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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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(Iqaluit Centre)

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Tuesday October 24, 2000

Members Present

Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, Mr. Olayuk Akesuk, Mr. James Arvaluk, Mr. Donald Havioyak, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Mr. Enoki Irqittuq, Honourable Peter Kattuk, Honourable Peter Kilabuk, Mr. Glenn McLean, Honourable Kelvin Ng, Mr. Jobie Nutarak, Honourable Kevin O'Brien, Honourable Ed Picco, Mr. Uriash Puqiqnak, Honourable Manitok Thompson, Mr. Hunter Tootoo.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Mr. O'Brien): I would like to call on Mr. Puqiqnak to say the prayer.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker: Returning to the orders of the day. Ministers' statements. Item 2. Mr. Ng.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements**Minister's Statement 005 - 1(4): Ministers Absent from House**

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise members that the Honourable Paul Okalik will be absent from the House today Tuesday October 24, 2000, to sign an MOU on cross jurisdictional operations with Greenland in Nuuk. Mr. Speaker, I also wish to advise members that the Honourable Jack Anawak will be absent from the House today to attend meetings with the Kivalliq leaders in Manitoba. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Ng. Ministers' statements. Mr. Ng.

Minister's Statement 006 - 1(4): GN Staffing Capacity and IEP

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Speaker, I rise today to provide Members of the Legislative Assembly with the first quarter staffing capacity and Inuit Employment statistics for 2000/2001 from the Government of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, presently 76.5% of the 2,716 positions within the departments, boards and agencies are filled with an Inuit employment rate of 44%. Since March 2000, overall capacity and Inuit employment has decreased slightly. This small decrease can be accounted for in that the Government of Nunavut is competing with other organizations requiring the same knowledge and skills to fill positions. The other major factor, Mr. Speaker, in recruiting and retention is the strong economic conditions across the country which have increased demands for a skilled and trained work force.

Mr. Speaker, in departments, overall staffing capacity has increased to 68% with an Inuit employment rate of 43%. Based on the June 30 statistics overall capacity in the boards and agencies increased to 91% with an Inuit employment rate of 45%.

Mr. Speaker, our staffing division has been aggressive in initiating 83 competitions during the first quarter of this year. We have made some progress during this quarter but we do realize that we face many challenges in achieving our goals of full capacity and a representative public service.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of Nunavut continues to assist Nunavummiut by providing education and training and working towards creating and maintaining a representative public service. Mr. Speaker, I am confident that if we continue working together we can have a government that is representative of the people it serves. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Ng. Ministers' statements. Ms. Thompson.

Minister's Statement 007 - 1(4): Fuel Price Increases for Nunavut

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the costs to purchase fuel during this year's re-supply have increased significantly from that of the previous year due to the increase of fuel prices on international markets.

The price of refined fuel is effected by supply and demand on international markets. The increases that have been experienced over the past 18 months are due to low U.S. inventory and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' decision to restrict production. In addition, fuel products that are purchased on the U.S. markets are effected by the low value of the Canadian dollar compared to the U.S. dollar.

Unfortunately the extremely volatile worldwide markets that supply this product effect Nunavut fuel prices. Mr. Speaker, an increase of 13.9 cents a litre, which includes GST, has been approved by the Financial Management Board effective November 1, 2000. The Financial Management Board also approved a ceiling of 98.9 cents a litre for home heating, diesel, Jet A-1 and gasoline. This ceiling is for all communities with the exception of the retail gasoline operators in Iqaluit.

The FMB does not regulate the retail gas bar operators in Iqaluit. They set their own prices. Given that the higher prices for the refined petroleum products experienced over the past year are likely to continue as long as international market conditions remain tight, this increase in retail prices will likely enable the GN to maintain stability in fuel prices over the next two years.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the concern Nunavummiut have regarding these increases in fuel prices. However, there was no alternative but to implement, given the circumstances of worldwide markets and the increases in costs.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I would like to point out that our department has been providing information to NTI in order to assist them in setting up a program to help sustenance harvesters. In addition we are looking at what options may be available where possible, for low-income homeowners, possibly through a program such as the Seniors Fuel Subsidy Program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you Minister. Ministers' statements. Mr. Ng.

Minister's Statement 008 - 1(4): Update on the Fiscal Position of the GN

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to report on the interim financial statements for the Government of Nunavut's first year of operations as required in the Financial Administration Act. I will also table later the mid-year budget update for the current fiscal year, 2000/2001.

Mr. Speaker, the interim financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2000, show that the Government of Nunavut had an accumulated surplus of 63 million dollars at the end of the last fiscal year. Included in this figure is a surplus of 53.9 million for fiscal year 99/2000 and 9 million dollars in net transfers from the GNWT at the time of division.

Actual revenues for 99/2000 were 630.4 million dollars which is over 20 million dollars above our budget estimate of 610.1 million dollars. The Territorial Formula Financing Grant from the Government of Canada was 538.4 million dollars, an increase of 39.5 million dollars over the budget. Most of this increase can be attributed to our share of the revised Federal Estimates of Entitlements for the GNWT for the two or three years immediately preceding division.

Other transfer payments and own-source revenues were 19.2 million below our budget estimates. Mr. Speaker, actual expenditures for 1999-2000 were 576.4 million dollars which were approximately 33.7 million dollars below the budget estimates of 610.1 million dollars. Operations and maintenance expenditures totalled 526.7 million dollars while Capital Expenditures totalled 49.7 million.

Mr. Speaker, I should note that the information in this report is subject to change and statement of public accounts which will be audited by the Office of the Auditor General of Canada and these will be tabled in the winter session.

Mr. Speaker, I will now comment on the mid-year budget update for the current fiscal year. Mr. Speaker, overall revenues for the Government of Nunavut for 2000-2001 are now expected to be 635.6 million dollars or 3 million below our budget estimates. We are anticipating that the Territorial Formula Financing grant to be 2 million dollars below our budget estimates and other transfer payments from the Federal Government to be 1

million dollars below our budget estimates. All other revenues are expected to remain the same as reported at the time of the budget.

Total budget expenditures are now 667.4 million dollars. This figure includes initiatives contained in the Supplementary Appropriation, No. 1, which will be considered by the Legislative Assembly during this session.

Mr. Speaker, the initiatives presented in the Supplementary Appropriations Bill increases budgeted expenditures by 28.4 million dollars. The overall operations and maintenance budget increases by approximately 17.2 million dollars. These adjustments are required to meet a number of expenditure pressures including lease obligations and the recent Teachers Union Settlement.

The total Capital budget increases by 11.2 million dollars which includes funding of 8.6 million dollars for projects approved in the 1999/2000 budget that could not be completed in that fiscal year.

Mr. Speaker, it is currently projected that for the 2000/2001 fiscal year the Government of Nunavut will have an operating deficit of approximately 31.5 million dollars. This operating deficit will be financed from our overall accumulated surplus. Mr. Speaker, I would also like to note that the Government continues to face a number of additional expenditure pressures including higher operating costs as a result of the rising fuel prices the Minister just announced, information technology needs and on-going union negotiations.

In closing Mr. Speaker, I would like to reiterate the Government of Nunavut's commitment to the wise management of our resources and fiscal responsibility. Through such sound fiscal management, the Members of this Legislative Assembly will ensure a better future for Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Ministers' statements. Ministers' statements. Item 3. Members' statements. Mr. Tootoo.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 013 - 1(4): Congratulations to Olayuk Akesuk

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a colleague and a friend of mine, Mr. Olayuk Akesuk, for being selected to the Executive Council of this House this morning.

>>Applause

Mr. Akasuk, I served with him on both the Standing Committees that I am on and his contribution and input in those meetings will be greatly missed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Members' statements. Members' statements. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Member's Statement 014 - 1(4): Suicide in Nunavut

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to talk about the topic of suicide. I have indicated earlier that I would be more open about this subject. The reason why I am rising today is that suicide creates problems for families all across the country. In the old days, the Inuit custom was that two young people would get married as soon as they could be married and this was an old custom that was used by the Inuit in the old days.

In looking at the past and present day marriage arrangements there is a lot of difference between olden days and the present day. Looking at today's relationships we can see that two young people get together and get married but in a short time they do come across divorces which was very uncommon in the past. When one of the spouses leave the relationship the person that is left is badly hurt and then becomes very depressed during her life or his life time. If we do not deal with this problem suicide will always be present as well. If we can look at Inuit traditions and customs, we could probably learn to deal with the present day relationships that have affected so many people in today's world.

Today, looking at this it has created many hardships in our lives and many families have been broken up by broken relationships. I do not know how we can deal with this at this time, myself I cannot answer it directly but I think this an area where we should start looking for solutions Nunavut wide as it has deeply affected our lives. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Members' statements. Mr. Arvaluk.

Member's Statement 015 - 1(4): Chesterfield Inlet Music Festival

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker and Mr. Akasuk, congratulations for becoming a Member of the Executive Council.

We have heard from a constituency of mine, namely Chesterfield Inlet, that they held a music festival for the entire Kivalliq region. I think that there were many Kivalliq communities that attended at that music festival.

My CA George Kanayuk indicated to me that this was a very successful event and I would like to congratulate the people of Chesterfield Inlet and people of Kivalliq. It is not too often that they have get-togethers and this creates harmony amongst communities.

We are very pleased that the event was very successful and I thank the people of Chesterfield Inlet. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Members' statements. Mr. Akesuk.

Member's Statement 016 - 1(4): Gratitude on Election to Executive Council

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all I want to thank the person who nominated me, Mr. Alakannuark and the colleagues who also ran for office and I hope that you will run again in the future.

