



Nunavut Canada

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT

3rd Session

4th Assembly

HANSARD

Official Report

DAY 46

Wednesday, October 26, 2016

Pages 2548 – 2599

Iqaluit

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Gjoa Haven)
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(Iqaluit-Tasiluk)
Minister of Health; Minister responsible for Suicide Prevention

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

Isaac Shooyook
(Quttiktuq)

David Joanasic
(South Baffin)

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

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Iqaluit, Nunavut**Wednesday, October 26, 2016****Members Present:**

Mr. Tony Akoak, Ms. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk, Mr. Joe Enook, Hon. George Hickes, Mr. David Joanasié, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak, Hon. George Kuksuk, 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 13:30*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>>*Prayer*

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

Item 2. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Peter Taptuna.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements**Minister's Statement 175 – 4(3):
Passport and Possession and
Acquisition Licence Photos in
Communities**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) Good afternoon, my colleagues.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address a question that was raised last week in regard to the availability of passport and Possession and Acquisition Licence (PAL) photos in communities.

In *Sivumut Abluqta*, this government committed to ensuring that programs and services are delivered in an effective, efficient manner. To this end, government liaison officer (GLO) positions offer support, information, and government representation in communities throughout Nunavut.

We are all aware that passport photos have very specific requirements. All GLOs have received training in introductory passport and Possession and Acquisition Licence photography, and they have also been provided with a step-by-step guide as a helpful reference. Digital cameras and selfie printers were distributed to every GLO office in March of 2016, making this service available in every community.

Mr. Speaker, some GLOs have become proficient in taking these specialized photographs while others have faced challenges and require more training. To help alleviate this, the Government of Nunavut and third party organizations such as the Government of Canada are committed to offering regular training to GLOs to ensure all communities offer standardized and equitable services.

Mr. Speaker, being able to provide this service within each community is a positive step forward. I would like to

take this opportunity to thank our GLOs for their hard work and dedication in representing the Government of Nunavut at the community level. GLOs are often our frontline ambassadors, especially in non-decentralized communities. Their work is important and we appreciate their efforts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for Suicide Prevention, Mr. George Hickes.

Minister's Statement 176 – 4(3): Hope, Help, and Healing

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today marks the beginning of the Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention, or CASP, annual conference on suicide prevention, intervention, and post-vention. It is being held in Iqaluit for the next three days and is themed "Hope, Help and Healing."

Mr. Speaker, seven years ago when Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, the Government of Nunavut, and the Embrace Life Council toured our communities to seek guidance and input on suicide prevention, many participants reflected on the need for support between organizations, communities, and families. A year later, with the release of the *Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy*, we agreed to communicate and share information with Nunavummiut on an ongoing basis.

Mr. Speaker, the CASP conference is one opportunity for that important work to happen. This week many Nunavummiut will consider best

practices from other jurisdictions, identify opportunities for applying those learnings in our communities, and develop new and strengthened networks.

Participants of the conference will learn and discuss diverse topics, such as bullying and cyberbullying, land-based healing, abuse prevention, reconciliation based on the learnings of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, support for survivors of suicide, and how the next generation would like to move forward. To learn more, please visit the website at www.caspconference.com.

Kamatsiaqtut hosted the annual CASP conferences in 1993 and 2004 in Iqaluit. Then and now it is the volunteer commitment of Sheila and Lorne Levy, as well as Charlotte Borg, who have brought the conference to Nunavut. I give my thanks for their dedication.

To all of the participants and speakers of the CASP conference and to the many Nunavummiut who bring hope, help, and healing to our communities, thank you. The topics will be intense. I am sure you will end each day both emotionally and physically tired. Take care of yourself and each other. Eat well. Lean on your supports. Get lots of rest.

With this kindness, I believe that we will shine light on opportunities to work together and apply our learnings at home. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 177 – 4(3):
Construction of the New High
School in Cape Dorset**

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day to the residents of my community and colleagues, as well as the visitors in the gallery.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, with a good smile on my face, I would like to report to my fellow members on the plans to build a new high school in Kinngait (Cape Dorset).

A design/build approach was approved for construction of the new school because it allows the builder to begin purchasing materials and supplies earlier and shorten the project delivery schedule.

Mr. Speaker, Education and Community and Government Services consulted with the district education authority and school staff to make sure the new school design meets the programming needs of the students.

The school design provides flexibility. The library and multipurpose classroom can be divided in two. There is after-hour access to the school library and the stage opens up to the gymnasium and the school lobby.

Mr. Speaker, there are separate classrooms for the student support teacher and the learning coach. The design provides classrooms for science, home studies, trades, a skin room, and a small garage and provides a fully equipped daycare space.

The project is on schedule and construction is expected to be completed by August 2019.

Mr. Speaker, my department worked with Community and Government Services to bring modular buildings to Cape Dorset for this school year to be used as classrooms and school administration space until construction of the new school is completed. Classes in the new modular buildings began as of this morning, ending the need for split shifts in the Sam Pudlat School for the elementary and high school students. Mr. Speaker, this is an interim solution until the new school is completed.

Mr. Speaker, education staff will be in Cape Dorset to assist with the changeover from split shift to regular classes. As I said, I am very pleased to announce to the House that the students are now using the five modular classrooms. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Ms. Monica Ell-Kanayuk.

**Minister's Statement 178 – 4(3):
Success of Major Nunavut Film
Productions**

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My colleagues will remember that last year Zacharias Kunuk's 2001 film *Atanarjuat: The Fast Runner* was voted number one Canadian film of all time. I am happy to report that Nunavut

film productions are continuing to receive recognition.

Two Nunavut-made feature films were selected for the 2016 Toronto International Film Festival and were screened at the festival to critical acclaim. Zacharias Kunuk's *Maliglutit* (*Searchers*) had its premiere while Kim Nguyen's *Two Lovers and a Bear* had its North American premiere following on its world premiere in May at Cannes, where it was also selected for the Directors' Fortnight.

To honour these achievements, the Department of Economic Development and Transportation and Nunavut arts organizations hosted a reception on September 11 at the festival.

(interpretation ends) The event "Nunavut Welcomes The World" marketed Nunavut as an exotic and exciting filmmaking destination to the world's top producers, directors, and casting agents.

A few weeks later and a few provinces to the west, another Nunavut production was making an impression on festival audiences. The feature film *Heaven's Floor* premiered at the Edmonton Film Festival on September 30. This co-production is the work of Iqaluit's own Malaya Qaunirq Chapman and Justin Ford.

Maliglutit, *Two Lovers and a Bear*, and *Heaven's Floor* were all filmed on location in Nunavut and showcase Nunavummiut's considerable filmmaking talent. These are tremendous achievements for Nunavut's growing film industry. Please join me in applauding the success of these films.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ministers' Statements. The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Mr. Johnny Mike.

**Minister's Statement 179 – 4(3):
Forum of Labour Market
Ministers**

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day, Nunavummiut and residents of my community of Pangnirtung. I also welcome the visitors in the gallery.

Mr. Speaker, I recently attended the Forum of Labour Market Ministers meeting on October 14, where labour market ministers from across Canada agreed to take action to improve job and skills opportunities for all Canadians.

Priority areas include labour market transfer agreements, improving labour market information, foreign credential recognition, and establishing priorities for future work of the forum.

I look forward to sharing updates on our progress and tabling the materials from the meeting during the upcoming winter session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ministers' Statements. The Hon. Minister of Culture and Heritage, Mr. George Kuksuk.

**Minister's Statement 180 – 4(3):
Qilaut, Nunavut's Inuktitut
Songwriting Contest**

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation):
Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.
Good afternoon, my fellow
Nunavummiut and colleagues.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tell you about an exciting initiative that we are currently promoting. Culture and Heritage is now accepting submissions to Qilaut, Nunavut's annual Inuktitut songwriting contest.

The contest was created to celebrate Nunavut's vibrant Inuktitut music scene and promote the use of Inuktitut in all areas of daily life. This year's theme is original children's songs in Inuktitut.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all Nunavummiut, old and young, to be creative and help us celebrate our beautiful and unique language through music. The deadline for submissions is November 4 of this year. That's November 4, 2016.

Mr. Speaker, there is a total of \$13,000 in prizes, including \$5,000 for the top winning song. A CD will be launched in February of 2017 during Uqausirmut Quviasuutiqarniq, our annual celebrations of Inuktitut.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to help us promote the contest among their constituents. Contest guidelines and forms are available on the Department of Culture and Heritage's website, which is ch.gov.nu.ca. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 181 – 4(3):
Hunter Education Series**

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in the House today to announce the release of Nunavut Arctic College's latest publications and videos: "Hunting Seal in the Summer" and "Hunting Caribou in the Fall." These are the first two editions in the *Hunter Education Series* created through a partnership between Nunavut Arctic College and the Department of Environment.

Mr. Speaker, these books and videos offer detailed information about preparing for a hunt, safe practices, equipment, species information, locating animals, sustainability, and skinning and dressing. The books and videos present vivid photography and video from a seal hunt in Frobisher Bay and a caribou hunt in Baker Lake. The voices of hunters and elders ensure that principles of *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* are embedded throughout these resources which are available in both English and Inuktitut.

Mr. Speaker, we would like to thank the Department of Environment, the hunters and trappers associations, conservation officers, elders, hunters, students, instructors, scientists, and local business who have contributed to the development of these resources.

Mr. Speaker, the *Hunter Education Series* is intended to help maintain the relationship between people, the land,

and animals. We encourage all departments and schools to integrate these resources into their programs to help ensure that Nunavummiut, now and in the future, continue to be safe, successful, and sustainable hunters. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Moving on. Item 3. Members' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Member for Tasiujarjuaq, Mr. Allan Rumbolt.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 344 – 4(3): Recognition of Sanikiluaq Table Tennis Team

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say “good afternoon” to the people of Sanikiluaq and the people of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize seven youth from the community of Sanikiluaq who recently competed in the territory-wide tournament for table tennis.

