

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

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(Baker Lake)

Hon. David Akeegok
(Quttiktuq)

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Development and Transportation*

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(Gjoa Haven)

Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Pat Angnakak
(Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu)

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak
(Cambridge Bay)

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Labour; Minister responsible for the Qulliq
Energy Corporation*

Hon. George Hickes
(Iqaluit-Tasiluk)

*Minister of Finance, Chair of the Financial
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Minister responsible for Suicide Prevention;
Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety
and Compensation Commission*

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(South Baffin)

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(Amittuq)

Mila Kamingoak
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of Human Resources*

Adam Lightstone
(Iqaluit-Manirajak)

John Main
(Arviat North-Whale Cove)

Margaret Nakashuk
(Pangnirtung)

Hon. Patterk Netser
(Aivilik)
*Minister responsible for
Nunavut Arctic College;
Minister responsible for the
Nunavut Housing Corporation*

Emiliano Qirngnuq
(Netsilik)

Paul Quassa
(Aggu)

Allan Rumbolt
(Hudson Bay)
Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Hon. Joe Savikataaq
(Arviat South)
*Premier; Minister of Executive and
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Energy; Minister of Environment; Minister
responsible for Aboriginal Affairs;
Minister responsible for Seniors; Minister
responsible for the Utility Rates Review
Council*

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik
(Iqaluit-Sinaa)
*Government House Leader; Minister of
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Homelessness; Minister responsible for
Immigration; Minister responsible for the
Status of Women*

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Tuesday, May 28, 2019

Members Present:

Hon. David Akeagok, Mr. Tony Akoak, Ms. Pat Angnakak, Hon. George Hickers, Hon. David Joanasie, Mr. Joeline Kaerner, Ms. Mila Kamingoak, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak, Hon. Lorne Kusugak, Mr. Adam Lightstone, Mr. John Main, Hon. 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 13:30*

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Good afternoon. As Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, it is my duty to inform members that Rule 8(1) requires that when a vacancy occurs in the Office of the Speaker, the House shall elect a Speaker from amongst its members before entering into business.

Is there a motion to select the Speaker? I will recognize the Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Motion 034 – 5(2): Selection of Speaker

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Good afternoon, members.

I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Aivilik, that the Member for Baker Lake do take the Chair of the House as Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Clerk.

Clerk: The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried, and I ask that the mover and the seconder to escort the new Speaker to the Chair.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (Hon. Simeon Mikkungwak)(interpretation): Good day, my colleagues and all Nunavummiut, good day.

Before we proceed, I extend my sincerest appreciation to our colleagues and to my nominator, Mr. Netser, and further, to all the MLAs here who have expressed their belief in my capability to act in the Speaker's role as they have elected me to the position.

Further, with respect to our late Speaker, I used to travel with him and I observed how he fulfilled his duties. I will use my authority and capabilities to undertake the role of the Speaker. I am humbled and I voice my deepest thanks to colleagues for electing me to this role.

>>*Applause*

Let's proceed. (interpretation ends) We will now move on the orders of the day. Item 2. (interpretation) Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Government House Leader, Minister Sheutiapik.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 210 – 5(2): Minister Absent from the House

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am proud of you.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform the House that my ministerial colleague, Jeannie Ehloak, is absent today and will be absent until June 6. (interpretation ends) During her absence, Minister David Akeegok will be acting Minister of Justice... Family Services, that's mine. And I myself will be acting as Minister responsible for Qulliq Energy. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Finance, Minister Hickes.

Minister's Statement 211 – 5(2): Carbon Tax in Nunavut

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Congratulations.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to give my colleagues an update on our work to prepare for implementation of the federal carbon tax on July 1, 2019.

While the Government of Nunavut is a signatory to the *Pan Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change* and supports efforts to combat climate change, we recognize that Nunavummiut have fewer options to reduce our use of fossil fuels than southern Canadians. Mr. Speaker, our unique circumstances - remote communities, limited infrastructure, and a small economy - along with the already high costs of living in the territory, means we will feel the impacts of the carbon tax more and will be slower to adapt.

Mr. Speaker, we were successful in lobbying the federal government to exempt both aviation fuel and the fuel used for northern power generation from the carbon tax. We have also developed a suite of proposed initiatives to help reduce the direct impact of carbon price on Nunavummiut and Nunavut businesses.

Mr. Speaker, during this sitting, I will be bringing forward a bill to amend the *Income Tax Act* to make changes to both personal and corporate income taxes to help mitigate the impact of carbon taxes. I will also present a supplementary appropriation bill to the House to fund a proposed carbon tax rebate program. Mr. Speaker and members, both of these initiatives will put money back into the hands of Nunavummiut. At the same time GN departments are developing further options to flow carbon tax revenue into our economy beginning in 2020-21 as the revenue from carbon taxes increases.

Mr. Speaker and members, I want to emphasize that the Government of Nunavut, while recognizing the very real need to combat climate change, is working to lower the impact of the carbon tax on all Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. (interpretation) Ministers' Statements. Minister of Family Services, Minister Sheutiapik.

Minister's Statement 212 – 5(2): Damp Shelter in Iqaluit

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): I again thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I rise today to provide my fellow members with an update on the damp shelter in Iqaluit that opened in January 2019.

Mr. Speaker, the opening of the damp shelter is reflective of a collaborative and collective response to a growing concern and challenge of supporting individuals who are intoxicated and have no other place to go at night.

Through a partnership with the Inukshuk Guardian Society, the shelter opened in January as a three-month pilot project. I am pleased to report that the project has been extended until the end of June 2019, and the department is continuing to evaluate its impact and explore more long-term solutions.

Mr. Speaker, the Inukshuk Guardian Society has undertaken a number of in-depth interviews with clients to gain a better understanding of client demographics, the needs of the clients, and the overall impact of the shelter within the community.

As of May 5, 2019, 182 individuals have accessed the shelter at least once. The majority of individuals using the shelter are men.

The interviews conducted continue to show that individuals accessing the shelter face a number of challenges, including chronic homelessness, family violence, and addictions. Certain individuals accessing the shelter have indicated they are using the shelter as an alternative to consuming alcohol in unsafe situations. These statistics will continue to be gathered to shed light on the existing gaps in programming and services across Nunavut. Most importantly the statistics demonstrate the shelter's value in supporting those most at risk who struggle to find supports and services elsewhere.

Mr. Speaker, the Inukshuk Guardian Society continues to conduct outreach with the individuals accessing the damp shelter, working with them in various ways, including referring them to income assistance, helping them apply for social [insurance] numbers, and assisting with referrals to addiction and recovery groups.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to once again commend the Inukshuk Guardian Society, who played a pivotal role in the opening of the shelter. I would also like to thank all of our

partners who have provided support to the shelter, including the departments of Health, Justice, and the Red Cross. Mr. Speaker, we remain committed in our work to support individuals facing homelessness and working with communities to find innovative solutions to this issue. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister of Environment, Minister Savikataaq.

Minister's Statement 213 – 5(2): Shared Barren-ground Caribou Herds Meeting

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I congratulate you. I say “good day” to the people of Arviat.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to inform my colleagues about a meeting I had with the Northwest Territories' Minister of Environment in Kugluktuk back in April. The focus of our meeting was collaboration and coordination between our two governments on the management of our shared barren-ground caribou herds and to work together toward their recovery.

Mr. Speaker, the barren-ground caribou herds we share with the Northwest Territories have experienced significant rapid decline, which has become a concern for both jurisdictions. To offer some background, the Bluenose-East caribou herd declined from 208,000 in the year 2000 to the current estimate of 19,300. The Bathurst caribou herd population was almost 500,000 in the 1980s but has now declined to 8,200 as of 2018. The Beverly caribou herd declined from 276,000 in 1994 to its current level of 105,000 in 2018. These are significant declines in numbers, and action is necessary to help mitigate the declines and facilitate recovery.

