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Iqaluit

Speaker: The Honourable Joe Enook, M.L.A.

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Quttiktuq)

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Education; Minister of Languages; Minister
responsible for Nunavut Arctic College*

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Iqaluit, Nunavut**Thursday, November 1, 2018****Members Present:**

Hon. David Akeegok, Mr. Tony Akoak, Ms. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak, Hon. Joe Enook, Hon. David Joanasié, Mr. Joëlie Kaerner, Ms. Mila Kamingoak, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak, Hon. Lorne Kusugak, Mr. Adam Lightstone, Mr. John Main, Ms. Margaret Nakashuk, Mr. Patterk Netser, Mr. Emiliano Qirngnuq, Mr. Paul Quassa, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Hon. Joe Savikataaq, Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik, Ms. Cathy Towtongie.

>>*House commenced at 13:31***Item 1: Opening Prayer**

Speaker (Hon. Joe Enook) (interpretation): Mr. Quassa, can you say the opening prayer, please.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Quassa. (interpretation ends) Premier (interpretation) and my colleagues, good afternoon. Our fellow Nunavummiut who are watching the televised proceedings and listening to the radio broadcast, welcome to your Legislative Assembly. All visitors in the gallery, welcome.

Going to the orders of the day.
Ministers' Statements. Government House Leader, Minister Sheutiapik.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

**Minister's Statement 098 – 5(2):
Minister Absent from the House**

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to inform you that Minister George Hickes is not feeling well, but he said if he needs to come in and vote, he will be here. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Culture and Heritage, Minister Joanasié.

**Minister's Statement 099 – 5(2):
Iviqtippalliajut – Inuit Societal
Values Framework**

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day, members and Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to share that an Inuit societal values framework entitled *Iviqtippalliajut* has been developed by the Department of Culture and Heritage. This will give the government the foundation it needs to create programs, policies, and services that are culturally relevant and meet the needs of Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, *Iviqtippalliajut* provides a roadmap for the Government of Nunavut on what will be required to ensure that *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* and Inuit societal values are the forefront of every government decision. The implementation of *Iviqtippalliajut* will require a collective effort from the Government of Nunavut in order to achieve the framework's goals and strategic priorities.

Iviqtippalliajut: In the Process of Falling into Place reminds us that we must all work together to achieve the goal of creating a public service that

fully meets the needs of Inuit.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Culture and Heritage is looking forward to supporting and working with departments and public agencies to ensure that the work of the Government of Nunavut reflects our cultural values.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to tabling this document in the House later today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Premier of Nunavut, Premier Savikataaq.

**Minister's Statement 100 – 5(2):
Meeting with Premier McLeod**

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to the people of Arviat and Nunavut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to report back to my colleagues on the bilateral meeting that we had with Northwest Territories' Premier Bob McLeod on September 23 in Yellowknife, giving us the opportunity to discuss issues and priorities of mutual concern.

Mr. Speaker, both Nunavut and the Northwest Territories want to strengthen federal government relations. The Government of Nunavut wants to see a stronger role for northern governance and policies, one that takes into consideration our people and our communities in the Arctic and Northern Policy Framework.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that Nunavut be included in discussions and negotiations concerning federal funding. We strongly support an increased level of funding and the need for flexibility in bilateral territorial-Canada infrastructure funding agreements. Investment in Nunavut is a vital driver of economic growth and development, job creation, and brings goods to the market.

Improved marine infrastructure is needed to stimulate economic growth. The territories must work together to ensure that both have decision-making roles in the five-year review of the moratorium on arctic offshore oil and gas activity.

In addition, transportation corridors are much needed in the north and we face unique challenges to development. We would like to see National Trade Corridors Fund eligibility be restricted to projects that are either initiated by the territorial governments or are supported by the priorities of the two governments.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciated collaboration with the Government of the Northwest Territories on these and other ideas and concerns that we face. Together our jurisdictions share over 36 percent of Canada's landmass and 36 percent of Canada's freshwater. Our territories are distinct, but together we strengthen Canada's North. As always, it was very encouraging to work together to plan with the premier and the Northwest Territories for the continued improvement of our jurisdictions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.

Ministers' Statements. Minister of Environment, Minister Ehaloak.

**Minister's Statement 101 – 5(2):
Hunter Education Series Book –
Hunting Polar Bear in Winter**

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Welcome to the visitors in the gallery. Good afternoon to Nunavummiut and my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Environment, in collaboration with Nunavut Arctic College, would like to announce the release of our latest book, *Hunting Polar Bear in Winter*.

Mr. Speaker, this book is the third instalment of the *Hunter Education Series*, a unique, Nunavut-developed series of books and videos that provides hunters with traditional knowledge on harvested species in Nunavut. Previously completed instalments are *Hunting Seal in the Summer* and *Hunting Caribou in the Fall*.

Mr. Speaker, the books are available in Inuktitut and English, with final plans to have them available in Inuinnaqtun and French.

Mr. Speaker, the department recognizes the vital importance of hunter education and firearms safety. These resources will contribute to the development of safe, responsible, and knowledgeable hunters in Nunavut.

A copy of this book will be available in the lobby during break. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Akeegok.

**Minister's Statement 102 – 5(2):
Canada-China Tourism and the
China Readiness Workshop in
Iqaluit**

Hon. David Akeegok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. China is Canada's third largest source of international tourists. Last year Chinese travellers contributed an estimated \$1.6 billion to Canada's economy.

To create closer ties between both countries, Nunavut joined a federal, provincial and territorial trade mission to China in June. My department also brought tourism trade-ready businesses. The primary goal of the mission was to facilitate market entry for Nunavut with Chinese government decision-makers and industry players while gaining media coverage and consumer awareness.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, this mission allowed Nunavut to gain some insights on the Chinese market and provided an opportunity to our tourism sector. My department built connections with Chinese media, major online payment operators, and travel agencies for potential collaboration and marketing partnerships. Furthermore, we enhanced destination awareness by providing more than a hundred Chinese buyers with Nunavut's travel information.

Flowing from this mission, a China readiness workshop was held in Iqaluit. The workshop helped Nunavut tourism businesses improve their understanding

of what Chinese tourists want to see when they travel, informed them of the latest trends in the Chinese market, and identified ways to better adapt existing tourism products to the Chinese marketplace. Over twenty businesspeople took that workshop.

Mr. Speaker, tourism businesses in Nunavut are increasingly ready to compete on the world stage. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Minister Joanasié.

**Minister's Statement 103 – 5(2):
Expansion of the Social Service
Worker Diploma Program**

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to tell my fellow members about the expanded delivery of Nunavut Arctic College's Social Service Worker Program. The program has been delivered at the Kitikmeot Campus in Cambridge Bay since 1997. However, to address the growing need for Inuit employed in the social work sector, funding was secured to expand delivery to the Kivalliq and Qikiqtani regions.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the expanded delivery in Iqaluit started this September 2018 and learners will graduate with their diploma in June 2020. The program will then relocate to the Kivalliq for delivery there and afterwards will continue to rotate between these two regions. Ten full-time learners are currently enrolled in Iqaluit

and four part-time learners are also taking courses.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I'm also happy to announce that this program was recently revised to reflect *Inuit Qaujimaqatuqangit* and include appropriate references to the Nunavut context. As the members may be aware, Nunavut Arctic College has renewed its commitment to ensure our program offerings are both culturally relevant as well as sensitive to the needs of the territory.

Mr. Speaker, we are excited at the employment opportunities that this will offer Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Item 3: Members' Statements

**Member's Statement 167 – 5(2):
Tribute to Airport Maintainers**

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to say that today is someone's birthday in our community. She was filmed in the Netsilik Series back in the 1960s. Celebrating her 74th birthday today is Sidonie Nirlungayuk, my sister, who is the oldest member of our family.

>>Applause

(interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to pay tribute to the important work that is performed by

airport maintainers in our small communities.

Mr. Speaker, during the cold winter months, air travel is a lifeline for our residents, and it is the responsibility of airport maintainers to keep our airports safe and operational.

Mr. Speaker, the communities of Kugaaruk and Taloyoak are fortunate to have been served over the years by dedicated airport maintainers.

Mr. Speaker, when it is three o'clock in the morning in the middle of a frigid arctic February, we can count on our dedicated airport maintainers to ensure that the runway is clear of snow for the medevac flight to arrive.

When an elder needs assistance, it is often the airport maintainer who will lend a hand.

Mr. Speaker, when flight schedules are disrupted due to uncontrollable events, airport maintainers need to coordinate closely with airline staff.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, I recently had the opportunity to participate in the official opening of Taloyoak's new airport terminal building. I was very proud to have voted in favour of the funding to construct this vital piece of infrastructure, and I am very glad that a number of ministers were able to join the community on the occasion of the opening.

Mr. Speaker, we will soon be considering the proposed capital estimates of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation.

It is very important that airport maintainers in our small communities have adequate equipment and resources.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, my colleagues.

(interpretation ends) It is very important that airport maintainers in our small communities have adequate equipment and resources, and I look forward to our discussions on this subject.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in paying tribute to Nunavut's hard-working airport maintainers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Manirajak, Mr. Lightstone.

Member's Statement 168 – 5(2): November Movement

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. November 1 marks the beginning of a month dedicated to men's health.

Men die too young, on average six years earlier than women, and most oftentimes this is due to reasons which are preventable. For that reason, the

Movember movement was created a number of years ago and was meant to encourage men's health as well as a charity designed at tackling prostate cancer, testicular cancer, mental health, and suicide prevention.

Mr. Speaker, I myself am going to commit to the movement and today, although it may not be very noticeable, I did refrain from shaving my upper lip.

>> *Laughter*

We will see how I am in a week's time towards the end of the session and hopefully it will be a bit more noticeable. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Laughter*

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Ms. Towtongie.

Member's Statement 169 – 5(2): The Need for More Social Housing

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We know that Nunavut freezes over in the wintertime and there are no trees. We all know it's very different from the white people's land.

In the wintertime I get concerned about homelessness. In Rankin Inlet I went there to go see a mother who has small children living in a shack or makeshift house. When the high tides come in, the family is unable to cross the sea to bring the children to school. Another family with small children are living in a cabin.

I am very concerned about Rankin Inlet as it has forced growth due to the existence of the mine. I believe that there's a critical shortage of housing across Nunavut.

I totally support the Minister of Housing because he works very hard. Canada has released the National Housing Strategy. I encourage the minister to consider Rankin Inlet, which has a mine. I can reach the mine in 15 to 20 minutes by car. Now, I would like the minister to consider communities that have nearby mines. If the mining companies could build staff houses for their employees, it would really help.

I strongly encourage the Minister of Housing to meet with the Minister responsible for the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation at his earliest opportunity to explain how Nunavut freezes over in the wintertime. Winter is coming. There have been homeless people who have frozen to death in the past. The upcoming winter is very worrisome, especially for those with children. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

Member's Statement 170 – 5(2): The Reopening of the Churchill Railway

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day, my colleagues, (interpretation ends) Premier, and ministers.

(interpretation) I rise today to celebrate

with our fellow northerners who live in Churchill.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday we heard on the news that the train has arrived in Churchill. The Hudson Bay Railway has been repaired.

>>Applause

Although I'm very happy with them, I envy them. As a person from the Kivalliq, they're very close to our communities. For those of us who live in the Kivalliq, Churchill is quite close and they already have what we envision.

We heard in the news recently that Prime Minister Justin Trudeau was in that area. I'm very envious that they are being looked at by the Prime Minister. It's because of private business and federal support that the railway was reopened. It's all part of the federal government's economic development to benefit northern Manitoba, but those of us who live in the Kivalliq don't know if we will also benefit. The people who live very close to us will benefit from lower food prices and the cost of living.

We won't be a part of it because we don't have a road there. They're very close to us. If there is any possibility of building a road that includes fibre optic network connections to Manitoba, the Manitoba government would have to be a partner if we are to realize this in our future.

When we reach the appropriate item, I will have questions to direct towards the minister regarding this initiative. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Pangnirtung, Ms. Nakashuk.

**Member's Statement 171 – 5(2):
Natasha Karpik Makes Deans List
for 2017-18**

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, (interpretation ends) Premier, (interpretation) my colleagues, and the people of Pangnirtung.

I rise today to express my pride in a single mother. She is in her second year studying to be a social worker at St. Lawrence College. She was recognized yesterday. In 2017-18 she was on the dean's list. I am very proud of her.

Her father was always encouraging her, and I'm very proud that she is my daughter.

>>Applause

I am very proud of Natasha Karpik. She is in her second year in Kingston. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Kaernerik.

**Member's Statement 172 – 5(2): The
Importance of Using Inuktitut**

Mr. Kaernerik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day, my colleagues, the people of Amittuq, and all Nunavummiut. Everyone here, please feel welcome.

I rise today to speak about language. Our language is our culture. I want to take this opportunity to further encourage our youth who are listening in or watching the televised proceedings to attempt speaking our language, as this is the source of our cultural strength.