Mr. Speaker, these seven young athletes competed in three different age groups and won five medals during the table tennis tournament that took place here in Iqaluit earlier this week.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the following individuals who participated:

- Elijah Oqaituk
- Eli Sala

- Marlene Kittosuk
- Ikuuma Cookie
- Shawn Arragutainaq
- Ross Kavik
- Betsy Audla

I would like to congratulate these young athletes for their commitment to sport and for the medals that they will bring back to the community.

Mr. Speaker, as we all know, Sanikiluaq is geographically isolated from other communities in the region. It brings me joy to see my community represented at these types of regional and territorial events and competitions.

Mr. Speaker, it takes a lot of courage for young persons to travel the distance both physically and mentally to participate in these sports tournaments, and I am proud of each of the athletes for their accomplishments.

I would also like to recognize the coaches, chaperones, and any other volunteers who made this tournament possible.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating all these individuals in the recent table tennis tournament. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 345 – 4(3):
Suicide Prevention Conference in
Iqaluit**

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is a large conference planned on suicide prevention for all of Canada's organizations. Based on the information provided, this conference will run from tomorrow until the weekend.

Although I am glad such a conference is being held, in some way we are still lagging far behind on suicide prevention here. I want to provide my full support if we need to look at solutions. I will want to be a full participant and use whatever knowledge I may hold which can be of use to the conference, so I will make myself available if needed.

I wish them success in their conference, and I want to share a vision of a brighter future with suicides no longer a concern, to see our lives return to normal throughout Nunavut, and to regain our feet as a society. This can be largely prevented. Nonetheless, it can only happen with full partnership and by utilizing a loving environment.

I wish the participants a successful meeting, and to people who have lost loves one like me to suicide, compassion fills my heart to the people throughout Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 346 – 4(3):
Establishing an Angutiit
Makigiarningit Group in Cape
Dorset**

Mr. Joanasi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, everyone.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my appreciation to the men of Cape Dorset for coming together to establish a men's support group for the community.

Mr. Speaker, this plan came about through the Ikajuqtigiinniq initiative of the Community Justice Division at the Department of Justice. Funding was provided from the National Crime Prevention Centre, which supports social development approaches to crime prevention.

Mr. Speaker, the event was also supported by the Cape Dorset RCMP detachment and the hamlet. Noel Kaludjak from the Department of Justice Corrections Division and Jefferson Uttak, the Child and Youth Outreach Worker from the Department of Health's Mental Health Division, also participated.

Mr. Speaker, Christopher Heide, the Social Development Coordinator from Community Justice, worked with Dr. Bruce Handley to coordinate this event together with the support from Uiviru Tapaungai, the Community Justice Outreach Worker, and Annie Manning from the community justice committee. I would like to thank these individuals and the organizations they represent for coming together to support a very worthwhile cause.

Mr. Speaker, I was very pleased to be able to take part in this meeting myself and I hope that I will have more opportunities to participate in the future.

The Cape Dorset men's support group has a goal to help men become better husbands/spouses, fathers, and contributing members of the community through healing.

I am confident that by coming together and collaborating with each other to address our issues and concerns, we can all work together for a more positive future for our families and our communities.

I would like to thank all the men who participated while they're on their journey to healing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 347 – 4(3): Son's First Whale and Walrus Hunt

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my pleasure and to share this pleasure with my colleagues.

As our youth and children become more capable, we have to inform them of our pleasure in their success and in accomplishing their goals.

My only son, who is now 16 years of age, went on a solo boating hunt where he harvested his first walrus and subsequently butchered the walrus by

himself. I wasn't even expecting any walrus meat, but my son went hunting by himself and also butchered the walrus. I am very proud of his accomplishment, so I am sharing this pleasure with my colleagues.

Further, just prior to our travel down to the session, he also caught a beluga when I didn't even shoot one, so I am doubly happy. I invite members to share in the consumption of the narwhal *maktaa* that my son harvested after our meeting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 348 – 4(3): Recognition of Pond Inlet Table Tennis Team

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My colleague, I congratulate your son. Good afternoon to the people of Pond Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, I also wish to express my congratulations today to the Pond Inlet athletes who travelled here to Iqaluit for the (interpretation ends) table tennis (interpretation) tournament.

Our local youth who participated totalled eight athletes from Pond Inlet and they were able to garner 14 medals, both gold and silver. Since our community is exceedingly proud of their accomplishments, I shall name them here. They are:

Susie Simonee
Rebecca Erkloo

Jeff Simonee
 Joshua Omik
 Lindsey Qanguq
 Jillian Kyak
 Lemiah Koonark, and
 Jonathan Pitseolak

I would also like to thank their coach,
 Brady Fischer.

Our youth are given the opportunity to participate in territorial and regional tournaments. Those of us dinosaurs didn't have those types of opportunities, so I just wanted to congratulate them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 349 – 4(3):
 Suicide Prevention and Awareness**

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to my fellow residents of Kugaaruk, the people of Taloyoak, and my colleagues.

Firstly I wish to make an announcement that today is my wife's birthday. I wish her a pleasant birthday and I wish her many more, and I am happy today.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about this matter that occurred when I was first elected revolving around suicide prevention. I made that statement without knowing anybody or any services that could assist. Although it is almost unbearable to speak about the issue, I found out that people were listening.

Now, a person is sitting behind my seat who is involved. Although she isn't from our community, she is from our region of Kitikmeot and is recognizable as she has worked in suicide prevention and has provided assistance to many people.

Mr. Speaker, let us make more progress on this front, especially by our government, our fellow Canadian citizens, and fellow Inuit, to ensure that we have a brighter future and to ensure our youth have a brighter future. I want to see this process succeed, which is the reason why I have voiced this statement. Thank you for the opportunity to make this statement.

>>Applause

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

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's not very often I get a chance to recognize a constituent from my home community of Cambridge Bay. I would like to recognize Sarah Jancke in the gallery over there. I have known Sarah since she was a baby...

>>Laughter

...not to age myself.

She does great work in Cambridge Bay. She works for the Kitikmeot Inuit Association as their youth coordinator and she's on the Embrace Life Council. Welcome to the gallery and thanks for your great work for Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): 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 had mentioned in my Minister's Statement earlier today, the Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention is holding their conference here in Iqaluit and I would like to make some special recognition to some of the leaders and developers of this conference.

I would like to welcome Renée Ouimet, the Chair of the Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention, to the Assembly today, as well as the two co-chairs for this year's conference, Charlotte Borg and Sheila Levy, who is also the executive director for the Kamatsiaqtut Help Line.

I would also like to recognize again Sarah Jancke, as Minister Peterson mentioned, a board member of the Embrace Life Council. I would also like to acknowledge Kerri Tattuinee, the Evaluation and Monitoring Analyst with Quality of Life, and of course Mr. Joanasie Akumalik, who is part of the planning commission from the United for Life Stakeholder Summit on Suicide Prevention earlier this year in May, as

well as participating this week in the CASP conference.

I would like to let everyone give a warm welcome to these people and acknowledge the hard few days that they have ahead of them and helping me participate. As my colleague across the floor mentioned, it's not just the government that needs to work on suicide prevention; it is all of us, from communities to individuals to territories to provinces and nationally. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery, those that were recognized. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Kugluktuk, Mr. Peter Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It gives me great pleasure to welcome and recognize our national Inuit leader, the President of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Natan Obed, to the gallery.

Mr. Speaker, Natan represents Inuit across the country, not just nationally but internationally as well. He is a great advocate for 60,000 Inuit across our nation and has been involved in many national and international forums.

Mr. Obed made a campaign promise to take action on suicide prevention. Today he is showing leadership in that he is here to take part in a national suicide prevention conference. Most recently he appeared before the Senate Committee on Indigenous Suicide.

Please help me welcome Mr. Natan Obed and his assistant, Anna Fowler. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I notice that the lady has been recognized already. She's not from Gjoa Heaven, but she is from the Kitikmeot. My wife has a special title for her, but I won't say it in the House.

>> *Laughter*

This lady works with the youth within the Kitikmeot and I believe all throughout Nunavut, and she does great work for all the youth of Nunavut. I would like to welcome Sarah Jancke to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Mr. Alexander Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Two days in a row that I stand up to recognize somebody in the gallery. It's a record.

>> *Laughter*

(interpretation) I would like to recognize and welcome Kerri Tattuinee. Thank

you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Isaac Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rarely ever get the opportunity to recognize visitors as I am a stranger to many visitors.

>> *Laughter*

I want to recognize Joanasie Akumalik, whom I still regard as a fellow resident as he originates from Arctic Bay. I am quite proud of his accomplishments.

To provide a bit of background, he lived in Ottawa for several years where he owned a little red car. He used to pick us up after our shopping trips or to take us out to another mall. He has assisted us tremendously.

I believe he is also a city councillor here in Iqaluit, if I am not mistaken. You are quite active in various matters and I take great pride in your accomplishments, so I recognize you, Joanasie. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also wish to recognize a person from my constituency, although he was already

recognized, and that is Natan Obed. He is still an Iqaluit resident temporarily living in Ottawa, at least from my perspective.

I also recognize Joanasie Akumalik, whom I have known for many years, and another person behind me, Charlotte Borg, whom I represent as well. I also want to recognize Sheila Levy. I have also known her for many years now, so please be welcome in the gallery. I also recognize Anna Fowler, whom I haven't seen in many years as she has been away. Welcome to you as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Netsilik, Mr. Emiliano Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Another person I want recognized is not from my hometown, but she is a resident of the Kitikmeot region like me. She is providing assistance to our youth, even though she too is a young person. During the KIA AGM this fall, she was front and centre in assisting our regional youth. I would like Sarah Jancke recognized along with the visitors she is with. Thank you for visiting us today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names on my list. To those who were not recognized, welcome to the gallery.

Going back to the orders of the day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, Ms. Pat Angnakak.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 457 – 4(3): Meeting of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Outstanding!

(interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Environment.

Earlier this month the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment met in Montreal. This occurred on the same day that the Prime Minister announced the new federal plan regarding carbon pricing.

Mr. Speaker, the official announcement from the Montreal meeting of ministers of the environment also stated that, and I'm quoting directly here, "Ministers reviewed reports on carbon pricing mechanisms."

