

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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*Government House Leader; Minister of
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Sergeant-at-Arms
Charlie Audlakiak

Hansard Production
Innirvik Support Services

Box 1200

Iqaluit, Nunavut, X0A 0H0

Tel (867) 975-5000 Fax (867) 975-5190 Toll-Free (877) 334-7266

Website: www.assembly.nu.ca

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Tuesday, November 6, 2018

Members Present:

Hon. David Akeeagok, Mr. Tony Akoak, Ms. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak, Hon. Joe Enook, Hon. George Hickes, Hon. David Joanase, Mr. Joeline Kaerner, Ms. Mila Kamingoak, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak, Hon. Lorne Kusugak, Mr. Adam Lightstone, Mr. John Main, Mr. Simeon Mikkungwak, Ms. Margaret Nakashuk, Hon. 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: Premier, (interpretation) and my colleagues, good afternoon. Nunavummiut who are listening to the radio broadcast and watching the televised proceedings, welcome to your Legislative Assembly.

We will now proceed to the orders of the day. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. According to the order paper, I seek unanimous consent to go directly to Item 19, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is seeking unanimous consent to go directly to Item 19 in the *Orders of the Day*. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Let's proceed with the orders of the day. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 2, 9, 10, and 11 with Mr. Rumbolt 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.

I now ask that you remain at your seats as we will proceed directly into the Committee of the Whole.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

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

Chairman (Mr. Rumbolt): Good afternoon, members. 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. 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 Justice, followed by the departments of Environment, Family Services, Culture and Heritage, and concluding with the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Chairman: Thank you. I would like to ask Ms. Ehaloak: do you have witnesses that you would like to appear before the committee? Ms. Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I do. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Does the committee agree for the minister to go to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, could you please escort the witnesses in.

Thank you. For the record, Ms. Ehaloak, I would like you to introduce your witnesses and then please proceed to your opening comments. Ms. Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to introduce to my right, my Deputy Minister, William MacKay; to my left, Ji Liu, who is the Director of Corporate Services.

Mr. Chairman, I appear before the Committee of the Whole today to present the Department of Justice's draft 2019-2020 capital estimates. We are seeking approval of \$3,900,000 for the Department of Justice's capital expenditures for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

The Department of Justice is seeking \$900,000 approval in the minor capital budget. The budget ensures the department's daily operational infrastructure needs are covered, which include updating its software to increase operational efficiency, maintaining vehicles up

to operational needs, and maintaining and improving the condition of our buildings. The minor capital expenditures will include the following:

- Two vehicle replacements, one new vehicle to the justice fleet to meet operational needs. One vehicle will be purchased to replace the 2008 express cargo van that the department acquired from the RCMP when court escort services were taken over by the Government of Nunavut. This replacement vehicle will need to be a high-capacity prisoner transport vehicle.
- Justice information technology projects as part of updating or replacing existing systems.
- Court circuit audio equipment must be updated for its mobile court circuit audio equipment in order to record and translate court proceedings in the communities.
- An air handling system to improve air circulation at the Utaqqivik Community Residential Centre.
- Repairs at the seven Government of Nunavut owned correctional facilities and the Nunavut Court of Justice building.

The Department of Justice is also working closely with the related parties to control the costs of the Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre project. There is a \$3 million allocation to this project for 2019-2020. In April of 2018 the Department of Justice reviewed the tender submitted for the Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre project. A single bid was received in the amount of \$76,538,000. This was significantly higher than the approved budget for the project. Accordingly, the Government of Nunavut cancelled the tender. The department has entered into negotiations with the bidder and is finalizing a contract for approximately \$73 million.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my opening comments. I will now take any questions from the committee members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Ehaloak. Does the chair of the standing committee have any opening comments? Ms. Nakashuk, please go ahead.

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you. Good afternoon. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness concerning its review of the proposed 2019-2020 Capital Estimates of the Department of Justice.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Justice is requesting a total of \$3.9 million for its 2019-2020 capital budget. This includes funding for the ongoing Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre project, as well as funding for a number of small capital projects.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee recognizes that the major security incident which occurred at the Baffin Correctional Centre during June of this year resulted in significant damage to the facility. Members would like to recognize the minister, her officials, and first responders for their work in ensuring that no employees or inmates were seriously injured during the incident. Members also recognize the hard work that went into arranging for the temporary relocation of inmates to correctional facilities outside of the territory while repairs were being undertaken. This has been a difficult time for staff, inmates and their families.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Justice is requesting capital funding to proceed with the construction of the new Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre project during the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Once again, the facility will significantly increase Nunavut's capacity to house adult male offenders within the territory. In addition, the new facility will be able to accommodate medium- and maximum-security offenders.

On February 1, 2017 the Government of Canada publicly announced funding of up to \$56,625,000 towards this project through the federal Small Communities Fund. The announcement indicated that the Government of Nunavut's share of the project would be \$19,175,000. The Department of Justice's 2018-19 capital estimates included \$5,438,000 in funding for the project. Earlier this year the department issued a tender for the construction of the new facility. However, this tender was subsequently cancelled by the government. News reports indicate that only one bid was received for the project, which was significantly over the budgeted amount.

During the minister's recent appearance before the standing committee to review her department's proposed 2019-2020 capital estimates, members requested a detailed update on the status of this project, including a breakdown of departmental expenditures to date. Members also questioned the extent to which consideration has been given to modifying the proposed design or other parameters of the project to address budget and tendering issues. However, there is currently a lack of clarity surrounding these and other issues.

Mr. Chairman, the department's proposed 2019-2020 capital estimates also include funding for a number of small capital projects. Members appreciated receiving detailed information on proposed expenditures in this area. During the minister's recent appearance before the standing committee, members were informed that such projects as renovations to the Kugluktuk Ilavut Healing Centre are still in the planning stages. Members look forward to ongoing updates on the status of this and other projects.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2019-2020 Capital Estimates of the Department of Justice. (interpretation) Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Nakashuk. Do any members have any general comments for the Department of Justice? Being none, we will move on. We will first go to page E-3. Justice. Directorate. Are there any questions? No questions? Now we have questions.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My questions for the minister are going to be regarding the Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre. As was previously indicated in both opening comments, the original project commencement date of the 2018-19 fiscal year has been postponed due to tender bids for the project. Will the government reissue a public tender for the construction of the new healing centre or is it considering such options as entering into a negotiated contract with a company to build the facility? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Mr. Lightstone, just to remind you, we started with Directorate. We're not to the Corrections page yet, but for now I will allow this question. If you could stick to Directorate for now. Ms. Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this time the Department of Justice, in conjunction or working with Community and Government Services, we do not plan on retendering the bid. We do plan on negotiating with the sole bidder. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Ehaloak. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: I do have more questions regarding the correctional healing centre. Would you like me to wait until the appropriate time? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Yes, we will first finish with Directorate. Mr. Main, you had a question? Please go ahead.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good day, minister and your officials. Under this title of (interpretation ends) Directorate (interpretation) which is the senior management or headquarters level, where I believe they develop plans for the entire territory of Nunavut.

If interest came from a community, where they wanted to build a facility or what is this word used here...an on-the-land program for inmates or interest in working with inmates where can they request the information from?

Here I mean materials for building cabins as part of the program. If they were interested in building cabins out on the land, would they have to go through the justice department or how can they submit a proposal with this type of land use? Who would they direct that to? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mrs. Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If a community request to on-the-land programs for inmates, they would apply to the Department of Justice. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you. You say they can submit applications to the Department of Justice. Now, are there any requests that have been submitted to the department at this time related to capital items that we are discussing. Are there any new plans for this type of initiative anywhere in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have not received any requests from any of the communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): With respect to the funding requests, what is the limit? We used to have a program in Arviat in the past, which was closed. The on-the-land program has small cabins; I believe there were perhaps 10 cabins built outside of the community.

Does the department have a funding limit for capital projects in looking at requests? Is it one million dollars or should it be below that threshold? Do you have a set limit? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That would not be a capital project that would be an O&M request. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, any more questions? Mrs. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Although this might not pertain directly to capital, it is listed under the directorate where it talks about a Inuit Employment Plan. I am wondering if the department can inform us today on how they are coming along on their Inuit Employment Plan. How many Inuit and if their plan have been completed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank Mrs. Angnakak. That is O&M, so I'm not going to allow the question right now. You have no capital questions? Okay, Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Minister, welcome, and your officials. Mr. Chairman, my question, please inform me if it's not under this division. We have a correctional facility here in Iqaluit, a correctional facility for people who have problems. My apologies, the different regions, Qikiqtani, Kivalliq and Kitikmeot. Rankin Inlet is the biggest community in the Kivalliq, and Cambridge Bay is the biggest community in Kitikmeot. What work has been done with the growth of the communities are there any plans to add on to the present facilities? Thank you.

Chairman: Again we are moving onto Corrections, but I'll allow this question. Mrs. Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Qirngnuq, for your question. The new facility; the plans have been drawn and at this time there are no intentions of expanding the facility once it is built. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Ehaloak. Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, minister. My question is: has there been consideration to modifying the proposed design or other parameters of the project? With the tendering process, there was only one contract that applied for it. Is that part of the negotiations? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Towtongie. Again, we are moving on to corrections. I'm going to try to complete Directorate. It seems everybody is eager to move on.

>>Laughter

Again, we are on page E-9. Justice. Directorate. \$900,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Go to page E-6. Branch Summary. Corrections. Any questions here? Mr. Lightstone.

>>Laughter

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before I begin my questions, I just want to make a quick comment. During the summer months the minister and her staff were kind enough to provide me with a tour of the correctional facilities and gave me a better understanding of the environment the inmates as well as the correctional staff operate in and I fully understand and really have... I do have a better understanding of the difficult job that correctional staff have before them and I do want to state that I was quite happy of the programs that are made available. At times I feel that the media can be a little bit too critical and what doesn't often take note of the positive side of things. I just wanted to thank the minister for that and give the recognition where it's due.

I will return to my questions now and the minister had indicated that the original RFP was unsuccessful and that the department is now in negotiations with a sole vendor or a bidder. I was wondering if the negotiations would have any effect on the scope of the project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Lightstone, for your question. At this time there are no changes to the scope of the project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am kind of curious how the department is going about negotiating. Is it aiming to produce the estimated cost of the bed or is there any other sort of items under negotiation? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this time we are negotiating to...because we only received one bid, we are negotiating to ask them to reduce their bid. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The original tender that went out for the healing centre prescribed Inuit labour requirement of 20 percent. Is that level going to remain the same? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In negotiating with the bidder because of all of the other activities that are happening within Iqaluit, the Inuit employment is reduced to 15 percent. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do understand that there are quite a few individuals who are able and willing to work in the community of Iqaluit. I would like to find more or request more information on why the Inuit labour content for the project has decreased. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I, too, was upset that they wanted to negotiate the employment from 20 to 15 percent. They took into consideration all the projects that are going on within Iqaluit and housing. I brought up the concern that maybe they could bring Inuit from other communities and the other issue is where you put all these employees from out of the community. That's why they had asked that the Inuit employment rate be decreased. With all the other projects going on, like I stated, it would be hard for them to find 20 percent of Inuit employment for the project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Page 5 of the substantiation sheet, the Department of Justice intends to have inmate involvement where appropriate in the construction phase of the project. This would include both theory and hands-on trades learning. Would the minister be able to provide a little bit more information as to how much involvement inmates will have in the construction phase of this project? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I personally don't know that information. That would be administrative information, so I'm going to ask my Deputy Minister, William MacKay, to answer Mr. Lightstone's question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. MacKay.