You will recognize all your challenges and your abilities. I want to thank all the members who elected me to this position, I enjoyed working with you as a member of your standing committees, and I am pleased working with you. I will do my best with my position as a minister. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Members' statements. Mr. Havioyak.

Member's Statement 017 - 1(4): Preserving Inuinnaqtun

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am here today because I want to talk about the various languages in Nunavut. We have different dialects and because I do not want our dialects lost and because we wanted the younger generation to learn Inuktitut throughout Nunavut when we were elected as MLAs.

As the Member of Kugluktuk, I have a special interest in the future of Inuinnaqtun in our Territory. Inuinnaqtun as you know in our community of Kugluktuk was disappearing, our language and our writing system, and today we use it, whenever we are home we speak Inuinnaqtun.

Today I would like to talk about it in this House and I use Inuinnaqtun at every opportunity so that the people listening to us in my community can hear that the language has taken its rightful place in our Assembly. The people in our community should be using Inuinnaqtun and they should know in the Kitikmeot region that the Nunavut Government in their work place is going to start using Inuinnaqtun.

I would like you to know that in the Kivalliq and in the Baffin, they never forgot their language and it is a strong language, and also in our Kitikmeot we would like our Inuinnaqtun to be strong because it will make us proud that we are using our language. I do not want you people to forget that and for our kids, because the children are our future and our elders. Some kids should learn the language. I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

Speaker: Are there any nays. There are no nays. Please continue.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In addition, parents should help every evening for their education because they cannot learn only in school. They should be promoting the language at home. The young people should be listening to that. Also, we should promote the language because it was almost gone, as was the writing system. Now it has been promoted. (interpretation ends)

Promotions depends on successful partnerships between the Government, the Language Commissioner, local organizations and individuals. Resources need to be made available in our schools so that our children will start to learn at an early age.

Mr. Speaker, the first annual report of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut will be tabled during the current session. I look forward to working with the Commissioner towards the goal of putting our commitments into practice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' statements. Mr. Irqittuq.

Member's Statement 018 - 1(4): Congratulations to Olayuk Akesuk

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I gratefully rise today to congratulate my friend and colleague Olayuk Akesuk for his new position on the Executive Council. Here on the calender according to our schedule, I know that we will no longer be working closely with him as we have in the standing committee but I wish to continue working with him and we will all feel his absence from our standing committees. I want to thank and congratulate him for all his assistance. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Members' statements. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Member's Statement 019 - 1(4): Appreciation for Former NIC Commissioners

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. First, I would like to congratulate Mr. Akesuk. I want to say that it gives me a great deal of pleasure to stand here as Nunavummiuttag. It is now into a year and a half since Nunavut was created.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the fathers and mothers of Nunavut. I am speaking of the former Commissioners for the Nunavut Implementation Commission who recommended to the Government of Canada, the Government of Northwest Territories, and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated our decentralized model of government. They established the fact that we leave no one out in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I can remember not too long ago when NIC Commissioners came to Gjoa Haven in December 1994 and asked the people of my community what type of government they wanted to see in Nunavut. I can remember very well when an elder stood up and said while making the Government of Nunavut do not forget Inuit traditional ways. Today I am glad to see that we have a department whose sole responsibility is to assist the elders and youth of Nunavut with Inuit culture and language.

It is also because of the recommendations that NIC made that we have a government that is closer to the people of Nunavut. Having said that, I encourage you to work towards becoming more open and accountable to all Nunavummiut. They are expecting you to do this. Mr. Speaker, I would like to seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

Speaker: Are there any nays. Continue.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, let me for the record, thank John Amagoalik. I want to recognize all those who have been there, who have really worked hard. I want to thank for the record, John Amagoalik the former Chief Commissioner. Also Joe Ohokannoak, Carl O’Gorman, Guy Alikut, Peter Irniq, David Anaraluk, Meeka Kilabuk, George Qulaut, Ken Harper, Mary Simon, and Bill Lyall. I thank these former Commissioners of the Nunavut Implementation Commission for their hard work and tireless determination in recommending the model of our Government of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, lastly I would like to take this opportunity to thank the former Interim Commissioner, Mr. Jack Anawak for implementing the work of NIC, on behalf of all people of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. Members’ statements. Mr. Picco.

Member’s Statement 020 - 1(4): Passing of Lucassie Nutaraluk

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, almost 5 years ago I was a member of the Iqaluit for Capital campaign. As a member of that team, I had an opportunity to travel to other Nunavut communities to explain our platform, Iqaluit for all of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker I believe the option to place official names with signage on our community streets, recognizing our community and other communities in Nunavut for the Capital, is a good idea. Mr. Speaker, that idea should be maintained by our new town council. Also Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier in this House, the Nunavut Capital Commission can play a role in this.

Our Iqaluit for Capital campaign consisted of many Iqaluit residents and businesses. One of those residents was a well-respected elder Lucassie Nutaraluk. Lucassie added

tremendous insight and credibility to our team. A couple of weeks ago I visited Lucassie in the hospital here in Iqaluit. I briefly spoke to Lucassie and to his family and he gave me one of his usual friendly smiles. Mr. Speaker, Lucassie was an excellent role model and respected elder, and friend. Mr. Speaker, he will be sadly missed. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. Members' statements. Members' statements. Mr. McLean.

Member's Statement 021 - 1(4): Congratulations to Baker Lake Graduates

Mr. McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would like to congratulate Mr. Olayuk Akesuk, for his election to the Executive Council. I don't want to throw a downer on today's activity, but Mr. Speaker, there is a serious trend developing where we are replacing Executive Council members far too frequently for my liking, and I hope it stops.

Also, I would like to apologize to four young people in Baker Lake for missing their graduation ceremony in June. I would like to congratulate Abigail Noah, Daisy Fae Sivala, Sheldon Kashluk, Douglas Ivuluak on graduating from the Jonah Amitnaaq School this June.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to point out that Abigail Noah and Douglas Ivuluak are now trainees with the newly formed Nunavut Power Corporation in Baker Lake. So Mr. Speaker, graduating from high school does matter. Mr. Speaker, on that I would also like to commend their parents for the hard work and dedication they put in every day to see these future leaders graduate from high school. Ma'na.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Thank you Mr. McLean. Members' statements. Mr. Alakannuark.

Member's Statement 022 - 1(4): Encouraging Youth to Graduate

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to congratulate my colleague the newly elected cabinet member and the two who were running. I would like to say at this time that the young people today are numerous and I was happy to hear the member talk about them graduating from high school. I hope this will be an encouragement to the other students to complete high school, because they definitely have to do that today because they are our future leaders, because we will not be sitting here all the time.

I nominated Peter Kattuk and I nominated Olayuk Akesuk. I do not know what that means. I do not know what that indicates. I am very happy for both of them. So, if someone is serious to be elected just let me nominate them. Thank you.

>>*Laughter*

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

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize Noah Panniuq who is sitting over there. He was my favourite aunt's son who was Mrs. Panniuq originally from Coral Harbour. I used to baby-sit Noah Panniuq and it is his birthday today so I would also like to wish him a happy birthday. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am one of the people that hardly give recognition to the people in the gallery. But today I would like to recognize a resident of Pangnirtung, Imona Qarpik. Also, Jeannie Tigularak who is presently living in Pangnirtung and going to the Arthur Turner Training School. Welcome.

Speaker: Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was going to recognize those same people so I just like to welcome them. Thank you.

Speaker: Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome officially to the gallery a husband and wife team that have been working with us over the last week and a half. In the CBC booth, Jeannie Arreak Kullualik and in the sound booth over here our technical wiz, her better half Kevin.

Also Mr. Speaker, two young pages that were with us last week and again this week. Mr. Kevin Dunphy. Kevin is attending school here in Iqaluit and his dad is in Fort Liard and he has been maintaining the masculine presence as it was in his home and I would like to thank him for that publicly.

Also Mr. Speaker, a well-known Iqaluit drummer Mr. Thor Simonson. Thor is right here, Mr. Speaker, a great drummer and he is next to his buddy Rich. Mr. Speaker, I would also like to welcome to the gallery an old family friend and congratulate her on her training in Pangnirtung at the Arthur Turner Training School, Jeannie Tigularak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Welcome to the gallery. Item 5. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Moving on to Item 6. Oral questions. Oral questions. Mr. Havioyak.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 012 - 1(4): Increase in Fuel Prices

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister of Public Works, Telecommunications & Technical Services about the increase in fuel prices starting November 1. When was this purchased. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We purchased the oil in the springtime, early summer. Thank you.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reason why I asked that question is that I am sure we do have some supply that was bought a year before. I am not sure how much for each community. Do you consider how much left over you have from the previous year purchases in these prices. How does that work. Can you tell us what you do with last year's leftover and if that is included with this price. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We use the same oil because we do not have separate tank farms. So, even if the last year's supply is mixed in with this year's supply we just go by the new price. Especially when the fuel prices go up. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The left over fuel from last year, so your surplus goes up from the year before. Because the year before the prices were probably lower so what I can see, I could be wrong, I am just trying to get the right information so I can be on the right track here. So if you have left over at last year's prices, is the purchase of that year applied to this year. It seems to me there might be some surplus. Is that how it works. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we said that we would look at the prices for the fuel, we considered all the communities and we looked at the old supply and the new supply. We have set aside 60 million dollars for

this. We have a stabilization fund and can go up by 5 million or down by 5 million. So, we usually do not have a surplus for the fact that if you were to purchase fuel it is very expensive and the price that we pay is subsidized by the Government.

