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**Thursday, February 24, 2000**

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**Rankin Inlet**

Speaker: The Hon. Levi Barnabas, M.L.A.

# Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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**Rankin Inlet, Nunavut**  
**Thursday, February 24, 2000**

**Members Present**

Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, Mr. Olayuk Akesuk, Honourable Jack Anawak, Honourable James Arvaluk, Honourable Levi Barnabas, Honourable Donald Havioyak, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Mr. Enoki Irqittuq, Mr. Peter Kattuk, Honourable Peter Kilabuk, Mr. Glenn McLean, Honourable Kelvin Ng, Mr. Jobie Nutarak, Mr. Kevin O'Brien, Honourable Paul Okalik, Honourable Edward Picco, Mr. Uriash Puqiqnak, Honourable Manitoq Thompson, Mr. Hunter Tootoo.

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker** (interpretation): I apologise. Members, today's proceedings for the delayed TV broadcast will be in Inuinnaqtun. Tomorrow's proceedings will be from the floor language.

Item 2, Ministers' Statements. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements**

**Minister's Statement 61 - 1(3): Redesign of Student Financial Assistance System**

**Hon. James Arvaluk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to inform the assembly that my department, with the assistance of Nunavut Arctic College has completed the transition phase of the strategic redesign of the student financial assistance program as it has previously existed. The goal of the transition phase was to establish systems and processes that would deliver cheques to our students twice a month as opposed to the former once a month.

In accomplishing this goal, we have answered the number one request from our student consultation. We have also improved our bilingual communications services to students through the hiring of Mary Pameolik as the Supervisor of Student Financial Assistance. This transition phase has assisted us in the development of a made in Nunavut financial assistance program that will from today be known as Financial Assistance for Nunavut Students. My staff will continue the system administration development for our new program and I look forward to reporting our progress to you in the near future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Anawak.

### **Minister's Statement 62 - 1(3): Community Based Justice**

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Nunavut Government is committed to a system of community based justice. This means that communities will be increasingly supported in taking greater responsibility for offenders and victims. It also means that there will be a new emphasis on prevention and healing at the community level, rather than the formal approach involving charges, court appearances and incarceration.

In the past, the responsibility for dealing with people with problems has been removed from the communities by the formal justice system. Nunavut is now working to reverse that trend. The Department of Justice has started the process of developing a new diversion protocol at the community level. We are working on this with the Community Justice Committees, the RCMP and the Crown. A protocol is essential if community based justice is to become a reality. It will assist the RCMP, the Crown and the communities because it will spell out their respective responsibilities, expectations and goals. It is important to establish ground rules regarding roles and responsibilities so that there's consistency and efficiency in each community. A diversion protocol leading to more active community responsibility would also increase the chances for healing to take place between the victim and the offender within the community.

There are a number of important factors to consider as we develop diversion protocols. In all cases Mr. Speaker, diversion must have the consent of the victim. If we're going to be doing that, there has to be counselling for both the victim and the abuser. Communities are unique in their dynamics and aspirations and vary in terms of their capabilities to handle diversions, therefore each community must be approached on an individual basis. Protocols may vary from community to community. The types of cases handled by diversion protocols may change over time according to the capacity of each community to deal with cases. Signatories to protocol agreements will be the Community Justice Committees, the RCMP, Justice Canada and Nunavut Justice. Nunavut Justice will be responsible for assisting community justice committees to develop the capabilities to handle diverted cases and will provide ongoing support for the committees. Justice Canada will play a role through funding assistance.

Healing is an essential aspect of any community based solution, healing for the victim, the offender, families and the community. People involved in diversion must be respected as individuals as each of us are different and every effort must be made to ensure discretion throughout the process.

Case conferencing between the Community Justice Committee, the RCMP and the Crown should be considered as part of the diversion process. Any diversion protocol and the process to design it will be done in accordance with the principals of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

A working group is being formed. It will consist of the following; one representative of the RCMP, one representative of the Federal Crown's Office, one representative from

Maliganik Tukisiniakvik, two representatives from Nunavut Justice, the Chairs of two of the most active Community Justice Committees, and also a representative of the Iqaluit Youth Justice Committee. The Nunavut Status of Women Board will be consulted, as well as the department of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. We envision model protocols that will vary to affect the needs, aspirations and current capabilities of individual Community Justice Committees.

It may be that three or four models based on the same principles will be developed. Communities will be asked to select the model that best suits their community. The development of diversion protocols is another way Nunavut Justice is working to ensure that communities have more authority and responsibility. We want a justice system that will truly serve all Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Havioyak.

### **Minister's Statement 63 - 1(3): Federal Languages Agreement**

**Hon. Donald Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise to report today good news on our activities. Members of the Legislative Assembly, the negotiations for the Canada-Nunavut Co-operation Agreement for French and Inuit languages has been concluded and signed. This is a two-year agreement for fiscal year 99/2000 and 2000/2001. The total amount of the agreement is 5.1 million dollars.

Each fiscal year 1.45 million dollars will go to French language programs and services. Each year 1.1 million dollars will go towards Inuktitut language communities and Inuinnaqtun languages.

I want to mention that whenever I say Inuinnaqtun Mr. Speaker, that includes all Inuktitut dialects. Mr. Speaker, I want to briefly explain why the French services appear to be getting more funding than the Inuktitut language services.

Inuktitut language programs and services are funded by many existing programs. (interpretation ends) The purpose of this agreement is to assist in protecting the culture and identity of Inuit through the recognition, enhancement, preservation, use and development of Inuit languages and to provide the community involvement.

As to the French language services, the purpose of this agreement is to ensure the provision of services in Nunavut and to support community development in compliance with the Nunavut Official Languages Act. In saying this, Mr. Speaker, I want to assure the members that under the agreement, if the funding is does not meet the needs of the Inuinnaqtun language services and programs, Canada and the Government of Nunavut have agreed that there shall be continued negotiations respecting the adjustment of the amount of the funding.



My department has been given the responsibility for the administration of this agreement and I would advise the communities and the public to contact my department in order to access this funding opportunity.

(interpretation) I wish to acknowledge the co-operation and contribution of the Department of Heritage Canada, for making this funding available to the people of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Havioyak. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Mr. McLean.

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

#### **Member's Statement 128 - 1(3): Apex Treatment Centre**

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Rehabilitation programs for inmates. Mr. Speaker, it is well known that alcohol or substance abuse is a major factor in most crimes which lead to Nunavut residents being jailed. For people who have addictions, are hurting from their experiences in residential schools, have grown up in violent families or as victims of sexual abuse, relocation or other trauma, jails do not seem to be of much help in assisting these hurting people to recover and be at peace with themselves.

Mr. Speaker, in December 1998, Nunavut's only treatment centre was closed by the Baffin Regional Health and Services Board. The building had been designed specifically for treatment of addictions, however, in August of 1999, it was announced that the former treatment centre building in Apex would become a rehabilitation centre for inmates at the Baffin Correctional Centre. The Director of Corrections and Community Justice for Nunavut, Ron McCormick said that the centre would be used as it was meant to be used. Mr. McCormick announced that the Apex Treatment Centre building with proper security measures put in place would be of a real benefit to minimum security inmates who need help with drug and alcohol addictions, anger management or family living skills. This program will serve residents from all parts of Nunavut since the BCC has inmates from all parts of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. McLean. Members' Statements. Mr. Iqittuq.

#### **Member's Statement 129 - 1(3): Funding for Cultural Programs**

**Mr. Iqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand today to say I'm pleased we met with the elders at noon hour and the statements of Premier Okalik I think should be recognised. They are the true facts and we're working hard for the Nunavut communities. We are striving, whether we come to Rankin Inlet or any other community,

so that before our elders pass away, these programs have to receive more funding. We did not only discuss this but other people also had concerns which we heard. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Members' Statements. Ms. Thompson.

### **Member's Statement 130 - 1(3): Implementing Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit**

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to thank the MLAs. Every night we, even though it's tiring, we go to activities and even when we have meetings, they always take time to go to these activities, whether they're visiting or they're going shopping. I'd like to encourage that, I know you are getting tired, but if you have any opportunity, I'd like to encourage you to continue to meet with the public here especially at Rankin Inlet.

I'd like to thank the elders. We met with the elders and through our government, if we're not going to enhance and push Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, their voices in the future will be concerned about this. We heard during lunch hour, our culture, our tradition our own Nunavut is a very valuable thing to us. The elders spoke very strongly that we have to urge ourselves in order that over the next 10 – 20 years we can address these concerns. We have to act upon these concerns and we have to start taking action. If we don't then we will be blamed for it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Members' Statements. Mr. Kattuk.

### **Member's Statement 131 - 1 (3): Lack of Involvement of Smaller Communities**

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about my concerns for the smaller communities. The smaller communities have to be involved, Mr. Speaker, for example my constituency of Sanikiluaq. I remember, when NIC, John Amagoalik came to our community back in 1998, we were told that NIC had recommended that Sanikiluaq would have a seat at the Nunavut Legislature. We were so pleased to hear that. The Sanikiluaq leaders were very pleased to hear that. Although Sanikiluaq is quite far away, I know that the Nunavut Government will not forget that.

However, today, I would like to express my concern. It hurts me inside. At the Arctic Winter Games, they forgot Sanikiluaq for the trials. The Sanikiluaq residents, athletes, were not at the Arctic Winter Games trials. Other athletes went to Rankin Inlet and Iqaluit during the trials but they stated my constituency was too expensive to take our athletes to the trials. I'm very disappointed at not participating in the Arctic Winter Games trials. That's the concern I have.

Last December there were athletes sent to Cape Dorset for Arctic Winter Games trials but the Sanikiluaq athletes . . .

**Speaker** (interpretation): Excuse me Mr. Kattuk. Your time is up and you have to get unanimous consent to continue your member's statement. Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): I ask for unanimous consent to complete my statement. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): The member is asking for unanimous consent to complete his statement. Are there any nays. You may continue, Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, As I was saying, the athletes from Sanikiluaq did not know if they were going to take part in the Arctic Winter Games trials. They hadn't been told whether they were going there or not. The athletes were just waiting. The Sanikiluaq residents were told they couldn't participate at the Arctic Winter Games trials because it is too expensive for their travel. This is not acceptable.

I say we must represent all Nunavut communities. The smaller communities should be involved and participating along with all the other Nunavut communities. Mr. Speaker, today during question period I will be asking my questions in regards to that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kattuk. Members' Statements. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

### **Member's Statement 132 - 1(3): Passing on Cultural Knowledge**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, this morning when we met with elders it was plain and we understood, that our tradition and culture, values and principles have to be enhanced through the Nunavut Government. For people who do not understand the unique heritage of the Inuit people, who do not know the values of our culture, we'll have to work hard to give them that information. I'm sorry I'm going to have to end my statement here Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Members' Statements. Mr. Nutarak

### **Member's Statement 133 - 1(3): Question About Suicide**

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): I would just like to explain why I asked the Minister for Transportation yesterday if he made the statement about suicide as a minister or as a regular MLA. I wanted to ask him some questions if he was making the statement as a minister. I just wanted to make that clear. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Members' Statements. Mr. Tootoo.

**Member's Statement 134 - 1(3): Nunavut Social Development Council**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Mr Speaker, at the appropriate time I will be looking for unanimous consent to conclude my statement. I tried very hard to get it into the allotted time, but I was unable to do so.

