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Speaker: The Hon. Kevin O'Brien, M.L.A.

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Akulliq)

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(Amittuq)
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Table of Contents

Opening Prayer	2198
Ministers' Statements.....	2198
Members' Statements.....	2200
Returns to Oral Questions.....	2209
Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery	2210
Oral Questions	2211
Reports of Standing and Special Committees.....	2226
Tabling of Documents.....	2237
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters	2237
Report of Committee of the Whole.....	2282
Third Reading of Bills	2282
Orders of the Day.....	2282
Assent to Bills.....	2283

A.

Daily References

Wednesday May 3, 2000..... 2198

B.

Ministers' Statements

132 - 1(3): Decentralization Update (Okalik)..... 2198

C.

Members' Statements

403- 1(3): Gjoa Haven Fuel Update (Puqiqnak)..... 2200

404 - 1(3): Manitoba Rural Forum (McLean)..... 2200

405 - 1(3): Appreciation for Sessional Support (Akesuk) 2201

406 - 1(3): Akulliq Hockey Players (Akulliq) 2201

407 - 1(3): Capital Equipment and Economic Opportunity (Iqaqrialu)..... 2202

408 - 1(3): Thanks for Decentralization and Pond Inlet TEP (Nutarak)..... 2203

409 - 1(3): Ranger Medals and House Procedures (Irqittuq)..... 2203

410 - 1(3): Thanks to People of Sallit and Sadliq (Thompson) 2204

411 - 1(3): Importance of Private Business in Nunavut (Anawak) 2205

412 - 1(3): Romeo Leblanc Good Fishing Award (Kilabuk)..... 2206

413 - 1(3): Successful Session (Tootoo)..... 2206

414 - 1(3): Dogs Killed by SDO (Barnabas) 2207

415 - 1(3): Coral Harbour Business Opportunities (Arvaluk) 2207

416 - 1(3): End of Current Session (Picco)..... 2208

D.

Returns to Oral Questions

Return to OQ 536 - 1(3): Training for DPWTTS Positions (Thompson)..... 2209

E.

Oral Questions

578 - 1(3): Cabinet Meeting in Pond Inlet (Nutarak) 2211

579 - 1(3): Fate of Quluuq School (Iqaqrialu) 2212

580 - 1(3): Staff Training (Nutarak) 2213

581 - 1(3): Next Phase for P3 Projects (Barnabas)..... 2214

582 - 1(3): Inukshuk High School Gym Repairs (Tootoo)..... 2215

583 - 1(3): Disease Diagnosis Problems (Irqittuq) 2216

584 - 1(3): Iqaluit Break Water (Tootoo) 2218

585 – 1(3): Progress on Housing Issue (Iqaqrialu) 2220

586 – 1(3): Capital Plan for Natillik Riding (Puqiqnak)..... 2222

587 – 1(3): Capacity of Pelly Bay Tank Farm (Alakannuark)..... 2223

588 – 1(3): Dogs Killed in Arctic Bay (Barnabas) 2224

589 – 1(3): Docking Facilities (Nutarak)..... 2225

F.

Tabled Documents

103 – 1(3): Letter of Instruction to Commissioner Irniq (Okalik)..... 2237

G.

Third Reading of Bills

Bill 13 Appropriation Act 2000-2001 - Third Reading (Ng)..... 2282

Iqaluit, Nunavut
Wednesday May 3, 2000

Members Present

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

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. Kevin O'Brien): I would like to ask Mr. Akesuk to say the prayer.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker: Good morning Members before we start with the proceedings of the day, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the pages that have been assisting us for the past eight days. From Baker Lake, Kimberley Allerik. From Iqaluit Emily Thomlin, Jeannie Nowdluk, Luke Joamie, Nuglu Hess and Charlotte Kaminik Mason and also our Sergeant-At-Arms Jaco Ishulutak, thank you very much for your services over the past two weeks.

>>*Applause*

Now proceeding with the Orders of the Day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Mr. Premier.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 132 - 1(3): Decentralization Update

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I would like to give you an update with what has been happening with decentralization. (interpretation ends) The implementation of decentralization is an important step in the development of Nunavut. I have always emphasised the benefits of a planned approach and the beneficial impact proper planning would have on reducing costs and on the development and provision of appropriate training programs.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, 5.2 million dollars is recommended for approval to implement decentralization in the coming fiscal year. This budget will be sufficient to implement one-third of our overall decentralization objective with full decentralization to occur over a three year timeframe.

I am now in the position to advise that the 5.2 million recommendation has been approved meaning that decentralization will begin this coming year. This is a major step

forward for Nunavut. Mr. Speaker I would like to announce which departments have been selected for decentralization this year, which communities will be impacted and how many new positions each community will receive. Some of these positions will be filled upon arrival and others will be vacant.

Four Nunavut Government departments and three communities will be impacted by the decentralization of positions this year.

(interpretation) The Baffin Adult Programs Office in the Department of Education will be moved to Pangnirtung. This does not include the Baffin School Office, which will relocate to Pond Inlet in 2001. There will be 15 positions that will move to Pangnirtung.

Community Government and Transportation will decentralize to the community of Cape Dorset. A total of 25 positions will be moved to that community. There will be no impact on existing employees.

The regional office of the Department of Sustainable Development will move to Pond Inlet. This relocation involves eight positions and will establish important expertise in Pond Inlet.

Also going to the community of Pond Inlet is regional office of Public Works. Due to the important role this department plays in implementing decentralization, approximately three-quarters of the regional positions will relocate this year or twenty-four positions. The remainder will decentralize within the 3 year time frame.

(interpretation ends) In total we expect that seventy-two positions will decentralize this year.

Overall our objective is to decentralize close to 200 positions in the next 3 years. The benefits of decentralization are not limited to these three communities. Incremental positions are now being recruited into the 10 impacted communities across Nunavut. Therefore, the benefits of decentralization should already be apparent in these communities even in the very early stage of implementation.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker I would like to remind members that the exact schedule for decentralization within the 2000/2001 fiscal year remains to be finalised.

(interpretation ends) Most relocation activity will occur after September 2000 allowing time for essential furnishings and equipment to arrive by sealift. This will also provide time for training programs to be in place in the communities in order to maximise the hiring of local residents. Communities will be kept informed as to the actual schedule.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to re-emphasise that decentralization is a key objective of our government. It is exciting to know that the process of moving positions will begin this year.

As a government we look forward to completing that implementation of the decentralised model within three years. This will have a positive impact within each community and all Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Premier. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 403- 1(3): Gjoa Haven Fuel Update

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker today is the last day of the session. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the community of Gjoa Haven and give you a status update on the fuel contamination situation.

Because of bad fuel the snowmobiles had been breaking down for the last couple of months. However at this time I would like to thank the Department of Public Works petroleum products division for helping our community to deal with this issue. We now have received good gasoline in our community of Gjoa Haven.

I would like to thank Brent Boddy of the Kitikmeot regional office who has worked very well with the mayor of Gjoa Haven and I would like to commend the department for having very good employees who are dealing with situation.

With that in mind I rise today to inform the members that I will be using good gas that smells good when I go out on the land next time. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. Members' Statements. Mr. McLean.

Member's Statement 404 - 1(3): Manitoba Rural Forum

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. Last week forty-five Nunavummiut attended a rural forum in Manitoba. The delegation was made up of elected officials, business representatives, government officials, KIA representatives, and high school students from Rankin Inlet and Arviat, as well as such organizations as the Keewatin Chamber of Commerce, the Keewatin Business development Centre and other interested organizations.

Rural forums, as you are aware Mr. Speaker, are an annual event in Brandon, Manitoba. Manitoba hosts a variety of special events and forums during this 3 day event. Emphasis is put on community economic development and youth and small business growth. The rural forum has an annual attendance of over 10 thousand people every year.

This year Nunavut had some great highlights of the trip. First, the organising committee set up a booth displaying all the greatness of Nunavut including economic opportunities, fashions, community development, food products from the Keewatin fish plant, tourism opportunities and cultural aspects. The Nunavut booth Mr. Speaker, won the innovators

award. Nunavut hosted a fashion show. This fashion show featured clothing from various individuals.

The youth representatives, eight students from Rankin Inlet and two from Arviat won a silver medal in the rural forum business games competition. Mr. Speaker, this competition put our youth up against some strong competition from Manitoba. The idea of the game is that students must develop a successful business from the ground up.

Several mayors and SAOs met with Premier Gary Doer, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs Gene Friesen and Minister of Northern and Aboriginal Affairs Eric Robinson to discuss issues of northern development, further co-operation under the newly signed MOU and updates on the recent hydro transmission line and transportation studies.

Louie Taparti, a councillor from Rankin Inlet co-hosted a discussion panel on northern healthy communities. He talked about the various Kivalliq community approaches to community based planning and development. Overall Mr. Speaker I would rate this a huge success for Nunavut.

I would like to pass on our thanks to the elected officials and the business representatives and the youth that attended on behalf of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you Mr. McLean. Members' Statements. Mr. Akesuk.

Member's Statement 405 - 1(3): Appreciation for Sessional Support

Mr. Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) I rise today to say thank you to my wife who has stood behind me and has given me support during this long session and to my children. I would also like to thank the staff of the Legislative Assembly for providing excellent support during the duration of the session. They worked very hard and I want to acknowledge the work of Pat File who will be moving on from the Legislative Assembly.

On behalf of Ajauqtiit we would like to thank you all very much because we had a very good working relationship. Thanks also go to the clerk for the Ajauqtiit committee. I would like to say thank you Pat and also to my colleagues, I thank you all for having a very good session and have a very good spring. Thank you also to the two communities that I represent. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Alakannuark.

Member's Statement 406 - 1(3): Akulliq Hockey Players

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognise the athletes from my constituency who went to Repulse Bay to play hockey in April. There

were women's hockey teams from various communities. These are the names of the women players from my constituency; Shelia Siusangnark, Susan Siusangnark, Rebecca Siusangnark, Cynthia Siusangnark, Lenora Siusangnark, Julia Siusangnark, Marie Kopak and Jennifer Kopak and the coach Willie Kadjuk.

The young men who went to play hockey in Pelly Bay were; Rodney Taparti, John Ell Tinashlu, Travis Taparti, Garth Kaunak, Ronnie Milortok, Chris Kringayark, Angutie Katokra, Nathaniel Mapsalak, Angutimariq Siusangnark, Larry Tagornak, Issaaki Kripanik, Jamie Malliki and Jerry Nuluk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Member's Statement 407 - 1(3): Capital Equipment and Economic Opportunity

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the two communities that I represent. The capital equipment that we have in these communities are getting old and I would like to deal with the annual equipment annually through the budget process.

Mr. Speaker, my constituency has been trying to work on some issues and I will be supporting them according to their needs. This is very important to me. There are many opportunities in the communities although they seem to be small but they are very beneficial to the communities. Especially to the smaller communities. Mr. Speaker, I want to say again that my friends the cabinet members of the Nunavut Government I am willing to work with you on any form of economic opportunities so we can have more economic opportunities in my constituency.

Also Mr. Speaker, all the people of Nunavut I would like to give them my support to get further economic opportunities in the smaller communities so that they will be provided with funding because since we couldn't get some funding in the smaller communities they haven't had an opportunity for economic development. We now should be taking on contracts locally and we should be taking on those responsibilities.

Mr. Speaker, today the contracts that we have today or the awards of the contracts should be done very carefully so the smaller communities can stand on their own two feet and also we should be working on the problem areas. Mr. Speaker, during the Rankin Inlet session as I had stated before, in view of the future of Nunavut it is very expensive to live up here. Mr. Speaker, I am asking unanimous consent to complete my member's statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement, are there any nays. There are no nays, please proceed.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you I will start from where I left off. Looking at Nunavut as a whole it is very expensive to live here due to the cost of living. For that reason we have to find ways to stand on our own two feet as residents. Also Mr. Speaker,

I know for sure that the Nunavut Government has initiated quite a few programs in Nunavut and we expect to see them happen in Nunavut by way of employment and by way of private businesses and economic opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, as Nunavut residents we now have our own Nunavut Government and some of the statutes and the legislation have not reflected Nunavut so therefore we have to amend the legislation so as to reflect Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, let's work together as Nunavut residents and give support to all of Nunavut's residents. Mr. Speaker, I know that the equipment we buy from down south when they eventually make it up north here to Nunavut they become very expensive.

When we bring our carvings down south they become very expensive and for that reason Mr. Speaker, in Nunavut private businesses should be viable and have more economic development opportunities because we need a proper future, especially when the cost of living is going up annually in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' Statements, Mr. Nutarak.

Member's Statement 408 - 1(3): Thanks for Decentralization and Pond Inlet TEP

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Premier for going ahead with decentralization. Thank you Mr. Premier. I would like to make another comment. The Pond Inlet Teachers Education Program is on their way to Quebec City to exhibit traditional clothing on behalf of Nunavut. So I congratulate them for going down to Quebec City to exhibit the traditional clothing and also I wish all my colleagues to have a great spring. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Nutarak . Members' Statements. Mr. Irgittuq.

Member's Statement 409 - 1(3): Ranger Medals and House Procedures

Mr. Irgittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about my medals. The reason why I am wearing the medals today is that today is the day that we celebrate the Rangers' uniforms. I won this for being a sharp shooter and you were here when I got the other medal. So that is why I wear the Rangers' medals, and I wanted to state that Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank my constituency for electing me to the Legislature, and first of all to my family and my wife and my parents who are very supportive of me during my tenure.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a comment on the procedures on the sessions that we have held. What I have learned from this session. Usually we ask many questions during the question period to the members across the table. I know that it is a challenge for us to

ask hard questions. We ask serious questions but since the end of session is in sight I would like to look back a bit.

Mr. Arvaluk and Mr. Picco and Donald Haviyok, every time I ask them a question it seems they don't want to answer me. Even though I ask them a simple question like for example when is my school going to get an addition he would respond by saying we do have a twenty year plan. The response would be in there every time I get that kind of response it kind of disappoints me. Having to wait for twenty years. I have learned more about the procedures of the House but... Mr. Speaker I would like to get unanimous consent to finish my statement.

Speaker: The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays. There are no nays so please proceed.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The responses that I was receiving I am not angry at the responses that I receive but I just not happy with the responses I get and I am not trying to put anybody down. For example if I ask Mr. Picco a question, for example if I ask Mr. Picco when was the first time that you went caribou hunting. He could answer from the time he started preparing for the hunt and after the hunt is over and he would never answer my question. So I learned these few things during the session.

It became very frustrating at times but since we are at the end of our session I am very proud to be part of this Legislature and also would like to thank all my colleagues especially the cabinet members. I know their job is very hard and I know that we have very limited resources and we want to spread it to all the communities of Nunavut, but in the future I am sure it will be better.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Members' Statements, Ms. Thompson.

Member's Statement 410 - 1(3): Thanks to People of Salliit and Sadliq

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today being the last day hopefully I would like to wish all the members a good spring and to be with their families and for God to be with them. Mr. Speaker I would like to make a brief statement and to thank the interpreters. Also to let the members know that on Mondays I didn't know that on Tuesday the Inuinnaqtun is aired through the T.V. and on Wednesday the Inuktitut is airing and on Thursday English and Friday it is Inuktitut.

I didn't realize this was the case so my statement yesterday to the people of Northern Quebec was not understood because it was airing in Inuinnaqtun and they have a different dialect and I am sorry about that to my constituents. Also if I could just make a brief statement again the statement that I made yesterday because it was misunderstood because it was in Inuinnaqtun.

What I was trying to say yesterday was to thank my sister in law Pasha Bruce who is the wife of Tommy Bruce and her parents died when she was very young and they are from Sadliq Quebec. My sister in law's name is Pasha and I adore her very much although she has a brother in Coral Harbour she gets very lonely because she does not see her relatives.

I would like to thank the people of Sadluq Quebec for going to see my sister in law, especially I would like to thank Coral Harbour and Maggie Gordon was one of them and I would like to thank her very much. Mr. Speaker I am not Leonie Duffy. Leonie Duffy is my older sister. Thank you, Mr. Speaker

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Anawak.