Mr. MacKay: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question from the MLA. We actually were discussing this, this morning at the Baffin Correctional Centre. This is more of an idea that's sort of at the beginning stages. As far as we know, there hasn't been any correctional facility that has been built with the assistance or while using inmates and using it as an opportunity to train inmates in certain trades.

This is new ground or new territory that we're undertaking, a new ground we're breaking in this regard, so we don't have a lot of the details worked out. We still haven't finalized a contract. That's something that the company will propose something on, but we don't know a lot of the details on that. It's sort of an idea at this stage. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. MacKay. Ms. Ehaloak, you wanted to add to that? Please go ahead.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to mention that I'm happy to say that the Ilavut centre in Kugluktuk, some of the members did help build benches and tables for their facility. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Who would be responsible for compensating the inmates for their work? Would it be the vendor that's constructing the facility or would it come out of the correctional facility's work program? I can't recall the daily compensation rate, but it is fairly below market rate. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It would be the contractor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On page 6 of the substantiation sheet there's one line that really stands out and it states that the community of Iqaluit in particular is at increased risk due to the number of escapes that are occurring due to inadequate outdoor security features.

One issue that really jumped out at me when I was touring cells was the lack of perimeter fencing around our correctional facilities. Would the minister be able to tell us today how many of our correctional facilities currently have exterior fencing? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Currently none. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Ehaloak. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe that in Canada every medium-security correctional facility has exterior perimeter fencing. Why is it that we do not? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It was identified that during our consultation meetings, security fencing and walls are problematic in northern, communities requiring a high level of maintenance to ensure efficiency. Snow drifts are most problematic and have ability to render these measures useless. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It has come to my attention that a number of our airport facilities do have perimeter fencing around them and I don't believe they come across the same issues. If they have, then they have found a way to work around it. Why is it that our correctional facilities seem to have issues with perimeter fencing and our airport facilities do not? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our correctional facilities do not have snow removal equipment to remove all the snow, not like airports. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't mean to get too far off topic with regard to perimeter fencing around correctional facilities. Correct me if I'm wrong, but I thought that our inmates currently do work outside of the facilities clearing snow from government facilities such as schools. Is this correct? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, they do and that is part of their community service. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Just a reminder, Mr. Lightstone, we are drifting away from the capital budget. Please, if you could stick with the capital estimates. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was just trying to prove a point that medium-security correctional facilities across Canada generally do have perimeter fencing to ensure that the inmates have decreased likelihood of escape. I think that the issue is still the same here in Nunavut that considering that they're medium-security inmates in these facilities, we do need to do what we can to ensure that they do not escape. I think the substantiation sheet itself really identifies the issue. I would ask that the minister commit to looking into installing perimeter fencing in all medium-security facilities in the territory and get back to us as soon as possible. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to mention that at our facilities there are not a lot of escapes. With the new facility that we planned on building, there will be higher security so there will be less chance of inmates escaping, but we will take that into consideration for future capital. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just one last comment on the issue of perimeter fencing, it's not just to keep inmates out but also to keep contraband from getting in. When I was touring the facility, I did notice that there are quite a few holes in the walls and that correctional officers had indicated that it was due to people running up the walls and passing along contraband into the facility. The perimeter fencing would have a dual purpose, not just preventing inmates from escaping but preventing contraband from entering the facilities. That's it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. That was a comment. Moving on, Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have just one question. Earlier this year the Legislative Assembly's consideration of the Department of Justice's proposed 2018-19 capital estimates, an elders committee has been established as part of the planning phase of the construction of the facility. As of today, I would like to know what specific recommendations have been provided by the elders committee with respect to the new facility because they are in negotiations and if elders are part of that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Towtongie. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ms. Towtongie is correct. We do have an elders committee that participates in the planning of our new facility and they have brought in great traditional knowledge. Some of the information that they have sent us is the...sorry, just one moment. I just lost my train of thought. There are four local elders who actively deliver programs in the facility right now and they are planning on more programming and more traditional counselling in the new facility. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Ms. Angnakak, you had a question? Please go ahead.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Hopefully I'm on the right page. We're doing corrections, right? Okay.

I was going through the substantiation sheets as well and one of the things that stand out to me is about issuing improvement orders and that the Office of the Fire Marshal and the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission, both of these organizations have authority under legislation to actually close down the infrastructure and impose penalties. I'm wondering if you could tell us how many orders currently do you have outstanding that you can't address. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Ms. Angnakak, for your question. At this time I don't have the information for you. I don't have that level of detail, but we can get the information for you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you. That's too bad. I wanted that information, so I look forward to it.

When you can't address an improvement order, it says in here that these two entities, the Office of the Fire Marshal and the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission, can also impose penalties. Have any of these two entities imposed any penalties currently and, if so, what is the penalty? Is that a financial cost or what is that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not aware of any penalties that have ever been imposed on our facilities and I don't have that information for you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you. I just want to have clarification. You're saying that you don't have the information, but there might be penalties that have been imposed or are you saying that there are no penalties at all? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There have been no penalties imposed on our facilities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to go on to where the substantiation sheet also talks about a maintenance crew to address small repairs and maintenance. This consists of inmates and capable staff. Is this something that inmates or staff sign up for and are they compensated? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask my Deputy Minister, Mr. MacKay, to answer the question as that's an administrative responsibility. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Ehaloak. Mr. MacKay.

Mr. MacKay: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They do volunteer for the maintenance crew. It's something that they do and they are compensated for it. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. MacKay. Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, minister and staff.

I believe all the facilities in Nunavut are important and there has been a lot of emphasis on the Baffin and Kivalliq facilities and it seems to leave out the Kitikmeot. It's never mentioned here in the opening comments, but our own chair mentions this that "During the minister's recent appearance before the standing committee, members were informed that such projects as renovations to the Kugluktuk Ilavut Healing Centre are still at the planning stages." Can you tell us where it stands now? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Akoak. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The onsite of the Ilavut centre was completed in November of 2015. The report indicated a number of areas that required attention and those areas are all electrical panels covering electrical and mechanical room, main building, storage building, and snowmobile repair shop were replaced and upgraded to a higher capacity. The exit signs were updated according to current building codes. Emergency light battery packs were replaced and a fire alarm system and control panel was replaced to meet the safety requirements.

Ilavut centre renovations are ongoing. Currently the department is working with CGS on the remaining areas that require upgrades, which are upgrades to the mechanical equipment, overheating issues in the mechanical room, new water and sewage tanks, new flooring, kitchen millwork, resident washrooms and showers, new weather barrier, new exterior assembly, new siding, and finally a better designed program space. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Kaernerck.

Mr. Kaernerck (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good day, minister.

(interpretation ends) In your opening comments you stated that there was approximately \$73 million for the bidder. I would like to know if you guys know who the bidder was. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kaernerck. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Kaernerck. The sole bidder is Pillattaaq Enterprise Ltd. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Just want to remind members not to use him or her or you; try to use the proper names, please. Mr. Kaernerck.

Mr. Kaernerck (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for correcting me and thank you for explaining that. Now the 15 and 20 percent, if it has been lowered to 15 percent were the Inuit employment aspect. Was this done by the Department of Justice or was it suggested by the contractor? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kaernerck. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It was the request of the contractor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Kaerner.

Mr. Kaerner (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Was Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated consulted on the decreased number of Inuit employment? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kaerner. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, they were consulted. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Kaerner.

Mr. Kaerner (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for answering my question. Going in another direction, looking at the plans for the new correctional facility, it shows it to be a big building. Looking at the part of the plans, where the inmates will spend some time out of the facility looks to be about the size of this room. It has been stated in the substantiation sheet that the Hudson Bay Healing Group or planning group is mentioned there, but what I believe in is *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*. Men have to outside in order to reset their minds. That's why I'm asking why the outside recreation area is so small. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's it for now.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kaerner. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Kaerner, for your question. We do have on-the-land programs for our facilities, so they do have the chance to go on the land and it's for inmates who basically behave and do well within the facilities. It's an incentive for them and it helps them. Like you say, as Inuit, we need to connect to the land. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Kaerner, do you have any other questions? Please go ahead.

Mr. Kaerner (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Let me rephrase my question. Looking at the (substantiation) sheet, I see that there is access for inmates to go out for fresh air. How did they determine that this...? It looks so small according to this size of a facility. Was *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* used in determining this facility? If my question is clear. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will finish here for now.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kaerner. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, our elders committee was a part

of the planning of the facility. So the members are aware, the facility itself, the size of the lot is also determined by other factors that are around the facility. That takes into consideration as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Kaernek.

Mr. Kaernek (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank you for explaining that. As the Department of Justice, can you have discussions with the contractor that will be building it to see if the Inuit employment aspect of it can be raised back up? That's my final question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kaernek. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will take that into consideration when discussing the final contract with the contractor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for recognizing me quickly. Earlier, I had a question that slipped my mind, and in reading the minister's opening comments under the Qikiqtani...I will say this in English, (interpretation ends) the Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre, (interpretation) where \$3 million has been allocated to this project as it is very expensive to construct. It turns out that the contracting bids were much higher than were submitted.

Earlier, when the minister spoke about this matter which I will state in English (interpretation ends) for regions (interpretation) which I would like to ask about in thinking about the different regions. The cost is much higher, although I believe they can construct it for less.

This other amount that the minister mentioned in the opening comments that my colleague from Amittuq was asking about part of the \$73 million fund. How did you arrive at the amount? What was the thinking towards having first a \$3 million project, and if I am mistaken, Mr. Chairman, you can correct me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qirngnuq. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe I can explain a little bit about the actual costs and budgeted amounts for this project. The total cost of this new facility will cost the federal government and the Government of Nunavut \$84.8 million. So far, the design of the project will cost \$6 million. The construction of the project will be \$78.8 million. The major construction, the facility itself, is \$73 million. Other construction costs for the facility are \$5.8 million. The warranty for the project itself is \$250,000. The recoveries from the Building Canada Fund recovered to date are \$57 million. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Earlier my reasoning for asking about that was because it is listed under E-6 for Corrections where I think we are, and to read the Inuktitut, you have to switch the pages opposite of the English version.

This may be the reason why I am a bit late sometimes. Yes, with regards to the lifespan? How many years will the useful life of this facility be? Mr. Chairman, I would like to understand this hence my question. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qirngnuq. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The lifespan of the new facility will probably be 50 years of use, but to actually build it, we will start in 2019-2020 and the opening with the ending of...the completion of the project will be in the year 2023-24. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you to the minister for the response. Are there any plans for the future to build something like that either in Rankin Inlet or Cambridge Bay? That will be my final question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qirngnuq. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this time no. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Earlier on the minister was talking in regard to... . It was going to be \$76 million and now they are expecting it to cost \$73 million. The price has gone down and we heard that there will be fewer Inuit employed, perhaps 15 percent. What else has changed? It was \$76 million and now it is \$73 million. What else? Also, the Inuit Employment Plan, what else has changed in that regard? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The original bid that we got was from Pillattaq. Their bid to construct the new facility was \$76,538,000. In discussions with the contractor, we can only go as high as \$73 million and the only change in building the facility was the Inuit employment part, which was from 20 percent to 15 percent, but again, those items can be negotiated. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) If the minister could just clarify that, was it 20 percent to 15 percent or 28 to 15? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That was 20 percent to 15 percent. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak, for the clarification. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) With the 15 percent Inuit employment rate, the other side of that is an 85 percent non-Inuit employment rate. Has the contractor provided information as to where these 85 percent will be coming from? The minister had mentioned that housing was an issue if we were to bring Inuit workers from other communities. Can she confirm if the other 85 percent are currently residing here in Iqaluit? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The 85 [percent] will be from the construction company and they are the ones that will house their staff. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Following the minister's answer, am I correct in interpreting that the contractor has housing available for their workers? I am trying not to get into too much detail, but I think you can see where I am trying to go with this. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. I had those very thoughts when the questions were being asked and I am glad you are asking them. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have that level of detail as to where the contractor will be housing all their staff. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Just to follow up on my colleague's questions earlier, the minister had mentioned that the problem with bringing in Inuit workers from other communities is that there's a lack of housing. Is that coming from the contractor, the contractor told you that there is no housing available for Inuit employees for this project? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm going to ask my Deputy Minister, Mr. Bill MacKay, to answer the question to clarify for Mr. Main. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. MacKay.

