. Yes, the leaseholder would have to apply for fee simple. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you. I believe I understand that I would have to apply for the fee simple title. Can this application be denied? Did I understand correctly that there are cases whereby my application could be denied? I believe a reference was made to monies owed to the hamlet as a possible reason. Does this mean I could be faced with a landowner even though my house is sitting on that lot? Perhaps Qulliq would own the fee simple title, yet I own the actual house on that lot. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. I see my colleague, the Minister of CGS, is looking like he's very eager today to jump in here and answer some questions. With your permission, if I could defer that question to him. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson is deferring the question to the Minister of CGS. Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For clarity there, I'll answer Mr. Enook's question there. He asked that if they had a "yes" vote to sell land in Pond Inlet, would he have to ask for his land. There are four communities where they already have it written in their administrative by-laws that in the event that fee simple land is available, they will automatically be offered their land if they want, if the equity lease is all paid up. It just so happens that Pond Inlet is one of those communities.

Iqaluit, Pond Inlet, Cambridge Bay, and Gjoa Haven, when those four communities did their hamlet administrative by-laws, they voted at that time that if fee simple land was available and when it became available, anyone who had an equity lease that was paid off would automatically have their land turned over for no fee other than the administrative registration fee. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. The next name on the list, Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a very short

question. I'll use my community as an example. If my community votes "yes" during the plebiscite, according to my understanding of what is being said, it seems like I would have to release the land and I would have to apply for it.

I don't know if you can reply to the question because the land is very important to me. I understand that the land titles of churches and stores are very old. Even though I was asking the question, for the listening public, is there protection? Because these are old land titles, if there was a "yes" vote in Arctic Bay, what would occur with these entities such as the stores, the RCMP, and the church groups? Can you explain that to me? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Shooyook for his excellent question. If I'm a homeowner in Arctic Bay and I have a leasehold interest, I don't have to do anything if I don't want to, but if I want fee simple, then I have to make an application and the process kicks in. You have choices, you either apply or you don't, but it's not going to harm the individual.

With respect to churches, most of the churches in Nunavut already retain fee simple ownership and they retained it upon division, so that shouldn't be an issue for them.

Although the RCMP and other federal organizations don't have fee simple title, they're excluded from the transfer because they are on land where there could be no sale or transfer without the consent of the federal government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you very much for a very good response to the concern I have. I don't have many concerns, so I just want to express my gratitude for the issue of churches being clarified. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's just a comment.

Chairman: Thank you. The next name on the list, Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also have a very short question. Since there is going to be a plebiscite on May 9, I want clarification because no one can anticipate the actual results of whether they vote "yes" or "no" to the question.

The other important criterion that causes my wish to be very clear on this is what residency criteria will apply to residents as to their eligibility to vote. It can affect which side will win, especially if the winning (interpretation ends) percentage (interpretation) is based on the number of voters. What result minimum will determine which side wins?

I am thinking about this matter when raising this question about our communities. Since youth can vote, not for municipal elections as they are considered underage, but they have opinions about this issue too, although they have not voiced it yet. I ask this question with that in mind. Can the minister respond to this question? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Qirngnuq for the question. That is a very good question and this is a question that I am absolutely going to defer to my colleague, the Minister of Community and Government Services.

>> *Laughter*

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: For the record, Minister Peterson is deferring the question to the Minister of CGS. Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, to make it clear who is a voter, the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* has defined for this plebiscite who a voter is and their definition is a municipal voter. If you can vote in a territorial election, then you can vote in this plebiscite. You must be 18 years old and you must be a resident of Nunavut. That's who a voter is.

As for the outcome, it's 50 percent plus 1. We encourage as many people to vote as possible because, if only 10 people vote in a community, those 10 people will decide what the outcome is. It's not a percentage of voters; it's just a percentage of the people who voted.

I encourage everyone to come out and vote because this vote is binding and we want the voters to come and make the decision at the local level for their own community because their vote is binding. The hamlets and the governments will abide by that vote. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that is quite clear. I'm sure the communities will get all of that information. Not everybody can have the same mind. I understand the process now and I just thank you now, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Next name on the list, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In follow-up to my colleague's question, Mr. Enook, in the event that current owners of leasehold titles acquire the fee simple titles of the same property, will these two titles merge automatically or will the owners be required to apply to have these two titles merged? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for the question. I'll defer that question to Minister Savikataaq. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. For the record, Minister Peterson is deferring the question to the Minister of CGS. Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just need a clarification on Mr. Mikkungwak's question as to when he's talking about the two owners about merger. I'm not clear on exactly what he means, so if he would just clarify it for me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mikkungwak, clarification.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll state my question again. In the event that current owners of leasehold titles acquire the fee simple titles of the same property, will these two titles merge automatically or will the owners be required to apply to have these two titles merged? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll try to answer this and if I'm going in the wrong direction, then the member will let me know.

