



Nunavut Canada

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT

2nd Session

5th Assembly

HANSARD

Official Report

DAY 66

Wednesday, October 30, 2019

Pages 4182 – 4234

Iqaluit

Speaker: The Honourable Simeon Mikkungwak, M.L.A.

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

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(Baker Lake)

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(Quttiktuq)
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Development and Transportation*

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(Amittuq)

David Qamaniq
(Tununiq)

Mila Kamingoak
(Kugluktuk)

Emiliano Qirngnuq
(Netsilik)

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(Gjoa Haven)
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(Uqqummiut)

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(Aggu)

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Margaret Nakashuk
(Pangnirtung)

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

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

Hon. David Joanasic
(South Baffin)
*Minister of Culture and Heritage; Minister
of Education; Minister of Languages*

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Innirvik Support Services

Box 1200

Iqaluit, Nunavut, X0A 0H0

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

Website: www.assembly.nu.ca

Table of Contents

Opening Prayer.....	4182
Speaker's Statement	4182
Ministers' Statements	4182
Members' Statements	4186
Oral Questions.....	4192
Petitions.....	4208
Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters.....	4208
Tabling of Documents.....	4208
First Reading of Bills	4209
Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters	4209
Report of the Committee of the Whole	4233
Orders of the Day	4233

A.

Daily References

Wednesday, October 30, 2019.....4182

B.

Ministers' Statements

319 – 5(2): Evolution of the Language Situation in Nunavut, 2001 to 2016 (Joanasie)4182

320 – 5(2): Nunavut Arctic College 10-Year Strategic Plan (Netser).....4183

321 – 5(2): Funding for Rankin Inlet Terminal Expansion and Kivalliq Road Study (Akeegok)
.....4184

322 – 5(2): Arctic and Northern Policy Framework (Savikataaq)4184

323 – 5(2): Inuit Superintendents of Schools in Each Region (Joanasie)4185

C.

Members' Statements

488 – 5(2): Congratulations to Sanikiluaq's New Mayor and Council (Rumbolt).....4186

489 – 5(2): Appreciation to Gjoa Haven's Search and Rescue Volunteers (Akoak)4186

490 – 5(2): Chesterfield Inlet Municipal, District Education Authority and Alcohol Education
Committee Elections (Towtongie).....4187

491 – 5(2): Addressing Elder Care (Main).....4188

492 – 5(2): Congratulations to New Council Members (Qirngnuq).....4189

493 – 5(2): The Strength of Inuktitut (Quassa)4190

494 – 5(2): Pond Inlet Participants at Trials for Arctic Winter Games (Qamaniq).....4190

495 – 5(2): Congratulations to Pangnirtung's New Mayor and Council (Nakashuk)4191

496 – 5(2): Congratulations to New Mayor and Council and District Education Authority
(Kusugak).....4191

497 – 5(2): Congratulations to New Ekaluktutiak Hunters and Trappers Organization (Ehaloak)
.....4192

498 – 5(2): Congratulations to New Mayor and Council of Naujaat and Coral Harbour (Netser)	
.....	4192

D.

Oral Questions

660 – 5(2): Regional Wildlife Organizations (Rumbolt).....	4192
661 – 5(2): Medical Travel Escorts (Keyootak).....	4194
662 – 5(2): Rankin Inlet Water Infrastructure (Towtongie).....	4195
663 – 5(2): Economic Development Officers (Akoak)	4196
664 – 5(2): Community Initiatives to Address Social Issues (Nakashuk).....	4198
665 – 5(2): Long-term Care Facility for North Baffin (Qamaniq)	4199
666 – 5(2): Status of Daycare in Kugaaruk’s New School (Qirngnuq).....	4200
667 – 5(2): Climate Change (Angnakak)	4202
668 – 5(2): Making Inuktut the Working Language of Nunavut (Quassa)	4203
669 – 5(2): Boarding Homes and Alcohol Issues (Main).....	4205
670 – 5(2): Departmental Positions (Nakashuk)	4206

E.

Petitions

017 – 5(2): Minimum Wage (Akeeagok)	4208
018 – 5(2): Minimum Wage (Netser).....	4208

F.

Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters

Committee Report 021 – 5(2): Bill 26, An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act (Main)	4208
---	------

G.

Tabling of Documents

210 – 5(2): Arctic and Northern Policy Framework (Savikataaq)	4208
---	------

211 – 5(2): Community Social Initiatives (Nakashuk).....4208

H.

Bills

Bill 36 – Mental Health Act – First Reading.....4209

Bill 37 – Legislation Act – First Reading.....4209

Bill 30 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2020-2021 – Education – Consideration in Committee 4210

Bill 30 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2020-2021 – Justice – Consideration in Committee4225

Bill 30 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2020-2021 – Environment – Consideration in Committee
.....4231

Iqaluit, Nunavut**Wednesday, October 30, 2019****Members Present:**

Hon. David Akeagok, Mr. Tony Akoak, Ms. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Jeannie Ehloak, Hon. George Hickes, Hon. David Joanasie, Ms. Mila Kamingoak, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak, Hon. Lorne Kusugak, Mr. John Main, Hon. Simeon Mikkungwak, Ms. Margaret Nakashuk, Hon. Patterk Netser, Mr. David Qamaniq, Mr. Emiliano Qirngnuq, Mr. Paul Quassa, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Hon. Joe Savikataaq, Ms. Cathy Towntongie.

>>*House commenced at 13:30***Item 1: Opening Prayer**

Speaker (Hon. Simeon Mikkungwak) (interpretation): Before we proceed, I ask Member Keyootak to say the opening prayer, please.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much, Member Keyootak.

Speaker's Statement

Prior to moving on to the orders of the day, I wish to take this opportunity to voice my joy in the fact that residents of Baker Lake were able to exercise their right to vote yesterday, as there was a blizzard on election day.