Can the minister give us some insight today on what specific carbon pricing mechanisms might be coming forward across this country? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Environment, Mr. Joe Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As this involves other levels of departments, the Premier will take that question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that excellent question. On October 3 the Prime Minister made the announcement that every jurisdiction is going to participate in carbon pricing starting at \$10 per tonne starting 2018. One of the things that we have advocated for Nunavummiut, including the Northwest Territories and the Yukon, the north, is that it's going to give us a real hard time in the already high cost of living in the north.

There are some technical people who are coming in next week to talk to our officials on how we can pursue this because, as you know and as members are well aware, the Prime Minister, including the federal Minister of Environment, has indicated that there would be exceptions for the north. We don't fully understand what those exceptions may be. Those are in discussions. Again, by December 8 when the First Ministers' Meeting takes place, we will have a better understanding of what the exception may be for Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't quite know now who to address my next question to. It says here in the communiqué that environment ministers discussed climate change and clean air. That's what I'm taking my information from, so I assume that it's the environment minister that attended

that conference. I guess I don't know who is going to answer this next question and it's really too bad that the president of ITK is not here anymore because actually this question also talks about him.

The official announcement from the Montreal meeting of ministers of the environment also stated that representatives from the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami met with the ministers. Can the minister indicate what specific recommendations were made by ITK? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, when the environment ministers were in discussions, that announcement came before they were finished with their discussions on the very topic. Of course the environmental ministers weren't sure of what the next step was going to be. As you know, Mr. Speaker, that was moved up to the Prime Minister and the premiers of the provincial and territorial jurisdictions.

Mr. Speaker, there are many groups that made recommendations to the existing working groups and to the Prime Minister. There are many recommendations, needs, and wants that were put forth. Throughout our upcoming discussions, we will have a better understanding of what the carve-out or exceptions for the north are going to be.

Mr. Speaker, as a territorial government, we oppose carbon taxing. We already

have the highest cost of living in Canada. To put more pressure on food security, our residents of Nunavut, our small businesses, and to put that extra cost of living... As the members are well aware, all our supplies come in from the south; Ontario, Quebec, Newfoundland, and Alberta. Once they establish carbon pricing on their commodities, which we need up here, our prices are going to be going up. Our prices are already high enough.

Mr. Speaker, the federal environment minister and the Prime Minister promised that there are going to be exceptions made for the north. We are waiting to see what those are going to be. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. From the communiqué, it says here that ITK and the Métis National Council came to “discuss their ideas and to share perspectives about the opportunities and challenges as Canada moves to a stronger, more resilient, low-carbon economy.” That’s what they discussed with the ministers. That’s why I was asking that question. What specific recommendations did ITK make?

In just going on, can the minister confirm which provinces and territories support Nunavut’s position regarding carbon pricing in the north and which provinces and territories do not? 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 did have an opportunity to talk with my colleagues, the premiers from other jurisdictions, and all of them, all premiers of all jurisdictions support the north. They understand the uniqueness, the high cost of living, and food security issues that we face on a daily basis. All the premiers of Canada understand our situation. They support the northern carve-out or exception to carbon pricing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 458 – 4(3): Vacant
Conservation Officer Position in
Grise Fiord**

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

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The conservation officer position in Grise Fiord has been vacant for a number of months. This office provides important support for community harvesters, residents, and the local hunters and trappers organization.

Can the minister indicate when his department plans to open a hiring competition to fill the vacant conservation officer position in Grise Fiord? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for that question. We put in a

competition for the conservation officer position and we could not find a successful candidate, as far as I know. This position is for three years and to date, according to my knowledge, we're still looking for someone to fill the position. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Speaker, a conservation officer's duties include the issuing of licences and permits to the general public; instructing the public on the content, meaning, and purpose of the *Wildlife Act*; enforcing the provisions of the *Wildlife Act*; and responding to enquiries from the public concerning wildlife management and environmental protection.

Can the minister tell us today, when a resident of Grise Fiord needs assistance in these areas, what office should they contact until such a time as a new conservation officer has been hired? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated before, we haven't found an individual to fill the position at this time, but I know exactly what the position entails because I have been a wildlife conservation officer. If the community residents need assistance, a conservation officer from another community can go to the community to do their job. If there is no conservation officer from the other

surrounding communities, we will let my officials know. If there was an urgent requirement to help the community, the conservation officer would go to that community and work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is very important across Nunavut and some communities are in remote and the most inaccessible areas. They don't get air service for long periods of time.

With regard to the 2016-17 business plan, you had announced that Grise Fiord will get a conservation officer. Why hasn't the position been filled yet? Are you making serious efforts so that this job is filled? Is the job description so onerous that you are unable to find a successful candidate or is it because of lack of housing? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Environment, Mr. Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This position that is open isn't held back due to the lack of housing. We are currently holding a competition where interviews are being conducted to determine if applicants can be successful in the position.

We have interviewed the candidates to determine the best suited applicant whenever a position opens up. They are now conducting interviews with the

applicants for the position. I believe our expectations are that the hiring will be completed in the short term, not too long from now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 459 – 4(3): Nunavut Food Security Coalition

Mr. Enook (interpretation): That was fast. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I didn't expect to get recognized this early.

Mr. Speaker, my questions today are for the Minister of Family Services.

Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Food Security Coalition, which is supported by the minister's department, was scheduled to hold its annual meeting last month in Igloolik.

The government has indicated that the "focus of the meeting [was] to explore measures that reduce the cost of, and increase access to, store-bought food throughout the entire food supply chain."

Let me first ask the minister: can you describe one or two specific measures that the meeting identified which will help my constituents in Pond Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Mr. Johnny Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. The Nunavut Food Security Coalition held their meeting in Igloolik. Based on the information I have, the coalition discussed the various country foods available, either from land or from

the sea, and how to provide more access to country foods coming from the grassroots level in our communities.

For that reason, we are aware that food security is important and that it requires funding allocated to the communities specific to this initiative or via the meeting I just spoke to, if the communities are interested in working on this initiative, how best to define the nutritious foods so that everyone is aware of them and how best to support these initiatives through funding allocations or through other programs.

One issue that was brought up by the group was related to income support and how best to make it available to clients who are facing food insecurity. This was the approach in light of the high costs of nutritious foods.

Those are some of the items I can speak to in response to the question. Thank you.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although I didn't really get an answer to my question, I'll continue.

Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Food Security Coalition's meeting was also scheduled to look at how to "eliminate inefficiencies in the food supply chain through implementation of a food transportation management system." Can the minister explain what is meant by a new "food transportation management system"? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. To the question, there are various foods that are made available today and they can only come up north by air or by ship.

With respect to the actual food transportation management challenges related to the transportation of foodstuffs via airfreight or sealift, we have focused on the air transportation sector. Due to the different distances where food is shipped from southern centres to Nunavut, we studied the costs of the airfreight for shipping food to Iqaluit, as this is different from the rate used for Resolute Bay.

I am speaking to this to inform you of the reasons that underlie the work required to complete this and to see how best to conduct a detailed review within the food transportation to allow the programs to properly support our clients. That was the definition used to speak to this issue at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister will recall, I made a statement in the House last week in which I called on the federal government to be open to the idea of scrapping the Nutrition North Canada Program and bringing back an improved version of the Food Mail Program.

The minister spoke in the Legislative Assembly the day before yesterday and I am quoting from the *Hansard Blues* for Monday, October 24, page 29 in Inuktitut. I know that this is not the final *Hansard*. Let me quote some of it. “The

Canadian government had a food mail program in the past that was utilized by many people...even though it has been changed today, it has become worse.”

Let me ask this question: is it the Government of Nunavut’s position that the Nutrition North Canada Program should be replaced with an updated version of the Food Mail Program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for asking that question. No, the Food Mail Program is not what we are trying to reinstate; I was just referring to this program. Many people in the listening audience can’t correlate between this program and the current one, so I used it as an example.

Back in the day, the (interpretation ends) Food Mail Program (interpretation) was acting much like the third retailer competing with actual stores, and real competition occurred. I was just citing an example. Back then it was almost like having three retailers, with the (interpretation ends) Food Mail Program (interpretation) acting much like a third store with customers ordering cheap foods, including a shipping subsidy. In my estimation, the foods for sale in our actual retail stores were cheaper due to competition from the program.

Another matter the member touched upon was related to the Canadian nutrition guidelines or the department that administers the existing Nutrition North program. We work with the Nunavut Food Coalition. In particular

NTI was involved in our deliberations on this issue. The consultation tour that was planned is still moving forward. We have informed the federal government department responsible for the (interpretation ends) Nutrition North (interpretation) program which subsidizes foods imported to Nunavut that they have to tour all of Nunavut's communities.

Further, what we spoke about related to the meeting that was held. The planned consultation tour is being dealt with by staff from Family Services to ensure we are kept up to date on any progress related to this food subsidy program. At this time we are compiling all the information. My department is leading the initiative to provide this information which we are accumulating to report on all the feedback received from Nunavut on how the Nutrition North program can be improved in order to be more effective in reaching Nunavummiut who are most in need or in poverty, suffering from food insecurity issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 460 – 4(3): Supporting Nunavut's Midwives

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

Mr. Speaker, midwives perform an important role in delivering health care related to childbirth, often providing care, counselling, and support before and

after a birth as well as assisting a mother with the delivery of her child.

Last June, in response to my questions regarding the status of Nunavut's midwives, the minister of the day indicated that these types of health service positions will be under consideration for inclusion in the Department of Health's new medical professional recruitment and retention strategy. Can the minister provide an update on the status of this strategy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Mr. George Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regard to the midwives being part of the strategy for inclusion in medical health professionals, we have taken a step to include a certification process for midwives to be allowed to insert intrauterine contraception devices and to facilitate the access to that service. We're adding more health as well as recently the manual removal of placenta has been added to their duties, so we're getting more in line with national standards for midwives.

With regard to adding them to that specific strategy, I'm not familiar with the member's previous question. I don't see that information in front of me, but I will look into that immediately today. Thank you.

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

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are two midwives in the

community of Rankin Inlet who are both beneficiaries. Not only do these individuals work very hard at delivering health care services, but they also provide orientation and support to midwives who are hired on a casual basis.