Mr. MacKay: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to address the question, when the bid went out for tender, it was asked as part of the RFP process that they submit a proposal that would employ 20 percent Inuit as part of the project.

As you know, that tender was above our budget, which was \$63 million and the tender was around \$76 million, so well above our budget. We cancelled that tender and then there were discussions, which are ongoing, of how they could reduce that contract to the \$73 million range, which the minister mentioned.

One thing that the contractor had proposed was reducing the Inuit employment level as a way of reducing costs. They have also suggested other things in terms of not necessarily reducing the scope of the project but using different materials, using different products like brand-name products, for instance, like the elevators in the facility and those types of things.

It has been a pretty detailed discussion on small amounts that could be saved here and there, but one of the aspects that they have asked us to look at is the reduction in Inuit employment. That hasn't been set, but when the contract is concluded, it's more than likely that there will be reduced Inuit employment.

Reasons why they will save money because of a lower Inuit employment level has to do with accommodations, as the minister mentioned, but also the availability of Inuit in Iqaluit. As the minister mentioned, there are many projects going on, so there are not many trained Inuit that are trained in the construction trades that are available to do that work for that project.

There's a variety of factors that went into the reasoning. We just asked them to come for the plan for a lower price and that included lower Inuit employment. I don't know the exact reasons, but one of them was accommodations, as the minister mentioned. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. MacKay. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think this is a really sad situation. I think it's ridiculous. We're imprisoning largely Inuit into a jail or a correctional facility for societal reasons, which include high unemployment. It seems to be like a ridiculous Catch-22 situation that we're stuck in here.

My understanding is that 15 percent Inuit employment is a bare minimum that's allowed under the NNI Policy. Can the minister confirm if I'm correct in this interpretation? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, that's not bare minimum. We do have Inuit who have carpentry trades, electrical trades, but the amount of Inuit who have those trades is very small. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I'll rephrase my question. As it pertains to this capital project, the NNI Policy, I believe, has set a minimum level of Inuit employment, which the bare minimum is 15 percent. I wonder if the minister could confirm whether this is the bare minimum or, if it isn't the bare minimum, what is the minimum for the NNI Policy as it applies to this project. Is it 10 percent? Is it zero? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Those NNI regulations, we don't have that type of information that would come under the Minister of Economic Development and [Transportation]. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I have some questions about the design and the facility here. I was looking at the design. It has visitors' areas. It's a small drawing. Will the visitors' areas in the new facility the type that are currently in the BCC where you have a screen in between the visitor and the inmate or will it be a different type of set-up? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Main, our inmates are minimum, medium, and maximum inmates. Depending on the level of where the inmate sits, there are different areas for visiting. There's an open area for families. For the safety of the visitors and the staff, we have an area where it's screened and they use the telephone or just the window to protect the visitors and the inmates themselves. There are different visiting areas. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Would it be possible to have a five-minute break at this point in time, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Okay. Can you explain why you want to take break at this time, or what is your reasoning? Mr. Main.

Mr. Main: One of my colleagues would like to have a discussion with regard to the Inuit employment level being proposed under this project, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. We will take a five-minute break and reconvene. Thank you.

>>*Committee recessed at 14:42 and resumed at 14:58*

Chairman: Good afternoon, members. I would like to bring the committee meeting back to order. Sorry for the inconvenience that we just had. Did somebody want to say something? Mr. Kaernek.

Committee Motion 005 – 5(2): Deletion of \$3,000,000 from the 2019-2020 Capital Estimates of the Department of Justice

Mr. Kaernek (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I move that the building of the Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre for \$3 million be deleted. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kaernek. Could you bring me a copy of the motion, please.

Thank you. The motion is not translated, so at this time we will take a brief break and we will return when the documents are in order. Thank you.

>>*Committee recessed at 14:59 and resumed at 15:17*

Chairman: Good afternoon, members. I would like to call the committee meeting back to order. The motion has been distributed to members and the motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Kaernek, being the mover of the motion, you get the first opportunity to speak, so please go ahead. Mr. Kaernek.

Mr. Kaernek (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, my reasoning behind this motion was due to listening to words I didn't enjoy hearing respecting Inuit employment figures, which fell from 20 percent to 15 percent.

All the members here tried to ask about this matter in the proper context about this issue. We are all aware that Nunavummiut suffer the highest unemployment rate in Canada, with many resident unemployed. This too, has to be revisited by this government, and this was my secondary reasoning.

And further, every announcement of the government mentions *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* as being their foundation. When statements to this effect are made, the residents of Nunavut believe these statements. In the *Turaaqtavut* mandate, a priority is listed when

we held our caucus meeting to develop the *Turaaqtavut* mandate, that Inuit employment levels will be increased.

When we developed that language I had full faith in this priority. This is why I proposed this motion and introduced it. This is a critical priority for me, as we Inuit can develop the capacity for working in different fields such as carpentry, electrical and so on. We already have Inuit in those fields. This was my reasoning for introducing this motion.

Yes, I am aware the correctional facility is very important and required, which I also believe in as an initiative. Now, the process we are following today shows the facility capacity is overstretched. Inmates from Nunavut also require an adequate facility as well.

This was the final straw that I saw; the percentage of Inuit employment is much too low. Due to these reasons, I moved the motion due to my disagreement with the department's Inuit employment level being lowered from 20 percent to 15 percent.

I also want to work more collaboratively with the minister to look at more options to increase the Inuit employment levels. That's the only area I believe in Inuit employment, that Inuit need proper accommodations and strengthen the fact, strengthen *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit*. I'll stop there for now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: To the motion. Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is an arena facility in Rankin Inlet that's being built under contract. I was invited to go and observe by an Inuk worker, and I was shocked as the contractor did not know me, so I observed; it's an observable practice. I saw this non-Inuk that had just been flown into Rankin Inlet that did not know how to deal with specialized tools, but the Inuk worker did. As I was observing, I saw this Inuk worker instructing the non-Inuk how to work inside the metal framing and I wasn't pleased that... .

Chairman: Ms. Towtongie, I'm going to cut you off there because we need you to speak directly related to this motion, if you could please. Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: To the motion? That was just a paraphrase. To the motion, I believe that the percentage of 15 percent for Inuit employees is not satisfactory, looking at the number of unemployed young Inuit men who are capable of working, and I will support this motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Towtongie. Ms. Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just for Mr. Kaerner and the members' information, removing this \$3 million will put the entire project in jeopardy. We are requesting an increase in the budget to conclude a contract with a 100 percent Inuit-owned company from Hall Beach. The Inuit labour content is one component of the contract and it's still under negotiation and we will negotiate for 20 percent Inuit

employment. This is an important project that will needlessly be delayed or cancelled if we do not get sufficient funding to conclude the contract. Most importantly, if this motion is passed, we could lose the federal contribution of \$57 million. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Ehaloak. To the motion. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to agree with my colleague. Within the House this has been discussed for many years on the Inuit need for employment. It's written in the *Turaaqtavut* mandate that we increase Inuit employment. We don't have to import workers from outside the territory and I think we envision that. If we just rubberstamp what is introduced, I would not agree with it and I like hearing what the minister said. I like the fact that they were trying to get it back up to 20 percent and I'm happy with that.

If the other regions are listening to us and in the future 20 percent will not be enough, be aware of that. This is not satisfactory. They treat workers differently. When people from outside of Nunavut arrive here, they are provided accommodations, they are provided meals and we try to put that under consideration, importing Inuit from other communities into Iqaluit. We just heard there would be no accommodation. They are being treated differently and that's not good.

My colleague tried to use as a preamble on how differently workers are treated. We have experienced that. I will support the motion for those reasons of dissatisfaction. I wanted to say that, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: To the motion. I don't see anybody else. Mr. Kaernek, being the mover of the motion, you get the last opportunity to speak. Mr. Kaernek.

Mr. Kaernek (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, this is very important, the *Turaaqtavut*.

Mr. Chairman, I agree with the minister that they are in the process of negotiations. Using her recent statement, as a mover of the motion, I withdraw the motion. The minister just stated yes, together with you, they are looking at the Inuit employment, so I withdraw it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kaernek. For the record, the member has withdrawn his motion, so we will go back to the business of the day. We were on page E-6. Branch Summary. Corrections. Are there any more questions in this area? Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: I just have one question, one I forgot. As we know, I think it was in June there was a riot at the correctional centre and there was extensive damage and I'm just wondering if you can just give us an update on where we stand with the repairs and that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Ms. Angnakak, for your question. The repairs to the BCC facility are complete. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. We are on page...Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) On page 5 of 7 here in your substantiation sheet on the new jail, it says that construction of the Qikiqtani Healing Centre will provide increased trade apprenticeship opportunities for both Nunavummiut residents and offenders serving sentences in corrections. It sounds like a great program, trades for Nunavummiut and offenders. How many trades apprenticeship opportunities will be included in this project? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just one moment. We don't exactly know how many trades developments this will create within the facility, but we can get that information from the contractor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) It says here, I'm just continuing on, these trades skills development opportunities will strengthen the Inuit representation in the workforce, increase self-reliance, and further reduce the dependence on imported labour.

I wonder if the minister can clarify. I mean I guess this would be a question best addressed to the contractor, but as the party that is working with the contractor, when will young or old Nunavummiut be able to apply for apprenticeship positions on this project? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. During and after the construction of the facility, they will give apprenticeships to those youth and the inmates. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I hope this isn't an O&M question, but it is right here on the substantiation sheet, so I'm going to ask a question about it. This is on the sixth page. It says that making it mandatory for all staff to refer to these areas using the correct Inuktitut names. The systematic replacement of English words and terminology with Inuktitut words and terminology will be mandatory

in staff training and the daily operations of our facilities. I wonder if the minister could expand on this as it pertains to the facility itself and the different names of the different areas that are designed. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm saying that the elders committee that works with the construction of our facility would have made this recommendation. The designs and everything will probably be in the building for the people to learn what the Inuktitut names are within the facility. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) When it comes to the design of the facility...I apologize, I'm kind of jumping around here, but one of the things that have been noted in the media lately has been the use of segregation. Once the new facility is completed, what types of segregation areas are included? In here I looked through and I couldn't find references to segregation, so I would just like a bit more information on that. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask my Deputy Minister, Mr. MacKay, to answer the question for Mr. Main. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. MacKay.

Mr. MacKay: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The new facility will be designed specifically... . That's one of the priorities that we have is it's specifically going to have a maximum-security wing and that will allow us to properly segregate prisoners where it's necessary.