Mr. Speaker, we also discussed predator management and impacts on caribou. We committed significant time to discussions on how we can collaborate to address possible impacts of wolf predation on our declining caribou herds.

Mr. Speaker, my department is working closely with Nunavut's hunters and trappers organizations and other co-management partners to schedule meetings to discuss appropriate management actions for the Bathurst and Bluenose-East caribou herds based on the 2018 survey results. We are also committed to working collaboratively with the Government of the Northwest Territories on a continued path of coordinated management.

Mr. Speaker, during the Kugluktuk meeting, there was a commitment from both jurisdictions to update the 2017 memorandum of understanding between our two governments to reflect the renewed commitments of our jurisdictions to work together on our shared and highly valued caribou herds. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

Minister's Statement 214 – 5(2): Inuit Employment Planning

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I first wish to thank the individuals who put their name in for the position of Speaker this morning. I thank you for offering your services to help. I am proud of you, Mr. Speaker. I have no doubt that you will do a good job.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the progress the Department of Community and Government Services (CGS) has made to recruit and retain Inuit staff.

I have heard from my colleagues on the need to increase Inuit employment within our departments and that is why I have given direction to my deputy minister to address some of our shortcomings.

CGS has been working towards creating a variety of strategic actions plans and initiatives to both recruit and retain Inuit staff.

One of these initiatives is the CGS Inuit Internship Program. Through this program we will reassign from within or recruit Inuit individuals into CGS-specific internship positions before the end of 2019. This initiative will provide Inuit within the territory valuable skills for future employment opportunities. CGS is also continuing with our Technical Scholarship program, with 10 scholarships distributed to beneficiary applicants in February and March of 2019.

Moreover, CGS is in the process of reviewing their list of long-term casual beneficiaries and putting forth recommendations to direct appoint these staff, many of whom are employed in regional offices outside of Iqaluit.

Mr. Speaker, towards the end of the 2018 fiscal year CGS was able to increase our Inuit employee numbers by seven, bringing our total in the department to 115.

As an initiative to welcome newly employed staff, CGS plans to improve our onboarding and orientation sessions for all employees by holding sessions at least once per month in Iqaluit and via video or teleconference with all other regions. CGS is also looking to enhance our onboarding program by making it more Inuit-specific.

We look forward to continuing our commitment to increasing Inuit employment within our department. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Netser.

Minister's Statement 215 – 5(2): Kathy Hanson Appointed NHC Board Vice-chair

Hon. Patterk Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am proud of your ascension to the role of the Speaker, and we all have the late Speaker in our memories. Nonetheless, we must continue our work.

Today I rise to announce an appointment to the Nunavut Housing Corporation board, as a member was appointed as the vice-chair. I would like to speak to it here and on behalf of the Nunavut Housing Corporation board, who approved this appointment along with the cabinet. Kathy Hanson will now be the vice-chair of the housing corporation board and I am very proud to announce that today.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, Kathy Hanson was born and raised in Iqaluit and she has become a dear friend of ours to the family, and she has more than 30 years of work experience in a variety of roles. One of them was as a tenant relations officer at the Iqaluit Housing Authority.

She also volunteered at the YWCA Agvvik women's shelter and the Nunavut Kamatsiaqtut Help Line. She has served as a board member at the Iqaluit Housing Authority and the women's shelter. She cares deeply for the people of Nunavut and will be a strong advocate for them. She is very outspoken.

I am very pleased to have her on board and I am confident she will lead fruitful and productive discussions as vice-chair. I wish her luck in this endeavour. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Education, Minister Joanasié.

Minister's Statement 216 – 5(2): Ongoing Funding for Nunavut Sivuniksavut

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Good day, Mr. Speaker. I also congratulate you on behalf of the people of Baffin Island.

Mr. Speaker, (interpretation ends) today I would like to formally announce the Department of Education's ongoing support of Nunavut Sivuniksavut by committing \$175,000 each year for the 2018-19 and 2019-2020 fiscal years. I would also like to add that we are actively looking at longer term, stabilized funding.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, this investment by my department follows our government's commitments in *Turaaqtavut*, ensuring the availability of quality post-secondary educational opportunities for Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker and members, it is also my hope that this funding will assure future Nunavut Sivuniksavut students that they will be able to engage in the cultural, social and economic development of our territory. As a past student of Nunavut Sivuniksavut myself, I can attest that culturally relevant post-secondary education allowed me to reach my full potential.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the Government of Nunavut has become the prime employer of Nunavut Sivuniksavut graduates, with 33 percent working within our public service. Our government recognizes this important contribution, and as our Premier has stated, we never closed the door on funding Nunavut Sivuniksavut. We did need to find a more suitable, sustainable way to support this program in the long term. I am very pleased we were able to identify funding and provide more certainty to young people planning to attend Nunavut Sivuniksavut.

On behalf of my colleagues here, it was great to attend the graduation ceremony two weeks ago, and we congratulate the class of 2019. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Health, Minister Hickee.

Minister's Statement 217 – 5(2): Nunavut Hosts Maternal and Paediatric Conference

Hon. George Hickee: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Over 180 health care providers came together in April for the third biennial arctic conference to discuss maternal and paediatric health in the Arctic. The overarching goal of the conference was to encourage collaboration amongst northern health care providers and the sharing of ideas and new programs that could potentially be adaptable in other regions.

Mr. Speaker, over the course of three days, northern health care providers presented their innovative programs. Health care providers and leaders from across the country were able to learn from each other, creating future collaboration, and work towards implementing positive change.

Mr. Speaker, I personally had the privilege of attending the conference and meeting clinicians from Nunavut and across the country. It was a proud moment to hear of the advances our health system has been making to improve the quality and safety of care. An example of this is our telehealth program. Mr. Speaker, Nunavut was the first jurisdiction in Canada to connect all communities with telehealth programming and

technology. Now our telehealth services are operational across all 25 communities. More Nunavummiut are now accessing telehealth services in their home community and reducing the need to travel for some types of care. Specifically within the paediatric department we have seen a general increase in the usage of telehealth, going from 39 appoints in 2016-17 to nearly 300, to 298 in 2018-19.

Mr. Speaker, maternal and child health is vital to our territory's thriving and resilient future. I would particularly like to recognize the hard work and dedication of the members of the organizing committee. Many hours went into planning for this important event, enabling health care providers to collectively work together towards improving the health and well-being of our communities.

Mr. Speaker and members, with our territory's high birth rate and fertility rate, such conferences are in line with our *Turaaqtavut* mandate. Supporting *Piliriqatigiinniq/Ikajuqtigiinniq*, this conference enabled health care providers to come together with the common goal of supporting and furthering the health and well-being of mothers and children from across Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Thank you. Ministers' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Let's proceed to Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Chesterfield Inlet-Rankin Inlet North, Ms. Towtongie.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 328 – 5(2): Mental Health Issues

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are proud of your election to your new position, and we know you will conduct yourself appropriately.

I say "good day" to the residents of Chesterfield Inlet, along with residents of Rankin Inlet North.

I recently conducted a constituency visit to Chesterfield Inlet, and a matter was very disconcerting to me, where a parent relayed their circumstances to me. This relates to mental health challenges, and the parents came to provide a background on their son. They stated their son was sent to a mental institution in Ottawa, and was placed on very strong psychotic medication that basically placed him in a semi-coma, in which one is not aware of things. They were informed of this by the general practitioner who spoke to the parents.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, these parents described to me a non-professional prescribing pills way too strong for their son. Their son was placed in a mental hospital by a general practitioner. I am very concerned we have general practitioners, not professionals, that are prescribing pills and identifying Inuit youth and the Inuit

population with a large number of bipolar and schizophrenia diagnoses that are occurring right across Nunavut. I have seen a lot of young men and women that have been described as being bipolar and schizophrenic.

Well, this young man was closely monitored by his parents. He is now well and capable. The parents were able to conduct their own analysis and were able to help their son recover from what was described as mental illness. The father told me that very often young men and young women are being described and given over to the system where they are being diagnosed as being bipolar and schizophrenic without the proper professional medical doctors.