When we don't understand specific terms, we usually rely on people who are older than us to explain. If you don't understand the words, look for a mentor such as your parents to ask them about the meaning. I have noted lately that many of our youth primarily speak in the English language and even the young children today. Some parents are still unilingual and don't understand English, so I can imagine that they notice their children are speaking mainly in English.

I wanted to voice my encouragement to our youth to commit to speaking Inuktitut more often. One shouldn't be embarrassed to speak Inuktitut. If someone speaks to you in English, you can respond in Inuktitut. If the person asks what you are saying, explain it for their benefit.

Our language is slowly dwindling and this is why I rose to express my encouragement to our youth. I previously stated that I will try to speak on behalf of youth as well as our elders to ensure we have a good foundation. Well, they will form my foundation and that will continue.

I strongly encourage our youth who are watching the televised proceedings to please ensure we use Inuktitut and take ownership of the language by being proud of our language and enjoy the language. Inuktitut is one of the best languages to converse in. Our language

is quite unique as there is nothing like it in the world. I wanted to rise to say that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Aggu, Mr. Quassa.

**Member's Statement 173 – 5(2):
Canadian Junior Ranger Program
in Igloolik**

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Welcome to the people of my community, my colleagues, and visitors in the gallery. Thank you.

I want to express my pride in the Junior Canadian Rangers and that is why I rise today.

In my community there are a lot of young students who have joined the forces this past fall or rather, it has been quite a while now. I can say that there are 72 students and young people who enlisted into that program. That's a source of pride. Right at this time there are approximately 40 Junior Rangers in my community. We have not seen the Junior Rangers for many years.

This program is very good for the students and it's an educational experience. I'm very proud of the Junior Rangers who joined this past year. I would encourage the young people and students to join those types of programs because it's a lifelong experience. I am very proud of the people who continued the program in our community.

Lucy Qattalik is a Ranger. Of course there are Rangers in most of the

communities. Lucy Qattalik is the one who spearheaded this program, so I thank her for that. I am proud of the young people who wanted to join the Junior Rangers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Netser.

**Member's Statement 174 – 5(2):
Increased Recognition of Inuktitut
in the Public Service**

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, Premier and my colleagues. I say "good day" to the people of Aivilik in Coral Harbour and Naujaat.

Mr. Speaker, I keep thinking about the need to protect our language.

The Nunavut government gives bilingual bonuses starting from \$1,500 to \$5,000. (interpretation ends) The deputy ministers, ADMs, (interpretation) and the directors get a huge bonus every year, (interpretation ends) \$10,000, \$15,000 or \$20,000 bonuses.

(interpretation) I would just like this to be considered by the government: if you believe that our language is very important and if public servants who can speak Inuktitut are paid that much in bonuses, maybe we would be able to protect our language more.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, our staff would not quit their jobs if they were treated equally.

The government gives huge amounts of money to the outsiders and that money will not stay in Nunavut while the Inuit who are always going to stay here get very small bonuses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Kugluktuk, Ms. Kamingoak.

**Member's Statement 175 – 5(2):
Congratulations to Kugluktuk
Residents**

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues and Kuglukturmiut and Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a number of Kugluktuk residents on their achievements and successes. First of all, I would like to congratulate the 2018 graduating class of the Kugluktuk High School. I am so proud of these young people for reaching this important milestone on their journey to a promising future.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Ashley Newman, Coral Newman, Julie Angulalik, Debra Allen, Preston Kapakatoak, Braden Peterson, Ethan Tanner Harvey, Adele Ohokak, Lloyd Kagak, and my son, Tyler Akeeagok. They are our future.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to also recognize all the Kugluktuk Elders Committee and the hamlet wellness division for giving special recognition to the late Bessie Sitatak and Joseph Niptanatiak for their many years of volunteer service in the community of

Kugluktuk. There was a special gathering on September 7 and it was very successful. Many of our communities would not be the same without the tireless efforts and dedication of our volunteers.

Lastly, I am very pleased to note that the film, *The Grizzlies*, made its first appearance at the Toronto International Film Festival this September. Not only is the movie based on the true stories about a resilient group of Kugluktuk youth, but two former residents, Stacey Aglok MacDonald and Emerald MacDonald, were very instrumental in the creation of this film. I believe all of Nunavut can be proud of this work and we look forward to seeing it being played on big screens across the territory.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud of all of the work Kugluktuk residents have accomplished and I look forward to the honour of announcing more successes in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Akeeagok.

**Member's Statement 176 – 5(2):
Tribute to Johnny Attagutsiak**

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I begin, someone has a birthday today. My endearment term for him is (interpretation ends) my boyfriend. (interpretation) It's his birthday today, so I wish him a wonderful day.

>> *Laughter*

Today I wish to acknowledge and commemorate with my colleagues one of the children of Arctic Bay's eldest woman. This calendar year she had children and grandchildren who passed away. I wish to commemorate one of her sons in particular for the significant contributions that he made. His name is Johnny Attagutsiak. Some of us knew him as Joanase Komangapik.

Johnny was born in the 1950s. When the Nanisivik mine opened, he started working for the mine when he was 15 years old. He maintained his employment there and started working at the Nanisivik Airport.

He was also involved in many activities when he wasn't working, such as being on the alcohol education committee, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, Nunavut Trust, and other land claim organizations as a board member.

Further, when he would take his holidays, he would go caribou or seal hunting. He would share his catches with many of his fellow residents. I can still recall him clearly, assisting his fellow Inuit.

When he was still working at Nanisivik, he suffered a stroke and ended up in a wheelchair, but he didn't let that stop him from contributing in other ways. He was constantly going on the local radio to report on his activities.

He taught our young people certain hunting methods or techniques and he would outline every associated activity required. He wouldn't just describe the hunting implements, but he would cover every part that had a name. He would describe every little part of the hunting

implements. He would speak about his past hunting experiences, which sometimes resulted in him being on air for a long time. Nonetheless, this was due to his commitment to teach youth the finer details of hunting.

I want to recall his legacy by acknowledging his wife, Nuterajuk, his late son Peter whose children are Sandy, Wesley, Terry, Joe, who recently passed away, Pakak, Jack, Angelina, and his numerous grandchildren who number over 22. I share my remembrance with them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for this opportunity.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet South, Mr. Kusugak.

Member's Statement 177 – 5(2): Road Connecting Nunavut to Southern Canada

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Good day, my fellow residents of Rankin Inlet. I also have a loved one celebrating a birthday today. I wish happy birthday to my grandchild, Paris Amujurjuk Ukpik Kakak Carol. (interpretation ends) Happy birthday, my *baby'naaq*. (interpretation) He just turned four years old today and I'm quite happy. At least it's not my boyfriend celebrating a birthday today.

>>Laughter

Mr. Speaker, today I think my colleague and I had the same idea, specifically my colleague from Arviat. I, too, was quite envious when I heard the news about the Prime Minister being ecstatic about

travelling to Churchill for the official reopening of the railway, as the repairs have been completed and the track is usable again. It seems they made the repairs quite expeditiously, as we seem to have just heard they were starting the repairs and they are already done. I have been on the board for many years where we discussed our options for a road linkage to Nunavut.

The minister was very happy when he went to make the official opening of the railway in Churchill. He indicated that families and friends will be able to get together, the cost of food will be lowered, and the tourists will be going to Churchill to watch the polar bears. I wonder what kind of an impact it would have if the Prime Minister said that we will be building a road to Nunavut. It would be of tremendous benefit.

I am happy with the people of Churchill and I support them. It takes a lot of hard work to see those kinds of infrastructure. We are working with them on building a road to Nunavut. I want to continue working on this and I would like to see the Prime Minister of Canada come to Nunavut to announce that we will be getting a road to Nunavut because of course we are a part of Canada. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Moving on. Returns to Oral Questions. Minister Joanasie.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions*

>>Applause

**Return to Oral Question 198 – 5(2):
Sanikiluaq Community Learning
Centre**

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a Return to Question 198 – 5(2) asked by the Member for Hudson Bay in October 2018 regarding the Sanikiluaq Community Learning Centre.

Mr. Speaker, this return is quite long. I have filed it with the Clerk for entering into the record as read and for distribution to all members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Returns to Oral Questions. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, Ms. Angnakak.

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

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I would like to welcome our elders who are in the gallery, especially Martha Tikivik. Please feel welcome. I am grateful for the support that you give me. When we're going through hard times, you're always approachable. Thank you.

>>Applause

Also, my older sister-in-law, Shuvinai, welcome. She works very hard, she does translations, and works for the government, which I'm very proud of. One of my constituents, Leena Evic, and Myna, welcome to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to your Legislative Assembly. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to the people of Rankin Inlet and Chesterfield Inlet.

I would like to recognize Martha Tikivik. When I was a student at Ukiivik, she used to teach us sewing. She told me that I have to learn to sew and I have listened to that advice. I am grateful that I'm able to sew today. Thank you, Martha.

Okpik Pitseolak, when I didn't have anywhere to stay in Cape Dorset, she let me stay in her house. Thank you for that, Okpik. You're a very good seamstress and artist, and I'm proud of you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Welcome to all the visitors in the gallery.

I would especially like to recognize the individuals who worked on *Iviqtippalliajuq*, our two elders who are present here. I know they were already recognized. Martha Tikivik and Okpik Pitseolak, welcome.

*See Appendix for full text of Return to Oral Question 198 – 5(2).

I would also like to welcome Culture and Heritage officials, Shuvinai Mike and my Deputy Minister, Louise Flaherty. Welcome. We thank the people who worked on *Iviqtippalliajut*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Aggu, Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to welcome everyone. However, I am especially proud of Pirurvik. It has been successful and has provided tremendous help to Inuit and non-Inuit. They're not dead, but...

>> *Laughter*

...they're not Inuit. They strengthen language services. Language is a source of strength. It was brought up by one of my colleagues that our language is precious and it has to be used.

The people of Pirurvik have provided a lot of assistance and I'm sure that they will continue to provide assistance well into the future. I would like to recognize Leena Evic and Myna, although they were already recognized. I am very proud of them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Pangnirtung, Ms. Nakashuk.

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although these individuals were already recognized, I

would also like to recognize people from Pangnirtung, Myna Ishulutak and Leena Evic. Welcome to the visitors in the gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names on my list. To those who were recognized and those who were not recognized, you should always feel welcome to your Legislative Assembly. Tell your friends and family that we are very welcoming, so they should come and visit us.

Let's proceed. Oral Questions. Member for Aggu, Mr. Quassa.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 225 – 5(2): Cabinet Solidarity

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Premier.

I won't be speaking Inuktitut as I will be speaking English.

(interpretation ends) Earlier this week the House passed a formal motion of censure against the cabinet. That's now a matter of record. What is also a matter of record is the fact that one member of the cabinet voted in favour of the motion of censure, which I believe may be an unprecedented breach of cabinet solidarity.

My first question for the Premier is as follows: was this a free vote?

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It was obvious it was a free vote. If it was not a free vote, then the vote would have been completely unanimous. That is a simple question to answer. Yes, it was a free vote. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Can the Premier clarify how ministers are expected to vote when it comes to such matters as bills and budgets? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.
Premier Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That again is simple and easy to answer. Any bill that is sponsored by the government or any budgets that are sponsored by the government, obviously the government would support it. We come up with these bills and these budget matters together as cabinet and it's a bill that comes from cabinet. Obviously cabinet would support such government bills and budget matters. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The motion that was passed earlier this week was a clear expression of dissatisfaction on the part of Members of the Legislative Assembly. Can the (interpretation ends)

Premier (interpretation) describe what actions he will be taking to address this dissatisfaction? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.
Premier Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The motion was not initiated by the cabinet. It came from the regular members and after they voted and the motion was carried, it was done. We as a cabinet will be operating as one. I heard that there was dissatisfaction with the decision I made along with cabinet, but we will be moving forward. We have many things to do in Nunavut and we have heavy challenges to face. This is past. We hear it and we will be moving forward now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 226 – 5(2): Polar Bear Co-management

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question today is for the Minister of Environment.

Last month the Coral Harbour HTO held public meetings over two evenings, and the topic of polar bear management incited the most debate. Our community has been experiencing nuisance polar bears, which started in the spring, continued through the summer as well as all of the fall season. A bear was actually adjacent to our house and it ended up being destroyed that evening.

The continuing concern held by residents is the MOU, or the

(interpretation ends) polar bear management MOU, (interpretation) which outlines the penalties for overharvesting female polar bears in a year. It has a ratio set under this agreement. If we overharvest female polar bears by even one, then we would lose three tags in the following season.

Now, during that meeting we were informed that we had overharvested female bears by two tags, so we started to anticipate that the Department of Environment would take six tags from our quota. During that public meeting, we were then informed that no, it would not just be six tags but 11 tags that would be removed from our polar bear quota for the next season. It means that next year we will only have two tags to harvest polar bears in Coral Harbour.

What does this ratio even mean? We haven't been clearly informed about this issue as residents of Coral Harbour. Obviously it has resulted in a lot of anger. My question is: can the minister explain to this House on when this ratio was set up? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) A working group of co-management partners, which includes the Department of Environment, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board, Kivalliq Regional Wildlife Board, Qikiqtani Regional Wildlife Board, has been working collaboratively together since the fall of 2018 to develop a new polar bear management plan to replace

the outdated memorandum of understanding.