The design of the facility will allow us to segregate them in a way that will allow for better reintegration into the general population. For instance, under the current facility, we don't have the space to segregate people into certain groups of people or find people who may get along together so that they can be cellmates and still be segregated from the rest of the population.

This facility is going to give us a lot more options to segregate people from the general population while still allowing them to have meaningful contact with other inmates where appropriate and meaningful contact with visitors, elders, and other support people.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. MacKay. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I think this is my final question. When it comes to visitors into the facility, you mentioned that there

are different visiting areas for families and different security levels. I wonder if the department could clarify how these different classifications to members in the media. Is this facility designed so that members of the media can visit a certain class of inmate? Is this something that depends on the different levels or would members of the media be treated as just any other visitor to the facility? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We don't differentiate between male, female, media, minister, deputy minister. Anyone is allowed to visit inmates within our facilities, but if we feel that an inmate being visited is at risk of injuring himself or the visitor, like I stated, there are different sections of how individuals can visit inmates. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I do make a mistake, please stop me.

I'm looking at substantiation sheet page 5 of 7 and it tells me that the Department of Justice intends to have inmate involvement where appropriate in the construction phase of the project. This would include both theory and hands-on trade learning.

I wonder if the Department of Justice has thought of setting aside... We all moved \$3 million, deleted it. Now we have put it back in. I wonder if the Department of Justice has set aside a certain amount of dollars to train these inmates. I do recall NTI has \$255 million called the Makigiaqta Training Corporation. Have those dollars been considered? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Towtongie. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Those would not be in our budgeted amounts. The contractor would have to apply for those funds from NTI. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Even though they're not in the budgeted amounts, since the 15 percent rate for Inuit employment is so low, is there any other way of trying to find some millions of dollars for hands-on theory and hands-on trade learning? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Towtongie. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Ms. Towtongie, for your question. The Department of Justice will look into it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Ehaloak. We are on page E-6. Branch Summary. Corrections. \$3 million. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Back to page E-2. Department of Justice. Department Summary. Total Capital Expenditures. \$3,900,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Do members agree that we have concluded the Department of Justice?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to comment to the members that today the Inuit employment discussion was a great debate and I thank you for that. Nunavummiut should be aware that not only the government but including all companies within Nunavut that work in Nunavut should look at Inuit employment as a priority when they bid on contracts and stuff.

I would like to thank my staff, Mr. MacKay and Mr. Ji Liu, for assisting me here today. Thank you very much. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>Applause

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. On behalf of the committee, I thank you and your staff for being here today to answer our questions. We will continue with other business. Sergeant-at-Arms, could you please escort out the witnesses.

While we're prepping for the next department, which is the Department of Environment, we will take a short five-minute break. Thank you.

>>Committee recessed at 15:39 and resumed at 15:50

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

Chairman: Again good afternoon, members. I would like to call the meeting back to order. We are now dealing with the Department of Environment. I would like to ask Minister Ehaloak: do you have witnesses that you would like to bring before the committee? Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I do, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Do members agree to let the witnesses go to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort in the witnesses.

Thank you. Minister Ehaloak, for the record, if you could please introduce your witnesses and then continue into your opening comments for the Department of Environment. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is Deputy Minister Paulosie Suvega and to my left is Director of Corporate Services Niki Nweze. Sorry if I mispronounced your name. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. If you could please proceed on to your opening comments. Thank you.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to appear before the committee today to introduce the Department of Environment's capital plan for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. For this period, the Department of Environment is proposing a capital budget of \$2,250,000. This expenditure will permit the department to concentrate on two program areas: wildlife management and parks and special places.

Within our Wildlife Management Division, we spent \$370,000 on the replacement of old mobile equipment. This equipment is used for patrols to ensure compliance with the Nunavut *Wildlife Regulations*, to assist in search and rescue where appropriate, and to support wildlife research activities.

The Wildlife Management Division will also be spending \$750,000 on wildlife office maintenance projects to create safe and good working environments in which staff can deliver the department's mandates and programs. The wildlife office renovation budget for the 2019-2020 year will be committed to renovations to the Arctic Bay Wildlife Office.

Mr. Chairman, our territorial parks and special places have an important role in the protection and promotion of Nunavut's outstanding natural and cultural heritage, and they provide positive recreation and tourism services to meet the needs of Nunavummiut and our visitors. It is our intention that in the 2019-2020 fiscal year we will commence the revision of the *Territorial Parks Act*.

Additionally, in keeping with the Umbrella Inuit Impact and Benefits Agreement for Territorial Parks, we will commence the implementation of the recently completed territorial parks infrastructure planning for Kugluk in Kugluktuk, Ovayok in Cambridge Bay, Sylvia Grinnell, Qaumaarviit in Iqaluit, Katannilik in Kimmirut, Iqalugaarjuup Nunanga in Rankin Inlet, as well as for the park Kinngaaluk in Sanikiluaq. We will

complete land surveys for the campground territorial parks, Tupirvik in Resolute Bay, Tangmaarvik in Pond Inlet, Pisuktinu Tunngavik in Pangnirtung, and Inuujaarvik in Baker Lake. It is our intention to continue to monitor and maintain infrastructure in all our territorial parks and campgrounds throughout Nunavut.

In closing, the Department of Environment's capital plan is focused on areas that clearly support the needs and priorities of Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Does the chair of the standing committee have any opening comments? Go ahead, Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To Nunavummiut who are listening to the proceedings, I'm just the co-chair. Our chair is Allan Rumbolt for your information.

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 Environment. The department's proposed capital budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year is \$2.25 million, an amount which is unchanged from that which was contained in its 2018-19 capital estimates.

Mr. Chairman, the department's proposed 2019-2020 capital estimates provide funding for wildlife office renovations and small capital projects, which include the replacement of mobile equipment and the development of infrastructure in territorial parks.

Mr. Chairman, our territorial parks are a source of pride for our people and communities. The standing committee strongly encourages the minister to begin the practice of preparing an annual report to the Legislative Assembly which details the department's activities, expenditures, and initiatives in relation to Nunavut's territorial parks system.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2019-2020 Capital Estimates of the Department of Environment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Towtongie. Well done. Do any members have any general comments for the Department of Environment? Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, minister and staff.

In your opening comments you say that you're spending \$370,000 to replace old mobile equipment and this equipment is used to, I'll just highlight one, assist in search and rescue where appropriate. We always ask as regular members, "Do you use equipment to assist in search and rescue?" Your response is always, "Only when the renewable resource officer is driving the equipment." I wish you can put that statement in there because, the way it is, it's misleading, that anybody can use it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you for your comment. Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Sorry, Mr. Chairman. With regard to the general comment, one of my constituents, a Chesterfield Inlet wildlife officer drives his own private vehicle and after this, I'm seeing that they will be spending \$370,000 on the replacement of old mobile equipment. It does not specifically state for what, but it says that this equipment is used for patrols to compliance with Nunavut wildlife assistance. Later on I would like to know what that is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Towtongie. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I just wanted to draw attention to the ongoing issues with polar bear deterrence that we're having in the Kivalliq and other communities.

Currently I know that the department is working in terms of the services it provides and that the wildlife officers do excellent work dealing with bears, but I just wanted to draw attention to the fact that we currently don't seem to be looking at capital investments in this area and I'm not sure what type of capital investment it would be. I think it should be something on the radar, whether it's fencing, drones, or deterrents by other means that have been tested in different locations.

People are not feeling safe in their community. In Arviat and in Whale Cove people are not feeling safe to let their children play outside, so it's very upsetting to the community. I would like to see the department look into this in the future. If they decide that the capital investment of some sort of equipment or structure is needed, then I think, if it would address the polar bear issue, I would fully support that. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. We are on page I-3, the Department of Environment, Program Management, and the entire budget is on one page. Are there any questions? Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In recent years the Legislative Assembly has approved a number of capital carryovers for renovations to wildlife offices in Gjoa Haven, Resolute Bay, Iqaluit, and Rankin Inlet. As of today, how many of these projects are still ongoing? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Akoak. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Capital carryovers provided funding of \$1,710,000 for Gjoa Haven, Resolute Bay, and the Climate Change Secretariat. To date... . Sorry, just trying to find my notes. We are still planning on completing those projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't think I have seen the renovations starting over in the Gjoa Haven office. Will that be done anytime soon? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Akoak. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Design and construction contracts are in place and work will begin in 2018-19. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In which communities does your department own its wildlife offices and in which communities does it lease its wildlife offices? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Akoak. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Just one moment. In the Kivalliq region we have three offices that are leased which are in Arviat, Rankin Inlet, Baker Lake, and in the Kitikmeot we have no leased buildings and in the Baffin all of them are owned; they are not leased. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have one final question. How much does your department spend on an annual basis to lease wildlife offices? That will be my final question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Akoak. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We don't have that actual amount. It's administered by Community and Government Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I will start by once again praising the Department of Environment in their efforts of maintaining our beautiful parks and special places. I myself appreciate it very much and I am sure everyone else in Nunavut does as well.

With that being said, there was one issue that I wanted to bring up with regard to Sylvia Grinnell. Last summer there was some speed bumps installed to prevent park visitors from speeding and I am not disagreeing with the department with doing so, but I do believe the department may have gone a little overboard. My first question is: how many speed bumps were installed in Sylvia Grinnell Park and will the same number be installed this summer? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will ask my Deputy Minister, Mr. Suvega, to answer Mr. Lightstone's question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Suvega.

Mr. Suvega (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We don't have the exact number of speed bumps that were installed, but they were installed after a number of concerns were continually raised annually about excessive speeds being used on the park roadway by various vehicles. We do try to balance out the issues being raised as best as we can. How many speed bumps will be installed next year? That will depend largely on the interaction with the community and if there are any further issues or concerns raised at that time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I recall correctly, I believe it was something like seven or ten speed bumps that were installed at the Sylvia Grinnell Park and I do understand the necessity to keep the speed low in the park. I do believe that three speed bumps at the most would have been sufficient to deter speeders in that area. I would ask the minister to please keep that in mind and commit to reducing the amount of speed bumps that are going to be in use in the territorial park this summer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will take that into consideration. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My next question is going to be regarding the Climate Change Secretariat. I understand that their role is leading interagency development on such issues as climate change mitigation and adaptation. My question is: are there any plans in the foreseeable future to grant or incorporate capital funds to the Climate Change Secretariat? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Lightstone, if they do, it will go through the Government of Nunavut's capital planning process. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I completely understand that. My question is: does the minister intend on putting any capital requests through the capital planning process to make funds available to the Climate Change Secretariat? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we are. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for that. I'm really glad to hear that, but would the minister be able to elaborate a little bit more on what sort of plans that are in the works? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will ask my Deputy Minister, Mr. Suvega, to elaborate. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Suvega.