In June the minister indicated that a number of new positions would be added to the maternal and newborn services team. Can the minister confirm whether or not these new positions will be based in Rankin Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the member had mentioned, there are currently midwives practising in Rankin Inlet as well as Cambridge Bay. As far as adding to what positions to which communities, we're considering all avenues to make sure that we maximize the effectiveness and the use of midwives in the territory. There are some "hamperings," if you want to call it that, of having them too centralized. We want to make sure that all Nunavummiut are able, if they so choose, to be birthed by midwives. It is an option available to them. That analysis is still ongoing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is important that we recognize and reward the hard work and dedication of our health care professionals with a view of supporting

their long-term retention. Will the minister commit to providing an update on recruitment and retention initiatives that will provide additional support to our hard-working frontline workers? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Mr. Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for bringing this issue forward again. It's something that I spoke about numerous times when I was on the other side of the floor.

There has been a lot of progress. Right now we're reviewing the territorial midwife position to address changing needs. We're in the process of recruitment for a manager of the Kivalliq regional maternal and newborn health services. In addition, the Nunavut Midwifery Registration Committee is currently recruiting public representatives to the committee, as per legislative requirements.

Like I said with regard to the member's concerns, it's something that is at the forefront of a practice that has been ongoing for many generations in Nunavut. With the government legislation across the country, this is a profession that takes certification. We want to make sure that we're getting the maximum impact and the maximum benefit from midwives practising in Nunavut. I look forward to growing this division across the territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 461 – 4(3): Cape Dorset’s Community Justice Committee

Mr. Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister of Justice.

Mr. Speaker, the Community Justice Division, in cooperation with the community justice committees, is responsible for providing local crime prevention programs.

It is my understanding that the RCMP also undertakes a number of crime prevention programs and community-specific initiatives to divert youth from crime.

Can the minister indicate how often the community justice committees are expected to formally meet with the RCMP members to coordinate local crime prevention initiatives? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Joanasié for the question. Mr. Speaker, I don’t believe there’s a set number. I know that the community justice committee in Cambridge Bay meets as often as they need to and they have a very good working relationship with the RCMP.

We just signed a shared directional statement with the RCMP and the hamlet. The Department of Justice is

working with the hamlets and the RCMP, but the RCMP will work very closely with the community with respect to developing initiatives to divert youth from the justice system. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. The department’s current business plan indicates that the RCMP “V” Division continues to work on the development and implementation of a youth intervention and diversion program.

The same business plan also indicates that a steering committee has been formed to design this Nunavut-specific program, which will be introduced as a pilot project in Iqaluit and aims to reduce youth crime and the number of individuals entering the formal criminal court system.

Can the minister clarify if his department is represented on the steering committee that is responsible for developing the RCMP’s Youth Intervention and Diversion Program in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe the department is normally represented on committees or groups that work between the RCMP and the Department of Justice. We’re involved in some manner or form to ensure that initiatives proceed. As I said, we just signed the shared directional statement last week where it outlines in

some detail what's expected with the RCMP and the Government of Nunavut. It includes some measurable outcomes so that, on an annual basis, we can check to see what progress we made on various initiatives involving the RCMP and the Government of Nunavut through the Department of Justice and the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On June 7, 2016 my colleague, the Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguú, asked the minister a number of questions concerning his department's crime prevention initiatives. In his response, the minister stated that his department was in the "process of drafting a framework and action plan to share with partners and stakeholders on how to go forward with a crime prevention strategy." Can the minister provide an update on the status of this territorial crime prevention strategy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That work is in the draft stages. We're going through the various internal approval processes to ensure that it is what we want it to be, considering all the input from the Nunavummiut, all committees, and stakeholders. At some point I'm hoping to take it to cabinet to get it approved. With any luck, I'll be in a position to table that document in the winter session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 462 – 4(3): Addressing School Attendance Issues

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

Mr. Speaker, there is no question that attending school is very important for our children to learn and gain the skills they need to progress in society. The Department of Education keeps track of attendance at schools across Nunavut and, as we heard yesterday, those numbers are then used to determine the utilization rate of each school.

Can the minister clarify how his department addresses the issue when the records show a sudden drop in attendance at a specific school or in a specific community? 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 requesting clarification. As I stated in the House about schools, if we need to renovate schools or need new schools, the number I keep quoting is 85 percent capacity or above, then we have to put the schools under consideration. We see different percentages in our schools every year in Nunavut. If you look at the communities and the capacity of the schools, some percentages are higher while others are lower.

When we review the figure for each school annually related to the overall (interpretation ends) capacity, (interpretation) after it surpasses 85 percent and if it looks like it will continue to increase, then this is the point where deliberation begins on whether to initiate a new school process or to consider additions or even just to increase the capacity. These are the main points used to determine the capacity of the school and the reason why we have a threshold, which has been used for a while and we are still using that measure.

If the student enrolment starts dropping in terms of percentage, then this triggers the review of the school, with discussions on the next step. I'm just using an example, but Baker Lake or even Arviat are communities where we have seen this situation arise with dropping percentages. This is the threshold used to determine if a new school will be considered or if the project would be delayed. We use the threshold as a trigger to contemplate our options at that point. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It should be clear that a number of different issues may impact attendance rates at a particular school or in a certain community. There may be issues related to bullying, illnesses, or other serious factors which impact attendance.

Can the minister clarify how his department works with local district

education authorities or other entities to address low attendance rates? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We work closely with the parents on these issues. As a matter of fact, a body has been created in our schools to look into bullying or intimidation tactics or other initiatives associated with bullying along with other challenges. Due to these issues, a committee is formed within the school comprising of the following representatives: teachers, school counsellors, and parents. This is called the team, a collaborative group that deals with various matters related to anti-bullying programs.

They look into initiatives to see what may work or if they are drafting rules or by-laws, then the DEA and parents work together to review the proposed rules relating to student disciplinary actions or suspensions. This group is the one that recommends changes to the rules to the DEA.

In the actual schools, the parents, school counsellors, and teachers form the research group on any issue impacting the school or causing problem. We call it the school team. They're the ones who are approached if something needs to be done in the school or if they're following their policies in our schools. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that local district education authorities are asked to address attendance issues in their communities. However, they often have limited funds and resources to tackle such issues. Can the minister clearly describe what kind of support is provided to DEAs to assist them in addressing and resolving school attendance problems in their community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for requesting further information, as members are better served by comprehending issues here. The Department of Education is always available and open to the DEAs in Nunavut if they wish to receive further training or if they require more information.

Actually, in our offices in the departmental regional offices, there are staff members responsible for the DEAs in their regions and they are called the (interpretation ends) DEA coordinators or regional coordinators. (interpretation) They provide the information to the DEAs on issues related to their training. As an example, to cite my colleague's reference on financial management and how best to properly manage their finances, these training modules are available or if they are interested in policy development, the coordinators are available to them.

We recently created these positions specific to the DEAs in the communities and now we have dedicated staff members available for any matter the

DEAs wish to pursue. I further remind the DEAs when I travel to the communities that these positions are for their benefit. They can provide assistance to these bodies since that is the reason why we created the positions, to allow the DEAs to be trained on any management issues or for better governance.

That is how it is set up here in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 463 – 4(3): Health Services in Winnipeg

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

Mr. Speaker, the other day my colleague from Iqaluit-Niaqunnguuk asked some questions about the coordination of health services outside of Nunavut for Baffin patients travelling to Ottawa. This issue is also a concern for medical clients who travel to Winnipeg from the Kivalliq. I know it takes a lot of work.

Can the minister clarify whether or not the staff in Winnipeg who coordinate appointments for Nunavut clients are employed by the Government of Nunavut or are they employed through a service contract? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Mr. George Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Each community has a travel coordinator for medical travel that coordinates appointments and works with the community health nurses as well as the regional office to make sure that appointments are scheduled from specialist visits to the communities. Those employees are with the Department of Health. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Maybe I wasn't clear in asking my question. Are the employees who coordinate appointments in Winnipeg employed by the Government of Nunavut or not? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In June of 2016 there was a nurse manager for the Kivalliq Inuit Services who was hired to supervise and coordinate patient referral activities in Winnipeg and that is through the Kivalliq Development Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mapsalak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have been informed on a number of occasions that medical clients have not been informed that their appointments were cancelled. They travel all the way to Winnipeg only to find out that they have to turn around

and go home again. No one informed them of the changes.

Will the minister commit to looking into this issue and ensuring that there are enough staff in Winnipeg to properly organize and coordinate health services for medical clients from Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When I was made aware of instances like this when I took over the Department of Health almost exactly four months ago, there were some processes in place through software, MEDITECH specifically, that has been rolling into different communities phasing in.

Recently the Rankin Inlet office went online, which looks after a lot of the medical travel for the Kivalliq. In the first week when I toured the facility in Rankin Inlet a few weeks ago, the first week online they discovered five errors that were caught. Already there are steps being taken to address the member's concern.

While I have this opportunity I want to stress the importance of when we're dealing with medical travel, it is a large component of our budget with the Department of Health. Along with my senior executive, my deputy minister, and all staff members at Health, we're taking this very seriously.

The members are all aware that there has been a tradition of coming back for supplementary appropriations to deal with medical travel and I'm looking at

ways along with the department to streamline processes. This MEDITECH software is going to be a very large component of that to address any errors that are made with scheduling. I am very optimistic that going forward, we can reduce the number of incidents such as the member has brought forward.

With that, I am committing that we're going to make advances with the medical travel process and reduce any errors that are accompanied with that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 464 – 4(3): English-only Telephone Survey

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to this minister, albeit he is sitting next to me, but it seems I haven't queried him for quite some time. This question is for the Minister responsible for QEC.

Reports are surfacing from constituents that southern-based callers are calling residents about the utilities entirely in English only related to QEC. I wonder if the minister has been informed about this survey being conducted. Did he receive a briefing on what the purpose of this survey is where southern-based callers are asking questions about QEC? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Mr. Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our office has not heard about the issue the member raised. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we hear such things, it seems useless. The minister is responsible to know about these issues, particularly when callers call from southern centres on any utility-related surveys. If notice had been provided beforehand, perhaps there would have been less confusion about the truthfulness of what we use.