Mr. Speaker, the creation of Nunavut was built on great hopes that things would be different if we had our own government. Inuit negotiated the land claims and held out for our own government. Mr. Speaker, the land claim agreement does not say much about social issues, because the federal government wouldn't allow them to be put on the table for negotiation. However, one of the articles does deal with social issues. The Nunavut Social Development Council (NSDC) has a responsibility under section 32.1.1, of the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement to participate in the design of social and cultural policies and the design of social and cultural programs and services, within the Nunavut settlement area.

Mr. Speaker, NTI's document released in January 2000, entitled, "Taking Stock; A Review of the First 5 Years of the Implementation of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement", notes the GNWT was not very supportive of the Nunavut Social Development Council, and that their efforts to meet with the Nunavut regional education and health boards were unsuccessful. The report also notes and I quote " in September of 1998 the GNWT proclaimed a new adoption act over the objection of NTI and NSDC. NTI's view was that the GNWT had failed to engage the NSDC in discussions on the proposed legislation which was in breach of the GNWT's obligation under section 32.1.1 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement." Unquote.

NTI and NSDC hoped for a different relationship with the Nunavut Government. Mr. Speaker, NTI's statement of position on section 3.3.2 is the following: the Nunavut Government and the NSDC should develop a strong co-operative and consultative relationship in the pursuit of social policy reform in Nunavut. Such a relationship should emphasise maximum participation for all organizations and individuals, and should foster a spirit of informed, creative and public debate on fundamental social problems and options. Mr. Speaker, there are many areas of social policy reform that we need to undertake in Nunavut.

**Speaker:** Mr. Tootoo your time is up.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker I would like to ask for consent to conclude my statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Tootoo is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays. They are no nays. Mr. Tootoo you may proceed.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and fellow colleagues. Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Education is undertaking a complete overhaul of the Education Act, and he told us this week that he is developing a curriculum for Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun and Inuit culture.

The Minister for Inuit Culture, Language, Elders and Youth is developing a broad policy on Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, as well as a language policy relating to the promotion and protection of Inuktitut. The Minister of Justice is committed to strengthening community justice. The Minister of Health and Social Service is hoping to review many of his program areas once the regional boards are amalgamated.

Mr. Speaker, the government cannot act alone on these issues. It is not enough to send documents to key Inuit organizations hoping for a quick response. The Nunavut Social Development Council is not a special interest group. Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement sets up a constitutional requirement for the Nunavut Social Development Council to be involved in these important matters of language and culture. NSDC is still a very young organization, it was only incorporated in 1996 and their offices were located in Igloolik. They only receive funding from NTI and they only have a few staff and yet they have a very important job and they have done some significant consultations and work to date, such as the work they have done on the community justice Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

Mr. Speaker, when the government of Nunavut is fully staffed we will be over 600 employees strong, compared to smaller staff of NTI and only two staff members at the Nunavut Social Development Council. We need to be mindful of this in our relationship and creatively look at how we can provide time, resources and support for collaborative efforts. The Bathurst Mandate sets out the principles that will guide the Government of Nunavut, including the principle of full and willing commitment to the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement that will be the standard. It further states that in the year 2020 Nunavut is a place where the Government of Nunavut meets its obligations under the Land Claims Agreement in the spirit of active co-operation. The spirit of active co-operation, Mr. Speaker.

Let us hope this spirit is alive today, as reflected in the Clyde River protocol between the Premier and the president of NTI. Mr. Speaker, let us hope that these key ministers look ahead, and as they look ahead they will recognize the opportunity before us in developing a relationship with the Nunavut Social Development Council that is both respectful and collaborative, and which builds and supports partnerships that will give us solid ideas for social policy reform and truly build on Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. A relationship which also fulfils the Nunavut Government's legal commitment to the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement and therefore respecting the dreams of Inuit and the creation of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Members' Statements. I will allow Mr. Iqaqrialu to finish his member's statement.

### **Member's Statement (Continued) 132 - 1(3): Passing on Cultural Knowledge**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I apologise. As I stated before our meeting with the elders this morning had a great impact on me and I know that we have lost some of our traditions, and because we have lost some of our culture it creates

problems such as suicides, and not learning anything from our elders. When this knowledge is not evident I know we are going to have problems such as suicides.

As a government today we have to tackle these issues so that Inuit culture can be evident. I know our young people regret their parents are not teaching them and they have just been put into school. Young people regret the fact they are unable to learn traditional culture. Our life is serious, it's not just a game. Perhaps Inuit people should come up with a training program on tradition and culture. This is what was given to us by our elders, this morning. For us who are middle aged and the young people, there are three generations that have three different cultures. Utilising all the ways, we must come up with some kind of training program so that our young people can understand us and how we should be living.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Anawak.

### **Member's Statement 135 - 1(3): Success of Nirqamut Foods**

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr Speaker, I rise in this House today to talk about a success story. This success story is the Keewatin meat and fish plant - Nirqamut Foods. This plant Mr Speaker, is located in my riding of Rankin Inlet north and was officially opened in October of 1992. It was a pilot project by the NWT Development Corporation. It had one manager, three or four local hires and produced caribou meat and arctic char for distribution in the NWT from only local harvest. In 1995 it was the first plant to be federally registered to distribute red meat - good food. This allowed the plant to export products across North America and the Orient. This plant has exported its product as far away California.

Mr. Speaker, the staff are currently in the process of getting the plant ready to be inspected by a veterinarian so that they can obtain EU status. With European Union (EU) status Mr. Speaker, they will then be able to market their products to Europe.

(interpretation) This plant is very beneficial to the people of Rankin Inlet. We now have 10 local hires and eighty percent of them are Inuit. They are going to be buying 120 thousand pounds from Coral Harbour that will be federally inspected and once that is done they will be hiring four more people to process the meat. The employees are very hard working and they want to do the best that they can because they want to see this plant succeed. It is obvious Mr. Speaker, that the members of the Assembly have tasted the locally processed meat which was given to you as a gift, and I know that it is a very successful plant. I know that even the Prime Minister loved the locally made caribou jerky that was processed in the plant here. He just loved it.

Here are the names of some of the staff from the plant and I would just ask you to stand up. The manger Mr. Brian Schindel...

**Speaker:** Mr. Anawak your time is up. You have to ask for unanimous consent to conclude your member's statement.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): I ask for the members unanimous consent to complete my statement.

**Speaker** (interpretation): The member is asking for unanimous consent to complete his member's statement. Are there any nays. You may continue. Mr. Anawak

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** I just started to recognize some of the members of the staff and I'm sorry I ran out of time. Mr. Brian Schindel, Vivian Schindel, James Innuksuk, Joe Amarok, Willie Okpatauyuk, Paul Pissuk, Johnny Kingmeatuk, Travis Niviatsiak, Mona Iqulik, Lea Innuksuk. Mr. Speaker, it is because of the continuing support from the Department of Sustainable Development, the Nunavut Development Corporation and the commitment and dedication of the staff that this plant is a success story today. A success story today for Rankin Inlet and Nunavut. Thank you Mr. Speaker

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Members' Statements. Mr. Puqiqnak.

### **Member's Statement 136 - 1(3): Utilising Elders' Knowledge**

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This morning when we met with the elders I truly believe their commitment to the statements they made. I know they value Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and they want to preserve it as it is really rich and they value it. My heart is touched when we meet with the elders because I come from there and I really feel their comments. They have lived that way and they want the Nunavut Government to recognize their way of life.

I know we will recognize them and we have committed ourselves to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and are involved in incorporating it. They want to teach and leave their knowledge behind, and their language they want to leave to the young people of Nunavut. No matter who you are they want to utilise our language and as a government we are committed to them. Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Government has a huge task ahead of it. But our elders' beliefs and values have been stated. I know we will incorporate their language and their comments into the system. I want the elders to know that we will not forget them and we believe in the elders. If it were not for the elders we would not have this government, and because of our elders we are here today. Please let's all agree with each other and hope that this legislature commits itself to the elders' knowledge and wisdom, and that we will utilize it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. Members' Statements. Mr. Havioyak.

**Member's Statement 137 - 1(3): Regional Cultural Similarities**

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): When we met with the elders yesterday I could see their faces too were just like when we were having meetings in Kugluktuk. Our culture seems all alike and the issues are similar in all of Nunavut and also in Kugluktuk. Our elders and youth we hear their issues and it touches my heart to hear what they are going through because we are all Inuit and I want you to hear this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Havioyak. Members' Statements. Mr. Alakannuark.

**Member's Statement 138 - 1(3): Passing on Elders' Knowledge**

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make a comment on the elders' meeting this morning. When we met with the elders, every issue touched my heart. I am warmed in my heart, because the elders are helping me in that way. Yes, we are working very hard to preserve our language and traditions while the elders are still alive, and I have been taught how to survive out on the land and I keep talking about how to survive out in the land and how to work in a cold environment because we are from a place where it's very cold. It's an urgent matter now, we have to start teaching our young people, if we don't extract the knowledge from the elders now I don't know how our young people would know how to survive out in the cold, harsh land. The elders and members should support this. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Members' Statements. Returning to the orders of the day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Picco.

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

**Hon. Ed Picco**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today in the gallery I would like to welcome well known northern scientist and raconteur, Mr. Bruce Rigby and some others who are here in the building, a guy who has been with us right from the start here in Rankin, my neighbour and someone who helps me when I get stuck, IBC technician Philip Joamie. In the back of the gallery one of Apex's best known residents and the guy who taught me how not to, Mr. Speaker, not to skin a caribou, entrepreneur Jerry Ell. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Picco. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Havioyak.



**Hon. Donald Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't recognize too many people here. I would like to recognize a couple of people from Kitikmeot, the interpreters, from Cambridge Bay Sanie Nakunyak and Angus Ally. I would like to recognize the interpreters from our region. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Arvaluk.

**Hon. James Arvaluk** (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize the Board of Governors of Nunavut Arctic College, Paulette Timco, Ludy Pudluk and Bruce Rigby. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Welcome to the gallery. Number 5, recognition of visitors in the gallery. I would like to recognize my predecessor and mentor, Ludy Pudluk. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Puqiqnak.

>>Applause

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rarely take the opportunity to recognize visitors in both Rankin Inlet and in Iqaluit. At this time I am very pleased to recognize a person who was a teacher in Uqsuqtuq and this person's name is Pauliit. I use to have a mother whose name was Paala, we call her Paala which is an Inuk name and she's known in Uqsuqtuq by the elders, by this name. She visits the elders, please stand up. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Maniok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am sure that people are getting tired of me recognizing people in the gallery, but I would like to recognize a person who has been coming to observe the session. I have known this person for a long time, we talk quite a bit together and his name is Larry Ussak, sitting in front of Jerry Ell. I would also like to recognize the radio operators, two of my aunts or cousins, Veronica Tautoonie and Elisabeth Kusugak.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. Welcome to the galley. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you. I would again like to recognize the excellent workers who I mentioned before, the staff of the local plant. It's the Keewatin Meat and Fish Plant. I have already stated their names. Also the people that Maniok mentioned, one is my real sister and the other one is my sister, both Veronica and Elisapee, I would like to recognize them both. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Recognition of visitors in the gallery, Mr. Akasuk.

