



**Nunavut Canada**

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT**

**3rd Session**

**1st Assembly**

**HANSARD**

Official Report

**DAY 48**

**Thursday October 19, 2000**

Pages 2322 - 2352

**Iqaluit**

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

# Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Akulliq)

**Hunter Tootoo**  
(Iqaluit Centre)

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut**  
**Thursday October 19, 2000**

**Members Present**

Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, Mr. Olayuk Akesuk, Mr. James Arvaluk, Honourable Jack Anawak, Mr. Donald Havioyak, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Mr. Enoki Iqittuq, Honourable Peter Kattuk, 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 Manitok Thompson, Mr. Hunter Tootoo.

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker** (Hon. Kevin O'Brien): Good afternoon Mr. Premier, members. Moving forward to the orders of the day, item 2. Ministers' statements.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements**

**Minister's Statement 136 – 1(3): Enforcement of Regulations under the Motor Vehicles Act**

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to inform Members of the Legislative Assembly that the Motor Vehicles Division of the Department of Community Government and Transportation have begun to enforce regulations under the Motor Vehicles Act.

The Motor Vehicle Division's new Manager of Services and Inspections has been hired and now we have the capacity to enforce the existing Large Vehicle Control Regulations and Motor Vehicle Equipment Regulations.

(interpretation) Commercial vehicle owners are being made aware of the enforcement of these regulations. Active enforcement is required due to the rapid development of Nunavut and the increased number of commercial and private vehicles in Nunavut.

Safety for all drivers and pedestrians is our main concern. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Minister Anawak. Item 2. Ministers' statements. Ms. Thompson.

**Minister's Statement 137 – 1(3): Toll Free Government of Nunavut To Provide Directory Assistance Services to Nunavummiut**

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that the Department of Public Works and Services is establishing a single, Nunavut-wide toll free number to assist Nunavummiut in

contacting service providers throughout the Government of Nunavut. This will enable all government departments to better respond to the needs of Nunavummiut.

(interpretation ends) The toll-free number will operate through our Helpdesk and guide Nunavummiut to the most appropriate Government of Nunavut office to handle their requests. Any time Helpdesk staff does not have information readily available, they will record the citizen's name and concern and ensure that an appropriate service provider within the government calls the citizen back as soon as possible.

Staff at the Government of Nunavut Helpdesk is currently undergoing training to assist them in providing these services. A toll-free telephone number and e-mail address will be made public once staff is ready for full operations.

We expect the toll free number to begin operations on December 1, 2000 and to gradually become fully functional early in the new year.

This service will be a valuable resource for Nunavummiut. I am pleased that the Department of Public Works and Services is playing an important role in making the Government of Nunavut more accessible to our citizens. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you Ms. Thompson. Ministers' statements. Moving on to item 3. Members' statements. Members' statements. Mr. Havioyak.

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

#### **Member's Statement 431 – 1(3): Recognition of June Pangun**

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have good news to give today concerning the people of Kugluktuk. You may have heard that a young lady went to the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney Australia. There were 400 young people that attended and they went to show our way of life to other people.

I am very proud to recognize that young lady from Kugluktuk and other young people should recognize her because she has done very well in representing us and participating and watching the Olympic Games and showing other people our way of life.

I am very proud of her, her name is June Pangun from Kugluktuk. She did very well and young people should recognize her and emulate her. Many young people have noticed her and were proud of her and felt they should also start working towards this. Other students and other young people in Kugluktuk are very proud of her. I wanted to mention that June and other young people will be participating in games in Iqaluit and in Nuuk.

June congratulations and we wish you well in the future.



>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Havioyak. Members' statements. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

### **Member's Statement 432 – 1(3): Community Healing Programs**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the healing programs in my community. Since we have been having healing programs and dealing with these issues in my community for quite some time we do have a facility for healing purposes. But the other communities are now taking on the training courses on healing and I am very glad that they are actually completing the healing programs from the other communities.

They come from other communities and they train in our community and I am very glad about that. The healing process will continue and I am very proud about the fact that these students are taking on the healing program training courses. The facility is called Illisaqsivik in Inuktitut and I will ask a question about this later. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Members' statements. Mr. Ng.

### **Member's Statement 433 – 1(3): Killinik High School Bike-a-Thon**

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on the weekend of September 9 and 10 the community of Cambridge Bay held its first bike-a-thon fundraiser with proceeds going towards the Killinik High School gym. On Saturday all the participants underwent a free bike inspection and orientation. On Sunday participants took off for a five kilometre bike ride starting at the community hall to the DEW line station to the water lake and back to the community hall.

Mr. Speaker, the weather that day was less than desirable, with cool and windy conditions. In total there are approximately 55 participants made up primarily of kids and teenagers who started and completed the bike-a-thon. The participants raised approximately 4 thousand dollars and added to the community gymnasium fund which I am pleased to report now totals just over 50 thousand dollars.

Prizes and food were generously donated to support the event by the Co-op and Northern Stores, Frontec and the local hamlet. The organization and the support for this event is another example of how the community has been working towards meeting their commitment to cost share for the enlarged gymnasium as part of the Killinik High School project. In closing Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize and thank the sponsors, the participants and all those involved particularly Mr. Corey Demichuck, who was the main organiser of this event. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Members' statements. Mr. Alakannuark.

**Member's Statement 434 - 1(3): Repulse Bay's First High School Graduate**

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to announce congratulations today to a person who graduated from grade 12 from our school in Repulse Bay, her name is Donna Crawford.

She is the first person to actually complete grade 12 in the community of Repulse Bay. Although we have had students who graduated grade 12 from our community they graduated outside of our community. We are very proud of her and congratulate her father and mother. On behalf of the parents, we would like to congratulate this student who graduated grade 12. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Members' statements. Mr. Picco.

**Member's Statement 435 - 1(3): Tragic Losses in Nunavut**

**Mr. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This past summer has been one of tragic losses and untimely death all over Nunavut. Very few of us can recall any other period in time where so much tragedy and death has occurred in such a short span. There have been tragic accidents, the loss of respected elders and young people. Mr. Speaker, in times like these, all communities and families come together to help and provide assistance to the aggrieved families.

Mr. Speaker, my family and I would like to express our condolences to the grieving families and relatives as well as thank Mr. Speaker, thank the many care givers in Iqaluit and other Nunavut residents who continue to be there in times of trouble and so on. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Picco. Members' statements. Mr. Kattuk.