So just a small amount is paid for by the community. If the communities were to see the actual costs, they would be amazed because it is a lot of money. I hope this clarifies his question. When we review the fuel prices, we try to consider and keep in mind all the communities in Nunavut. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Supplementary. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to get an answer please to the question that I am asking. Sometimes the price just seems to keep increasing. How in the future, our young people are going to have more problems with this. How can this be addressed so that the price does not continue to go up and the government works towards a solution, because we may not be able to go out anymore because it will be too expensive.

(interpretation ends) Is there something in place or can you put a plan in place that maybe assists people. I am not sure maybe more money put into the subsidy program, the petroleum program. Maybe increase that. I am not sure, is there something planned that you are working on now. Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand his concern and maybe the member understood when I answered that homeowners will have a difficult time in paying for the fuel prices and we will be looking at that and reviewing how else we can assist them. We are now working with NTI in regards to how we can find a solution to this.

During my Minister's Statement, I said that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Ms. Thompson. Oral questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Question 013 - 1(4): Proposals for Funding at Sustainable Development

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be directed to the Minister of Sustainable Development. Through the news release, we learned that his department would be reviewing the applications or proposals. When will his department accept the applications and proposals. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, when we made the news release we also put in the ad in News North and Nunatsiaq News for proposals that

the closing date is November 17. To date we have received two applications in my department requesting funding reviews. After the closing date, we will be looking at all the applications that have been submitted to my department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Minister Kilabuk. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The review will be implemented after the closing date of November 17. How long will his department take to undertake the review. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated, after the closing date of November 17, from that date on we will be reviewing all the proposals that have been submitted. The usual process that we have is six weeks to undergo the review. After that, we can release the information pertaining to it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Minister. Supplementary. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the department reviews all the proposals, will the Coral Harbour re-supply application be reviewed, and if the proposal is accepted, will the Coral Harbour residents expect to get materials on the next sealift. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To date we have not reviewed any proposals as of yet, as I indicated. The closing date for reviews would be November 17. After that date, my department will review all the proposals and applications and the people that have filled out their applications will be contacted to see if their proposals have been accepted or not. In Coral Harbour the residents if their proposal is accepted by our department, then they could expect to receive some news. I can say today that if we need funding for the next sealift for the material for construction I can talk to the member about that. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you minister. Final supplementary.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I think we all know that we have to prepare in advance for sealift. The people of Coral Harbour have been preparing to make a proposal for a processing plant in Coral Harbour. They have a quota of six thousand caribou to be slaughtered. I think this department is aware that we have had to make long term planning for this and if the minister can indicate that the material for construction of the meat processing plant could be ordered, or if they are not prepared to give any funding at this time. Can the minister indicate to me whether he would be willing to review this. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I thank my colleague for his question. I would like to indicate to the member, as well as the other members, how we review the proposals that have been submitted to our department.

Some communities do say that they should be a priority for our department to be reviewed. If they have indicated that they should be a priority then we will look into it more. Regarding the sealift, if their proposal is accepted then my department will prepare all the processes that we have to undergo and if we have to catch next year's sealift for construction then we will put the project forward.

I would like to indicate to the member that I know his community of Coral Harbour has worked hard to put their proposal forward and we support the initiative that they have put forward. Like I said earlier, we have to prepare and review all the proposals first before we can be able to say, yes we can get the construction material for the next sealift. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Oral questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 014 - 1(4): Closure of Community Radio Station

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. I wish to ask a question regarding the community radio station closure, I think it was last year. The local radio is the main source of getting all the information in and out of the community and when the government has come into the community, local radio is the only way of communicating to the public that there will be a public meeting and what not. This has been a real help to the community, my community in particular. So my question to the minister is, will each community station be in operation and are they being maintained as they should be. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the question that the member is raising. I know that the communities are using the local community radios. The member is asking are we maintaining all local radios in the communities. As of today, we have not heard any community indicating that their local radio is not in operation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Supplementary. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am glad that the minister agrees with my question as local radios are very much utilized by the public. He indicated, as of

today he has not heard any community complaining about their local radio. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: I did not hear a question. It was more of a comment. Do you want to address a question to the minister.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. I am sure he understood my question in Inuktitut. However, I will repeat my question to you Mr. Speaker. If there were a local radio not in operation in a community would he have the maintenance people come to the community to fix the local radio. That is my question. Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: I now have the question. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand what the member is asking. My department is responsible for maintaining all local radios. It is our mandate to maintain all radios and I will indicate that the community can ask for up to 6 thousand dollars in a grant to fix their local radios. Thank you.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not trying to talk about the grant of 6 thousand dollars. What my question was, if there was a local radio that has broken down could his department replace it with a new one. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Minister.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In response to his question. I indicated that we could give up to a 6 thousand dollar grant to a local community if they have to have their local radio maintained. If it needs a replacement, my department is looking into this. That is all I can say at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the minister's response. He indicated that he would be looking into this matter. How soon can the minister get back to me after he has made a review. I would like to get the minister to respond to this question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Kattuk.

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To date I'm not looking into one particular community, but we are trying to make an overall review as to how best we can maintain local radios. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 015 - 1(4): Fuel Price Increases

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the minister responsible for the Petroleum Products Division. She gave me information regarding the fuel price increases. I would like to pose this question to the minister. Last year we had a supply of bulk fuel, however this is not sufficient to supply fuel to two hundred homes. However, my community has also been effected by the fuel price increases and I feel that this is unfair to my community, which has not been supplied fuel for this year. Can the minister review this and get back to me on it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We set the fuel price increases looking at Nunavut's entire fuel tank supplies. If we have to deal with every individual community to price the fuel, looking at one community, then all the other communities would be deeply effected by fuel price increases. That is why we have the stabilization program in our department so no one community will be effected as heavily. Although they have not been supplied fuel for a year, the government has put our subsidization program in place so that the communities will be treated equally. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Ms. Thompson. Supplementary. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All the communities will be effected by the increases in oil products; I am not just speaking about Clyde River. We were given exactly the same response. Before the oil prices went up, they communities were re-supplied, why are we going to be effected by these fuel price increases, before we even receive the fuel supplies. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not sure I understand your question. Is he asking a question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Iqaqrialu. Would you like to clarify your question.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am sorry if I was not clear. We have not received our re-supply so I want this to be reviewed. When all the other communities received their fuel supply, I want to know why when Clyde River was not given a re-supply of fuel, why are we going to have our fuel prices increased as well. When Clyde River was the only one that did not get a fuel re-supply.

Speaker: Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If you were to look at the actual price or fuel rates in Clyde River, your eyes would almost pop out of your head. You would be overwhelmed by the prices that you would see in front of your eyes. This fuel price increase was calculated for all of Nunavut.

We as people of Nunavut receive a lot of subsidy for fuel. If you were to look at the fuel rates these days you would be overwhelmed. Nunavut receives many subsidies. So, it does not accurately state the actual price of fuel in Nunavut. When you look at the subsidy the price is less. Once the fuel rates increase it affects all of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Minister. Supplementary. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Does that mean when a community does not get a refuel supply those communities will also be affected by increased rates like every other community. Is that what the minister is saying. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes. All communities are affected when the fuel rates are increased. No bigger community is looked at. When fuel rates increase, it is felt all over the world. The residents of Nunavut are subsidized and we do not see the actual rates. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 016 - 1(4): New Staff Housing Policy

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question today is to the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Mr. Speaker, last February, last spring actually it is going on almost two years now, I have been asking questions in relation to the staff housing policy. I understand that there is a new staff housing policy. I would like to ask the minister responsible when that policy was approved by Cabinet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My mind was still on the fuel rates. I thank Mr. Tootoo for his question there. Yes, the policy was worked on and it was approved. Sorry, I cannot specify the exact date that it was approved. Here it is. The date of approval was December 31.

The policy in regards to staff housing was recommended to be reviewed. I cannot find it right now but I can get it right away. I know it is here somewhere. I am sorry Mr.

Speaker. I apologize. This will be taken as notice and if you really want the exact date and the hour of the approval, I can find it and pass it to you. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Ms. Thompson that question was taken as notice. I believe you took that as notice. Is that correct. As a result, no further supplementaries. The question is taken as notice. Oral questions. Mr. Alakannuark.

Question 017 - 1(4): Repulse Bay Community Freezer

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Sustainable Development. I want to ask the minister if he received a letter from Repulse Bay concerning the community freezer. Have you made a response to this letter regarding the community freezer. Thank you.

Speaker: Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Myself, I have not seen the letter requesting a community freezer but I want to inform the member that the community freezers are no longer the responsibility of Sustainable Development. They are now under the Hamlet Council programs. As our member stated today the community freezer are still under the Hamlet Council budget. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to ask now, can the community submit requests for funding. I want to ask if proposals for community freezers can be sent to his department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. The letter he is referring to, if it was directed to us I am sure I will talk to my colleague once I have received that letter to see where that proposal is. Maybe the proposal was so good that it did not come through us but I will check into it. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral questions. Oral questions. Mr. McLean.

Question 018 - 1(4): Fuel Price Increases

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. Mr. Speaker, I will try to keep my preamble short. My question today will be to the Minister responsible for Petroleum Products. Uqaqti, I am frankly disgusted with the fuel price increases that are being proposed to our communities in Nunavut. Have we forgotten that over the last nine months with the last increase and this proposed increase we are up to 30 %, close to 30 %. I could be mistaken by 2% or 3%.