One of the main issues of this working group identified a discontent Nunavummiut had with the memorandum of understanding as they were not inclusive *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* and did not represent the Inuit perspective. This was a key direction pursued when consulting with communities and hunters and trappers organizations.

The intent of the co-management plan is to provide guidance and direction to co-management partners to decision-making and identify goals and objectives of the polar bear management. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I read through a copy of the MOU that was provided. There are many questions that apply to the agreement and I have directed questions about this matter. When I go hunting, I have seen that the teenage or recently weaned polar bear cubs are very numerous. Additionally, there are many more cubs and small bears than there are large bears.

Coral Harbour also has a sport hunting program where hunters arrive to harvest polar bears. I generally ask the outfitters after they return from their trips about the bears they observe. One outfitter stated that the young polar bears are very numerous.

Another written part is contrary to what Inuit knowledge speaks to, that it is only

the large male boars that mate with sows and the adolescents are not mature enough to mate. Their physiology doesn't allow them to mate. It states on (interpretation ends) page 18 of 26, "We assume that the females can still mate or find mates that are younger bears just as successfully as older bears."

(interpretation) It actually has that written in the agreement. The language shows that *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* weren't even contemplated here.

Will *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* be respected at the meeting in Iqaluit?
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear!

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I can assure you that *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*, traditional knowledge, and members from each community or from the regional wildlife boards will be invited to participate in the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board hearings that will be held in November, and those will be taken into consideration. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Can the minister commit to the House today that *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* will be more adhered to than the scientific community that has been saying, "We don't mind you overharvesting male

bears because we believe that the younger bears can also mate," according to the MOU? Can she assure the House that the HTOs will be honoured in their submissions? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) As a believer in *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*, traditional knowledge, I will commit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 227 – 5(2): Drinking Water Strategy

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

As the minister will recall, the capital city faced a water deficit emergency this past summer. Thanks to the efforts of the task force that was established, action was taken to address the situation.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Community and Government Services was one of the Government of Nunavut's entities that participated in the task force. I'm wondering if the minister can describe what specific support his department provided to the task force. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for the question. Our department is constantly working with municipalities and the city wherever advice and support is needed. I don't have the details on exactly what our department did in terms of what kind of contribution they gave to the task force, but they were available for whatever advice and support that was needed of them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's probably something that I will follow up with the city and perhaps we can discuss again.

Mr. Speaker, as the minister will also recall, I have raised concerns in this House on a number of occasions about the importance of developing a long-term approach to water security in Nunavut. The business plan of the Department of Community and Government Services indicates that one of its current priorities is the development of a "drinking water strategy framework." Can the minister provide the House with an update on the status of this work? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague again for

the follow-up. Mr. Speaker, we have the largest amount of water in the country. I believe one of my colleagues today spoke of about 33 percent or something of Nunavut and the NWT covers the water mass across this country. That's a lot of water, but it's not all potable or easy to get to from which community you're in. Mr. Speaker, it brings issues in trying to deal with solving the potable water issue. It's so different in every community. You have communities with lots of water around them, but it may not be potable. You have communities like Sanikiluaq where you don't have a lot of alternatives.

To bring that strategy forward, in which our department is doing right now, is going through a lot of work and a lot of effort. I will be more than happy to share the outcomes of that work as soon as it is available, but it's just not available at this time. I'll keep my colleagues informed as to its availability. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his response. We look forward to getting more information on that framework.

In keeping with that, the issue of water security affects a number of communities in the territory. It is my understanding that the communities of Grise Fiord, Igloodik, and Hall Beach all face the risk of potential long-term water shortages. Can the minister clarify how many communities in Nunavut are currently vulnerable to water shortages? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. She did list the communities that are facing the possibility of water shortage if nothing is done, but there are water issues throughout the territory, not every community but this summer we had Igloodik that had boil water advisory.

We've had ongoing problems with the fine community of Whale Cove and Rankin Inlet due to turbidity. In Whale Cove we've had pumphouse issues and water storage issues, which we hope we will be able to solve.

We're ongoing in trying to figure out what we can do with Sanikiluaq and the issues there surrounding the osmosis machines and the whole gamut that Mr. Rumbolt and I continue to talk about in the House. We hope to solve those issues sooner than later.

In the community of Rankin Inlet, for an example, we had turbidity issues because of the low level issues. Hopefully the moving of the pumping station from the river to the actual lake will enable the community to be able to pump water sooner and longer. Hopefully that will fix itself.

The fine city of Iqaluit also, just by solving those leaks in the water system, found they are using 30 percent less water on daily consumption every day.

Some of them are simple fixes and some of them are very complex, but that is pretty much where we stand today. Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to respond.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Keyootak.

Question 228 – 5(2): Caribou Quota Update

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to direct my question to the Minister of Environment.

Mr. Speaker, I keep asking this on an annual basis during our sittings in the House.

Currently there are 250 caribou tags that are allocated to our communities on Baffin Island. I wonder: what is the status of our caribou quota? Have some communities used up their tags, or what is the current status of caribou management? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I'm just trying to find my statistics. Sorry, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the total allowable harvest will remain at 250 male tags only for the 2018-19 season. Unused tags from the 2017-18 harvest season were not carried over. To date the harvest as of October 4, 2018: Arctic Bay, 13 of 20; Cape Dorset, 10 of 20; Clyde River, 0 of 32; Igloodik, 10 of 12; Iqaluit, 29 of 41; Kimmirut, 28 of 33; Pangnirtung, 35 of 33; Pond Inlet, 23 of 34; and Qikiqtarjuaq, 3 of 25; for a total of 151 harvested of 250. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for answering my question. Mr. Speaker, she spoke and we know that only male caribou are to be harvested on Baffin Island. Mr. Speaker, of the used tags that the minister noted, have all caribou harvested been males or have females been caught? We are not allowed to catch female caribou. If this has happened, what are the consequences? Perhaps the minister can clarify if female caribou have been harvested in any of the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Minister Ehaloak

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Of the total amount of caribou harvested, only 14 females were reported to be harvested and resulting of tickets being issued. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We always say that we have to follow *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit*. Now, Inuit are very well aware about hunting. As one of my colleagues was talking about polar bears, young bears are getting more and more numerous and I believe caribou will go through the same thing. If we just kill all the male caribou, then we will be left with just calves.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask this

question. We all know that in the fall during mating season in September and October, the bull caribou are really no longer good to eat, but we're only supposed to hunt them. We're not supposed to hunt the females.

Can't you consider October like in late fall the fact that Inuit are only supposed to catch adult male caribou? We know our elders and we don't like to eat bull caribou in the fall because they are in a rut and they smell. Have you considered making some changes so that we won't be only allowed to hunt bull caribou in the late fall? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Keyootak, for your question. The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board will be having hearings here in Iqaluit this month and those items will be considered and discussed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

Question 229 – 5(2): Relationship with Manitoba

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to ask a question to the Premier. (interpretation ends) I'm not sure if I'm supposed to address him as the Premier or Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs.

Mr. Speaker, my question is regarding Nunavut's relationship with Manitoba. As I mentioned, there are exciting

developments happening just south of the border from the Kivalliq in Manitoba. I'm very interested as a Kivalliq resident to make sure that we benefit if at all possible from federal investments in northern Manitoba.

My first question is regarding the relationship with the Manitoba government. How would the minister characterize the relationship with the Manitoba government and his provincial counterpart? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I got the role of premiership in June and in July when we had our premiers' meeting in New Brunswick, I did talk with Premier Pallister there and I brought the issues that the Kivalliq used to work a lot closer and have a lot more trade with Manitoba in the past. I told him that these shipping routes and trade routes are shifting due to transportation issues and cost issues, and just to make him aware that we would like to have more trade and we would like to have more interaction with them.

As for your question, I guess he was...the best way I could describe it is he was non-committal and I have not had the opportunity to meet with him again since then. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Thank you for the response, Premier. It's a bit

concerning to me to hear that the Manitoba premier is non-committal.

At their most recent meeting in Naujaat, the Kivalliq mayors passed a resolution regarding the Hudson Bay Regional Roundtable. I know that the Premier is not responsible for that specifically, but the mayors stated that the focus must be on the three pillars: road, fibre, and power between our two jurisdictions. Does the Premier share this view that that is where we should be focusing in terms of areas of mutual benefit? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have been to many of roundtables and I have heard from all the mayors in the Kivalliq that those issues were issues that they were pressing forward with the Manitoba government. Their resolutions have stated that that is the way they wanted to go. It's our job to communicate that with the Manitoba government.

My understanding is that they are in a deficit and they are having their own issues, but I do believe that through the roundtable here, through the Hudson Bay roundtable, it has always been a unified position that that's what we want to get out of Manitoba. We want more trade in the Kivalliq to Manitoba. We want more transportation links. The Hudson Bay roundtable always passes that resolution, it's always unanimous, and we believe that that is a good way to go. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) In one of the projects that is currently underway that is being led by the Kivalliq Inuit Association is the push for a feasibility study on a hydroelectric and fibre line to be headed up in cooperation with private money, which might be of interest. The KIA is currently pushing for a feasibility study.

Is the Premier aware if the Manitoba government indicated any support for that project or has he requested that the Manitoba government support the push for this feasibility study? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Premier Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have spoken with the Kivalliq Inuit Association and yes, they are the main driver of the feasibility study to bring the power line and fibre optics up to the Kivalliq from Manitoba. I have communicated with the federal government that this is a good initiative brought on by the Kivalliq Inuit Association.

If it comes to pass, it would take five communities and two mines of diesel and fibre optics would be brought into all of the communities in the Kivalliq. I have also spoken with Premier Pallister saying that Manitoba has excessive power and I believe there is a viable market just to the north of them.

We're waiting to see how the Kivalliq Inuit Association feasibility pans out. Their request for funding is with the federal government, and I'm hoping that the federal government will see this as a

viable, good project and support it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Question 230 – 5(2): Time to Revisit Maplewood System?

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to the people of Sanikiluaq and the people of Nunavut, and happy birthday to my son, Gary.

Mr. Speaker, my questions are directed to the Minister of Education.

Mr. Speaker, I recall back in the last Assembly, problems quickly surfaced following the Department of Education's introduction of the Maplewood information system, which collects data entered by school administration on students' enrollment and attendance. This information is used to determine funding allocations for Nunavut's schools.

Mr. Speaker, in the Fourth Assembly concerns were raised that the principals in the schools might be inflating student numbers to increase funding allocations and teacher positions. Nowadays we are hearing more and more concerns that the department is refining the data in such a way that funding allocations are being reduced.

Can the minister provide an update on whether his department has been monitoring the implementation of the Maplewood system since it was first introduced and, if so, what kinds of challenges have been identified? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his question. The Maplewood system is used to ensure that student data is gathered, recorded, and stored as accurately and consistently as possible. This includes attendance, achievements, behaviour, and student support data.

With respect to his question, I'll have to get some further details about if there are any challenges in terms of how they manage the data with principals, but I can say that all principals in the schools as well as the Iqaluit student information system team that has access to this Maplewood system. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is no secret that several communities have seen reductions in the number of teacher positions allocated to their schools in recent years. This often seems to come as a surprise to school administrators as they see that their school populations are increasing in size.

Can the minister clearly explain how his department addresses concerns raised by school administrators or by district education authorities when there is a difference in the numbers of full-time enrolled students and attendance rates recorded by school administrators and by the Maplewood system administrators? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.

Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his question. What the department was experiencing with Maplewood as system limitations in that we have to draw the numbers... . Of course we promote and try to give out September 30 as the ultimate number for student numbers, but all the data is not inputted into the database all at the same time, so we have to wait until a certain time when as much of the data is inputted as accurately as it can be. It could be a month or two after September 30 when we draw that data. It's a lot of back and forth between our department and the school administrators, but again, I want to point out that we are working on a new formula and hopefully it will address some of the issues.

We had the Iqaluit District Education Authority come and they wanted to address their numbers with us. What we did was I committed to my staff sitting down with each principal in the schools and they went through all the numbers. That is some of the ways in which we try to get the accurate numbers in place. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Kaernerck.

Question 231 – 5(2): Economic Development for Non-decentralized Communities

Mr. Kaernerck (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development.

Mr. Speaker, as I stated before, I would

support economic development for non-decentralized communities. I believe it is very important.

The Government of Nunavut's *Turaaqtavut* mandate states that "Small business and other economic sectors hold great potential, but are currently underdeveloped."

Mr. Speaker, can the minister describe some of the specific actions that department is taking to develop these sectors in our smaller, non-decentralized communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for that question. We have various programs that are available to the communities. They can apply to our department either for tourism or start-up businesses or for various economic development initiatives.

Our officials usually visit the communities and we also have staff in the communities that can be approached. They are based at the hamlet offices and we provide funding to them. We have asked the communities what economic development opportunities they would like to see in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Kaernerker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister will be aware, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association and Baffinland Iron Mines recently

agreed to an amended Mary River Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement. This includes an expanded Inuit training budget.