Mr. Suvega (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) The intentions are at some point in the future to potentially put forth some capital projects for consideration, but that would also largely depend on the work with the interdepartmental partners, interagency partners, and any funding that we are able to source from within the territory and maybe some outside the territory as well. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask about the Sylvia Grinnell River. In the substantiation sheet it talks about a master plan that includes trail and facility development and it also talks about linking the current part to the Qaummaarviit Territorial Park with the bridge. I know that the bridge has been an issue for a quite a number of years and to date it has never been built. Can you confirm that it is indeed in the plans for the 2019-2020 fiscal year plan to build a bridge and, if so, what kind of a bridge are we talking about? Are we talking about a walking bridge where you know it is a bridge just to walk across or is it something that the ATVs will be able to also use? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. At this time there are no plans to build a bridge. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps it is a little misleading. The substantiation sheet says in the Sylvia Grinnell Park to the Qaummaarviit Territorial Park and a bridge over the Sylvia Grinnell River. That's what it says. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will make that adjustment in the substantiation sheet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the substantiation sheet I was looking at whether or not mobile equipment was mentioned for a specific community. In one of my constituencies, Chesterfield Inlet, the polar bear kill or the quota of 40 has already been killed and the wildlife officer uses his own vehicle for polar bear patrols. My question to the department: in the proposed 2019-2020 fiscal year, what type of mobile equipment does the department plan to acquire and in which community will they be located? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Towtongie. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will ask Deputy Minister Suvega to answer Ms. Towtongie's question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Suvega.

Mr. Suvega (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Our mobile equipment is managed by our regional managers. They would have to undertake an assessment each year of what equipment is in need of repair, what equipment is in need of replacement, and they put forward those requests. Those aren't determined by headquarters, but we do try to take many factors into consideration, such as local and emergency needs, and we try to work as best as we can with other departments like CGS to manage assets going into communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Looking at Iqalugaarjuup Nunanga, which is Meliadine Park close to Rankin Inlet, I saw that there was a master plan. However, with the forest fires, we are also getting grizzly bears plus polar bears. What type of a master plan should we be expecting for these parks? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Towtongie. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are working with the Kivalliq Inuit Association on these master plans. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister and her deputy minister for the response. Will the minister commit to beginning the practice of preparing and tabling an annual report in the Legislative Assembly detailing the department's activities, expenditures, and initiatives in relation to Nunavut's territorial park system? I am not seeing it here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is my final question.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Towtongie. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The department will commit to those reports. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Keyootak.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask a question in regard to her opening comments. In the communities with territorial parks, there is a territorial park that I do not see on the list. The park I am referring to is the one near Clyde River and they were working on that park. What is the status of this park? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Keyootak. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The proposed park near Clyde River will be the largest territorial park in Nunavut and local tourism use of the area will increase significantly over the next several years. Once the park undergoes infrastructure development and the background and the feasibility study has been done, the master plan is being finalized and final boundary selection recourse inventory and comprehensive cultural landscape resource inventory have been completed. In accordance with the IIBA or territorial parks and establishment process, the management plan will be completed in 2018-19. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Keyootak.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for answering the question and making it clear.

Turning to a different direction, we know that wildlife officers have equipment, offices, and boats as well. To today, how many of these wildlife offices in Nunavut possess boats for the officers to use, or do all communities have boats for wildlife officers to use when fieldwork is required? My question is: how many communities have their boats within their office of renewable resources? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Keyootak. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have that level of detail of information, but we can provide the information for Mr. Keyootak. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Keyootak.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for committing to provide that information to me.

Mr. Chairman, when I became a Member of the Legislative Assembly, we stated that the communities' renewable resource officers, although they have boats, are not utilizing them. A previous Member for Quttiktuq was very concerned about that and he wanted to even get the boat because the boat in his community was staying idle for a long time.

I have been a Member of the Legislative Assembly and the renewable resource boat in my community has never even been touched. Even prior to me becoming a member, I started talking about the fact that this boat has never been launched to the ocean. It's still sitting idle.

Do you have any plans to make sure that they utilize these boats in the communities or can the HTO board be involved to make sure that these boats are utilized or be used more in the communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Keyootak. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand Mr. Keyootak's concern and there's nothing stopping conservation officers or wildlife officers to maintain their vehicles to ensure that they are in working order. I can tell you right now that personally I've had my ATV sit for one winter and when I tried to start it, it couldn't start and my son said, "See, you have to let me use it once in a while." Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Keyootak.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The vessels can be utilized in the community, but they stay on the land for many years never seeing the water. The boat has brand-new equipment, such as an outboard motor, but the boat has never been launched to the ocean.

When we get a renewable resource officer, we keep asking how we can use that boat and I have been asking the renewable resource officer how they can be using the boat. When we have a renewable resource officer, they don't have the training to go boating. We receive renewable resource officers who have never taken boat safety training. When they don't have that training, they can't even take the boat out.

What is the department doing? Perhaps the HTO should take on the responsibility of taking the boat. Have you ever considered if the HTO can utilize the boat? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Keyootak. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Keyootak, for the information and we will take it into consideration. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Keyootak.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would also like to thank the minister for committing to consider that. I'm very happy about that.

I'm moving on to a different topic. I would like to ask a question, Mr. Chairman. How many Nunavut communities currently have no renewable resource officer? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Keyootak. That is an O&M question. That has nothing to do with capital. Mr. Keyootak, if you have a different question you want to ask. Mr. Keyootak, do you have a different question you would like to ask? Please go ahead. Okay. Thank you. Next name on my list, Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Looking at the renewable resource officers within Nunavut, how many offices are not being utilized and staying empty? How many officers are not being utilized? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Currently there are approximately five that are sitting empty. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Whale Cove office is now being utilized and we were very pleased to see that. Which offices are remaining vacant? Maybe you can tell us in which communities they are in. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have that level of information, but we will make sure that we get it to you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to clarify. The minister does not know which wildlife offices are being used and which ones aren't, or did I misunderstand that she referenced five offices that were not in use? I was just interested in which offices were not in use. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will get my Deputy Minister, Mr. Suvega, to answer Mr. Main's question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Suvega.

Mr. Suvega: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we experience vacancies in any community, we try to ensure that there is some operational coverage so no office is ever truly empty, but we do have some challenges in trying to ensure some maintain operational coverage. We do that by once in a while sending in conservation officers on a rotation basis as and when needed as well depending on the types of activities in those communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Suvega. I will remind Mr. Main that the staffing of wildlife officers is more of an O&M, not capital. Mr. Main, you have another question? Please go ahead.

Mr. Main: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do appreciate that. I'm trying to talk about the utilization rate for the building and whether there are alternative uses for a building in terms of the size, but I will leave that alone then.

When you look at all the parks across Nunavut, do you have any... ? I mean you are investing in the parks every year. Do you have any measure of what the value of the infrastructure in Nunavut parks is if you add them all up together? What is our capital? What is the value of all the buildings or the equipment and everything we have invested in the parks in Nunavut? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We don't actually have that information, but we would have to do a little bit of research and do a little kind of spreadsheet to come up with those figures for you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you, minister. What I am trying to get at is that some of these substantiation sheets mention this will assist tourists, this will bring more visitors. I would like to understand from a return on investment perspective, if we invest \$1 million into a park somewhere, do we have any idea how many tourists will get back within a year or something like that? Does

the department currently track the use of their parks in terms of where they need to invest most in terms of the local residents and tourists? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will have Mr. Suvega elaborate for Mr. Main. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Suvega.

Mr. Suvega (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) To make the response shorter, we work with a number of partners to try to track and monitor things like park visitors and community visitors. We often work with local community joint park management planning committees to plan activities around those parks. The usage of those parks are often driven by the wishes and needs of those community members that sit on the community joint park management planning committees.

As for actual numbers, we don't have those here today, but we could work with some of our partners that do monitor some of those activities with respect to tourism. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I'm looking at your substantiation sheet for wildlife research mobile equipment and there are five communities listed there where you have wildlife research activities. Arviat is one of them. I noticed that amount is static, \$50,000 a year. When you look at the fleet of mobile equipment across your research areas, is that \$50,000 a year enough to keep your equipment updated? I note here that it says that reliable mobile equipment is very important for wildlife staff safety. Safety is very important. Is this \$50,000 enough to keep up? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's adequate at the moment, but we could always use more for it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) This is really important work that's being done, especially for my community. If you look at caribou research, it's very important. It also mentions in here on the third page, replacement of specialized scientific equipment as needed. What types of specialized scientific equipment are we talking about here? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Usually those types of equipment are monitoring equipment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I mentioned that there are five communities for wildlife research. It says here on the first page that the Igloolik research group requires a minimum of two snow machines and two ATVs and one full pickup truck. Do you have the same fleet in all five communities that undertake research? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, they're not all the same in each community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I wonder if the minister could commit to providing us a list at a later date in terms of the different mobile equipment and other scientific equipment that they currently have for wildlife research. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the Department of Environment can commit to Mr. Main's request. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you, minister. My final question is just for an update in terms of the Arviat territorial park. It is listed here on the summary, but I couldn't find a substantiation sheet for it anywhere in my binder. If the minister could provide a brief update in terms of where that project is currently at. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have my Deputy Minister, Mr. Suvega, answer Mr. Main's question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Suvega.

Mr. Suvega (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Initially there had been requests from the community to put forward and develop a territorial park. Recently there have been some reconsiderations on what that could look like. We're still trying to work with the community and the Kivalliq Inuit Association depending on what might develop in the future. We would be pleased to provide an update when we are able to get responses back from the various parties. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have only two questions. In I-3 it's written only in English, so you can understand it, (interpretation ends) Parks and Environmental Protection, (interpretation) what exactly does that wording mean? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qirngnuq. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not understanding the question. If Mr. Qirngnuq could elaborate a little bit more on what he thinks, I mean what his actual question means. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Qirngnuq, if you could clarify your question, please.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Under Program Management, there is a wording here. The Program Management Branch is responsible for the development and delivery of programs in areas of land, wildlife, resource management, parks, and environmental protection. Can I get a clarification on this a bit more? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qirngnuq. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will ask my Deputy Minister, Mr. Suvega, to elaborate. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Suvega.

Mr. Suvega (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will respond first in Inuktitut. The way it is written is just going to point out to cover everything. This was done within the Department of Environment. Even though the capital estimates are not slated towards environmental protection, that's just there for further explanation on everything that happens within the Department of Environment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also appreciate the understandable response on that issue. Now, in thinking of this matter, I ask this question,

as one of our colleagues asked about this earlier, so I want to add to that previous question. Some communities have departmental boats while others do not, specifically for the summer season as well as winter equipment, including spring and fall obviously.

There are different types of equipment used by our conservation officers, as most communities that have conservation officers sometimes wonder what is happening in the environment and whether the environment is being contaminated or is being impacted by other projects. One tends to wonder about the environment that way.

Now let me turn to this other matter as that was primarily just a comment. I will move to another matter now, as earlier, my colleague from Gjoa Haven was querying you about the matter as it is part of that question. It relates to certain buildings and I don't know how many have that, for example, in the Kitikmeot, Kivalliq, and Qikiqtaaluk.

Now, within our Kitikmeot region, as previously the minister responded, there is no (interpretation ends) lease (interpretation) as they aren't leasing any buildings. Does this mean that these buildings in the Kitikmeot are owned by the department? I want to clearly understand that, hence my question on that issue, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qirngnuq. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Qirngnuq. Those offices in the Kitikmeot region are administered and owned by Community and Government Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Kaernek.

Mr. Kaernek (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I won't propose a motion this time.

Now, within the capital estimates you list the reasoning in the substantiation sheets, as another member just asked about the mobile equipment. Although it was already asked, I want to ask about the Igloolik vehicle storage. They are not housed in Igloolik, so where are the vehicles kept? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kaernek. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have Mr. Suvega answer Mr. Kaernek's question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Suvega.

Mr. Suvega (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This doesn't apply to all as there isn't a garage space and sometimes the vehicles are sometimes taken to their homes of the conservation officer especially in cases of emergency so they have ready access.