The Minister of Finance gave us a fiscal update last year and we were in a surplus situation. I find it hard to swallow that we are getting close to 30 % in fuel price increases and gasoline increases. We don't live in a territory where the snowmobiles and Honda's are being used for pleasure. Where I come from they are used to hunt and fish and gather food because the cost of living is tremendous up here.

So, my question today is to the minister. How much is this fuel price increase actually costing the Government of Nunavut in dollars. Is it millions. Is it multi-millions. Or is it just into the thousands. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. McLean. Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The stabilization fund that we were referring to takes over 400 thousand. It was even higher than 400 thousand but the Auditor General was reviewing that and it used to be 5 million dollars, which would compensate for higher prices.

The Auditor General indicated that we can put it at zero because the prices of fuel are going up all over Nunavut at 14.8 %. (interpretation ends). The stabilization fund right now with the increase is over 400 thousand. (interpretation) Mr. Speaker, is that what he's referring to. I am not sure if I am responding to his question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. I know it's a very technical answer she probably has to give to me, so I don't want to be unfair here. But what I'm trying to ask is if the government took some of the surplus, if the Executive Council, or FMB could say okay we're going to try and bring the fuel prices down, you know a few more cents a litre. I don't want to sound like I'm asking all of Cabinet this, but I'm asking the minister responsible, did she make a case to FMB to say give me more money to put into the fuel stabilization fund to try to keep the fuel prices down a bit. That's my question and how much did she ask for. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. McLean. Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During our meeting in Apex, when we were expecting that the fuel prices were going to go up, we discussed this further, what avenues we should take, so the fuel prices won't have a big impact. The figure we came up with was 13.9 and we had to justify this because of the fact that for two years it did not go up.

My colleagues, the Cabinet Ministers are aware of this. We have looked at some ways we could decrease the burden of the fuel prices and we will try to assist.

In my Minister's Statement I said for low-income families we would try to produce some support. For the hunters we will try to initiate something through working with NTI. My colleagues the ministers, I have told them that is the route we will try to take. So, it will be the same all over. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister. Supplementary.

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. Uqaqti, the minister raised a few issues in that answer, which are also very dear to me also. We all know that not everything is great in Nunavut. There are the working poor, the single moms that have to maintain their own homes. You have the hunters that rely on a lot of country food to feed their families, and she mentioned that she is going to look at some kind of support to homeowners and what I call the traditional economy.

Will the minister be bringing something forward soon. I am looking at the fact of giving the private homeowners a break on the high prices of fuel and the hunters and trappers being given a break on the high price of fuel. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand that the low-income families go through a difficult time and we are presently working on this to alleviate some problems that we are encountering. I will be producing a paper very soon. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Supplementary. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. I think this is my final supplementary, but if it isn't, I will another question after this one. But on the proposed increases on a confidential document that the minister gave us, I do not want to sound like I am picking on anybody but Iqaluit was not there. Does Iqaluit benefit from the fuel stabilization program.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Uqsuq oil buys the fuel and we sell the fuel. We introduce the price and then they sell it to the Town of Iqaluit and it is up to them. It is up to the Uqsuq company. So, we do not put the prices on it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Thompson. That was your final supplementary. Oral questions. Mr. Iqittuq.

Question 019 - 1(4): Advertisements for Nursing Staff

Mr. Iqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not trying to pick on the Minister of the Department of Health & Social Services of all the ministers and he

already answered my question in regards to the nurses, where they do some advertising down south. When will he show me that paper. Thank you.

Speaker: Minister of Health & Social Services. Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That letter concerning the advertisements and some of the other strategies that we have been involved in with the recruitment of nurses and other health professionals has been drafted. I understand that it is being translated and the member should have it by Friday at the latest. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 020 - 1(4): Fuel Price Increases

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister responsible for Petroleum Products. As we are aware the price of fuel is going up and I have a concern that it will not only be the fuel prices that will go up but everything else as well. When the price of one particular item goes up then the others tend to follow.

That is what I am concerned about, if the other product prices will go up too. We receive our funding from the Federal Government because we are Canadian. Have there been any discussions about increasing our funding from the Federal Government because of the increases in prices we will have to pay. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. That question is more directed to the Minister of Finance because it is referring to the Federal Government funding that we get and he was referring to that. I think it would be more appropriate if directed to the Minister of Finance. Thank you Mr Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Ng would you care to address that question.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Speaker. The answer is no. Thank you.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That was a quick response. Thank you. For example, our means of transportation in Nunavut are airlines. We do not have any other means of going to another community. So, if the fuel prices go up then the airfare will go up. So, for that reason I am concerned. I think that is why it makes it more logical that our funding increase because the airfare will go up because of the fuel prices. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. It is getting a little more difficult to ask the questions. We have two ministers now answering the questions from one member. I think we will stick with the Deputy Premier on this particular issue. Thank you. Would you care Mr. Deputy to address the question.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I do not believe I heard a question there. I believe the honourable member raised concerns about increased transportation cost because of fuel costs but there is really no specific question there. I mean we would obviously have that same concern Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker: Supplementary. Oral questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 021 - 1(4): Location of Gas Caches

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have a question to the Minister of the Department of Sustainable Development. In the past there were geologists or mining prospectors and they would leave their fuel that they had cached away for future use. They would cache drums and if their survey was done ahead of time, they would just leave them. That is what we thought. My question is about those sites that were surveyed, I wonder if the minister can find out where those sites were. Can he produce that. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and my colleague. As of now, we are running the Nunavut Government and in the past there were projects that impacted NIRB. After that organization was put in place in regards to mapping and what activities will take place, they had to be agreed upon if it affected the wildlife or the environment. They can only be approved by these organizations. But in the past those sites that he was referring to maybe, I can only say at this time, it would take a while to be able to tell him what those sites are. But if he is requesting me to find out, I can direct my staff to see where those sites might be. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If he can possibly produce the paper even though it might take a while. If he does there can be a couple of uses for them for cleaning crews, and the HTOs can be asked and employed to clean up those sites. So, before three years if he can inform me of those sites. I would appreciate that. Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If we are fortunate to find out where those sites might be, I will present it to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral questions. Oral questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Question 022 - 1(4): P3 Arrangement for Coral Harbour Meat Plant

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the Minister responsible for P3 Projects answer my question. In response to my question to Mr. Kilabuk, about the planned proposal from Coral Harbour. If the money cannot be found from the department to construct after the feasibility study or it cannot be ordered in time for sealift, can a P3 project type be arranged through the government especially for something that will be economical, financially economical for a Nunavut community like Coral Harbour. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Finance. Minister Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in the last session I believe it was, this government has moved away from that concept of a Public, Private Partnership financing for major capital projects because of some of the accounting changes. We are moving towards a more conventional capital lease arrangement for supply of any of our major assets as an alternative to self-financing it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Supplementary. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I take that answer as no. I think it is a lot clearer that way. Would then the Minister of Finance review to find out what projects like the Coral Harbour Meat Plant can be financed through private banks or any other means with the assistance of the government. Or if some kind of guarantee or encouragement from the government could be arranged so that non-decentralized communities like Coral Harbour can benefit from their own initiatives like the meat plant. Thank you.

Speaker: Minister of Finance. Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, from the respective of the honourable member's question about whether or not it could be public/private partnership financing for something such as a meat plant in Coral Harbour. The answer would be no from the perspective of public/private partnership financing.

From the perspective of if it was a government asset and we wanted to build that type of facility in Coral Harbour or any other community, it may be yes. It depends on the circumstances. I guess what I want to clarify, Mr. Speaker, is the honourable member speaking more of a private sector economic initiative versus government owned infrastructure, such as health facilities that we are looking at as possibly financing through the public/private partnerships.

I would think that in trying to be simple in answering the honourable member's question, if it was proved viable that the meat plant, it wouldn't be for the Department of Finance to determine that, obviously the lead minister would be Sustainable Development or

through one of his corporations that he would be responsible for such as the Business Credit Corporation or the Nunavut Development Corporation. If they were to determine that a facility might prove economical or whatever other assets for providing employment opportunities in a smaller community, such as Coral Harbour, if that would prove to be economically viable or a decision was made to try to establish that type of facility, then we could look at what forms of financing would be available.

Either conventionally as a regular loan through a business loan through one of the major banks or a financial institution or through an institution that the government, either directly or through a guarantee through the private sector, those kinds of alternative financing options would be considered, if a project like that was tried or trying to advance that for any community or any business venture. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Question 023 - 1(4): Change in Fuel Subsidy

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I guess I'll address my question to the Minister responsible for Petroleum Products, save my housing questions for another day.

Mr. Speaker, last year, last February, it was in Rankin Inlet, the minister informed the House that the subsidy the government provided for fuel, for petroleum products was about 9.6 million dollars. I'd like to ask the minister, if that subsidy has changed this year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The subsidy program has been changed as of the Auditor General's audit. We indicated since our Government in Nunavut is new, we used to have a five million dollar stabilization program in place, however he suggested that it go down to zero.

I think we will be spending over 4 million dollars under the stabilization program. Coming from the Federal Auditor General this was good news to us, but in regards to the previous stabilization program that had a 9.6 million budget, I can indicate today that the subsidy program that we put out has been changed to zero as suggested by the Auditor General. We now have a 400 million dollar subsidy program in place for fuel price increases. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, maybe I can get this clarified. Did the minister say 400 million dollars, is that what the member said and what does that refer to. Does it refer to this subsidy out there or the total cost of all the fuels for Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My apology, if I was not clear enough. What I am trying to say is, the fuel subsidy program is at 470 million. Pardon me, four hundred seventy thousand.