**Member's Statement 436 - 1(3): Sanikiluaq Boating Accident**

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I stand to express my appreciation for the people of Sanikiluaq. We too went through a hard time in Sanikiluaq this summer. There was an accident in our community where several people in a boat got stranded. They were close to shore but they were having problems with their motor and weren't able to get to shore.

They were short of food and water. The military was able to airdrop food and water for the victims. The search and rescue team in Sanikiluaq was able to get to their area and assist them by boat. They initially had to leave the boat but that too was retrieved safely. Because of this assistance and the assistance of God they were able to get back into the

community safely. I would like to express my appreciation to the people of Sanikiluaq. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. Members' statements. Mr. McLean.

**Member's Statement 437 - 1(3): Recognition of Baker Lake Heroes**

**Mr. McLean:** Ma'na Uqaqti. Uqaqti, today it gives me great pride to recognise two heroes from my constituency of Baker Lake. In July of 1999, Hattie Amitnaaq heroically gave her life to protect her grandson and another young camper. Amitnaaq sacrificed herself in order to save their lives.

In October of that same year, two children were driving an all terrain vehicle just east of Baker Lake and fell through the ice. Norman Haqpi who was fishing in the area along with Diane Haqpi and Alex Tiktak managed to rescue one of the children by crawling out on his stomach and using a long ice scoop to reach him. The other child was also pulled to safety where they were immediately rushed to the health centre. Thanks to these courageous actions two children were saved.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Amitnaaq and Norman Haqpi were recently acknowledged by the Commissioner of Nunavut for exceptional Acts of Bravery. Just last week Norman Haqpi and Ms. Amitnaaq's families accepted awards of Bravery from the Commissioner of Nunavut in a local ceremony. These individuals deserve our heartfelt recognition for their selfless contributions to the community and to Nunavut.

Uqaqti, this year, the millennium year has been one of many special events. In February Canada Post issued a millennium addition postage stamp celebrating aboriginal achievements in Canada. The stamp features the work of Baker Lake carver Paul Toolooktuk who has been carving for over 40 years. The stamp was called the Powers of the Inuit Shaman and shows a woman's face in transformation.

The unveiling ceremony of the stamp took place at Baker Lake's Hamlet office last week. Toolooktuk received a framed copy for himself. Unfortunately few other people in Nunavut are likely to see this stamp which celebrates the accomplishment of Inuit artists.

That's because special collections such as this one are not issued in rural post offices and as we know every post office in Nunavut is rural. I look forward to some day when Nunavut will not only get much deserved recognition of Inuit artists such as Toolooktuk but will also have representation on Boards such as Canada Post so that the interests of Northerners, who is us, in receiving special additions or protection from rising postal rates can also be recognized.

At the end of that Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the ceremonies in Baker Lake which were presided over by Commissioner Irniq. It was a pleasure to have this gentleman in our community and the positive influence he had on our young children when he visits our school and the statesmanlike elegance when he was at these functions.

We are a rural post office. We do not have any post offices in Nunavut that can issue this stamp. It is a collectors item in Nunavut so I am going to pass it around so you can see the stamp that got international recognition and I will have security shake down Mr. Picco if it disappears. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. McLean. Members' statements. Mr. Puqiqnak.

### **Member's Statement 438 – 1(3): Appreciation to Premier and Education Minister**

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Taloyoak I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Premier of Nunavut and the Minister of Education for coming to our community to officially open a 12-plex unit that will be utilized by the youth and will alleviate the problem of overcrowding.

Also, Mr. Speaker, during this visit we were able to hold a public meeting and the Deputy Mayor led a tour of the community of Taloyoak. Everything went as planned on that visit. Mr. Speaker, in order for this project to proceed as planned I will be directing some questions to the Premier during question period. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Tootoo.

### **Member's Statement 439 – 1(3): Congratulations to New Iqaluit Mayor and Councillors**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to the newly elected councillors of the Municipality of Iqaluit. John Mathews will be our new Mayor. Kirt Ejesiak, Stu Kennedy, Glen Williams, Chris Wilson, Keith Irving and veteran Simon Nattaq, Matthew Spence and Lynda Gunn are the newly elected councillors.

They will be sworn in as the new council on November 6 and I am sure that they will rise to the many challenges of our rapidly growing community. Again, my congratulations on their election.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to extend thanks to the outgoing council members for their efforts and contributions that they made. Mayor Jimmy Kilabuk, Deputy Mayor Ben Ell

and councillors Doug Lem, Geosah Uniuqsagaq and Joshua Kango who have worked on many issues over the past three years and I recognize their efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I wish the new council the best of luck and I, along I am sure with my two other colleagues from Iqaluit, look forward to a good working relationship during the length of our terms. I am sure it will be a busy time for all of us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Members' statements. Ms. Thompson.

### **Members' Statement 440 – 1(3): Nunavut Mining Symposium in Rankin Inlet**

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to mention an important activity that will be taking place in Rankin Inlet in the very near future. The 2000 Nunavut Mining Symposium.

Mr. Speaker, this will take place from November 12 to 14 and will include participants from all parts of Canada. I encourage all members to take the opportunity to find out more about this conference and if they are able to attend we will welcome them.

(interpretation ends) Based on figures from 1999, the value of metal shipments from Nunavut last year was about 350 million dollars for the mining industry. Mr. Speaker, this is 3.6% of Canada's total metal production and it is from only two current mines in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, in April of 2000 the Lupin gold mine near Kugluktuk and Bathurst Inlet re-opened as well. Known resources are currently calculated at 518 thousand ounces of gold with other sites holding promise as well. Mr. Speaker, a number of large important Corporations are now involved in both exploration and development within Nunavut. It is very important that we recognize this is an important part of our economy.

In Kivalliq, mining has the potential to become a major employer and contributor to our economic well being.

(interpretation) Uqaqti, the community of Rankin Inlet specifically has a close working relationship with the Meliadine West Gold Project which we would like to see go. It is an area near Rankin Inlet. I have no doubt that exploration will take place with the potential results.

Mr. Speaker, once again I encourage all members to get involved in the mining sector by supporting such conferences as the Nunavut Mining Symposium. As an added bonus it is my understanding that there may be an Arts and Craft festival the same weekend as the mining symposium.

Mr. Speaker, my time is up. I would like to ask the members permission to conclude my statement.

**Speaker:** Are there any nays. Go ahead.

**Hon. Manitoq Thompson** (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, just to finish off my statement. Mr. Speaker, as the MLA for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, I would like to encourage all interested parties to take advantage of our Rankin Inlet hospitality. Jack Anawak and myself would like to invite members and the people of Nunavut to participate in this symposium. I would like to express my appreciation to the organizers of this important event. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Members' statements. Mr. Anawak.