Member's Statement 411 - 1(3): Importance of Private Business in Nunavut

Hon. Jack Anawak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make a member's statement about the importance of private business in Kivalliq and in the north. It has been about twenty years that we Inuit have been involved in running our own businesses.

The Hudson Bay Company brought in employees like Glenn McLean over there and others that came to the North. Some people came from Scotland, Mr. John Todd is one of them, with the Hudson Bay Company. Later he initiated the starting up of some businesses, especially involving Inuit people in businesses.

He became the first President of the Chamber of Commerce in the Kivalliq region. Through him we found out that Inuit were capable of participating in businesses. So from there Inuit have participated in many business ventures and we started owning our own homes. I was not a politician at that time and I was involved some of these businesses.

David Simailak and David Uluyuk that were here a little while ago were involved as well. We got together and partnered with non-Inuit people. So today these ventures are some of the bigger business in the north that we have such as Sakku and Pirusaijiit and I would like to congratulate both Mr. Simailak and Mr. Uluyuk from the Kivalliq region for being involved in those businesses that I stated.

I would also like to congratulate Peter Tatty and Ray Mercer who started their business which running very well today. I sure in the future they will be successful in other businesses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Anawak. Members' Statements. Mr. Kilabuk.

Member's Statement 412 - 1(3): Romeo Leblanc Good Fishing Award

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First I would like to congratulate the people involved in the Rural Forum.

Today I rise to inform members about someone that was recognized from Pangnirtung. David Evic was selected as one of the people from across Canada to be selected to receive the Romeo Leblanc Good Fishing award.

The Romeo Leblanc award is given to the people who are involved in fishing industry. There are strict procedures they have to follow when they go out fishing. The Romeo Leblanc recognition is given to people who are working very hard to provide good fishing for people.

Mr. Speaker, David Evic was given that award at Rideau Hall on April 28 of this year by the Honourable Romeo Leblanc. Davidee Evic was invited to a dinner in Ottawa with the other four people that were given awards. I would like to thank Sakiasie Sowdluapik for his assistance. Again, I would like to recognise Davidee Evic on behalf of the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Just before we continue I would like the opportunity to recognise a very respected distinguished individual in the gallery. One of the first MLAs from Iqaluit. Simonie Michael. I had the opportunity a few weeks ago to be at his place and his wife makes the best bannock in town. Welcome to the gallery.

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Tootoo.

Member's Statement 413 - 1(3): Successful Session

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I rise on this last day, possibly the last day of this session to say that I greatly enjoyed the spirited debate that has been going on in the House over the past few weeks. During this sitting, in the spirit of consensus government we have all raised issues, asked questions, sought clarification and made compromises.

I believe we have been doing our job. Mr. Speaker we all have roles to play and jobs to do. I am sure other members as well respect that Ministers have to defend their budgets.

While members have the duty to ask questions and ascertain that decisions are fair and beneficial to all Nunavummiut any government is made stronger by effective accountability. While the debate maybe heated at times and the spirit of discussions take over I see this as a sign of our strong will and our commitment.

Mr. Speaker hopefully next year we will see the government present the budget materials in a more timely manner. When the process is under such significant time pressures it is difficult to give issues the consideration and debate they deserve.

With the creation of Nunavut we have all committed to a more transparent government and the people of Nunavut expect this of us. Our government in a consensus government and consensus requires time, time for discussions, time to listen, time for decision making.

Mr. Speaker I very much look forward to seeing my colleagues and staff back in October. I sincerely hope that everyone has enjoyed this session as much as I have. I wish everyone a safe trip home and a pleasant and productive break from the House. In addition, Mr. Speaker I like to take this opportunity to thank my family for being there for me during these busy times and I look forward in spending quality time with them and I am sure the rest of the members are as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Mr. Barnabas.

Member's Statement 414 - 1(3): Dogs Killed by SDO

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends)Not too long ago in Arctic Bay a constituent wrote to me in regards to a serious matter that he was involved in. The local Sustainable Development officer not only killed my constituent's sled dog but five of the puppies.

My constituent informed me that insufficient reason was given for what had happened. Destroying an animal is unpleasant. However, I do understand that sometimes situations occur which makes it necessary for the animals to be destroyed. However, considering the animals in question were domestic and no problems were apparent I do feel that my constituent's grief. As his MLA, the issue does concern me and when the time arises I will be directing my question to Honourable Minister of Sustainable Development.

(interpretation) I hope the Members of the Legislative Assembly also have a very good summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Members' Statements. Mr. Arvaluk.

Member's Statement 415 - 1(3): Coral Harbour Business Opportunities

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In Coral Harbour the caribou harvesting has just been completed. They got approximately 3 thousand caribou harvested during this season, which by the way all had fat.

They are looking forward to seeing a meat processing plant built in the community because they know that they are not going to be getting anything from decentralisation. I have been in Coral Harbour for the past thirteen years and they have always ventured into various businesses without giving up and without the support most of the time from the government.

Tourism is becoming a very viable business especially in the last two years. Tourism outfitting, big game hunting and interpretative tours are now being established in my community. They are also setting up tours and they want to build roads and to build a bridge through the Kugluktuk River, which our Premier saw. They would like to start building up the grounds so that they can have tours or interpretative tours for tourists.

For those of you who have gone to Coral Harbour they are very productive people and usually kept in par with the people of Rankin Inlet. Because of course in Coral Harbour there is approximately 700 total population in my community but there are many businesses that are established within the community.

Discovery Channel has made it to our community and will be going back there again to do some underwater filming of marine mammals. The footage that is taken have been shown through Discovery Channel where they had walruses and other marine mammals like beluga whales, and so on.

I am asking unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you.

Speaker: The Member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his member's statement. Are there any nays. There are no nays. Please proceed.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you my fellow colleagues. The people of Coral Harbour are a quiet but very determined group of people. They look into ideas where there could be economic development for their community. They do not necessarily ask for grants. On May 23 they will be celebrating because they will have had a Hamlet status for the last 20 years. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Mr. Picco.

Member's Statement 416 - 1(3): End of Current Session

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This working environment can be quite stressful and after the House closes today hopefully government and governance has to continue. Our staff will have to implement the budget, tenders have to be drawn, new initiatives announced in the budget have to be implemented.

Mr. Speaker work on business plans and budget for next year will start to begin in earnest so they will be prepared for the fall. Mr. Speaker I know many of my Cabinet colleagues

are booked for the next several months right until the first of September. Many members have talked about the steep learning curve in becoming an MLA. Some members have talked about this morning that learning curve also includes our families.

A long absence from home and missed birthdays, missing mothers day and fathers day and other events is also apart of a politicians life. First rule of politics has been stated as Mr. Speaker, to learn to compromise. And a consensus government that is truer.

Mr. Speaker I have learned over the last five years as an elected Member of this House that it is easier to ask questions than to answer them. Mr. Speaker I too would like to thank the members and the staff of the Assembly, the interpreters and the people of the audio booth, the media and guess especially upstairs for our offices. You to Mr. Speaker for your hard work. In conclusion the people of Iqaluit who have provided so much help and hospitality and continue to provide hospitality to the members of this House. Also to all the people that come to Iqaluit everyday for business for meeting and for pleasures.

With that Mr. Speaker I wish the members a safe journey home and over the coming weeks I know I will be in their communities and I sure I will be welcomed very much by the members as I had been in the past. I look forward in seeing them in their home environments. Sometimes Mr. Speaker the environment that we see ourselves in here is different than the environment of home and to relax. With that Mr. Speaker I thank for your time and thank the members for their support over the last several weeks. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Picco. Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Moving on to Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Ms. Thompson.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return to OQ 536 - 1(3): Training for DPWTTS Positions

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and also Mr. Picco, thank you also for your wise words.

I rise today to provide a response to a question asked by Mr. Jobie Nutarak MLA for Tunnuniq on April 27, 2000. The member asked when training would be taking place for those positions within the Department of Public Works, Telecommunication and Technical Services that will be moving to Pond Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, members will recall that I have already announced the Regional Superintendent for the Baffin region to be based in Pond Inlet. This individual will begin training during May in preparation for relocation.

We have been reviewing applications from Pond Inlet residents. Among these applications we have identified nine suitable candidates for positions that may become vacant. For the decentralised positions that will be going to Pond Inlet. Public Works, Telecommunication and Technical Services will be working with the Department of Human Resources to develop customised training programs. Including on the job training in Iqaluit for any new staff hired to work in the Pond Inlet office. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Returns to Oral Questions. Returns to Oral Questions. Moving on to 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 sometimes I have an opportunity to recognize visitors in the gallery. Some of my colleagues get angry with me because I seem to recognise some of their constituents.

What I will try to do today Mr. Speaker is recognise some people that I know quite well and are friends of mine. First of all Carmen Levi, Deputy Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth a good friend of mine who was my supervisor at Arctic College for several years and became my boss for Community Futures Program many years ago although both us looked younger than we are.

Mr. Speaker over there is Simonie Michael as you introduced earlier, Simonie of course was the first Inuk elected as an MLA over 30 years ago. Simonie works very hard with the Terry Fox Program. The students at Inuksuk high school at teaching them land skills. A very well known resident of Iqaluit and well known throughout Nunavut for his hospitality and his skills.

And just a little bit past that is another constituent of mine. Geela Giroux Patterson. Geela is a well-known advocate not only for social issues, women issues but also issues dealing with Iqaluit, a long time social worker and activist. Also, next to Geela a long time Iqaluit resident a very good translator and interpreter and story teller and a good friend Mali Curly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I would also like to recognise Ms. Mali Curley. She has an aunt in Whale Cove. Also, her aunt, anyway her father's sister Annie Napayok is from Whale Cove, which is in my riding. And I would like to say to the people of Whale Cove and say we should have a music festival this summer in your community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I would like to recognise Carmen Levi who use to be from my community and now lives in Iqaluit. And also next to her is resident of Arctic Bay Alex Etuluk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I envy those people who are able to recognise visitors in the gallery. I would like to recognise all the people in the gallery and my constituents of Qikiqtarjuaq and Clyde River. I am very proud to represent you in your communities and the people of Nunavut. I recognise all the people of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Moving on to Item 6. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 578 - 1(3): Cabinet Meeting in Pond Inlet

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This morning little bit after 5 am my cold got worse so I am a little bit horsy today. So I will direct my question to the Premier. When and where is the next out of town cabinet meeting. Thank you.

Speaker: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Cabinet is going to hold their meeting in Pond Inlet next month. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Mr. Nutarak supplementary.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since the Cabinet is going to hold their session in Pond Inlet can you give me the specific date or at least give me the week. Thank you.

Speaker: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It will be in the week of June 12. That is our plan to go to Pond Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Premier. Oral Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 579 - 1(3): Fate of Quluq School

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday I had asked a question to the Minister of Education. Although I stated it was my last question but more questions are popping out even though the end of the session is in sight. Mr. Speaker my question is for the Minister of Education.

As you know there has been some debate and discussion as well quite a bit of media coverage about the fate of Quluq school in Clyde River. I understand from the Minister comments that the short fall in last years budget was not dealt with in time for the department to organise the sealift materials which would have been paid for under this years budget. My question is can the Minister tell us why the work of the Quluq school was left so late in the 1999-2000 fiscal year. Even the urgent needs were identified in the capital plans as far back as 1998. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister for Education. Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last year we put in the budget 400 thousand dollars. We put ads in the newspapers and received proposals. The cheapest bid was 500 thousand dollars and we had budgeted for 400 thousand dollars. So we had a short fall. For that reason it became too late and it was at the time when we started the budget process for 2000-2001.

The design of the school was not complete yet because nobody wanted to work for 400 thousand dollars. For that reason we had to redo it. We had not used that 400 thousand dollars. Once the design has been completed we will order our sealift materials. What it means here is that if we do not know the design of the school we can not order the sealift materials. So therefore, we could not order the materials. However, the design will be completed this coming summer. Once the design is completed we will do the ordering. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Supplementary.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My supplementary question. Can the Minister tell us why his department did not apply to the Financial Management Board for supplementary appropriation although they know this was short by 100 thousand dollars. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister for Education.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If it was only for the design for the school in Clyde River and looking at the size of the school. If we were going to use that money just for the design it would have been ok. We did not really know how dangerous that part of the school was that had fallen off. So therefore we thought that 400 thousand would have been appropriate. However, when they put in the bids, they put in a bid way higher than the 400 thousand dollars. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 580 - 1(3): Staff Training

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am sure the Premier will have a good session when they go to Pond Inlet and the scenery is beautiful and I am sure that you will find it the community a friendly community. I would like to ask the Premier a question. He stated that nine people were selected for the positions and they have received some of their training in Iqaluit. Since you have stated that these new employees would be trained. What kind of training are you going to be holding. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitoq Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regards to the statement that I made earlier. The nine positions that we have identified. We are not sure if all staff will want to move to Pond Inlet because some staff do not want to move to communities. That is why we stated if some of the staff that not relocate we will hold the training courses.

The Department of Public Works, Telecommunication and Technical Services will hold training sessions such as computer training with the software systems. We have various software systems and we hold that kind of training programs.

Since our department awards contracts and they have to learn the process and the financial side. They also they will have to work on leases and we have to train them for the leasing part of it. So these are the kinds of training program we will be holding. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Do you know how long the training program will be held for. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitoq Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I have stated before they will have on the job training and we feel it is the most appropriate to find out what the staff requires further training on. I am sure the individuals training will vary from individual to individual. In regards to the computer training program and I am sure we will be training them on the necessary skills. So we have a training program for each individual staff. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Mr. Barnabas.

Question 581 - 1(3): Next Phase for P3 Projects

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be directing to the Minister of P3 Mr. Ng. Last week Qikiqtaaluk Corporation signed a partnership agreement for the P3 projects. Since that have already been signed what is the next phase. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I indicated during Committee of the Whole when the Department of Finance is up. The next phase is for the Qikiqtaaluk Corporation and the other two birthright corporations in the other two regions to undertake the work that is detailed in the reimbursement agreement. This is additional planning and studies to allow a decision to be put together on whether or not or when to proceed on those projects. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The other two hospitals are included in the budget. Mr. Speaker when are your going to start working on the design of the hospitals. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I think the Member may be incorrect. There is no capital dollars for the facilities. However, having said that a lot is going to depend when the development corporation reports back work that they are going to undertake. As I indicated earlier some of the planning requirements to bring it up to a point a decision paper can be made on when or whether or not to proceed on all three projects. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although you stated that there is no capital budget for those three projects. How are going to pay for the work for the three P3 facilities. Thank you.

Speaker: Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker as I just indicated earlier in the response to the member. There is a reimbursement agreement that the government has signed off to the birthright corporation. There are dollars that I indicated with the Department of Finances budget in the operations & maintenance section. Corporate services I believe. For reimbursement for P3 initiatives on the operating and maintaining side. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are three regions that are going to be involved in P3. Perhaps this is not a directed to this question. I just wanted to find out under P3 that Department of Health and Social Services put into this project. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Right now the Department of Health is putting zero into the projects. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Question 582 - 1(3): Inukshuk High School Gym Repairs

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister responsible for Education. Mr. Speaker as I stated earlier in this session there was some problems with the high school gym. I would like to ask the Minister if he could provide the status on where things are with the repair of it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister responsible for Education. Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker the floor was damaged by water. That it is being planned for repair immediately, as soon as possible. There are discussions between Public Works and Education to get that floor replaced. However because of the 100 thousand dollars deductible in the insurance I am told that it will not probably covered by the insurance.