This is an interim subsidy program. If the fuel price increases or goes up in a couple of years, I think that this 470 thousand will be sufficient for two years. We have a start up fund for five million dollars, for two years. So, we are keeping up with the fuel price increases in Nunavut. We have already used 470 thousand dollars so far from this five million dollar subsidy program that we have put in place. As the Auditor General suggested that we increase our subsidy program up to five million dollars, we have already used 470 thousand as of today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Ms. Thompson. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am very puzzled yet. I can understand how my colleague, Mr. McLean was asking earlier about adding from our huge surplus that the Minister of Finance was talking about earlier some money into subsidizing fuel costs for residents of Nunavut. The minister is now telling us that the subsidies that were provided by this government last year of 9.5 million dollars has actually dropped to only under ½ million dollars. Is that what she has indicated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): We have two figures that I announced, the 470 thousand amount that I stated. We have not provided any further increases here in the stabilization program like I indicated. The amount of 9.6 million dollars, I understand he is talking about was provided for last year for all fuel subsidy programs. We have different types of fuel in Nunavut, the amount that he is talking about of 9.6 million, I understand, and I will look into this further and clarify to the member. The stabilization fund that I am talking about has a limit, and the limit is up to 5 million dollars. But as of today, we have already used 470 thousand dollars from the 5 million dollar subsidy program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Thompson. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I'd like to ask while the minister is looking up that information, last year the subsidies for heating fuel for homeowners in Nunavut was 3.8 million dollars. Last year the subsidy for gas that people used was 2.6 million dollars. I'd like to know if those subsidies are still there and if not why the government did not feel that it's important to subsidize the residents of Nunavut on these areas. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm sorry I don't have the figures right in front of me, however I indicated that we would have programs, different types of programs good for harvesters and homeowners but I will get all the information ready and give the member the information that he is seeking. I will produce it in the House. I know my department has all the subsidy programs in my department. I will be producing the information that he is requesting. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: By the clock, question period is now over. Orders of the day. Item 7. Written questions. Written questions. Item 8. Returns to written questions. Item 9. Replies to opening address. Replies to opening address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 10. Petitions. Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Mr. Speaker I have to apologize but I missed written questions. Can we go back to written questions. Thank you.

Speaker: The member has requested that we go back to written questions. Are there any nays. Agreement. Mr. McLean. Please proceed.

Item 7: Written Questions

Written Question 001 - 1(4): RFP for Keewatin Business Development Centre

Mr. McLean: Thank you Mr. Speaker. In the future, I will try to pay more attention to the agenda. Mr. Speaker, my written question today is for the Minister of Sustainable Development.

I noticed earlier this week that the Minister's Department has issued an RFP for an organizational and operational assessment on the Keewatin Business Development Centre. One of my main topics. Could the minister take this opportunity to advise the House the reason behind issuing of this RFP. Support topics. What specific problems the assessment is intended to resolve. What does the department hope to accomplish. Does the minister have any particular direction he would like to see the KBDC go in. Time line for the assessment. Will the results of the assessments be made public. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. McLean. Written questions. Written questions. Moving on to item 11. Reports of standing and special committees. Reports of standing and special committees. Item 12. Reports of committees on the review of bills. Reports of committees on the review of bills. Item 13. Tabling of documents. Mr. Alakannuark.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 003 - 1(4): Letter from Repulse Bay Hamlet on Community Freezer

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I wish to table a letter coming from the Hamlet of Repulse Bay pertaining to the questions that I raised to the Minister Sustainable Development regarding community freezers. The Hamlet of Repulse Bay is requesting a new community freezer. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Mr. McLean.

Tabled Document 004 - 1(4): Nunatsiaq News Article "Nunavut Spurns Gates Foundation"

Mr. McLean: Ma'na Uqaqti. I would like to table documents from Nunatsiaq News. "Nunavut spurns free money from Gates Foundation". Representatives from the multi-billion dollar Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation are scratching their heads at Nunavut's inability to accept donations that could range into the millions of dollars. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. McLean. Tabling of documents. Mr. Ng.

Tabled Document 005 - 1(4): GN Interim Financial Statements

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Speaker I am pleased to table the interim financial statements of the Government of Nunavut for the year ended March 31, 2000 and I would also like to table the mid-year budget update for the Government of Nunavut. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker: Tabling of documents. Item. Mr. Tootoo. Item 14. Notices of motions. Mr. Ng.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Speaker I give notice that on Thursday, October 26, I will move the following motion.

I move, seconded by the honourable member for Kugluktuk that notwithstanding rule 4 when the House adjourns on Friday October 27, 2000, it shall be adjourned until Tuesday, October 31.

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Ng. 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. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First reading of bills. Mr. Ng.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Speaker, I seek consent of the assembly to waive the two day notice requirement for the first reading of Bill 1, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No.1, 2000/2001. Thank you.

Speaker: Mr. Ng. Are the members agreed. Any nays. Please proceed. Mr. Ng.

Bill 1 - Supplementary Appropriation Act, No.1, 2000/2001

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I move seconded by the Honourable Member for Sanikiluaq, that Bill 1, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No.1, 2000/2001, be read for the first time. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Ng. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Contrary. It is so moved. Bill 1 has had first reading. Item 18. Second reading of bills. Mr. Ng.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills

Bill 1, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No.1, 2000/2001

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move seconded by the Honourable Member for Pangnirtung, that Bill 1, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No.1, 2000/2001, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker the purpose of this supplementary appropriation is to provide additional funding for the Government of Nunavut for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2001. Authority is requested for a total of 28 million 438 thousand dollars in additional appropriations. This is made up of 17 million 210 thousand dollars for operations and maintenance and 11 million, 228 thousand dollars for capital expenditures. Thank you Mr Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Ng. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question. Question has been called. All those in favour. Contrary. Motion is carried. Bill 1 has had second reading and accordingly the bill stands referred to the committee of the whole.

Item 19. Consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters. Bill 1. Committee report 1-1 (4). With Mr. Iqittuq as the Chair. Prior to committee of the whole, we will recess for 15 minutes. Thank you.

Sergeant-At-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 3.24 p.m. and resumed at 3.48 p.m.*

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

Chairperson (Mr. Irqittuq) (interpretation): Welcome back. Thank you for returning to the Chambers. We will proceed with Item 19, on review of bills. Bill 1. Mr. Havioyak.

Mr. Havioyak: Thank you Mr. Chairman. The item we wish to deal with today is the Committee Report, 1-1(4).

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Havioyak. Do you all have a copy. Mr. Tootoo, would you like to do the presentation.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman maybe before I start on this, I want to say that all the members will be receiving the consolidated copy of all the recommendations, and motions, they'll be passed out. So we won't have to worry about combing through the report, trying to locate certain recommendations, there will be a list, just the recommendations being handed out to everybody.

Mr. Chairman, I spoke very briefly yesterday to the report, when it was tabled and it provided some of the background to the Standing Committee Ajauqtiit's report. Before we move on to any discussion on the recommendations, I would like to remind the members that as noted yesterday, the recommendations are broadly directed to the Government of Nunavut, with the expectation that the Legislative Assembly will collaborate fully in the follow up.

However, to the extent that provisions for how elections will be conducted in the future in Nunavut, will involve a new Elections Act and new working relationships with election officials from federal, municipal and Inuit organizations, the Government of Nunavut will play a key role. Mr. Chairman maybe I would like at this point in time, to ask any of members if they have any general comments or inquiries to make based on the overview that I gave yesterday. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Any questions. You may proceed Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: No news is good news, so it's nice to hear it. No questions. Mr. Chairman I will try to explain how we are going to do this. The report contains 65 recommendations and we will be asking for 65 motions, one on each of the recommendations. The motions and recommendations will be shared by myself and the other members, the other four members, the other 3 members of the committee that worked on them. Mr. Chairman without further ado looking at recommendation number 1.

Committee Motion 001 - 1(4): New Elections Act

I move that the committee recommend that the Government of Nunavut introduce a new Elections Act for Nunavut rather than amending the current statute.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Those in favour. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: I thought you were asking for a vote on the motions, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Everyone approved. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Committee Motion 002 - 1(4): Incorporation of Recommendations in Election Act

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, recommendation number 2.

I move that the committee recommends that the new Elections Act for Nunavut incorporate the recommendations contained in this report.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Everyone approve.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Agreed. Mr. Tootoo.

Committee Motion 003 - 1(4): Elections Act to be Easily Understood

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Recommendation number three.

I move that the committee recommends that the new Elections Act for Nunavut be written in a manner that is easily understood by the voters, candidates and election officials.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Could you please wait for the interpreter to complete. Thank you. Agreed. Mr. Tootoo.

Committee Motion 004 - 1(4): Development of One Elections Act for all of Nunavut

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Recommendation 4.

I move that the Committee recommends that the Government of Nunavut review all Legislation which impacts on elections to determine if any of these Acts could be incorporated into one Elections Act for Nunavut. Ensure that they are written in plain language and ensure that any consequential amendments or similar amendments to those made in the Elections Act for Nunavut are made in other relevant legislation.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Do you agree.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Committee Motion 005 - 1(4): Analysis of Cost Saving Options

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman.

I move that the Committee recommends that the Government of Nunavut determine the full cost of running Territorial elections, including staff time so that proper budgeting can occur and effective analysis can be done as to where cost savings may be realized by considering various options for administering elections in Nunavut.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Everyone agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Carried. Mr. Tootoo.