### **Member's Statement 441 - 1- (3): Dealing with Suicides**

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One time I was in Rankin Inlet and I was asked if they had training to do public speaking so that we would learn our speeches before they come.

Anyway we have been talking about the issue of suicide for a number of years now. Since April 1, 1999 to October 2000 we have had 38 completed suicides in the whole of Nunavut. Thirty-eight suicides.

When you think of it in numbers it seems that April 1, 1999 to October 2000 may be a long time but there were 38 suicides. It seems that whenever we hear the news there is another suicide. It does not even shock us anymore and I am not surprised. I feel for the people. We try and decide what and how we are going to deal with this issue. Every single one of us around the table has been affected one way or another by a completed suicide. We as a government, as individuals and each community should take ownership and make a decision as to what we should do to alleviate this problem.

I don't know whether we are relying too much on the government today but it seems like when there is a problem with the community we probably say where is the government, where are the RCMP.

I think we have to realize and start working on the problems at the community level instead of relying on the government or any government agency. We have to realize, like I said yesterday, the suicides and the relatives are there. We visit the family and when they seem to be feeling better we let them go on and we go back to our lives. But I do know personally that the effects of suicide in the immediate family can have a very long term effect on you.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to seek consent to conclude my statement.

**Speaker:** There are no nays. Please proceed.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you. I think that we ourselves have to do something about it and you probably know that the immediate family members may be effected by a suicide for up to 20 years or more. We as individuals and not as a government, we as individuals and as community members possibly through the use of our hamlets should do something about it.

Take ownership, work together so we can resolve this problem. We can't just rely on the government and the Department of Health & Social Services for example, we have to take ownership and work on these problems at the community level. I know that we are not going to completely eradicate suicide, there are always going to be some but we do have to work together.

Even here in Iqaluit from April 1, 1999 to October 2000, there have been 12 completed suicides just in Iqaluit alone. So it has a huge impact on the community and on the individuals and we are not even shocked any more when we hear the news about a suicide. So I think that we all have to work together as a government, as the municipal governments and as individuals we should all work together on the issue of suicide. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Akasuk.

#### **Member's Statement 442 – 1(3): Spelling of Names**

**Mr. Akasuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to touch on some of the issues that were brought up on TVNC or on APTN and on the local radio station. There were names that will have to be spelled properly. When you don't have birth certificates you usually cannot get a Social Insurance Number if you don't have the proper ID that is required to get one.

I will ask the appropriate minister if they could help in getting birth certificates so they can have access to the Federal programs that are out there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Members' statements. Moving on to item 4. Returns to oral questions. Returns to oral questions. Item 5. Recognition of visitors in the gallery.

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

**Speaker:** Just before I call on Mr. Picco, I would like to recognize our Commissioner Mr. Irniq and also Elisapee Karetak from my home community of Arviat. Welcome to the Assembly.

>>Applause

Mr. Picco.

**Mr. Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to welcome to the gallery a good friend of mine, he took me down the bay several times this summer, wanted to leave me there but unfortunately for you he brought me back, Mr. David Ell. He's also the secretary treasurer for the Amarok HTA, and sitting next to David is the well known Nunavut resident Mr. Sytukie Joamie, Sytukie is also the office administrator for the Amarok HTA, based here in Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the gallery. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize two visitors to our Capital and our territory, I'd like to recognize Mr. Jim Moane of Arctic Insurance Brokers in Edmonton and Mr. Garth Potter, also of Arctic Insurance Brokers for Yellowknife here in the gallery today. I would like to welcome them here. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Ng.

**Hon. Kelvin Ng:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize a former colleague of some of us in this house, a former member of the NWT Legislature who represented the Nattilik riding, Mr. John Ningark.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome Mr. Ningark. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Alakannuark.

**Mr. Alakannuark** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to recognize Mr. John Ningark who is my constituency assistant and who has also worked for the hamlet as the Senior Administrative Officer. As was mentioned earlier he used to be my representative in the NWT Legislature. Thank you, Mr. Speaker

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Item 5. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Anawak

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would also like to recognize, in one of the interpreter's booths, she has an adopted daughter named Piugak named after my mother, she's from Rankin Inlet, Miss Jeanne Kusugak.

**Speaker:** Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Kattuk.



**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As you know I rarely get to recognize visitors in the gallery, but this time there's a person from Sanikiluaq, teacher John Steward. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Moving on to item 6. Oral questions. Before I proceed with question period, I've been asked by some of the members to remind the ministers to try to keep their preamble down to answering the questions as it does take away from the time that regular members have to put questions forth and in their case every minute counts. We certainly don't want to get the members on this side of the House upset.

Oral questions. Mr. Havioyak.

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

#### **Question 604 - 1(3): Time Zone Survey Details**

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, My question is for the Minister of Community Government and Transportation. Yesterday, the minister indicated there were 472 people polled on this issue of a single time zone. My question is how many respondents lived in Kugluktuk, Cambridge Bay and other communities. How many of those people responded to the questionnaire from Kugluktuk, Cambridge Bay and Kitikmeot. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** Mr. Speaker, thank you. I don't have the numbers from Kugluktuk or Cambridge Bay but I can tell you that when the survey was done it indicated that the people in the Keewatin Region, 86% of the respondents were in favour of the single time zone. People in the Baffin Region were 59% of the respondents were in favour of the time zone and the Kitikmeot Region was in between at 72.9%. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Minister. Supplementary. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You said 72% of that 472, or maybe I would ask for some clarification please.

**Speaker:** Mr. Anawak would you care to respond.

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** What I said is that of the people that were asked in the Kitikmeot Region, 72% of those people in the Kitikmeot Region asked, favoured a single time zone. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Supplementary. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank you for answering that question. My next question to the minister on the time zone, you mentioned a questionnaire on this survey. So I would like to know what the questions were that were asked and what responses did you get from the survey. What were the questions and what responses did you get from the survey. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** Thank you. When the time comes in this afternoon's session, I will table the appropriate piece of paper. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Supplementary. Mr. Havioyak.

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you. I appreciate that you will be tabling the document. The third supplement regarding the single time zone. Yesterday you mentioned...(interpretation ends)...the minister said that it would take a while for transportation improvements in the Kitikmeot to occur.