The second part from the staff level I am told that there has been discussions regarding whether the composite material will be used for the floor or the wood. The composite material I guess in English is called linoleum. And for the Arctic Winter Games and the timing to replace the floor for the Arctic Winter Games but discussions are on right now on the timing to replace the floor for the Arctic Winter Games would be better spent. But that is only at a preliminary discussions stage at the staff level. We do not really know what the price difference would be. That is the status today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I like to thank the Minister for the update. Further I am just wondering if he has received any comments or concerns from the either the high school or the DEA at which I was at a meeting the other night. They were very concerned at the fact that they would be taking out the hard floor replacing it with a linoleum one. I am just wondering if the Minister received any concerns in that regard. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. James Arvaluk: Not to my knowledge. I have not received anything, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Another question in regards to the floor. The Minister indicated he was not sure of the costs. Differences in replacing the hard floor and putting a linoleum floor down. I am wondering who has, whether it is the Department of Education or right now the District Education Council or the school, who has the responsibility and budget allocation to maintain that facility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister responsible for Education.

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Until July 1 the Divisional Board is still responsible for the maintenance through Public Works. And that there also have been discussions because it is water damage, whether they should be considered as an operations & maintenance repair for replacing the floor or capital for a new construction of the floor because it is not a renovation. So I could update the member better once the respective departments have a better understanding as to where we should go from here. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Final Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker maybe I will just ask the Minister through the formula that exists to the schools and DEAs. Are they funded for the maintenance of their facility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For the regular operation and maintenance, yes they are. For extraordinary costs such as this one probably will have to come to the department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Mr. Irgittuq.

Question 583 - 1(3): Disease Diagnosis Problems

Mr. Irgittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to continue my line of questioning from yesterday to the Minister of Health and Social Services. There were questions posed to the Minister this morning and he seemed eager to answer.

I would like to ask him about the shortage of nurses and the doctors. Yesterday I asked him a question about the nurse's role in diagnosing patients. Nurses, we are told, are difficult to find. Is this situation still the same. Is it still difficult to recruit nurses to the north. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister responsible for Health and Social Services. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker first I would like to thank the Member for his questions yesterday because it raised some very good areas of concern.

We are waiting for copies of the Hansard to review the questions and answers to make sure that we are accurate in our responses. I will try Mr. Speaker as I tried over the last several weeks to keep my answer short and to the point.

We have had problems like other jurisdictions in Canada in recruiting nurses and that is one of the reasons why Mr. Speaker we put in different incentives including the nursing bonus and also the Najaat team which is an internal retention program. There is a shortage of nurses in Canada and we have to recruit our nurses from Canada and elsewhere like Australia. We have done that type of recruiting. So Mr. Speaker, yes there are concerns with hiring of nurses. Not specifically just for Nunavut but for many other jurisdictions in Canada. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Supplementary.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister for his response.

So, because it is very difficult to recruit nurses, if for example a nurse is not doing his or her job properly, should we ignore that now. Can we no longer take corrective measures because of the shortage. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First I just wanted to make sure I understood the question properly.

I think everyone in this House realizes that our nurses are working 12-14 hours a day, seven days a week, they are always on call. I do not think there is anyone in this House that questions their dedication or their honesty or their work ethic.

Mr. Speaker, so if the question is should we recruit nurses to replace the nurses that we have here Mr. Speaker, what we are trying to do is, as the Member knows is actually that we started with Mr. Arvaluk's first Inuit Nursing program in the North actually in Canada. Hopefully we will have other nurses, that does not Mr. Speaker, question the dedication or the professionalism of the people that we have in place at the present time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Supplementary. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know very well that they are working extremely hard. My reasoning behind the questioning is, again I know that they work very hard but my point is sometimes patients are left in the communities and not sent out for further tests or treatment until it is too late when the disease has progressed too far.

Perhaps if they had taken care of properly earlier would have been treatable.

We are losing lives, our people's lives are being lost, our people are dying although it is said that there is proper care given. Sometimes we Inuit are treated differently just because we are Inuit.

That is why I am questioning how we can improve the services. Our fellow Inuit, our elders are dying at an alarming rate. This winter alone a large number died in Hall Beach, perhaps because of improper care.

That is why I am asking these questions, to see how we can get better care from our caregivers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister responsible for Health and Social Services Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker the Member brings a very difficult issue to address in this forum and I will try to address it by saying Mr. Speaker that the nurses that we have all of our medical professionals Mr. Speaker, are certified and gone through the Universities. Mr. Speaker they are professionals in every sense of the word.

Mr. Speaker my family uses the health care centres, the hospital as well the Members everyone in this House. I can not question the diagnoses that have been made on individuals unless I have the specifics on a specific case in this forum.

I do know Mr. Speaker there have been some concerns in the member's community and other communities with the diagnoses and some of the things that have happened. Mr. Speaker I can not question those types of diagnoses unless it has been brought to the attention with a specific case. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Question 584 - 1(3): Iqaluit Break Water

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker my question is for the Minister responsible for Transportation. Mr. Speaker through the community consultation process and as well, constituency meetings here in Iqaluit, one of the main issues that has been brought up are capital projects. I believe it was a number one issue in the overall consultation process for all the communities.

Mr. Speaker in Iqaluit the issues that were raised regarding some particular projects or things in Town were raised by some of the long term Inuit that have boats and go out on the Bay quite a bit in the summer time. Their concerns were for the need for lighting down at the breakwater beach area. That it was not a very well lit area and you know there is some potential danger there as a result due to the large number of boats that we are seeing. More and more people are moving into town and more and more people are having boats. It is becoming very congested.

Another concern that they raised was the state the breakwater has had some ice damage and things going on there they would like to see repaired. As well as a proper stairs or something a way to access the breakwater regardless of where the tide is at. I know when the tide is out it is rather a high drop there. I know the Honourable Member has a boat himself and probably fully aware of the situation. I just like to ask if the department is planning to take a look addressing these concerns over the next year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I think this is a concern for many the communities and of course we are wanting to do more, of course with the involvement of the communities. Whether it is the Hamlets communities outside of Iqaluit or the Town Council so we will be having discussions on the issue of dockage for the communities that do not have it. But at the same time there were breakwater projects that were initiated by the process government.

However in that same project what was not taken into account and therefore it was not budgeted, is the issue of dock lighting and street lighting for a lack of a better definition. So on the issue of lighting that would be the responsibility of the Town.

However I would like to inform the Honourable Member and the people of Nunavut that we will be having further discussions on the issue of docks and how we can better plan to build docks in the communities that need it. As well as what should be included in the project whether street lighting should be included in the project in building a dock in any community. Again that will be further discussions with the Hamlet and the Hunters and Trappers Associations. Thank you.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I realise and appreciate the Minister comment and the fact that they will consult with the Municipalities and Hamlet and HTOs in the communities to properly address the needs and requirements the communities feel they need with what goes along with a breakwater. I guess I am just wondering these issues were raised I think not more or less as a something that they want to see out of the concern for safety. I am just wondering if the Minister could take a look at what the damage is going on there and some of that stuff that may be immediate safety

hazards that may be occurring down at the breakwater that's there right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we will look into the issue because I know that with the waves most of the breakwaters get destroyed. For example in Chesterfield Inlet the breakwater is slowly eroding because of the waves and so on. We are also going to be consulting with the community so that they can be full participants and decide on where they are going to locate the breakwater and to set up the communities.

So the community leaders, the Hamlet Councils or the HTOs are consulted before the building of the breakwater we will have detailed discussions with these organizations in the year 2000. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you minister. Oral Questions. Final Supplementary, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am glad to hear that and I agree that's another way that people of Nunavut would like to see more openness and accessibility of the government, that's another notch for incorporating Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit into policies and procedures of the government. I appreciate that.

I would like to ask the minister if he could ask his department to specifically meet with the HTO here in town and the municipality here in town to see if there are any urgent safety issues that may need to be addressed specifically with the breakwater. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member just suggested something that is why I was laughing, sorry. Yes I will be having discussions with the mayors here next week and that's just one of the issues but I will commit to having a meeting with the Hunters' and Trappers' Association and the Municipality on this issue within the near future. Thank you.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 585 – 1(3): Progress on Housing Issue

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to ask the following questions. On the consultation tour that we had, I would like to direct this question to the Minister for Housing. There were concerns raised in regards to housing during the consultation tour and there is a very high demand in some communities, and less in other communities. What are you going to be doing with this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister responsible for Housing, Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we were doing the consultation tour, we made notes of the specific concerns, especially with housing. We compiled the data and the concerns and questions that were raised during the tour. We are trying to look at solutions to the concerns that were tabled by the people of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, the Task Force has done an excellent job and they know exactly what the concerns of the people are. We have also reviewed the recommendations that were made by the Task Force and some of the issues are addressed, and possibly solutions are going to resolution. We are working on both the data that was compiled and also at the recommendations of the Task Force. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Ms. Thompson. Supplementary question.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand the response. We made a statement that we would be building 100 houses in the year 2000. The number of houses were distributed to the Nunavut communities and we made a decision of how many houses are going to be built per community. Have there been any changes to the plans that we put together. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have not made any changes. Like I said, the 100 houses that we are going to be building, the number hasn't changed and at this time we are just following through with the recommendations that were made. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Minister. Supplementary.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. How many houses are going to be built per community. So there has been no changes made to the recommended number of houses that are going to be built per community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I answered his question already. I said there are no changes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Minister. Oral Questions. Mr. Puqiqnak I apologize for missing you earlier.

Question 586 – 1(3): Capital Plan for Natillik Riding

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have a question that I will direct to the Minister of Community Government & Transportation. My two communities that I represent, for the 1998/99 budget, in the five-year capital plan, I do not see my two communities in this plan. For examples in 1998/99 there was supposed to be a fire hall that should have been completed in the year 2000. That has been deferred again to another date. It was supposed to have been completed in the year 1999. Why is it Mr. Speaker, that his department made that decision. Are we going to be seeing anything done this year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The money that was slotted for that year is no longer being used. The Government of the Northwest Territories made the five-year capital plans but when we were planning for the creation of the Nunavut government some of the projects were deferred or deleted. We have not forgotten the requests that were made by the community, but because of the deferral it is not in the capital plan.

There is the fire hall that has to be built and I would like to assure the member that we will not forget the plans and the capital projects that were deferred. We make funding proposals to the Federal Government, but to date we have not yet received a dollar figure. There are also the issues of transportation and fire halls that are funded by the Federal Government, and we are going to try and keep doing that. I am sure that we will not be able to get all the projects but we will be getting some.

To the member we will be working on those facilities, but I want to assure the member that they have not been forgotten. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you minister. Supplementary.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regards to the fire hall that was just an example that I used. The member stated that he is looking at the year 2000 to have some of the projects built. Are you going to keep us up to date as to when you get the response from the Federal Government and let us know whether there is going to be any money for our fire hall for the upcoming year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Because of course, when there is an emergency issue we have to deal with that right away. At this time when it is a safety issue or health related we have to deal with the project right away. I will look into this issue and take it as notice and give you a response when I get the information.

For example if we are talking about the fire hall, we have to look at the location of where the project will be built so that it will be in a proper location. We will look into this issue and give you an appropriate response to your question. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you minister. Supplementary.

Mr. Puqignak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the minister for his response and his department. He will be going into my riding sometime this month and I know that at that point we will have a meeting in one of my communities when he visits the Nattilik riding. I urge him to take along his colleagues from the Cabinet because they have not gone to visit my communities. This is just a comment, not a question. Thank you.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Members I am trying to be fair to those that have not had a question yet, so we know you are on the list. Mr. Mr. Alakannuark I believe this is his first question of the morning.

Question 587 – 1(3): Capacity of Pelly Bay Tank Farm

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be directing my question to the Minister responsible for Petroleum Products. In Pelly Bay in one of my constituencies the heating fuel tanks, since we get our heating fuel transported by ships, I was wondering if our heating fuel tank is going to be large enough to last for the winter. That is my question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister responsible for Petroleum Products, Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was going to reply and I almost forgot what his question was. Yes, in regards to Petroleum Products, we are monitoring the rate of consumption of fuel, we monitor it daily. In the Kitikmeot we have staff, Brent Boddy, and I am sure that everyone knows him.

He monitors the fuel that is left behind and if the fuel is consumed we would have to order it by plane, but I did not quite understand his question. Is he saying that if the fuel tank is large enough to last for the whole winter or is he saying the tank is getting too small or are they running out of fuel. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary, Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That fuel tank was built in the early 1990's. At that time it was getting too small and there are times that all the heating fuel is depleted by the time the ship arrives to refuel the tank. So my question is, do you have any plans to put in an additional fuel tank. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the budget, although it was approved for Pelly Bay, I do not know what it contains. So I will take your question as notice and reply to you later on, but I know that the communities, if there is going to be a shortage of fuel, we already do work on those. Mr. Speaker, I have to go make a phone call, I have to leave the House.

I am not trying to get away from the members but I have to go make a short phone call if it is okay.

(interpretation ends) I have to make a call, and I think I need to do that so just to say for the member that I will update him on what the situation is on Pelly Bay and to detail. I would just like to apologize to the members that I just have to go out and attend to this matter right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Minister. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Mr. McLean. Mr. Barnabas.

Question 588 – 1(3): Dogs Killed in Arctic Bay

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, under Members' Statements, I made a statement in regards to one of my communities, where dogs had been killed off..(interpretation ends)...the Honourable Minister of Sustainable Development, Mr. Kilabuk.

I would like to know if the minister is aware of an issue that recently occurred in Arctic Bay where the local Department of Sustainable Development official killed dogs belonging to one of my constituents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I am aware that in his community of Arctic Bay there have been four dogs shot because they were concerned that the dogs might have some kind of illness. The dogs were losing weight at a rapid rate and we were quite concerned about the four dogs.

We are still monitoring that and since he was concerned about the four dogs that are why he shot them. However, I cannot tell you if that Renewable Resource Officer shot those dogs himself. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you minister. Supplementary, Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I myself don't know personally if the Renewable Resource Officer shot them, but I am not too sure what the real reasoning is for shooting the four dogs, because I was here during the Legislative Assembly. However, if there was a study done on that, or if there is going to be a study

done, I would like to know the results. Perhaps if the minister had responded to some of the questions that I had asked, it could have various reasons.

I am requesting that the minister gives me a copy of the findings of the study on those dogs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we are very concerned about that. Under the Wildlife Act our Renewable Resource Officer is not responsible for that but usually the Renewable Resource Officer will help in the community when these types of emergencies occur. This is under review now and they are working on that to see if we have to send specimens out and right now in Greenland the dogs are experiencing the same kind of illness, so we are quite concerned about that.

We are now working on the vaccinations for these dogs. Once the results come in I will give the member a copy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you minister. Oral Questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 589 – 1(3): Docking Facilities

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In regards to the breakwaters, I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Transportation. In some communities there are no docking facilities. Are you going to consider putting docking facilities in those communities that do not have one. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When I was living in Rankin Inlet we got a docking facility because it is very important for the hunters to have a docking facility and especially when you are a boat owner. If it is possible to find dollars we would like to build docking facilities in all the communities that do not have docking facilities because it is so beneficial to the hunters. Perhaps it would be better for the hunters' boats and I know that some communities do not have facilities and we will be sensitive to those communities. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Minister. Oral Questions. Oral Questions. Question period is up.

>>*Applause*

We will break now for lunch and I would like the members to come back to the chamber at 1.05 p.m. sharp.

Sergeant-At-Arms

>>House recessed at 11.59 a.m. and resumed at 1.14 p.m.

Speaker: Welcome back members. Returning to the orders of the day. Item 7. Written Questions. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees. Mr. Tootoo.

Item 11: Reports of Standing and Special Committees

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to table the Joint Report of the Standing Committee of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut on the 2000/2001 Budget and Departmental Business Plans of the Government of Nunavut.

This is a joint report of the following four Standing Committee; the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Services, the Standing Committee on Culture, Education and Health, the Standing Committee on Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development and the Standing Committee Ajauqtiit.

Mr. Speaker, the four Chairs of these Standing Committees intend to share the reading of the review and the recommendations, however in the interests of time we will not read the actual text of the Standing Committees review of each specific department and at the end of the recommendations we will move that the report be received by the Legislative Assembly as read.

I will begin by reading the Letter of Transmittal to the Speaker.