Our newly elected mayor is Richard Aksawnee. I share in your joy. I also congratulate the newly elected municipal councillors:

- Lars Qaqqaq
- Russell Toolooktook
- Paula Kigjugalik Hughson

- Joedee Joedee
- Becky Tootoo
- Francis Iyago
- Susie Aupaluktuq
- Karen Yip

Also, the people who put their name forward for the district education authority who were acclaimed are:

- Elijah Amarook
- Marianne Uqayuittuq
- Mary Kreeelak
- Rebecca Penney
- Siobhan Doherty-Iksiktaaryuk

I share in their pride in being elected and for being able to put their names on the ballots to serve our community. To all of the other candidates who were not successful, I also thank them for their commitment to our community as they put their names forward.

Continuing on, people of Baker Lake and Nunavut, the Legislative Assembly will now convene. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Culture and Heritage, Minister Joanasie.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

**Minister's Statement 319 – 5(2):
Evolution of the Language
Situation in Nunavut, 2001 to 2016**

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

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Culture and Heritage collaborated with Statistics Canada to release *Evolution of the language situation in Nunavut, 2001 to 2016*, a detailed report on the use of Inuktitut and other languages in Nunavut,

including a breakdown by age groups, regions, and communities.

Mr. Speaker, did you know that Nunavut boasts the highest rate of bilingualism among all Canadian jurisdictions? In 2016, 77 percent of Nunavummiut knew more than one language compared to 39 percent for the rest of Canada. Quebec ranked second at 52 percent. In Nunavut 82 percent of Inuit are bilingual in Inuktitut and English.

Mr. Speaker, from 2001 to 2016 the number of Nunavummiut who reported being able to speak Inuktitut increased from 20,950 to 27,320 speakers. This includes 450 non-Inuit who reported they could speak it. For example, the members for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu and Arviat North-Whale Cove are amongst that group. Mr. Speaker, the use of Inuktitut has been stable in many communities over that period, notably in most parts of Qikiqtaaluk and Kivalliq.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the report finally brings into focus the age groups and communities where the use of Inuktitut is more of a concern. This is true in all five Kitikmeot communities as well as in Baker Lake, Iqaluit, and Rankin Inlet. Young people under the age of 25 years old are most affected by the trendy shift to English.

Mr. Speaker, the report contains valuable information that can guide our work to support the vitality of Inuktitut. I encourage all my colleagues and others to read it. It can help measure the success of our action under *Uqausivut 2.0* to revitalize the use of Inuktitut in areas most needed and increase the number of Nunavummiut who learn and speak Inuktitut daily.

Mr. Speaker, let's all work together to make this a reality. *Qujannamiik, koana, ma'nalluavik, merci*, thank you.

>> *Applause*

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

**Minister's Statement 320 – 5(2):
Nunavut Arctic College 10-Year
Strategic Plan**

Hon. Patterk Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to congratulate the Nunavut Arctic College Board of Governors for their commitment in creating a 10-year strategic plan for the college. When completed, this important document will provide direction for long-term planning at the college and will help ensure that resources are aligned with the key priorities of our communities.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, this strategic plan is intended to strengthen institutional capacity as well as support the college in continuing to create a robust, culturally responsive institution that is able to support the learning needs of Nunavummiut now and well into the future.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavut Arctic College is a remarkable environment of learning and innovation, and it requires a long-term vision to ensure it continues to meet the ever-changing needs of our diverse territory. I applaud the board of governors on the development of this important initiative. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Minister's Statement 321 – 5(2):
Funding for Rankin Inlet
Terminal Expansion and Kivalliq
Road Study**

Hon. David Akeegok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Government of Nunavut is committed to connecting Nunavummiut to one another and to the rest of Canada through strategic investments in roads and airports.

We have worked hard to secure funding under the National Trade Corridors Fund for the expansion of Rankin Inlet's air terminal building and a study on a road connecting four Kivalliq communities.

As my colleagues are aware, as is the case with many federal programs, Nunavut is required to contribute 25 percent of the costs of these projects, and some of these amounts are now included in the capital estimates for 2020-21 that we reviewed just last night.

Mr. Speaker, these are important projects for the development of our transportation system and economy.

The Kivalliq intercommunity road study is an important step towards building an all-weather road connecting our communities in the Kivalliq region, a project that will transform regional logistics and generate new business opportunities.

In the more immediate future, the much-

needed Rankin Inlet Airport expansion will quadruple the size of the facility, improving passenger flow and greatly reducing overcrowding. The renovated terminal will be a comfortable and efficient hub that meets the needs of Kivallirmiut and other Nunavummiut travelling in the region.

I appreciate the support from the federal government and encourage our federal colleagues to continue their focus on Nunavut's significant infrastructure gap. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Minister's Statement 322 – 5(2):
Arctic and Northern Policy
Framework**

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

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, on September 10, 2019 the Government of Canada launched their *Arctic and Northern Policy Framework*. The Government of Canada worked collaboratively with indigenous representatives and six territorial and provincial governments, including the Government of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, an arctic policy needs to be made in the north and for the north. This collaboration gave us the opportunity to create a Nunavut-specific chapter. Released in conjunction with the *Arctic and Northern Policy Framework*, *Nunavut's Vision* is the result of

government-wide input, outlining the current realities and priorities we face. We believe this document reflects Nunavut's priorities and will serve as a valuable guide for future territorial and federal governments in developing and implementing arctic policy.

Mr. Speaker, in addition, the Government of Nunavut, along with the governments of the Northwest Territories and Yukon, released a pan-territorial chapter. This chapter has roots in the 2017 *Pan-Territorial Vision for Sustainable Development* and emphasizes the three territories' political and economic opportunities and challenges.

Mr. Speaker, both *Nunavut's Vision* and the pan-territorial chapter are available on the Government of Nunavut's website, and I encourage my fellow members and interested Nunavummiut to read them. I will table *Nunavut's Vision* later today.

Mr. Speaker, the Government of Nunavut envisions an arctic and northern policy that is inclusive of and informed by Inuit societal values. It must allow for infrastructure development, sustainable economic growth, and effective response to the social, economic and health disparities that affect the well-being of Nunavummiut.

The success of this framework is dependent on Canada's commitment to direct, strategic investments to meet our urgent needs.

Mr. Speaker, we look forward to working with our fellow territorial and provincial governments as well as the Government of Canada in achieving

positive results for Nunavummiut and northerners. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Minister's Statement 323 – 5(2): Inuit Superintendents of Schools in Each Region

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am proud to stand today to let my fellow colleagues know that there are three Inuit superintendents of schools, one representing each of the three regional school operations offices.