The question would be, why didn't the government wait until these transportation improvements occurred. Why didn't you wait until we had a better idea what would happen and if it would have a positive or negative impact on transportation from the time change. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a government under the recommendations of the...how soon we forget Mr. Speaker, I am sorry, under the recommendations of Footprints 2, I think it was, it was suggested that the government should be decentralized to communities all over Nunavut. In this case, in the Baffin region after the selection for the capital, communities selected outside of Iqaluit included Kinngait, Pangnirtung, Igloolik, Mittimatilik, and in the Keewatin, Arviat, Rankin and Baker Lake. In the Kitikmeot region, Gjoa Haven, Cambridge Bay and Kugluktuk.

In those cases a number of people have gone or will be going into the decentralization process. They will be going into those communities to work as Government of Nunavut employees. We have to keep in mind the most effective government and that the government should be working together.

I pointed out yesterday that if there were a one hour time difference every day there would be a loss of three hours. I would like to correct that mistake, it is four hours. Because every morning we would start an hour early over here that would mean an hour loss for the other regions that would be one hour behind. While we go to lunch over here, they will still be at work and when we come back from lunch those people will go to lunch. By the end of the day, we would finish here and they would still have one hour.

To us it is in the best interests of the people of Nunavut to have a government that is working together as well as it can under the circumstances. Qujannami.

**Speaker:** Thank you, minister. That was your final supplementary Mr. Havioyak. We will allow one more since one of your questions was a clarification on what Mr. Anawak gave. Proceed.

**Mr. Havioyak:** Thank you. I am sorry I did not hear the answer to the question that I asked in regards to the transportation improvements. Why did they not take this into consideration as to why they plan to change the time now when they should have waited until after they get these transportation improvements in the Kitikmeot. I did not hear the answer.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. We will note that this is your final, final supplementary. Mr. Anawak.

**Honorable Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stated earlier on that Nunavut now is a single territory. We are not broken into regions now. As an individual Inuk, you do not go by the three regions although we might have traditional regional areas like Amittuq and Nattilik for example.

But we are one Territory. When we began, we wanted to treat Nunavut as a whole so that we can have a positive impact on the residents of Nunavut. We worked last year to have one time zone for Nunavut. How are we going to be treating Nunavut, are we going to be working with other places for only 4 hours a day. How will we be working with other communities of Nunavut with 4 hours a day gone.

As I have stated before in regards to the transportation issue it will not happen right away but we expect the process will start to improve transportation in a significant way and that it will be evident that we can work together with a single time zone.

I know it has an impact on that. We should work together with the single time zone and work with residents. That is our focus. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Oral questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

### **Question 605 – 1(3): Healing Facilities**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I asked a question and I have received a letter from yesterday's question period in regards to suicide issues. I know that the government is working on it and I am very proud of that but I do have another question.

As I have stated before in our community we have a healing facility, but not all the communities of Nunavut have that kind of facility. Not all those communities have a healing facility. One of the other communities besides Qikiqtarjuaq, which I represent,

does not have a healing facility. So perhaps I will ask a question to the Minister of Education.

Can we use the Adult Education facility for healing programs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. The Minister responsible for Education. Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we are open and we are glad that a couple of weeks ago in his riding they completed a healing program, a training course. We are so proud of them and I know that we are working on it. This is just in the initial stage. I know that we have been working with the Department of Health on this and I would like to say that again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Premier. Supplementary. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Have you already identified a potential facility that could be used in the communities. Some of the communities of Nunavut do not have a healing facility for healing programs. Have you identified a healing facility that could be used in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister responsible for Education.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we deal with the Department of Education, we deal with education issues. Perhaps the Minister for Health can respond to the question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Would the Minister of Health & Social Services care to respond to the question.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, earlier on I had some comments and questions from the members and I promised to keep my answers short and my preamble to the point. Mr. Speaker, with the community health committees that we have set up now in 25 out of 26 of our communities, recommendations can come forward from those committees suggesting inter-co-operation between education or other facilities that may be available for those types of community based healing projects at the community level.

So we would be open to that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Picco. Supplementary. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I did not quite understand. Have you identified facilities or units that could be used for healing programs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it depends on the community. For example, here in this community there is a wellness centre where healing projects are carried out. In the member's community of Clyde River, there is a designated facility because there is an independent society that holds healing workshops and so on for the community of Clyde River.

In other communities, Mr. Speaker, meetings are held using the Health Centre in the evenings, in some cases Mr. Speaker, the government offices are used, in some cases, Mr. Speaker, the Adult Education Centres are used. The Department of Health & Social Services work with the Health Committee at the community level to identify a facility.

Mr. Speaker, as of today no community health committee has come forward and said we need a facility to run a wellness program per se. Those types of monies are funded under Brighter Futures money as well as our Community Wellness money. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Minister. Oral questions. Mr. Akesuk.

#### **Question 606 – 1(3): Additional Health Funding**

**Mr. Akesuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last month we heard the news that additional federal dollars will be allocated to health care in Nunavut. I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Health & Social Services.

The federal transfer will amount to an additional 2.5 million dollars for this upcoming fiscal year. Can the minister tell us what priority areas of Nunavut's health care programs will benefit from these new dollars. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, let me just say that myself and the Premier and the Government of Nunavut are disappointed with the amounts that were put forward under the Canada Health Social Transfer and as you know Mr. Speaker, CHST includes social transfers, monies for education, early childhood education as well as health. It is not specifically just for health.

Because the funding is based per capita, Mr. Speaker, not based on need, not based on patient costs, when we extrapolate out of the 4.2 billion dollars that was announced at the meeting, and I was there, when we extrapolate those numbers Mr. Speaker, because it is based on per capita, it's approximately 1.8 million dollars for health.

Mr. Speaker, we spend that in a week in the Department of Health & Social Services. As you know Mr. Speaker, and the members know, our needs are considerable in the Department of Health & Social Services. That money that comes from the CHST transfer

goes automatically under the formula arrangements that are in place, Mr. Speaker, to the total budget for the Government of Nunavut.

So the actual priorities for the new money coming in Mr. Speaker would be used under monies that we are spending at the present time and budgeted that way. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 607 – 1(3): Teaching Certificates for Elders**

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have to ask questions on behalf of our constituencies. The question that I will be posing came from my constituency. If I was to become an Inuktitut instructor or a teacher do I need certification. Thank you.