On behalf of the Standing Committees of the Legislative Assembly we have the honour of presenting the joint report on the 2000/2001 Budget and the Departmental Business Plans of the Government of Nunavut and commend it to the House. Pursuant to rule 91(5), we hereby request that the government table a comprehensive response to the report and its recommendations within 120 days of its presentation.

Introduction

This Report on the Review of the 2000-2001 Budget and Departmental Business Plans of the Government of Nunavut is a joint effort on the part of four Standing Committees of the Legislative Assembly.

The Report is organized into three sections. The Overview section highlights a number of themes which emerged from all of the Standing Committees in their review of specific departments, as well as a review of overall Government activities during the past year. The sections that follow under each of the four Standing Committees have specific observations regarding the departments that are within each Committee's oversight mandate. Lastly, a list of Recommendations provides some direction that the Standing Committees are hopeful that the Government will act upon in the coming year.

Context for the Report

This report is being written at the end of the first year of operation of the Government of Nunavut. It has been an exciting year, during which the Government has had to balance basic implementation tasks, such as getting staff and new programs in place, with the need to develop new visions and new ways of doing business that will better meet the needs of Nunavummiut, and, in particular, better reflect the cultural aspirations of Inuit.

As a new Government, we inherited most of the statutes of the NWT and, by necessity, many of its procedures and policies have had to continue in order that core services could be provided. All of these laws, procedures and policies will have to be reviewed, one-by-one, and it will take time to do this. Nevertheless, an impressive amount of work has been done in the past year that has begun the process of change. The Standing Committees have been mindful of this context and, as this report will outline, they have endeavoured to play their part, both in terms of implementation issues, and in helping to give direction for made-in-Nunavut approaches to the important work of Government.

Role of Standing Committees

Standing Committees play a fundamental role in a parliamentary democracy.

There are five Standing Committees of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. While the Executive Council (or Cabinet) has the authority to develop laws, policies and budgets, it is the Standing Committees that have the responsibility to review these initiatives in detail before they are approved in the Legislative Assembly. The Standing Committee review process also provides a forum for public input.

In a consensus government, the process of review by the Standing Committees ensures that all elected Members have had an opportunity for input and comment. If concerns are raised in the Committee, it is the responsibility of the Government to then review and address these concerns.

Over the past year, Standing Committees have been involved in reviewing legislative proposals, draft Bills, Bills, draft business plans, draft budgets, reports and other documents which have been referred to them. They have also been involved in the appointments of key officials, and in reviewing reports provided to the Legislative Assembly itself.

Budget Development Process

The budget development process continues to evolve in Nunavut. Last year, newly-elected Members reviewed budget documents in April and May of 1999. These budget documents had, by and large, been developed by departmental officials under the guidance of the Office of the Interim Commissioner. As such, they very much kept the *status quo* of the previous budgets of the GNWT, as they would have applied to Nunavut. Members did not feel that there was much room to make changes at that time, and gave

what direction they could for where they hoped Departments would move, given that there were now elected officials in place to speak for the people of Nunavut. However, Standing Committees requested a 6-month review in October 1999 in order to better review actual budget expenditures at that time and give further direction for changes.

The six-month review process occurred in October 1999. All four Standing Committees again issued reports. A number of recommendations were made for improving the overall budget review process, as well as specific directions to Departments.

The Department of Finance then initiated a budget consultation process in November 1999, which saw a whirlwind tour of officials, Ministers and Regular Members visiting every community in Nunavut to hear input on the budget. The summary of the issues raised during the budget consultation was provided to Members at the beginning of February.

During a January 2000 retreat in Cambridge Bay, the Minister of Finance presented a budget development schedule that was agreed to by the Regular Members. It was clear to Regular Members that the timing of the process would be limited by the fact that information still had to be obtained from Departments and reviewed and approved by the Financial Management Board, before it could go to the Standing Committees. Draft business plans and draft capital documents were provided to the Legislative Assembly at the beginning of February. Standing Committees then reviewed these documents and subsequently met with Ministers and their departmental officials during a two-week period in February. As the Committees were reviewing draft budget documents, the meetings were *in camera*, but they provided an opportunity for detailed questions by Members and scrutiny of the plans. It was the expectation of the Members that any concerns raised during these reviews would be incorporated into the final documents before they were formally tabled in the House and this was one of the valuable reasons for conducting the preliminary review.

Mr. Speaker, I would now like to ask my honourable colleague, Mr. Nutarak, to continue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

General Comments on the Budget

The Standing Committees are pleased that the Government is being very responsible in presenting two balanced budgets in a row. The Committees are well aware of the number of needs in Nunavut, but do not want to see Nunavut fall into the debt trap that deficit spending results in.

Indeed, the Government has a budget surplus. The Standing Committees are somewhat concerned that the actual amount of the surplus has been quite elusive over the past year

and also disappointed that the Government did not respond to Standing Committee proposals as to how the surplus could have been allocated in the second half of the year.

In the Fall of 1999, Members were advised that the surplus would be around \$10 million. In February, this number was dramatically revised upwards to \$30 or \$40 million. While Members appreciate that the actual number will not be determined until the full audit of the previous fiscal year, they nevertheless suggested that some of the surplus be allocated immediately to the two stated priorities of the Government -- housing and education.

However, Members were very frustrated that their recommendations were ignored. The fact that the capital budget for the Housing Corporation was reduced in this year's budget sends the wrong message about what "priority" means. Similarly, while the overall Education budget was increased a very small amount, there were cuts to such key areas as libraries, early childhood programs and adult literacy. If these are priority areas, Members question why they are being cut.

The overall budget picture is not dramatically different from last year. It is evident that without full staff and all programs in place, it is difficult to adequately assess how delivering programs in Nunavut may require adjustments in the budget. Members expect that this information will be more forthcoming in the coming year, and that we may see fuller discussions about relative priorities and more discussion about comparative approaches to programs and services which may have budget implications.

The capital budget was a source of concern to Members as many priority needs of communities do not appear to be on the list and it is not clear when in the future some of the projects will actually begin. As well, there were very explicit examples where Members perceived some unfairness and Members were disappointed at the lack of response to the concerns raised during the February review of the draft capital estimates and the lack of leadership by the Government in the discussions in the House when these concerns were raised again. The commitment in the Budget Address to bring forward a Preliminary Five-Year Capital Plan in the Fall of 2000 is a welcome one.

Mr. Iqittuq will be continuing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Iqittuq.

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

General Comments on the Budget Review Process

After the time-pressured review of the budget last year, Members looked forward to a more measured review of the budget for the new fiscal year, with more time and more information from Ministers and their Departments. However, because of the timing of receipt of information, the schedule this year was still very constrained and there was a lot of pressure to move quickly through large volumes of materials and vote quickly on capital projects in order to meet sealift deadlines.

While the idea of pre-budget consultations with communities is welcome, there is room for improvement in how such consultations actually take place. In reflecting on the Fall 1999 consultation process, it is clear that many hamlets and organizations did not seem to understand that this was the time to raise their formal capital and program needs, and this information is lacking from the pre-budget consultation report. While broad priorities are clearly articulated, there is very little specificity in the report that would be useful to the Government in making actual budget choices between programs or projects.

Nevertheless, the Standing Committees all support the idea that focussed consultation is necessary. In particular, the Government has committed to developing a Five-Year Capital Plan, and the Standing Committees would support a solid budget consultation process with local governments and the residents of each community in establishing their priority needs and the order in which they feel they should be met.

But community wishes are not the only factor to consider. The Government should also develop more explicit criteria for funding programs and capital projects, so that a more fair assessment can be made about allocations to communities. Several departments have spoken about preparing audits of the status of capital facilities under their responsibility in the communities, which will be welcome information in any future planning. Standing Committees have been asking for more objective and concrete indicators that will help communities determine when they should be able to request and expect new facilities, additions, renovations, etc. The budget debate this year has made this need all the more pressing, where it seemed that one community's wishes were addressed before many other communities' needs.

There is a vital need for the overall budget process to evolve normal timelines as envisioned in the Main Estimates document. All departments must be made to understand that the deadlines are real, in order to ensure adequate time for review of draft documents, translation of documents, revisions and finalization of documents. The Standing Committees are very supportive of the Department of Finance's plan to have an annual cycle that incorporates a timely review of current expenditures and proposed expenditures for the coming year; and they would support measures to sanction tardiness on the part of line departments.

In establishing the annual cycle, the Standing Committees wish to make the following observations. It is clear from the experience this year that the review of capital estimates in Nunavut has to begin months earlier than it began this year. The government introduced the Main Estimates on March 24, less than a week before the new fiscal year, and only three weeks for some of the sealift order deadlines. If the Government had addressed even one of the concerns that the Standing Committees had raised during their review of the draft capital estimates in February with Ministers, the tone of debate in the House might have gone differently than it did. But it appeared that the Government ignored every concern, so Members had to raise them again during the Budget debate, in the hope that the Government would consider the concerns at this time.

The fact that the Minister of Public Works only informed the House on April 17 of sealift order deadlines of April 18 and April 25 was galling for Members, as common sense would have suggested that this information should have been made clear at the beginning of the budget debate in the Legislative Assembly, so that those projects could have been addressed first.

Better still, the whole debate on capital projects should happen in the Fall, well in advance of any sealift order deadlines, and with a six-month lead time to address any outstanding issues or questions. Clearly, once there is an approved Five-Year Capital Plan, this need may become less acute each year. But Members will want to see the draft capital estimates for 2001-2002 at the time they conduct the mid-year review of departmental operations in October, whether the Preliminary Five-Year Plan has actually been developed or not.

I will now ask Mr. Akasuk to read the section on the Departments' Business Plans. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Akasuk.

Mr. Akasuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Departmental Business Plans

The Standing Committees were pleased to have secured a commitment that the 2000-2001 Business Plans for all Government of Nunavut departments would be tabled in the Legislative Assembly this year, making them public documents available for anyone to read.

The Bathurst Mandate articulates the long-term goals and vision for where we want to be in twenty years. Each department's Business Plan sets out the tangible ways by which we'll get there.

Equally important, they set benchmarks for success and progress that will be important tools of accountability in measuring ministerial and departmental performance in the year to come.

The Standing Committees were also pleased to see the Business Plans evolving for different departments, reflecting both the concerns of the Standing Committees, as well as a growing appreciation of how departments will address their responsibilities in ways that will more truly meet the needs of Nunavummiut.

Departments should be generally proud of their Business Plans. Many of them are very ambitious and hopeful of great changes in short amounts of time. We would observe that it would be useful to further standardize some aspects of them across the Government. For example, some are much more detailed than others.

The Standing Committees would encourage the public, the media and all Government of Nunavut employees to read them in detail. In this regard, we would like to encourage the Government to make them as accessible as possible. They should, for example, be available on the Government's primary website, and on departmental websites, and at least one printed set should be available from government offices in each community.

Many of the Business Plans outline plans to review legislation or policies and procedures under their jurisdiction, in order to produce "made-in-Nunavut" solutions.

The Standing Committees applaud these plans, but express their hope that the appropriate balance be struck between "review processes" that don't appear to start or end, and actually getting important new legislation, policies and procedures for Nunavut in place.

It would be useful to have a broad, Government-wide set of guidelines on what the concept of "appropriate consultations" should entail, as we begin to undertake these processes in earnest.

It would also be helpful to receive an overall list of priorities for change, so that the Standing Committees could also identify how they can contribute to these important review processes over time.

The overall role of the Law Reform Commission remains somewhat unclear, especially with respect to how its work will coincide or overlap with ongoing or proposed departmental reviews of existing legislation.

Finally, it is incumbent upon the Government and, in particular, its central agencies, to do a better job of making public in the Assembly new policies and procedures as they are developed and approved. Members of the Legislative Assembly were pleased to have had the opportunity to discuss in the public forum of the House the Government's new NNI Policy and hope this will occur for all important new policies.

Lastly, the Departmental Business plans outline the decentralization plans and in a more general manner, the Inuit Employment objectives as they apply to each department. Members want to state very clearly that the decentralized communities and Inuit in Nunavut have high expectations that steps will be taken to ensure that these plans are carried out and Members will want to hear about their progress at the mid-year review.

I would now ask Mr. Tootoo to present the recommendations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I will start off with the recommendations.

The Standing Committees of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut recommend:

- 1) That each Department of the Government of Nunavut present a comprehensive Mid-Year Progress Update in October 2000;
- 2) That the Standing Committees of the Legislative Assembly be fully involved in reviewing and having the opportunity to make substantial input into the Preliminary Five-Year Capital Plan;
- 3) That the Five-Year Capital Plan fully involve local governments and communities in its development;
- 4) That the Government of Nunavut's Standards and Criteria for funding new capital projects be made more explicit;
- 5) That the Standing Committees review draft capital estimates in the Fall; and draft main estimates in January;
- 6) That departments undertake a comprehensive audit of capital facilities under their jurisdiction, with a view to objectively assessing their state of repair, and whether they meet the needs of communities and their residents;
- 7) That the Government of Nunavut make public the final figure for the 1999-2000 budget surplus as soon as it is known;
- 8) That all Members of the Legislative Assembly be involved in determining the allocation of the budget surplus;
- 9) That the areas of Housing and Education have first call on any surplus;
- 10) That the Main Estimates and Capital Estimates documents that are tabled in the Legislative Assembly, and therefore available for public review, include full substantiations of capital projects; and that the Main Estimates provide detail to the level of expenditure by Standard Object;
- 11) That the Government of Nunavut work to ensure that the annual budget cycle provides for sufficient time for a comprehensive and thoughtful review process that avoids the need for interim appropriations; and that Departments adhere to FMB-established deadlines;
- 12) That the Business Plans of the Government of Nunavut's Departments, Boards and Agencies, and bodies funded by the Government be tabled each year in the Legislative Assembly; and that they be made easily accessible to the public through distribution to Government offices in all of Nunavut's communities and placement on Government of Nunavut websites;

- 13) That departmental and senior management performance be measured against the goals and objectives set forth in each Departmental Business Plan;

Mr. Speaker, I would now like to ask my honourable colleague, Mr. Nutarak, to continue with the recommendations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you. Recommendations of Standing Committees:

- 14) That the Department of Health and Social Services place more emphasis on community alcohol and drug programs; community wellness programs; and community mental health programs;
- 15) That the Department of Health and Social Services provide more training and support to community health committees to play a more effective role in health and social services issues;
- 16) That the Department of Health and Social Services conduct a comprehensive cost/benefit analysis of Telehealth centres in Nunavut, and that the results be tabled in the Legislative Assembly;
- 17) That Public-Private Partnering projects be reviewed and approved by the Legislative Assembly in the same manner as other capital projects, and that full details of P3 costs be made public;
- 18) That the Department of Education provide more training and support to local DEAs to play a more effective role in education issues.
- 19) That the Department of Education work to develop a "made-in-Nunavut" formula to determine appropriate Student-Teacher Ratios in Nunavut's schools;
- 20) That the Department of Education consult with the NSDC and other Inuit organizations, the Languages Commissioner and the Department of CLEY in the development of an Inuktitut curriculum;
- 21) That the Department of Education table in the Legislative Assembly all research studies undertaken by the Department since April 1999;
- 22) That the Department of Education assess the needs of students with disabilities and develop new initiatives to meet their needs;
- 23) That the Department of CLEY bring forward a plan for a comprehensive review of the *Official Languages Act* involving the Languages Commissioner and other stakeholders;

- 24) That the Department of CLEY make available to the Members of the Legislative Assembly and the public the Department's draft *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* Policy for the Government of Nunavut within 90 days;
- 25) That the Department of CLEY develop a plan for providing support to Elders' Councils at the community and Nunavut-wide level;
- 26) That the Department of CLEY develop a comprehensive planning document for the development of heritage facilities in all communities in Nunavut;

I would now ask Mr. Akesuk to continue. Thank you.

Speaker: Mr. Akesuk.