>> *Applause*

This has been made possible through my department's efforts to make sure that more Inuit are in senior management positions.

These three superintendents have been taking advantage of the training and mentorship programs offered by the Department of Human Resources. Tiffany Kelly of the Kitikmeot School Operations and Elijah Tigullaraq of the Qikiqtani School Operations are both taking part in the Hivuliqtikhanut Leadership Development Program. This program builds leadership skills in the public service that includes an in-depth set of learning and career development opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, our third Inuk superintendent of schools, Eva Noah of the Kivalliq School Operations, who just completed the Hivuliqtikhanut Leadership Development Program last

June, is taking part in the Sivuliqtiksat Internship Program. This program is designed to increase Nunavut Inuit representation in management-level positions by providing an on-the-job internship and training opportunities. Ms. Noah's internship will be for two years.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, taking part in training and mentorship programs like these is one of the ways my department is supporting and increasing Inuit representation in senior management level positions in the Government of Nunavut, meeting not only our government's goals outlined in the *Turaaqtavut* mandate but more importantly, fulfilling the obligations set out in Article 23 of the *Nunavut Agreement*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Before we proceed, I advise members that the Member for Iqaluit-Manirajak, Member Lightstone, will be absent from the House today and he has good reason.

Continuing on. Members' Statements. Member for Hudson Bay, Member Rumbolt.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 488 – 5(2): Congratulations to Sanikiluaq's New Mayor and Council

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to the people of Sanikiluaq.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate all those that participated in the

municipal council elections on Monday. I would like to start by congratulating our new mayor, Johnny Cookie, on his election. I would also like to congratulate the following who were elected as council members:

- Emily Kattuk
- Dinah Kittosuk
- Mick Appaqaq
- Lucy Appaqaq
- Mina Inuktaluk
- Suvvaki Kittosuk
- Davidee Kowcharlie
- Mina Eyaituq

Please join me in congratulating them on their election. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 489 – 5(2): Appreciation to Gjoa Haven's Search and Rescue Volunteers

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues. (interpretation) I say "good day" to the residents of Gjoa Haven who are watching the proceedings.

I rise today to acknowledge our local search and rescue group in Gjoa Haven as they are an invaluable resource. When people get lost or when someone requires a rescue, they offer their services to search for their fellow residents by being selfless and service-oriented.

There are some searchers who end up leaving since they also want freedom to

be able to go harvesting and such, and people are always free to offer their assistance or to focus on other things.

I want to single out the coordinator for recognition and thus the reason for standing today, Susan Niaqunnuaq, who has spent many years as the search and rescue coordinator. She works tirelessly when a search is ongoing and she doesn't stop providing her services until the person is found. This includes going on the local radio station to announce a search immediately, and she tasks the SAR group to conduct the searches as well as requesting grub and machines locally to be used for the search. She also purchases the gasoline to be used. I would like to recognize her.

I also want to commend the people who will form the SAR group, as they have a strong sense of civic duty and empathize with hunters who may get lost.
(interpretation ends) *Quanaqqutit*, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 490 – 5(2):
Chesterfield Inlet Municipal,
District Education Authority and
Alcohol Education Committee
Elections**

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise for they had an election in Chesterfield Inlet yesterday. There was a blizzard on election day. I am very proud that Chesterfield Inlet has a new mayor. I am proud of Brian

Aggark. The councillors are:

- Janice Aggark
- Doreen Mullins
- Alice Kreealak
- Yvonne Bedford
- Maryann Issaluk
- Tony Amauyak
- Gaetano Scala
- Angelina Simik

The newly elected members of the district education authority are:

- Charlotte Atuat Kattegatsiak
- Maryann Issaluk
- Yvonne Bedford
- Gaetano Scala
- Bernard Jr. Putulik
- Doriana Sammurtok
- David Kattegatsiak
- Mark Amarok

Also, the newly elected members of the alcohol education committee are:

- Peter Jr. Kattegatsiak
- Russell Mullins
- Randy Boiteau
- Nico Kattegatsiak
- Yvonne Bedford
- Gardner Walters
- Gaetano Scala
- Jocelyn Simik

Something worth noting is that the voter turnout in Chesterfield Inlet was about 70 percent; 69.1 percent. Thank you, people of Chesterfield Inlet.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 491 – 5(2):
Addressing Elder Care**

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day. Our newly elected mayors in Arviat and Whale Cove are Bob Leonard and Percy Kabloona. I congratulate you both. I also thank all the candidates who ran.

Mr. Speaker, the subject of elders seems to be the main focus in this House lately, actually over these past few days and I appreciate the candour since elders are critically important to all residents of Nunavut.

Nonetheless, I would like to note that the Department of Health has no plan for our elders currently, or in English, (interpretation ends) a strategy, (interpretation) as none exists. No such strategy can be found, not even a preliminary draft. This refrain seems to be bandied about, although the premise is mistaken.

Let me read this here. It states that no Inuit organizations were met with, although an opportunity to make a presentation was made available, but no response was received. Further, the Department of Health only consulted their employees and thusly, this document drafted has a prevailing purview stemming from health official mindsets.

Additionally, it doesn't include any Inuit culture. This is what we often state is the missing link. In particular the Minister of Culture and Heritage used the term "iviqtipalliajut" and that Inuit culture and practices have to be incorporated into government operations. This is consistently omitted and thusly

overlooked. That raises many questions amongst the regular caucus related to the lack of a strategy.

With regard to communities that have (interpretation ends) elders' centres (interpretation) already, what expectations should we have in the future? Further, to use a small community like Whale Cove as an example, what kind of expectations should the community have in this regard? Will they receive an elders' centre in the future or even a small facility? That is what we don't understand yet and we will have many questions.