**Speaker:** I assume that question is directed towards the Minister responsible for Education. Just a reminder to the members that it might be easier once the member starts to ask their question, to start off by identifying which minister they want to direct their question to, so the ministers can have some time to gather their thoughts and get ready to try and prepare to answer. Minister for Education, Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, last year was the first time that elders from Arviat got certification and we would like to see that again some time in the future, where the elders get certification even though they can't speak English. They are capable of teaching and they have now been certified. Some time during this year we have begun to use the elders in the schools to teach the school students about the traditional values. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Supplementary.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I wanted to become an Inuktitut teacher, I would be able to get an Inuktitut certificate. Are the teachers at these schools being informed about being able to receive these certificates. If they are not informed or they don't know about this, perhaps they should be told. Because, from what I understand, they're able to receive their certificates as an Inuktitut instructor. There are programs available yet there was an individual in our community that was confused about the process.

So perhaps to help teachers out in the communities, they should be better informed. My question is directed to the minister and if he would like to respond I'd appreciate it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister responsible for Education, Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are hoping to see a lot of new teachers receiving their certificates. If you will recall we put aside additional funding for Inuktitut instruction and we have started this process. We will promote this in the communities because we encourage Inuktitut instruction in the communities. In the future we'd like to see more people receiving their certificates so Inuktitut will be taught in the schools. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you minister. If there are no further supplementaries. Oral questions. Mr. McLean.

### **Question 608 – 1(3): Vacant Positions at Nunavut Library**

**Mr. McLean:** Ma'na Uqaqti. Decentralization, seems to be one of my favourite topics. Going full steam ahead in my community, I think our ratio of Inuit hires is about 80 – 85% and the government has kept its promise. Recently we had the distinction of being designated as the headquarters for Nunavut Libraries and my question today is for the Minister of Education, I hope he doesn't take this as notice.

We now have a Nunavut Library person for the head of all libraries in Nunavut, and there are supposed to be 3 PY's that come with that branch. To date we have 18 empty staff units and about 5,000 square feet of office space. I wonder if the Premier could assure me that he'll direct the education staff to start advertising for those 3 positions immediately. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister responsible for Education and Libraries. Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe one of the positions has been advertised and we had difficulty trying to fill the position but I will assure the member we will make sure that happens. Thank you, Mr. Speaker

**Speaker:** Supplementary. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** Mr. Speaker, that's great news. Now I wonder if the Minister responsible for Education would look at staffing those positions like the Minister of the Power Corporation did and advertise for trainees. Because there's many qualified people in Baker Lake, Inuit people that have their Bachelors of Education, they have 20 years in the education system. Would it be possible for minister responsible to advertise locally and try to bring in some Inuit trainees. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. McLean. Minister responsible for Education. Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will have the pleasure of announcing something on training later on during this session, so I can't divulge that right now, but the member will be notified early next week. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Minister. Supplementary. Mr. McLean.

**Mr. McLean:** As usual the Premier tries to keep his promises to the good people of Baker Lake and to myself. Just a slight detail that I forgot to mention to the Premier. When they were establishing the Nunavut Library in Baker Lake for the whole Territory, they forgot to put the building in the budget, and I'm wondering if the Premier could let me know if we're going to have a building for the territorial library in Baker Lake or are we going to have to delay it. Thank you

**Speaker:** Minister responsible for Education. Mr. Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As you know we are doing, potentially, a big capital project in Baker Lake, so we are going to look into that. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Oral questions. Mr. Tootoo.

### **Question 609 – 1(3): Housing Expression of Interest Responses**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Mr. Speaker, an expression of interest was closed on July 28 by the Nunavut Housing Corporation that was seeking expressions of interest from parties that may wish to provide private housing units to be used as public housing units for five year lease periods.

I would like to ask the minister how many expressions of interest did they receive on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you Mr. Tootoo for asking this question. We have not completed them up to date but on October 23 we should be able to give that information out. We put out a call for tender on this and I don't have the amounts or how many people were interested in leasing but once I have that information we will probably be able to lease 40 units.

I do not have the numbers of how many people have responded but by October 23, I should be able to respond to your question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the minister indicated that there was a tender also put out. I am just wondering if that is a tender that she doesn't have the numbers for that has gone out. I was asking on the expression of interest that closed way back in July if they had a number of how many people responded to that expression of interest. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister.



**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is a request for proposals that I was talking about. It closed on September 8 and we received the last bit on September 8 but I do not have the list in front of me. Perhaps there are about 40 units that we will be able to lease, looking at the proposals. I don't have the number of units that will be leased...(interpretation ends)...that were offered up to be leased right now in detail in front of me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister. Final supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I was not trying to determine the number of units that were replied to. What I wanted to find out from the minister was based on the expression of interest that closed on July 28, how many people responded to that expression of interest. Could it have been one person or 15-20. I would just like to find out from the minister. How many people responded to the expression of interest. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister responsible for Housing. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is what I am trying to say. I do not have the amount. I do not have a list of proposals with me. I understand his question. But I do not have the numbers in front of me and I will get the numbers for him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Final supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the minister's response that she will provide me with that information. So what I am wondering, Mr. Speaker, will she be looking at the number of people that responded and if she could include the number of units that were submitted on and where they are located. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Minister responsible for Housing. Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will instruct my staff to get me the information. I do not have it right at hand but I know I will be able to get that information. However, I do not have them in detail. So I understand his question and I will get back to him once I have that information with me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Before we proceed with further oral questions, I would like to welcome the Member of Parliament to the Chamber. Nancy Karetak-Lindell. Welcome Nancy.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Mr. Iqittuq.

**Question 610 – 1(3): Success of Anti Smoking Campaign**

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I will continue with my question to Health & Social Services. There is money put aside for smoking cessation. The money will be used to help people to stop smoking. Will they be able to identify how many people have quit smoking. Once that money is spent afterwards will he be able to tell us exactly how many people quit smoking through the use of those funds. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister responsible for Health & Social Services, Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I thank the member for his question. I appreciate the question. What we announced in the budget in May was a prevention program. To prevent people from smoking was the actual focus of the program. We were trying to target young people from age 9 to 19 for not smoking, not beginning to smoke. At the same time Mr. Speaker, we realize that there are people out there who would like to quit smoking. I guess it would be very difficult to be able to say who successfully quit, who has not quit. I would not have those numbers available.

That is something that the member has brought up and something that we should be able to look at as a department To see if we can actually track the successful intervention with people who have been smoking and who have stopped. I said yesterday Mr. Speaker, the national average is only about 40% of smokers successfully quit smoking. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker.** Thank you Mr. Picco. Supplementary. Mr. Irqittuq.