Baffinland recently published its labour market analysis. I quote, "A key finding of this report was that there are not enough available, interested, and qualified Inuit to fill all the jobs created by the Project, and that coordinated efforts by all interested parties will be necessary to maximize Inuit employment." Can the minister describe some of the specific ways in which his department is supporting these efforts? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank him. The Qikiqtani Inuit Association has worked very hard and recently signed an agreement. I congratulate them for coming up with economic benefits for the communities and staff at Baffinland. It's not only going to affect the communities around Mary River but all communities on Baffin Island. I expect that it is going to increase the number of Inuit employed at that mine.

One of my constituents was very happy that he is now employed at the mine site. There are now many people who are travelling to take training. As a government, we support the agreement that was signed by the Inuit and the mining company. We do support it at an arm's length, either through Arctic College or my Department of Economic Development. We're trying to take part in various capacities.

I would like to say further that we are negotiating with the Baffinland Iron Mines on what we both support and what we can work more closely together on. That's what we are currently negotiating. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Kaerner (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. It is very interesting to hear that. There are five affected communities, including Hall Beach, and I do support the Mary River mine.

You indicated that you are negotiating with the mine and it is going to be a positive impact on the Amittuq area. The community of Hall Beach has one of the longest runways of any community in our region. If you should come to an agreement, can you possibly look at Hall Beach as the transportation hub? We have one of the longest runways in Nunavut.

I believe that if Hall Beach is an airport hub, it would probably have a positive impact on the price of goods and food that are flown in by cargo. I think it should be a transportation hub for the North Baffin. Can the minister indicate if there have been any plans made to designate Hall Beach as a hub airport? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Akeegok.

Hon. David Akeegok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There has been more than one community that wishes to be a transportation hub. Our colleague cannot ask questions right now, but he would inform us in the first term and he

can still be heard.

Agreements are made with the Inuit associations and the mining companies when they are on Inuit-owned lands and they look at these issues. It has been partially discussed as to how Hall Beach can be utilized more for the length of their runway. At that time there used to be many flights going to that community.

As the Department of Economic and Development and Transportation, we are always looking at that and how we can develop the communities and how it would be best suited. I can't say where we will be. If I was the decision-maker, it would be located in the High Arctic, but we have to look at Nunavut as a whole. I think we wish that for our own communities, but we have to work together and look at it carefully. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 232 – 5(2): Staff Housing Policy

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today my questions are for the Minister of the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take an opportunity to return to the questions that I had asked the previous Minister of the Nunavut Housing Corporation on the first sitting day.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of Nunavut's Staff Housing Policy outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Staff

Housing Allocation Committee, as well as identifies the goal of the committee, which is to fairly allocate staff housing units using established criteria. The policy also indicates that the makeup of this allocation committee is to consist of representatives of the departments of HR, Justice, Education and Health, all while being chaired by a representative of the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

My first question to the Minister of the Nunavut Housing Corporation is: when allocating staff housing units to employees of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, do they have to go through the Staff Housing Allocation Committee? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank him for asking about housing. When the departments are looking to find a unit for a position that is about to open or is open and that position requires housing, the allocation committee deals with that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will take that as a yes, the Nunavut Housing Corporation has to go through the allocation committee.

With that being said, looking at the response to my written question on the allocation of staff housing amongst Government of Nunavut employees, I did notice that amongst all the

departments and major entities that uses the NHC staff housing, the Nunavut Housing Corporation itself has the highest ratio of employees in staff housing and that 56 percent of filled positions in the Nunavut Housing Corporation are allocated staff housing units while the remainder of the government averages 40 percent.

My next question is: is it a mere coincidence that the NHC has highest ratio of employees in staff housing? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If you give me a moment, please.

Mr. Speaker, I don't think the calculation that he did in terms of those numbers really reflect the exact numbers of percentages by Nunavut Housing Corporation employees as per housing. I believe that there are other departments that have many houses that are in many units that the government gives out, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response, but I would like to indicate that I just used the June 30... .

Speaker: Mr. Lightstone, can you just give me brief moment to put this House back in order.

Mr. Lightstone, continue.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would just like to clarify that when I was looking at my calculations, the response to my written question indicated that 51 employees in the Nunavut Housing Corporation were allocated staff housing. At the same time, in June, according to the *Towards a Representative Public Service*, the TRPS report, 91 positions were filled, which is where I got my 56 percent of filled positions being in staff housing.

Aside from that, I would also like to indicate that of those numbers, two executive positions out of two executive positions that are filled are provided staff housing, as well as eight senior management positions out of eight senior management positions filled are also allocated staff housing. That means that the Nunavut Housing Corporation has 100 percent staff housing allocated to their senior and executive management positions compared to 50 percent of the remainder of the government.

With that being said, my next question is, considering these high ratios of staff housing being allocated to Nunavut Housing Corporation employees and the Nunavut Housing Corporation representative chairing the allocation committee, if there is some sort of bias being given to Nunavut Housing Corporation employees during the allocation committee meetings. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My colleague read out the members of the committee that allocate

housing. I would think that there wouldn't be bias given to the Nunavut Housing Corporation if they're one of five committee members. I will look into your allegations and gladly share whatever it is I find out on that matter, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Pangnirtung, Ms. Nakashuk.

Question 233 – 5(2): Integrated Community Sustainability Plan for Pangnirtung

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the (interpretation ends) Minister for Community and Government Services.

(interpretation) During (interpretation ends) Committee of the Whole (interpretation) the minister indicated that they toured the communities this summer and spring. He also stated that they were in Pangnirtung. I would like to ask if they reviewed the hamlet priority list or requests for the ICSP, or (interpretation ends) the integrated sustainability plan. (interpretation) I would first like to know if they had discussions with the hamlet about the priorities they identified. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank you for asking that question. As per my understanding, all of the hamlet councils in Nunavut have been consulted on their

list of priorities listed under the ICSP. I was informed that there have been discussions with all of the communities on this file, so Pangnirtung's hamlet would have also been consulted. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me then ask the minister: were the priorities that have been identified by Pangnirtung provided to the government? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All communities have their ICSP and it identifies the priorities or the greatest needs of the communities. There are many steps. All of the communities should have identified their needs by now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. He didn't seem to respond to my question. Perhaps the hamlet in Pangnirtung hasn't identified their priorities yet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize for

not responding properly. All of the communities should have identified their priorities, but I cannot say in the House what Pangnirtung has as their priorities. There are many communities in Nunavut and they all have needs. Their ICSPs are available. If she wants to see the priorities for Pangnirtung, I can show them to her. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Aggu, Mr. Quassa.

Question 234 – 5(2): Allocation of Staff Housing Policy

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for recognizing me again. My question will be for the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation.

I am aware that in Igloolik there are 14 vacant government staff housing units. As I stated yesterday, five units are being constructed right now even though there are 14 units that are vacant. Looking at the public housing waiting list in Igloolik, there are 180 people.

I have been informed from my community that two months ago the RCMP was given a government staff housing unit. My first question is: are the RCMP working for the Government of Nunavut and that is why they are getting staff housing? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If there is an agreement between the RCMP and the Government of Nunavut, I'm not

responsible for that and I don't know what is contained in that agreement. Therefore I can't answer that question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In looking at that, I don't know why he doesn't have that information as the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation.

Nonetheless, I want to clarify this matter, Mr. Speaker. With people who are homeless or couch surfing being quite numerous and an RCMP member using a staff housing unit, it seems to show two different standards. Some people are eligible for housing while other citizens have no hope. With that being the situation, I believe it requires a comprehensive review, especially in light of our housing shortage and RCMP members can be allocated staff housing. My question is: can this be changed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to matters such as this, the Government of Nunavut has agreements with agencies, such as the RCMP to provide policing services in the territory, and the details are written out in the agreements. If this is included in the agreement, then it would be administered by the responsible department. This is how the agreements work in this case, Mr. Speaker.

However, as our colleague just

mentioned, with the shortage of housing in Igloolik, the number of vacant units stands at seven units and seven units are set to receive tenants. This is where it stands now, Mr. Speaker. I can also look into the issue my colleague wanted reviewed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was informed this morning by the housing association workers. They know the actual numbers because they live in the community. I'm just reiterating that, but this really should be reviewed again. It seems like another double standard. Government workers like teachers who actually live in the community sometimes are not allowed to get housing. Meanwhile these people just coming in can get housing. It sounds like a double standard. It looks like they're not treating people equally with the way they make their decisions.

It's more of a general comment, Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to explain that further. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. I didn't hear an actual question, but if you would like to comment on it, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There was no actual question, but I feel the comments that he's making. The numbers are coming from the housing corporation. Up to now there are 73 staff housing units in Igloolik, seven are vacant and seven will be occupied. Those are the numbers that we know of that the

government has.

I would like to further add to what my colleague, Mr. Quassa, was saying. There is an organization that decides who will move into the staff houses. That committee has representation from Human Resources, Justice, Education, Health, and the housing corporation. They decide which positions will need staff housing and when the staff will be moving into those units.

The housing corporation alone doesn't make decisions on which staff member will go to which unit. The housing corporation doesn't decide that. The committee decides which positions require staff housing in the communities. That's how it works, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for allowing me to respond.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Colleagues, please note that the time for question period has expired. Therefore we will proceed with the orders of the day. Written Questions. Returns to Written Questions. Replies to Opening Address. Petitions. Responses to Petitions. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Culture and Heritage, Minister Joanasie.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 080 – 5(2): Iviqtipalliajut – Inuit Societal Values

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I am tabling *Iviqtipalliajut: In the Process of Falling into Place*. Mr. Speaker, I would like to mention and remember our elders

in Nunavut who have been expecting how *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* will be used by the government.

I remember our previous colleague for the High Arctic, Mr. Shooyook, who pushed really hard for this, and we are tabling it now as a government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Ms. Towtongie.

Tabled Document 081 – 5(2): Correspondence from Victor Sammurtok School to the Minister of Education

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Chesterfield Inlet has been forgotten since we got Nunavut and we have never received anything. Right now they are using a facility that was built in the 1980s as their carpentry and industrial tech workshop that wasn't designed for that purpose.

They have many polar bears coming into the community and children have to be carried by bus. Whenever the weather gets cold, they don't have a heated garage for the bus.

I am presenting the letter from the local DEA to the minister. They haven't received a reply, so they would like a response. I would also like a reply as the MLA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Member for Pangnirtung, Ms. Nakashuk.

**Tabled Document 082 – 5(2):
Correspondence from the
Municipality of Pangnirtung to
Margaret Nakashuk**

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table a letter from the Hamlet of Pangnirtung that supports what we discussed in the House with regard to government staff housing. They would like public housing instead of more staff housing because they have many people on the waiting list. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. I have no more names on my list. Let us proceed. Notices of Motions. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Motions. First Reading of Bills. Second Reading of Bills. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Committee Motion 4 – 5(2) and Bills 2, 9, 10, and 11 with Mr. Akoak in the Chair.

In accordance with the authority provided to me by Motion 14–5(2), the committee will stay in session until it reports itself out.

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

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:31 and
Committee resumed at 15:55*

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

Chairman (Mr. Akoak): Good

afternoon, colleagues. Welcome back. To Nunavummiut watching, welcome.

I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole we have the following items to deal with: Bills 2, 9, 10, and 11, as well as Committee Motion 4 – 5(2). What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We wish to continue with the review of Bill 9 and the capital main estimates for the Department of Education, along with Committee Motion 4 – 5(2), followed by the Department of Economic Development and Transportation and, if time permits, Nunavut Arctic College and the Department of Justice. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Are we in agreement that we first deal with Bill 9?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Bill 09 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,
2019-2020 – Education –
Consideration in Committee**

Chairman: Thank you. I would like to ask Minister Joanasie: do you have officials that you would like to appear before the committee? Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Does the committee agree to let the minister's officials go to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the officials in.

Thank you. For the record, Minister Joanasié, please introduce your officials. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is the Deputy Minister of Education, Pujjuut Kusugak, and to my left is the Manager of Capital, Barry Cornthwaite. Thank you.

Committee Motion 004 – 5(2):

Deletion of \$1,900,000 from the 2019-2020 Capital Estimates of the Department of Education – Consideration in Committee

Chairman: Thank you. Welcome to your officials. We are dealing with the Department of Education and our first item is Committee Motion 4 – 5(2). Members have a copy of the motion in front of them. The mover of the motion, Mr. Netser, has already spoken to his motion. To the motion. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Nunavummiut. I'm going to first talk about the business case regarding Sakku School and how we came to that conclusion. In 2018 the CGS Capital Planning Division completed a business case to evaluate three options for addressing the long-term building issues and the community's needs. The options included:

1. Status quo
2. a) Build a new kindergarten to grade 12 school
b) Build a brand-new high school only

3. Major modernization and addition of the existing school

I want to point out that the options are assessed against a number of factors to determine the preferred option, including the current and emerging government infrastructure needs, existing facility condition, site analysis and site considerations, school utilization rate, projected lifecycle and future operations and maintenance costs, and budgetary considerations.