Committee Motion 006 - 1(4): Analysis of Non GN Potential Cost Savings

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman.

I move that the Committee recommends that the Government of Nunavut request information from other levels of Government and other organizations regarding the full cost of running their elections in Nunavut including staff time so that an effective analysis can be done of where cost savings may be realized by considering various options for administering elections in Nunavut.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Do you agree.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Committee Motion 007 - 1(4): Incorporation of Values Statement in Elections Act

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. The Standing Committee's report sets out a number of principles and values. This should underpin a new Elections Act in Nunavut. The result is recommendation 7.

I move that the Committee recommends that there should be a principles section in any new legislation dealing with elections, incorporating the principles and values listed in this report.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Motion carried. Mr. Tootoo.

Committee Motion 008 - 1(4): Establishment of a Central Elections Office

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee report lists a number of recommendations regarding election administration and officials and the need to work together. Recommendation number eight.

I move that the Committee recommends that a Central Elections Office be established to administer elections in Nunavut called Elections Nunavut.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): The motion is in order. Is everyone agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Carried. Mr. Tootoo.

Committee Motion 009 - 1(4): Creation of Multi-organizational Working Group

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, recommendation number 9.

I move that the Committee recommends that a working group be established composed of representatives from the Government of Nunavut, NTI, Regional

Inuit Organizations, the Nunavut Association of Municipalities, Elections Canada and other organizations which administer elections at the local level such as District Education Authorities and Housing Associations, to negotiate the details of how the central elections office would best meet the needs of different organizations.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): The motion is in order.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Carried. Mr. Tootoo.

Committee Motion 010 - 1(4): Appointment of Chief Electoral Officer

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Recommendation 10.

I move that the committee recommend that there should be a Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut appointed by the Legislative Assembly in consultation with NTI, Regional Inuit Organizations, the Nunavut Association of Municipalities, and Elections Canada. This position should be advertised to the public and the selection process should be competency based and transparent. The Chief Electoral Officer should be a permanent position with the responsibility to establish the central elections office and co-ordinate and Chair the working group.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. This recommendation. This will be the Chief Electoral Officer along with NTI and Regional Inuit organizations. I want to suggest that maybe we can have a ready prepared ballot to let everybody know. It would be simpler. It could be more understandable. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo would you like to respond to that question.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, if I could ask the minister if he asked if we could have a ready prepared ballot. Is that what he is asking. Can you ask him to clarify his question. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: In reading recommendation 10, the committee recommends that there should be a Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut appointed by the Legislative Assembly in consultation with the different groups mentioned. My question was if we

could not consult with these boards prior to the appointment of the Chief Electoral Officer instead of in the process of consulting with these guys to see if this individual or person is the appropriate one. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I think I can explain what this recommendation is asking. As it currently sits right now, our standing committee, through the Legislative Assembly, has a mandate or the authority to recommend that appointment. That is one of the statutory appointments of the Assembly. What we are saying here is that given that we want to try and set up a central office to administer all elections in Nunavut that we would not pick that person on our own, that we would work in consultation with these other organizations to ensure that everyone's concerns and that, were met and it is also saying that it would be a competency based appointment.

This would probably use the same process that we did with the other statutory appointments by putting out an ad in the paper asking for interested people to submit their names and conducting interviews and selecting the most appropriate person based on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hope that answers the minister's question.

Chairperson (interpretation): Does that answer your question Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Yes, I understand that now. Looking at recommendation 9, that there would be a working group that would represent those organizations, yes I understand now looking at recommendation 9. Thank you.

Mr. Tootoo: Now have we approved that motion, recommendation 10 yet.

Chairperson (interpretation): We have not approved it yet. Maybe you can go through it again. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman recommendation 10.

I move that the committee recommend that there should be a Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut appointed by the Legislative Assembly in consultation with NTI, Regional Inuit Organizations, the Nunavut Association of Municipalities, and Elections Canada. This position should be advertised to the public and the selection process should be competency based and transparent. The Chief Electoral Officer should be a permanent position with the responsibility to establish the central elections office and co-ordinate and Chair the working group.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Proceed Mr. Tootoo.

Committee Motion 011 - 1(4): Harmonizing Election Procedures

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Recommendation 11.

I move that the committee recommend a review be undertaken by the working group of differences in election procedures, with a view of making recommendations for harmonizing the procedures where possible, and making elections easier for voters in Nunavut to participate in.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): The motion is in order.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo, proceed.

Committee Motion 012 - 1(4): Location of Central Elections Office

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, recommendation 12.

I move that the committee recommend that the working group consider the responsibilities of the Central Elections Office and the working relationships with the various stakeholders and make recommendations concerning the best location for the office and its core staff.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): The motion is in order.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Carried. Mr. Tootoo.

Committee Motion 013 - 1(4): Establishment of a Permanent Voters List

Mr. Tootoo: Mr. Chairman, the standing committee list a number of recommendations regarding the voters' list. Recommendation 13.

I move that the committee recommend that the Government of Nunavut should establish a permanent voters list.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Under recommendation 13, it just states that I move that the committee recommend that the Government of Nunavut should establish a permanent voters list. My question is, people become eligible voters and the people who are deceased, I am sure the list will be different from year to year. Why is that not included there. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. The idea of setting up a permanent voters list would actually better eliminate the possibility, that was a concern that was raised at a number of community consultations that we went to, of having the list updated to have those people who are deceased on there. By having a main list you can also then look at and develop ways of maintaining it on a regular basis and in that case those names would come off the list. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Does that answer your question. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would just like to add that there are other recommendations along those same lines of updating and maintaining that list as well. I will just read that recommendation again Mr. Chairman.

I move that the committee recommend that the Government of Nunavut establish a permanent voters list.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Do you agree with the motion.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Committee Motion 014 - 1(4): Protocol with Elections Canada

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, recommendation 14.

I move that the committee recommends that the Government of Nunavut should enter into a protocol with Elections Canada to share electoral data from the National Registry of Electors and explore what Nunavut lists may be utilized and shared including with other organizations in Nunavut for the purpose of updating the voters list to be used for election purposes.

Thank you Mr. Chairman

Chairperson (interpretation): The motion is in order.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Carried. Mr. Tootoo.

Committee Motion 015 - 1(4): Voters List Software

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Recommendation 15.

I move that the committee recommends that software for maintaining and updating a permanent voters list should be basic and accessible to all potential users including candidates and all levels of Government or organizations who may use or contribute data to the list.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): The motion is in order.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Carried. Mr. Tootoo.

Committee Motion 016 - 1(4): Privacy Issues

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Recommendation 16.

I move that the committee recommends that the Government of Nunavut should examine the privacy issues relating to the creation of a permanent voters list, ensuring that voters who do not wish to be included for safety or other reasons can be deleted and that there are sufficient safeguards and penalties for use of the list for any other purpose than elections. An opinion from the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut should also be obtained on these matters.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Carried. Proceed, Mr. Tootoo.

Committee Motion 017 - 1(4): Elector Transfer Certificate

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman.

I move that the committee recommend that as recommended by the Chief Electoral Officer an elector transfer certificate should be developed for use by voters who move after revision date.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): The motion is in order.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Carried. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I will pass the reading for the next set of recommendations to my colleague, the Honourable Member for Akulliq, to continue with the report.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Alakannuark.

Committee Motion 018 - 1(4): Timing of Elections

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman the standing committee made a number of recommendations regarding the timing of elections and the duration of the election period. Recommendation 18.

I move that the committee recommend that general elections in Nunavut should be held in October or November.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manito Thompson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I believe I have heard from a couple of people that October and November are too cold for elections for the people who have physical ailments. Why do we have elections in the fall when it is getting cold. Maybe it would be more appropriate to have elections in springtime or summertime when it is warmer. I want to know why October or November was selected. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo will answer the question.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the reason that the fall was selected was actually that the exact individuals the minister talked about gave us those suggestions because of the fact that currently the elections are held in the middle of winter. It is much harder for those people to get about and the idea was also brought up of having them in spring or summer and it was felt by most of the people in the communities that we visited that told us it was not a good time because at that time of year was when most people in the communities were not in the community. They are out on the land hunting.

This recommendation came right from the people with disabilities and elders as the best time of year to have elections in the fall. Also, Mr. Chairman to add, there is another recommendation further on that deals with special voting opportunities as well for those elders or people with disabilities who are not able to get out of their home so that they can request the returning officer come to their home. That should alleviate the difficulties for those people in allowing them to exercise their right to vote. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you. People who have physical disabilities and my constituents have indicated to me that it would be more appropriate in July and August. That is the reason why I brought this up. I did not know that they recommended October. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you very much for raising that issue. I will ask Ovide to move on. I will ask him to read the motion over again so that we can vote on it. Thank you Mr. Chairman. If there are no more questions.

Chairperson: Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you. Recommendation 19.

I move that the committee recommend that elections in Nunavut be held mid-week preferably on a Wednesday.

Chairperson (interpretation): For clarification, we did not agree on recommendation 18. Can you reread recommendation 18.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Recommendation 18.

I move that the committee recommend that general elections in Nunavut should be held October or November.

Chairperson (interpretation): The motion is in order.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Alakannuark.

Committee Motion 019 - 1(4): Elections to be Held Mid-week

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Recommendation 19.

I move that the committee recommend elections in Nunavut be held in mid-week preferably on a Wednesday.