Sometimes, this is not possible when vehicles also require maintenance and if it needs repair work, that would be quite difficult as sometimes vehicles require repairs and has to be set aside. With respect to the usage of the vehicle, this is determined by the local officers who operate the vehicle and maintenance to ensure it is running properly. I hope that's clear. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Suvega. Mr. Kaerner.

Mr. Kaerner (interpretation): Yes, thank you. I jumped to the conclusion that the vehicles were being moved to another community so that was my line of thinking. I appreciate your elaboration on this issue.

Now, to turn to the research centre in Igloolik, it is getting quite antiquated. I wonder if you can clarify with respect to your offices, in looking at the past five years whether any repairs or renovations have taken place. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kaerner. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Kaerner, no, I'm not aware of any to that office. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Kaerner.

Mr. Kaerner (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I went to the research station, and I can truthfully say that it's much older than I am. That was why I asked about that building, as it is getting quite old. Do you have any plans to renovate this building in the next five years? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kaerner. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Renovations to buildings are identified in planning and consultation with Community and Government Services, the scope of the work for options for development in conjunction with Community and Government Services, and it is decided which options would best meet the need for the department. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Qirngnuq. Mr. Kaerner, sorry.

Mr. Kaerner (interpretation): Yes, you should apologize to me.

>> *Laughter*

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, this building isn't an office but a research centre. Does your department know the approximate costs if a new building was requested to replace that, for example, in Igloolik? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kaernek. I don't think there are even any preplanning studies done in that area yet, so it's going to be very difficult for the minister to commit to assess how much it's going to cost, but Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I stated earlier, it is in the planning process with Community and Government Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Mr. Kaernek, any more questions? Go ahead.

Mr. Kaernek (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me provide some direction here, albeit this question may have already been posed as I had to go elsewhere for a bit.

Now, in this fiscal year, within the Assembly, we approved \$370,000 in capital funding for the purchase of departmental mobile equipment in the 2018-19 fiscal year. As of today, what are the items in the mobile equipment that have been purchased by your department and which communities are they located? That is my final question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kaernek. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have that level of information in front of me, so we will make sure that we get that information to Mr. Kaernek. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. We are on page I-3. Department of Environment. Program Management. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I just wanted to suggest that the minister could maybe provide it to the chairperson that requested the information and the chairperson could distribute it to everyone. Just a suggestion. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Ehaloak, will you commit to providing that information to me as the Chairman? Thank you. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Ms. Towtongie, you had a question? Go ahead.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a very quick request, Mr. Chairman. I just read in the substantiation sheet that in Clyde River, Agguqtit Park is almost a contender for UNSECO-World Heritage Site. I would like any copies of any substantiation sheet for that park because I haven't seen any copies. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Towntongie. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we can provide the information to you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. We are on page I-3. Environment. Program Management. Total Capital Expenditures. \$2,250,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Go back to page I-2. Department Summary. Total Capital Expenditures. \$2,250,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Do all members agree that we have concluded the Department of Environment?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ehaloak, any closing comments? Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the members for all their questions and concerns. Wildlife and environment are huge concerns within our communities, so I would like to thank everyone.

I would like to thank Department of Environment staff, Mr. Suvega and Ms. Nweze, for participating with me and being here with me today. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. On behalf of the committee, I thank you and your staff for being here to answer our questions today. Sergeant-at-Arms, if you could escort the witnesses out.

We will move on to our next department and our next department is Family Services. I will give the minister a minute to get into place.

Bill 09 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2019-2020 – Family Services – Consideration in Committee

Chairman: Thank you. I would like to ask Minister Sheutiapik: do you have any witnesses that you would like to appear before the committee? Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik: *Itsivautaaq*, yes, please.

Chairman: Thank you. Do members agree for the witnesses to go to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, could you please escort the witnesses in.

Thank you. For the record, Minister Sheutiapik, if you could please introduce your witnesses and then go into your opening comments. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) To my right is Deputy Minister Yvonne Niego; to my left is Assistant Deputy Minister Sol Vardy.

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman and fellow members, I am very pleased to present the Department of Family Services' capital plan.

(interpretation ends) The Department of Family Services is requesting a total of \$1.2 million in capital funding for fiscal year 2019-2020. This request of \$1.2 million is to better support staff in the delivery of critical services at the community level and subsequently strengthen service delivery in Qikiqtaaluk, Kivalliq and Kitikmeot regions. This includes office space renovations, new office furniture, office computers, equipment, and new vehicles.

Significant projects are renovations to Grinnell Place in Iqaluit to improve service delivery and increase capacity to support the growing staff complement of community social service workers; relocation of the Office of the Public Guardian, income assistance workers, and career development officers located in Iqaluit to Building 607 to make the office more accessible for staff and clients and subsequently improve service delivery; and relocate the community social service workers and income assistance workers in Arviat to a new building in Arviat.

Itsivautaaq, the department's request of \$1.2 million in small capital funding for fiscal year 2019-2020 will strengthen the delivery of quality of service to Nunavummiut. This includes the provision of income assistance, assisting clients to enter and remain in the labour market, and supporting children, youth, and families. These funds are critical in improving the efficiency and effectiveness of program service delivery in communities across Nunavut. I look forward to your ongoing support as we work to better serve communities across the territory.

Itsivautaaq, this concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2019-2020 Capital Estimates of the Department of Family Services. I welcome any questions and comments that members may have as we proceed. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Does the chair of the standing committee have any opening comments? Ms. Nakashuk, please go ahead.

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the proposed 2019-2020 Capital Estimates of the Department of Family Services.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Family Services' proposed capital budget for 2019-2020 includes only one item, the ongoing small capital budget of \$1.2 million for projects, including repairs, renovations, and replacement of equipment at facilities as well as vehicles. Members appreciated receiving detailed information on proposed expenditures in the upcoming fiscal year.

Mr. Chairman, members were disappointed to note that the department's five-year capital plan still does not address any future infrastructure needs for group homes or shelters. The standing committee encourages the minister to work with her staff to develop a comprehensive strategy to ensure that all group homes are assessed to determine the need for renovations, specialized equipment, and additional space. During her appearance before the standing committee to discuss her draft 2019-2020 capital estimates, members were pleased to note the minister's commitment to addressing needs for specialized equipment, such as hospital beds, for individuals who are in foster care as well as those who live in group homes.

While members recognize that the establishment of shelters is most often a community- or organization-led initiative which may receive operational support from the Department of Family Services, it was suggested that the department could do more to assist with identifying available infrastructure in communities which have expressed an interest in opening a shelter. Members recommend that the minister consider making capital investments in such areas as repairs or renovations of existing infrastructure to enable the opening of more shelters across the territory.

Mr. Chairman, to date the Department of Family Services has invested significant capital funds in excess of \$5 million to develop a new electronic case management system for the department's Children and Family Services Division. The need for such a system was identified in the Auditor General of Canada's 2011 and 2014 reports on child and family services in Nunavut and members look forward to regular updates on its implementation across all Nunavut communities. The department is also responsible for a number of other electronic data management systems in such areas as income assistance, career development, and Financial Assistance for Nunavut Students.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2019-2020 Capital Estimates of the Department of Family Services. Individual members may have questions and comments as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Nakashuk. Are there any general comments? Ms. Towtongie.

Mr. Towtongie: Mr. Chairman, thank you. Thank you to the minister for assisting. It was excellent work for a client of mine who had gone down south. Thank you, minister.

My general comment is developing a new electronic case management for the department's Children and Family Services Division. I just read the report of the representation for the child welfare. I will be interested whether or not the new case management system is up and running in all Nunavut communities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is all.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Towtongie. We are on D-3. Family Services. Are there any questions? Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was looking at a substantiation sheet again and it talks about office space with the department and how office space is shared. In 15 communities office space is shared with the Department of Health. With that in mind, how is the department addressing the need for privacy when, in many cases, offices are amongst other offices? How do you go about ensuring that your clients have the proper privacy, that they're provided the proper privacy when discussing their cases? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Bear with me. I'm going technology.

Yes, I can say that we have many challenges with office space, several where I know Health, we share and they want that extra space. I know recently our assistant deputy minister has travelled to some of the communities and certainly that's one area we look at to ensure that there is privacy when there's overcrowding within the workplace. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe I didn't really get an answer. I know that you want to ensure, but how do you go about ensuring when space is very limited? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We always ensure that the social worker has their own separate office aside from fax, paper, or computers, always separate for the social worker. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister provide us a bit more detail? Exactly where are you doing the renovations? Is it for Iqaluit only or is it other areas too? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's in Iqaluit for sure and then in Arviat the project is supposed to be finished in February. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you. Which one in Iqaluit? Just to confirm, is it the Grinnell Place? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) There are some improvements at Grinnell, but the majority of this is going to Building 607 where a constituency office is. The second floor is going to be used by OPG, income support, different divisions of family services. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll switch to vehicles. I understand that this capital project includes two new vehicles and four replacement vehicles. Can the minister provide an update on the department's vehicle replacement plan, including information on how more vehicles are in urgent need of replacement? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I must say that we have a really good idea on vehicle use. We have a vehicle use policy within our department. We also go through a process of maintenance. If it gets too costly, then we have a process of replacement. We actually have an itemized list of where our vehicles stand and they have all been replaced. The ones we are asking for are the last of the replacements for our fleets. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to ask the minister a little bit about the men's shelter, the Uquutaq Men's Shelter. I understand that they're in the process of trying to secure a new building. I wonder if you could give us an update as to where the department stands in regard to helping the Uquutaq Men's Shelter realize their dream of getting a new building, if you can do that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) At least three or four weeks ago there was a meeting at Family Services with Her Worship to confirm and announce that the funding was in place. Since then, unfortunately I can say that I have not had an update, but it was a go. The funding was confirmed that things just had to be lined up to start that process, but I have not heard anything since. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister further elaborate: in what way is the Department of Family Services helping the men's shelter to achieve their dream? What's your involvement? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Our involvement has been certainly to make available space for... . It has been a partnership project obviously at different levels. We make space available for these group meetings to happen with Family Services and obviously the ongoing... . We do have a contribution agreement for the shelter and there are discussions of potentially... . Obviously it's a bigger facility. Potentially we anticipate an increase, but we don't know at what level for future contributions. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Just to get a further clarification, the Department of Family Services provides funding to secure space for shelters. Now, the men's shelter has gone forward and they want to purchase their own shelter. Can you give us a little bit more understanding of how, perhaps, you will help the men's shelter to secure that building and that they could maintain it and run their services from it? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We have ongoing dialogue with the Uqutaq shelter. We certainly will continue to, through contribution agreement, help with the O&M. They have been updating us on potentially how many rooms will be available overnight. They have rooms for potential classrooms that might cover costs for operating. I don't think they have truly finalized what the bottom line costs would be to operate it. I think that's still ongoing, but that's why we continue to have those discussions. There are estimates but not concrete. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you. There is one other thing. I don't see it here, but I know that there is some talk of taking over a building that belonged to Health, but I don't remember the name of the building now. I don't know. Elisapee Aningmiuq's group was going to go into this building and I know that Family Services was going to cost-share and go into that. Is that still a go-ahead? Can you update us on that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Good question. That's 534. We were hoping to get partnership with Tukisigiavik. We had applied for funding with CanNor for renovations because obviously it's not in the greatest condition. It needs renovation and we certainly had specs of what Tukisigiavik needed. Unfortunately that project was not approved through CanNor. We recently informed Tukisigiavik and we have meetings lined up with them to, I guess, strategize what our next steps will be. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is that something that the department has gone to CGS on? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Yes, there's a process for when a department doesn't want a building anymore. It goes out and we actually, as Family Services, wanted to partner with Tukisigiavik. We worked with CGS to get that building. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have two questions. (interpretation) In May 2016 the Legislative Assembly approved a carryover funding of almost \$2.8 million to complete the department's case management system for child and family services. Is this project on track and is it within the budget? I would like to understand. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Towtongie. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Right now (interpretation ends) it is on time. We anticipate that it will be operational April 1 of 2019. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Once the case management system for child and family services is all set up, they're going to be dealing with some

real deep and private issues on computers. Sometimes computers get hacked. What measures are in place to ensure that the electronic information will be secured and protected? Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That will be my final question.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Towntongie. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) That's a good question. I wondered that myself when I was reading my briefings. I can tell you that I remember within the system the word "robust security" is in the program. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. We are on D-3. Family Services. I will remind members that if you have questions, please let it be known to the Chairman so that I don't have to read this several times. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Minister and your officials, please feel welcome.