With that, option 3, major modernization and addition, scored the highest. This option would introduce a new addition of approximately 1,000 square metres to include a large gymnasium and daycare while repurposing the existing gym for additional classrooms. A full lifecycle upgrade of the existing school will ensure adherence to current building and safety codes.

This option will meet the needs of the community and the Department of Education at a lower upfront capital cost and long-term lifecycle cost than the other options. The community will have access to a large gym, more services for young people and their parents, as well as services for students with special needs. The classroom will accommodate future growth and more cultural programming.

I'm now going into the substantiation. My department, in support of the members of the community of Coral Harbour, created a substantiation sheet supporting the need for Sakku School to be included in the capital plan. The substantiation sheet identifies the issue of the water running through the school as well as air quality, waterproofing,

etcetera.

In 1996 an addition was built onto Sakku School that required waterproofing. This part of the school has continued to perform as designed and engineered. With the major renovation and modernization project at Sakku School, it will resolve all issues at the school.

A team of specialists is in Coral Harbour today to identify an interim solution to address the air quality issue, and we are committed to continue air quality monitoring on an ongoing basis to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of the students and staff at Sakku School.

To date there have been consultations about Sakku School. Since 2014 a number of consultations regarding Sakku School have taken place with key stakeholders, including the DEA, hamlet council, and school staff. Most recently in December 2016 my department met with the DEA and the hamlet. As well, in April 2017 my department and CGS also met with the DEA.

I just want to also clearly outline and explain the implications of removing this project from our capital plans.

If we remove the current Sakku School project from the capital plans, we will be required to go back to the beginning of the capital planning stage, so it would be a setback. This will result in significant delays and the resolution of issues identified at Sakku School.

Right now this allows for temporary or interim solutions only that do not address the long-term needs of the school, and there is also no guarantee

that Sakku School would be replaced.

The GN must also prioritize other capital and emergency infrastructure needs as they come up.

Finally, I do, as Minister of Education, want to show my commitment to ensuring that our students have a safe and welcoming learning environment. In my ongoing commitment to serve the students and staff of Nunavut schools and in response to Member Netser, MLA for Aivilik's request, I'm committing to visit Coral Harbour in the near future, perhaps before the end of November or early December.

On that visit, I commit to meet with Mr. Netser, the mayor, the DEA, along with a team of key departmental staff as well as environmental hygiene experts who will share the results of the most recently conducted mould and fungal assessments and engage with the members of the community regarding their ongoing concerns.

I'm also committed to ensuring that the results of the most recent assessment are taken into consideration and evaluated against the options available to my department. If those results mean that we need to change our focus on the school revitalization, then we will address those concerns.

I do wish to assure Mr. Netser and the residents of Coral Harbour that I will do everything I can to provide the students and staff at Sakku School with a safe and healthy learning environment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. To the motion. Seeing none, does the mover of the

motion, Mr. Netser, have any last comments? Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, minister. I'm very pleased that we were able to have a meeting this morning. The Mayor of Coral Harbour, Willie Nakoolak, and I had ongoing dialogue on the matter that the minister spoke about.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, (interpretation) we're all working hard for our children. We all know that if there is a delay on this school... We had quite a lot of questions on what the minister just mentioned.

I also had a meeting and he indicated that he would like to go to Coral Harbour.

Mr. Chairman, within our *Turaaqtavut* mandate is *Ajiiqatigiinniq/Angiqatigiinniq*. With that, after talking with the mayor 20 minutes ago, he agreed and with their support, I would like to withdraw my motion. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Netser. For the record, the motion has been withdrawn. Thank you.

We're on page G-3. Education. Corporate Services. The next name on the list is Ms. Kamingoak.

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A number of schools have had utilization rates well over 85 percent for a number of years and Kugluktuk has been on top of that for a number of years. How does the department prioritize when a new school will be built in a community? Thank you, Mr.

Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasia.

Hon. David Joanasia (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) As I outlined, we look at condition, the age of the school, the utilization, the costs, and many other factors we look at when we're looking at new schools or adding to existing schools. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Kamingoak.

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the response. Kugluktuk's high school was built in the late 1960s or early '60s. Correct me if I'm wrong, but I have already asked for a new school in the last sitting and the DEA is on top of that as well.

My other question is: what future capital projects for new schools are currently being considered by the department and in which communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasia.

Hon. David Joanasia: Can you hold on a second, Mr. Chairman?

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We had submitted six projects for preplanning for this capital budget and one, I believe, was [not] approved. Right now Iqaluit's Nakasuk School is a major renovation. In past preplanning projects, Netsilik had been approved as well as Arctic Bay's Inuujaq School. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kamingoak.

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Moving on, the elementary school in Kugluktuk has been experiencing an uncomfortable heating issue in one of its classrooms. There have been some suggestions that it may be due to the classroom being located right next to the mechanical room, and I'm talking about the elementary school. Can the minister confirm whether or not this issue has been addressed under the ongoing lifecycle budget item in his department's 2019-2020 capital estimates? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We aren't aware of those issues unfortunately. Perhaps we will have to follow up on that item. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Kamingoak.

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate if you do follow up because this has been ongoing for many years now in that classroom.

Moving on, I had a recent meeting with the DEA. Both schools indicated a need for speech enhancement systems in all of the schools' classrooms to support students with hearing problems and help teachers so they aren't yelling in class so much. Can the minister indicate whether Kugluktuk's schools are on the priority list to have these new soundified systems installed during the 2019-2020 fiscal year and, if not, when will Kugluktuk see these much-needed sound systems installed in the schools? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just trying to find the information on that project, if you can give me a moment.

We work with the BEHNY project and that project won the Arctic Inspiration Prize. We're rolling it out to all schools. Hold on a second.

Right now I think the bulk of the work had been done in the Qikiqtani region and we're anticipating rolling it out to the other two regions moving forward. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Kamingoak.

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do you have an idea of when these will be moving forward? Is it sometime in the near future or when? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have an exact timeline, but once we do have that, we're willing to share it with the member and the committee. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Kamingoak.

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hope it's sometime in the near future because these enhancement systems really do help our children with hearing issues and our teachers with their volume of voice.

Moving on, many school busing services across Nunavut are provided under

contracts with a local vendor. This is the case in Kugluktuk. However, it has been brought to my attention that school bus services in Kugluktuk are only available during the coldest months in the winter and not the whole school year. It is my understanding that the reason for this is due to the amount of funding provided by the government is not enough to pay for a whole school year's worth of busing services in Kugluktuk given the daily rate for the bus. The amount is only enough to cover less than 100 days of school busing.

Can the minister explain what options are available to the Kugluktuk DEA to ensure the school busing can be provided throughout the whole school year? The reason why I ask is because we just had a recent issue with polar bears coming into town and some parents were afraid of their children walking to school with the reoccurring bears coming into town. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. We have different ways where we deliver busing services in the communities. Some are through DEAs or contracted out to a private entity or through the municipal corporation. With that, we do have criteria where we look at when there's a busing request coming through our department periodically. What we look at are the number of students as well as the distance from the school, maintenance requirements, storage requirements, reasonable temperatures, and safety, as well as the lifecycle of the bus. They normally expire after ten years.

In terms of options that the DEA and the community have, I'm going to have Mr. Cornthwaite elaborate, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Cornthwaite.

Mr. Cornthwaite: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. The basic process that we ask the community DEAs to follow is that they would pass a motion that they have a requirement for additional funds or a bus, if it happens to be a bus, and then the DEA themselves would write to the Minister of Education requesting either increase in funds for funding or a new bus if that's what you're asking for. It's typically the DEA would write a letter to the Minister of Education requesting what they need for the busing service for the particular community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Kamingoak.

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the response. Can you let me know: has the Kugluktuk DEA put in a letter for increased funds? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) As far as I know, not yet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Next name on my list, Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Chairman. Welcome. Thank you for outlining in your opening comments that the construction of Igloolik's school is

almost finished. It had an opening date of June 2018, but it has been delayed and I know the reason behind it. I do know that the funds have been used up for the construction of the school and they had to make another request for additional funds to complete the project.

There is \$50,000 identified here. I would first like to find out if it is to complete the construction of the school or if it's for something else. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If you can allow our manager of capital planning to respond to that question, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Cornthwaite.

Mr. Cornthwaite: Thank you for the question. Near the completion of the new high school in Igloolik, it was noted there were severe deficiencies in the flooring for the school. The Government of Nunavut is negotiating with the contractor. We can't say too much about that, unfortunately, because it's in litigation between the Government of Nunavut and the contractor to come up with an acceptable solution for fixing the floor at the new high school. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is there another delay for one year? I would like clarification on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We can't really say how long the delay is going to be for as it might have to go through the court system, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for clarifying that. I will not have any more questions on this. I will just move on to another area concerning the buses. It was touched on by my colleague. First of all, has the district education authority in Igloolik put in another request for a bus? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can't remember all the details. I will have to look into whether or not they have put in a request. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I look at the larger picture, which communities have put in a request for fiscal year 2019-2020? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Presently there are no requests. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Next name on my list, Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wasn't expecting to hear my name.

(interpretation ends) My first question is regarding the construction of new schools. My understanding is that \$1.3 million has been spent to date on the design work for a fourth school in Arviat. My understanding is that that project is on hold. What has happened to that \$1.3 million worth of work? What I'm trying to understand is: how long will that \$1.3 million worth of work that has been done be valuable before it's out of date and no longer useful to the department? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you. Perhaps you can allow the (interpretation ends) manager of capital (interpretation) to respond, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Cornthwaite.

Mr. Cornthwaite: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. Typically for the Arviat fourth school all the way to the preparation of tender documents, so the tender documents are ready to go if and when the capital plan sees Arviat on the plan again, those documents are good only until codes start to change. If there is anything updated on code, the documents would have to be updated to reflect the newer code that's in place at the time of the tender documents being released. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you. Just to follow up on that, is that work that's being done so far still of

use or has the code changed since the work was done? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The work is still good. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The minister mentioned that there were six projects that had been submitted by the department for preplanning and one of them got approved. What were the other five projects? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: There were Arviat Qitiqliq Middle School, Iqaluit Joamie School, Iqaluit Nakasuk School, Kimmirut Qaqqalik School, Kugluktuk High School, and Pangnirtung Alookie School. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Could the minister please elaborate on the Qitiqliq Middle School proposal? I'm guessing that that might have been a renovation or an addition proposal. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that particular school is

in poor condition and we think it needs a major renovation. It has never been renovated to date. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I would agree with the minister. It is in very poor condition and I'll admit that I'm guilty of punching some of those holes in the wall when I was in high school myself. I was quite the bad student, so please do not consider me to be bragging about that.

With regard to the Arviat fourth school, the DEA is working on trying to bring up their attendance rates across the board. If they can succeed in that, it will trigger, I would hope, the construction of a new school. What would the timeline be if we can...? I don't want to get into hypotheticals. When the Arviat DEA succeeds in bringing up their attendance rates to the required level, what is the period that we're looking at to initiate the process for constructing that fourth school? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. Looking at the utilization of the schools too, factoring that in, it says here that the Qitiqliq School is at 66 percent utilization. This is for the previous year, the 2017-18 school year, and same for the John Arnalukjuaq, it's the same utilization, 66 percent.

With that in mind, I think we try to see if there are some catchment areas that can

be worked out between schools. Maybe one class can be moved between... . There is that, but the capital plan process could take up to seven years up until construction, from when it was first identified to completing a full school construction. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I wonder if the minister can confirm that... . I know the standard cycle, yes, is up to seven years, but this new school, I don't know what to call it, the fourth school in Arviat, it already entered the cycle and then it got booted out. That \$1.3 million was already spent, so I'm assuming it wouldn't have to go through preplanning again. Some of the design work has already been done. Specific to that project, what would the timeline look like in terms of yes, it's identified, it's a go, and actually gets built and completed? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. The member is correct. We would start off, let's say, in a traditional design-build process. It would take the seven years, but in the case where we already have the design, it would start on year four of that cycle. There would be less time to work out a new school. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you, minister. It's relieving to

hear that that would be done. I know there is work being done by the DEA in Arviat to bring up the attendance rate.

Moving to Whale Cove, it's kind of a unique situation. This question isn't just about Whale Cove. The school is located right next to the hamlet office. One of the ideas that the community has is to someday have the two buildings attached to each other, which could create synergies or could be good for education, good for the hamlet, and good for the community. Is there any such facility like that in Nunavut where you have schools that are attached to other government or municipal facilities? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. (interpretation ends) I haven't been to all schools or communities yet. I don't think he has been to all of the communities, but Mr. Cornthwaite could elaborate on the question, if you allow, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Cornthwaite.

Mr. Cornthwaite: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to add, I have been in Nunavut since 1992 and I've had the opportunity of visiting all of the communities in my capacity.

The situation with respect to what other agencies, the school in Qikiqtarjuaq has the Arctic College CLCs. In that particular school at that time Education and Arctic College were the same entity.

At all times when we're planning new

facilities, we do contact other agencies and other departments to see if there is any need to do something at the same time as a cost-saving measure. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I like those words, cost-saving measure, because I don't think we use them enough within this government. I'll leave that where it is and I'll flag it for your future reference. It's a very interesting idea that they have.