When the parents brought their son to a proper professional medical doctor for mental health, that doctor informed the parents that the general practitioner who prescribed medicine for their son was not qualified to prescribe such medicine.

I would like to continue Mr. Speaker, to finish my comment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude her statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Ms. Towtongie, please proceed with your statement.

Mr. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Speaker. I also thank my colleagues.

Too many times people of Nunavut have been diagnosed as being mentally ill when they are diagnosed by general practitioners who are not qualified to do so, and then they are given medication for that diagnosis. This will have to be looked at very carefully. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will bring this up again later on.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Members' Statements. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Member's Statement 329 – 5(2): Support for Nunavut Sivuniksavut

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to note my appreciation to the government for reinstating its funding support for the Nunavut Sivuniksavut program operating in Ottawa.

Mr. Speaker, quite a few youth from Sanikiluaq have had the opportunity to participate in this excellent program over the years and it has certainly helped lead them to success.

I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to the Nunavut residents, many of whom have graduated from this program, who took the time to write to their MLAs and to the ministers in support of the program and with some very good reasons why funding should continue to be provided by the Government of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, it is always a good thing when a government hears what its citizens are saying and responds positively. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 330 – 5(2): Funding for Nunavut Sivuniksavut

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, am expressing my pride in the successful election to your new position. I say “good day” to the people of Pangnirtung. Further, I am glad we are meeting once again.

A colleague already mentioned this matter, but I want to reiterate the acknowledgement and to further thank the government for deliberating on this matter and for having reversed their earlier decision to cut funding from this program by offering funding from a different program.

As members are aware, during our winter session, quite a number of MLAs decried the government decision by raising concerns about the need for such a program. I voice my pride and thankfulness as I too believe in our youth and the need to train our Inuit youth through educational avenues and to enable them to be productive members of our society here in Nunavut.

We all know that Nunavut Sivuniksavut is a proven program with many successful graduates throughout the many years of the program running. Further, many NS graduates, such as me, took this training. Several recent graduates are now working as civil servants and will be seriously considered for other positions that they may apply for.

It is because of the quality training that Inuit receive in this program that prepares Inuit and our communities for our future. I am proud of these students taking on the challenge of Nunavut Sivuniksavut, as well as the most recent graduates. I am proud that the government is able to provide funding for this exceptional program once again.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, sometimes it feels as though our government does not hear the concerns and arguments we raise on this side of the House, but I thank the government for listening and taking action. I look forward to more successes of this nature as we, the regular members, raise issues during the remainder of our term.
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Gjoa Haven, Mr. Akoak.

Member's Statement 331 – 5(2): Focusing on Mental Health

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Congratulations to you. Good afternoon to the community of Gjoa Haven.

Mr. Speaker, I am very happy to be back in the House today and to have another opportunity to rise and address a topic that weighs heavily on my heart.

Mr. Speaker, as you and my colleagues will recall, I have been working very hard to find ways to address the need for mental health services in my community and region. We need staff, we need infrastructure, and we need more resources.

Mr. Speaker, with the recent release of the report by Nunavut's Representative for Children and Youth on her systemic review of mental health services for young Nunavummiut, it should be clear that there are many deep and dangerous gaps in the availability of services in this area.

Mr. Speaker, I recently received a very moving and heartfelt letter from a young high school student from Ontario. Noah Irvine wrote to me, and I believe he wrote to all MLAs across Nunavut, to advocate for the creation of a Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions.

Mr. Speaker, I fully agree that we, as politicians, as service providers, and as a society, need to focus more on the need for mental health services.

Mr. Speaker, there are so many pressures threatening the mental health and well-being of our people. Individuals and families suffer from the legacy of residential schools, from domestic violence and suicide, and from addictions and trauma.

Mr. Speaker, this young high school student from Guelph, Ontario demonstrates how concerns regarding mental health and addictions exist all across Canada. While I support him in advocating for national leadership in what is becoming a national crisis, I feel strongly that we need to focus on this issue close to home, in our communities and across Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 332 – 5(2): Supporting the Homeless

Ms. Kamingoak: *Koana*, Mr. Speaker. Congratulations. Good afternoon, colleagues, Kuglukturmiut, and Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the difficulties faced by those individuals who have no place to call home and also to give my respect to those who lend a hand by giving those who are homeless a place to stay, even if it's temporary.

Mr. Speaker, there are very few homeless shelters in Nunavut. There are a number of shelters for women and their children who are escaping domestic violence, but even those homes have limited spaces.

I am very grateful for the generosity of people who open their homes to take people in, especially if they have children. Sleeping outside in a shack or a tent can be cold and uncomfortable.

Mr. Speaker, given the lack of formal homeless shelters, I would like to encourage our government to consider providing support and incentives to those people who provide temporary shelter to others.

I am aware that the Department of Family Services provides occasional funding to those who open their homes to provide safe homes to victims of domestic violence in those communities which do not have safe shelters.

Mr. Speaker, I believe our government should consider doing something similar to help address homelessness in our communities.

Mr. Speaker, there are so many very willing and generous people out there, but it is difficult being generous when you can barely have enough food to feed yourself, yet people do their best in order to help others.

If additional funds were made available to assist those who provide temporary homes for homeless individuals and their children, it would ease the difficulties that so many face.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly encourage our government to consider providing support to those who provide temporary homes for the homeless. *Koana*, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

Member's Statement 333 – 5(2): Education Outcomes

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day. Well, our new Speaker, good day. I am proud of you. I also say "good day" to my constituents in Arviat and Whale Cove.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a statement about education because we spend a lot of money on it. We spend approximately \$235 million just for Nunavut alone under capital

and operations and maintenance. That's approximately 10 percent of the government's funds, which is okay because our youth are our future.

I am very proud of the school children and our teachers in Nunavut. They are very capable and they are the staff of the Government of Nunavut, but we would like to see a better education system and to see post-secondary institutions.

I am very concerned with the numbers that came from the Department of Education. We hear a lot of concerns from the parents of the school children and they're concerned that even if they graduate from grade 12 and even if we say that they have completed grade 12, they are not up to par with the rest of Canada. It seems like their education level... .

(interpretation ends) One of the measures in terms of the quality of our grade 12 graduates is the departmental exams. Keeping in mind that many students drop out before grade 10 and never even write a departmental exam, the numbers provided in the response to a written question from the Department of Education indicates that out of all the departmental exams written in Nunavut, roughly one in four are failed at the less than 50 percent mark, Mr. Speaker.

This is a concerning statistic and I will be asking questions to the education minister at the appropriate time. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Members' Statements. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Keyootak.

Member's Statement 334 – 5(2): Appreciation of Iisaaqsivik Activities

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker-elect. I also congratulate you on your election as Speaker. I know that you are going to do a very good job. We are all proud of you.

I rise today to congratulate and recognize... . Well, I say "good day" first to the people of Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq who are watching and listening to the proceedings.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an individual and we all know that Iisaaqsivik has a very successful program. They have students from all of Nunavut and there is also a crisis team that works out of our community. Usually when there's a traumatic experience anywhere in Nunavut, the team goes out to the community. They also provide those types of services in our community and other communities.

Once I have the names of that team, I will make another member's statement. They provide services not only for Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq but they are invited to any community. I am very proud of them. They just recently went to the community of Qikiqtarjuaq during a difficult time. I am very pleased to see this type of team being available here. Mr. Speaker, once I have the names of the team members, I will provide them to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 335 – 5(2): Teacher Shortage

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Please feel welcome and I congratulate you on your election to the position.

Indeed, good day wishes to all, especially to my fellow residents who are in my thoughts today.

Now, I want to turn to this subject recently discussed by my colleague, as I share that concern...education is extremely critical to our community, and we often hear about good news in education, such as Nunavut Sivuniksavut that will continue to provide important training by continuing.