**Mr. Akasuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize the people who haven't been recognized. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Akasuk. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6, oral questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

### **Item 6: Oral Questions**

#### **Question 211 - 1(3): Increased Funding for Fuel**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be addressed to the Premier of Nunavut, in regards to the high cost of fuel in the communities. The Nunavut government gives out money for operations and maintenance of the facilities and programs and services. With the increasing fuel prices does that mean there is going to be an increase in the amount of funding that is made available to the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Premier. Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time we don't have anything put together, but I did talk to the Mayors of the communities and the funding that is made available to the Hamlet Councils will be reconsidered and looked at for ways we can give more support because they have a lot of facilities and mobile equipment. With the increase in the fuel prices we will be looking at more financial support.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's not only the Hamlets that are provided funding, would you be considering giving increased financial support to the other institutions that are provided funding from the government.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am sure that the other organizations will reconsider the amount of dollars that are given to them, but we are going to be concentrating on the Hamlet Councils because of the increased fuel costs and they have a lot of vehicles, they have facilities and houses and there will be an increase in operations and maintenance costs. I don't know about the other organizations. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I did direct that question to the Premier and he didn't answer my question. But, my question was, will you be increasing the O&M dollars to all the organizations or bodies at the community level. This question is for the Premier. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. The Premier re-routed that question to Mr. Anawak. Mr. Premier, you have to rise if you are going to re-route that question to other members. Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): I apologize, like I said earlier, we were anticipating the Hamlets asking for increased dollars because of the increase in fuel costs. We anticipated their needs and we do know that other people, organizations get funding from the Nunavut government. We'll be asking the appropriate departments to see if they could get an increase in their O&M dollars. I am just using the Hamlet as an example. Because we anticipated the increase, we looked for the funding, and I am sure that the other organizations will be looking to the appropriate departments to increase their O&M dollars.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral Questions. Mr. O'Brien.

### **Question 212 - 1(3): Proper Spelling of Names**

**Mr. O'Brien:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister Responsible for Elders, Youth and Culture. Mr. Speaker, in October I posed a question to the minister in reference to the spelling of names. A number of people have contacted me in my community in regards to the spelling of names changed to where in some cases it doesn't mean the same anymore. The same names but the spelling has been changed and doesn't represent the name that they were given at birth. The minister said that he would look into this and get back to the House. I am asking the minister now what plan has he developed or what has taken place since October in this regard. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Minister Responsible for Culture, Language, Elders & Youth, Mr. Haviyok.

**Hon. Donald Haviyok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand your question. The people's names we can't just use them any way at all, but I can't say right now, we are still working on it, we are still doing processing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Haviyok. Oral Questions. Mr. O'Brien.

**Mr. O'Brien:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, maybe the minister could be a little clearer on this issue. Is there any attempt been made to create a register where individuals could contact his department and get some assistance as to how to go about getting their name properly spelled. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth, Mr. Havioyak.

**Hon. Donald Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. About name changing, the spelling of the names I said this last winter in wintertime when we were at the meeting, we are still processing this, and we're still trying to work on them. We don't want to make mistakes, we want to work in a good way, the right way. We can't just finish right away, it takes time, because we don't want to make mistakes. We have to review all the spelling right now. I want to reply to your question but sorry, it's not quite finished yet. Some of them are, if I find out more information on this about the names, I will let you know. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Havioyak. Oral Questions. Mr. McLean.

**Question 213 - 1(3): Justice Programs at the Apex Treatment Centre**

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question today is to the Minister of Justice regarding the Apex treatment centre. My question today is, did cabinet approve the Department of Justice proposal to use the treatment centre in Apex for rehabilitation. Ma'na.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Minister Responsible for Justice, Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Department of Justice and the Department of Health & Social Services have discussed this issue but at this point they have not taken it to the cabinet level.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral Questions. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Mr. Speaker I appreciate the minister's response but as I stated today about drug rehabilitation inmates and other people in Nunavut, when does he expect to take it to his cabinet colleagues to discuss it. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. McLean. Minister responsible for Justice, Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I expect to have a discussion with the Minister Responsible for Health and Social Services and determine the time to take it to the cabinet for further consultation. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** We know that this government moves at such a rapid pace and that I am sure we will have an answer on it within the next two weeks but in the meantime my question, Mr. Speaker, my question to the Minister is does the Department of Justice have

any alternate plans to provide healing, drug and alcohol, anger management, or family type skills program that he is looking at right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. McLean. Minister responsible for Justice, Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for his question because I think it is extremely important we go on making changes to the way things have been done in the past and we expect if we are going to go into new programs or new ways of doing things, then it would be in consultation with the members. We are in the process of making up some plans such as creating more outpost camp programs for people we hope would not necessarily have to go through incarceration but go through a healing process.

The plans are there, we are working on them, in some cases because of the need to do more consultation we will make sure that the members have an idea of when we would want to go on with some of the programs, of course after full consultation with the members and the public. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Anawak. Final supplementary, Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That brings forward another question that we all been saying for the last year or so, about rehabilitation on the land program infrastructure. There is not much money around to build buildings and things and I am not sure what the cost of that building in Apex is. I think it was built for a noble cause and now it's sitting there empty. Does the Department of Justice have any plans for that building or is it just going to sit there empty and taxpayers dollars wasted. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. McLean. Minister responsible for Justice, Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** Mr. Speaker, at this time the building belongs to the Department of Health and Social Services, and as much as we would like to take advantage of it being empty, at this point in time it would have to be a discussion between the Minister of Health and myself, and then in conjunction with that, taking it to the cabinet level to see if we can utilise it. But at the same time however that doesn't mean that the Department of Health and Social Services may not have some plans for it. Thank you.

**Speaker (interpretation):** Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral Questions. Mr. Puqiqnak.

### **Question 214 - 1(3): Funding Program for Youth Centres**

**Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation):** Thank you Mr. Speaker. The Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth said that he was working on a policy for youth. Many young people in the communities want youth centres. My question is, has the minister established a fund to assist community groups, who wish to operate youth centres in their communities.

**Speaker:** Minister for Culture, Language, Elders and Youth.

**Hon. Donald Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, I've already answered that through the policy. We wanted to get some clarification from the youth on how to put a policy in place for the youth of Nunavut. I believe there are two questions on funding assistance. We have in our department a funding source for our youth. The funding that we are working on is going to be aimed towards the elders and the youth and they are going to be helping one another. So we have to provide some funding to the youth and we can use this funding for counselling them, so they learn our way of life. Right now we don't have a concrete plan for funding to build youth facilities, but we will be discussing this in our budget session in Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Havioyak. Mr. Puqiqnak.

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Mr. Speaker since the department was established to deal with language, elders and youth, if Culture, Language, Elders and Youth does not have funding to build youth centres which department or departments of Nunavut do have a mandate to provide money to build youth centres in the communities. Which departments have you been working with.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Mr. Havioyak.

**Hon. Donald Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you for your question. I just want to inform everyone that this will be included in my capital plan, and that we will be reviewing all the other possibilities that we can use to maybe build some youth facilities in our communities. We will be discussing this further in our budget session in the near future. I have met with youth groups in Cambridge Bay and Pond Inlet. We will be reviewing this and discussing this further in our next session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Havioyak. Mr. Iqittuq.

### **Question 215 - 1(3): Harvesting Bowhead Whales**

**Mr. Iqittuq** (interpretation): Yesterday I was talking about Bowhead whales. Since the killer whales have been killing the Bowhead whales and since we have a land claims agreement we are allowed to harvest a Bowhead whale and I don't think we have harvested a Bowhead whale last year. My question is to the Minister of Sustainable Development. What is your position in regards to the Bowhead whale harvest. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqittuq. Minister for Sustainable Development.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, perhaps to explain a little. When we deal with marine mammals it's the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and if we are going to be dealing with any type of species it is the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Irqittuq.

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Although I understood his reply are you going to be supporting the harvest as the minister for wildlife issues. My question is are you going to work hard for Nunavut concerns on this.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Minister for the Department of Sustainable Development. Mr. Kilabuk.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we deal with marine mammals it is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans - the federal government and the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board. If they request support we will assist them but we do not have that jurisdiction. It is the NWMB that has that jurisdiction.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kilabuk. Oral Questions. Mr. Irqittuq.

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand, however during our campaigning days we spoke of the issues that concern us. I know that we spoke about issues that we can't do anything about. The minister is responding to me that the NWMB is responsible for that, but my question is, are you going to work hard to support the Nunavut needs.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Minister responsible for Sustainable Development.

**Hon. Peter Kilabuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we have been working very hard and we are not going to stop the close working relationship that we have with the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board. We have to work in partnership in the management of wildlife and we have to work with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Oral Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

### **Question 216 - 1(3): Holistic Healing Programs**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for Health and Social Services. Mr. Speaker, the minister spoke yesterday about the need to deal with the whole person when dealing with alcohol and drug abuse. This would imply programs that work with people on a physical, spiritual, emotional, intellectual and cultural basis.

Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult to imagine how a social worker trained in the south will be able to deliver such a program to Inuit in our communities. Much of the teaching the elders have to offer is spiritual, cultural, social and personal in nature. Spending time with elders allows people to learn about the culture and heritage and to be reminded of the wisdom and strength of the past and to apply that to the problems of the past and present. As mentioned by the other members a holistic program would require the involvement of elders and local people in the community. Will the minister tell this House how he intends to develop programs and train local people to deliver programs that really do deal with the whole person on matters of alcohol, drug addiction and mental health issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister responsible for Health, Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, if I could just get a piece of clarification if I could. There are different aspects to the holistic approach when treating addictions and treating problems with individuals. Which approach is the member talking about when he asks this question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Picco. Mr. Tootoo I will allow you to ask the same question, and rephrase it. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sorry the minister didn't understand my question. I'm asking him how he intends to develop programs and train local people to deliver programs that deal with the whole person on matters of alcohol, drug addiction and mental health. Does he understand that question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister responsible for Health. Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker as the member knows we are doing that right now. We are running one of the first pure Inuit social programs in Igloolik. I believe we have five people ready to graduate with their bachelor's degree in social work. Mr. Speaker, we are also doing work with our alcohol and drug counsellors using the Apex Treatment facility. We are bringing them into Apex and using reality based therapy, that type of treatment model.

So Mr. Speaker, not only are we using the holistic approach in treating alcohol as well we are using the mental and spiritual side of development of the person. We are delivering those programs culturally and sensitively and, in the example of Igloolik, training northerners, training people from Nunavut to be able to deliver those programs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral questions, Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the minister for his response. He indicated that there is a social worker program being held in Igloolik and



reality based treatment going on in the Apex Treatment Centre. These programs, like the social work program, are they adapted programs that take into account the cultural sensitivity and the differences in the north, or is it a program being brought up from the south and being taught in the North. Is it geared specifically towards Nunavut or is it the same program that is being offered down south. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Tootoo, you have exceeded your two questions. Minister responsible for Health. Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Well first of all Mr. Speaker, in the preamble of the member he asked whether we are trying to take the programs and make them Nunavut or northern based. That is what the program in Igloolik is doing. Now I'm not the Minister for Education and I don't have the curriculum in front of me or the program. My understanding is that Mr. Speaker, that the social work program being run through Arctic College is centring on our students who are all Inuit from Nunavut, specifically from Igloolik. It is an excellent program. I believe the member probably saw an article in News North highlighting and extolling the virtues of the program.