Mr. Speaker, I would appreciate an opportunity to conclude my statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Member Main, please proceed.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I can certainly provide examples here. For us in the Kivalliq, what kinds of expectations are acceptable in our future? Will there continue to be three elders' care facilities in Rankin Inlet, Arviat, and Baker Lake or will a single facility be built in the future? We don't know that as of yet. Further, this raises more questions than answers and many questions remain unanswered within this House due to the multiplicity of questions. Whenever an issue is considered critical, such as mine training, there is a (interpretation ends) strategy (interpretation) that the

government has drafted up to follow. As an example, the college that you oversee is working on a strategy, specifically a (interpretation ends) ten-year strategic plan.

(interpretation) Although we all agree our elders are extremely important, along with elders' care centres, this just illustrates our need to develop a strategy. That's very obvious to me. I am even of the mind that the Department of Health should be stripped of this responsibility. The housing corporation, the Department of Culture and Heritage, and the Department of Family Services have different responsibilities under their mandates for elders in Nunavut. It also includes economic development.

A strategy would be the best avenue to realize that, and that is quite clear in my mind, Mr. Speaker. Now I anticipate changes from our government and I urge this government to develop such a strategy on an urgent basis. Further, as the work goes into developing this strategy, you should consult the regular members, Inuit organizations, elders who live in Nunavut, and Nunavummiut. They should be provided this opportunity to voice their thoughts on this matter. Without a comprehensive strategy to guide us, our efforts will be in vain.

Mr. Speaker, I expect that we will see barriers and problems in our future, so I'm quite concerned about that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 492 – 5(2): Congratulations to New Council Members

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to my fellow residents of Netsilik and my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding the newly elected officials in the Netsilik riding. In Taloyoak the people elected were:

- John Charles Pizzo-Lyall
- Solomon Iqalliyuq
- David Nanook
- David Totalik
- Kovalak Kootook
- Jeannie Ugyuk
- Mark Lyall
- Tommy Aiyout
- Eva Kootook

The first person I named will be the mayor, John Charles Pizzo-Lyall. Those are the nine members who will serve on council for four years. I would like to work closely with them for the next two years of my term.

In Kugaaruk they also elected the mayor and council. There were four candidates running for mayor and the one who was elected is Teddy Apsaktaun with 109 votes. There were 13 candidates running for councillor and eight were elected:

- Christian Nalungiaq
- Joshua Kringorn
- Guido Tigvareark
- Adam Krejunark
- Fabiola Ihakkaq
- Leona Apsaktaun
- Lucy Immingark

- Bernadette Qapiruaq

Those will be the hamlet councillors along with Mayor Teddy and I hope to work well with them in their terms for the next two years of my term. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 493 – 5(2): The Strength of Inuktitut

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It was very interesting to hear about the usage of the Inuktitut language. It gives much hope. We heard that 82 percent of the population in Nunavut is bilingual in Inuktitut and English, which is quite commendable.

Further, there has been an increase in the number of people who are fluent in Inuktitut. The minister indicated that there were 20,950 speakers of the language, but they have increased to 27,327. That's good to hear. We also heard that 450 non-Inuit have learned to speak Inuktitut. Those are very interesting statistics.

We elected to establish Nunavut to keep our language strong. Now, in hearing about the 82 percent, I hope that 82 percent of our government workforce will be able to speak in Inuktitut and English. If we can reach that 82 percent within government, then the meaning of the creation of Nunavut would start being followed.

With that, I will be asking questions at

the appropriate time about the Inuktitut language to the appropriate minister or maybe to our Premier. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Members' Statements. Member for Tununiq, Member Qamaniq.

Member's Statement 494 – 5(2): Pond Inlet Participants at Trials for Arctic Winter Games

Mr. Qamaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to congratulate the high school students of my community who were getting ready for the Arctic Winter Games playing table tennis. The following athletes from my community participated in the tryouts:

- Miranda Qamaniq
- Amanda Koonoo
- Joshua Shappa
- Robert Kasarnak
- Susie Simonee
- Rebecca Erkloo
- Tad Kilikishak
- Casany Koonark

After the tryouts, Rebecca Erkloo came in first for the junior girls' trials and she was selected to participate at the Arctic Winter Games in Whitehorse from March 15 to 21, 2020. Also, Casany Koonark came in fourth and was selected for the junior boys' team as an alternate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 495 – 5(2):
Congratulations to Pangnirtung's
New Mayor and Council**

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I would also like to recognize the members who were elected to the hamlet council. I do regret that I was not able to participate, but I would like to recognize the mayor-elect, which is not the first time he was elected, Hezekiah Oshutapik. He was a mayor previously and has been a Member of the Legislative Assembly. Also, those elected to the hamlet council are:

- Kelly Karpik
- Billy Etooangat
- Sheila Kilabuk
- Delia Young
- Jaco Ishulutak
- Julia Tautuajuk
- David Kooneeliusie
- Umar Kukkadi

I congratulate all these individuals and I am proud of them. Those acclaimed for the district education authority are:

- Annie Daina Kilabuk
- Josephie Nakasuk
- Lynn Mike
- Mary Rose Kilabuk
- Mosesee Qappik

I also thank Stevie Komoartok, who was the mayor and will be reaching his term. I do thank the candidates who were not elected and the former councillors. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Members' Statements. Member for Rankin South,

Member Kusugak.

**Member's Statement 496 – 5(2):
Congratulations to New Mayor
and Council and District
Education Authority**

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to the elders of Nunavut and elders living outside of Nunavut who are waiting for a new home in Nunavut.

First of all, I would like to thank all the candidates in Rankin Inlet. I am proud of the people who got elected to the district education authority:

- Albert Netser
- Hannah Benoit
- Mike Osmond
- Rosemary Sandy
- Sheila Schweder
- Stan Anderson

These people were elected to the hamlet council:

- Gabriel Karlik
- Kelly Clark-Lindell
- Justin Merritt
- Michael Shouldice
- Lynn Rudd
- Danny Kowmuk
- Martha Hickers
- Tommy Makkigak

I am proud of our newly elected mayor, (interpretation ends) His Worship Harry Towtongie. (interpretation) I congratulate them and I want to have a close working relationship with them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Members' Statements. Member for Cambridge Bay, Member Ehaloak.