Furthermore, the callers were asking questions only in English, with no person able to speak Inuktitut. I wonder if the fact that our constituents who are unilingual is not a cause for concern for those running the energy corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Actually I have no idea what the member is referencing when speaking about phone calls and what the purpose of the calls are, as he only mentioned QEC. Is the survey about QEC or is it related to other utility companies pretending to be from QEC? In regard to the subject of these calls, I can't respond without understanding the background. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe the minister can request the information rather quickly. I am expecting a report on this matter in the House on what the purpose of the calls are for, as these southern callers are paid by QEC. Perhaps they can provide that information tomorrow on what the purpose of these calls are. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to the question my colleague is asking, I finally understand what he is talking about when referencing callers. Anyone can call residents in Nunavut and I was actually thinking of the telephone spammers, such as the Visa payment scammers. I thought that was what he was talking about, but it was another set of calls. Yes, I will look into this survey, as I finally understood his question, and I will be able to provide that information tomorrow. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 465 – 4(3): Inuit Language Implementation Fund

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Languages.

As the minister is well aware, a number of sections of the *Inuit Language Protection Act* are not yet in force, including sections 3 to 5, 9, and 10. Can the minister indicate when the

government plans to bring these sections of the *Inuit Language Protection Act* into force? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Languages, Mr. George Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I haven't heard when it will come into force, so (interpretation ends) I will take that as notice and get back to the member. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The hon. minister has taken this as notice. I shall proceed on to the next person. (interpretation) Oral Questions. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet North (interpretation) and Chesterfield Inlet, Mr. Tom Sammurtok.

Question 466 – 4(3): Tank Farm Renovations

Mr. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

(interpretation ends) As the minister is aware, the retail price of fuel is determined according to a number of components, including actual product cost, actual transportation cost, commissions for local fuel sales, dispensing and delivery services, operations and maintenance expenses, product evaporation or shrinkage, and taxes.

As the minister is also aware, his department is undertaking a territory-wide capital project to renovate

Nunavut's tank farms in order to bring them into compliance with federal regulations.

Can he indicate if the renovations being made to tank farms across Nunavut will have any effect on the fuel prices in our communities? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. He is absolutely correct that it's quite a process to get the final costs of our petroleum products done.

As for his question on whether all upgrades to the tank farms and the capacity increases will have a bearing on the price of the fuel, no, they will not. The tank farm upgrades and the tank farm expansions are done through our normal capital planning process. The price of fuel is not affected by the capital planning process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Can the minister indicate if his department has begun purchasing petroleum products for Nunavut communities for 2017 and, if not, when does his department intend to begin making these purchases? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, we haven't started the process of purchasing fuel yet. In fact some of this fuel has been pumped off very recently. We're all just topped up for this coming winter year. We will be doing a purchase again some time this winter.

We purchase different fuel products at different times. The one fuel that we will probably purchase at the earliest will be for gasoline because we buy winter-grade gasoline for Nunavut and that has to be purchased in the winter, not our winter but winter from farther south. We will be purchasing it this winter and this spring. We actually purchased some of the P50 in the summer. It's purchased at different times. We have issues with storage; we can only buy so much.

To answer his question, we have not purchased any fuel for this upcoming year yet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) On December 21, 2015 the department issued a news release stating that prices in Nunavut for both diesel and gasoline would go down by 10 cents per litre in all Nunavut communities starting on January 1, 2016.

In that news release, the minister stated that the department was able to reduce

the prices of diesel and gasoline for 2016 as a direct result of the efforts made by his department to make an early purchase of petroleum products in the face of volatile global fuel prices.

Mr. Speaker, a simple yes will suffice for my last question. Can the minister indicate if his department has any plans to reduce fuel prices in Nunavut communities in 2017? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

An Hon. Member: That's a good question.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Unfortunately I can't answer that with a yes. He didn't say yes or no. He said yes. I can't answer that because as he stated earlier, there are many factors that go into figuring out what the price of fuel will be. We don't have a crystal ball right now in front of us to figure what the price of fuel might be.

Another factor that comes into play is our Canadian dollar. We don't know what our Canadian dollar will be doing if we purchase with our Canadian dollar. As of right now, no, I can't give the member an answer one way or the other.

There are so many factors that come into getting the final price of fuel and once we have made the purchases, which would be in the winter and spring, all factors will be looked at again. As of right now, I can't give the member any answer at all. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members, please note that the time for question period has expired. We will proceed with the orders of the day. Item 7. Written Questions. (interpretation ends) Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 20, 22, 23, and 24 with Mr. Mikkungwak in the Chair.

In accordance with the authority provided to me by Motion 30 – 4(3), the committee will stay in session until it reports itself out.

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

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:17 and Committee resumed at 15:42*

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

Chairman (Mr. Mikkungwak): I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole we have the following items to deal with: Bill 20, Bill 22, Bill 23, and Bill 24. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good afternoon. Mr. Chairman, we wish to continue with the review of Bill 24 and the capital estimates for the Department of Education, followed by Nunavut Arctic College. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Are we in agreement that we first deal with Bill 24 with the Department of Education?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Bill 24 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,
2017-2018 – Education –
Consideration in Committee**

Chairman: Thank you. I would now like to ask the Minister of Education if he has officials that he would like to appear before the committee. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I would like to have officials here with me. Thank you.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

For the record, minister, please introduce your officials. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sitting to my left is (interpretation ends) Deputy Minister Kathy Okpik, (interpretation) and to my right is Barry Cornthwaite,

Manager of Capital Projects for the Department of Education. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Welcome to the House. Members, we're on page G-3. (interpretation ends) Education. Corporate Services. (interpretation) Following my list of names, Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, Nunavummiut and my community of Gjoa Heaven.

Yesterday my colleagues talked about attendance and we were talking about buses. When we do get buses, I believe the attendance at the schools increase and our children come to school more. I believe that's what happens. My colleague, Mr. Rumbolt, talked about vandalism also in that area.

I'm just wondering: when we do get buses in the communities and if there's vandalism within the schools or its equipment, have you ever thought about getting buildings to put the buses in other than the hamlet garages and that? When I talk with the hamlet, they're getting more and more vehicles and I think they do need the space. I'm wondering if any topics have ever come up to house a vehicle such as a bus. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If a community requests a bus, the district education authority has to identify what kind of a bus it's going to be, who will

be responsible for it, and what types of services are available to service the bus.

What we do as the Department of Education is look at how many students there are, how far the school is from the farthest point of the community, the maintenance of the bus, and if there is a garage or some kind of a shelter available to house the bus. We also look at other purposes. For example, if there are too many bears around in a particular community during the fall, then of course that would be a safety issue. We look at those types of things when a request is made for a bus.

We're just starting to hear about having some kind of garage or shelter in the community for the bus. That seems to be coming up more and more often. We usually consult with the DEAs to see if there is a garage or shelter available for the bus. This is the first time that we're starting to hear more and more about shelters or parking garages for buses. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do believe, when I met last with the DEA in Gjoa Heaven, they were going to send you a letter requesting a shelter for the bus. I'm just wondering if you have received that one. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for asking that question. As I indicated earlier, we're just starting to

hear the issue about garages or shelters for buses. We just recently received that letter from the Gjoa Haven District Education Authority. We're looking at it so that we can factor in all the other requirements.

The district education authorities consult with our staff and also with the capital projects manager sitting to my right on issues such as this if they would like to pursue it further. As I indicated earlier, I just recently saw that correspondence from the Gjoa Haven DEA. Barry Cornthwaite is the one you can talk to about these types of particulars. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In our community, the farthest from the school is usually about three-quarters of a mile and in each end as the school is in the middle of the community. It gets pretty cold. The cold season is coming and they will need the bus to be operational.

Vandalism was mentioned yesterday. Once we leave something outside nowadays, we cannot keep it unprotected. Otherwise they're going to be losing windows and stuff like that. That's why I'm asking if you will be considering getting garages for these buses. That's all I have to say. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member. As I stated earlier, the

person to my right can talk with the district education authority.

I would like to reiterate that that's not only the case in Gjoa Haven. There are quite a number of communities that don't mind having the bus outside as long as there is an outdoor plug available, for example, Arctic Bay, Pangnirtung, Arviat, Chesterfield Inlet, Coral Harbour, Cambridge Bay, and Taloyoak. Those communities keep their buses outside. Sometimes they get those buses because of safety issues and the buses are usually kept outside of the teachers' residences or the RCMP buildings as long as there is a plug outside. They factor in all of these safety issues.

As I indicated earlier, we're getting more and more enquiries about those types of shelters. Please be aware that they're not in our capital plan, but the DEA can start discussions with Barry Cornthwaite if they are concerned about that. There are other communities that keep the buses outside, and I know exactly what my colleague's concern is. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Chairman: Thank you for the promotion. Following the list of names, Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome, minister and your officials.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to first ask the minister about his Minister's Statement earlier today. He talked about the school in Cape Dorset and the five modular classrooms. If I remember correctly, we set aside \$5 million for that. I would like to know if all those

monies were used for those modular classrooms in Cape Dorset. That's my first question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague for requesting that information. Yes, that figure he referred to is correct. We requested that amount, but right underneath, we expended close to \$4 million for the five portable classrooms. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for his response. Is it possible for him to give us the accurate numbers, even if it's outside the House? I am very pleased that the students won't have to go to school in shifts now, which will make it a lot easier for everyone. Those modular buildings will be put to very good use.

The schools usually have equipment, which I assume would be under small capital. With the \$4 million that he identified, classrooms usually require desks and computers and with the Peter Pitseolak School assets, I'm sure that you have to supply equipment to those modular buildings. Are those included in the \$4 million that you mentioned? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The monies that were set aside for the five modular

buildings include desks, computers, and other equipment that is required in a classroom. We expended some of that money for all equipment that's required for those buildings. They're all included in that amount that I mentioned. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for clarifying that. The minister is also aware that the outdoor playground had to be removed in order to make room for those five modular buildings. What kinds of plans does your department have on the outdoor playground, which had to be removed to bring in the modular buildings? Would they also fall under the small capital or ongoing lifecycle projects? That's my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can also tell the member that the outdoor playground that he was referring is now being constructed. It's almost completed and it's also being funded from that amount that I mentioned. It's under the same fund. It's being constructed as we speak and I think the member is well aware that that's where we're at now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for his proper response. Concerning the new school that is planned, under his Minister's Statement,

he stated that the design contract has been awarded to a company. It states, (interpretation ends) "A design/build approach was approved for construction of the new school because it allows the builder to begin purchasing materials and supplies earlier and shorten the project delivery schedule."