The program that we are doing in Apex, the second part of the question, is reality treatment, and for this training program we take our drug and alcohol workers out of the communities and bring them to Apex. We have been doing this for the past several months and we have been doing workshops and on the job training with those staff. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral questions Mr. Akasuk.

### **Question 217 - 1(3): Training for Alcohol & Drug Counsellors**

**Mr. Akasuk:** Mr. Speaker my question is for the Minister of Health and Social Services. Mr. Speaker, having trained staff is essential to be able to deliver quality programs. Many of the community alcohol and drug counsellors do not have very much training and very little on the job training has been provided in the past. The workers themselves have asked for training so they can do a better job. Can the minister advise what new training initiatives are now being delivered to community based alcohol and drug counsellors with money saved from the closure of Nunavut's only drug treatment facility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr Akasuk. Minister of Health & Social Services, Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just said earlier in the response to member Tootoo that alcohol and drug workers are getting training continuously, and I just gave an example on how we are actually bringing them into Apex and doing training. The savings from the closure of the Apex treatment Centre, which is a misnomer, because the centre is not closed, we are just not using it for residential treatment. We are actually bringing

our employees into our centre and providing on the job and professional training there. So I hope that actually answers the members' question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Picco. Mr. Akesuk.

**Mr. Akesuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister advise us on what new training initiatives are being developed for community based alcohol and drug counsellors in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr Akesuk. Minister of Health.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we are trying to bring some new initiatives forward but those discussions pertain to the budget. Just going back to his earlier question about the money that has been saved by closure of the Apex Treatment Centre, Mr. Speaker, any monies that have not been expended on the actual treatment of the in-residency patients, that money is part of the deficit that we see within the health board, which is ongoing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker (interpretation):** Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

### **Question 218 - 1(3): Resources for Community Health Committees**

**Mr. Nutarak (interpretation):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Health and Social Services. Mr. Speaker, the minister spoke yesterday of the need to treat the whole person when it comes to addictions, and his support for community based programs. Mr. Speaker, we all know a person's family and community play a big role in being able to support people in making lifestyle choices. While a person's behaviour is their own responsibility, a person lives in a family, has friends and co-workers, socialises, volunteers and all of these relationships impact on what this person does.

Mr. Speaker, the Standing Committee on Culture, Education and Health has made numerous recommendations over the last year to support the community in playing more of a role in health promotion and health prevention, for community based work, mental health, community wellness and alcohol and drug programs. Mr. Speaker, the standing committee has strongly recommended the creation of and support for community health committees. But communities can play more of a role in health promotion and prevention programs in their community. Can the minister please advise this House what his plans are to develop and provide resources so that we can have effective community health committees created.

**Speaker (interpretation):** Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Minister of Health & Social Services, Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the question from the member. Earlier this week I again met with the members of the Keewatin. Two weeks ago I met with the members from the Kitikmeot and in December as the member

knows, I met with mayors from the Baffin Region. So I met with almost all the mayors in all of Nunavut to discuss the plans after April 1<sup>st</sup>, when the Health Boards are integrated.

What we're trying to do, Mr. Speaker, as I've said in this House and as I've said to the member, who is the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Health and who has been very supportive of the moves and directions and we thank him for that, is the Department of Health is trying to build our capacity by supporting the formation, where there are none right now, of Community Health Committees. Some of the support that we're giving them includes administrative support, logistic support, training, as well as a financial contribution. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral questions. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Standing Committee recommended that the Community Health Representatives and Community Wellness Co-ordinators play a support role in Community Health Committees so that they would in fact be able to play a key role in health promotion and health prevention programs. Can the minister advise if these Community Health Committees will in fact be able to play a delivery role in health promotion and prevention if they wish or does he see them only as advisors. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Minister responsible for Health, Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, what we'd envisioned in the Department of Health and Social Services and in our discussions over the last several months with the mayors, is that these committees after April 1<sup>st</sup> would be mainly in an advocacy role also dealing with some issues of confidentiality and being the point of reference at the community level for social and health concerns. As we get more into the system, there may be some opportunities for more of an administrative role in the delivery of health and social programs at the community level. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker**: Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral questions. Final supplementary, Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My last supplementary. Can the minister advise if the Community Health Representatives are going to play a support role and work with Community Health Committees as recommended by the Standing Committee on Culture, Education and Health. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Nutarak.. Minister responsible for Health, Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we have drafted terms of reference for the formation of these committees. In a discussion with the mayors we have made it perfectly clear that these will be committees of the Hamlet and that is why I've

been meeting with the mayors asking the mayors are they in a position where they want to start these committees and it's up to them at the community level, at the Hamlet level, at the local level to decide first of all who the membership should be on the committee.

We provided them with some of our ideas. For example we think that the current Health Board members would be an excellent resource at the community level and the direction that these committees take after April 1<sup>st</sup>, along with the reference work, the training, as well as some of the logistic work that we are prepared to deliver to these committees, give them better understanding, I guess and more flexibility in what decisions they take. But ultimately Mr. Speaker, it's up to the community and up to the Hamlet in what directions those committees take and who their representatives are and what other areas they decide to get into. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral Questions. Mr. Kattuk.

**Question 219 - 1(3): Sanikiluaq Athletes at Arctic Winter Games**

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is in regards to my constituency. Today, I'm going to be making reference to comments that I made this morning under Members' Statements. Sanikiluaq would be very interested if they could be involved in the Arctic Winter Games. They would also like to be involved in the Nunavut Arctic Winter Games. But I know that the co-ordinator of the Arctic Winter Games is here in Nunavut and I know that the minister is not involved in the co-ordination and the planning of Arctic Winter Games. But I would like to ask the Minister of Community Government and Transportation about the funding provided to the Arctic Winter Games.

(interpretation ends) My question to the minister, does he agree that the Arctic Winter Games should be open to residents from all communities, even the smaller communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Kattuk. Minister responsible for Community Government and Transportation, Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I feel very much for the comments made by the member. When we were elected and when we are truly representing our communities, we have to represent everyone. I believe that every community has the right to be involved in any of the programs, services or games because of course Sanikiluaq is a part of Nunavut. I don't believe that there is going to be anybody from Sanikiluaq going to Whitehorse but looking at the 2002 Arctic Winter Games, they have to be planned so that we can include Sanikiluaq in the Arctic Winter Games held by Iqaluit and Greenland. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral Questions. Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Listening to the response, it's not adequate. Saying that Sanikiluaq is too expensive has always been an excuse for a very long time and it's something that doesn't sit well with the residents of Sanikiluaq. We were very glad when Sanikiluaq was given a seat on this Legislative Assembly so are you saying because Sanikiluaq is too expensive, is that why we are not involved in the Arctic Winter Games. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kattuk. Minister Responsible for Community Government, Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, what I had said and I apologise, because Sanikiluaq had representatives in the trials, we shouldn't be looking at the cost of the communities because we have to treat everyone equally. Everyone has a right to participate in the same services, be it health, games or anything. Sanikiluaq is a part of Nunavut, but I think that because of their location they weren't involved. I don't think we should think about the cost, the next time there are Arctic Winter Games in 2002, and we should include all the communities. For example, Sanikiluaq should be involved in the 2002 games and not think about the costs. We have to start the planning process so that they will be involved. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral questions. Mr. Kattuk.

**Mr. Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much for that response but Sport Nunavut, do they have regulations or a policy, saying they should treat all communities equally including the smaller communities. I would like to know that the small communities, all the communities of Nunavut should be involved whether they have a large population or not. That's my question Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of Community Government and Transportation, Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): There is no such policy saying that any community can be involved or participate. The problem that we encountered should not even be considered. If there are athletes in Sanikiluaq, they have to be included in the trials, and I don't think that we should even have looked at the costs. What I'm trying to tell the member here is that there is no policy to not include the smaller communities. I can use Coral Harbour for example. It's a small community, but there are a lot of athletes who will be participating at the Arctic Winter Games. We shouldn't even include or consider the expense. We will take that into consideration. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

### **Question 220 - 1(3): Funding for Inuktitut Language Programs**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. In your statement, you said there is 5.1

million dollars that will be made available and 1.1 million dollars that will be used for Inuit languages and I'm sure for teaching the Inuktitut language. That's a very small amount when you look at the vast territory that we have. I'm not quite happy about the figures that are here with the money.

They are looking at the whole of Nunavut. There are no French schools. There's only one I believe in Iqaluit, and they have a French school. The amount of money that is handed out for the French language, programs and services is larger than the one for Inuktitut languages. Talking to the elders this morning, they're saying it is now an urgent matter to teach our youth and again there is no money put aside for the elders. There's going to be nothing that's going to be coming out with the small amount of dollars that's put towards Inuktitut language programs. We have to do something about it.

Mr. Minister, can you make sure that there's going to be more money made available because the communities are very far apart and make sure that they provide adequate funding so that they provide adequate programs and services. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Before the minister makes a response, please make your question short and to the point. I would appreciate it.

Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth, Mr. Havioyak.

**Hon. Donald Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In your questions, it's very good and I agree with that. In Inuinnaqtun language, it's aimed at all the people because this agreement is for 2 years and if the funding is not enough we will try to go for more. We have funding there for anything to do with language. And also we have money, it's in our department and also for elders. We can always try and get funding from other sources, and we can look at the plan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Havioyak. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, thank you very much for making your point. I don't think you should just look around, you should find some so that there will be adequate funds available for the elders for the teaching Aboriginal languages. You should find the money because there has to be proper money made available for the programs that we'd like to see and also so that the elders could go ahead and do the work that they consider urgent. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. I don't hear a question. Oral Questions. Mr. Alakannuark.

### **Question 221 - 1(3): Pelly Bay Gymnasium**

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Education. In my community of Pelly Bay, we still don't have our gym. My question is, when are we going to be getting a gym. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Minister responsible for Education, Mr. Arvaluk.

**Hon. James Arvaluk** (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, my colleague knows very well that we have not considered the budget and I cannot make any comments about that.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Mr. Alakannuark.

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reason why I'm asking this question is because you took it as notice and said you would respond. Have you made any plans, is the gym in the plans that you've put together.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Minister of Education, Mr. Arvaluk.

**Hon. James Arvaluk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's very true, we're setting up goals for the schools, for the curriculum, for Inuit teachers, but your question, we would be breaking a rule if I tried to respond to your question before we considered the budget. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Oral Questions. Mr. O'Brien.

### **Question 222 - 1(3): List of Contracts from Nunavut Government**

**Mr. O'Brien:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, since our Honourable Premier didn't have any questions, I thought I would give him a chance to stretch his legs. Mr. Speaker, about 5 months ago, I posed a question to the Premier in reference to contracts. My question concerned the number of contracts that were issued from April 01, 1999 when we were first elected. I wonder if the minister could tell me what the status is on my request as of today.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. O'Brien. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are in the process of finalising the list. We've had to work with each of the departments and try and find out every contract so it's taken a bit long. But we hope to table, hopefully if not at the end of this week, by the end of next week. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Premier. Oral Questions. Mr. O'Brien.