**Member's Statement 497 – 5(2):
Congratulations to New
Ekaluktutiak Hunters and
Trappers Organization**

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very happy to mention those elected to the Ekaluktutiak Hunters and Trappers Organization, (interpretation ends) chair acclaimed, Bobby Greeley, and the directors who were elected are:

- Mercy Panegyuk
- George Pameok Angohiatok
- Alice Maghagak

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 498 – 5(2):
Congratulations to New Mayor
and Council of Naujaat and Coral
Harbour**

Hon. Patterk Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will speak about the voters, mayors-elect, and those who were acclaimed.

Naujaat's mayor-elect is Alan Robinson. He used to work for the housing corporation before Nunavut was created, and I thank them. The councillors are:

- Donat Milortok
- Levi Katokra

- Mary Tuktudjuk
- Joseph Mapsalak
- Asina Angotingoar
- Michel Akkuardjuk, who was the captain of the bowhead whale hunt two years ago, and I thank him for the whale skin
- Romeo Kopak
- Peter Mannik

I am also proud of those who were acclaimed in Coral Harbour:

- Willie Nakoolak
- Cindy Ningeongan
- Danny Pee
- Jordan Emiktowt
- Kidlapik Nakoolak
- Doris Bruce
- Leonie Duffy
- Noah Kadlak
- Troy Netser

I will also have a good working relationship with them for the next two years of our term. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Continuing on with the orders of the day. Returns to Oral Questions. There are none. Continuing on. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Continuing on. Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Member Rumbolt.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 660 – 5(2): Regional Wildlife Organizations

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister

of Environment.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Environment's 2019-2020 main estimates included \$223,000 in funding for the three wildlife organizations: the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board, the Kivalliq Wildlife Board, and the Kitikmeot Wildlife Board. Can the minister describe the formula his department uses to determine the annual funding amounts it provides to these three organizations? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the best of my recollection, it is a base plus per capita, but most of the funding with... . Sorry, I'm talking about the HTOs. The HTOs are base plus funding and it is funded through the secretariat. For the three regional wildlife boards, I believe it is done also through the NWMB, but I stand to be corrected. That's to the best of my recollection. For actual formula, I don't have that in front of me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary question, Member Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The stated purpose of the Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat is to "coordinate the responsibilities of the Hunters and Trappers Organizations and the Regional Wildlife Organizations..." Can the minister clarify the mechanisms by which the secretariat is funded? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the best of my knowledge, it's funded through the implementation funding from Nunavut as an ongoing funding and we deal with them a lot and it's funded through that process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your final supplementary, Member Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister is well aware, an ongoing frustration expressed by many hunters and trappers organizations is the aging condition of their buildings and the lack of direct capital funding to address this and other issues, including proposals to install marine safety-related radio repeaters in the vicinity of communities.

Mr. Speaker, it was recently reported that Cambridge Bay's hunters and trappers organization will shortly open a brand-new building, and it is my understanding that the funding for this project was provided by the Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat.

Can the minister indicate the extent to which his department is prepared to work with hunters and trappers organizations, regional wildlife organizations, and the Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat to identify additional opportunities for capital investments that will benefit local hunters and trappers organizations across the territory? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The project the member is talking about, I'm not familiar with the

funding process that they have used to get their infrastructure. As the department here we fund the O&M of the HTOs and RWOs, but we don't actually have any funding for capital projects. If there is a viable capital project that they want to do, they can speak with our department, they can speak with economic development and throw in a business aspect of it. I know there is at least one HTO that has done that in the past.

As for right now, we are struggling ourselves just to replace our own office needs, so we just don't have any extra money for infrastructure. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 661 – 5(2): Medical Travel Escorts

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my questions to the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, we all know that some medical travel patients require escorts and we all know that pregnant women always have escorts, and I know that this wasn't initiated by the Department of Health but by the Canadian government.

Mr. Speaker, the other patients who are on medical travel, some who require surgery and those with terminal illnesses, can be less mobile than others. Can the minister clarify exactly who, aside from pregnant women, qualifies for an escort? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Health, Minister Hickee.

Hon. George Hickee: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With our Medical Travel Policy, there are a number of criteria that need to be met, first being there is a need for legal consent for the client by a parent or guardian; the client has a mental or physical condition which results in the client being unable to travel without additional assistance; the client escort will participate in the client's treatment program and receive instructions on specific and essential home medical nursing procedures that cannot be given to the client only; the client is unilingual speaking in Inuktitut and requires travel to an approved centre where interpretation services are not available; the client is unilingual speaking in an Inuit language and is 65 years or older; or the client requires travel for confinement to give birth outside of their home community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary, Member Keyootak.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now, this concern prevails in my constituency riding and this concern was forwarded to my attention by more than one person who went on medical travel in my communities of Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq.

Mr. Speaker, some patients leave suddenly on medevacs and in particular people requiring surgery. Although some patients are capable of speaking in English, they are sent out for minor surgery such as a small incision in the body or the arm, but immediately after

surgery, some patients are not allowed to undergo heavy physical activity, which we are aware of, and that's instructed by the doctor.

I wonder if the nurses in the communities are provided aftercare instructions about certain patients who may require escorts. Several patients have informed me from my constituency that they had back surgery and the other patient had an illness where neither could perform heavy activities, but they didn't get any escorts. Does the minister inform the nurses in the communities as to which patients require escorts? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, whenever a client escort is approved to travel, it would go in their chart and the local health centre would be aware of that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your final supplementary, Member Keyootak.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Patients in that situation evoke feelings of empathy or pity, as some patients are not provided escorts based on the decisions of the nurses in the community. If a patient feels that they require an escort to undergo medical travel or a surgical procedure, even if they are bilingual or a youth, if a patient feels they require an escort and the local nurses shoot their request down, who can they approach to submit a complaint? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is an appeal process. Mr. Speaker, any client who feels that they want to appeal a decision for medical escort travel can contact the Office of Patient Relations or through all of us in here that can be directed to myself and I can forward it to the department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Member Towntongie.

Question 662 – 5(2): Rankin Inlet Water Infrastructure

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

It's obvious that Rankin Inlet's water has been very silty. As the minister will recall, the Legislative Assembly approved a \$280,000 capital carryover during the recent spring sitting for the department's Rankin Inlet utilidor project. Information provided by the department indicated that the funding was required to "complete the planning phase activities of this project in order to move into the design and construction."