Nonetheless, in our community, and I imagine Igloolik isn't the only community facing this challenge, but we are facing teacher shortages in our community. As a matter of fact, several grades have had to be closed in our community due to the lack of teachers, and this usually is from grade 6 upwards.

A radio announcement is made that due to the unavailability of a teacher, certain grades will not hold classes in the afternoon. This is what residents are hearing nowadays, and I believe this occurs not just in our community or alternatively, it could be due to being over-stressed that the teachers have to be sent out of our community. The grades no longer hold classes when the teachers leave.

Due to these reasons, and with education being a critical factor and with members sitting in session where we will debate the revision of the *Education Act*, I wonder how we can resolve our continual shortage of teachers as we also are aware that this government also offers the Nunavut Teacher Education Program with many students enrolled. Where are these graduates now?

We keep facing teacher shortages, and obviously the school year is coming to a close soon. Nonetheless, we must ascertain our future challenges as members report on the problems their communities face. I certainly hope that in this upcoming year we won't have to face teacher shortages, especially with our priority being education.

I will want to speak to this matter later and will bring it up as a question to the minister at the appropriate time. Education is extremely important and is one of our priorities, yet we constantly face teacher shortages. Why? I will want to get more information when we reach the appropriate agenda item. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 336 – 5(2): Dealing with Social Issues in the High Arctic

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also congratulate you. I am regretful that you will no longer be able to ask any more questions. You used to ask very good questions.

>>*Laughter*

As well, regarding our late Speaker; when we attended his funeral in Pond Inlet, many residents welcomed us warmly during our visit to the community. We offer our gratitude to the residents of Pond Inlet, and we share in the loss of your late representative, Mr. Joe Enook.

Today in Arctic Bay there will be two burials, one I called "Ukuara," an elderly lady who passed away just recently. My thoughts and condolences are with the people of Arctic Bay.

Usually it is very traumatic when there is a suicide committed and that is what is happening up in the High Arctic communities. I send my condolences, my thoughts and prayers to the immediate family.

The people of Arctic Bay have been going through very hard times and because of that, I had a meeting with the people of Arctic Bay and the RCMP. The schools and different agencies had an interagency meeting in trying to find a solution to the problems that they are experiencing.

I also thank the Nunavut government workers who were there to give us their support. The crisis team was also sent from Clyde River to help. Individuals, nurses, and the RCMP were also there to provide support to the families. I say "thank you."

If you are having suicidal thoughts, please seek help. We all want to help because suicide is very traumatic and we look at how we can provide more support to those types of people. We can have discussion. We love our young people dearly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

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

Member's Statement 337 – 5(2): Reflections on Spring Sitting

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Please allow me to begin by congratulating you on your appointment as Speaker. I am very confident that you will represent our institution with fairness and dignity.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to welcome my colleagues back to the House for our spring sitting and to welcome my constituents in the communities of Kugaaruk and Taloyoak who are following our proceedings.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to working with you and all of my colleagues over the next couple of weeks on issues of importance to our territory.

Mr. Speaker, our constituents have high expectations of all of us in this House. It is important that we fulfill our commitment to work together for a better future. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Let's proceed. (interpretation ends) Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Mr. Clerk.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return to Oral Question 293 – 5(2): Child Abuse Cases in Nunavut

Return to Oral Question 361 – 5(2): Marine Safety and Tourism

Return to Oral Question 442 – 5(2): Legal Services Board

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the returns to three oral questions that were asked during the winter 2019 sitting of the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Rumbolt.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize two young ladies from Sanikiluaq who are here today participating in the page program. This is their first time in Iqaluit, so let's give a warm welcome to Sarah Tookalook and Louisa Qavvik. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this time to welcome to the gallery and not only to the gallery but to his new role. I would like to welcome Mr. Stephen Johnson, the new Regional Superintendent for Nunavut Operations for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission. He works very closely with industry to make sure that our workers are safe and, when our youth are starting their employment opportunities, make sure that they're aware of the access to training and safety protocols that businesses have. I would like to thank Mr. Johnson. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you. Welcome to the Nunavut legislature. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Sheutiapik.

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I just want to welcome a group of people sitting in here, and I wasn't sure if you were going to introduce them or not, but I think it's important that we acknowledge the parliamentary interns here to Iqaluit.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Welcome to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. We welcome you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. (interpretation ends) Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names. Item 6. (interpretation) Oral Questions. Ms. Kamingoak, Member for Kugluktuk.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 455 – 5(2): Caribou Summit

Ms. Kamingoak: *Koana*, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister of Environment.

I want to begin by thanking the minister for his statement today about the recent Kugluktuk Caribou Summit, which I also had the honour of attending.

Mr. Speaker, for the record, can the minister describe what specific actions his department will be taking over the next six months as a result of the summit meeting?
Koana, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Environment, Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In my opinion the meeting in Kugluktuk was very fruitful and very productive. I'm glad that we had the meeting with my

counterpart and his officials from the Northwest Territories, members of the hunters and trappers organization, and yourself as the MLA and your elder advisor.

What has come out of the meeting is that the numbers have really gone down on the caribou herds on the Bluenose-East and Bathurst. We're going to work with our co-management partners to look at the total allowable harvest for both of those herds, but we have to work with our co-management partners and within the management system that we have here in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Kamingoak: *Koana*, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for your response. For the record, can the minister indicate what specific commitments were made by the Government of the Northwest Territories as a result of the summit meeting? *Koana*, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Environment, Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The way our wildlife management system works here in Nunavut and the Northwest Territories is similar. They also have to work with their co-management partners in order to manage the wildlife that they're managing.

One commitment that the Northwest Territories made was that they were going to include the Kitikmeot or mostly Kugluktuk hunters on their wolf predation program to a degree so that the number of wolves that is harvested in a certain area where the caribou are in drastic decline would encourage hunters from Kugluktuk to hunt wolves in that location. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Your final supplementary, Ms. Kamingoak.

Ms. Kamingoak: *Koana*, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for your response. As the minister is aware, one of the issues that I have been raising is the need for effective measures to address the problem of wolf predation of our caribou herds.

During the Legislative Assembly's sitting of February 22, 2019, the minister announced a new Kitikmeot regional wolf sample collection program. Can the minister update the House today on the status of this initiative? *Koana*, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Environment, Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The wolf program or wolf incentive program we looked at as the harvesters program too to help harvesters get more money into their pockets by hunting and selling wolf parts or hides. There was a good indication that the wolf harvest did go up in Kugluktuk and this wolf incentive program or

harvesters support program might have been part of it or it might have been also that there were more caribou around in a certain area than there normally was. Both of those factors put together did increase the wolf harvest in Kugluktuk. That program will be continuing come the fall there too.

The meeting was very good and productive in Kugluktuk, and I thank everyone in Kugluktuk for having a community feast there with us too and friendship that was bond by a few that we know. Thank you very much. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 456 – 5(2): Education Outcomes

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I made reference in my member's statement to the return to written question that will be tabled later today by the Department of Education. Specifically it's Written Question 28 – 5(2).

The answers to questions 3 and 4 indicate, and I'll read them out for the record, in 2016, 485 departmental exams were passed with a mark over 50 percent, 201 were failed; in 2017, 508 exams were passed, 216 were failed; in 2018, 445 exams were passed, 162 were failed. Roughly one in four exams received a failing grade. I'm being generous. Some years it appears to be closer to one in three.

My first question for the minister is: does this number represent a satisfactory result for the Department of Education? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister of Education, Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank him for his question. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the graduation rates, looking at the departmental exams that are taken each year, the number that the member shared... We have made progress since Nunavut branched off from the NWT. Each year we have taken into the record about 10 percent annually the graduation rate has increased. Looking at that, we are on the progressive side of things.

Of course there's always room for improvement. Right now the 2018 graduation rate stands at 41 percent and we still want to improve upon that. With that, to the member's question, we want to see improvements continually moving forward. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, minister. (interpretation ends) I do appreciate the number of graduates is going up in absolute terms, but the issue here that I'm trying to get at is the quality of those graduates, Mr. Speaker.