When it comes to minor work within a school that is required, what is the process for principals or school staff to submit a request and say, "I have something here that needs to be fixed"? Who does it go to? Does it go to CGS or does it go to Education? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. I ask remaining members to stay; we barely have quorum. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Cornthwaite deals with this on a pretty well day-to-day basis, so I would like him to elaborate. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Cornthwaite.

Mr. Cornthwaite: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Government of Nunavut uses a database called Asset Planner where the actual schools submit electronic requests to Community and Government Services, and Community and Government Services will issue a work order for the work to be performed.

If it's something outside of the normal CGS responsibility, the denied work request is sent to my office and we review it to see if we can identify it as a future capital plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) That's interesting. Just a comment, I think it's something that is stressful for school staff when they're getting bounced over to CGS. I have spoken to some school staff who are already very busy and they get bounced around with these small capital requests.

Moving on to computers in schools, I noticed on your substantiation sheet for IT infrastructure the amount requested for this year is \$1 million, but then on the third page it says that the total planned IT infrastructure expenditure is \$2 million. I'm sure there is something here that I just don't understand, but if that could be clarified. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: If you can hold on a second, Mr. Chairman.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Right now we used \$1 million, but there is a need and we could use \$2 million. I think that is how it is being presented. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main: I'm sorry. Could the minister further clarify that? The \$1 million has

been spent to date and then you want to spend another \$1 million. I still don't understand the difference there. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We spend \$1 million a year. Mr. Cornthwaite can maybe clarify what I had said, Mr. Chairman, if you would allow. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Cornthwaite.

Mr. Cornthwaite: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What the Department of Education tries to demonstrate on the substantiation sheet is that there is more need for the \$1 million budget that we're approved for. We're demonstrating that there are times when we do have to have more money because of the ongoing upgrade of Internet-capable devices in our schools. We do have a budget of \$1 million and that is what we have been asking for, but we will need more than \$1 million in the future to continue with our program for Nunavut schools. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want more information now on the third page. (interpretation ends) Out of the expenses that are listed on the third page, which ones will actually be completed with this \$1 million? I understand that it's not enough for what you proposed or would like to do, but which ones will actually be done under this 2019-2020?

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for his question. We can follow up with the details around what we intend to spend this money on and more detail, if the member could agree to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Yes, that's fine. (interpretation ends) Thank you for that. Just one more question here, it says on the second page here that CCTV and paging systems are failing or non-functional in most Nunavut schools, and then it mentions the fire marshal and the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission. It sounds very serious. It's safety and security for our kids. What are the consequences of having your CCTV and paging systems failing and non-functional? What are the consequences of that situation? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for his question. That means we can't have surveillance or a recording of the schools and there are no eyes on our buildings. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I would just like to comment that I think this is completely unacceptable. I would like to hear somebody argue against

fixing up our schools to make them safe and secure for the children of Nunavut. I would like to hear the argument against that. That's just a comment and no further questions at this time.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. That being just a comment, my next name on the list, Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My first question is going to be related to the chair of the standing committee's opening comments. On page 3 the chair had said, "Members encourage the department to develop a comprehensive strategy to ensure that all school facilities and school playgrounds are protected from acts of vandalism and arson."

I have mentioned this before in the past and I think there's a reason behind the rates of vandalism on school property in our territory and it's because the children don't want to be there. I think it's a student morale issue. If more students had more reason to want to be in the school, such as breakfast and lunch programs, it's a place for them to get regular meals, and if they had more extracurricular activities... . The idea was just brought up of sharing space in the schools. I think it would be a great idea if all new schools had or incorporated youth centres into them. I highly doubt that a teenage youth would want to burn down the school which had the youth centre where they spend most of their time outside of the school.

I think there are a lot of different avenues to take into consideration when creating a comprehensive strategy to

protect schools from vandalism and arson. My first question to the minister would be: have any of those been taken into account? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you to the member for his comments and question. I think there is something to be said about schools being that they are a big, huge part of the community. They are used not just as a learning space. Community events of all sorts, whether it's public meetings, feasts, all types of events are in the schools. I would encourage my fellow colleagues as well as community members and the leaders in our communities to also embrace our schools and safeguard them as best we can.

I agree that if our schools are used more by our students, then there's less of a chance of being vandalized or destroyed by other means. We are considering all sorts of ways where we can safeguard our schools and build school pride. I think that's where the member had brought it up before or that's where we need to spend some focus and raise morale of these important, expensive, and very valuable spaces in our communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for correcting me because I do recall mentioning school pride during the standing committee meetings in the past. Since those meetings have occurred, has the department taken any sort of initiatives to increase school pride?

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do on occasion try to encourage, support, and raise awareness about healthy learning environments.

There was a recent event in Rankin Inlet where many students from across the region gathered together and promoted good, healthy lifestyles, relationships, and building a future together. I think they are the types of venues where we can continue that initiative. We do on occasion do sorts of activities around that.

Like I said, if members have an idea, bring it to your DEA and perhaps the school principals and staff can support further activities. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. If I can ask members to stick to capital. Thank you. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My next question is going to be regarding the utilization rates that are used to identify which communities are most in need or prioritized for new schools. It's my understanding that it's prior year's attendance, which to me is backward-looking.

What Mr. Main was trying get at is, I think, the department needs to start being proactive and start looking at utilization rates that are forward-looking, like taking into consideration not just attendance but the number of school-aged children in the community, or even more forward-thinking, including the

birth rate in that community to consider, if it's going to take seven years to construct the school, how many students are going to be in that community in seven years' time, not last year.

Would the minister commit to reviewing utilization rates and the criteria in it to be more forward-looking? Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. Right now the 85 percent utilization target is normally the percentage where we start the process of planning or preplanning on either additional space or new schools. With that is of course there's attendance tied to that given the space requirements. We will consider what we can do around that.

We have to understand that we are using last year's numbers and if we try to use this year's numbers, I think we don't get them 'til like... It would be quite something else to try to plan a capital item before our numbers are in. It's hard to do that. We would have the best data available to us through the SER when we conduct the student enrolment and come up with the final numbers. That shows the utilization rate of each school. At this point we have, I think, I feel like it's the best data that we can to plan our capital projects around. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to clarify that I wasn't asking the minister to take into account the current year's attendance

rates. I was asking to be even more forward-thinking than that, looking at birth rates and number of current student age children, and putting together projections to identify what the school population will be in seven years' time.

My next question is going to be: what are the current utilization rates of the different schools in Iqaluit, including the IDEA, the CFSN, and the Apex DEA? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do take into account what the population trends are for all communities. We can't guess or target when people move outside of their communities for various reasons. There's that, but point taken.

As for the utilization for Iqaluit, the Trois-Soleils, the French is at 85 percent; the Inuksuk High School, 65 percent; Nakasuk School, 68 percent; Aqsarniit Middle School, 59 percent; and Nanook School in Niaqunnguut is at 54 percent. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Inuksuk High School, you indicated, is at 65 percent utilization. What is the capacity of that school? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for his question. It says here that the capacity of the Inuksuk High School is 620 and

enrolment as of 2017-18 we counted as 400. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Out of curiosity, what is the total enrolment for all of the Iqaluit schools and what is the growth rate? Does it increase by 50 students every year? That's what I'm sort of trying to look at. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the Chair doesn't mind, if the member doesn't mind, I can provide a snapshot of the past, let's say, four years of how many students have been enrolled in the Iqaluit schools and provide that, if he so wishes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That would be appreciated. I'll move on to my next questions.

It has been noted that there's a potential for federal funding to contribute to the cost of the new addition of the Iqaluit French school. Have any federal funds been accessed for this project to date and, if not, what steps have been taken to request additional funding from the federal government? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Cornthwaite can have a better answer than I can give, so I would like to hand it off to him if you can

allow, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Cornthwaite.

Mr. Cornthwaite: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. Currently what we have done through the process of accessing the federal funds is that we have done a letter of intent to Heritage Canada indicating to them that there's a project in Iqaluit for the francophone community. In the year 2019-2020, if it is approved on the capital plan, we can then apply for the funding through Heritage Canada and we're able to get up to 50 percent of the money from Heritage Canada. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My last question on the topic of the French school is: if that federal funding is not approved, will there be any consequences to the project? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) It would still continue. We would still go forth with this project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll move on to the next topic and that's the school buses. When was the last time a school was purchased and provided to the DEAs in Iqaluit? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. The busing service in Iqaluit is all third party, private delivered, so we have not purchased any buses for the DEA in Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the topic of contract buses, are there any challenges facing the Department of Education or the DEAs with regard to the contracts? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is that O&M or capital? I'm not sure. Is that a capital question or an O&M question, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman: Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Yes, I'll rephrase that question. It's my understanding that the Department of Education has denied the DEAs in Iqaluit any new buses. I would like to sort of get a little bit of information on the reasoning behind that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps you can allow our capital planning manager to respond, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Cornthwaite.

Mr. Cornthwaite: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. The Iqaluit District Education Authority did express to the Department of

Education that some buses were getting crowded and there might be a need for additional buses. At that time the department took it upon itself to do a study and we didn't find the crowding that was expressed by the IDEA, but we did indicate to the IDEA that they should look at the boundaries for their schools so that if there are some buses that might become crowded, they change the boundaries for the schools so that they have different populations using the buses. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I was familiar with the overcrowding of buses that the DEA had mentioned, but they had also mentioned that there are students in the West 40 area that are not included in the...I can't recall the term, the "encapturement" area of the busing services, which is why I was wondering that if the contractor is refusing to go to that area, I think it would be ideal if the Department of Education would provide a bus for the DEAs to help the students that live in that area to attend the school. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I recall the news stories that were coming out through the media around this and I think the solution that has been used to date is taxi vouchers have been used in lieu of having a full bus deliver service to that area of the city. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's the exact same thing I was told, that the schools were telling parents to send their children to school and they would be provided taxi vouchers, but what really shocked me was what if these children are grade 1, grade 2, or grade 3? I would not feel comfortable sending my children to school every day in a taxi where there is a random taxi driver. I don't think that is a viable or safe option. I really think that the department should provide a small bus to all the DEAs to share for students that live in that area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for his comment. We will consider that and we will see if... . Like we said, we have no request for busing as of today, so we will consider the options moving forward. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am glad to hear that. I'll move on to my next topic and that's the Sakku School. Do the plans incorporate the facilities for full-day kindergarten? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm glad to hear that and I am sure that the residents of that community will also be very happy to hear that.

With regard to the design of that school, on number of occasions I as well as number of other MLAs have expressed the importance of food programs in schools. I was wondering: what sort of kitchen facilities will be included in the design of that school? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If we approve this budget, we would go towards the design and that would entail what exactly the kitchen and those types of details would come out through that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe this is going to be my last question and it's going to be on the topic of ongoing lifecycle. In our standing committee review, I had asked about an update on the Joamie School safe bus drop-off area. For the viewing public, would you be able to give us an update on that issue? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for his question. Potential issues have been identified on the bus drop-off area. CGS has provided different options to support bus drop-off projects and we will be proceeding this spring. Thank you, Mr.

Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Next name on my list, Mr. Keyootak.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, welcome minister and staff.

My first question is regarding schools that are now built with daycares attached to them, which makes it a lot more functional. I know that the construction of the school in my community included a daycare.

In my other constituency community of Clyde River they have an older school without a daycare. I sought their input to see how they have dealt with not having a daycare. They notified me that they have been working to get a daycare in Clyde River. Perhaps I can get an update on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank him for that question. Yes, he's right that when new schools are being constructed, they include daycares. That's the way it is. However, the Department of Education doesn't fund daycares nor does the department capital budget include daycares. The daycares have their own board of directors in the communities that look after it through an independent board or through the hamlet. More daycares are being opened by seeking other funding sources for operations and maintenance costs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Keyootak.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for his proper response. I think we have an audience who understands better.

On another matter, school buses were mentioned earlier. I want to understand better so that we will all know.

Excluding Iqaluit, how many communities have received a new bus? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you. This year in 2018, they were Pond Inlet and Clyde River. Thank you, Mr. Chairman

Chairman: Mr. Keyootak.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Qikiqtarjuaq has to be on that list as there probably is one bus, if I'm not mistaken. I thought a school bus was brought in, but it hasn't been used. I would like to ask why it hasn't been used. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. From what I understand, there is a school bus in Qikiqtarjuaq, but they probably can't find a driver, so it is not able to be used. I want people to be aware of that, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Keyootak.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I agree that we need buses, especially in the smaller

communities. It's better if the communities that want buses are prepared and have drivers so that the buses can be used as soon as possible. We would very much like to have the bus used in our community.

It was mentioned earlier that more and more polar bears are coming into the communities and they fear for the safety of children, who should have transportation provided. In our community, starting in September to the end of October, we had polar bears almost on a daily basis. We have polar bears coming into the community almost daily and polar bears even go on the road. This is a real safety concern for our students.