Will the department and maybe even other government departments be looking at design/build approaches from here on in? It says here that it shortens project delivery schedule and maybe saves costs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are pleased that we were able to do this because of its urgency in Cape Dorset. I will be able to discuss the design/build approach with the Department of Community and Government Services. It is the only way we can decide what best to do about it. It seems the member's question is better directed to CGS, but we are pleased that we were able to use that for Cape Dorset because of the shortness of time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister. I almost forgot the Department of Community and Government Services and I would like to thank them for putting up the modular classrooms and for doing an excellent job so far.

I just want to note that you are working with the Cape Dorset DEA and I know

that in the past two weeks you were able to meet with them about this issue. It seems to have been quite productive. As a result of meeting with the DEA, will you now be making changes to the design and build of the new school? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We were pleased about that meeting, particularly when it is an urgent issue in Cape Dorset. With respect to the design and build part of the project, I can discuss it with CGS to deal with that question. I believe it is the only way we can have a productive partnership. I believe the question is better directed to CGS, but nevertheless I am pleased we made progress on this issue in Cape Dorset, urgent as it is. It was a very good process. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister. Can he tell us if they have identified the size of the new school in square metres? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The size of the planned school for Cape Dorset will be 4,382 square metres. To compare it to others like the new high school in Nauyasat, it is 3,828 square metres. The size of the new school in Cape Dorset will be 4,382 square meters and it will

be able to hold 229 students. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. He has already responded to what I was going to ask on the capacity of the school. He has already answered that, so I'm glad that I don't need to ask it.

Moving on, anti-vandalism was mentioned. They have installed cameras in most of the schools, but other than that, has the Department of Education considered other security measures to prevent vandalism? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As we're installing cameras in all of our schools, the new school in Cape Dorset will have security cameras. However, to date we haven't decided what else we will install, but if we recall, in Iqaluit we have initiated pilot projects in the schools. We will take a look at what's happening here and then we will consider ideas for other schools.

I want to reiterate that the portable classrooms in Cape Dorset will have security cameras. Maybe I'm not being clear enough, but if there was space underneath and skirting is put in, it will prevent entry. If there's a space between the ground and the school, skirting is installed. That will be the case for the planned school in Cape Dorset. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for his response. At this time I just want to thank the Department of Education and Community and Government Services. School was suspended temporarily to deal with many issues. However, today it's brighter now in the community of Cape Dorset when it concerns the school with the modular classrooms being in place.

We can expect a bigger new school in Cape Dorset and we look forward to its successful completion. I will be asking for updates from the government as time goes on. We will also want to be kept apprised of the project, including any unexpected surprises, positive and negative, as the project proceeds. That's just a comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Prior to moving to my list of names, I wish to welcome all the residents of Igloolik who are visiting us in the gallery. Welcome to the House. Following my list of names, Mr. Keyootak.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted some clarification on this issue. Many smaller communities don't use school buses for transporting students and observing parents without vehicles braving the cold accompanying their children to school, some holding them by hand, others carrying them on their backs in the middle of winter. We observe parents do that in our communities.

I wonder if the bus prerequisite is based on the numbers of students. Is there a threshold for the number of students required before a community qualifies for a bus? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for pointing that out on how the buses in the community are acquired. The district education authorities have to put in a request to us on their ability to get a bus. They are then put under consideration. As I stated earlier, they need a good reason and if they identify their reasons properly, we cannot refuse their request for a bus. For instance, is the school too far for the students to walk to school in the cold? There are different reasons that I have stated. We haven't had a request yet from Qikiqtarjuaq for a bus. I just wanted to point that out to my colleague. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Which communities in the new fiscal year 2017-18 will be receiving buses? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the 2016-17 school calendar year the communities that will be receiving new buses are Cape Dorset, Kugluktuk, Gjoa Haven, and Whale Cove. Those are the

communities that will be receiving new buses in 2016-17. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I asked about this earlier in my request for clarification. Do I understand that the community population figures are not used as a threshold? Is it dependent on the number of students? Can communities send a proposal to acquire a bus? That is what I would like the minister to clarify. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I stated before, when communities request buses, they follow the number of students, not the community. We look at the number of students when a community is applying for a bus. I also stated that the DEAs are the ones that apply for a bus to our department, not the population of the community. We use the numbers of students to get a bus. As I stated, they have to provide the reasoning why they want a bus. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that communities differ from other communities on safety issues, especially when bears wander into our community during the fall.

Bears come right into the middle of town and pose a threat to children going to school. It's only by luck that there hasn't been an incident. Can this be added to the safety aspect in favour of a bus? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are many things that constitute a safety issue. If there are too many bears, it is also considered a valid safety issue. There are other factors that need to be considered such as if there is storage space for a bus, if qualified drivers are available, or would maintenance be there if repairs are needed. Yes, there are a number of things that determine whether or not a bus will be approved, including safety from bears.

As I stated before, the DEAs are the ones that apply for a bus. I encourage my colleagues to consult with their DEAs if the community wanted to get a bus. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, minister and your officials. Let me start off with busing services. In thinking about the people who have physical disabilities, what kind of policy do you have for the communities to provide bus services for disabled people? Even if there is only one student, would you provide a bus for that student? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the DEAs apply, we can review the requests. For example, in Cape Dorset there's a special needs bus. The DEAs can request a special needs bus. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to the question I just posed, even if there was just one student, would a bus be approved? If the DEA believes it needs the bus... How many communities have special needs buses? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank you for that question, my colleague. To date there are five communities with special needs buses, although I mentioned just one community. In Taloyoak they have a special needs bus with 18 seats and wheelchair access. Whale Cove also has a special needs bus, as well as Clyde River, Hall Beach, and Cape Dorset, which I mentioned before. Those are the five communities. In regard to your community, if there is just one student with disability and if there was a community request for a special needs bus, we can look into that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Of course the DEAs are not doctors or nurses. How does your department approve community requests for these kinds of requirements? If the local nurses support such a request, would that help? If the DEAs just make an application, would you look into it or do you need a letter of support from social services or health professionals such as nurses and doctors? Would it be easier for the community to be allocated a special needs bus? I'm asking these questions so that the communities will know the process. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For example, the principal would automatically know if there was a student who is on wheelchair. That principal can encourage or tell the DEA that they have to request a special needs bus. We expect to get requests from the DEA after the principal tells the DEA about their need. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you. Moving on to another topic, I believe I asked this question yesterday in regard to page G-4 in English, IT infrastructure, perhaps for computers. Looking at the substantiation sheets, you're requesting \$800,000 every year up to 2021-22. Why are you proposing that? Do you have any reasons? Computer systems are always upgrading. Do we expect this to be like that forever, literally? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that IT infrastructure is very useful in the schools. We have over 4,000 (interpretation ends) Internet-capable devices (interpretation) in all the schools. We know that the IT infrastructure, for example, can be used for three to five years and it depends on the computer manufacturer as well. It can go below or beyond the lifecycle. Annually many of the schools need to change their IT infrastructure depending on the level of obsolete equipment used by our schools. Yes, it may be ongoing.

This computer-related work isn't just for the Department of Education but for all of government as a whole. Yes, I can agree with our requests to update computer systems. You were absolutely correct that computer-related technology changes every year. This is what I expect this item will be for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The only thing that is not upgrading is my brain.

>> *Laughter*

I just want to get clarification because of constant changes in computer technology. I know that CGS has an IT policy. You also have a policy on the disposal of replaced equipment. As you said, there are over 4,000 Internet-capable devices. With so that many pieces of computer hardware, what do

you do with them? I believe some computers are still useful by the time they're disposed of. Some of them are replaced just because they're considered obsolete. What is your process of disposing of these assets? I do know that you have a policy on this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is the responsibility of CGS for the disposal of assets. We cannot dispose of our assets, so the Department of CGS takes the surplus. Before we dispose of assets to the Department of CGS, our deputy minister signs them off. The Department of CGS is given the assets that are to be disposed of and they would consult with our department if we have any assets that are surplus. CGS does the disposal, not our department, whether it is computers or other assets. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me try again. Mr. Chairman, if you and the minister can agree, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Community and Government Services. Who receives the surplus computers once they're handed over? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): I don't mind at all in referring my colleague's question to the Minister of Community and Government Services.

Maybe he will give you a better response. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq, are you prepared to answer the question? Mr. Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I am. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq, answer the question, please. Mr. Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do dispose of electronic and computer surplus from the departments. I made a Minister's Statement earlier that we have been shipping many old computers and bulk paper down with arrangements with Canadian North.

When we receive any computer from any department, the first thing we do is clean all the data off it because there are security issues. That's the very first thing we do. When a computer is surplus to CGS from any department, we go through it thoroughly and clean it and make sure there is no data, and then we dispose of it. We ship some down south and I believe there might be a program where we can give computers out to organizations and non-profit agencies that want computers.

I assure the member that before any computer leaves CGS, it is wiped clean of any government data. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank you and

Minister Quassa for allowing me to use that procedure so that Minister Savikataaq could respond.

I would like to ask this question about the computers in schools, the computers which are still operational but are determined to be obsolete by CGS. Minister Savikataaq indicated that there are non-profit organizations that can use these outdated computers. How would they learn about these available computers? How would the communities or groups be made aware of the available computer hardware? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To this point, as I indicated earlier, there are 4,000 Internet-capable devices that will be surplus by schools. For example, Iqaluit, Whale Cove, and Pangnirtung have identified that they want to dispose items. As I indicated earlier, they are given to Community and Government Services and then that department makes the decision of how they're going to dispose of those assets or where they go.