Can the minister provide an update today on the status of this important water project in Rankin Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my

colleague for Rankin Inlet for asking about utilidor. Mr. Speaker, they are assessing which part of the utilidor is due to suit priority. There are two parts of the utilidor system in need of repair and they will be started on this summer. They will repair them, upgrade them, or put new parts in them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary, Member Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for the response. Right now people in Rankin Inlet fetch water from Ijiralik, which is an important place. It was very silty all summer and sometimes the water is clear. It was my understanding that the timeline for completion of this project is March of the year 2022. Can the minister indicate if this is still the target date for completion of the project? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, that's still our target, but before we get there, the water in Rankin inlet is an urgent matter. The two utilidor pipes will be the first ones to get repaired and while they are working on that, there will be continual planning and come up with options for the other pipes within the utilidor system. The planning will continue, but the more urgent ones will be worked on while options are made for the other parts of the utilidor system. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your final supplementary, Member Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. After our spring sitting concluded, there was at least one boil water advisory in the community due to high turbidity levels. I'm not sure what it means in Inuktitut. Can the minister indicate if any federal funding is available under the Investing in Canada infrastructure plan to address the need for modernized water infrastructure in Rankin Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we stated, the utilidor system in Rankin Inlet is being assessed right now. The turbidity of the water is being assessed. They didn't have enough water this spring in Rankin Inlet and they are still filling up the water lake. They will continue filling up the water lake as long as the water level is low. While that is going on and with the work on repairing the utilidor, they are expecting to have clearer water. However, it will be included in the report that is being drafted right now, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Member for Gjoa Haven, Member Akoak.

Question 663 – 5(2): Economic Development Officers

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation and they again concern the issue of community economic

development officers.

Mr. Speaker, I want to begin by paying tribute to the great work that has been underway recently in Gjoa Haven with respect to projects associated with the discovery of the lost ships of the Franklin Expedition.

Mr. Speaker, the 2019-2020 Main Estimates of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation included \$4,454,000 in funding for its Community Capacity Building Program, which provides contribution funding to municipalities. Mr. Speaker, hamlets are able to use a portion of this funding to employ community economic development officers.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister indicate if his department is considering any changes to this level of funding for the upcoming 2020-21 main estimates? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Yes, for those grants and contributions that are towards community economic development, as you might recall, within our life of the government, we made the change that would make it easier for the communities to make a decision in terms of how they would like to spend their economic development money. We have done that and that allows the community to determine where they can use those specific grants. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary, Member Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The 2019-2020 Main Estimates of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation also included \$225,000 in funding for the Nunavut Economic Developers Association, an organization which supports the work of community economic development officers. Mr. Speaker, can the minister indicate if his department is considering any changes to this level of funding for the upcoming 2020-21 main estimates? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During this session we're focused on getting our capital estimates approved. Once this is done, the next step is to start focusing our efforts on our operations and maintenance budgets. Through cabinet we decide where those budgets are going to go. Each one of us has ideas on where to focus on, but it's one that I can't say what it's going to look like. It's too premature to respond to the question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your final supplementary question, Member Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During yesterday's sitting of the Legislative Assembly, I asked the minister about the Kitikmeot Inuit Association's recent resolution concerning community economic development officers, which I had previously tabled in the Legislative Assembly. Mr. Speaker, I did not receive a clear answer to my question, so I will

ask again today: what is the minister's position concerning the Kitikmeot Inuit Association's resolution that the Department of Economic Development and Transportation assume responsibility for economic development officers? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To make a fundamental change from taking over what the hamlets continue to do to take it on government, we have not had that discussion. I know the motion is there and we are still looking into it. At an appropriate time we will be responding to the Kitikmeot Inuit Association on all their motions, and I'll be very happy to provide any of our responses to our fellow MLAs from that region. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 664 – 5(2): Community Initiatives to Address Social Issues

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question today is for our Premier.

Our Premier was sent correspondence, and I am aware the members of the executive were copied via this letter sent from our local hamlet, written by our Mayor of Pangnirtung, requesting more action planning. The Premier received this letter and we are aware that Pangnirtung isn't the only community that goes through hardships, as other communities also suffer through hardships.

I want to ask this question firstly that pertains to this specifically to the Premier. Can he clearly describe the outcome of any discussions held with his cabinet colleagues to address Pangnirtung's proposal? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we did receive the correspondence and as cabinet we discussed our options regarding this request. The Minister of Health is primarily responsible for that file, but it involves the Department of Justice and the Department of Family Services. They are cooperating on the shared work, but this matter is very demanding and difficult, and we also know other communities are experiencing rough times. We have received correspondence from other communities, but we anticipate supporting the communities and we intend to work with the hamlets to develop the plan, and we are working on it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary, Member Nakashuk.

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) As I stated earlier, it's not just Pangnirtung that's facing a lot of challenges in our community and dealing with social issues and mental health issues, so all situations are made worse by the effects of substance abuse and addictions.

My second question to the Premier is: can he tell us whether the government

has a territory-wide vision for supporting community-led initiatives to address social issues for all communities? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Health has the lead role in this in terms of having the available resources in the communities, mental health workers.

We are also working with the federal government to get an addiction and trauma treatment centre here in Iqaluit which will help Nunavummiut that need to be helped and need to be healed. It's unfortunate that when this facility is built, the ones that aren't in Iqaluit will still have to leave their own community to come here, but at least now we will be able to treat them and help them in Nunavut here in Iqaluit.

I feel for the member and the struggles that the community is going through, and I want to assure her that we are doing our best to tackle the hard challenges that we have in her community and other communities that are struggling with mental health issues, addiction issues, and social issues. We as a government care dearly for all Nunavummiut and we want to help. Our resources are limited, I must admit at times, but we are doing our best to heal the healing that needs to be done within Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your final supplementary, Member Nakashuk.

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Premier will be

aware, the community of Pangnirtung has submitted a very comprehensive proposal to the federal government to establish an Inuit psychosocial trauma healing centre in the community.