**Mr. O'Brien:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Premier seemed to enjoy that stretch, so I'll ask one more question here. Mr. Speaker, that was almost five months ago that I asked that and I realise that it's a long ordeal and in some cases complicated, but given the fact that we're four or five months past that request, the information that the Premier will report to the House, will that information include contracts up to this day. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question was asked in October so we've been working on the basis of October contracts and it's taken a while. That's the base of the question. If the new question is, to update to this year, I don't know how long that might take.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Mr. O'Brien.

**Mr. O'Brien:** Mr. Speaker given the fact that we're just about to debate the budget, I would assume that this information should be somewhere recorded in some form of fashion and I guess my question to the Premier is what system is in place to track what we are spending on the various contracts because if there is no system in place how do we control the budget. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Premier, Mr Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Each department is accountable for all their expenditures and they track their systems and it takes a while to get a complete list, so it's kind of difficult at times to try and compile the complete list from each of the departments. And the question was very broad, so we're trying to accommodate the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Premier. Oral Questions. Final supplementary, Mr. O'Brien.

**Mr. O'Brien:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, would the Premier commit to providing the House with quarterly reports on contracts that have been issued. This way it would avoid this long wait and would provide the members in the House with information that I think is critical. Would the Premier commit to that. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Mr. Premier, Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to thank the member for the wonderful suggestion that the member has been making. Throughout the process of renewing contracts we have been reviewing the comments of our members and we hope to come forward with new approaches to contracts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Premier. Question period is over. We will take a recess for 20 minutes. Sergeant-At-Arms.

*>>House recessed at 3:30 p.m. and resumed at 4:00 p.m.*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Sergeant-At-Arms. Orders of the day, number 7, written questions. Item 8, returns to written questions. Item 9, replies to opening address. Item 9, replies to opening address. Item 10, petitions. Petitions. Item 11,



reports of standing and special committees. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Item 12, reports of committees on review of bills. Reports of committees on Review of Bills. Item 13, tabling of documents. Item 14, notices of motions. Mr. Tootoo.

#### **Item 14: Notices of Motions**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I give notice that on Friday, February 25, 2000 I will move the following motion. I move, seconded by the Honourable Member from Arviat, that Tabled Document 27 - 1(3) on the Business Incentive Policy be moved into the Committee of the Whole for discussion. Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time I will seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Tootoo. (interpretation) I apologize on the orders of the day under 16 we will be dealing with the motions. You gave notice of the motion last week. Item 15, notices of motions for first reading of bills. Item 16, motions. Mr. Tootoo.

#### **Item 16: Motions**

##### **Motion 09 - 1(3): TD 24 & 25 - 1(3) to Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My mistake I am sorry. Mr. Speaker, I move seconded by the Honourable member from Arviat that Tabled Document 24 - 1(3) entitled "Response to NTI letter" and Table Document 25 - 1(3) entitled "Subsidy by Territory, Customer, Class and Product" be moved into committee of the whole for discussion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. All those opposed. Motion is carried. The Tabled Documents are referred to committee of the whole. Item 16, motions. Item 17, first reading of bills. First Reading of Bills. Item 18, second reading of bills. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19, Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Ministers' Statements 45-1(3), 50-1(3), 51-1(3), Tabled Documents 20-1(3), 24-1(3), 25-1(3), 27-1(3). Mr. Irqittuq in the chair. Sergeant-At-Arms.

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

**Chairperson** (Mr. Irqittuq) (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu's chair is quite tiny. In the committee of the whole we are going to continue dealing with the items from yesterday, and the Ministers' Statements. Maybe if the minister could go to the witness stand, we are going to deal with 45-1(3), and the tabled document 27-1(3). Thank you Ed Picco. If you could take the witness stand to discuss the tabled document. We realize that you'll have to introduce yourself for the record.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** With me today as, I guess I'll start off with my name is Ed Picco, Minister Responsible for Power Corporation and over there talking and laughing is

Kelvin Ng, Minister of Finance and also with me today is the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Executive, Laura Gauthier. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you minister. We're going to continue with the Minister's Statement and the tabled document we dealt with yesterday. Are there any comments. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The Ikuma Report, under 9, I'd like to get a better clarification on the conclusion. I'd like to get better clarification that the Ikuma Report, it's purpose is to provide a reference for implementation of the Nunavut Power Corporation as a body separate from the Nunavut government once this has been adopted. Would they continue, would they proceed the way this Ikuma report is tabled. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Ed Picco**: Thank you Mr. Chairman. That's an excellent question from Mr. Iqaqrialu. And I appreciate his question. Mr. Chairman, the Ikuma Report was commissioned to look at various options available to the Nunavut government to provide electrical power to Nunavummiut. There were two main parts of the report, and it describes number one, the possible structures for the Nunavut Power Corporation and then we tried to analyze the pros and cons of each structure. The number two point was general policy and regulatory issues associated with power rates and subsidies that must be decided by the people and the government of Nunavut.

So in regards to the actual structure of the report the member is asking about, the report recommended that the Nunavut Government set up a Crown Corporation called the Nunavut Power Corporation and we have accepted that recommendation. That's what we'll be moving forward on, our own Nunavut Power Corporation. So, that's the recommendation the member was talking about I think. I hope that helps answer the question. I thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Picco. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. On page 22, in Inuktitut, it states that the Federal Government and Nunavut Government, it states here that the headquarters for the NWT Corporation, it seems like the headquarters will not change. Do I understand the headquarters are going to remain there, can you elaborate that to me and make me understand. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Hon. Ed Picco**: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr Chairman, it's a good question. Some of the options that we, I am sorry, go ahead Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Before the minister makes a statement, you should address me. Go ahead minister.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Mr. Chair, excellent decision. Wise. Thank you Mr. Chairman, a good question again from Mr. Iqaqrialu. On the location of the head office and maybe some of the responsibilities I think what he was trying to say, the head office functions. Mr. Iqaqrialu again is correct, that some of the head office functions that you see right now in Hay River, in the Hay River head office of the NWT Power Corporation, you wouldn't have those in Nunavut.

For example, in Hay River they have positions that are dedicated to gas, for example, we are not dealing with that here in Nunavut. Hydro electrical power, they operate some hydro electrical power generating stations in the west and you don't have them here, those positions wouldn't be there. On the location of the Nunavut Power Corporation he is correct, the headquarters for the Nunavut Power Corporation would be located in Nunavut itself. We would have an opportunity for training and the other positions that are involved in the Nunavut headquarters of our Corporation. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman, I don't want to be the only one making comments but in their written report as it is, the Nunavut...I think it should be Nunavut instead of NWT, it should be noted that it will be Nunavut, because we are not part of NWT anymore. If they could make a correction on the title of the Territory.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Did you want to make a response Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman and thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Very observant of you to spot that. So, yes Laura has just made a note of it and we'll make sure that's fixed in the Inuktitut copy. Thank you very much.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): MLA for Uqqumiut.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman, my last question. On page 26, it states that the 10 million is allotted, 10.2 million is allotted for a three year period and that this will be for the NTPC facilities in Nunavut and in the Inuktitut version it states under NTPC. I think we should make a correction that Nunavut, NTPC, I just wanted to make a clarification on that.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Would the minister like to respond to that.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, on page 26, on the forecast of the annual capital expenditure of NTPC, it is NTPC, it is taken from their five year capital plan on the monies they have budgeted to spend in Nunavut over that five year period of time. So, the member is correct on how the capital plan is spelt there and the name. The difference being, it shouldn't be the Nunavut Power Corporation, it's actually taken out of the NTPC one and therefore I think the terminology used is correct. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Do you have any other questions.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): My question is very brief now. Once we get the Nunavut Power Corporation, at that time we'll take over the Northwest Territory part of it. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, that is a good point. Over the next twelve months as we build capacity within the new Nunavut Power Corporation, as we get the new President on line and the Board of Directors in place, we'll be able to look at the figures and the projections made by the Northwest Territories Power Corporation and find out what we can use from them so that we do get our Nunavut Power Corporation after April 1, 2001. Then those figures will be presented as ours. So I would thank the member again for his suggestion and guidance in that area.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Perhaps I would like to remind the Minister again, his question was very brief. Your response is quite long, you should respond yes or no. The question requires a yes or no answer. So I'm just reminding you to keep your responses short and for the people who will be asking the questions I give you the same reminder that you make comments and preambles very short. The second speaker, Mr. O'Brien.

**Mr. O'Brien:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I just have a few comments to make. I know the other members have numerous questions they want put forward. So I'll be brief. In speaking of this report, yesterday, my comments to the minister were that I didn't see any major problems with the report. I think Ms. Gauthier and the team that they put together that compiled this report did a tremendous job and my concern was not what was in the report, but what was not in the report, and that's alternative types of energy such as the hydro link, a hydro link for example from Manitoba to the Keewatin.

In the examples that the minister gave to me, to show it wouldn't be as easy as I guess one might think to look at such a linkage, he cited an example that the mine outside Yellowknife and the Akati mine and the BHP diamond mine, that they themselves went with their own independent generating plant and that they did not run a line from Yellowknife to the mine. Just a point of clarification to Mr. Chairman, it's my understanding that the reason why they did not run a line out to that particular site was that Yellowknife could not provide the power. They were at the point where they were even using diesel generators to provide power to the rest of the area. So it wasn't that it wasn't a good idea, the mines were looking at a power link but unfortunately, the Power Corporation could not provide that amount of power.

Mr. Chairman, my only comment or request to the minister is that he take it upon himself and his department to, as soon as possible, look into providing a study as to the costs and benefits of alternate power sources such as hydro from Manitoba into Nunavut. That's my concern right now Mr. Chairman, and if the minister would agree to take this upon

himself and have some review done and study I'd be more than pleased to accept the report. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Minister.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Yes Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): What a wise response. Mr. O'Brien.

**Mr. O'Brien:** Thank you Mr. Chairman, I realize that you asked the members to keep their remarks short, but I don't think that necessarily meant non-existent. I would ask the minister if he could elaborate very briefly as to the timing of this review and when we could expect to see the results of his study, I guess, when it would come back to the House. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Minister, would you like to respond.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** I guess Mr. Chairman, over the next three to six months would be a pretty solid time frame to be able to complete an analysis of the Manitoba Report. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. O'Brien.

**Mr. O'Brien:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I find that time frame somewhat long and unacceptable. I think the basic report has been in the hands of this government since the fall. There were presentations made in the fall to various ministers and departments, and the recent presentation that was made here this week. There have been no significant changes to the report. So I would assume that over the last number of months that somebody in your department would have had the opportunity to be proactive and to review the issues that were put forth in the report and the recommendations.

I realize that you yourself are not in a position to commit to any large expenditure and that is understood. I think that is a decision of the House. But, I would like to hear what your department and yourself have to say about this report. I don't think one needs to pull together a totally new team to analyze this, I think it is pretty straightforward and I am asking just for, or to take another brief look at the recommendations that were made. I would like to see your response back to this House within the next two months. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Would you like to respond Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, first of all, I have no department. The Nunavut Power Corporation exists only in name, only on paper. What I have tried to do through the auspices and the good office of the Premier, through the Department of the Executive, is use money and line items from his budget to be able to bring forward the items under discussion today. As the members know, we are in the

middle right now of hiring our first employee of the Power Corporation, that would be the President.