We're not only talking about the desktop computers; we're also talking about printers, mice, mouse... I don't know what they're called in Inuktitut, the physical little mouse. Those are the types of equipment that we're talking about. They're usually handed over to CGS and then they're the ones that dispose of those assets. Anything that is Internet-capable, chairs, and any other assets are given to CGS. It's their responsibility to dispose of surplus assets. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister. I'll get more information from Community and Government Services.

Moving on to another subject, Minister Quassa, you received a letter from our committee dated October 20. I now have a copy and thank you. I have one question and possibly it's very easy to respond to it, but it's on page 3, if you have a copy of that letter. Mr. Chairman, I don't believe I got an Inuktitut copy and if I did, I didn't see it. At the top paragraph under small capital, it says it's for unexpected items or emergency purposes. Mr. Chairman, I apologize if you don't understand as I'm translating what I'm reading.

For 2017-18 small capital projects, it includes Kitikmeot, Kivalliq, and Qikiqtani and it has all the contents in there, only some of which I am saying out loud. Why is it that there are no monies identified for each item? It indicates particular projects in the regions, but there are no monies identified. I would like to know why the funds for each item are not there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand your question. There's no number at this point because once again we have to talk with Community and Government Services to identify a number. We're going to have to work with Community and Government Services to identify a

number and that's under the minor capital budget. We don't have any concrete numbers at this time, so it's not identified. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Following my list of names, Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not sure who to address for the last time, but the public out there is listening to us. A playground was constructed in our community last spring, which parents were pleased about. It has enabled children to have a place to go this past summer or when it's windy and so the playground is very much welcomed in our community.

My first question is in regard to the state of our schools. In Gjoa Haven, I'm not sure for how many years, but the school has been under renovation. There's \$57 million that will be expended for this school in Gjoa Haven. Wouldn't it be better to build a new school entirely? I hope my question was clear, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe he's talking about Gjoa Haven or maybe I misunderstood. I do apologize, Mr. Chairman. I might have misunderstood it, but I would like the member to rephrase his question. Thank you.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In Gjoa Haven I think it has been a number of years that they have been renovating a school and it costs approximately \$57 million to renovate that school. Wouldn't it be better to construct a new school entirely instead of renovating a school for such a large amount? I hope that clarifies it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand the question now. In Gjoa Haven, if we can remember or recall, there are two schools that are referred to when we look at the \$57 million for renovating. It was set as a multi-year project. There's one school that was renovated. Once that was completed, we renovated the other one. We're talking about the renovation of two schools and it's a multi-year project. It's the high school and elementary school. It started in 2006 and it's a multi-year project. The renovations have now been completed for both schools in Gjoa Heaven. We're talking about two schools. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will ask my next question in English so that you can understand me the first time.

(interpretation ends) Information provided with the 2014-15 draft capital estimates in the Department of Community Government Services' preplanning section under its initiation

envelope funding included projects in Resolute Bay, Iqaluit's French school, and Taloyoak. None of these projects have appeared on the five-year capital plan. What is the status of those projects? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For 2017-18 we have identified preplanning priorities including, for example, the projects he just mentioned. Arctic Bay, Iqaluit, Kugaaruk, and Taloyoak are being considered. We still don't have the numbers for those projects.

For 2017-18 Taloyoak was identified to put in an expansion to the school. Right now Coral Harbour is in the preplanning stages. We believe the business case should be completed by April 2017. I hope I responded properly to the member, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it is much clearer now. Has the minister or our government considered expansion or upgrades to the schools? Hopefully I was clear in my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not sure which schools he's talking about; I think it's in his community. Is the member asking about the projects we have identified or which projects should be

added? The projects we have identified such as for upgrades or for expansion are currently being reviewed. I'm not sure which community he's talking about or if it's in his community. If I misunderstood his question, he can restate it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are probably renovations or additions needed in any community and that's what I'm trying to ask about. I hope I'm clear. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're mainly looking at two communities, Taloyoak and Coral Harbour. Those are the two communities we're considering at this point. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Following my list of names, Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thanks for letting me ask questions again. I have just two or three questions. The first one is, and I don't know if this has been asked already: have any specific small capital projects been identified for 2017-18 and, if so, what are they and what will they cost? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): He already responded to that question, but perhaps he can answer it again. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague. My response will be, for 2017-18, we have identified and the Department of Community and Government Services will be looking at the following:

In the Kitikmeot, in Taloyoak the Netsilik School oil tank replacement.

In the Kivalliq, the chairlift has to be replaced in Rankin Inlet at the Maani Ulujuk School. In Baker Lake the Rachel school needs to be replaced and the middle school in Arviat. Those are in the Kivalliq communities. In Rankin Inlet the exterior light needs to be replaced.

In the Baffin region, in Clyde River the outside door needs to be replaced. In Iqaluit at the Nakasuk School the chairlift needs to be replaced. In Hall Beach, Igloolik, Sanikiluaq, and Pangnirtung the mechanical controls for the boilers need to be replaced.

Those are the 2017-18 minor capital projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. The one in Baker Lake is the Rachel Arngnammaktiq Elementary School. Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The reason I ask when carpeting becomes damaged enough to replace is because, I think, over in Gjoa Haven at the elementary school there have been a few times in the past that the pipes burst and the carpet becomes damaged. When do they become damaged enough so that you would have to replace them? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Those are under another line item under lifecycle. The budget would not be minor capital. It's more under lifecycle replacement for the carpets. I'm not sure exactly which community he is talking about. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Akoak: Okay, it would go under lifecycle renewal then.

\$5 million in funding was allocated for lifecycle repairs in 2016-17. What I mentioned, over in the Gjoa Haven elementary school, the carpet has been wet a few times. Can that be put under that program? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I stated earlier, it would be under lifecycle renewal and the budget would come from there. We will be able to take a look at that again and I don't think we had any requests from the school. I'm not sure, but we can take a look at it again. I can keep the Member for Gjoa Haven informed on the status and thank you for informing us about that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for your response. Yes, there

have been a few times that the pipe burst at the elementary school there. It would be nice if you would look into it. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Following my list of names, Mr. A. Sammurtok.

Mr. Alexander Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Depending on the minister's answer, I've got only one question.

When a community or school requests a renovation, what's the procedure or process of making a request for renovation? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague for his question. I have previously spoken to the issue of (interpretation ends) preplanning (interpretation) and determining its implementation. That is the process with respect to the member's question. This preplanning process would identify the matter the member is asking about. I assume he will go on to another question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Going on to my other question now, I guess, has your department ever received a request for renovation at the Simon Alaittuq School in Rankin Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Actually at this point in time the request for renovation is being reviewed for SAS, as we call it, or Simon Alaittuq School.

If my colleague recalls the issues with the school, the foundation is shifting and it became noticeable as some of the classrooms were shifting around. Renovations are currently being conducted on the Simon Alaittuq School in Rankin Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. He states that they are working on it. (interpretation ends) It must be invisible if contractors are doing the work because I haven't seen any construction being done at Simon Alaittuq School. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not sure how to describe it in Inuktitut, perhaps it's like there's a rip in it, no. Depending on how a building's foundation starts to shift, moving the building to another site is being considered. It may not be visible from the outside. Yes, they should be working on it now. I haven't gone to see it personally. Nevertheless, it has to be fixed and is in the process of having the cracks inside the building repaired. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It has come to my attention that the Simon Alaittuq School has been requesting for a number of years to get the school gym repaired. To date they haven't had a yes or no or any kind of an answer. Would the minister direct his officials to look into that issue and get back to me on that issue? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We haven't seen any request in writing to make those repairs nor have we received such a request from the district education authority. I'll get back to him on what might be done from the DEA side. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. I have no more list on my names.

>> *Laughter*

Education. Corporate Services. Total Capital Expenditures. \$34,990,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Back to page G-2. Department Summary. Education. Detail of Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$34,990,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Do members agree that we have concluded the Department of Education?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Do you have closing comments? Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to thank my colleagues. There's no question now that we can resume the work being done on the projects this upcoming fiscal year.

I also would like to thank my officials for always working hard in preparing the plans for these projects. I am always proud of their tremendous knowledge in all things about education, whether it is assets or students. I thank them.

I look forward to the approved projects being done within the next fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

We will take a five-minute break before we review another department. Thank you.

>>Committee recessed at 17:00 and resumed at 17:08

**Bill 24 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,
2017-2018 – Nunavut Arctic
College – Consideration in
Committee**

Chairman: I will call the meeting to order. I would now like to ask the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic

College if he has officials that he would like to appear before the committee. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I do. Thank you.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Thank you very much. For the record, minister, please introduce your officials. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Joe Adla Kunuk, President of Nunavut Arctic College, and to my left is Richard Paton, Manager of Capital Projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. You can now proceed with your opening comments, Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good day, Mr. Chairman and my colleagues. I am pleased to present to members today Nunavut Arctic College's 2017-18 capital budget. The college's capital budget request for 2017-18 is \$10,250,000, which encompasses one capital project and budgets for ongoing lifecycle and minor capital projects.

The Iqaluit Community Learning Centre/Campus is the sole capital project

identified for 2017-18. This capital project would see a considerable expansion of program space by building a new facility and renovating the existing Nunatta Campus to meet current and future program needs. The new building will provide additional space for students and staff. The new building will include enough space to accommodate over 250 students and approximately 37 staff. It would create space for the community learning centre and for the development of the Centre of Excellence for Language and Culture at Nunatta Campus.

Nunavut Arctic College has successfully negotiated an agreement with the federal government in the amount of \$10,744,000 and is actively seeking additional third party funding to minimize the impact on the Government of Nunavut related to this capital project.

For your information I'll be speaking in English.

(interpretation ends) The college is pleased that the annual budget for ongoing lifecycle will continue to be \$1 million in 2017-18 so that the college can continue to address its accumulated deferred lifecycle maintenance deficit. The Government of Nunavut's proposed five-year 2018-2022 capital plan has planned increases so that the annual ongoing lifecycle budget will reach \$2 million.

Under the current plans for small capital, the college needs to continually address access to smart technology, including videoconferencing, broadband, SMART boards, and programming to be able to utilize the college's information technology infrastructure to facilitate

learning opportunities for students and communities.