In a recent request for proposals, RFP 2019-15, on page 9 of 41, this is the Department of Education RFP, there is reference to low graduation quality and it's referred to as an emerging challenge.

Mr. Speaker, I'm just trying to understand what the trend is here in terms of these departmental exams. Can the minister share with the House what the trend is in terms of how many students are passing these departmental exams? Is it staying stable? Is it worsening or is it getting better in terms of the pass/fail rate on departmental exams? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his supplementary. Many jurisdictions, including ours, use departmental exams to gauge and assess our students, to evaluate their progress in their senior years. Exams are one way of ensuring that the course content that they're going through is taught at a consistent and the standards are being met.

We use, of course, the Alberta grade 12 courses. With the departmental exams, there are many subjects that students take their departmental exams in grades 10, 11, and 12, so these students are taking multiple exams, taking those numbers into account. We have to match what are the accepted grade 12 courses that will be accepted at the university level. These subject areas are looked at to make sure they match university entry levels.

To the member's question, we are looking at student assessment as a priority within the department and we want to make improvements in this area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I thank the minister for his response. He didn't quite answer my question, so I guess I'll ask it again.

The written question was specific to the last three years, but I'm assuming the Department of Education has access to information that I don't have. I'm interested in the trend in terms of these departmental exams. What is the trend that the department is seeing? Are more Nunavut students passing their departmental exams or are more Nunavut students failing their departmental exams as time passes over the years, or is it staying stable? I would appreciate a response. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My apologies if I'm not going right directly to the member's question. In his written questions, the responses that we provided indicate the grade 12 departmental exams. Looking at those under questions 3 and 4, it's being relatively stable.

Again, going back to my first response, I had indicated that we are seeing greater numbers of our students are graduating. In 2018 we had 41 percent net graduation rate. We want to continue to increase that number. If there any suggestions on how we can do that, we are open. One of the ways we want to try to address that is through the RFP and gaining some insight from external partners on how we can achieve a higher graduation rate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Oral Questions. Member for Gjoa Haven, Mr. Akoak.

Question 457 – 5(2): Focusing on Mental Health

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, in my member's statement I addressed the need for more mental health services and infrastructure across the territory.

The minister will note that there has been a lot of support for opening a mental health facility in the community of Gjoa Haven. Can the minister provide an update on what consideration has been given to opening a mental health facility in Gjoa Haven? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister of Health, Minister Hickey.

Hon. George Hickey: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for continuing to raise this cause on behalf of his community.

Mr. Speaker, in the past year we finalized our report with our strategy on mental health and addictions with the pillars involved of providing more community level services, provide more regional services, including up to a treatment centre in the territory itself. Within that strategy, there are a number of, like I mentioned, different pillars of providing support and the different initiatives that we are providing to communities to help supplement the mental health staff that are in the community through proposals, different types of activities, on-the-land programming, different initiatives that we work with Embrace Life, the RCMP, and other partners.

There is no definitive plan for a facility in Gjoa Haven at this point. That does not mean that it isn't part of the ongoing discussions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Your first supplementary, Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated in my member's statement, I recently received a letter from an Ontario high school student, Noah Irvine, advocating for the establishment of a ministry for mental health and addictions.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister confirm whether he too received a letter from Noah Irvine on this issue and, if so, what are his views on the establishment of a specific ministry to provide a direct focus on mental health and addiction issues? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister of Health, Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't specifically recall this correspondence and it is kind of strange because I go through all the emails and correspondence that I get. I will check to confirm that and, if not, I will consult with the member after on the content of that discussion.

With regard to having a minister specifically for mental health and addictions, we have one; that's me. Under my Minister of Health portfolio, it is a very high priority. I am sure that all of us here, as in the members' statements that were listed today as well as past occurrences, there are ongoing concerns with mental health across the territory. It is a very high priority.

There are different divisions within Health and each division has their own champions and their own priorities. It is my responsibility as the Minister responsible for Health to make sure that all those activities are being acted on. I take the mental health and addictions part of my portfolio very seriously. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Your final supplementary, Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The government's report on addictions and trauma treatment in Nunavut was tabled in the House in November of 2018.

Can the minister provide an update on the government's progress towards establishing a Nunavut recovery centre that will be able to provide residential treatment services for Nunavut residents suffering from trauma and addictions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister of Health, Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for again continuing on this topic; it's a very important one.

Ideally we want to provide as much care in our communities as possible. We do recognize that there is an elevated need to provide an actual facility in the territory and we are working with our partners to make that facility a reality, but I do want to emphasize the mental health and addictions clinicians across the territory that we do have in our communities.

Recently in the last couple of years we have been utilizing an orientation training program for clinicians either returning or coming to Nunavut and working with our health care team to make sure that their guidance is culturally appropriate, that they know where they are, they're in Nunavut, that they make sure that they know the history of the clientele that they're working with, and we have seen a lot of very positive results coming from that orientation, Mr. Speaker.

When we're getting down to the nuts and bolts of a facility here in the territory, I think it's a very important step and it was a very high priority in the strategy that the member commented to. We're working very closely with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Indigenous Services Canada, and as well as the Department of Health here in Nunavut to make that facility a reality. They did announce support of it in the most recent federal budget.

I have recently met with the indigenous services minister as recently as three weeks ago to discuss this topic and I'm looking forward to some, hopefully, positive announcements in the near future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Ms. Towtongie.

Question 458 – 5(2): Carbon Tax

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Finance.

As the minister is very much aware, the federal carbon tax backstop will be imposed on Nunavut in just a few weeks from today.

(interpretation ends) In his recent Budget Address, the minister informed the Legislative Assembly that the federal carbon tax will generate approximately \$15.0 million in revenue, all of which will be provided to the Government of Nunavut. It's in this statement. He also told the House that he was "looking forward to sharing the details of this revenue return before the federal carbon pricing program takes effect in July."

Can the minister tell us today how much carbon tax revenue will be directly rebated to residents of the territory? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister of Finance, Minister Hickee.

Hon. George Hickee: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our goal as a territory, by taking the fall back position of the federal carbon tax initiative, is to make sure that the people directly hampered or affected by this carbon tax and increasing costs are compensated.

I just announced today in my minister's statement that there are bills that are going to be put forward in this upcoming near future to take a look at exactly how that will be rolled

out and what type of impact it will have on the different demographics. I can't specify a specific number because some of it is usage based. That being said, our goal is to provide as much of the increase in costs back to the consumer, the end user of that fossil fuel. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Your first supplementary, Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The minister is well aware of the fact that the mining sector in the north and here in Nunavut directly impacts our levels of pollutants, including the number of positions for employment and economic development that are benefits the mines produce.

Recently in September of 2018 Agnico Eagle Mines submitted correspondence to the federal government as well as to the Government of Nunavut on the anticipated impacts of the carbon tax on our economic drivers.

(interpretation ends) Can the minister clarify how the Government of Nunavut is working to ensure that the federal carbon tax does not unfairly disadvantage this vital sector of our economy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Finance, Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I sincerely thank the member for raising this issue. We talk often on the exemptions we receive for power generation and aviation fuel.

We are a very strong voice in Ottawa with the carbon pricing that helped them develop the output-based pricing program for mineral exploration companies like the mining industry. The numbers are varied because it's based on the average consumption of a mine across the country. Therefore they take a reduction, which is approximately 40 percent off the top for mining companies.

The federal government has listened to us on realizing how important of an industry that is to Nunavut and has made some further exemptions within the carbon pricing model. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Your final supplementary, Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister is well aware of the fact that different approaches were taken by several provincial governments, which I believe are Saskatchewan, Ontario, and Alberta, that have launched class action suits against the federal carbon tax imposition which they state will devastate their economies. (interpretation ends) Can the minister clearly explain to Nunavummiut why our government has decided not to join these challenges? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister of Finance, Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the question. Whenever a jurisdiction such as Nunavut or Ontario or Alberta or other jurisdictions engage in a civil process or a legal process with the federal government, it can be a very long, very expensive process. Typically what happens within jurisdiction groups is there are shared outcomes. If one jurisdiction gets a benefit, typically the other jurisdictions will participate in that benefit as well too.