When the daylight gets shorter and it gets dark sooner and there's daylight later in the morning, it becomes a real safety concern. Children with parents who don't have vehicles walk to school by themselves. When polar bears come into the community, it becomes a real safety concern. Sometimes we have polar bears coming into our community of Qikiqtarjuaq daily.

Therefore we have to be prepared if we're going to be requesting a bus for the community. We have to ensure that there are operators available. Can the Department of Education have that information to ensure that there are operators available when they're requesting a bus? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that

we're getting into O&M issues, but we will take his comments and consider them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Next name on my list, Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In June of this year the Chesterfield Inlet DEA wrote to the minister's office to request an addition of a new industrial tech classroom. It was built in 1980, but it was not designed as a woodworking shop. It now functions as a woodworking shop. Currently the shop is right next to the kitchen classroom and the ventilation is not very good. In addition, there's not enough space for tools, equipment, or supplies.

Can the minister indicate whether he received the letter from the Chesterfield Inlet DEA and explain what considerations have been given to including the school addition project to the capital plan? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank her for that question. Yes, we received that letter and I recall, two weeks ago, on October 18 they had written a letter and we responded to that letter. To date there has not been much consideration given to that. (interpretation ends) We did outline in our letter that the dust suppressant or dust collection system has been installed for the school to mitigate the concerns around dust.

(interpretation) We're presently working on putting that in the capital plan. We

can't put it in there immediately. For instance, the request came in late and that's one of the reasons. That's where we stand right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Chesterfield Inlet is the only community that has the Naja centre with mentally handicapped students. They are in a centre and they go to that school, and they're mentally or physically handicapped.

Can the minister indicate how often his staff meets with the members of the district education authority to discuss capital infrastructure issues or needs at the schools in their community? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. Perhaps you could allow my Deputy Minister, Mr. Kusugak, to respond, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Kusugak.

Mr. Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. We were in that community in September and we met with the DEA of Chesterfield Inlet. We consulted with them on the *Education Act*, but we asked them what kinds of assistance they needed. We were open to them and we met with them. We started writing down what assistance they wanted. I could tell you how the meeting went. Thank you.

Chairman: Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In saying that, the DEA was late for the 2019-2020 capital estimates. In the next cycle of capital estimates, I would like to see some consideration for the DEA's request which is written in the letter.

Secondly, busing is an issue in Chesterfield Inlet. If you Google on the computer on the road within the community, it's called the polar bear walk. That's because right in between the community a lot of polar bears use that and one part of the community is on one side and the other part is on the other side. The children are bused to the school on the other side.

The Chesterfield Inlet District Education Authority has noticed that there is no space available to do maintenance on the school bus, especially during the cold winter months. Can the minister explain why the contracts for busing in our communities do not take into consideration the need for storage for our school buses; a warm heated garage? Chesterfield Inlet has aging infrastructure. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We are only focused on... Well, we do build new schools, renovate existing schools or expand them, and then we buy buses. However, with the budget that we come up with, we can only afford that right now. Right now bus storage is not a part of our capital planning. With our limited

resources, that's how it is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My final question is: if it's not with the limited resources, if it's not in the capital plan for next year, even though if it's limited, then for next year's cycle capital plan, the Department of Education should consider putting it into the capital plan for the safety of the children who depend on the bus. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's just a comment.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That was just a comment, but to comment on the comment, there are many needs and right now we want to build new schools or majorly renovate existing schools. If we go that path of trying to include storage facilities for our buses, we have 25 communities, so that would mean where do we start, which community, and then that would be times 25. Our resources can't allow that. Thank you for the comment and Mr. Chairman, thanks.

Chairman: Thank you. Next name on my list, Mr. Qirngnuq.

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

I have a question on page 2 of the minister's opening comments, last paragraph, which refers to the school in Cape Dorset. I would like to get clarification. To say it in English, (interpretation ends) warranty phase,

(interpretation) I'm not sure what exactly the term is in Inuktitut. How long is the (interpretation ends) warranty (interpretation) phase for that school? I hope that was clear, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The (interpretation ends) warranty (interpretation) is for one year. For instance, once the government builds a new school, we have to look at whether our money was spent properly. (interpretation ends) The warranty phase of any project is to ensure that the government is getting what they paid for, so it's in good working order, and it's according to the design and specifications that were in the planning. That's where that comes in. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Are you done? Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is it the same for all new schools? Are all the warranty periods the same? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. It's a one-year warranty period for all of them. Once the construction of the school is complete, it's when the one-year period starts. I hope that was clear. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, minister, for the response. Secondly on page 3, the Kugaaruk school that's being constructed right now has a completion date of August 2019. After it's completed, what's the useful lifecycle of the school? I'm asking that question to get clarification. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. The school can be used for 50 years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I smile at myself. I would like to ask another question. The useful life of the school is for many years.

In the chairman's opening comments on page 3, the district education authorities... I'll speak in English so that I'll be clear. (interpretation ends) "Members encourage the department to develop a comprehensive strategy to ensure that all school facilities and school playgrounds are protected from such acts as vandalism and arson." (interpretation) My question is: if there was arson at the schools and they were put on fire, do they have insurance or is it impossible to get insurance? I want to understand that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that's

an O&M question. Do you agree with me? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thought it was part of the capital plan. I thought the insurance for the school fell under capital. If I'm wrong, you can correct me, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): As the schools are being built, they always have construction insurance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The question I'm asking is if a building is big or small and if someone is trying to burn it down in arson and it has to be replaced, will it be covered by insurance? I'm asking that for clarification, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We don't deal with insurance in the Department of Education, so I can't really respond to that, but from what I understand, the schools are supposed to have their own insurance through the government. They have to be self-insured. (interpretation ends) There's no company out there that would insure our schools based off of the number of arsons that have happened in the territory. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Qirngnuq, your question was an O&M question; if you can stick to capital. Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sure I'll understand this at some later date, Mr. Chairman.

I'll move on to something else. The minister received a letter from my other community's chair of the district education authority about the school. I think they're requesting to upgrade it or requesting for a new school. Mr. Chairman, I would like information on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe he's talking about Taloyoak's Netsilik School. It is under the preplanning stage and it is progressing. Community and Government Services met with the district education authority in Taloyoak on November 27, the next meeting was on April 3, 2018, and the last meeting was on June 14 to give the community an update on what they were doing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for his response. I'm always interested in getting updates on what is happening with my constituency.

This will be my last question. The communities are starting to get school buses. In my community we have a vehicle that is used as a bus, but it has to be at the hamlet garage in the winter.

When do you foresee having a storage space for the school bus near the school? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: I think the minister already answered that question from one of the members, but I'll ask Minister Joanasié if he wants to respond to it. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Right now in the capital plan we don't set aside money for the purpose that the member is asking about. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize for not realizing it was discussed. That was my last question. I thank the minister for being able to respond, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. That was just a comment. Next name, Ms. Kamingoak.

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to make a correction as to what I said earlier. I stated that parents were concerned with their children walking to school at a time when we had a reoccurrence of polar bears.

>> *Laughter*

I should have said grizzly bears.

>> *Laughter*

Moving on, I'm going to repeat myself, but I should have asked this earlier. Given that the utilization rate plays a major role in replacing a school and the

Kugluktuk high school has been on top of that for a number of years, for the record, when can we see this in the preplanning stages? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I can't say it will be in preplanning, but going to Kugluktuk school utilization, the high school right now, it says it's at 109. I think this is the highest in the territory, 109 percent. However, we do note also that the Jimmy Hikok Ilihakvik is at 70 percent utilization, so there is the catchment area, like I had said. Maybe there is a grade that can move between schools so that they balance out the utilization, that is. Those are things that we also try to work with the DEAs and our RSOs to see what the best possible solution is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Kamingoak.

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the elementary school, when I was going to school in that school, it went from kindergarten to grade 6 and I know the grade 6s have been moved to the high school. How can I understand that utilization rate? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The utilization measurement of the current enrolment figure is divided by the teaching area capacity of the building. This gives us a percentage of usage. An example is John Arnalukjuak High School has a teaching area capacity

of 422 students. There are 264 students attending the school, or 63 percent of the total teaching area is being used by students. For Kugluktuk, like I said, the existing capacity for the high school is at 203, but the enrolment is at 222, which means the utilization is over capacity, but the other school is below. I hope that clears it up. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Kamingoak.

Ms. Kamingoak: Okay. I'm going to ask this again. Do you have a set date of when the high school will be in the preplanning stages, or where do we stand? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps if you can allow the manager of capital to elaborate on a response. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Cornthwaite.

Mr. Cornthwaite: Thank you for the question. I think the opportunity to take time to understand the preplanning is the Department of Education typically puts forward approximately six schools for consideration for future expansion or a new school being built in the community. There's a peer group that reviews the submissions by each department.

Unfortunately we don't get everything that we ask for because there are only so many things that get approved for preplanning. There are a lot of departments that are submitting projects for preplanning as well as the Department of Education and only so many projects can go forward in the

preplanning envelope with the Department of Community and Government Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: You're done? Thank you. Next name on my list, Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I've just got one question. (interpretation) When the DEA wants to get a school bus, where do they submit their request? To your department? I would like the listening audience to get that information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. The DEA's chairperson would write a letter to my office and that would be the best way. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If they request for a school bus and there's no adequate space for it and they get approval, does the Department of Education look for a storage space for this bus? Thank you. That's my last question.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We try to consider that to see if there's adequate space. The DEA can make an agreement with whoever owns that space. Whenever there's a request like that, we try to consider the space as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. We're on Education. Corporate Services. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I just have a few more quick follow-up questions.

When it comes to early childhood education, I know you mentioned that most of them are not GN facilities. Does the department maintain a list of the number of daycare spaces by community that are currently available? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Right now there are currently 16 out of the 52 licensed child care facilities that are operating outside of GN schools. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main: Thank you, minister, for that information. Please clarify that a bit more. 16 are outside of the... . How many are within GN schools and how many are outside? Just to clarify. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thanks for this question. 16 out of 52 licensed child care facilities are in GN schools. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Does the department maintain a list of how many spaces are available at the child care facilities across Nunavut, including both the daycares in schools and the ones that are not in schools? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you. Yes, we do track that information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I'm waiting for the red light.

Would the minister be able to provide that list to us at some point in terms of community by community saying how many daycares spaces are actually available? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have that in front of me, but yes, I think we can provide that in detail. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Can or will? Anyway I'm assuming that was a "will." Thank you for that.

What I am trying to get at is I really would be interested to see the utilization rate for daycares across Nunavut. I know

in Arviat we have a waiting list currently of about 30 to 40 children waiting for daycare spaces and we do not have any daycares within any of our schools. That's just a comment.

My last line of questioning is along my colleague's line when it comes to the food programs within the schools. On the capital side of things, I know that we have the capital and we have the equipment to offer breakfast programs. Does the department have anything on paper or a business case prepared that would reflect establishing lunch programs for every community in Nunavut? I'm trying to figure out if this is something that's on the radar within the Department of Education. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe that's more of an O&M question, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main, do you want to rephrase? Mr. Main.

Mr. Main: Sure. Thank you. With regard to the capital, the equipment that would be required to operate lunch programs in every school across Nunavut, is this something that has been costed out or is on the radar in terms of the capital that would be required to deliver such a service? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) If you can allow

Mr. Cornthwaite to provide some details to his question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Cornthwaite.

Mr. Cornthwaite: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. All new school designs contain a career technology space and a career technology space is a CTS space for short form and they all contain commercial kitchens areas.

As far as funding for different programs, there is no capital money that does any funding for any programs with regard to feeding the students, unfortunately. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you for that answer. I agree that it is very unfortunate. Using Kugaaruk's new school for example, the CTS room that you referred to that has an industrial kitchen, is that a sufficient size to feed lunches to the students in Kugaaruk's school? Is the CTS room designed to have the capacity to provide enough food on a daily basis for the amount of students in the school? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The CTS kitchen, those rooms are used for teaching space, but the large, industrial... . When we opened the one in Cape Dorset, it's a pretty big deal. I mean it seems like it's fully equipped and they had dishwashers and washers, industrial ovens, and good counter space. It's a good facility for

preparing and using that part of the school for learning but also food preparation. It's what the kitchen is used for, so that's what they do in there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Keeping this on capital, can the minister commit to working with his colleagues in Family Services and Health to at the very least discussing this idea in terms of looking at what capital would be required to upgrade schools across Nunavut, I'm thinking of existing schools, with a view to establishing core service provided lunch programs? Of course I'm asking about the capital requirements, but I would like the minister to commit to at the very least having a discussion with his colleagues regarding this possible avenue. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for his question. We could do that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I look forward to hearing what the results of that discussion are from the minister.

Just a closing comment, I feel that food programs are a very good investment, a very solid return on investment. This is something that has been proven across the United States. It's something that has

been proven worldwide. It could significantly improve attendance in some communities where you have high poverty and high food insecurity.