Chairperson (interpretation): The motion is in order.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Are you going to ask that same thing as with recommendation 18. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I personally know that Wednesday is usually a Church service day, and Sunday is also a regular Church service day. I would prefer that the day be changed from Wednesday as most churches have their services on Wednesday. Was that not thought about by the committee. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Mr. Chairman, the reason for Wednesday it was actually suggested by one of the individuals in one of the communities that we went to. It was a question asked to most of the communities, because we wanted to have their input on what they felt on the different ideas that we had heard. Everyone was saying that the reason for picking Wednesday was the fact that a lot of people in today's society in Nunavut are weekend hunters and campers. A lot of them work and sometimes due to weather they're unable to return to the community on the Monday.

So that should give them, take care of that time for those individuals to be able to get back, a couple of extra days for the weather to calm down for those people to get back into the communities. It was also suggested for the reason that by having it during the week that allows elections officials, the last two days grace, as we call it when Murphy's Law kicks in and some things aren't working, or if some things don't show up on the plane.

Previously in the Legislation it states that elections will be held on a Monday, so prior to that if something wasn't taken care of on Friday, most times, by the time you realize something on that election day, you can't do anything about it, those two days before, because it's the weekend. That was the rationale behind picking Wednesday. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Does that answer your question. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I am in support of the mid-week, mainly Wednesday, and we did not think about Ms. Thompson's question, but while we visited the communities, most people indicated that they preferred to have the election held on a Wednesday. The communities have brought this idea to us during our

consultations and I understand that some members are not in agreement. Perhaps we should have thought of that more clearly. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): There is no question there. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I just want to clarify our situation. We did not think of Church services when we picked the date Wednesday. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Peter Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. While we are on the subject Wednesday. I do not agree with this day either. On behalf of my constituents, I know that the people of my riding would not prefer to have their elections being held on Wednesday. The community that I represent have their services on Wednesday. For that reason, I am not supporting this recommendation as it is.

Chairperson (interpretation): There is no question here either. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The Standing Committee's recommendation. Is there no way we can change the wording since our constituents and most of us come from smaller communities. I know in some communities they have their own days such as church services being held on a Wednesday. I know that all communities are not religious but most people respect Wednesday for being service day. Could we not just change the day in recommendation 19. Can we ask the committee if we could change the day to another day.

Chairperson (interpretation): On recommendation 19. We already voted on this recommendation. For those in disagreement if they could raise your hands. That is an indication that you are not supporting the recommendation. Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to point out that the recommendation, it does read that elections be held mid week preferably on a Wednesday. Now I am sure that does not cement that it would be Wednesday. It is saying that is the recommendation that we heard preferably that day. I am sure that in looking at it the Chief Electoral Officer will take the comments raised by members into consideration when selecting the day when elections will be held. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

So there is still that leeway there it just says preferably. That was the only day that was raised to the committee, that's why we put it in like that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Alakannuark. Mr. Alakannuark if you can re-read recommendation 19.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Mr. Chairman,

I move that the committee recommend that elections in Nunavut be held mid-week, preferably on a Wednesday.

Chairperson (interpretation): The motion is in order. Are we agreed. I am sorry. We are on recommendation 19. Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The Inuktitut recommendation that he is talking about, it does not say preferably in Inuktitut. It is only saying preferably on the English version. I think we could just strike out preferably on a Wednesday. Just leave the rest of the wording. That elections be held in mid week. So you could just strike out the preferably on a Wednesday part. Perhaps we just reword this recommendation. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, the interpretation that I got listening to the interpreters from what Mr. Alakannuark was saying did mention preferably, but I cannot read syllabics so I do not know if it is in fact there or not.

But Mr. Chairman, as I mentioned any decision on when the election day would be, would take these comments into consideration and maybe just ask members if the way the wording of the motion is right now, it allows that flexibility. If there were a requirement for any change to the recommendation, it would have to be retyped and redistributed prior to us dealing with it. I think the comments, if members are agreeable, the flexibility is there and members' comments I am sure will be taken into consideration. If that is acceptable to them. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Manitok Thompson: Thank you Mr. Chairman. The word preferably is not translated in Inuktitut. That translation is on Wednesday. That is what it is says in Inuktitut. On Wednesday. That is why I am saying that. I do know what Mr. Tootoo is saying, that during the mid-week, it is up to the elections commissioner. How it is written in Inuktitut, it does not say preferably. It says on Wednesday. Thank you.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I thank the minister for pointing that out and I just note that if there is a typing error in the Inuktitut, that will be fixed so that it will be exactly the same as English. If that is okay with everybody then we can move forward. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Ms. Thompson do you agree to the rewording of it. Yes. They will fix the wording in Inuktitut. I believe that Mr. Alakannuark does not have to

repeat recommendation 19. I think we can just go into the motion. Are we agreed on the motion.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Alakannuark. Proceed.

Committee Motion 020 - 1(4): Limit on Number of Elections/Plebiscites on One Day

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Recommendation 20.

I move that the committee recommend that to the best extent possible, a maximum of three elections and/or plebiscites should occur on any one day.

Chairperson (interpretation): The motion is in order. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Proceed Mr. Alakannuark.

Committee Motion 021 - 1(4): Shortening of Election Period

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Recommendation 21.

I move that the Committee recommend that the election period be shortened from 45 days to 35 days.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I think it was under recommendation 10, if we can look at recommendation 10 and looking at recommendation 21. I think it stated in recommendation 10, I am sorry, recommendation 11. In comparing 11 and 21, it states under recommendation 11, the last paragraph.

(interpretation ends) Harmonizing the procedures where possible, that make the elections easier for voters in Nunavut.

(interpretation) In looking at recommendation 21 from 45 days to 35 days and there is a difference of 10 days. I think it would become easier for the voters particularly for Quttiktuq riding, they have four communities represented by Quttiktuq riding. It also stated in recommendation 20 that they have a maximum of three elections and plebiscites that should occur on any one day. I am sure some candidates would have to travel to maybe 20 some communities individually. I am just wondering if 21 would impede on recommendation 11.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Mr. Chairman, 11 dealt with the different organizations and levels of government on the way that they administer the elections. This 21 deals specifically with the territorial government's election period and not any of the other ones. The other recommendation has the working group taking a look at all the different level of government and organizations and how they administer elections to try to find ways in which they can simplify it by looking for commonalties.

This one here deals specifically with the territorial government's election period. It is also a recommendation made by the Chief Electoral Officer in his report on the first Nunavut election. Mr. Chairman it does take into consideration the timing requirement for travel for multi-community jurisdictions. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you Mr. Chairman. During the last election campaign, a lot of my constituents were saying that the 45-day period was way too long. I am speaking from the perspective of one large community. I do not know what it would be like in Ovide's riding or James' riding but after about the third week of the campaign the public were saying that these campaigns seem to be far too long in a community this size.

We are all no strangers in our communities. We do not have to deal with a couple of hundred thousand constituents. We are dealing with anywhere between 500 to 1500 hundred constituents. I myself personally coming back from my community and the feedback that I got they were saying Glenn you know 45 days is way too long for an election in this community.

In other jurisdictions like Newfoundland, I think there are 28 days. I watched the standing committee meeting here in the building last fall and I said you know look at a 28 day election campaign. I am speaking from a one community perspective. I am not speaking on behalf, of you know you got Arctic Bay, Grise Fiord, Resolute. So, it may take a bit longer. Even cutting it down to 35 days – these are just my humble opinions – that 35 days is even too long. You know, I would like to see something around a 28 day period. Like I said that is just my opinion and there is probably a reason why it is 35 days. Thank you.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: I would just like to respond to Mr. McLean's remarks. We did look at a shorter period of time. For that there are two factors as to why we came up with the 35 days. One was exactly that, to allow multi-community constituencies to have an adequate amount of time to campaign. The other was, given the time period from when nominations start, there are certain things that have to be done, and can only be done after something else has been completed. The Chief Electoral Officer said that was the number of days that, given the geographies and the time that they need in order to be prepared for every step of the process leading up to election day. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Just to elaborate a little bit more, thinking of communities that have more than one community to representing one riding. We put them under consideration and we also considered the weather changes that we go through in different communities. That was our main purpose for this. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Alakannuark, if you can repeat recommendation 21.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Recommendation 21.

I move that the committee recommend that the election period be shortened from 45 days to 35 days.

Chairperson (interpretation): The motion is in order. Are we agreed. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Having looked at the other recommendations, I do not think that I am going to ask a long question, but my idea is from 10 days to 5 days, that the nomination period be shortened. I think they had a mix up in Whale Cove at the last election. Has that been considered. I think there was a mix up in one of their constituency ridings. Mr. Tootoo.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Maybe I missed it there I wasn't paying attention. I was looking at something trying to confirm that we have agreed to recommendation 21, and we are now dealing with recommendation 22. Okay. Is it Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): We are on recommendation 21. We are on 21. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Mr. Chairman,

I move that the committee recommend that the election period be shortened from 45 to 35 days.

Chairperson (interpretation): The motion is in order. Are we agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Carried. Proceed, Mr. Alakannuark.

Committee Motion 022 - 1(4): Shortening of the Nomination Period

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Mr. Chairman,

I move that the nomination period be shortened from 10 to 5 days.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Yes the question that I asked earlier, somebody almost didn't almost make it to Whale Cove, that's why I had to ask that question. Thank you.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman, Mr. Chairman, the incident that happened in Whale Cove, I believe that dealt with a lot of bad weather at the time. The material was not able to make it into the community. Mr. Chairman, in light of some of the other recommendations we are looking at, there will be recommendations that the use of new technology be allowed in getting this information to candidates and to individuals like to receive nominations forms. I think being able to fax them or download them from a website and e-mail it.