As the college continues to assess the state of its facilities and make the necessary ongoing lifecycle investments and to build new incremental facilities, the college will be in an even better position to support the Government of Nunavut's efforts aimed at post-secondary education.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, this concludes my opening comments. I would be pleased to answer questions from members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Does the chair of the standing committee have opening comments? Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Government Estimates and Operations as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the proposed 2017-18 Capital Estimates for Nunavut Arctic College.

Mr. Chairman, Nunavut Arctic College's proposed capital budget for 2017-18 is over \$10 million, which will be allocated to one community-specific project as well as towards two minor capital projects for addressing upgrades and renovations to current facilities and small equipment needs.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee fully supports the role of Nunavut Arctic College in providing educational

opportunities to adults across Nunavut. It is critical to have the basic infrastructure in place from which to deliver programs that meet the needs and aspirations of Nunavummiut. Both campus-based and community-based facilities can support adults in working towards improving their educational and career opportunities.

Mr. Chairman, the status of Nunavut Arctic College's Nunatta Campus in Iqaluit has been a concern with the North 40 campus building, also known as the Ukiivik Old Residence, becoming unserviceable as a result of a fire at the facility. The standing committee notes that the current plan is to build a new campus building in Iqaluit, including a community learning centre.

It is further noted that the college will receive matched funding from the federal government's Post-Secondary Institutions Strategic Investments Fund and will be undertaking a fundraising campaign to access additional funding contributions from the private sector and others towards the completion of this project.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee notes that the college's 2018-2022 five-year capital plan includes a mine training facility in Cambridge Bay in future years, although no funds are allocated for 2017-18. This is part of an ongoing multiphase project for the Kitikmeot Nunavut Arctic College Campus which first appeared in the 2010-11 capital plan.

While committee members recognize that mine training is an ongoing need across Nunavut, it was noted that the Kivalliq trades training facility in

Rankin Inlet already provides a number of training programs related to mining operations. The committee would appreciate receiving further information regarding what programs will be offered at the new Kitikmeot facility and how this will impact course delivery options at the Kivalliq facility in Rankin Inlet. It has also been suggested that a number of individual communities would benefit from mine training infrastructure and programming in order to provide greater opportunity for local employment.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2017-18 Capital Estimates of Nunavut Arctic College. I am confident that my colleagues will wish to offer further comments of their own. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) The floor is now open for general comments. I have no members on my list for general comments. We will now proceed to the page-by-page review of the departmental estimates starting on page M-3. Nunavut Arctic College. Headquarters. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you. I'm trying to find M-3.

The first comment I do want to make is actually on your opening comments. You actually have 2016-17 capital estimates as the front part. Maybe that was last year's; it should be 2017-18. Anyways I think this is an oversight.

When you talk about the capital project of the Nunatta Campus, the new building, is that going to have a daycare

in that building? Thank you.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The one that is going to be built in Iqaluit will not have a daycare. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Could we ask questions on M-4 as well? Okay. Thank you. I just wanted to check.

There are going to be approximately 37 staff for this new addition. Is that new staff or is that existing staff? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that question. Yes, some are new and others are existing staff. It's a combination of both new positions and existing positions.

To add further to your first question, at this time we already have an existing daycare at Arctic College. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Well, you have a policy that if you build a new facility, it will include a daycare and that's why I asked the question.

You indicated that some are existing positions and others are new positions. Can you indicate how many are new positions? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. The minister indicated earlier that there is already a daycare at the college. Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I doubt I can provide an actual response on this issue as to which ones will be new and how many. What I can speak to here is, as we stated, the new building can hold 250 students.

(interpretation ends) The Centre of Excellence for Language and Culture (interpretation) would be an important part of it. I know that there are going to be different programs that will be offered at that facility, but I can't give you an exact figure at this time. Once we have that information, we can provide it to you. I can't tell you exactly which positions are new. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again it indicates in your opening comments that you have received \$10.7 million from the federal government and you are "actively seeking additional third party funding..." What will happen to this project if you can't access additional third party funding? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The amount the member referenced, the \$10.7 million, we were able to negotiate it through an agreement with the federal government. However, it will most likely follow the general rule where our territorial government has to set aside funds for the new campus that we are looking at. We have identified it here under Iqaluit in 2017-19 and the first amount will be \$9 million and for 2018-19, the figure is \$6 million, for a total of \$15 million. When we speak to the entire amount, it totals \$18.9 million. With that being the case, some of the funds will be allocated from the territorial government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you. The reason why I asked this is, in English, it indicates that you will be “actively seeking additional third party funding to minimize the impact to the Government of Nunavut related to this capital project.” If you can’t access third party funding, what would happen to that project? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We talk to different organizations or entities. We have tried to have discussions with the Qikiqtani Inuit Association on how they can give us financial support. That’s what we consider third party funding. We are talking to Inuit organizations. We have already signed an agreement for \$10.7 million, which we are very pleased about. That might be enough.

If we need additional third party funds, we want to be open to getting funding from other entities, for example, Agnico Eagle Mines or various organizations that we have discussions with. As I stated earlier, the Nunavut government would make a contribution if everything goes well. We’re just identifying where that money would come from. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You indicated that you had discussions with Inuit organizations. What have they indicated? Are they going to provide financial support? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have been having discussions specifically with the Qikiqtaaluk Corporation. We’re looking at it from a partnership point of view. I can say that it’s a possibility. We also have discussions with the fisheries coalition on the programs that are going to be offered. The third party funding that is provided will assist with the programs that will be offered at the new campus. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is \$250,000 for small capital and you indicated that this \$250,000 will be used for a variety of things, for example, teleconferencing

and IT projects. However, \$250,000 is a lot, but I think it's too small when you're talking about teleconferencing and all that. I'm asking what he thinks of that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member. This is the first time I hear that \$250,000 is too small. You don't hear that very often. I thank you very much.

We will be using those funds for different things and I can identify some of them. The Nunavut Research Institute has two vehicles that are aging. We're looking at those two. There are also SMART boards that we're looking at that are accessible for all educational facilities. It could be used for that. With the Environmental Technology Program, they also use snowmobiles for training and they are aging. They will have to get a new fleet. Also for small capital is the heavy equipment simulator that we're looking at. It is used for training and the maintenance needs to be kept up.

We're looking at those types of things for the \$250,000. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Following my list of names, Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have one or two questions. If you will bear with me for a minute, it's not in the capital estimates, but Sanikiluaq has an old community learning centre and it was an old,

rundown one-room classroom. About three or four years ago Arctic College entered into an agreement with the Nuiyak School to lease space for, I think, two classrooms in the school. It's my understanding that this lease agreement is up, I think, in two years. Is it Arctic College's intention to build a standalone learning centre for Sanikiluaq or will you be trying to enter into a longer term lease for the space at the school? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The facilities in the communities are looked at very carefully to see if they need replacement or their condition or if they need repairs. Our priorities are the more urgent ones. For instance, in Naujaat there's an extremely old building and that's the community we're considering. We don't really have any agreements in other communities. However, to his question, it can be looked into more carefully. Arctic College can look further into the adult learning centre in Sanikiluaq. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) I have no more list of names. Nunavut Arctic College. Headquarters. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The campus is being planned here in Iqaluit and the number of students coming in will probably increase. What are the plans for the increase in students? That's my first question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The new campus that will be utilized will be 250,000 square metres and different courses will be delivered there. To date the space will be adequate. As we stated, it will be able to hold 250 students. However, keep in mind too that the adult learning centres in the communities are used and not all students come to Iqaluit. We're trying to have 250 students utilize the space.

We will be looking at a new student residence. We have been identifying that it will be sufficient for who is coming in. I don't know how many years later, but we will be taking a look at it again. It's obvious that based on the population growth in Nunavut, it can be studied again in the future to see if it's getting too small. After the fire at Ukiivik, all the students who were staying there will be moved to that residence and we will be building new facilities. That's the response I can provide, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is a mental health facility that I think hasn't been used since 2011. It's just sitting there with no occupants. Has that building been considered here in Iqaluit? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We've only had discussions with Qikiqtaaluk Corporation. We are still considering options for the residence, but we still haven't made a decision. With respect to his question, we haven't looked at that facility. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. For your information, the facility the member is asking about is not owned by Nunavut Arctic College. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): It's owned by the government and it's just sitting there with no occupants. It was a residence before and it wouldn't cost the government any money to be utilized by Nunavut Arctic College for students who are coming in. It's not being occupied. Why isn't the college trying to acquire it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. According to our understanding from Community and Government Services, that building is unusable. That's the information we have been given. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): That's the first I have heard of it. There is hardly any space left to build in Iqaluit. That building is owned by the government and it's just sitting there. I would like them to look further into it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can't really respond to that subject because it falls under the responsibility of Community and Government Services, not Education. Perhaps it would be a good question to pose to that department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): I won't get an answer, so it's pointless. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) I have no more names on my list. We're on page M-3. Nunavut Arctic College. Headquarters. Total Capital Expenditures. \$10,250,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Go to page M-2. Department Summary. Nunavut Arctic College. Detail of Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$10,250,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Do members agree that we have concluded Nunavut Arctic College?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Do you have closing comments? Minister Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my

colleagues for approving our funding allocations. I have great expectations that the initiatives we wish to move forward related to Arctic College will now proceed in the upcoming fiscal year.

I also thank Nunavut Arctic College officials, President Joe and Richard, for their dedication to doing their jobs well. I thank them again.

Have a good evening. Thank you.

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

(interpretation ends) What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Enook.

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

Chairman: 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 to the Speaker.

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

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Mikkungwak: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 24 and would like to report progress. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Keyootak.

>>*Laughter*

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

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

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a reminder that tomorrow at nine o'clock there is a meeting of the Standing Committee on Legislation in the Nanuq Boardroom.

Orders of the Day for October 27:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Responses to Petitions

12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters

13. Tabling of Documents

14. Notices of Motions

15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

16. Motions

17. First Reading of Bills

18. Second Reading of Bills

19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

- Bill 20
- Bill 22
- Bill 23
- Bill 24

20. Report of the Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) This House stands adjourned until Thursday, October 27, at 1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 17:50*