Mr. Akesuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Recommendations of the Standing Committees:

- 27) That the progress of work of such bodies as the Nunavut Law Reform Commission be conveyed to the Legislative Assembly and the public on a quarterly basis;
- 28) That the Government of Nunavut develop an explicit set of guidelines for what constitutes "adequate and appropriate" consultation processes with the public and non-governmental bodies;
- 29) That the policies of the Government of Nunavut be made easily accessible to the Members of the Legislative Assembly and the public in a consolidated and up-to-date format.
- 30) That the Government of Nunavut undertake a comprehensive public review in 2000-2001 on policies related to the sale, possession and distribution of alcohol in Nunavut;
- 31) That the Decentralization Secretariat of the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs continue to provide formal monthly updates to Members of the Legislative Assembly and local leaders on the status of decentralization in each community;
- 32) That the Departments of Public Works and Human Resources provide full support and co-operation to the Decentralization Secretariat in order to ensure compliance with the decentralization timelines and targets committed to by the Government of Nunavut;
- 33) That the Government of Nunavut bring forward a plan to address the needs of non-decentralized communities; particularly with respect to locating any new Boards, agencies or economic development projects which are not in the current decentralization plan;

- 34) That the Government present a plan for the future of the Workers' Compensation Board prior to the end of the 2000-2001 fiscal year;

(interpretation) I would now ask Mr. Iqittuq to continue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Iqittuq.

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Recommendations of the Standing Committees.

- 35) That the Department of Justice make public its formal response to the recommendations contained in the Corrections Planning Committee Report;
- 36) That the results of the Department of Community Government and Transportation's Reviews of Municipal Legislation and Financing be tabled in the Legislative Assembly prior to the end of the 2000-2001 fiscal year;
- 37) That the Department of Sustainable Development table, during the Fall 2000 Session of the Legislative Assembly, a comprehensive substantiation of the social and economic benefits to Nunavut communities and residents of the Department's spending in the area of Parks and Tourism;
- 38) That the Department of Sustainable Development table the results of its review of Grants and Contributions programs;
- 39) That the Department of Sustainable Development present the results of the Minister's Forum on the Economy to the Standing Committee on Community Empowerment and Sustainable Development for review and input;
- 40) That the Government of Nunavut formally table comprehensive responses in the Legislative Assembly to past reports and recommendations made by Standing Committees of the Legislative Assembly and to motions and recommendations made in the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker, I move that this report be received by the Legislative Assembly and entered into the record as read. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The member has moved that the Joint Standing Committee Report be tabled as read.

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: Agreed. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Premier.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 103 – 1(3): Letter of Instruction to Commissioner Irniq

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to table the letter of instruction to the Commissioner of Nunavut, Peter Irniq which is going to be made available to the public. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Tabling of documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills.

Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bill 13 and Tabled Documents 41-1(3), 61-1(3) and 101-1(3), and according to the authority vested in me by Motion 3-1(3) the Committee of the Whole will stay in session until it reports itself out, with 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): For committee of the whole we will be deliberating on Bill 13 and tabled documents 41-1(3), 61-1(3) and 101-1(3). Yesterday we dealt with the department of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth and also did the opening comments of both the Premier and the committee Chairperson.

Mr. Premier please go up to the witness table so you can answer some questions in regards to Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit. Welcome Mr. Premier and your officials. If you would introduce your staff please Mr. Okalik. Thank you.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. On my right I am sure that you all know her, Carmen Levi who is the Deputy Minister and Mark Thompson and we also have Ruth Kadlutsiak from the Finance Department in the department of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. Those are the staff that will be with me. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. I believe the opening remarks have already been done by the appropriate people and we can then go on to the general comments and questions. Any general comments from the members. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, in regards to the department and the issue of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth, this is the first year that you have started working on the policies and programs. You will probably be making some changes to accommodate the needs of the Inuit or the people of Nunavut. Are you going to be keeping a close scrutiny on the department. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you and before we go to the witnesses I would like to tell you that we definitely have to approve today. Definitely before 3 p.m. because the

members are going to be leaving and I would suggest strongly that the members return to the House so that everybody is here during these proceedings. Thank you.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In our estimates we are trying to make more visible or promote the uses of our language and culture and we are looking at ways and means of how to integrate Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit into the departments. We are going to be reviewing the heritage centres and we are going to be looking at the youth in the communities and looking at how we will give our youth groups more support in the communities. It is going to be an ongoing process. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Okalik. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Can you tell me if you are going to be working with the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Federal Government so you can work on the issues of youth and the heritage resources.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, at this time we are paying the Federal Government because we have archaeological items in the heritage centre in Yellowknife. We are paying them so they provide those services and we are also going to have ongoing dialogue so we will decide which belong to Nunavut and which to the NWT. Once we have identified all the artifacts and which belong to whom we will want to bring them back. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Premier. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you. You have responded to part of the question that I was going to be asking. Where are you going to be putting those artifacts and where are they going to be housed. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We are going to review it and at this time they will be housed in the interim. Once we decide where the artifacts are going to be housed then we will deal with it further. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Any further comments Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In here I do not like the way that it is written here. It is demeaning to our youth. I would suggest that we would write it again. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Which one are you referring to in what written documents are you reading from. Once I find that then we could talk about it. Thank you.

Chairperson: Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): In these, the department of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth's business plans. I am asking questions that are in the business plan.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): I am not sure. If you could say the page number.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Page 4, environmental review.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. It is just stating where we are now at this point. We are in the very bottom with social problems compared with the rest of Canada. It states where we are today and where we want to go tomorrow. We want to build up our society and come up to par with the rest of Canada, because of all the social problems that the young people have to deal with today. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): I have many questions but the clock is ticking and I will leave at that. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Any general comments. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We as the Nunavut Government created the department of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth and it is very important because it is related to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. I am very proud of your department and on behalf of the elders I am glad that the Nunavut Government has that foundation for our government.

For that reason we have been looking forward to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit being established. It is a very slow process in the schools in regards to instruction in the Inuit language and also the timeframe where they might set aside 10 minutes that will deal with the Inuktitut language and curriculum for the year 1999/2000 since the creation of the department of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth within the Nunavut Government.

With Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit it has effected the department of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. I am sure not all the communities are affected but it has helped with funding and because this department is the foundation it is now visible in my community maybe

not a very huge impact. The elders of Nunavut are very proud that such a department was created.

They will now no longer be talking to the air they will be doing substantial work. They will be able to say their stories before everybody is gone. In the year 1999/2000 I do not know exactly how much money we have used in regards to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. I am still looking forward to the implementation part of it where they will be teaching the Inuit traditions through Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

I am looking forward to seeing more funding being put into the community's programs so they can deal with Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): I did not hear a question. Mr. Premier would you like to respond.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes, thank you Mr. Chairman. In total of the various civil programs we are up to approximately 2 million dollars in the past year and this year we will also be giving support financially when the communities do apply. We will have a general consensus with the Nunavut Social Development Council that will deal with Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. We will set aside some money for that specifically. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I am sure I will be talking for about an hour before we complete this department. On page 6 of your business plan. Well, let me read and you will understand. That the cabinet table a report so they can give support to our councils and implement an official languages policy and that they plan to table a plan with a comprehensive report how you will be teaching Inuktitut language and using Inuktitut language. For example, make available a policy for culture in Nunavut. It states here that there should be appropriate funding provided for programs so the elders can teach traditional ways. Is that true. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Premier or your officials.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Perhaps my deputy can respond to his question. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Our budget, we do have a policy and we use the policy when we review the applicants. Some of the applicants do not usually coincide with our mission but we try to deal with the applicants that are relevant to our department and we have very limited resources. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. This 7 million dollars I think the department's funding is 7 million dollars. Will you be reviewing this in the upcoming years. Because your department is very important to Nunavut residents and we want to enhance Inuit culture. We have to develop Inuktitut curriculum using Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit and that is the only way to get proper training material. Perhaps all the ministers stated that we have to initiate these because this is part of the Nunavut culture and we have to use culture and language in the training programs and in the schools.

It states here with the support of the department of Health and Social Services that they deal with it. So I was wondering if those two departments are working together to support the department of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes, Mr. Chairman. Although it states there that there is a 7 million dollar budget we will also be getting additional funding from the Federal Government. We have made an agreement with the Federal Government that approximately 5 million dollars will be transferred to the Nunavut Government within 5 years.

Funding that we receive from the Federal Government will be on top of the 7 million dollars. Part of it will be used for languages and the other part of it will be used for the French language. It will be used for Inuktitut languages too. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In the Rankin Inlet session we met with various groups and we also met with people with disabilities. They would like to have the opportunity to be supportive to this department. In there it states on page 7 of the business plan they will review funding for the Status of Women, People with Disabilities and that Culture, Language, Elders & Youth and the government will give support so that these programs can be made available to people with disabilities. Have you made plans to include people with disabilities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. For people with disabilities we formed an association and they now have an office in Iqaluit. A year ago the GNWT did a review in Nunavut and a survey as to how many people have special needs and have disabilities. So we established The People with Disabilities Council and we will be working with people with disabilities and make the funding available for the public with the help of the People with Disabilities Council of Nunavut.

With the assistance of the staff from social services and with the assistance of staff from the department of education, we will work with the two departments and come up with a decision. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you for the response. In here it states on page 8 of your business plan that they will use culture to train the students locally in Nunavut and also train the tourists because they have to be respectful of the culture and the heritage centres. To me that means returning the heritage centres to schools. According to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit that is how I understood it myself. I just want you to clarify it. Thank you Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairperson: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We want the funding to be available to everyone because some of us are losing our cultural traditions. For that reason we want the younger people to be taught and we want the elders to tell stories to the younger people because we do not want to lose our heritage and culture. We want to give further training to the young people in cultural issues. Thank you.

Chairperson: Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman and thank you for the response. According to the business plan it states that we have twenty-six communities in Nunavut do you plan to establish a heritage centre in all the communities in Nunavut. Thank you.

Chairperson: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes we want to be open and as we have stated the heritage centres should be established in the communities and we want to be open in the future and if any one of the communities want to establish a heritage centre then we would like to see it. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the response and going on to page nine in the business plan. It talks about suicide prevention. I do not understand. I would like clarification on what that was in regards to suicide prevention. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The youth in the communities or drop in centres for youth would be run by the youth committees and they will provide programs and such things as suicide prevention. It is also one of the ongoing issues in the

communities and the youth will be given the opportunity to learn how to run these organizations and also to run facilities such as youth drop in centres.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. That is very good to hear and it is something that I would like to see. But the funding is very small. Have you set aside some funds so there will be O&M money provided for such facilities. Most of the communities and the youth are requesting youth drop in centres and other types of services. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. It is a start and these programs are geared specifically for the smaller communities and the Federal Government has set aside some funds with communities with population of 1 thousand and over. Smaller communities, we invite them to make proposals. There is 100 thousand now for the smaller communities and we will take it from there. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Any further question Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. On C-1 appendix, they will be working together with the Department of Education. When we are going to be talking with the school and curriculum. This was going to be mentioned earlier. How are the departments of Education and Culture, Language, Elders & Youth going to work together when they have separate budgets. How is that going to work. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): I can say at this time that the Department of Education has been very open and also set aside some dollars that will be used for Inuit culture and languages curriculum production and will be used this year. We want to have a close working relationship with the Department of Education and anyway we are open. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu is complete. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): I will make this as brief as possible. We have an ongoing problem in Nunavut and I am sure that it does not only affect my community. I would like to ask the department about requests or proposals or applications, which take a long time to be responded to.

We look forward to getting responses and there was one time it took seven months to get a response to one of our proposals or applications. Have you increased your capacity in your department this year. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. It is going to be a lot easier. This year we are increasing our staff for this coming year and we are looking at May 19 and we will see which communities apply and we will also inform people that have made applications and we will give them an update.

Chairperson (interpretation): Okay, I do not have any other names on my list. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In regards to the Inuit language, one of the main reasons that we created Nunavut was to preserve and promote language and culture. Those were the main reasons and we want to use more of our language and culture. When are we going to start using the Inuktitut language in government or is it going to be the status quo. Or when are we going to start respecting the use of the Inuit language or the usage of the Inuit language. Thank you

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman, over this coming year we will set aside 702 thousand to be used for the promotion and protection of our language. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask another question in regards to the elders. We talk about Inuit culture and how are we going to use that in the government system. We still have elders who are alive today who know the Inuit culture and traditional lifestyle. In my community we have the elders' societies. When are they going to get more support from our government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): This year we have been setting up a support system for the elders. We are also going to ask the communities for input. We are going to do some recording and filming of elders. Since not all communities have elders' societies or councils we are going to be starting discussions on setting aside some money for this summer so they will have elders' councils or societies in most communities. We have set aside some money so that we will start the filming and interviewing of the elders and since all communities do not have elders' societies and again at the present moment that is being put together by our staff. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we started having meetings and when we had our first session at the cadet hall the minister would have

meetings with the Standing Committees and we had discussions on artifacts. We made suggestions on setting up a heritage centre at least in Nunavut. Some of the artifacts are in Ottawa and Yellowknife. What is the status of that today.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): I am the Deputy Minister. Thank you. Some of the artifacts are still down in Ottawa and some of them are still out west. If they want to give them to us we will be directing them to Yellowknife as before we build a heritage centre they will house these artifacts. We have made an agreement on what is going to go to Nunavut and what is going to be staying in the NWT. We have already drafted an agreement and we will now have it signed by the minister. The appropriate ministers will be signing this agreement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Before you stated that you are going to be sending the artifacts to Yellowknife before we get a facility that will house it. Do you have one in the works where we will build a centre.

Chairperson: Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We are going to do a study to find out where we will be locating this facility. Before the creation of Nunavut the issue of a heritage centre was not included. So it was not included in the budget. We will do a study this year. Once it is completed we will submit our findings to Cabinet and I am sure in the upcoming year we will find out. We have not made a decision on where it is going to be located. The people who do this sort of work in Igloolik have not made a statement on where to build this facility. Once the review is done the findings will be submitted to the Legislative Assembly and to the Cabinet.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman under the business plan there is quite a lot of political issues listed there. I would like to ask the minister about those. One of them the letter "B" working to continue to complete the reports on conferences that were held in each region. I would just like to ask the minister when they plan on completing those and when they will be made available to the members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They should have them available at the end of the month. So we can make a commitment to provide the member with a copy. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman the next one talks about promoting and encouraging the establishment of youth councils in all communities. I would like to ask the minister how exactly, the avenues in place on how they wish to accomplish that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The youth councils, we now have youth councils in each community. We usually get support from Designated Inuit Organisations and through those Inuit Organisations we now have youth committee in all the communities of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to hear that. I commend the department if they had anything to do to ensure that we have those councils in each community. I am just wondering has the department received any requests for operations & maintenance funding from any of these communities in regards to youth facilities or getting them established. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Whoever wants to respond.

Mr. Thompson: The department has received several proposals for both operations & maintenance and several capital proposals from various youth committees. At this time I cannot say which ones. We have received several requests for support that we are reviewing at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I will not ask who they are. I was asking how many actually have been received. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The exact number is between 5 and 7. Once our budget is approved we will be communicating with each of the 15 communities that were targeted for populations under 1 thousand to request proposals for capital money for those youth facilities. We are expecting to get more within the week. We have been initiating some contact without actually making a request before this time. So as soon as we are able to make that official request we are expecting to receive a number of proposals for that particular budget item. At this time there is no money for operations & maintenance. So we will not be reviewing those at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I am very pleased to hear that fifteen communities are targeted at being helped with capital dollars of 500 thousand. That is good to see that it is going to as many communities as possible. I would like to ask how many of those applications the 5 or 7 that were mentioned were operations & maintenance funding. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Often the proposals that we receive, in this case the few we received from these committees have been a mixture of both operations & maintenance and capital requests. Some of them are just for programs they want to initiate as well. So there is a mixture within those support proposals that we received. So there is not an exact number. Some of the requests have numerous differences between operations & maintenance and capital requests. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I just asked the minister if he could explain why the department does not have any operations & maintenance funding available for these facilities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Who is going to respond.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The main reason is that we want to help start up these centres and want to promote self-reliance, which is one of the Bathurst Mandate principles. We wanted to see proposals from the communities about how they are going to proceed in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo do you have any further comments.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I interpret the answer correctly the minister is saying for operations & maintenance funding these organisation or groups have to help themselves. That the department is not willing to put forward any operations & maintenance for these types of programs. I am wondering if that is accurate. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I believe last year I myself made a motion there should be some funding for youth facilities and programs made available within this budget. I highlighted the fact in the past here in Iqaluit and other communities as well that the youth group had a facility available but was looking for operations & maintenance dollars to run it.