So when I say three to six months, that means I will have to reconstitute probably some of the members of the Ikuma working group and also work in a multi-disciplinary fashion with inter-departmental help, even Sustainable Development, the Department of the Executive, Intergovernmental Affairs and so on, on this report to see what it states and give us the level of comfort and the comprehensive analysis I'm sure the member wants to have put in front of them.

Manitoba Hydro has come forward with a proposal that this line, this hydro line is technically feasible. Saskatchewan, for example, Mr. Chairman, has a hydro line that goes right to the border. Would it be cheaper to hook up that one, we don't know. So that is the type of analysis we want to be able to look at and see other energy, viable energy reports. And I commit to the member just now that we will try and do that over the next three to six months given the time frame, given that we are trying to set up a whole new Power Corporation, at the same time to try and do that analysis and come back to the members and to this House with that report. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. O'Brien.

**Mr. O'Brien:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. So, chairman, my next question to the minister would be, what commitment has the minister made to the Minister of the Power Corporation from Manitoba in reference to this report. As I have indicated over the last few days, in the fall, myself and the Premier, Mr. Anawak and others were present at a presentation that involved this report and the highways report or study. I would assume that some people are waiting for some answers or at least some direction, so my question is what have you indicated to the Manitoba Minister responsible for the Power Corporation as to what your timing is or where your thoughts are in regards to this particular proposal.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Minister, would you like to respond.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Mr. Chairman, as the member knows and the House, I am not at liberty to discuss the private conversations with the minister of another jurisdiction but I can say to the member that the discussions with the Minister Responsible for Manitoba Hydro have centred around the report itself and as the member knows, it's a new government in Manitoba and it's a new minister taking over the portfolio and he's trying to get up to speed and familiarise himself with some of the other issues surrounding not only this issue but other issues I suppose within Manitoba Hydro itself.

But I did say to the member and what I did say to the minister was that the Nunavut Government wants an opportunity to analyze the report from our point of view. And that's the commitment the member has asked for and I have already responded to the member that we will do a comprehensive review of the Manitoba hydro report and the pre-feasibility of the electrical line and would take that information over to this House

and share it with the members and so on over the next three to six months. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. O'Brien.

**Mr. O'Brien:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, with all due respect to the minister and his department, I think this same situation exists in other areas within the government. It just seems to me that we are dragging our derrière on some of these projects and these proposals and I would think that we would just have to be a little more pro-active and try to kick start a lot of the projects and the issues that are before us. The minister is obviously not going to reduce the period of time which he will review this particular proposal, so I will have to accept that but in my mind Mr. Chairman, I don't think it's acceptable. Thank you.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. I don't think it's acceptable that the member continues to try to raise me to the point of debate on this report, the Manitoba Hydro Report. We are suppose to be here to study the Ikuma Report. The Ikuma Report was to take the idea to see, should we have our own Power Corporation. It wasn't looking at alternative energy sources, it wasn't made to look at the Manitoba hydro report. As I said earlier we constituted this working group in May of last year, we didn't even have the Manitoba Hydro report which we didn't get until this fall, officially delivered to us from the Manitoba hydro people.

Mr. Chairman, I don't have a department, I have Ms. Laura Gauthier from the Department of Executive working with me on this file with the Ikuma group, which are contract people. Now, between now and April 1, 2001 we are going to try and get a Nunavut Power Corporation up and running. We need to select our headquarters, we need to staff up, we are in the middle of getting the President. And I have committed to the member that we will do the analysis that is needed so that the best choice for Nunavut can be made. That will take three to six months to do that. And I have also committed to bring that information back to the House for these members to see. Mr. Chairman, I think that is quite fair. I don't know what else I can do. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. O'Brien, are you out of questions now.

**Mr. O'Brien:** I didn't get the answers that I wanted, I'll have to accept what the minister said, but I still feel that this, it should have been a part of the report that was conducted. It is unfortunate that it wasn't. And I think in general I am talking about not only hydro but also other alternative sources of power. And I think it should be a critical part, an extension of this report, and that's where I am coming from on this particular issue. Having said that, Mr. Chairman, it is only fair to stop my questioning and allow the other members to have their time. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): That was just a comment. Mr. Alakannuark.

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask the Minister Responsible for NTPC, if this report is approved, how much would our rates be increased and how long would it be until we get the rates increased for power. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, that is an excellent question. One of the things that the report shows is that if we move forward on our own Nunavut Power Corporation indeed, we don't see the rates going up, we see them actually in some cases going down. And the reason for that is the differences of the economies of scale pointed out in the report itself. That was an excellent question and maybe for the member, we don't see the prices going up, we don't see the current costs increase in the new Nunavut Power Corporation. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Alakannuark.

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I know that you are not going to increase the rates but what I am thinking is that annually the cost of living increases each year. I am a bit leery about increasing the power rates, especially for the homeowners. If the rates are increased, my constituency won't be able to afford to pay for the power bills. Since the fuel price went up us homeowners have to pay extra for our bills. I would like to get adequate response to my question. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** The member is correct in his comments. Now, this will give me an opportunity to explain the earlier statement that I made. Creating the Corporation, the new Nunavut Power Corporation, won't cause rates to increase. However, as the member pointed out and rightfully so, there are other inflationary factors, for example, if fuel increases and so on that may cause these rates to increase. Having our own Nunavut Power Corporation, Mr. Chairman, gives us the advantage of ownership and the ability to control more of our destiny. And when I say that Mr. Chairman, I should point out what I mean.

Many of the members in the House will remember a couple of years ago, we used to pay a low water rider charge or surcharge on our power bills, because of the low water in Yellowknife. Even though the member was living in Pelly Bay, he had to pay for low water in Yellowknife. Only if we have our own Nunavut Power Corporation we won't be paying for low water rates in Yellowknife. So I can't rule out increases because of inflationary factors, the price of fuel. But what I can say, is our own Nunavut Power Corporation gives us a better flexibility to control that destiny for us. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Alakannuark.



**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The Ikuma Report, I think perhaps the minister could give us more time to read the report. That's what I was suggesting, if it's not urgent that you give us more time to read the report. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): I do have authority to defer this, but we would have to do this by way of motion. Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco**: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the major recommendation of the report as the members know is to set up our own Nunavut Power Corporation. That's what we're moving forward on as I have already presented that to the standing committee and so on. But I agree with the member, if there is more time needed for members to read the report and digest it, I have no problem with that, I welcome that. And, I will take direction from the committee. But the major recommendation of the report has been followed through on already. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson**: Mr. Alakannuark.

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Perhaps once we get our own Nunavut Power Corporation then the power rates will increase and perhaps if you can notify us ahead of time, give us notice way ahead of time when the power rates are going to go up, or increase, if the public knows the rates will increase, there will be less opposition if they are notified ahead of time. So that is my last remark Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairperson**: Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco**: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I thank the member for his comments. I can tell he has done some good reading on the report, some good questions. I would commit to him that before any rate increase, again, we don't see any rate increase coming forward and the area around rates is quite extensive. Each community has their own community based rates. I don't think we want to go into that detail today. So I would commit to the member if any rate increase that would occur, we don't see that happening, but we would make sure that we will inform the communities, inform the members and make sure that a consultative process is there as outlined and mandated by our Premier government wide. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson**: Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean**: Mr. Chairman, I want to have a preamble. I'll try and keep it short. Then I want to ask questions. But first off, I want to commend the minister for taking the initiative and going out and doing this and putting this report together, because I don't think any of us have said that. Thanks Mr. Picco for putting this report together.

>>Applause

**Mr. McLean:** I commend the minister for doing this and showing the vision that we always talk about in the House. The vision of Nunavut. I hear comments from the table that power rates are going to go up, and I don't think the minister should be saying that when we create a Nunavut Power Corporation the rates aren't going to go up. Because, if you read the report and you keep an eye on the world price of crude oil and what it costs to deliver it, there are going to be external influences on it that could create circumstances where we are going to have to increase the price of power because of what is happening outside of our control. I know the minister has set up a Public Utilities Board, which I think is great.

We finally got it, and I am a firm believer that we move forward and I am proud that the minister and cabinet have decided to set up a Nunavut Power Corporation. Because the thing that we are not hearing here, you know the west who is our partner right now, are they going to subsidise us. I don't think so. If we stay with the existing organization we have now, oh they'll promise us the rates won't go up but if we agree to stay with them, we know the rates will go up. So I for one support the concept of a Nunavut Power Corporation and I wish a few other cabinet people would do the same to ensure these are within Nunavut, instead of having to rely on big brother in the west.

To me it shows that we don't have the ability to do things for ourselves and stand on our own two feet and I'm glad that Ed Picco has taken that initiative to set up the Power Corporation. But that's about all the praising I'm going to do with Mr. Picco at this point because I think he needs a little thing. Mr. Chairman I'd like to ask my questions now.

Mr. Picco, looking at the report on page 44, Nunavut now pays the Northwest Territories Power Corporation in excess of 4.5 million a year for just our office costs in Nunavut and it says here that Nunavut can provide that for less than 3 million. Is that a relatively close figure, so will it cost us 3 million dollars to run the head office in Nunavut. So we are saving 1.5 million a year in head office costs by establishing our own Power Corporation, is this correct. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, first of all I would like to thank and sincerely thank the member for his earlier comments. The work on the Power Corporation itself has been the work of the Cabinet and indeed the members themselves because we have been apprising them and getting their direction and so on. I think the members themselves need some thanks for that too as well as my Cabinet colleagues. The Public Utilities Board that the member talked about earlier is under the auspices of that wonderful man, Premier Okalik, who expediently set that up over the last couple of weeks with a lot of input from yours truly.

Now, on to the questions, Mr. Chairman, the member is right, creating the Corporation itself won't cause rate increases but other inflationary factors may. For example the price of fuel and so on. So when I say the rates won't increase I mean the rates won't increase

because we are setting up a Power Corporation, the rates may increase because there is another war in Iran or Iraq or the world price of oil and so on and those are outside of our control. But having our own Power Corporation gives us the level of control that we don't have now for example the low water rider in Yellowknife.

On the questions on page 44, 106, the member is correct. Right now we pay approximately 4.5 million dollars Mr. Chairman, to Hay River for the operation of headquarters functions and yet after we did that REI all the respondents came back and gave us an average price between 1.9 million dollars, Mr. Chairman, and 3.5 million to do the same thing, over a million dollars anyway you slice it, in savings. That's very astute of Mr. McLean to pick that up. Again those costs will depend on what level of outsourcing the Government of Nunavut puts in place with the new Power Corporation. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you. Enough of the niceties here. There's a two million dollar leaving penalty that will be incurred regardless of when Nunavut decides to go on it's own. Was that something that was decided before April 1, 1999 and by who.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Mr. Chairman that two million dollar leaving penalty was before this government took office. It was part of the discussions, the on-going negotiations between NTI the GNWT, NTPC and the OIC. And that's correct Mr. Chairman, the western coalition was involved at that same time. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Mr. Chairman, you know, in the annual report of 1998-1999, the long term debt of the Power Corporation was 132 million and I think it's probably increased by, whatever, 5 or 10 %. How much long term debt are we going to assume.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the share of the debt is based on the total ownership of the Power Corporation. In this case the Nunavut Government owns 33 % of the Corporation and therefore and thus would share, take, 33 % of the debt on the books of the NWT Power Corporation, so we would have 33 % ownership of that debt. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you Mr. Picco. Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Picco in regards to 32% of the debt is there going to be an assets count on how much, like there's liability

here, what are we getting back in assets in regards to the power plants, have they been valued out what all the assets in Nunavut are worth that we are acquiring. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, there is a three-step methodology in deciding the split in assets and liabilities of the Power Corporation east and west. For example we have what we call stranded assets and those are the physical power plants themselves on the ground. We have the assets which would include, Mr. Chairman, the oil in the storage tanks, because someone paid for those and they have a value and those would also be there. And then there are other assets of the Corporation itself, book assets, there may be information, technology knowledge issues that would be shared east and west and those types of things would have a price on them.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Ms. Gauthier.