When he's talking about the two co-owners, is he talking about if it's a husband and wife that have a lease on the lot and, if he's talking about that, their two names would be transferred again onto the fee simple title. When the lease is transferred, the owner or owners of the lease will stay the same on the fee simple transfer, if that's the line of questioning the member is going, if he's talking about a husband and wife. I know that on a lease, normally you have the husband and wife on the lease as co-owners of the lease or co-signers, if I go any further, if this is the right path I'm going on. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mikkungwak, is he on the right road?

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. He's a little bit derailed, I guess I could say. You would assume that a married couple would have the same title on leasehold.

My best example here would be, let's say, I have a house, but the property is attained by a company where the

company leases the land, but I have my house sitting on that leasehold title and I pay off my house. How would that work? I'm not sure how much simpler I can make it or I'm sure the minister has an idea now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for his question and I thank my colleague for responding earlier. Just so I help him get back on the rails, fortunately I came with two lawyers. That's the benefit of sitting in the witness chair; you can bring lawyers with you and other people that have quite a bit of knowledge about legal and technical aspects of these bills. I'm going to ask my director of policy, Stephen Mansell, to respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mansell.

Mr. Mansell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you for the question. If there is a "yes" vote in a community or if it's one of the communities that the minister outlined that is automatic upon a "yes" vote or a community decides, "Yes, we want to have fee simple ownership," the fee simple title wouldn't be issued automatically. The person would still have to go to the Land Titles Office to apply. If everything is in order and they're in a community that has decided to allow for fee simple ownership, the merger would occur, but there still has to be that application. The Land Titles Office won't immediately start issuing the titles. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the answer. Out of the two individuals, who would have the sole right to the leasehold title? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak again for the question. I will have my director of policy, Steve Mansell, answer that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mansell.

Mr. Mansell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) If there were more than one party on the title, the parties would have to be in agreement to request the fee simple title. The fee simple title would be issued with the same parties as was on the leasehold title. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Before I recognize Mr. Mikkungwak again, I would like to welcome Mr. David Iqaqrialu to the House.

>> *Applause*

Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome to Mr. Iqaqrialu.

I wanted to do a follow-up on my colleague Mr. Qirngnuq's question. In the community of Baker Lake, for example, ten people went to vote, what would be the magic number? Is there a magic number? Five people vote "yes" and five people vote "no." Do seven people have to vote "yes" out of the ten

in order for it to become a “yes” vote? What would be the guaranteeing number or the percentage? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for the hypothetical question.

>>*Laughter*

We hope it’s not five versus five. In the event that there were ten, and again this is hypothetical, I guess six would be the magic number. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mikkungwak.

An Hon. Member: Low turnout.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know the voters in Baker Lake will be at a higher number.

>>*Laughter*

There are 25 communities within Nunavut. You guys have identified four communities which already have their legislative proposals and leaseholders who have fully paid their leases in Gjoa Haven, Cambridge Bay, Pond Inlet, and Iqaluit. I’m not sure, but you may have a number of communities that vote “yes.”

Which communities would have the priority for your department to provide advice to the community on how they are going to arrange their Land Titles Office, legal documentation, and preparation so that people could obtain

their land? What would have to come at the request of the hamlet council of the appropriate community? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for the question. I will defer this question to Minister Savikataaq. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For starters, there would be no priority given to any communities that voted “yes.” They would all be treated equal and the same.

In the event that a community votes “yes” or communities, there are several things that would have to happen. First, the government would have to change its hamlets and city administrative laws so that fee simple land title can be had, and then the hamlets would have to change their administrative by-laws so that they can sell land in the event that there is a “yes” vote.