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is how many smokers there are in Nunavut presently. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the numbers that we have available to us, indicate that between 70 to 80% of the adult Inuk population in Nunavut smoke. The alarming number, Mr. Speaker is the number of young people who seem to be taking up the habit of smoking. That is the direction we would like to go in, to try to prevent that. What I can do Mr. Speaker is find out the numbers recently. We have done some work in that area and find out, track, the actual percentage of the population who are actually smokers. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Picco. Supplementary. Mr. Irqittuq.

**Mr. Irqittuq** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I know it will not be possible to count the number of people that smoke in Nunavut, but perhaps we could have some

written material showing what percentage of Nunavut are smokers. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Mr. Speaker, that is a good suggestion. It would form part of the promotional campaign that we are trying to put in place. I have a note that tells me Mr. Speaker, that starting in the next two months, the members and the people in Nunavut at large will be able to see the first results of our work.

Information on posters and radio and also in our schools will start to get out on our anti-smoking program. As I said before Mr. Speaker, this is a serious initiative and it has to be a multi-year strategy. We just cannot do it in one six month period and then just drop it next year like some other types of programs. This would be over a period of years, a multi-year strategy, I think the suggestion by the member is a good one and we will be able to incorporate that into the strategy. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 611 - 1(3): Taloyoak Airstrip**

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, during members' statements, I stated that there was a community visit to the community of Taloyoak and I mentioned that I would be asking questions. I think that I will be directing this question to the Premier who was one of the people that went to my community of Taloyoak.

My question is about the airport in Taloyoak adjacent to the sewage facility. We have three different airlines that come in on a regularly scheduled basis. There is First Air, Aklak Air and Keewatin Air. These have regular schedules to come to our community and over and above that we also get emergency medivacs that come in at any time.

When you toured our community this summer you saw the Taloyoak airport and there is a potential safety hazard there at the airport. When you visited our community I would like to know whether, because of the many birds at the airport we might be in violation. Is there anything that you have done since your visit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Premier Okalik.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We didn't only go to Taloyoak, we also went to Kugaaruk and Grise Fiord. We toured the facilities in these communities and Taloyoak is not the only one that has a potential safety hazard. There are other communities that have dumps and other services that are too close to the airports. These things are all being looked into by the Minister of Transportation. He is working through his department to rectify these problems. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Supplementary. Mr. Puqiqnak.

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank the Premier for responding to my question. Just to go on a little bit further. There are a lot of seagulls in the summer and there are many ravens in the winter. I believe that with so many birds around this may be in violation of federal safety standards or rules because all of these birds are attracted to the facilities such as the dump that are too close to the airport.

I would like to ask the appropriate minister if there is going to be any funding set aside so that we can work on these problems. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you. In regards to airports we have also made safety a priority when it comes to the airports. In reference to Taloyoak we will have to go back there again to check out the facilities and as we have stated Kimmirut, Pangnirtung and Repulse Bay are our priorities because of the length of their airstrips.

But in reference to Taloyoak I am sure there is a potential safety hazard if there are a lot of birds around in the summer and winter with the seagulls and ravens. So we will have to work on this issue and I will take this question as notice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Taken as notice. Oral questions. Clarification. Did the minister take that question as notice.

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** Mr. Speaker, what I was saying was that whenever we deal with airports the first and foremost issue is safety of course, and at this point in time we have been concentrating on three airports and that was Kimmirut, Pangnirtung and Repulse Bay.

In Kimmirut the airport is too short, in Pangnirtung it is right in the middle of town and the one in Repulse Bay is too close. However, the member's statement on the Taloyoak airport being too close to the garbage dump and the fact that in the winter there are a lot of ravens and in the summer there are seagulls, we would have to take a look at it and I would at this time like to just state to the member that we will consider the point that he has made in regards to the Taloyoak airport.

So, Mr. Speaker, I did not take it as notice but just made a point.

**Speaker:** In that case final supplementary. Mr. Puqiqnak.

**Mr. Puqiqnak** (interpretation): Thank you so very much, Mr. Speaker for giving me the opportunity. The minister has stated he will be looking into the Taloyoak airport closer and the Premier and myself and the Deputy Mayor had a good tour about the community. We also looked at the other issues that I mentioned.

As the Minister of Transportation you should take a look at the facility. Mr. Speaker, coming from Taloyoak, I will mention certain areas that you should be concentrating on. I would also like to see Taloyoak placed as a priority and have funding set aside so that will be done in Taloyoak. I would like to see Taloyoak included. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Honorable Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It might be a potential safety hazard to your airport. I know exactly where your question is coming from. We have heard from more than one community that there have been crashes and accidents because of birds being sucked in by the engines. I am sorry, I also received a letter from the Premier which I forgot to mention.

**Speaker:** Oral Questions. Mr. McLean.

### **Question 612 - 1(3): Contribution for Cultural Heritage Projects**

**Mr. McLean:** Ma'na Uqaqti. Uqaqti, my question today is for the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. I have the distinction of asking him his first question as a new Cabinet Minister. So I will throw a good one at him.

>> *Applause*

Mr. Speaker, in the Department's Main Estimates a significant amount of money is available for contributions to cultural and heritage activities. Can the minister inform the Assembly what projects have received funding since the budget was passed and where.

**Speaker:** Minister Kattuk.

**Hon. Peter Kattuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased you asked this question, I do not have the updated information at this time, but I will have to look into it further and I will take your question as notice at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** The minister will take it as notice. No further supplementaries. Oral questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

### **Question 613 - 1(3): Working Relationship with RCMP**

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is something that I mentioned yesterday already. I will direct my question to the Minister of Justice. My question is in regards to his department. As a smaller community in Nunavut there are a lot of challenges that we have to face and the communities rely very much on their leaders who also have to follow the many regulations and laws that we have, and it does create problems when we try to deal with the social issues.

I do know that the government have their own regulations and also have to contend with different laws also. How do you work with agencies like the RCMP when it comes to dealing with social problems at the community level with all the restrictions and rules facing you.

**Speaker:** Mr. Anawak

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since Nunavut was established on April 1, 1999, the RCMP set up the V division in Nunavut. The Government has a very close working relationship the RCMP.

This Department is reviewing legislation that was adopted from the Government of the NWT, that we grandfathered from the NWT. We're also looking at the cultural aspects and community legislation, which is a challenge in itself. But we are working very closely together with the RCMP, and we set up a law reform commission so that it will be more Nunavut friendly.