**Ms. Gauthier:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. If the member is interested we do have a copy of the transition agreement that we can provide to you which outlines more details of that three step methodology that the minister referred to, so, if you'd like to see a copy of that I can go through and explain in more detail.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Gauthier. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, I'd like to have a copy to read that because I am on that Standing Committee and I've never seen that document and it would be nice if the Standing Committee could receive that document to see what we are receiving in assets and how we are being dealt with on that. My next question is, that as the minister responsible, and I know that this would have to go to FMB, and I'm sure that the Power Corporation would have to go to the FMB for the territorial power support program, is this government and are you ministers going to continue with that subsidy.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Minister.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I know that the Minister of Finance wants to weigh in on this one, but I would say that the question for the member was do we want to continue and are we going to continue with the territorial power subsidy program. I'd say to the member that there has been no discussion at the government level about ending the power subsidy program. That program is run through the office of finance and administration and Mr. Ng is saying no, no, no and he's waving his little thumb, if you'd like to add something Mr. Ng by going on the mike publicly for a change, go ahead. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Since my honourable colleague asked me to weigh in on this, Mr. Chairman the territorial subsidy program is run by the Government

of Nunavut and the member, my colleague, Mr. Picco is correct, there haven't been any discussions about not proceeding with it or not keeping it in existence at this point. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. The territorial power subsidy program at this point I think is in the neighbourhood of 2.6 million. I'm correct in saying that, that subsidy is used to bring down the power rates on all power bills in Nunavut and without this territorial power subsidy program all our power bills would go up. Am I correct in saying that.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman the territorial power subsidy program, the TPSP, was put in place by the previous government in conjunction with the NWT Power Corporation, what happens there Mr. Chairman, we could go into some detail on how power subsidies are paid out but the member is correct, if the subsidy was taken out in a way then there would be an increase in power bills because then there would no longer be the subsidy in place. So, in an essence the statement by the member is correct. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. So you are saying that what you have told me is that the subsidy rate subsidises the power bills for all of us. Now on that topic how do you, how does FMB figure out what kind of a subsidy they are giving us. Is it based on a power rate in Yellowknife. Or is it going to be based on a power rate in Iqaluit or is it going to be based on a power rate in Arviat. Thank you.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman we will be continuing the territorial power subsidy program based on the Yellowknife rate up until the point we have an opportunity we have to re-evaluate the TPSP. The TPSP, as most members know, was put in place almost 21 years ago. The GNWT inherited the program from the NCPC which used to be the old Northern Canada Power Commission or NCPC in 1988 and the objectives and everything are spelled out in the Ikuma Report, if the members would like to look at it it's on page 99 and 100 of the report. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** I don't want to sound like I'm belabouring a point but as minister responsible, you are going to try and make sure that the TPSP stays in place and if due to unforeseen circumstances with the world price of crude plus other options like capital expansion that you are going to try and keep the power rates maintained at a responsible

level and I know that we have the Public Utility Board but as minister responsible you are going to make sure that the territorial power subsidy program will be kept. Thank you. That's all the questions I have Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman almost 80% of all revenue generated by the Power Corporation comes officially or unofficially from government and if we increase the rates then that means the government would be paying more and then we would have to find the money from programs or services or so on. The rate subsidy will continue at the same levels for at least the next fourteen months, so it's going to take us a year, the next twelve months just to get the Nunavut Power Corporation up and running and then the cabinet would have to re-evaluate what the programs are that are in place and some of the other advantages that may come to be.

In the report itself on page 22 of 106 you can see how that paying for power and a nice flowchart that has been developed by the Ikuma Report, the working group works. So for the next fourteen months we see no change Mr. Chairman, by that time with the co-operation and the support of the members we would have an opportunity to re-evaluate the territorial power subsidy program. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman one of the recommendations of the report is that the Government of Nunavut continues some form of rate subsidy which Mr. McLean was just talking about I believe for the short term future, but only the short term future. Mr. Chairman is it the goal to reduce the total subsidy cost or reduce the rates being passed onto the customers. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the member is correct. The Ikuma Report actually went into some detail on the territorial power subsidy program and so on. As I just said to the member from Baker Lake, for the next fourteen months we don't see anything happening, we have to get the new Power Corporation up and running first and then analyze what is in place. I can say with some authority that when 80% of the revenue generated by the Power Corporation comes officially or unofficially from the government if we increase the rates we ourselves are paying the rate increase so that wouldn't make any economic sense, but again I can't say what the judgement will be down the road fourteen, sixteen or eighteen months and as Mr. McLean pointed out there are external factors out of our control. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman the minister indicated they are looking at it fourteen, sixteen months down the road to review the subsidies. I'm just

wondering what process will be used in reviewing the rate subsidies between now and then. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the Ikuma Report really didn't detail, I guess what the member may be asking for but the cabinet hasn't really decided what to go for on this. You know we want to get the Power Corporation up and running and that was the major thrust of the report and that was the recommendation that we accepted. But the government choices will be difficult and there will be some crucial decisions that the Government of Nunavut will have to look at and I guess Mr. Chairman, you'd have to look at it would we put in an annual subsidy rebate, can we look at a change from the Yellowknife based rate to an Iqaluit based rate, will we look at adjusting the territorial power subsidy program compression bench mark and make that a lower value.

There's all kinds of different scenarios, but we haven't looked at them because the thrust of the report is to set up our own Power Corporation but that's the type of discussion that we need to take place with the members and with the public frankly on the directions we go in the next fourteen months that the Power Corporation is up and running and has some capacity. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I guess as you know that is one of the things I look at in this report and the recommendations that are in there. If fourteen or sixteen months from now all of a sudden the government decides that they're no longer to have the subsidies in place and if we say everything's fine and this report should go ahead with the recommendations, basically right now we'd be saying that it's ok to go ahead and do that.

So, I guess that's why I'm glad to hear the minister say that there will be some consultations prior to that happening and it just re-affirms that the minister committing that prior to anything being done to the rate subsidies whether they be phased out or whatever, that there would be some public consultation on that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, courtesy of the good offices of the Premier, he has mandated and set up the Nunavut Public Utilities Board. I believe the Chairperson of that Board is actually from here, in Rankin Inlet, Mr. Mercer. So any move by this government to increase the rates or indeed eliminate the territorial power subsidy program would have to go before the Public Utilities Board. If we were to eliminate the subsidy, then the rates would increase, so I would expect that the public at large would have an opportunity to bring that forward and I would say to you that any

government that did that would probably be doing it at it's peril. So, I think it's safe to assume Mr. Chairman, that the Government of Nunavut would consult on their rates and indeed the power subsidy itself. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the Ikuma Report also recommends eventually combining the petroleum products division in order to eliminate the duplication of services. Mr Chairman, does the minister have any indication of a time frame that is being considered for the integration of those services. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman that is an excellent question that has come up before when some people have reviewed the report. I just want to go back on the question of the power subsidy. The power subsidy itself of course is not brought forward to the Public Utility Board. The Public Utility Board deals with the actual rates and if the governments were to raise the rates then of course the board would give the opportunity for the public to be involved as an intervenor in any rate setting application.

On the second question the member had concerning POL, and the integration within the new Nunavut Power Corporation, that was one of the ideas that came out of the report to look at ways of cutting costs and creating some economies of scale. One of the largest purchasers of fuel in Nunavut is the Power Corporation. It would probably make sense as it was pointed out in the report, that some integration in the areas of operation of government be integrated. It is a recommendation of the report but no action has been taken on it by the government and frankly we haven't paid that much attention to it because Mr. Chairperson, we were involved in setting the Power Corporation up itself. It may be something that may be reviewed over the next several months as we get more inline with the setting up of the corporation. And I'll ask Laura to add further comments to that. Thank you.

**Chairperson (interpretation):** Ms. Gauthier.

**Ms. Gauthier:** Thank you Mr. Chairman, if I could direct the members' attention to the summary document page one and two. One of the goals that cabinet endorsed is goal number four which basically looks at a conservation ethic that would be promoted within Nunavut and consumers themselves. This concept of a total energy provider versus just being an electricity provider was endorsed by cabinet and by the minister and in promoting that goal and that objective, looking at merging PPD with NTPC or NPC when we set up our own power corporation, is one of those ways or strategies of addressing that goal. So that whole area, while we are trying to get the Power Corporation up and going it is not deemed to be critical enough. We look at focusing our energies at getting the utility up and operational for April 1. Thank you Mr. Chairman



**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, while developing their report the team had NTI participate in the development of it and I would like to commend the minister for involving them in it. What I would like to ask the minister is if there are any specific issues that they raised in regards to this process. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. We looked at setting up the Ikuma working group in the beginning, we thought it was cognisant of us to include NTI because they had been a signatory of the land claims itself, and were also involved in negotiations leading up to the signing of the transition agreement between the OIC and the government of the Northwest Territories, prior to April 1, 1999. They were a party to this report and I think it is safe to say that there were no major differences in opinion or a NTI point of view that was not reflective of were we were going as a government. So I don't think that was the case. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

**Chairperson (interpretation):** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, at present NTPC is exempt from the provisions of Article 24. I would like to ask the minister if the Nunavut Power Corporation will be as well. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman that is an excellent question. Right now we have to look at setting up the Power Corporation itself and getting its board of directors in place and then looking at the whole corporate structure and the whole corporate mandate of the crown corporation, which will be the Nunavut Power Corporation. So that will be one of the issues that we will look at. I would suspect Mr. Chairman, that the Power Corporation, boards and agencies of Government of Nunavut would follow some of the articles of the land claim. That would be my opinion, but again we would have to look at that after we set the Power Corporation up. Of course right now the reason NTPC doesn't follow them is because NTPC is a trans-territorial company. It operates in other jurisdictions other than just Nunavut. Of course the majority of shareholders are located in the western region, or the Northwest Territories our former partner.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman, Mr. Chairman, I guess as the minister had indicated that the he involved NTI up to this point in the development of the Ikuma report. Will NTI continue to be involved in the development of the corporation. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Picco

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, it wouldn't be involved in the actual setting up of the corporation because that would be the mandate of the government itself. But they would be monitoring, being a full party to the Ikuma report, and I would suspect if there was something that we weren't following or abdicate within the report itself, then they would have some concerns that they would bring forward. But as a signatory to the land claims agreement they have a role to play and that's why they're involved in the report itself and I guess in the evaluation of the report that we already put out. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I have a question but I would like to make a comment for the minister and his team who did a tremendous job making this report. I know it takes time and effort to make this thick a report. Also, I feel we need a corporation in our region that is fair and square for all Nunavummiut. That we can have say to it, because at this point we have no say for example on power cut off notices which are only in English. So if we have our own corporation in our region it will also be under the Nunavut Government, we can also have a minister. I would like to say that we need it the sooner the better. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Picco do you want to make a comment.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to make a quick comment. I would like to thank the member for his kind words and on behalf of the working group and the staff that generated this report and my cabinet colleges who have been very supportive of the praise I'm getting today. Thank you .