My last question is: will our Premier commit to supporting the community of Pangnirtung in lobbying the federal government for funding to proceed with this initiative? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The matter my colleague is referencing and the funding proposal, the agency receiving the submission will also be the funding authority, but I support the communities as they require assistance. We would be quite pleased as a government if they received adequate funding. However, once we review the proposal, it will be dealt with by the appropriate department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Member for Tununig, Member Qamaniq.

Question 665 – 5(2): Long-term Care Facility for North Baffin

Mr. Qamaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question will be directed to the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Health spoke about long-term care for elders yesterday and the fact that elders should be housed in Nunavut instead of being sent to Ottawa.

Mr. Speaker, my question to the minister

is whether this has been the subject of consideration or if it is included in the five-year capital plan or if it can be included to establish a long-term care facility in North Baffin. Based on the sub-regions, I believe that both a north and south Baffin facility should be considered. That's my first question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Health, Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I had mentioned yesterday, we're anticipating starting off in Rankin Inlet and in the next three to four months we're hoping to have enough information to be able to initiate a project here in Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary question, Member Qamaniq.

Mr. Qamaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In looking at both the Kitikmeot and Kivalliq regions and the numbers of communities, you would need both to equate the Baffin region. We also orientate ourselves as either North or South Baffin communities. If plans were developed for both the North and South Baffin, then this would allow more care equitably, especially if you look at the per capita numbers. I believe it has to be considered in the future to have a long-term elder care facility in North Baffin. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We currently do have one in North Baffin in Igloodik and we are

looking at supplementing that with a facility here in Iqaluit in the south. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Member for Netsilik, Member Qirngnuq.

Question 666 – 5(2): Status of Daycare in Kugaaruk's New School

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to thank the department for getting our new school up and running in Kugaaruk. Mr. Speaker, there is a new daycare in the new school, but as of today it is still not in use.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister provide an update on why the daycare in Kugaaruk's Arviligruaq Ilinniavik is not also up and running? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the Member for Netsilik for his question. During the grand opening of the new school, we had an opportunity to tour the whole school, including the daycare housed there. However, to date I do know that the district education authority informed us that the daycare is to be used for preschool. We are just waiting for correspondence from the district education authority asking to use the space instead for preschool classes. That is where we stand now, Mr. Speaker.

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary question, Member Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's good to hear, but there is always a "but" when asking questions. Now I am asking about this matter. When a project is listed in the capital plans, it includes a business case as part of the planning process. This daycare was included in the planning stages and construction, but to date it is not being used.

I had wanted to ask this secondary question, but the minister already answered it, so I will move on to my next question to the minister. Will the minister commit to tabling information explaining the status of the daycare in Kugaaruk's Arviligruaq Ilinniarnvik, the reason the plan for the daycare was changed, and a timeline for when the space will be used for its original purpose? That's my question for the minister, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank you for the question. Mr. Speaker, I can't say at this time if it will go forward or not, but we have included that in our considerations. In looking at the territory as a whole, perhaps we should include preschool classes as they are only in class for a half day and it could be expanded to an entire day. This is part of our planning process and we want that noted since the space can always be reverted back to a daycare.

Nonetheless, we could also work with the daycare committee and we can deliberate with the local bodies to see if an existing daycare is running, and perhaps we can work with their daycare committee on how best to use that space contained in the school, either as a preschool classroom or a daycare. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your final supplementary, Member Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister respond to this prior to the end of our session, even if it's by correspondence, on the future plans and when the facility may be converted? Can the minister provide the information related to the final plans for the daycare space in the school and the usage of the space? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the Member for Netsilik. One of the district education authority members asked me that since the daycare is not being used right now, maybe it can be converted to a preschool program. However, once we get a letter, we would start considering the district education authority's request. If my colleague writes a letter to my department on the request, we can start reviewing it, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Question 667 – 5(2): Climate Change

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Environment, who is responsible for the government's Climate Change Secretariat.

As the minister will recall, we held an important televised hearing last year on the Auditor General's report to the Legislative Assembly on the issue of climate change and impacts on Nunavut.

As the minister will also recall, I have raised concerns on a number of occasions about the extent to which different communities in Nunavut are at different levels of risk with respect to the impacts of climate change. For example, I regularly hear concerns from Iqaluit residents about permafrost melting due to climate change and the impact that this has had on our buildings. I also hear concerns from relatives or friends in Grise Fiord about the melting of glaciers and the threat to that community's freshwater supply.

Can the minister indicate if his department has undertaken a comprehensive risk assessment and ranking of which Nunavut communities are most at risk due to the impacts of climate change? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member is correct that climate change and effects of it are affecting us here in Nunavut way more than anywhere else. It's warming at two to three times more in the Arctic than it

is in southern Canada. We're doing some studies. We're doing permafrost studies in some communities. We're not studying overall what the biggest risk is, but we know that climate change is going to have a major effect on all our infrastructure, whether it be housing, the runway, the roads, due to permafrost loss and due to more activity of the permafrost going up and down, the freezing and melting portions are much higher now.

Our plans are more to: what can we do to mitigate it? We can't control climate change, even though we're doing our best to lower our greenhouse gases, but the best we can do is mitigate the effects of climate change and we are working on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary question, Member Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister will also recall, significant attention was paid during our televised hearings on the need for the Nunavut Housing Corporation and the Department of Community and Government Services to take climate change into account when maintaining our existing infrastructure or building new infrastructure. Can the minister clarify the extent to which his department coordinates or monitors climate change-related activities and initiatives in other departments and agencies? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We do work with other departments through climate change and

through the Department of Environment. One of the things that we do for both the Nunavut Housing Corporation and Community and Government Services is provide permafrost mapping where it's better situated to build buildings or houses in a certain area where the permafrost is not affected as much in other areas in a community. One of the things that we do with other departments is having permafrost mapping for communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your final supplementary, Member Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A permafrost map would be interesting for all of us to see, I think. I would be interested in looking at that.