We're following very closely how this legal action is going to take place across the country, but at this point, we're not in a position to invest dollars into fighting the carbon tax. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 459 – 5(2): Teacher Shortage in Nunavut

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Education.

As I alluded to earlier in my member's statement, I just arrived from Igloolik recently, and previously during my last trip up, I kept hearing about the teacher shortages we face. As a matter of fact, some students or grades were asked not to attend school classes. This was announced on the local radio, which was quite painful to hear.

Here we maintain that our youth are our future and they require quality education. It seems obvious that we are facing shortages in our public service and particularly with our teachers. When this occurs, our children are the ones directly impacted.

My first question is: what is the status today? It is obvious we are nearing the end of the school calendar year. However, I want to get further information about where we stand with respect to our teacher shortages and what stage are we at now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank him for his question. The shortage of teachers isn't just a challenge faced here in Nunavut; it seems to be a nationwide shortage and global as well, as it is felt everywhere. There are various reasons for this challenge.

Further, the teachers as well have personal issues that perhaps lead them to suddenly resign. Nonetheless, we try our utmost to retain teachers, especially to continue teaching those grades. Perhaps we can combine two grades, such as grades 5 and 6, into one classroom or alternatively, other school staff or parents who act as substitute teachers, or

we even use (interpretation ends) learning coaches (interpretation) to temporarily act as teachers. We try to resolve the challenges we face, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, indeed we have heard reports of this issue throughout the territory where teacher shortages are occurring. However, I am speaking about Nunavut, as we also provide a program to teach residents to become teachers, and we have quite a number of students.

As a matter of fact, I recall that we have perhaps ten communities offering the teacher education program. Ten communities provided this training. Even with that training, we are still at a shortfall. Perhaps if we hired more Nunavut residents to teach, then we may not be facing a teacher shortage.

We keep hiring teachers from the south. Actually I have no problem with them, as many are very dedicated teachers. Nonetheless, regarding our future teachers, many of whom are currently taking courses within Nunavut, what kind of encouragement or incentives are provided to our teaching students? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister of Education, Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, with respect to these issues, last year, as we may recall, prior to the start of the school year we faced teacher shortages and we don't want to face that again this upcoming school year in the fall.

Throughout the entire year, we are actively recruiting teachers to ensure we have replacements if any schools face a shortage in our regions or communities. Nonetheless, we have quite a few students at Nunavut Arctic College taking the NTEP courses. Based on the information I have been provided, there are currently 85 students in that stream. Of that group, we anticipate at the end of the school year this spring that we will have about 21 graduates.

Further, we have already sent out invitations to the graduates encouraging them to apply for the Department of Education's teaching positions, to submit their resumés. Also, we are always looking for substitute teachers, either for a day or a few days, to teach while others are getting training. They can enquire about the substitute positions from their local school principals and to submit resumés for substitute teaching. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now, as I stated previously, we anticipate reviewing the *Education Act* shortly, and perhaps we can expect resolutions.

Actually I, too, will try to have expectations about resolving our teacher shortages and to have clear goals in light of the importance of education, and to address our children's futures as we want to have clear scholarly milestones. I certainly hope that the review of the *Education Act* will include resolutions towards fixing this shortage and I am just voicing this concern again, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister of Education, Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you. I didn't hear a question within that commentary, Mr. Speaker. However, yes, I do support that statement and would encourage the residents of Nunavut if they are capable of speaking in Inuktitut, and in light of the students who will be graduating high school with grade 12 along with students from the Nunavut Arctic College, that education is an extremely important priority. Please provide proper services, as we want to see that and please submit your names to our department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 460 – 5(2): Teachers' Conference Held in Iqaluit

Mr. Kaernerck (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am proud of you. Good day to my fellow residents of Amittuq.

My question is also directed to the Minister of Education.

Now, we maintain that education within Nunavut is the top priority. The first question I wish to pose relates to the past teachers' conference in February. Teachers come down to Iqaluit to attend this annual meeting.

Mr. Speaker, let me start with this question: how many teachers from the outlying communities attend this teachers' conference? That is my first question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister of Education, Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank him for his question. Now, the teachers receive training annually to allow progress within their mandated work. This is set up for our teachers, or even government employees. However, I don't have that level of detail, but I can state that not every teacher in the communities is sent down, as the training courses are conducted regionally.

For the South Baffin region, that was the meeting that was held here. The teachers and school employees are sent for training, but some funds come from the teachers

association, or (interpretation ends) the Nunavut Teachers Association (interpretation) pays for part of the expenses for the listed names. The teachers who sign up attend the courses offered here.

Further, I don't have the exact figures, but I think I can provide that information at a later date during this sitting, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Your first supplementary, Mr. Kaernerck.

Mr. Kaernerck (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I didn't hear a figure. Perhaps I can paraphrase the question differently for his benefit. I would like to see a paper outlining the expenses incurred for this conference from the minister. I want to know exactly how much funding was expended for this conference. Can the minister provide a written response outlining the expenses for the teachers' conference? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister of Education, Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The teacher professional development that occurs every year, we do have a professional development framework that we use and we developed in partnership with the Nunavut Teachers Association. They have a separate professional development fund which they use to organize these conferences for teacher development on a regular basis. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Your final supplementary, Mr. Kaernerck.

Mr. Kaernerck (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the reason why I am so dogged in getting this information is due to the number of students who go to school hungry. Some students attend school without any breakfast. This is why I asked the minister about these funds, as I imagine some funds could be set aside for this program, to use this example, healthy foods offered to our students.

My final question to the minister is this: you previously stated that the teachers can now use videoconferencing via Internet. I wonder if this technology can be used without sending teachers physically to Iqaluit. Can you use this new technology for the upcoming teachers' conference next year? Will you be able to use videoconferencing to save funding? I believe more funds can be set aside for other programs for our students. Can the minister respond to that? Can the teachers' conference be held online instead? This is next year's conference. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister of Education, Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank him for his question. We have a few schools within Nunavut that have the capacity to undertake online videoconferencing, and generally this is due to the limitations of the bandwidth allowances. We would like to add more capacity, but we are limited both in funding and other capacity bottlenecks, including improving our employee capabilities.

However, even the schools that have the capacity to undertake videoconferencing or tele-training are technologies we may be able to provide to our children and students as that is the priority. However, yes, we can take that into consideration and I will ask my officials to see how to improve our teachers' capabilities through this type of training. As an example, they can take professional development courses online. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Oral Questions. MLA for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Question 461 – 5(2): Solid Waste Management

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today my questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

As the minister is very much aware, the community of Sanikiluaq is in urgent need of a modern solid waste management facility.

Mr. Speaker, in September of 2018 the minister's department issued a request for proposals to conduct a major solid waste management feasibility study for the community. According to the department's timeline for this project, a final report was to have been prepared and provided to the Sanikiluaq municipal council in February of this year. However, it is my understanding that there have been delays in this schedule.

Can the minister confirm if the study has been completed and, if it has, will he commit to providing me with a copy before the end of our current sitting? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for asking that question. Mr. Speaker, in regard to the question as to whether the study and the report has been completed and if I can present it, if the report is completed before this session is over, I will provide a copy of it to my colleague. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the previous Legislative Assembly back in 2016, I raised a number of concerns about the waste oil management in the community

of Sanikiluaq and the manner in which drums have been abandoned near the community's current solid waste facility, which I currently more accurately referred to as "the dump." When I asked questions about this issue, the minister of the day, who is now the Premier, acknowledged the need to address this problem.