There was no money for this type of a program and for that reason I asked that there be some dollars for such a program last year. At that time last year the only reason why I withdrew my motion to do that was that I received a commitment from the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth at the time that there would be some dollars allocated for these purposes this year. So again I would like to ask why that has not taken place. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For communities like Iqaluit, the larger communities qualify for programs for youth centres so our focus is for smaller communities and in some cases there are already existing programs in place. Like under Community Government & Transportation recreational facilities get operations & maintenance money. So there are various other avenues that young people can turn to for operations & maintenance expenses to use. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That does not negate the fact that I received a commitment from this government that there would be some funds for those purposes last year. Now is it going to be the practice of this government to make commitments and tell us as members what we want to hear in order to get the budget passed and then as time goes on they will not worry about it. Because that is what I see as happened here. A commitment was made to have dollars available for such a purpose and now there is nothing there. Specifically within this department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is some money available in other departments and there are already funds available. There is no need for duplication. So we have set aside money to start up youth centres and they can apply to other departments for operations & maintenance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is the second time that I heard this answer. That is not the question that I asked. Is it going to be the practice of the department or the government to make these kinds of commitments to members in order to get a budget passed and then those commitments can be ignored in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe that is my call. When I make a commitment I do my utmost to honour that. I hope that is also the practice by my colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am encouraged to hear that and I sincerely hope that we do not run into this type of situation again in the future. Item number C in there it talks about promoting and encouraging.. Sorry D. Encourage the youth in developing self-esteem in order to reduce the drop out rates in the education system and enhance their knowledge of Inuit culture. I am just wondering how the department plans to accomplish that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We now have Theo Ikkumaq as one of our staff to work on the youth issues and Israel Mablick as new staff. These two are now working on the business plan after the youth committees held their meeting. Also they attend meetings with our staff who work on the applications from the youth councils. They work to make sure that these funds for youth programs are divided equally. They review the applications and they want to make sure these funds are given evenly to communities all across Nunavut.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am just wondering if they have employees like that looking at distributing dollars equally and working in the area of heritage centres. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Who is going to respond. Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do have our staff who meet on youth issues and on heritage centres. Also on the language issue we do have two language specialists. Once we get the positions filled in for the elders they will be reviewing that to make sure that the funding is distributed equally. The Department of Education and the Department of Justice staff will also be giving us support on that. Usually we review the applicant jointly. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman going back to another one there it talks about working closely with the education system to enhance the youths' knowledge of Inuit culture. Mr. Chairman I am just wondering has the department also including, I know the Department of Education is reviewing the Education Act right now.

I think one of the things we want to see and encourage is to see these youth stay in school. I am just wondering if the department looked at when they are approaching the youth do they try and get useful information and input into how the education system is run as a whole and not just enhancing the Inuit culture. Their knowledge of the Inuit culture but within a system how they would see that being more beneficial to them as youth to get their prospective on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Any one of the witnesses. Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are just setting up the youth department. There are many ideas that are being thrown around by the young people. There was a major conference and this was one of the items that was discussed by the youth. Our department staff are in the process now of talking about the youth and self-esteem, boosting their self-esteem.

Usually that goes hand in hand with knowing about your culture and roots. That is part with regaining your self-esteem. The youth department it is also included in the youth department mandate. Where they work with the school drop outs it is the students who want to go into the Arctic Colleges or Universities or who have been there. So Universities and Colleges outside of Nunavut are going to be dealing with those issues also handling the concerns raised by the youth from the communities.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is good to hear. Also in here it talks about development of an office space and consultation with the Heritage Trust on the creation of heritage facilities. Can the minister provide us with an update of where they are at with that process. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Ms Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our Act states as such. Last fall we signed an agreement with the Inuit Heritage Trust and with Nunavut Tunngavik. At this time in our Act we have submitted to the Justice system to make sure that it is within our Act. With the creation of the board we are going to be creating a report by the end of this month. We are going to be looking at the people of Nunavut. We will also be looking at NTI and there will be some from the Inuit Heritage Trust and members at large. We are going to be creating this board at the end of this month and possibly next month. The newly created board will be working with these issues. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I just wondering, the minister indicated that the board working to develop this options paper and to look at the creation of heritage facilities throughout Nunavut has not even been established yet. I am

wondering if he would share the terms of reference for that committee and what they are mandated to do with the members. I would ask a question as to if there is going to be a timeline when the department would like to see a report on where heritage centres should be.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Levi.

Hon. Paul Okalik: The actual terms for the committee will be set out in the Heritage Resources Act and we hope to form the committee as the Deputy stated early next month at the latest. We can share the terms of reference that are set out in the legislation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I would like to also ask again when the department expects to receive some type of report as to the board's findings as to where heritage centres should be placed and created in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are hoping we can get a report by November of this year and as to trying to establish it I can not make a commitment on their behalf. So that is an optimistic date at this point. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman given the fact the department is going to be establishing a board to determine where heritage facilities are going to be built, one would assume that they do not have anything in place saying this is where we should build it or not. In my experience with other areas of funding and programs and developments usually the development of such facilities or programs usually come up after these types of reports have been developed. I am just wondering if the development of any centre prior to that report coming out if the minister that might be premature in doing that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the things that we are dealing with is that there is already a pre-existing facility in place and we are trying to replace the facility. A lot of community support has been expressed. So we have to deal with this issue while it is being constructed and as I stated before we are very open to other facilities in other communities that they want in the future. So one of the main tasks of the board is to look at a museum for instance. So I would think that would be one of their main tasks along with looking at heritage centres. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman on the letter "K" on page 6. It talks about working with NSDC regard Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and the development of a policy discussion paper for the consideration of the people of Nunavut. I would like to ask the minister how exactly he plans or anticipates working with NSDC to accomplish this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe that we have an agreement to proceed. It is just a matter of finalising terms of reference for a joint working group to look at Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit government wide. So we hope to proceed soon. I was hoping to respond to a question on the matter but did not get around to it. So we will share the information with the members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman on letter "O" it talks about the development or the creation of an official language policy for the Government of Nunavut. Last year I remember asking the department at the time if they would be willing to work with the Standing Committee of Ajauqtiit that has the responsibility for the appointment for the Language Commissioner in the development of this policy. I do not believe to date that the Standing Committee or our research clerk has received a response. I do not think any contact has been initiated on the development of such a policy. So again I would like to ask the Premier if he would affirm that they would work with the Standing Committee on the development of that policy along with the Language Commissioner. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Anyone of the witnesses. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe there have been preliminary discussions with the Language Commissioner on such a policy. I am advised that Ajauqtiit is more than welcome to take part. So hopefully once discussion commences Ajauqtiit could be involved at that stage. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman and I know you know the minister just inherited the department and I just would like more of a solid commitment that the Standing Committee will be contacted. That was the same commitment that I was given last year. Like I said to date I do not recall us being contacted. I would just like further commitment on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: I can say that we are willing to work with anybody. A language policy will affect everyone so we are willing to work with anyone in developing such a policy and Ajauqtiit through their mandate will be involved. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo do you have any further comments. Go ahead.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a few more here. I know that in the days leading up to the session and throughout the session one of the problems we have heard from members is they have been frustrated with the inability to be provided with information. The information to the Standing Committees and the members regarding departmental plans and budget and so on and so forth. One of the factors involved in that was the lack of people to provide translations of the documents. You will have to look at my desk with the mountains of paper that we receive. I can imagine it would take a long time for all that information to be translated. In here it talks about ensuring sufficient resources are available to provide translation services. I am wondering what plans are in place to try to help alleviate that problem throughout the government. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is like that. The interpreters and translators we are currently contracting private interpreters and translators because we do not have the positions filled in Kugluktuk at this time. The Director of Language services Attima Hadlari works on these issues and they provide translation services for Inuinnaqtun and Inuktitut translations. We contract private interpreters and translators and we use the Francophone Association to provide the French translations. It is quite hard but with today's technology everything is moving faster because we are sending them through the computers and we are having less computer problems than last year. For Kugluktuk, Cambridge Bay, Igloolik those are the language services based in the communities. We have two in Igloolik, Betty Brewster and Nick Arnatsiaq. So that's that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. I will give you one last opportunity. There is another person who would like to make a few comments and then I will get back to you afterwards. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate that. You mentioned that you are short staffed and you do not have those positions filled. At what time are you anticipating to be fully staffed and once you are fully staff will that be an adequate amount of resources to provide services to all the departments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will have staff in Kugluktuk, nine positions including the Director of Language services. We did not have any material for their job description or their job that they are supposed to do because there is

differences between a language specialist and an interpreter translator. So as soon as these are completed than we will be requesting applicants to be based in Kugluktuk this coming spring and fall.

Those positions deal with Inuktitut and English. I am not sure whether we will keep up with the jobs we have to do. It takes about 2 days to wait for a document to be translated but when the document is very lengthy than it takes a lot longer. It is especially true when the Legislative Assembly is in session. However, when the session is not on then there is not much work that has to be translated.

Right now we are trying to do our best to keep up with the workload that we have and we would like to resolve this as soon as we get adequate staffing. The interpreter translators are taking different courses as medical interpreters or for court interpreters. We are expecting that they will be training for Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun and that is not set up yet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have been sitting for quite some time now so I am requesting a short break. I know we would like to complete this department today. I would like to complete everything perhaps in a few minutes. My back is aching now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): The member is asking for a break. We will take a five minute break.

>>Committee recessed for five minutes

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you for returning. Mr. Iqaqrialu is the first speaker.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under D 2, it states that for Culture, Language, Elders & Youth for the Deputy Minister, 616 thousand. Is the amount of money set aside for elders and youth programs. I just wondered if people could apply for that funding or if that is the case. Do people apply for that funding.

Chairperson (interpretation): Which one of you will respond to that question. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are quite a few figures on this page. These are for the wages for the employees and for travelling and the operations of the office. Also for other expenses in regards to contracts. These are what make up the amount of 616 thousand.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It states here this is for the elders and youth programs. I thought it was going to be for the elders and youth programs but it did not realise it was for something else. Do I understand it correctly Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairperson: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes the department requires staff. They require support staff and they also co-ordinate this meeting of elders and youth.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the elaboration and page D3 on your business plan. It states in here that there is a 1 million, 46 thousand dollar budget. If we look at the budget detail it states that with criteria or with no criteria. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The funding criteria or rather the policy. We can give funding of 10 thousand dollars or less and it will be up to the client's discretion as to how they would be using the 10 thousand dollars. If it is over 10 thousand dollars they require reports and they require a business plan or a proposal. Once the program is completed they are required to write a report. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If it goes beyond 10 thousand dollars does it say what it has to be used for. Does it have a purpose.

Chairperson: Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes if it is going to be over 10 thousand dollars they have to sign an agreement and they have to write down what it is going to be used for. When they are done they have to report as to what purpose they used the funding for to our department. If they did not use the money for the purpose then we could ask for the money back that was not appropriate for that purpose. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the Deputy Minister for her response. There is also under 2001-2002 in those pages they are all the same amount. I just wondered whether when we do our budget next year will there be a difference in the figures. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The money that we have today whatever has been approved in our budget is the way we have it figured out. We will be able to do the job that we are supposed to do according to the wishes of the departments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. I do not have any more names. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman under the department falls I know the department funded a group for disabilities. I am just wondering I know that in the past if there were people with disabilities if they apply for a disability pension or some people with disabilities apply for getting that certain licence plate or things for a vehicle for parking to be able to park in a handicap zone, I am just wondering how a person can go about getting those services now. Since it is no longer funded through the NWT disability programs. I am just wondering if that is something that falls into the department or the Association the department funds that handles that type of service. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Which one of you will answer. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do not have funding. We are funding the advocacy groups. I am sure each of the departments that handled these in the past would be doing the same tasks that were carried out by the GNWT. I am sure we would be told by the Council if those programs were not available. So it is more a function of the Council to be advocates for disabled residents of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The department that funds the group people with disabilities in the business plan reports to senior advisor, Status of Women. Does the department have any information on the programs and services operated by that group where one could determine if that would be the group to go through to find out whether an individual or where the individual would go to seek this type of support or services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Premier. Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Council for the Disabled because we just began our government and the people with disabilities had to be assisted, the residents of Nunavut. This was part of the program that we ran and we are trying to get some funding to support the people with disabilities. We have an individual that handles that with the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Social Services. We have various funding to support different bodies. We will be dealing with funding to help the disabled. We will be working along with the Council for the Disabled.

We are trying for this year trying to get some money because they have not been assisted as much in the schools and in the homes. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Any more Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am just wondering if the government has a copy or a mandate of the types of services that the Council for Disabilities provides to people with disabilities in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have pamphlets and materials that we could provide to the Members of the Legislative Assembly. The material done by the Council of the Disabled of the NWT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is the Deputy Minister saying the services have not changed on what is being provided. There has been a division or a new council set up to deal with those issues in Nunavut but basically the same predicament or I do not know if you want to call it a predicament or situation that we as a government where we inherited a lot of the programs and policies from the GNWT. Has this organisation basically done the same thing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Disabilities are new to our department and with it we had funding to create the People with Disabilities Council. I do not now if it was existing in GNWT but it was very inactive in the Nunavut region. We have become active in promoting programs and services for people with disabilities, which was a very good start for Nunavut. Nunavummiut and the department are working closely with Health and Social Services staff and the Department of Education to not only look at education and employment but also accessing airlines. Those kinds of programs are being placed which have not been in place before. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the Deputy Minister indicated that they provided pamphlets that were from the Northwest Territories Council for Disabled Persons. That's why I was asking is it the same types of services that were offered prior to division or that are supposed to be offered. She indicated that they weren't offered as widely as they may have needed to have been prior to division being the same types of services that were inherited by the Nunavut Council and department that they are trying to implement at this time. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There was nothing to assist the people of Nunavut for the disabled. The only programs that they had were the Department of Education and Health. (interpretation ends)...provided a very thick report from the Nunavut Implementation Commission that was done two years ago that details what communities and what disabilities we have in Nunavut. Right across, it is not a sample it is a full survey that was done two years ago, and we will provide that to the member. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I do not believe it is necessary I don't need to be provided with the detail of a door to door survey that was done. What I am trying to determine is the types of services that were theoretically, as the Deputy Minister indicated, that they were offered before. There was a group in the past, the Northwest Territories Association or Council of Disabilities that was supposed to provide that service to all of the Northwest Territories. Those programs that were supposed to be provided to Nunavummiut but weren't, are those the same types of programs that the Nunavut Council and the department is trying to implement now or are there new ones that they have created. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. When it was still the GNWT the programs that were supposed to be done we inherited some of the programs and we are still working on them. Because we provide the funding to the Council so that they can set their own priorities. So our staff will be giving them support. If they are going to be providing programs this funding would be provided if they are going to be the same Council who will use the funding to improve and give support to the disabled people in Nunavut.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I guess that I could infer that the disabled persons in Nunavut could look forward to receiving that service. Getting back to something that I was talking about earlier on heritage type things. In here in "g" in critical issues you talked about finalizing a division of heritage assets with the GNWT, I was just wondering if we could get an update as to where that is at and whose involved and when we could hope to have some conclusion to that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. At this point our staff are taking the lead on the heritage and culture issues. Leah Otak, who resides in Igloolik, works with an archaeologist and she will be getting the support from an archaeologist and the heritage part of the GNWT working together to divide up the artifacts and then the minister will be signing the agreement once it is completed.