There would be a big educational campaign put on by CG&S and each community in the event that they did vote “yes” to sell land. It wouldn’t happen overnight; there would be a process. This would be a learning curve for everyone, for both CGS and the hamlets, because this is something new for us and we will tackle it the best we can. There will be no priority given to any communities; they all will be treated equally. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. “Non-Land Titles Commissioner’s Leases” are not registered under the territory’s *Land Titles Act*. Can the minister indicate how many “Non-Land Titles Commissioner’s Leases” currently exist within Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for the question. We don’t have that information here at the witness table, unless... Mr. Savikataaq is shaking his head; he doesn’t have that information either. Sorry, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Will the merger described in section 108.1 of Bill 15 apply to “Non-Land Titles Commissioner’s Leases” and, if so, what specific legislation will provide for the merger of Commissioner’s Leases into fee simple titles? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Mikkungwak for his question. I’ll have Mr. Mansell answer that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Mansell.

Mr. Mansell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) No, it would not apply. Those Commissioner’s Leases are with CGS

because they don’t have a properly defined survey done yet. If there was to be a fee simple title issued, the survey would have to be done. The lease would then be sent to the Land Titles Office and then it would be issued. They would be converted to a standard lease prior to the issuance of a fee simple title. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Land Titles Act*. Clause 1. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed?

Chairman: Clause 2. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 4. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree to Bill 15 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree, pursuant to Rule 62(2), that Bill 15 can immediately be placed on orders of the day for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Closing comments, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank you and your

committee for your excellent scrutiny of this very important bill and for your questions about the referendum on May 9.

As Minister Savikataaq stated, it is a very important day to get out and vote. If you're an eligible voter, get out and vote. It's for your community. We would want to ensure that every eligible voter gets out and, of course, we will be doing a lot of consultations between now and the vote.

I would also like to thank my officials who prepared this amendment. Mr. Ahlfors, I think, did the bulk of the work here. Mr. Mansell and Mr. MacKay did a lot of work as well. I thank them for being here today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, escort the witnesses from the witness table.

What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Enook.

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

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

Speaker (interpretation): Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Akoak.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bills 10, 11, 12, and 15 and would like to report that Bills 10, 11, and 15 are immediately ready for third reading, that Bill 12 is immediately ready for third reading as amended, and that one committee motion was adopted. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Shooyook. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

Item 21: Third Reading of Bills

Bill 10 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2015-2016 – Third Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Aggu, that Bill 10, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2015-2016*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 10 is ready for assent.

Third Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

**Bill 11 – Supplementary
Appropriation (Operations &
Maintenance) Act, No. 2, 2015-
2016 – Third Reading**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Aggu, that Bill 11, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 2, 2015-2016*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

An Hon. Member (interpretation): Question.

Speaker: All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 11 is ready for assent.

Third Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

**Bill 12 – Supplementary
Appropriation (Capital) Act, No.
1, 2016-2017 – Third Reading**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Aggu, that Bill 12, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 1, 2016-2017*, be read for the third time as amended. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

An Hon. Member (interpretation): Question.

>> *Laughter*

Speaker: All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 12, as amended, is ready for assent.

Third Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister of Justice, Mr. Peterson.

**Bill 15 – An Act to Amend the Land
Titles Act – Third Reading**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Aggu, that Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Land Titles Act*, be read for the third time as amended. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

An Hon. Member: Question.

Speaker: All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 15 is ready for assent.

Before we proceed further, Mr. Clerk, will you please determine if the Commissioner of Nunavut is prepared to enter the Chamber to give assent to bills.

Assent to Bills

Commissioner Nellie Kusugak (interpretation): Members of Legislative Assembly, please be seated.

As Commissioner of Nunavut, I am pleased to give assent to the following bills:

- Bill 10, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2015-2016*;
- Bill 11, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 2, 2015-2016*;
- Bill 12, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 1, 2016-2017*;
- Bill 13, *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2016-2017*; and
- Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Land Titles Act*.

Although winter's blanket still covers the land, our skies grow lighter by the day.

I wish you all a safe return to your constituencies and families.

Thank you for the hard work and dedication for the betterment of Nunavummiut.

Speaker (interpretation): Item 22. *Orders of the Day*. (interpretation ends) Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for May 30:

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
 - 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) I wish to thank all our support staff and personnel, which include our interpreters and audio and video technicians, for assisting us during our sitting.

(interpretation) I also wish to extend my gratitude to the Iqaluit residents who acted as our pages, and we are thankful to them. The youth are Pauloosie Ningeongan, Gooteliak Ekho, and Mosesee Pitseolak.

>>Applause

Thank you. (interpretation ends) This House stands adjourned until Monday, May 30, 2016, at 1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>House adjourned at 16:33