We received a letter from the previous minister on February 21 about different shelters. There are children's homes. With the shelters first of all, if we can look into them, I would say that there are five shelters in all of Nunavut. Looking at the buildings, are they owned by the government or are they owned by societies? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We provide homes and shelters and our homes, we own and shelters are owned by societies, third parties. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) In her opening comments, the chair of the committee mentioned that it was suggested that the department could do more with identifying available infrastructure in communities which have expressed an interest in opening a shelter. How many communities have expressed an interest in opening a shelter at this point? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) As minister responsible for roundtable partnership with NTI, we had one in Rankin Inlet, which was excellent. Each participant was to go back to their community to take stock of underutilized facilities or what the needs are. The person who oversees that has come back from mat leave and that's going to be the first thing she does is to reach out to see: where are you in your communities by way of what infrastructure might we use and what are the needs? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Reading that, it states that women, children, and also men...men sometimes are kicked out from their homes. Where would they go? Where would the men go? (interpretation ends) What I'm trying to get at is: when we talk about shelters, are those shelters only for women and children or is there any allowance given to men who might be also out of a place to live? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) In some communities, actually all communities there are some areas, a family is identified as emergency, if that were the case. We lack men's shelters, but we do have funding that we provide to men and boys now under our department and that is an avenue where we hope that they can help identify within the communities for men's shelters. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. According to my understanding, the shelters don't belong to the government and also these societies usually are advised to look for used buildings. If they wanted to get a new building, where would they apply and where would they make a request to your department? Have you ever considered this? For example, if the community of Arviat wanted to get a men's shelter and there was no building available that is an existing building that is not available, would you build a new facility, (interpretation ends) a new facility as opposed to putting them into a used building or repurposed? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We had a point in time and homeless research, door to door, recently and we are in the midst of preparing that to provide to you and hopefully that will also guide us on where our priorities might be moving forward when it comes to the communities. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you, minister. I look forward to getting that information. Referring to the letter provided to us on the fifth, was that yesterday? Yes, the letter was provided to us yesterday. This is the summary of all the computer systems within the department. I note that it says here on the final page, the Financial Assistance for Nunavut Students system is 12 years old and is a legacy system built on the database. It looks to me that this FANS computer

equipment or software is quite old. Are there any plans to replace or develop better software to support our students? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) When it comes to FANS, we have acknowledged that, but we're still doing a business case to figure out what kind of a system would be best with FANS. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Right now, using this out-dated system for Financial Assistance for Nunavut Students, what are the consequences of or what issues are being encountered using this out-dated, maybe dinosaur system, I'll call it? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Through you, Sol is going to respond to that. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Ms. Vardy.

Ms. Vardy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The problems with having the old system, an out-dated system is first thing is that it's not supported by any vendor anymore. Now we have just been monitoring it. We're doing backup recommendation with the CGS office. That's the risk that we might lose information in the system.

The other one is that we have in our letter we said we got three fragmented systems under FANS. One is the FANS system that collects information about students and the payments we give through grants and loans. The other one is the loans monitor. That is a separate system that manages the loan payments. The other one is the budget processor, which is a process of manually preparing payments to students. Really, though it works now, it's fragmented.

We're doing duplication of work and it's not efficient for all of us and still it doesn't provide us accurate, good information. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Vardy. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you. I hope that work proceeds.

I just wanted a clarification on your letter here. It says that both batch processor and loan manager were developed under the Government of the Northwest Territories and it says

that their ages are unknown. Does that mean that this software pre-dates Nunavut? I just wanted to clarify that. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Yes. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Well, if we're using Northwest Territories software, maybe we can change the name of the program to "Financial Assistance for Northwest Territories Students." I don't know. It's just a joke. Seriously, I hope that gets worked on because students do have issue with getting their payments on time and I know it's frustrating for the employees. I think it would be better all-around if we could get that updated as soon as possible.

My final question is regarding adult group homes. When I say "adult group homes," I'm referring to the type of group home that exists in Rankin Inlet, for example, where there's a supported living facility where the clients have low needs. There's a big need for a similar type of facility in my home community of Arviat and I'm sure other communities across Nunavut.

In terms of determining where we need a group home, does the department have any kind of strategy to track where the people who need help are? In my mind, that would drive our capital allocations in the future. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We're in the process of reviewing all our contracts because there has been a hike in intakes. Obviously we're going to have to look at the whole group home situation within our territory. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you, minister. Looking at the whole group home situation in the territory, does that include developing a strategy to address this or track the individuals of where they are, where the need is? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I don't know if it is going to be strategy, but we certainly are going to look at where those increases are, what communities are they coming from, and if there is an influx and

we will figure out if we can afford to put forward a case to actually build a facility in that area. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I wonder if the minister could just elaborate a little bit more in terms of the time frame. The minister mentioned looking at the whole group home situation. Is that a full-scale review or what does that entail and what is the time frame that the department is looking at? (interpretation begins) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We had talked about doing this coming fiscal year. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) If the minister can clarify: doing what in the fiscal year? (interpretation begins) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) It is looking at our existing contacts, when do they expire, looking at that point-in-time homelessness research, looking at all that and obviously that will help us to try to figure out what is going to be a priority moving forward. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you Minister Sheutiapik. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I don't want to keep coming back to this, but I am just afraid that maybe I haven't made myself clear. I'm not talking about people who are necessarily homeless. In some cases they already have public housing units, but these are adults who need assistance in order to have a better quality of life. They have low needs, medium-level needs, and they have either physical or mental disabilities in some cases or conditions. I would just like the minister to confirm that these types of clients, these types of individuals will be included in the upcoming work that she has referred to. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Today I heard mention of *Turaaqtavut* several times and obviously that's a priority

of our mandate. We are involved in that also. It's the whole taking care of people. It's the group homes. It's the elders. We talk about youth. Obviously some will not be elders, but we certainly recognize even what today's support needed of these people that you are talk about in the communities. It's huge. Family Services might not be a big capital, but it's a huge undertaking when it comes to ensuring that there is a safe place for everyone. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik. We are on D-3. Family Services. Total Capital Expenditures. \$1,200,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Go back to page D-2. Department Summary. Family Services. Total Capital Expenditures. \$1,200,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Do members agree that we have concluded the Department of Family Services?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you for the questions and I am just as passionate as you are and all the members when it comes to our people of Nunavut because a safe home is a foundation of everything. I look forward to any questions through the year, not just during sittings. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Sheutiapik.

>>Applause

On behalf of the committee, I thank you and your staff for answering our questions here today. Sergeant-at-Arms, could you please escort the witnesses out.

Bill 09 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2019-2020 – Culture and Heritage – Consideration in Committee

We will move on to the next department, which will be Culture and Heritage. I will ask the minister if he could please go to the witness table.

Thank you. Minister Joanasie, do you have witnesses that you would like to appear before the committee? Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good day. Yes, I would like to bring officials to the witness table, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Joanasie. Do members agree for the witnesses to enter the Chamber?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, could you please escort the witnesses in.

Thank you. For the record, Minister Joanasie, if you could introduce your witnesses and then proceed into your opening comments, please. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is my Deputy Minister of Culture and Heritage, Louise Flaherty, and to my left is the Director of Corporate Services, Regilee Adla.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee of the Whole, I am pleased to have this opportunity to present the Department of Culture and Heritage's 2019-2020 capital estimates. The department holds a leadership role within the Government of Nunavut for the preservation, development, and enhancement of Nunavut's culture, heritage, and languages.

Mr. Chairman, the department is requesting to replace the carpeting at the Kugluktuk office and to provide contribution funding for heritage for infrastructure across Nunavut. Mr. Chairman, it is important for the department to replace the aging carpet in the Kugluktuk office. The Kugluktuk office includes ten positions from the Official Languages Branch. The department has been working closely with the Department of Community and Government Services to address this matter.

The department is also working hard to address the need to display and preserve our heritage within the territory. Through the collaboration with other partners, the department displays parts of our heritage collection in the territory.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, the department is committed to addressing Nunavut's long-term vision for the storage of heritage collections and to support economic development initiatives that build on and add value to heritage, arts and tourism sectors within Nunavut. Therefore the department is requesting funds from the capital estimates to be used for current and future heritage infrastructure across Nunavut under our heritage facilities contribution funding. We provide this funding to non-profit, community-based organizations and municipal corporations for the development and/or renovations of heritage facilities or relevant associated structures and objects.

Mr. Chairman, I will be pleased to respond to any questions that members of the committee may have. *Qujannamiik. Koana. Nakurmiik. Merci.*

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Joanasie. Does the chair of the standing committee have any opening comments? Ms. Nakashuk, please go ahead.

Ms. Nakashuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness concerning its review of the 2019-2020 Capital Estimates of the Department of Culture and Heritage.

The standing committee notes that the department's proposed capital budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year is \$650,000, the same amount requested for the 2018-19 fiscal year. Members note that the department's proposed 2019-2020 capital estimates include its capital program to renovate heritage facilities across Nunavut and its small capital projects.

Mr. Chairman, the department's capital contribution program is allocated to non-profit, community-based organizations and municipal corporations for the development or renovation of heritage facilities. The standing committee encourages the minister to provide a detailed breakdown on which community entities have received funding through these agreements, which communities have applied for contributions, and a listing of what specific work has been done on heritage facilities with the funding that has been provided over the past few years that this program has been operating.

Members recognize that the department has been working towards the goal of repatriating, storing, and displaying Nunavut's cultural artefacts within the territory. Currently the majority of artefacts which were once stored at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in the Northwest Territories are now located at the Winnipeg Art Gallery in Manitoba. A number of Nunavut artefacts are also on display at the Canadian Museum of History in Gatineau, Quebec.

The standing committee encourages the minister to work closely with organizations and municipal corporations in Nunavut to develop a strategic plan to repatriate all of Nunavut's artefacts over the coming years.

During the minister's appearance before the standing committee to discuss his department's draft 2019-2020 capital estimates, members were given to understand that talks are ongoing with other Government of Nunavut departments as well as various other parties to explore options to establish a Nunavut Heritage Centre. Members would appreciate receiving an update on what options are currently being considered with respect to this initiative.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee recognizes the need to ensure that departmental office space is safe, healthy, and comfortable for staff to work in and fully support the department's proposal to use its small capital funding allocation to replace the old carpeting, which has been in place for over 20 years, at its Kugluktuk office. I am confident that staff will appreciate the newly renovated environment once it is complete.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2019-2020 Capital Estimates of the Department of Culture and Heritage. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Nakashuk. Does the committee have any general comments? Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to bring the minister's attention to a building in Chesterfield Inlet, a 100-year-old church building that's still used today, and also an old RCMP detachment.