It is ready to be signed now. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I guess I am just going to ask, I know, concerning how many artifacts or things we are talking about that are over there, I'm just trying to get a general sense of if those things become ours now, what are we going to do with them. It's not something that we can just stick in a store room or something like that. So I am just wondering what the plans are in that area. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Roughly half the artifacts at the Prince of Wales Heritage Centre are from Nunavut and they are going to be itemised in the near future and we will continue to pay for the service of storing them for us because we don't have the facilities here in Nunavut. We can't just take them without adequate facilities to maintain and preserve the artifacts. So they will stay at the Prince of Wales Heritage Centre until we get a facility in place. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Half of the items, I am just wondering are those items that may be in storage or maybe items that are on display over at the heritage centre, or is there a combination of both. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Chairman. They are a combination of both.

Chairperson (interpretation): Any further questions, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I was just wondering if those were items that we don't have to pay storage for, if we are going to pay them to store them, if they are displaying them for people to come in and see. Maybe we should be charging them or assessing them a rent on showing those pieces. So I am just wondering if that's something that the department has looked at. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Chairman. We need to find out which artifacts are ours first before we start requesting or making those types of requests. So the next issue will be to determine which artifacts belong to Nunavut. All we have an idea of is roughly about 50% of the artifacts are from Nunavut. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I know over the last year we have probably spent a considerable amount of dollars for services to the Government of the Northwest Territories. I am just wondering if in this case if there are items that are on display at the Prince of Wales Heritage Centre which is displaying them as a way of attracting or bringing people into the centre to look at, if the minister would contemplate approaching them on assessing them some type of a rental fee or a show fee or whatever. I don't know how those types of things are handled at that level in different museums, but I know that usually when someone wants to send an exhibit around it costs somebody something.

So I am just wondering if that is a possibility that the minister would look at. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Chairman. One of the things that we do is that we charge for displays when we have exhibits that travel throughout the country. We don't charge for those types of services. We like promoting our culture to anyone that may want to learn more about us, so we have to take that into account. When we start making demands it may have a negative impact as we want to promote our culture and show it off to anyone that may want to learn about us. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: I echo my colleague's answer over there, that was a good answer and like I said I wasn't aware of how these things were dealt with. I just thought if there were fees charged for them elsewhere, there would be no reason why we shouldn't take advantage of that too.

But if the case is where they are just on loan, if that's the case I also have no problem with that. I agree we do need to do everything we can to showcase our heritage and our culture, not only I believe within Canada, but throughout the world. So, I would again thank the minister for his answer on that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. I have no more names on the list. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): You almost forgot me. That 10 thousand dollars as you stated earlier, if there is less than 10 thousand dollars we shouldn't be too overly concerned about 10 thousand dollars. That could be used in the communities for, I don't know what. So you have set aside this funding so that communities can apply for it. Thank you.

Chairperson: Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. It is stated in our policy, we do have a policy for applicants and we do have a policy for grants less than 10 thousand dollars. If any people apply for funding we truly believe that they will be using it for the purpose that they applied for. So therefore they don't really need to make a report at the end of the project and they do not have to pay it back. But if it is over the 10 thousand dollars we do have more rigid guidelines in the policy.

We do have to sign an agreement between the applicant and our department as to how the funding is going to be used if it's less than 10 thousand dollars we give them a letter stating that you should be utilizing your funding for the purpose of your application. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Yes, the funding that can be applied for by the communities. Do all the communities know about the funding that they can apply for it.

Chairperson: Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Yes, last year the program was not set up properly last year but this year the program for that purpose has been advertised to the public. At the end of March we publicised the funding that people could apply for and that they have a deadline until April 19, to apply for funding. Our staff will then review the applicants after May 19 and they have publicised this information through brochures and through the local radio station and through the media. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): We do have a local radio society in the community, do you give them financial support when they apply for funding for that purpose. Thank you.

Chairperson: Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. For the communication part, we do have a division for the communications. The local radio societies, according to our policy when they apply we can give them funding up to 6 thousand dollars annually. Also, when there are important or urgent issues we are able to give support to the local radio societies.

Chairperson: Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): The funding that is provided to the local radio societies of 6 thousand dollars. Do you only supply that funding to the communities that apply for it.

Chairperson: Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We only supply the funding to the communities that apply for it because we know when the communities apply we know that it will be used for their local radio station. All the communities in Nunavut do have local radio stations. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): In regards to the more important and urgent case, which you mentioned. You said that you are able to provide them with additional funding. What is considered as urgent or important. Thank you.

Chairperson: Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The CBC provide support to the local radio stations and when their equipment gets too old they are given support by CBC. CBC is not able to pay for all the support so therefore we are able to give them additional support on that to have proper equipment in the local radio stations in the communities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Many communities radio stations are broken down at times and they are unable to use their stations. I should be asking my question to the CBC. Do they change their equipment every 30 years. Is that possible at the community level. Thank you.

Chairperson: Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We are not responsible for renewing the radio equipment. I think it is the CBC's jurisdiction and responsibility. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): If a community applies to get a local radio station, is there a policy where you can give a certain amount of support at the communities request. Thank you.

Chairperson: Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Some communities, if they are able to raise funding on their own, then sometimes we do not necessarily need to give them support. However, if they are unable to raise the funding on their own, we can review them. So it is on a community by community basis. Based on the individual communities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): For the year 2000/2001, I will be asking a question about that. In regards to the three types of funding, for example, when can I apply. Can I apply for the top one if I want to get some form of assistance for anything in regards to social issues. Thank you.

Chairperson: Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We make this funding available in Nunavut and anybody can apply. We deal with the applicants on a case by case basis whether they want to get funding through the Women's Secretariat or whether they want funding to support them on Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. So all these applicants vary from each other. They either come from an individual or from an organization. So they apply for various programs and we look at them case by case. We give them funding according to the way they write their applications.

Chairperson: Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): One of my colleagues asked a question on what "qingungaasuk" means. We have different dialects even in the Baffin region. But if I am applying for funds and I wanted a one time contribution, according to what the Deputy Minister said, "qingungaasuk" means requesting financial assistance or applying for a grant. That is just to give the viewers out there and the members here an idea of what "qingungaasuk" means.

I don't have any further questions. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. I do not have any more names on my list. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, on page 7 of the business plan, the last one, the letter "k" there, it says to work with other Nunavut departments to help develop an effective Inuit Employment Plan. I am just wondering what the departments' role is in this regard. Does it consider itself a watchdog or an advocate, like an employment advisor. How do they see themselves and what's their role in the process there. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: I just want to recognize a visitor here, a former colleague who is articling in a law firm in Yellowknife, who worked as legal clerk for the Legislative Assembly in the GNWT and that was very supportive and helpful while I was articling in Yellowknife. Ms. Sara Kay is here with us.

>>Applause

At these times I wish I was back in law practice and not sitting here.

>>*Laughter*

Yes, our main role at Culture, Language, Elders & Youth is to deal with the cultural component of employment opportunities. Human Resources deal more with employment opportunities, so that is our main role in Inuit Employment Plans. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, if I could just ask the minister to elaborate more on what he means by the cultural component of employment. I don't understand, and would just ask if he could clarify that please. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: People may have heard about Inuktitut language training in the work force for example. Culture, Language, Elders & Youth have been involved in cultural awareness within the work force. So that would be our main focus. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I am sure that all the employees out there look forward to those types of programs being offered in their offices. I know I wouldn't mind if I was offered in my office, if I worked for the government.

Just getting back to a comment that was made earlier by one of my colleagues and the reply from the Deputy Minister regarding programs available through the department. I know for example, in the Department of Sustainable Development and other departments that have funding programs available out there, they publish and distribute program applications and what programs are available through that department. Has the department developed or do they have such a program policy manual or pamphlets or whatever that can be distributed to communities so that communities, individuals and groups within Nunavut know what types of programs they can apply for. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Deputy Minister Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. With the applications, we produced a pamphlet that has been aired on the radio. The youth groups in the communities and the Regional Inuit Organizations and the Hamlets and the Members of the Legislative Assembly were given information on what is available, what kinds of funds are available through our department.

Also in regards to the Inuit and French languages. They were also produced in Inuktitut and French. If there are requests out there we sent the application forms either by email or by fax. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Deputy Minister. I do not have any other names on my list. Mr. Irqittuq. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, just one quick question that arose. The programs and the funding programs that the department made public as far as areas in which individuals, communities or groups could apply for funding, are those the only areas that applications were considered for, the programs that they have advertised for. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, with the Women's Secretariat we have also produced pamphlets and those were given out to all the offices in Nunavut. These are the only productions that we have made because we do not have staff who can produce such things. We are looking forward to the summer and producing such information sheets.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Levi. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, then just to clarify. Those programs that the department had advertised are the only programs that they accepted any applications for and approved. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Those are the only programs that we run and they are the only ones that we advertised.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Are those the only applications that were approved that were under those programs that were advertised. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Deputy Minister Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We have a policy that we use to approve funding proposals. We also have guidelines that were given for our Inuktitut and French language agreement funding. So we use those ones for approving grants and contributions. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. This will be my last one for a while I will let Mr. Irqittuq ask some questions. But, would the or could the minister and his staff make available a copy of her grants and contributions policy that they used, that she just talked about in approving any applications she received. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Deputy Minister Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. They are freely available and we can give you copies. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Deputy Minister. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In February I was asking quite a number of questions in regards to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and how it is going to be used within departments. I had also submitted a number of letters on the same issue. What kind of plans do you have for Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and if there is going to be a production of any kind when are they going to be coming out. The Premier also stated that there is going to be a policy produced, when is that going to be.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Mr. Irqittuq please have patience.

Mr. Irqittuq ...*interpretation unavailable*...

Chairperson: Mr. Premier

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We will want to set aside some money. We will set aside about thirty thousand and we will be setting up a committee. We have been working with the NSDC while we are producing the policies and we came to an agreement and hope to give you a copy of how we hope it will be structured. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Has your department thought about who is going to be sitting on the committee that you mentioned. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes there will be six members. Two from our office and two from NSDC and two from the Elders' Society. That would be the composition of the committee. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Thank you for your response. This committee do you have the terms of reference for this committee. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you. I guess we have kind of a structure up there but it has not been approved yet. It is somewhat available. We are drafting them up but they are not approved yet and we cannot give it to you before the approval. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Premier. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Who approves those. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We have been working very closely with the NSDC and we have to reach a consensus before we go anywhere. The NSDC has been working very hard on the Inuit culture and stuff. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. One more question Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The NSDC, I do not now exactly what NSDC does. Could you elaborate on that Mr. Premier. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes the NSDC under the land claims agreement that was created I believe through article 25 they have been appointed by the Inuit. We have been working very closely with NSDC and I am sure you know their President Mary Wilman and once the finals are done they will have to be approved by the appropriate people and approved by the government. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I know that in regards to the youth centres I know that there is money available. My question is in regards to travel of the suicide prevention team. Do you pay for the expenses and how does it work. We will be working on this issue for a long time and there has been little change to date. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We have not really reviewed these. If you remember various departments like Health & Social Services do these and they will be involved in regards to suicide programs or suicide prevention programs. So I cannot really answer how different departments are dealing them with. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Also on the same subject, the young people have visiting centres or centres for the youth and they have opened an old building in my community and it is renovated by the young people and that is what we use as the youth centre. There are various communities in Nunavut that have those youth centres and I just wondered whether there is any funding to do renovations on those youth centres.

Chairperson: Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. If there are renovations needed for the youth centres this money can be used for that and it is open too for applications for the youth centres. If there is about 1000 population in a community they will be able to apply for that funding for renovations for that centre. Thank you Mr. Chairman

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. So many of the small communities do not have heritage centres. The minister stated that they will be using the heritage centres or the museums would be used for exhibiting artifacts. What purpose would that be for the communities that do not have them. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Like I stated I am open to the public if they want to start up a heritage centre or a museum. Perhaps the concern is mostly to do with Cambridge Bay who already had a heritage centre before it burnt down. This would be very useful for the communities of the Kitikmeot and the other communities could do the same thing to teach the youth about their heritage. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Premier. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. The Federal Government when they first started bringing about national parks we had sod houses and other artifacts in that environment and whenever it becomes a park it cannot be touched by the people because it is a federal operation. How does the heritage centre do more stuff or would they be able to put in artifacts into their heritage centre. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you. I can say that we have repatriated some artifacts especially in Iqaluit. We have a museum and one in Baker Lake with some artifacts that we cannot take because they do not have room for them. So we will start museums as long as there are artifacts to be put into the museums and the heritage centres. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Premier. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Yes I understand this. Someone said that there are some artifacts in Winnipeg and at the Prince of Wales Museum in Yellowknife. I just wondered what it would cost for the operations of a heritage centre. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): We have an agreement in place with the GNWT through the Department of Education and it states that if we want to repatriate artifacts we could keep them in their museums if we don't have a building of our own. Such things as artifacts and old books and if they were going to be given to us from other communities or other places they would be kept at the heritage centre or in the museum in Yellowknife. We do not have a building as such right now. The agreement states that if we are going to take artifacts that we have to keep them in the Yellowknife museum. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Levi. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you. The artifacts that are in the museums we can't get them and I have read the book " Give Me My Father's Body ". I think there are some artifacts that an individual could not get like that body from the museum. The artifacts that belong to the Inuit people. What happens to those artifacts. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Levi or Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you. In the same way they have to have a place. If they are lost or if they are damaged then our heritage goes along with it. However, according to the agreement that was signed in 1993 if they are in a museum in the north then we can repatriate them to Nunavut. I just wanted to make that clear. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Premier. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. It states here that the computers and Internet access will be in the heritage centres. So for those communities

that do not have funding for heritage centres will they be provided with computer and Internet access just like the one that will be put in Cambridge Bay. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The computers are in the heritage centres so elders that have traditional knowledge can have that knowledge put into the computers. That is what they are there for. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Premier. Mr. Barnabas

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): I wonder if the Premier could justify the money that states the objective they are doing according to the Bathurst Mandate, at the year 2020. I just wondered what that means if we have the libraries in the heritage centres. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes it is very enjoyable to see the elders urging to get something published. They have already set aside quite a bit of money for that museum and they have been instrumental in urging to get the heritage centre. In the community they have lost their culture and they are just urging their children and their grandchildren to come up with, so they could teach their young people how their culture and tradition was.

You have to look at Nunavut as a whole region and we have a most fragile culture. The elders are there to give support to the young people and if we just stop them they will have no place to go so that is why I am in support of their requests. They took the initiative on their own. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you. I am very happy to hear the Premier say that because in other communities our elders are working very hard and they have a huge challenge ahead of them and they do not even have heritage centres in their community. Yes I feel for the elders but there are other communities that do not even have heritage centres. Although we have consensus government it does not really mean that. I would also like to ask the Premier again here it states...*interpretation unavailable*...

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Barnabas. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you. The one that burned down was a heritage centre and it was part of the school. Even before Nunavut was created we were trying to establish the same heritage centre so as to enhance the culture and we are very open in the future in the communities to provide them with the facilities so we do not want to use

it in one community and have the other communities be envious and jealous about it.
Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Before we go to the capital, I would like to have regular caucus meet and we will be back after the caucus is over.

Chairperson (interpretation): Is that a motion. There is a motion to hold a regular caucus meeting. All those in favour. All those opposed. According to the vote there were five who voted for and six against so you cannot have a regular caucus. It is now time to go into detail. Please ring the bell.

Chairperson (interpretation): Good afternoon. I have no more names on the list. I you would like to go to the detail. Are you agreed to go into details. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Chairman, in regards to the question we have just asked I would just ask the minister if he is committed to the question we just asked earlier.

Chairperson: Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Committed to what. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Barnabas could you clarify your question please.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Regular members have been asking questions in regards to the amendments we had asked about. Are you going to go ahead with the requests that we just made.

Chairperson (interpretation): The member Mr. Barnabas is asking about the questions or the recommendations that the regular members had proposed about the goals and objectives. Are they going to go forward. Mr. Barnabas could you use an example as to what the objectives are. Clarify your question with an example please. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In regards to the one heritage centre that is going to be used for one community and I know that there are other communities that would like to use some of that money. Are you going to go ahead with the heritage centres in the communities.

Chairperson (interpretation): I think Mr. Barnabas your question is clear now. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. This was geared towards Cambridge Bay. This 500 thousand was going to Cambridge Bay but we want to be very open to the communities, in the future if the communities want to establish their heritage

centres, after reviewing them. I would like to see more heritage centres in the communities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Mr. Iqittuq.