Can the minister confirm that his department's feasibility study regarding waste management will address this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank you for that question. Solid waste sites need to be set up properly. The study that is being done about that in Sanikiluaq, if it is missing something, I will add it to that. I agree that waste oil needs to be disposed of properly. If that is not part of the plan, I will make sure it is part of the plan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Your final supplementary, Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I recognize that Sanikiluaq is not alone when it comes to the need to modernize solid waste management. In July of 2018 the federal government announced that over \$26 million in funding for solid waste management improvements for the capital city of Iqaluit.

Can the minister clarify if his department will be submitting a proposal under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program to fund a new waste management facility for Sanikiluaq? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On more than one occasion we have touched upon the issue of solid waste management and the need to clean up the sites and some to get new solid waste sites. We have plans made. I talked about bundles 1, 2, and 3, and we are doing a review of the solid waste sites in all Nunavut communities. We're looking at the hazardous materials, what has to be done to clean up the material, and again, we will be asking for questions to remediate the sites in all the communities, including Sanikiluaq. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu, Ms. Angnakak.

Question 462 – 5(2): Land and Lot Development

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Congratulations. (interpretation) Our offices were close by and now you will be moving

to another office. I enjoyed listening to all the very loud music and it's obvious I'm going to miss it.

(interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

As the minister will recall, I asked him a number of questions during our recent winter sitting about the important issue of land and lot development. One of the questions that I asked the minister about concerned the City of Iqaluit's new land administration by-law, which the elected council approved in November of last year, and which includes new eligibility and procedures for residential ballot draws that will prioritize Inuit and long-term residents of the city.

As I noted in my questions, the approval of the territorial government is required for the by-law, so I asked if the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation for an update on the approval process. At that time the minister indicated that he would get back to me with this information, but I haven't heard from him since that time. My question is simple: does he have the answer for me today? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Patterk Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't really have the information yet, but if there are new by-laws coming out, we usually work with the various departments and the city about zoning by-laws, some that are slated for residential, some for commercial, and so on. We don't have the information yet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, my question wasn't answered (interpretation ends) by the minister. (interpretation) The city's by-laws can't be changed until they are reviewed by the government. I'm trying to ask whether or not the by-laws were reviewed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Patterk Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated earlier, when there's going to be any construction, we work with the City of Iqaluit and it's quite different from the other communities. I'm sorry I can't respond to her question, but once I have the information, I'll provide it to her, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Your second supplementary, Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Let me try to ask again. Thank you, Mr. Chairman...Mr. Speaker. I said "Mr. Chairman" and I apologize.

(interpretation ends) Earlier this year the City of Iqaluit held a draw for lots in the new Joamie Court subdivision. Can the minister confirm how many lots the Nunavut Housing Corporation acquired over the past year in Iqaluit for the purposes of constructing new public housing units? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Patterk Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If memory serves me correct, we will be building 33 public units for the City of Iqaluit, or the Nunavut Housing Corporation will be doing that. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 463 – 5(2): Iqaluit Port Project

Mr. Lightstone (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I would like to congratulate the member of beautiful Baker Lake on his recent appointment.

My questions today are for the Minister responsible for Community and Government Services.

I recently had an opportunity to attend an information session held on the Iqaluit port project. I would like to thank the minister for taking the initiative and keeping the public informed through the presentation which ended in a question-and-answer period.

During this presentation, I brought up the topic of a CBC article which created much commotion in Iqaluit when it identified the potential benefits of a ferry service connecting Iqaluit to southern ports.

My question during the information session was whether or not the project will have the ability to accommodate roll-on/roll-off ships such as ferries. To my surprise, the answer was that although Economic Development and Transportation did include roll-on/roll-off specs to the project scope, it was not included in the final designs.

I would like to ask the minister if he would be kind enough to inform the Assembly and the public as to why the port is not being built to accommodate roll-on/roll-off technology. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister responsible for Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. CGS wasn't the only one that made this whole decision on the roll-on/roll-off. We worked with the Department of Transportation here in Iqaluit. It's very expensive to build that site and just for the roll-on/roll-off alone, it would cost millions and millions of dollars. We have to look at the whole project, the cost, the pros and cons, the benefits, and how we can better use the money. It would have been nice to have roll-on/roll-off technology on the site, but looking at the cost and benefits, it did not match, so we didn't include it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are many types of roll-on/roll-off technologies, but for those ocean-going vessels that would typically be servicing ferry service in Iqaluit, those would have built-in ramps and would only require a platform to pull up to. I don't understand how the government came up with this quote of millions of dollars in cost savings not to incorporate such technology. I would like to ask where the government came up with millions and millions of dollars of cost savings by not including this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister responsible for Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for asking that question. Again, I don't know where you got the information of different costs for various roll-on/roll-off technologies. If you have that information, I would like to see it.

We work with the Minister of Transportation. I don't want to say it in English, but I was thinking of Mr. Enook, who was very insistent on us speaking Inuktitut. Economic Development and Transportation and our department work together. The roll-on/roll-off technology was in the millions of dollars and the ships that are going to be coming here are not going to have the required equipment right away. We have to look at what's available, how it would be a benefit to the tourists coming in, and other issues.

We looked at the cost and it was very expensive all around. We don't have enough money to buy the required infrastructure in all of Nunavut. The government made a decision to use those millions of dollars for different projects instead of concentrating on only one area. We looked at the pros and cons. We looked at the benefits and the funding that is required for immediate needs. That's how we arrived at that decision. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand that when it comes to capital projects, it is very important to utilize it in a way that it is shared amongst all of our communities, but I'm still curious as to how the government came up with an estimate of millions of dollars to incorporate roll-on/roll-off technology. I would like to ask the minister if he would be kind enough to commit to sharing the figures behind that millions of dollars cost savings estimate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have to look at all the projects. We have to look at the benefits, the pros and cons, and if the money is going to be used wisely and prudently. We look at the cost figure of a project, the usage of that infrastructure, and there are a lot of factors that we have to look at when we're building docks and so on. I do apologize, but that's the way it is. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 464 – 5(2): Baffin Island Caribou Management

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Environment.

Mr. Speaker, this is a question I keep posing and since we have a quota system for caribou, there's a quota of 250 a year and I'm sure that the numbers are going to change this year. Can the minister give us an update on the quotas that are imposed for caribou? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister of Environment, Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank you for that question, Mr. Keyootak. Up to May 9, 236 caribou have been harvested on Baffin Island. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his response. Mr. Speaker, now, residents of this region always look for further information, especially the Baffin region communities, on the number of caribou being harvested. I believe the quota is almost completed, as the minister mentioned 230 tags have been used out of the 250 allocated.

How many communities have filled their tags for the allocated numbers of caribou they receive? Also, how many communities haven't filled their tags? Can the minister provide this level of detailed information? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister of Environment, Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, currently we have, and I will read out the figures for each community and how much they have harvested in the Baffin region:

- Arctic Bay – TAH is 20 caribou, and they have used all of their tags;
- Cape Dorset – TAH is 20 caribou, and they have used 19 of their 20 tags;
- Clyde River – TAH is 32 caribou, and they have used 30 tags;
- Igloolik – TAH is 12 caribou, and they have used 10 tags;
- Iqaluit – TAH is 41 caribou, and they have used all their tags;
- Kimmirut – TAH is 33 caribou, and they have used all 33 tags to date;
- Pangnirtung – TAH is 33 caribou, and they have caught 35 caribou;
- Pond Inlet – TAH is 34 caribou, and they have caught 24 caribou;
- Qikiqtarjuaq – TAH is 25 caribou and they have caught 24 caribou.

The entire totality of the caribou harvested in the Baffin region is 236 tags, as I stated previously, and that means they have some tags left to reach the 250 tag limit for the season. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to these figures, it has been practically every year that I have queried the minister about this matter. Now, in the past years when we had the same number of tags, it seemed communities didn't fill their tags reaching up to 250 tags.