**Speaker:** Thank you minister. Supplementary. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

**Mr. Iqaqrialu** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand my question, and I'm very glad that I have asked this question however, will this law reform commission also look at the practices of the Department of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak** (interpretation): Thank you. The commission is going to review the Nunavut Legislation, like the justice system, once they have finished their work we will consider it and make amendments as we see fit, we will have to make amendments or make new legislation for Nunavut. Once this review is done, we will perhaps start working on it, but on the system itself we are working within our department dealing with the justice system. But we cannot touch the judges the only thing we can make changes to is the legislation, so that the judges can work from it. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral questions. Mr. Tootoo.

### **Question 614 - 1(3): Review of Petroleum Products Division**

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr Speaker, my question is for the Minister responsible for Petroleum Products. I know it has been a rising issue to a lot of people in Nunavut these days. Mr. Speaker, back in February in Rankin Inlet, one of the PPD's officials, Mr. Green, indicated to us that they were going to be partaking in a review of the entire Petroleum Products operation and that it was to be presented to the Financial Management Board in June. I would just like to ask the minister if she could tell us the results of that review. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Ms. Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. That is right, the review was done and right now it is being reviewed by the senior officials, the deputy ministers, of Public Work and the Financial Management Board are looking at the review. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you minister. Supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

**Mr. Tootoo:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I can appreciate the fact that the report has not been reviewed and signed off by the Financial Management Board and that the minister is not able to discuss any of the details of that report. I would like to ask her maybe if you can give us an idea when or how long it is going to take for the senior officials from Financial Management Board to review that report and agree or disagree or come out with anything on it. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Minister Thompson.

**Hon. Manitok Thompson:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I should be able to table the document during the session. That is what I am hoping. It's just in the hands of the senior officials now for the last part of the review. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Ms. Thompson. Oral questions. Mr. Akesuk.

### **Question 615 - 1(3): NTI Firearms Legislation Challenge**

**Mr. Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I will be directing my question to the Premier of Nunavut. This year the government stated that they will be supporting Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated in regards to the firearms legislation challenge. I was wondering if he can tell me what position they are at now since they said they were going to assist NTI. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Mr. Premier.

**Hon. Paul Okalik** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. The Federal Government has filed their defence of the action. They still have not stated when this would be in the judicial process. I cannot tell you when and how this will be dealt with. It is under the court system now. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Oral questions. Mr. Nutarak..

### **Question 616 - 1(3):Nunavut Health Facilities Update**

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I will be directing my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services. In the past I have seen documents or correspondence that they will be building a new hospital for the Baffin Region. One in

Iqaluit, one in Rankin Inlet, one in Cambridge Bay. I have seen the correspondence on that.

I would like to ask you, when you say the process is going well, what is your progress now? How is it proceeding. Can the minister can tell us how the process is going now. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Minister responsible for Health & Social Services, Mr. Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I guess what we mean is the progress is going well with the three facilities. There are 3 major facilities. As you know Mr. Speaker, we are building a facility in Arviat as a P3 project. The Nunavut Government has moved away from the P3 concept.

Two weeks ago myself and Minister Ng, the Minister of Finance, met with the three Development Corporations to look at the next strategies for moving forward on the facilities.

Mr. Speaker, for the Baffin hospital here in Iqaluit we have to complete the functional program review of the facility. That is almost complete. Now for the Keewatin and the Kitikmeot facilities Mr. Speaker, those steps are in place. That is what we mean that the file is moving forward.

I also met with the Hamlet in Cambridge Bay and mayor to discuss their facility in August. And I met with the Hamlet and mayor of Rankin Inlet to discuss that facility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Picco. Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

**Mr. Nutarak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are not overly concerned about the hospital that is going to be built in Iqaluit for the Baffin region. It has to be built. But regarding the other two hospitals. Things like the equipment for the hospital like the beds, or hospital equipment. Who will be purchasing this equipment. I would like to know if you have identified which entities will be purchasing the equipment. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Minister Picco.

**Hon. Ed Picco:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have had discussions with the Federal Government over the past 16 months as the Minister of Health & Social Services. The members know we invited the Honourable Alan Rock here to Nunavut to see our facilities and our infrastructure as well our equipment needs.

Earlier today there was a question on the CHST monies that were made available. In that money, approximately 1 billion dollars I believe, was set aside for new equipment. MIRs



and Cat scans and so on. There is an opportunity from the Federal Government to receive funding.

But when Mr. Speaker, when we look forward to building a facility like a school, the onus is on the government to provide most of the equipment. Be it a direct purchase or leveraging funds from the Federal Government or indeed with the birthright corporations. Working on an agreement where the facility with equipment and everything would be provided. So, Mr. Speaker, that is where we are with the equipment.

The other possibility the member in committee talked about, was the opportunity to bring forward institutions, foundations, and partners to help provide equipment like they do in other jurisdictions for hospitals. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Picco. There are no further supplementary questions. The clock indicates that question period is up. We will take a 15 minute break. Sergeant-At-Arms.

*>>House recessed at 3.15 p.m. for 15 minutes*

**Speaker:** Members let's continue on with the orders of the day. Item 7. Written questions. Moving on to item 8. Returns to written questions. Mr. Clerk.

### **Item 8: Returns to Written Questions**

#### **Return to WQ 16 – 1(3): Site Clean Up Activities - Polaris Mine**

**Clerk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker I wish to inform the house that return to written question 16 – 1(3) has been filed with the Office of the Clerk. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Clerk. Item 9. Replies to opening address. Replies to opening address. Item 10. Petitions. Petitions. Petitions. Item 11. Reports of standing and special committees. Mr. Akasuk.

### **Item 11: Reports of Special and Standing Committees**

#### **Committee Report 019 - 1(3): Standing Committee on Government Operations and Services: Bill 11**

**Mr. Akasuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be speaking for a while so I stand today to give my report under item 11.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present the Standing Committee's report on its review of Bill 11, An Act to Establish Nunavut Day as a Holiday. (interpretation ends)

Mr. Speaker, given the public attention that has greeted this initiative, I believe it is appropriate to spend some time today outlining the background behind the Bill, the

process of the Committee's deliberations and consultations, and the comments that we as MLAs heard from our constituents.

(interpretation) Bill 11 was introduced in the House in February of this year, during the Rankin Inlet sitting of the Assembly. It followed a commitment made by Caucus during its June retreat of 1999 in Baker Lake to work towards designating July 9 a Nunavut-wide holiday.

(interpretation) As Members know, July 9, 1993, was the day on which the Nunavut Act and the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Act received royal assent in Kugluktuk by the Governor General of Canada.