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman I'm glad I can have an opportunity to make a comment before the time is up. In the Ikuma report, if we can look at the Ikuma report on page 111 in the Inuktitut part. In English it is just A5. Looking at the numbers in there, if we look at the communities and we look at Clyde River. I'm looking at the numbers for 1999 - one million one hundred eighty-four, in the year 2000 we will use one million five hundred eighty-eight. In 2002, it will be three million dollars that Clyde River will have used. If I look at the figures here, this is going to mean a deficit for Clyde River.

Using the NTPC system, Clyde River will be in a deficit for three million dollars even though we are quite small in size and we don't have any economic opportunities. Looking at the three million dollars this is a huge deficit for Clyde River and they will have to pay for that deficit themselves. We want to get our own Nunavut Power

Corporation and I have been supporting that idea because I feel that the three million dollars will have to be paid in Clyde River. That is up to a 30 to 40 percent increase. If we did get our own Nunavut Power Corporation would we be able to correct this increase.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the member if anything is persistent and with the same the same persistent questions, and I give full credit for that. I have answered this question, I don't know how many different ways and different times. I thank him for giving me the chance to answer this question for the 74,892 time. Just kidding. Just kidding. Mr. Chairperson, I think realistically, the Nunavut Power Corporation, with the best information provided to me, is that we are not looking at any rate increase in Clyde River for at least twelve to fourteen months, and I think it is realistic to say and I went to the mayor in Clyde River with the member to discuss the power rate, that the Nunavut government realises that increases from 35 to 40 percent are not sustainable and indeed it wouldn't be sustainable in any other of our communities.

There are opportunities available to the people of Clyde River through the Public Utilities Board process, where they would be an intervenor, or could be an intervenor and would be paid for that cost. I think what we have to do Mr. Chairman, is the community of Clyde River needs that power plant, consumption has grown and the population has grown and the three million dollars, which the member is correct in talking about, will be spent over the next two and a half years in Clyde River creating employment and spending money there. So I would say to the member and I commit to the member again, that the people of Clyde River will have a chance to have their say and the Nunavut Government will not anticipate increasing the rates by 40 percent, because at the end of the day it would be us paying for that. So I hope that gives the member some level of comfort on this question. Again, thank you Mr. Chairman, and thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Do you understand his response Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Thank you for creating a very good future for me and looking at the future I know I will be able to make more comments in the future and we will leave it at that for now Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, earlier the minister indicated the long term debt that we will be receiving is roughly about 33 or 32 percent of that debt as reflected by the portion of that corporation we own. Mr. Chairman, I was just wondering if that is reflective of the actual dollar value of debt actually spent or incurred within the Nunavut Territory. Thank you Mr. Chairman

**Chairperson:** Mr. Picco

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, that is a good question. The forerunner of NTPC was the Northern Canada Power Commission, and since that commission has been in place for many years now it would be very difficult for me to say what the capitalisation costs of all the infrastructure they put in place and what that debt would have been, if it is the 33 percent. What I can say to the member is the amount of debt that we would take a portion of is based on what we own which has been agreed to previously. So our percentage of the debt is the percentage of ownership we have which is approximately 33 percent. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I am wondering whatever that dollar amount is and I've heard concerns from people that if you take Clyde River as an example you will have to build a new plant. Also, there are problems in Iqaluit right now with the increased capacity we are going to need to upgrade the facility there. I'm sure there are a number of old plants operating within Nunavut right now that are going to need to be redone over the next little bit of time. I guess I'm just wondering if this long-term debt, is it our long-term debt, or was it debt from capital projects developed in the west over the number of years. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Picco

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman and thank you to the member for clarifying that. He has made a good point and I think the member is trying to say for example where the Northwest Territories Power Corporation two years ago got involved in some natural gas work in the Mackenzie valley, would that debt be part of the debt we would have to share, part of the debt that we talked about before. The process that has been put in place to look at the identification of our assets and liabilities is that three separate methodologies that I spoke to you about, and that is the table where we would be able to highlight some of the concerns brought forward by the member on the capitalisation costs themselves.

For example, if you look at the power plant in Baker Lake maybe the capitalisation costs have been paid ten years ago which is the actual cost of putting that plant in place. So you wouldn't be able to look at that as a long-term debt of the corporation because it has already paid for itself. That would be very hard to figure out and that is one of the reasons that the debt itself is based on the share ownership east and west. So in our case we take 33 percent of that debt. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Tootoo

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, maybe the minister can correct me if I'm wrong on determining the value of assets that we have. Once a plant is built it has a life expectancy of say 25 years and it depreciates every year. So I guess when we are doing the asset and liability split that is taken into account already, because if there is only five years left in the life expectancy of that asset then it is only worth one fifth of the

value and I can't see that being reflective in the amount of debt that has been established. If we have a lot of old plants that only have five years left on them, and a lot of this long term debt has been incurred in the last five years then we know it hasn't been incurred in Nunavut. So I guess I would like to take a look at that if there isn't a better way of doing it. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr Chairman, the three step methodology is inclusive of and includes the capitalisation costs. If a plant was built fifty years ago or forty years ago or thirty years ago, it would be very difficult to see what those costs were relative to what they are today and what the relative debt that was there thirty years ago is there today. We think that the structure that is in place is fair to Nunavut, that we take 33% of the value of our share, we take the value of that debt. Again it has to follow the three-step methodology that is in place and we will have to take that into account so that we can make sure that is done correctly. Again that would be reviewed with the offices of the Minister of Finance to make sure that we weren't being short-changed, I'm sure, as he looks at me inquisitively. Laura, would you like to add anything more to this. Mr. Chairman, Ms. Gauthier would like to add to that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson:** Ms. Gauthier.

**Ms. Gauthier:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In hopes of maybe clarifying the three step methodology process, as much as I've rehearsed it myself, to me it still seems fairly complex at times. This whole process was actually designed by what was known as the Northern Representatives Committee which was set up before division to look at how assets and liabilities would be split between the east and the west for all of government, not just for the power corp. So we came to them for a methodology on how to split NTPC assets when it looked like we couldn't continue on a joint arrangement as part of those negotiations with the GNWT.

So, what this three step methodology really does is it separates all those physical assets east and west, so what's on the ground stays east and west. Those stranded assets so all of the power corporation that has been valued inside of Nunavut will stay inside of Nunavut and all of those in the west will stay where they are. The next step sort of looks at those assets that you can't really divide on a geographic basis. So that next level of how you get to that final formula, that's using that ratio that's identified in the transition agreement. And then the third sort of category are those things that you really can't, they're sort of soft assets and liabilities that are fuzzy if you want to call it that. And those are also using the formula that's set out in the transition agreement. So that's just to help provide a bit more clarity to the actual methodology so that hopefully that will address Mr. Tootoo's question.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Is that it for comments. Comments. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** One last question, Mr. Chairman, just in regards to the rates. You know there's a couple of pages in here on the rates. I'm just wondering, and realising that the rates are set by the Public Utilities Board, will there be any recommendation or look at coming from the power corporation to the Public Utilities Board that's setting a uniform rate for everyone in Nunavut so it doesn't matter where you live, you all pay the same rate.

We wouldn't be looking at problems that we're running into right now like in Clyde River where the way the system is set up, where they're looking at, if you went by the book you'd be looking at a 40% increase. If there was a uniform rate set up, that everyone paid a pool or reserve could be built up in order to do the upgrade, from the capital upgrades that are necessary without the brunt of that being born by the community itself. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Picco, possibly you want to respond to that.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Chairman. There are several options under rates that we could look at. One would be the status quo that we have, basically what's there to stay in place, and uses the community based rate approach. The problem with the community based rate approach is Clyde River's problem where any infrastructure that goes in there with a community based rate approach, those people have to pay the infrastructure, the capitalisation costs of the infrastructure being bought and put in the communities by increasing their rates. So we know there's a problem with that.

We could go to zones. Zones is where maybe six or seven communities in a certain area with the same capacity, would share a rate and then if infrastructure was put in Clyde River, then Broughton, Pang, Pond would help pay for that infrastructure. That's another option, that's called zones. Or we could look at what Greenland does. They have what's called a postage stamp rate. That's one rate for everyone in the whole area. So there are different things that could be looked at. As a government, again we have to get the Power Corporation up and running. We need consultation with the Premier, through the Public Utilities Board process. There might be an opportunity there for setting rates and so on and so forth. It is a complex issue.

There are recommendations in the report that we've been looking at and taking those in context with the subsidies we would come out with a decision to look at that over the next several months. So I would say to you Mr. Chairman, that the member's question is a good one and hopefully we can get the power corporation up and running and that's something we could come back to the members with again and say what option should we take. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Any further comments to the report. Are we agreed then. 45-1(3) and 20-1 (24) I believe there's a mistake in here. Just a minute. I apologise. I got confused because there's a typo. Tabled Document 20-1(3) is completed. Are we agreed. What's the wish of the committee. I apologise. Minister Picco and Ms. Gauthier

I would like to thank you very much for being at the witness table. We'll see you again. You can go home now.

What's the wish of the committee. Did you want to make your final comments Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Just a quick comment. I do appreciate sincerely the nice comments from the members on the report and on the power corporation report and on the Ikuma Report itself. I do enjoy some of the jokes that we have here in House and some of the good-natured humour that the members like to bring toward me. Thank you very much for that.

>>Applause

And I have tried to keep my comments short and I would just like to thank you Mr. Chairman for a good job.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Akesuk.

**Mr. Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I move that we report progress.

**Chairperson** (interpretation): Okay then, there is a motion on the floor. All in favour. Opposed. Thank you. While we're waiting we'll take a brief break or what is the wish of the committee. We'll take a five-minute break. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): There was a motion and our Speaker is here with us. Adjourn right away.

**Chairperson:** Agreed. Thank you.

### **Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole**

**Speaker** (interpretation): Item 20, report of the committee of the whole. Mr. Irqittuq.

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Minister's Statement 45-1(3) and Tabled Document 20-1(3) and would like to report that the Minister's Statement 45-1(3) and Tabled Document 20-1(3) are concluded and Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the committee of the whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Irqittuq, I apologise. There's a motion on the floor, seconded by Mr. Premier. All those in favour. All those opposed. Motion is carried.

Item 21, third reading of bills. 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. Meeting of the Standing Committee on Culture, Education and Health at 6:15 tonight in the hotel board room. Also a social event, there is a square dance at the community hall at 9:00 p.m. to assist the elders to raise funds for their van and also an old timer's hockey game at 9:00 p.m.

Orders of the day for Friday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m.

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. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
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
  - Minister's Statement 50-1(3)
  - Minister's Statement 51-1(3)
  - Tabled documents 24-1(3), 25-1(3), 27-1(3),
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day.

Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Clerk. (interpretation) We're going to adjourn the meeting. We will proceed tomorrow at 10:00 a.m.

Sergeant-At-Arms

>>*House Adjourned at 5:45 p.m.*