Now, with communities now filling their tags, is this happening over a shorter time frame or have hunters started catching more caribou ever since the 250-tag allocation limitation was implemented? Previously it seemed many communities didn't fill their tags, but today many more communities complete their tags. Are the communities catching more caribou? Is the population increasing in the Baffin region? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister of Environment, Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, when we commenced the 250-tag limit where only bulls can be harvested within the Baffin region, originally there were not as many caribou harvested when it first started. Now the 250-tag

limit is being reached or being closed upon, but I am not sure if the reason is the increase in the caribou population or if the caribou hunters are happening upon the caribou herds, but what I can state is that yes, the Baffin region hunters are catching more caribou closing on the limit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Members, I would like to note that the time for question period has expired and we will proceed to Item 7 in the *Orders of the Day*. Written Questions. There are no hands up, so let's proceed with the orders of the day. (interpretation ends) No. 8 on the agenda. Returns to Written Questions. Mr. Clerk.

Item 8: Returns to Written Questions

Return to Written Question 017 – 5(2): Child Abuse in Nunavut

Return to Written Question 018 – 5(2): GN Education Leave Utilization 2018-19

Return to Written Question 019 – 5(2): Department of Health Budget and Expenditures

Return to Written Question 020 – 5(2): Recommendations of the Domestic Violence Death Review Committee

Return to Written Question 021 – 5(2): Recommendations of the Domestic Violence Death Review Committee

Return to Written Question 022 – 5(2): Staff Housing Policy

Return to Written Question 023 – 5(2): Child Abuse in Nunavut – Trends

Return to Written Question 024 – 5(2): NHC Capital Carry Forward

Return to Written Question 025 – 5(2): Homeownership Program Application Process

Return to Written Question 026 – 5(2): Homeownership Programs – Inuit Participation

Return to Written Question 027 – 5(2): Use of Contract Services to Perform Functions Intended for Indeterminate Employees

Return to Written Question 028 – 5(2): Graduation Statistics

Return to Written Question 029 – 5(2): Recipients of Financial Assistance for Nunavut Students

Return to Written Question 030 – 5(2): Mine Training**Return to Written Question 031 – 5(2): Mine Training**

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am tabling the returns to 15 written questions that were asked during the winter 2019 sitting of the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. (interpretation) Member for Gjoa Haven, Mr. Akoak.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents**Tabled Document 155 – 5(2): Letter from Noah Irvine on Mental Health and Addictions**

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In my member's statement I mentioned a letter that I received from Noah Irvine, a high school student from Guelph, Ontario, who wrote very powerfully and eloquently on the need to work together to address the growing mental health and addictions crisis across Canada.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues, if they have not already done so, to read this letter and to consider how we can work together to improve mental health and addictions services across our territory and ultimately across the country. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Tabled Document 156 – 5(2): Government of Canada Document: Nunavut and Pollution Pricing**Tabled Document 157 – 5(2): Correspondence from Agnico Eagle: Carbon Pricing in Nunavut**

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a document that the Minister of Finance referred to when he mentioned the \$15 million carbon tax, and this includes the correspondence from (interpretation ends) Agnico Eagle (interpretation) Mines about their concerns regarding the carbon tax, as well as sent to the federal government and Nunavut about the carbon tax cost implications. I encourage everyone to peruse this document with great care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Tabling of Documents. Thank you.

Tabled Document 158 – 5(2): Report of the Independent Commission to Review Members’ Indemnities, Allowances, Expenses and Benefits

Tabled Document 159 – 5(2): Report on Members’ Absences from Sittings of the Legislative Assembly and Meetings of Committees and Caucuses for the Period October 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019

Tabled Document 160 – 5(2): 2018 Actuarial Valuation Report under the Legislative Assembly Retiring Allowances Act

Tabled Document 161 – 5(2): 2018 Actuarial Valuation Report under the Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act

Tabled Document 162 – 5(2): Report of the Representative for Children and Youth titled “Our Minds Matter: A Youth-Informed Review of Mental Health Services for Young Nunavummiut”

Members, I have five documents to table today.

The first document is (interpretation ends) the Report of the Independent Commission to Review Members’ Indemnities, Allowances, Expenses and Benefits.

The second document is the Report on Members’ Absences from Sittings of the Legislative Assembly and Meetings of Committees and Caucuses for the period of October 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019.

The third document is the 2018 Actuarial Valuation Report under the *Legislative Assembly Retiring Allowances Act*.

The fourth document is the 2018 Actuarial Valuation Report under the *Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act*.

The fifth document is the Report of the Representative for Children and Youth titled *Our Minds Matter: A Youth-Informed Review of Mental Health Services for Young Nunavummiut*.

Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Hicke.

Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

Hon. George Hicke: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize for the confusion.

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Arviat South, that Bill 22, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2019-2020*, be read for the first time.

Mr. Speaker, I also have a second first reading. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Arviat South, that Bill 23, *Supplementary Appropriation...*

Speaker: Minister Hickes.

(interpretation) We will again proceed. Let us try this again. (interpretation ends) Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Hickes.

Bill 22 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2019-2020 – Notice

Bill 23 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2019-2020 – Notice

Bill 24 – Write-off of Debts Act, 2018-2019 – Notice

Bill 26 – An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act – Notice

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will take full responsibility for this little glitch. It is nothing on your first day.

Mr. Speaker, I have four notices of motions for first reading of bills.

I give notice that on Wednesday, May 29, 2019, that Bill 22, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2019-2020*, will be read for the first time.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, May 29, 2019, that Bill 23, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2019-2020*, be read for the first time.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, May 29, 2019, that Bill 24, *Write-off of Debts Act, 2018-2019*, be read for the first time.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, May 29, 2019, that Bill 26, *An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. (interpretation) Minister of Family Services, Minister Sheutiapik.

Bill 27 – An Act to Amend the Senior Citizens Benefits Act – Notice

Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I give notice that on Wednesday, May 29, 2019, that Bill 27, *An Act to Amend the Senior Citizens Benefits Act*, be read for the first time. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Hickes.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Arviat South, that Bill 22, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2019-2020*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. The minister is seeking... .

First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will get this right, I promise.

>>Laughter

Mr. Speaker, I request consent of this Assembly to waive the one-day notice requirement to allow for the first reading of Bill 22, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2019-2020*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. The minister is seeking consent to allow for the first reading of Bill 22. Do members agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. There is agreement.

First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Hickes.

**Bill 22 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 1,
2019-2020 – First Reading**

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This has got to be the first time we've had third first readings of a bill.

>>Laughter

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Arviat South, that Bill 22, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2019-2020*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. The minister is seeking consent to allow for the first reading of bill... . The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried.

First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Hickeys.

Hon. George Hickeys: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request consent of this Assembly to waive the one-day notice requirement to allow for the first reading of Bill 23, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2019-2020*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Do members agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Speaker: There is agreement. Minister of Finance, you can proceed. The motion is in order. Minister of Finance, Minister Hickeys.

Bill 23 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2019-2020 – First Reading

Hon. George Hickeys: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Arviat South, that Bill 23, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2019-2020*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried.

Thank you. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Hickeys.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills

Bill 22 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2019-2020 – Second Reading

Hon. George Hickeys: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Arviat South, that Bill 22, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 1, 2019-2020*, be read for the second time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 22 is referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Second Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Hickeys.

Bill 23 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2019-2020 – Second Reading

Hon. George Hickeys: Thank you once again, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Arviat South, that Bill 23, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2019-2020*, be read for the second time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 23 is referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Motion 035 – 5(2): Early Adjournment

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to Rule 46, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Gjoa Haven, that the House adjourn for the day. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. The motion is in order and not subject to debate. All those in favour. Opposed.

>>*Laughter*

The motion is carried and we will now proceed to Item 22 on the order paper. *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A reminder that there's a meeting tomorrow morning at ten o'clock in the Nanuq Boardroom of the Regular Members' Caucus.

Orders of the Day for May 29:

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

- Bill 24
- Bill 26
- Bill 27

18. Second Reading of Bills

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

- Bill 22
- Bill 23

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 very much. (interpretation ends) This House stands adjourned until Wednesday, May 29, at 1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 15:41*