For some time now, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, NTI, has given its employees a paid holiday on July 9. In 1999 and 2000, the Government of Nunavut encouraged departments to plan cultural events and festivities for its employees on the day.

Mr. Speaker, the Bill that was introduced in the Legislative Assembly was straightforward. The current civic holiday that takes place on the first Monday of August would be eliminated, and a new statutory holiday, Nunavut Day, to be celebrated on July 9, would be introduced.

Given that this initiative was one that would touch the daily lives of all Nunavummiut and their families, the Standing Committee committed to consulting extensively on the Bill prior to returning back to the House with its recommendations.

(interpretation) In May, I and members of the Committee met with all Nunavut mayors at the Annual General Meeting of the Nunavut Association of Municipalities. At that time, no firm consensus was achieved on this issue. A number of mayors spoke in support of the idea of designating July 9 as Nunavut Day. Others spoke in favour of designating April 1 or some other day as a new holiday to mark the creation of our new territory. Throughout the summer months, MLAs appeared on phone-in radio, attended meetings and spoke with people in the communities regarding this proposal.

(interpretation ends) The Standing Committee requested that Hamlet councils formally provide comment on the Bill. Later today, at the appropriate time, I will be tabling letters received from Mayors and Hamlet councils on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, we have found that while there is support for designating July 9 as Nunavut Day, it is by no means unanimous, and it needs to be clearly acknowledged that there is considerable opposition from the public to eliminating the civic holiday presently held on the first Monday in August.

Mr. Speaker, the Government has estimated that the financial cost of adding a new holiday would be in the vicinity of \$1.5 million to the GN, housing authorities, hamlets and other organizations. The cost to the private sector is difficult to quantify with any meaningful certainty. (interpretation) I should also note, Mr. Speaker, that the Committee

had concerns with respect to the status of ongoing collective bargaining between the NEU and the government. It is our understanding that the government cannot on its own remove the first Monday in August as a paid holiday for employees covered by the collective agreement, even if the Bill were passed as it is.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the Members of the Standing Committee have heard clearly from their constituents on this issue. The message that we have heard is that while the introduction of a new holiday on July 9 would please many people, the proposal to eliminate the present civic holiday in August has caused even stronger feelings.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is fair to say that if the government were to amend the Bill so as to retain the civic holiday in August while still introducing a new holiday in July, that amended piece of legislation would be widely supported across Nunavut, and likely gain speedy passage through the House. A formal statement on this suggestion from the government would be appropriate.

Mr. Speaker, the Standing Committee cannot support the Bill as it presently is. However, I want to make it perfectly clear to the government and the public that this is not because we oppose the recognition of July 9 as a unique and meaningful day in our calendar. It is not because we disagree with the board of directors of NTI.

Quite simply, Mr. Speaker, it is because ordinary people have told us that they want to retain a practice that has served them well for many years. Many people have told us that the August long weekend is a weekend that has proven valuable to them and their families. They do not want to give that up, and we as MLAs are not willing to force a change upon them that has no clear public benefit.

Mr. Speaker, in the event that the Bill is not amended, the Standing Committee would recommend that it be permitted to fall off the order paper when the House prorogues. There is no desire on our part to make this a matter of confrontation between us and the government. It does not need to come to a potentially divisive vote.

Mr. Speaker, the Standing Committee strongly recommends that the present practice of the Government be maintained with respect to encouraging members of the public service to spend July 9 engaged in cultural activities sponsored by their departments. This is a practice that is fully consistent with the commitment to respecting Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit

Mr. Speaker, the Standing Committee would like to recognize NTI's efforts in providing funding to communities to celebrate July 9. We would recommend that the Government of Nunavut's Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth explore ways of helping to sponsor such activities in the future.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that the Members of the Standing Committee do not believe that this initiative is dead forever. We would encourage the Government to revisit the idea at some point before its term of office ends, with a view to examining

whether it can be implemented in such a way that respects the public's desire not to lose what it already has.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that the report be received and adopted by the House. Thank you.

**Speaker:** The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All in favour. Contrary. Motion is carried. The report has been received by this Assembly. Item 12. Reports of committees on the review of bills. Reports of committees on the review of bills. Item 13. Tabling of documents. Tabling of documents. Mr. Akesuk.

### **Item 13: Tabling of Documents**

#### **Tabled Document 108 – 1(3): Letters on Bill 11 From Municipalities**

**Mr. Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just read a report and stated in my report that I have letters from the Mayors that I would like to table. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Tabling of documents. Mr. Havioyak.

#### **Tabled Document 109 – 1(3): Letter from Kugluktuk Regarding Time Zone**

**Mr. Havioyak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand here today regarding letters from Kugluktuk that I would like to table. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, this letter stresses my constituents dissatisfaction with the recent government announcement on the single time zone. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Havioyak. Item 13. Tabling of documents. Mr. Akesuk.

#### **Tabled Document 110 – 1(3): Letter from Arctic Bay**

**Mr. Akesuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table a document from the high arctic regarding elections of the Member for Quttiktuq. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. Item 13. Tabling of documents. Mr. Anawak.

**Hon. Jack Anawak:** Mr. Speaker, I want to apologize. Earlier I had stated that I was going to table the time zone survey however upon reviewing it I understand that it has not been translated into Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun so I will be tabling it in the next week.

**Speaker:** Item 13. Tabling of documents. Tabling of documents. Tabling of documents. Moving on to item 14. Notices of motions. Notices of motions. Notices of motions. Item 15. Notices of motions for first reading of bills. Notices of motions for first reading of bills. Item 16. Motions. Motions. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First reading of bills. First reading of bills. Item 18. Second reading of bills. Second reading of bills.

Item 19. Consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other items. As there are no items in the committee of the whole we will proceed to item 20. Report of the committee of the whole. Item 21. Third reading of bills. Third reading of bills. Item 22. Orders of the day. Mr. Clerk.

### **Item 22: Orders of the Day**

**Clerk** (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Meeting of full caucus at 5 o'clock in the Nanuq Board Room today.

Orders of the Day for Friday October 20;

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. Petitions
10. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
11. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
12. Tabling of Documents
13. Notices of Motions
14. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
15. Motions
16. First Reading of Bills
17. Second Reading of Bills
18. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
19. Report of the Committee of the Whole
20. Third Reading of Bills
21. Orders of the Day.

Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until tomorrow, Friday at 10 a.m.

Sergeant-At-Arms

>>*House adjourned at 3.53 p.m.*