Next year the Kivalliq Inuit Association will be building in Chesterfield Inlet a half a million dollar Inuit cultural centre, and if the minister and his staff would be willing to look at these heritage buildings.

I had the privilege of going inside the old RCMP house, staff house, and inside it is the original stove, which is approximately older than all of us here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Towtongie. Anyone else for general comments? Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, minister, for mentioning that. So that artefacts can be repatriated to Nunavut and they were created in Nunavut and that's not appropriate and there are artefacts, there are buildings in some of our communities and some are outside the communities. I would also like it to be considered with tourism increasing so that they would have something to talk about and be utilized sometime in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Qirngnuq. We are on page F-3. Culture and Heritage. Are there any questions? Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Minister, welcome. Culture and language are extremely important for Nunavummiut, as we know. Are you responsible for the libraries within Nunavut? Does the Government of Nunavut own these facilities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. Yes, it's under the Department of Culture and Heritage for the libraries. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Joanasie. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister elaborate on how many libraries there are and where they are located within Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are various types. Some libraries are contained within the schools and some libraries were started by the communities themselves. We have an office in Baker Lake. Unfortunately it had to be closed down and we are looking for considerations. There are nine libraries. There is one in Iqaluit. Others are in Pangnirtung, Clyde River, Pond Inlet, Igloodik, Rankin Inlet, Arviat, Cambridge Bay, and Kugluktuk. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Joanasié. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, minister. Those libraries that you just mentioned, do you mind to survey them whether they need to be renovated? I can't find the figure within the budget, although I am looking for the line item specific to that matter I referenced. Are there inspections done to determine if the buildings require renovations by a certain point? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is done by the (interpretation ends) Heritage Division (interpretation) where the inspections occur, and further, we provide O&M funding for the buildings, nonetheless, we haven't set aside funds within our capital estimates which building would require repairs or renovations to date, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Joanasié. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Literacy is a critical skill as it can assist in advancing one's life, irrespective if the person is young or old. It has so many benefits in a person's life.

Now, to turn to the new medium, such as the new electronic books that aren't actual paperbacks like (interpretation) digital books (interpretation) and they are very prevalent in the southern provinces as I have noticed it when I have gone to a library as you were able to borrow from the (interpretation ends) electronic book service or rental.

(interpretation) I wonder if this option has been taken into consideration by the Department of Culture and Heritage for the communities lacking local libraries to see if they could borrow them locally if this type of system was setup to be available for the whole of Nunavut through the World Wide Web.

(interpretation ends) I guess what I'm trying to ask is: have you looked at establishing a digital library service that would provide access to digital books for the territory?

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's something to be considered. It's a very good idea. All the libraries have computers that are used publicly, but we don't have any e-books that can be rented or loaned. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Joanasie. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have another question for the minister, if he could possibly consider setting up e-book rentals because I think it would be of benefit to the people of Nunavut. We are in the computer age in our homes, but it would be very beneficial if the e-books were available through the libraries for the young people. Would you consider setting up a system of that sort? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for your question. The library division has started working with Google and I think we're at the initial part of it. I would like my deputy minister to supplement my comment, if you will allow her.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Flaherty.

Ms. Flaherty (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Iqaluit Centennial Library and Google just completed a project. We are looking at how we can improvise the computers and that's available to the communities. Anyone can have access to that. This is the first initial project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Flaherty. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We look forward to having that system set up in all the Nunavut communities.

(interpretation ends) Moving to your heritage facilities funds here, I realize it's not a lot of money. It's \$500,000 a year. Has the department put any thought into changing how they allocate this funding? I mean everything is proposal-based, it seems, and this is directed to capital, I know. Has the department thought about looking at the heritage facilities across Nunavut and just allocating them an amount for capital they could use each year? Some of them are in very poor condition, I believe, and streamlining the delivery of this capital fund would, I think, be beneficial. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for his question. I'm not sure when this \$500,000 was set up, but it is used for projects because we have quite a number of communities and it is to enable heritage facilities across Nunavut to house and display some of the artefacts. (interpretation ends) We always get more applicants each year that we can't fund all applicants. It's application-based and I would like to hear his suggestions about his streamlining the process, I'm not sure where he's getting at, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Joanasie. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) It's just a suggestion. I mean I'm looking at the summary of the funding that was allocated last and it went to a society, a museum, association, municipality, heritage society. If we just look at the heritage facilities across Nunavut and allocate, divide the budget up based on a formula of your choosing and draft up an agreement and send it to the different organizations, I'm sure they would put it to good use. It's just a suggestion in terms of alternatives.

My final question is regarding my colleague had mentioned the new cultural centre being constructed in Chesterfield Inlet. The Kivalliq Inuit Association committed capital dollars towards building new facilities in the Kivalliq. Has the department had any discussions with the Kivalliq Inuit Association regarding those facilities? The first will be in Chesterfield Inlet. I'm just wondering regarding capital, if there's any contribution. Any request from KIA or any plans from the department? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. For 2018-19 fiscal year, this budget, we did a proposal from the KIA regarding the Chesterfield Inlet Community Cultural Centre project and have allocated \$400,000 for that. For the other \$100,000, it was allocated to the Nattilik Heritage Society in Gjoa Haven. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Joanasie. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have any more questions. I just wanted to comment that the work the department does is very important and my community members do really appreciate the support that they provide. I would like to encourage you to continue working on literacy and heritage and language. No further questions. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Main. Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, thank you to the minister. Chesterfield Inlet truly has been a forgotten community. That's one of the first things I would like to say. Secondly, both of my communities, Rankin Inlet and Chesterfield Inlet, Rankin Inlet has relics being the first nickel mine and it's right out close to the harbour. You can see it. Chesterfield Inlet has heritage buildings. I would tend to call them heritage buildings right around the community.

My question is, the supporting documents provided with the capital estimates indicate that increasing amounts of small capital funding will be requested by the department in future fiscal years. I would like to know what the department's plans are for future small capital projects and in which community they will take place. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's my final question.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Towtongie. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank her for that question. Perhaps you can allow my deputy minister to respond to her question, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Joanasie. Ms. Flaherty.

Ms. Flaherty (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to heritage facilities in Nunavut, at this time we don't have a policy to those issues, but we are starting to work with the federal government regarding the old heritage facilities and how they can be recognized in Nunavut. In 2020 we will look at which heritage facilities are...because we see them in the smaller communities, old buildings like the Hudson's Bay Company houses, because there weren't very many houses back then, and they do have to be recognized. It's in the planning stages. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Flaherty. We are on page F-3. Culture and Heritage. Total Capital Expenditures. \$650,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to page F-2. Department Summary. Culture and Heritage. Total Capital Expenditures. \$650,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Do members agree that we have concluded the Department of Culture and Heritage?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to thank everyone for your questions and suggestions.

I would also like to thank the staff of Culture and Heritage and our interpreters. If we didn't have interpreters, we wouldn't be able to proceed with the House. Have a good evening, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Joanasié. On behalf of the committee, I thank you and your staff for being here today. Sergeant-at-Arms, if you could please escort the witnesses out.

Bill 09 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2019-2020 – Office of the Legislative Assembly – Consideration in Committee

We will move directly on to the next department, which is the Office of the Legislative Assembly. If the officials could get in place, please. Thank you.

We're now dealing with the Office of the Legislative Assembly. I will ask Mr. Speaker: do you have any witnesses that you would like to appear before the committee? Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Does the committee agree for the witnesses to go to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, if you could escort the witnesses in, please.

Thank you. For the record, I would like, Mr. Speaker, if you could introduce your officials and then continue on to your opening comments, please. Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With me here to my right is Mr. Quirke, our Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, and to my left is Mr. Price, the Finance Comptroller of the Legislative Assembly.

(interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to appear before you and members today to present the proposed 2019-2020 Capital Estimates of the Office of the Legislative Assembly.

As members will note, the most significant component of the proposed budget is upgrades to our audiovisual systems. Ensuring the functionality of these systems supports

our objective of making our institution's proceedings accessible to those Nunavummiut who do not have the opportunity to attend them in person.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to take this opportunity to welcome the recent decision of the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission to renew the mandatory distribution order for the broadcast services of the Nunavut and Northwest Territories legislatures. The renewal, which has been granted without an expiry date, ensures that residents of both territories will continue to be able to view the proceedings of their legislatures on both cable and direct-to-home satellite services.

The remaining elements of our capital budget are made up of routine facility improvements and equipment replacements.

That concludes my opening comments, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Do any members have general comments? If not, we are on page A-3. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Are there any questions? Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As a relatively new or rookie MLA, I will not pass up this opportunity to ask questions to the Speaker.

The only question that I would like to ask is: for the benefit of efficiency, when will the Assembly consider going paperless? Now, I understand the need for physical substantiation sheets, but it's the other items such as today's opening comments and for the *Hansard*, I am holding a substantial amount of paper in my hands. That's my only question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the Legislative Assembly we see that we need to improve things as we go along and we believe that we have to start turning more "green" in the way we operate and try to use less paper. We're always talking about that. We can look at all those things that you suggested. However, for some MLAs, they like having the hard copy in front of them and to be able to refer to it. If it's very important to everybody and if it will improve the operations of the Legislative Assembly, we can consider them. That's my response. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are on page A-3. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Total Capital Expenditures. \$1,315,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Going to page A-5. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Independent Officers of the Legislative Assembly. Any questions? Total Capital Expenditures. \$65,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Go back to page A-2. Department Summary. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Total Capital Expenditures. \$1,380,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Do members agree that we have concluded the Office of the Legislative Assembly?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, any closing comments?

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman and colleagues. I'm very happy that the money that you approved will be used here for the benefit of the audience. It will really improve things for the audience in terms of visual and audio. Some of the equipment has been getting quite out-dated and they will be updated. I would like to thank my officials, Mr. Quirke and Mr. Price, for working on that. Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the committee, I thank you and your staff for being here to answer the questions. Sergeant-at-Arms, if you could please escort the witnesses out.

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

Mr. Akoak. Sorry, hold on. We're not done. We now need to go to Bill 9 in your legislative binders. It's the white binder that is below your desk.

Thank you. Bill 9. We're on tab 9 in the white binder by the way. Bill 9, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2019-2020*. Clause 1. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 2. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 3. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to the Schedule on page 2. Bill 9. Schedule. Amount Appropriated for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2020. Vote 2: Capital. Total Capital Appropriation. \$177,502,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Clause 4. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 5. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause 6. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Do members agree to Bill 9 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Do members agree, according to Rule 62(2), that Bill 9 can immediately be placed on the orders of the day for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move a motion to report progress. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Akoak. We have a motion to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour. Thank you. Opposed. Thank you too. The motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress to the Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Moving on with the orders of the day. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Rumbolt.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 9 and would like to report that Bill 9 is immediately ready for third reading and that one committee motion was withdrawn. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report 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, Mr. Kusugak. The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Thank you. All those opposed. The motion is carried. Thank you.

Moving on. Third Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Hickes.

Item 21: Third Reading of Bills

Bill 09 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2019-2020 – Third Reading

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Quttiktuq, that Bill 9, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2019-2020*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Thank you. All those opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 9 is now ready for assent.

Third Reading of Bills. *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for November 7:

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 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 Wednesday, November 7, at 1:30 p.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 18:14*