The last thing that I really like about food programs is that they're very labour-intensive and it provides jobs for people who are helping to prepare food for children. That's just a comment. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>Applause

Chairman: Thank you. It's just a comment. I just have two more names left and I won't be adding any more, just to let you know. Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have two questions. We all know that there's vandalism in the schools, which is unfortunate, but it does happen anywhere in Nunavut. My question is in regard to the DEAs. How much money did they use to fix the vandalized areas in 2018-19? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank him for the question. From what I understand, if a school should be vandalized, Community and Government Services would use the funds to fix up the school. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you. I didn't hear a number, but I will go ahead. Under small capital projects, have

you set aside funds in the 2019-2020 budget to clean up vandalized areas and how much it will cost? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In 2018-19 we have set aside funds to repair chairlifts or install new ones, safe bus drop-offs, equipment purchase, and minor repairs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question was for 2019-2020. That was my last question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize. We haven't identified the funds. They will have to be approved by the House before we start putting amounts on different budget items. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister had mentioned the opening of the new Cape Dorset high school, which I'm sure the community is very excited about, but yesterday there was an article on APTN about the new school and in the article they had identified that the school was designed for 160 students. Is that correct? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that is incorrect. (interpretation ends) We will have to get back to him. I'm pretty sure that is not the right figure. (interpretation) It has capacity for 229 students. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the clarification. Is the minister aware of the current attendance rate for September? I know it's not finalized, but I'm sure that given that Maplewood Student Information System, there must be an estimate or an unadjusted attendance rate. Would the minister be able to share that with us? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: That might be an O&M question, but I'll ask Minister Joanasié if he wants to respond to it. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll just say that back in 2015 when the Peter Pitseolak High School was destroyed by fire, there were 143 students at the time. After we built and opened the new school, the attendance has been higher than ever. Mr. Chairman, I would also note that this project, which we used the design-build construction contract, it was under budget. Members may recall that we spent to the tune of \$1.5 million on other items that were budgeted for the school. That's how much it was under budget. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Lightstone, capital budget question. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr.

Chairman. My questions are regarding the Cape Dorset school that is on the 2019-2020 capital estimate plan. Given that the school was designed for, I think you said, 230 students... On the APTN news yesterday, the principal was on TV stating that the attendance rate for that school was 210, which means that this new school is already at 91 percent utilization rate.

What I'm trying to get at is the fact that the current system of calculating the utilization rate may be flawed, that backward-looking attendance numbers is the incorrect way of deciding what community gets a school and how big it is. I believe that the criteria used to design and select what community gets a school needs to be revamped, modified, and really needs to take into consideration forward-looking calculations. We shouldn't be building for yesterday; we need to build for tomorrow. That's what I'm trying to get at.

Given the estimated 91 percent utilization rate of Cape Dorset, what is the department going to do for that community? Does it mean that Cape Dorset will be put on the list for a new school? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish. In seriousness, the member pointed out that yes, the community has a new school. However, the elementary school there is under capacity and in addition to that, there are the portables that we installed during the meantime when the new school was being built. Those are still in place, being used, and can be used for the

future growth of the community. Given that, we are in a good position to have a very low utilization rate for both facilities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. We're on Education. Corporate Services. Total Capital Expenditures. \$20,080,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to page G-2. Department Summary. Education. Total Capital Expenditures. \$20,080,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Joanasié, do you have any closing comments?

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the officials for the Department of Education. I would like to thank Community and Government Services for their support on the capital plan.

Your questions were good to respond to. Thank you for your good questions. I look forward to the schools being up and running for a long time and put to good use in our communities where we are able to build big schools. They are gathering places for our communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>Applause

Chairman: Thank you, minister. Thank you for answering the questions that my colleagues had. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses.

We will proceed with the opening comments from the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation and the chair of the standing committee. Minister Akeegok. Thank you.

**Bill 09 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,
2019-2020 – Economic
Development and Transportation
– Consideration in Committee**

Hon. David Akeegok (interpretation): Good evening, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to present the Department of Economic Development and Transportation's capital projects for 2019-2020 with the Committee of the Whole. I would like to provide good responses to my colleagues.

Mr. Chairman, following is a summary of my department's capital projects for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

A portion of these capital expenditures are for our airports, which are critical in providing safe and efficient connections between our communities and to the rest of the world. Another portion is dedicated to the construction of marine infrastructure in Iqaluit and Pond Inlet. Once completed, this infrastructure will provide both communities with safe and efficient sealift operations and safe docking facilities for local boaters.

This budget includes funding for the Iqaluit International Airport Improvement Project. Now that the

construction work is complete, the operations phase of the project is underway. The Government of Nunavut has continuing obligations throughout this 30-year term. The capital expenditures detailed in this year's plan will be used to replace mobile equipment needed to maintain airport operations, including a fire truck and a runway inspection vehicle.

The Government of Nunavut's proposal to the National Trade Corridors Fund for five new airport terminal buildings has been approved. Over the next two fiscal years construction will begin on new airport terminal buildings in (interpretation ends) Whale Cove, Kugluktuk, Naujaat, (interpretation) and Kimmirut. The (interpretation ends) National Trade Corridors (interpretation) Fund will provide 75 percent of the funding and the Government of Nunavut will provide the other 25 percent. The preplanning phase for (interpretation ends) Chesterfield Inlet (interpretation) and Naujaat is nearing completion by Community and Government Services. We will initiate the tender process for new airport terminal buildings. Preplanning work has been initiated for the other sites. (interpretation ends) These much-needed buildings will provide a safe and comfortable venue for community airline passengers.

Mr. Chairman, maintaining our airports also requires that we have a reliable mobile equipment fleet and efficient and safe airport facilities. We do this through two projects. The first, the transportation equipment and facilities project, is for heavy equipment, facility upgrades, and regulatory remediations as required by Transport Canada where each piece costs more than \$250,000. Small capital

is for expenditures less than \$250,000. This will include runway inspection vehicles, lifecycle renovations of our facilities, and studies to initiate and develop capital projects.

Finally, we have the small craft harbour projects to fund minor projects and repairs. While modest, this investment demonstrates our commitment to the development of marine infrastructure and is essential to our continued efforts to encourage the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to invest in small craft harbours in Nunavut.

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman, I believe that this plan is in line with the department's mandate as we continue to strengthen partnerships with the federal government, industry, and our communities to ensure that the investments we make in Nunavut have a lasting impact on safety and on the economic and social future of our territory.

I will be glad to answer any questions from my fellow members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: For the minister's information, opening comments is missing page 3. Does the chair of the standing committee have opening comments? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll try to read a little bit slower today. Apparently the other day the translators were having a tough time keeping up with me and they were out of breath at the end of the day.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear!

Mr. Rumbolt: I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development on its review of the proposed 2019-2020 Capital Estimates of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. The department's proposed capital budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year is \$15,779,000. This represents a decrease of approximately 27 percent from its 2018-19 capital budget of \$21,718,000.

The spring 2017 *Report of the Auditor General of Canada to Parliament* included a chapter titled Civil Aviation Infrastructure in the North. One of the Auditor General's recommendations was that the federal Department of Transport "...should lead the development of a long-term strategy for northern airport infrastructure. The strategy should clearly outline the role that Transport Canada will play in addressing the infrastructure needs of remote northern airports." The federal government's response to this recommendation was that Transport Canada "will work with territorial governments and other federal government departments and stakeholders to identify shared priorities for northern transportation infrastructure, including, but not limited to, northern airports." The standing committee encourages the minister to provide regular updates to the Legislative Assembly concerning its work with Transport Canada in this area.

In 2016 the Government of Canada announced a new Trade and Transportation Corridors Initiative. On September 14, 2017 the Legislative Assembly was informed that the Government of Nunavut had submitted

seven expressions of interest to the federal government for funding under this initiative. These expressions of interest concerned the Grays Bay Road and Port Project; the Nunavut-Manitoba Winter Road Project; air terminal building replacements in Chesterfield Inlet, Kimmirut, Kugluktuk, Naujaat, and Whale Cove; marine development projects for Qikiqtarjuaq and Rankin Inlet; and airport relocations in Kimmirut and Pangnirtung.

On May 16, 2018 the Government of Canada announced funding under the Trade and Transportation Corridors Initiative for the construction of new airport terminal buildings in the communities of Kugluktuk, Naujaat, Kimmirut, Whale Cove, and Chesterfield Inlet, as well as funding for the construction of an expanded cargo warehouse operated by First Air at the Iqaluit airport. None of the other submitted projects under the Trade and Transportation Corridors Initiative were approved by the federal government.

The department's proposed 2019-2020 capital estimates include funding for replacement of airport terminal buildings in Chesterfield Inlet and Naujaat.

The department's proposed 2019-2020 capital estimates include funding for "small capital projects" and "transportation equipment and facilities." The majority of this funding is for the acquisition of mobile equipment for Nunavut airports. The department's proposed 2019-2020 budget for small capital projects also includes funding for "airfield regulatory remediations," "life cycle renovations," and "capital planning studies." The standing committee continues to

encourage the minister to report annually to the Legislative Assembly on the results of these remediations, renovations, and studies.

The current business plan of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation indicates that one of its ongoing priorities has been to “Complete planning work for remediation and removal of decommissioned airport terminal buildings in Qikiqtarjuaq, Coral Harbour, Nanisivik, Sanikiluaq, and Resolute Bay.” The business plan indicates that “Planning is complete in all communities and capital funding has been secured for Sanikiluaq.” The department’s 2018-19 capital estimates included \$850,000 in funding for the decommissioning of the old airport terminal building in Sanikiluaq. I should note that the building has been remediated. The department’s proposed 2019-2020 capital estimates do not include any new funding for the decommissioning of old airport terminal buildings. The standing committee encourages the minister to clarify the department’s schedule for the decommissioning of the remaining facilities.

The Department of Economic Development and Transportation’s proposed 2019-2020 capital estimates include funding for the ongoing construction of new marine infrastructure facilities in Pond Inlet and Iqaluit, as well as small craft harbour capital contributions. Funding for small craft harbour capital contributions has been included in the department’s annual capital estimates since the 2009-2010 fiscal year. In August of 2015 the department’s *Community Transportation*

Initiatives Program Policy was revised. Schedule A of the policy concerns departmental support for “Access Roads and Community Marine Infrastructure.” Funding for projects under Schedule A is provided from the department’s operations and maintenance budget. Schedule B details departmental support for “Small Craft Harbour Capital Contributions.” The 2017-18 annual report on the administration of the program was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on June 14 of 2018. The standing committee looks forward to the ongoing and timely tabling of departmental annual reports on contributions made under both Schedule A and Schedule B of the policy.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2019-2020 Capital Estimates of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation.

Also, Mr. Chairman, I would like to move a motion to report progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>*Laughter*

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. We have a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion. All those opposed. The motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress.

Speaker (interpretation): Let us proceed. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Akoak.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Your committee has been considering Bill 9 and would like to report progress and that one committee motion was withdrawn. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Thank you, Ms. Nakashuk. The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Thank you. All those opposed. You have been defeated.

>>*Laughter*

The motion is carried.

Third Reading of Bills. *Orders of the Day*. (interpretation ends) Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for November 2:

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

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

13. Tabling of Documents

14. Notices of Motions

15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

16. Motions

17. First Reading of Bills

18. Second Reading of Bills

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

- Bill 2
- Bill 9
- Bill 10
- Bill 11

20. Report of the Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. This House stands adjourned until Friday, November 2, at 9:00 a.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 18:19*

Appendix – November 1, 2018



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Nunavut Maligaliurvia
Legislative Assembly of Nunavut
Assemblée législative du Nunavut

Return to Oral Question

Asked by: Allan Rumbolt, MLA for Hudson Bay

Asked of: Hon. David Joanasié, Minister Responsible for NAC

Number: 198-5(2)

Date: 26 October 2018

Subject: Sanikiluaq Community Learning Centre

Question:

Mr. Speaker, as the Minister will know, Nunavut Arctic College's community learning centre in Sanikiluaq is currently operated out of the elementary school. However, the lease for that space will expire in 2019.

Could the Minister clearly explain what efforts are being considered for the future location of the community learning centre in Sanikiluaq?

Response:

Mr. Speaker, I would first like to thank Mr. Rumbolt for his question. As the member is aware, infrastructure is a critical issue for our territory and

the wise use of all of the assets we have at our disposal is of central importance.

Currently, Nunavut Arctic College has a Memorandum of Understanding with the District Education Authority to provide space for College operations in Nuiyak School. As Member Rumbolt noted, this Memorandum is coming to an end on June 30th, 2019 without a possibility for extension.

Currently, through that space, Nunavut Arctic College is providing the Getting Ready for Employment and Training program, the College Foundation program, and the Nunavut Teacher Education program through that space to the people of Sanikiluaq.

Last month, staff of the Department of Community and Government Services assessed the state of the College's old community learning centre in Sanikiluaq, and they believe that with some renovations that space can be made ready for program delivery again. The pricing for this option is being completed now. That work that needs to be done will be starting soon in hopes that it is completed by the time that the College must relinquish the space in Nuiyak school. This will ensure that there is no disruption to College operations in that community.

I will note Mr. Speaker that the use of our former community learning centre is a short term solution for the College. As this space is significantly smaller, the College will be restricted to offering programs in the community of Sanikiluaq until a longer term solution is in place.

Qujannamiik Uqaqtittijii