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, we have had some problems with this issue. Although we would like to see that heritage centre go ahead, but we want to take some of the money out and make it available to the other communities. Are you willing to commit to our request. We want to take out 400 thousand dollars and distribute that 400 thousand dollars to the other communities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqittuq. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes this has been planned for quite some time. I think it has been two years. It will not be completed for another two years. If you want to take some of the money out for that budget and if you wanted to distribute it to the other communities we are open. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Mr. Iqittuq.

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Although I understand that you will be open it just means being open. You can close it at any time you want. So I am asking are you committed, do you agree with us to take some of that money out.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqittuq. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, if you want to take that part of the money out we are able to do that this fiscal year, down to 200 thousand and the 300 thousand would be made available to the other communities if there are other communities that request it. This year we would have to set aside 200 thousand dollars and I am sure that we would be open to more in the future. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Okalik. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I have a few questions relating to the budget amount there. But just on the Premier's last comment. I believe he said that he would be open to reducing the amount of that capital this year down to 200 thousand and next year allocating another 200 thousand for that project. That's a total of 400 thousand dollars. Does that mean the actual costs for that project have all of a sudden dropped to 400 thousand from 500 thousand. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Chairman. It was saved for around 500 thousand dollars and in the spirit compromise we thought we should cut it further to try and

appease the concerns of all members of this legislature. So we are willing to commit 400 thousand dollars for the project over a two-year period. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Okalik. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I believe that will please the members and I believe that is what they were getting at is that they would like to see other communities to be able to have access to that funding.

Getting back to my earlier questions about the budget. In the capital estimates and the main estimates that were tabled within the House as well as the capital substantiation sheets, the amount under Culture, Language, Elders & Youth for heritage centres it says, not heritage centre, as turns out to be the case, was listed in those documents as various Nunavut communities.

I know that members had a lot of questions earlier on in the session regarding where those dollars were going to be expended. I would like to ask the minister why this amount, was the initial plan for these dollars to be allocated towards that one project in Cambridge Bay. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Yes. The reason why it is heritage centres is that we want to be open to future projects coming from communities, so that's the main purpose of having it as heritage centres, we don't want to shut the door once Cambridge Bay is done. We want to be able to see these in other communities where they are wanted. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, usually the main estimates and the budgets and the descriptions of projects in there are specific to that particular project. So in this particular case it is one heritage centre as opposed to heritage centres. Also the fact that it was also shown in the headquarters budget and not allocated to any specific region, which again as we found out after, seems to be the case that it is allocated not only to one particular region but to one particular community.

So I would like to ask the minister why the tabled documents and the main estimates don't accurately reflect where the expenditures of those dollars are going. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I wish we could identify it specifically at this point with all the headaches that go with it. But we wanted to be open, as I said to other projects in the future and that was the main purpose of having heritage centres in

there. At this point everybody knows that it is for Cambridge Bay and this is a very good lesson for all of us at the Financial Management Board, that we'll have to identify clearly where the projects are for. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I realise that this is a portfolio that the minister has recently adopted. However, again I would like to ask, what rationale could be given for this amount to be reflected, not just showing the centres, but the dollars not actually being reflected in the budget in the main estimates as to where they are actually going to be spent.

If you look under the distribution of the budget in the main estimates, it shows a break down of headquarters, Baffin, Keewatin and Kitikmeot. In that break down it clearly shows that the capital dollars for this department are for various Nunavut communities. Now I know that the minister had indicated that the contributions for youth centres are targeted to 15 communities. So I guess being in a headquarters function and not being able to identify that to a specific region.

However, in the case of the heritage centre, it seems apparent now that it is directly going to one region, or one community. Again I do not understand and would really like an explanation as to why the main estimates, or the budget doesn't reflect accurately where those dollars are going to be spent. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I don't know how I can explain it to satisfy that requirement. We wanted to be open for projects and that is what we are trying to do. It should have been clearer and I admit that. It is a very good lesson and apologies are given for misleading, if members were misled. So everybody knows that it is for Cambridge Bay so we have to move on. This is replacing a facility that was pre-existing before our government was in existence. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Okalik. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I think based on the debate here in the House today and the feelings, the minister can appreciate very well as can all the members what can happen if things are not clearly identified and explained to members. So I sincerely hope that this type of thing will never happen again and from now on, in future budgets that, where as much as possible we know that dollars are going to be allocated, that it is accurately reflected in the main estimates.

Because Mr. Chairman, by doing it this way, it leads to the perception of something not being, you know if you knew it was going there, why wasn't it put there. For whatever reason, we don't know, but I think we do not want to get in a situation where members

don't feel comfortable or confident in the information that is provide to us in order for us to make our decisions.

In order for us to make informed and sound decisions we need to be given all the information that is out there available. Our job is to ensure the best use of public funds and the only way we can do that is if we have access to all the information as clearly as possible. So I sincerely hope that this is something that won't happen again in the future. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I am sure that it won't happen again. With the amount of headaches that flow from it, it is not worth it. I don't want to mislead the House in any way and that wasn't the intent. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. During the proceedings there were many questions to various ministers and we were told that the Northwest Territories Government wasn't able to put things through. Now we are told that this has already been in the works from the GNWT days. But I would like to make a further comment on this issue.

If we are going to put 200 thousand dollars to this heritage centre I would agree to it as long as the 300 thousand dollars will be made available to the Nunavut communities. I could support it in that case. Looking at the 500 thousand dollars. There is 500 thousand dollars made available to other Nunavut communities, and 500 thousand dollars just to one particular community. That is something that effects the whole of Nunavut, including the members. I believe that we have to truly represent all the Nunavut communities.

We will put in another 200 thousand dollars next year. Thank you Mr. Chairman. I will be able to support it like that.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. I don't hear a question. Mr. Irqittuq.

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Following the response that was made we were told that this was in the works even before the creation of the Nunavut Government. It was already an exception and we have been saying all along that we should use the money now for essential facilities. For example, schools and so on and then when we are not so new we can start concentrating on heritage centres and so on.

I think that would be the most effective way of using our public money. There are many projects that got started for example, my school. It has never been completed to date and then all of a sudden there is a huge sum of money being slotted for a heritage centre. So I would very strongly recommend that we concentrate first on essential programs and services.

I do not know whether I will be supporting this compromise. But I would most certainly support it if we were to take out 400 thousand dollars. For the minister I would like you to truly say that we will never see this again. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqittuq. I see two. Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. There was a fire and it was destroyed. It is not only a heritage centre, the one that was built previously and that burned down was used by the elders. The elders taught their children and their grandchildren about the cultural aspects. Like I said this community is very strong on culture and language and they are looking to the future. This is part of the preservation and promotion.

Because of that they did their own fundraising to pay for some of the expenses. I just wanted to make those additional comments. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Mr. Iqittuq.

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I was there in Cambridge Bay and they have an elders' facility and they have all the facilities. When you look at the other communities we cannot even get a little amount of money. The majority of the budget is going to the larger centres and those are the reasons why we want to talk about this.

In my community Petroleum Products, there is nothing for our community. It is for Pelly Bay. Then the pipelines are about 400 thousand plus dollars that is going to my community. Looking at other communities they are getting 14, 15 million dollars. So it is very unfair from my perspective. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqittuq. In order to proceed properly, we are on the Department of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. We will try to stick to the subject. Thank you. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. We are open to taking out 200 thousand for now for this year and set aside another 200 thousand to replace it next year. The balance of 300 thousand will then be able to be used by the communities. I just wanted to reiterate that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. This is for the heritage centre and the business of having a heritage centre, I think the members realize that the people of the Kitikmeot have wanted to have a heritage centre and they even came here to make a presentation. Because the Inuit over in the Kitikmeot region, it is for the people, not the government. That is what we are trying to do.

We didn't know that this was going to burn, so if we are going to be debating and whenever members lose are we just going to walk out. Are we just going to be like kids. That is not very nice. I do not know how the government can run properly that way. We are trying to run the whole of Nunavut and if some people are going to act like children then it is not nice. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): We are now dealing with Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. I just wanted to tell the members that Nunavut is very large and this is the first time that we have ever dealt with a budget. There are 26 communities in Nunavut and all of the communities have needs. When some communities are left out then some members have hard feelings.

This is the first time, one year after the first of April 99, that we are a government. We are just starting as one government and we will have to make mistakes. We already knew that we were going to make mistakes the first time. So this is the first time that the Nunavut Government has produced a budget and there will be mistakes.

But we learn from our mistakes. I know that all the cabinet is learning from their mistakes, so I am just trying to control the meeting as a Chair. I just want to continue with the meeting, please be in order. Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the members have been asking questions of the cabinet and when we do not get adequate answers we have to act like children, if we are not responded to properly. We ask questions because we want answers from the ministers.

We ask about money for the smaller communities. The smaller communities are not receiving as much as the larger communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Chairperson (interpretation): I think there is a point of order. But it is better to continue with the meeting. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I just want to get a clarification. If we reduce it down to 200 thousand dollars, will you change the figure right away in the estimates. That is my question Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Yes, like I said before, if you approve Culture, Language, Elders & Youth's budget the 200 thousand will be deleted and 200 set aside and 200 thousand next year. It will be available to other communities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes, that was a very clear answer and now that I understand that the figure will change right away therefore I do not mind dealing with the details right now. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): We are under Elders and Youth Capital expenditures. Total 1 million dollars. Total capital expenditures. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I would like to get a clarification about the heritage centres, it seems the funding to going to two of these. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu I think you are in a different book all together. We are dealing with the Capital expenditures. I do not see the subject that we are talking about. We are on page A-5. I am sorry I was in the wrong book. Headquarters region. 1 million dollars. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Just for clarification. There was so many thousand dollars being thrown around in the room and the numbers being thrown. I just want to confirm my understanding what the Minister or the Premier committed was that out of the 500 thousand dollars that is in the Main Estimates for heritage centres. 200 thousand of that would go towards Cambridge Bay project. 300 thousand would go to other communities and that would be looking at another 200 thousand going to the Cambridge Bay project next year. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Basically a two-year project. It will be spread out over two years. 200 thousand each year and the other monies will be available for other communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Premier. We are under 8-5. Contributions. 1 million dollars. Total Capital expenditures. 1 million dollars. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): 8-6. Culture, Language, Elders & Youth distribution of budget. Distribution of budget. Information item. Getting to the Main Estimates. Main Estimates for 2000-2001. 8-3. We are on 8-4. I am sorry. Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. We are almost completed with this Main Estimates. I have to leave for today with the Minister. We are quite finished so I would like to thank the Members for giving me the opportunity to be at the witness table.

Chairperson (interpretation): We thank you Mr. Premier for the responses that you provided to the Members. Thank you, Mr. Premier have a safe trip.

Chairperson (interpretation): 8-4. Culture, Language, Elders & Youth branch summary. Directorate. Operations & maintenance. Total operations & maintenance 1 million, 933 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Total expenditures 1 million, 993 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): 8-5. Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. Directorate. Information item. Culture, Language, Elders & Youth Language and Communication Bureau. 8-6 operations & maintenance. Total operations & maintenance 1 million, 783 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Total expenditures 1 million, 783 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): 8-7 Language and Communication Bureau. Information item. 8-8. Culture, Language, Elders & Youth operations & maintenance. Total operations & maintenance 2 million, 888 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Total expenditures 3 million, 888 thousand. Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): 8-9. Information item. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I had that question earlier on. It is for a museum contribution and Arts Council. It seems like there is that the 145 thousand. I wonder how that is broken down. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Iqaqrialu. Deputy Minister Ms. Levi.

Ms. Levi (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. That money is to be used for museums and the Arts Council because we have an Arts Council. Lutie Pijamini is the

Chairman of the Arts Council. That is what that is going to be used for. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Information item. 8-9. Detail of work performed on behalf of third parties. Culture, Language, Elders & Youth detail of work performed on behalf of third parties. Information item. Culture, Language, Elders & Youth distribution of budget. Information item. 8-3.

Chairperson (interpretation): Get back to 8-3. Culture, Language, Elders & Youth detail of expenditures. Operations & maintenance. Total operations & maintenance 6 million, 604 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Total Capital. 1 million dollars. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Total expenditures 7 million, 604 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Does the Committee agree that this Department is concluded with. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): I would like to thank the Deputy Minister and her staff. Thank you very much and to the other witnesses. Your officials. Thompson and Kadlutsiak. Thank you for being to be able to appear before the Committee. Thank you very much.

>>*Applause*

Chairperson (interpretation): Do you agree that Tabled Document 41-3. 41-1(3), 61(3), and 101-1(3) are concluded with.

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 13 - Appropriations Act

Chairperson (interpretation): All the Departments have been completed and we will go to Bill 13. General comments on Bill 13. Appropriation Act 2000-2001. Appropriation Act this Bill authorises the Government of Nunavut to make operations & maintenance, expenditures and capital for the fiscal year ending March, 31. Operations & maintenance 572 million dollars, 855 thousand.

Part 2. Vote 2. I am sorry. There is a typo in the Inuktitut version for Capital. Capital Appropriation 6 million, 171 thousand. Total Appropriation. 639 million, 26 thousand. Bill 13. Bill 13. Appropriation Act 2000-2001

We will go clause by clause. Clause 1. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 2. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 3. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 4. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Clause 5. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Do you agree Bill 13 is now ready for third reading.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Since we do not have anymore items in our agenda, would you like to end the session. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I would like to move to report progress at this time.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. There is a motion on the floor to adjourn. It is not debatable. All in favour. All Opposed. Motion is Carried.

I would like to thank all of you since this is our last session. I also would like to thank my colleagues since we have been here for quite sometime. Although many of you do not know that Nattilik people by name, we want to thank you for your support since we now have very good gasoline in my riding.

So let us support each other because we have a huge task ahead of us to represent the Nunavut Territory. I will now rise and report progress. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker: Sergeant-At-Arms. Returning to Orders of the Day. Item 20. Report of Committee of the Whole with Mr. Chairperson Mr. Puqiqnak.

Item 20: Report of Committee of the Whole

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your Committee has been considering Bill 13 and Tabled Documents 41-1(3), 61-1(3), 101-1(3), and would like to report that Bill 13 is ready for third reading and Tabled Documents 41-1(3), 61-1(3), and 101-1(3) are concluded. And Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder. Is there a seconder. Mr. Akesuk. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Contrary. Motion is carried. Item 21. Third reading of Bills. Third reading of Bills. Mr. Ng.

Item 21: Third Reading of Bills

Bill 13 Appropriations Act, 2000/2001 - Third Reading

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move seconded by the Honourable Member for Pangnirtung that Bill 13 Appropriation Act 2000-2001 be read for the third time. Thank you.

Speaker: Motion is in order. All those in favour. Contrary. Motion is carried. Bill 13 has had third reading. Item 22. Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Meeting of Regular Caucus at 6:30 this evening. Orders of the Day for Wednesday, October 18.

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
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. It is nice to see we have a few Members of the Cabinet still in the House. Before I ask the Clerk to ascertain if the Commissioner of Nunavut is prepared to enter the Chambers to give assent to Bill 13, I would just like to take a minute to wish all the Members a safe time off.

I know many the members and ministers will be here on a regular basis. Regular Member will be also back soon, some even next week and we will have scheduled meetings throughout the summer. So although we will not be meeting formally there is still much work to be done over the next few months. Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Mr. Clerk would you please ascertain if the Commissioner is ready to enter the chamber to give Assent to Bill 13.

>>Commissioner Irniq enters chamber.

Assent to Bills

Bill 13 - Appropriations Act, 2000/2001 - Assent

Commissioner Irniq: Please be seated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Premier, Honourable Members. I give assent to Bill 13 Appropriations Act for 2000-2001. Thank you.

>>Applause

>>Commissioner Irniq exits chamber.

Speaker: This House stands adjourned until Wednesday, October 18 at 1:30 pm in the year 2000.

>>Applause

>>House adjourned at 6:14.