We are looking at being able to get that information and those forms out to individuals wishing to be nominated those new ways. That would alleviate the problem that was run into Whale Cove that dealt with weather. Also, Mr. Chairman, by reducing the timeframe for the election period by ten days, all the committee members felt confident that with this new technology that would be able to be used to distribute that information out there, this was one area they could cut in half to make up for some of the days, that ten days that were taken out of the campaign period. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk: I am not objecting to that. It is just that some kind of provision like this, or some kind of notwithstanding clause would probably answer my question.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo would you like to respond to that.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, if I could just clarify and ask the member to clarify what he means by that. I indicated that there would be other recommendations later in the report that deal with the use of new technology and with the use of that new technology. The forms will be a lot more accessible to any individuals wishing to be nominated. If that does not answer it. Maybe if he could clarify his comments. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Arvaluk: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I guess a notwithstanding clause would include something like failing everything else that is humanly possible that no electoral district of any community will be denied their nominations. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I believe the whole intent of this process is to enable and allow individuals, any individuals to be able to put their names forward if they chose to. The concern that I might have with Mr. Arvaluk's suggestion is that it does not put any timeframes on it.

So, I think right now it exists, the time frame to do things. A part of that point is once all the nominations have closed; the next step of the process is developing and ordering all the ballots for all those communities. It is all connected to one and other as far as time goes. So there was a need for deadlines on nominations because when it closes it depends from that point on to be able to get everything ready. So I think with this process it allows a much easier, more accessibility to the forms that they would need to do that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Anything else, Mr. Arvaluk. Are we okay now. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Are you on 22.

I move that the committee recommend that the nomination period be shortened from 10 to 5 days.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I want to know why it has been shortened, why the nomination period be shortened from 10 to 5 days. When the DEA's, Hamlet councils, and Hunters and Trappers organizations, would their nomination periods be shortened too. Does this apply to municipal organizations. The reason why I ask is because sometimes their nomination periods are extended, that's why I wanted to know why it was recommended that the nomination period be shortened from 10 to 5 days.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman, Mr. Chairman, I'll explain that the rationale as to why the period has been shortened because of the opening up and the ability to use the new technology such as electronically, whether it be e-mail or faxing or downloading from the website the forms. Part of what was built into the process before was the fact that everything had to be mailed and done in original so, by eliminating that everything has to be done by mail and things can be downloaded immediately that was felt that cut in days was still adequate in the amount of time.

Because if you look at most places it probably takes a good 5 to 10 days for things to get mailed. By shortening that period time as the result of this new technology being used to be able to access information and the other part of Mr. Nutarak's question was whether this nomination change would apply to other organizations and the answer to that is no, this deals specifically to territorial elections and in the event that the DEAs, HTOs and that they would go through the same process and it would be up to them to decide whether they wanted to change their nomination period or not.

Everyone has their own reasons for why it is the way it is and the member is correct sometimes, in the communities for those types of organizations they do extend the nominations because in some cases they don't have enough people put their name forward that they need more time in order to allow people to put their names in. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Are you done. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I cannot agree with recommendation 22, for the nomination period to be shortened from 10 to 5 days. Although it was mentioned that there is new technology today that can be used, as it is now the majority of the communities do not have access to Internet. There are a few communities, scattered communities that can get it. Who will have input or be hooked up to the Internet to get access to Elections Canada. The reason why I do not agree with recommendation 22 is that not every community has access to Internet.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. This is just one of the new methods of being able to make this information accessible to people. Previously those types of documents were not allowed even to be faxed to the communities. I know that all the communities in Nunavut do have faxes and fax machines. So these documents will be able to be faxed as well to any communities that do not have access to the Internet. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): If there are objections then we will not agree on recommendation 22. Mr. Tootoo did you hear that. We are on number 22. There was a motion and we have to vote on it. We will proceed to vote on number 22. Mr. Arvaluk.

Mr. Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Tootoo did not really respond to the question that I had and I was looking through the recommendations and I did not find it there. In Sanikiluaq there was a fire. They were probably able to use the telephone and in Grise Fiord, if there is a 10 knot wind they cannot land. What I was trying to say was notwithstanding, if there can be exceptions in those kinds of conditions. As long as that candidates will still be a candidate even after 5 days. If that can be put in there I can agree to it. Thank you.

Chairperson: Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, currently under the legislation, that part would still stay there that the Chief Electoral Officer does have the discretion if he deems extreme circumstances that he could allow for something like that to happen. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): We are the Assembly, this was given to us, and that is why I figured that 5 days was too short. Thank you.

Chairperson: Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The recommendations that we put forward were to hear your thoughts on these and to make improvements on the wordings or the way they are and that is exactly what we are doing. As long as you have suggestions for improvements, I think we can work on it. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I want to remind the members that these are just recommendations being made. They do not necessarily, I am sure when the people drafting the legislation, if there were any changes, the comments that we are hearing here and anything else they would take into consideration when they are drafting it. You know I am just reminding members that these are recommendations and that when they are putting together legislation, if it does not seem to fit then they have the ability to change it at that time. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Recommendation 22. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Mr. Chairman,

I move that the committee recommend that the nomination period be shortened from 10 to 5 days.

Chairperson (interpretation): The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Mr. Chairman,

I move that the committee recommend that the government seek advice from Elections Nunavut to determine what advance notice will be required for the calling of an election to ensure proper administration of an election or by-election within the 35-day time period.

They should not just force young people to vote one way or the other. It is more difficult to influence them when they turn 18.

Chairperson (interpretation): Okay, is that sufficient. Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Which recommendation is he reading.

Chairperson (interpretation): Recommendation 23.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In regards to recommendation 23, what I heard seems to be different from what I am reading. Perhaps if he could read it again. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): We are on 23. There is a request to read the recommendation again. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Mr. Chairman,

I move that the committee recommend that the government seek advice from Elections Nunavut to determine what advance notice will be required for the calling of an election to ensure proper administration of an election or by-election within the 35-day time period.

When they have it ahead of time they should not be just telling the young people how they should...I find it very difficult to read because it is not in my dialect. It is more difficult to influence the young people at the age of 18.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Maybe if I could read that recommendation and just ask members if there are any discrepancies between Inuktitut and English to please point those out to us and we'll fix them. I'll read what it says in English and it will be the English takes, the English version is the version that is correct and if there is any discrepancies in Inuktitut they will be changed to match the English after. So, it will be great if there's any discrepancies, it will be pointed out. With that Mr. Chairman I'll just with my colleague Mr. Alakannuark's, approval if I just read that recommendation 23, from the English. It reads

I move that the committee recommend that the government seek advice from Elections Nunavut to determine what advance notice will be required for the calling of an election to ensure proper administration of an election or by-election within the 35-day time period.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kilabuk.

Mr. Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Before we make a vote on this I would like to clarify recommendation number 23. In Inuktitut there is a section that says, we should not be just telling the young people which way to vote, because they are more difficult to tell them what to do at the age of 18. In the English version, it is not stated there. I would presume if I were to translate it, it would be very difficult because I just wanted to point out that it states 18 that the voting age be 18, that's what it says on the Inuktitut. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, that would be my guess is maybe it was a cut and paste, because a lot of these were, to put them on the list, were cut from the report. In this case with this document like I said that is a error and if the members are happy with the English version as said and indicated, we have noted that the Inuktitut version will be fixed to match the English version. That would be the same on any of them that we run into like that. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yes I agree with recommendation 23 and I would prefer to see that the Inuktitut be translated from the English version because this is a very harsh section, what is written in Inuktitut.

Thank you Mr. Chairman. That is the only way I will vote on it. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. That was not the intent of this recommendation that was not the intent that was a mistake. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): They are saying it is correct in Inuktitut but they will fix it again to go with the English version, it is just an error, it does not state that. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, if the members have the actual report in front of them, if they could check, I believe it's on page 19, and check the wording of that recommendation number 23 under the report. It is probably correct in there. It looks like some of the text in the report may have been cut and pasted rather than the recommendation in that case. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Do you understand. This will be fixed. It is just an error. I do not think we have to re-read the recommendation because I think it will be translated according to the English version. The motion is in order. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. If Mr. Tootoo does not mind, he can go ahead with the English version. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Maybe just in light of just trying not to run into these types of errors maybe if I can beg the members' indulgence if we report progress here and then we will have the staff go through the report again and make sure that there are no more errors. I would like to get that taken care of so that we do not run into any confusion here. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): He wishes to report progress. Agreed. The motion is in order. Agreed. All those in favour. Opposed. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Maybe if I ask the members if I can have the consolidated list if they can leave them on their desk on the way out so that tomorrow we will have a new copy instead of looking at the wrong copy and getting an error. I appreciate it. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Speaker: Returning to the orders of the day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Irqittuq.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, your committee have been considering Committee report 1-1(4) and will deal with this committee report at another date and I move that the report of the committee be concurred with.

Speaker: The motion is in order. Is there a seconder. Mr. Tootoo. All in favour. Contrary. Agreed. Item 22. Orders of the day. I am sorry members. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Third Reading of Bills. Third Reading of Bills. Orders of the day. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A meeting of regular caucus is scheduled for 6 o'clock this evening at the Nanuq Board room.

Orders of the Day for Wednesday, October 25;

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
 - Bill 2
 - Bill 3
 - Bill 4
 - Bill 5
 - Bill 6
 - Bill 7
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration of Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 1
 - Committee report 1-1(4)
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. The House stands adjourned until October 25, Wednesday at 1:30 pm.

Sergeant-At-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 5:19 p.m.*