The minister talked about mitigation and as the minister will also recall, one of the standing committee's recommendations was that the government should report annually to the Legislative Assembly on its actions and expenditures related to climate change adaptation and mitigation. In its response to this recommendation, the department indicated that "With adequate capacity, the CCS will be capable of leading the production of an annual report...putting together a long-term Strategic Framework...[that] would inform all future work, priorities and initiatives." Can the minister indicate how close his department is to achieving these goals? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the best of my knowledge, the Climate Change Secretariat is now fully staffed, although some of them are

casuals, but it's fully staffed. We are closer to being able to achieve what we said we would be able to achieve. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 668 – 5(2): Making Inuktitut the Working Language of Nunavut

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated, I would like to direct my question to the Premier.

As we heard, 82 percent of Nunavummiut are bilingual and there are currently 450 people who have Inuktitut as a second language.

Mr. Speaker, when Nunavut was created, it was immediately thought that our own government would speak our language on a day-to-day basis. That is what we expected when we got Nunavut and that was how Nunavut was meant to be. It has been 20 years since the inception of our territory and we still see that the core of the government continues to use English as its main working language.

I wish to ask the Premier if his government has a goal, with a timeline, for implementing a system where non-Inuktitut speakers will be expected to provide services in the working language of Inuktitut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are working on Inuktitut service provision and that's our goal, but only when a

certain date arrives will the government workers have to work in Inuktitut. We haven't set that date yet, but the Department of Human Resources has funding for employees who are interested in learning the Inuktitut language or to expand their knowledge of Inuktitut. The money is available there for government employees to learn Inuktitut. For anyone entering government offices or private businesses, the legislation came into force on July 9 that they can be served in Inuktitut and it is in use now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary question, Member Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We hear every year that there is money available, but the government doesn't seem to be pushing for it, for example, "The staff need to learn the Inuktitut language." There is nothing like that.

Mr. Speaker, when the first qallunaat came to our homeland, they had no choice but to learn our language to ensure that their message was understood to the people that they served, such as the ministers, priests, and others like the Hudson's Bay Company. Many learned the Inuit language within a year and we have seen some who learned to read and speak the language within six months.

Can the Premier tell Nunavummiut how he plans to take the first step in building up the momentum to have Nunavut government operating day to day in our own working language? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stated earlier that if government employees are interested in learning Inuktitut, there is money available for that. The money is there if they want to take the training to advance in their position. It's available. As the member used to be the Minister of Culture, he is well aware that the money is available there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your final supplementary question, Member Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What caught my attention is "if they want to learn." If they don't want to learn, then they won't learn. He's leaving it at their discretion.

Does the Premier remember why we got Nunavut or was he just newborn when we signed the agreement? The Government of Nunavut was supposed to run in Inuktitut and people are still expecting it today, but there has been no progress, Mr. Speaker.

We see good things in Greenland. They use their language on a daily basis and in their government. They probably fly there with the pilots using their language. We can hear the in-flight announcements. When I go to a store in Greenland, they operate in their language.

When there are things like that, I now ask the Premier: in looking at what has been used by our fellow Inuit outside of Nunavut, can he look further into it and

learn from it due to the fact that our government headquarters must operate in Inuktitut and there is no other way? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Premier Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll correct the member's statement about pilots. As I'm a pilot, I know that all pilots in the world have to know English. That is a rule. We need to look at other jurisdictions, but then we always say that Nunavut is unique.

With respect to language use within government, yes, if Inuit go to government offices speaking Inuktitut, they must be served in Inuktitut. If there is no one available to serve in Inuktitut, they find someone who can communicate in Inuktitut. Some doctors, nurses, teachers, and pilots can't speak Inuktitut, but if they want to be served by the government in Inuktitut, they will be served in Inuktitut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 669 – 5(2): Boarding Homes and Alcohol Issues

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to direct my question to the Minister of Education. I would first like to thank him for coming to Arviat and Whale Cove this spring.

Some of my constituents are concerned about the boarding home in Winnipeg and it's to do with the usage of alcohol. The staff there monitor the patients

coming in to make sure they are not intoxicated. I know the minister is aware of this. I'm now asking if he has had discussions with the boarding home contractor. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Health, Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The boarding home contracts that we have with all of our facilities, there is zero tolerance for alcohol. How the staff go about assessing that should be done in a very respectful manner. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary question, Member Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The boarding home in Winnipeg are contracted by the government. What kinds of policies do you have in regard to checking to see if the patients are intoxicated or not? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not aware of a specific policy on how to determine somebody has been drinking. Mr. Speaker, typically it would be a conversation with people when they're checking in or when they're returning from their appointments or when they have left the facility for a period of time. We want to make sure that we maintain the safety of all of our medical travellers and that's why the facilities that we do contract out do have a zero tolerance for alcohol. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your final supplementary question, Member Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The boarding home in Winnipeg is usually at full capacity and the patients are usually put up in hotels if there's an overflow at the KIC. With the constant full capacity, it has become noticeable that most of the Kivalliq patients are now seen here in Iqaluit. Does the Department of Health expect a change in the constant overflow at the boarding home in Winnipeg with more and more Kivalliq residents going here for appointments or will it stay the same? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I can just add to one of my previous responses as well too, all medical travel clients do sign an acknowledgement of the rules that they know alcohol is not permitted.

Mr. Speaker, with regard to medical travel from the Kivalliq here to the Qikiqtani General Hospital, it is a little outside the norm. We have been able to find faster access to health care services by residents when they're coming here and with the travel, it's able to get people home faster. We can have people come here to their appointments and go home the next day. With the wait times in Manitoba for some services, it is faster to do it here.

At the end of the day we want to make sure that our residents are treated properly but also in a timely manner. Some of the treatments for CAT scans and such can be very time-sensitive, so the faster we can treat any of our

residents, especially if we can do it here in the territory, we're going to take advantage of it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 670 – 5(2): Departmental Positions

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank you for recognizing me again. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Environment.

The minister knows that the positions in Pangnirtung have remained open for quite some time. I have also spoken in the past about the fact that Pangnirtung hasn't had a conservation officer for a while. This position is considered an integral position within the community.

The first question that I want to ask the minister is: how many conservation officer positions are destined for our community of Pangnirtung? (interpretation ends) Can the minister clarify how many conservation officer positions are allocated to the community of Pangnirtung, and can he also clarify the status of the department's work to fill these positions? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There's one conservation officer position in Pangnirtung and we are in the process of trying to fill that position. We were unsuccessful and we are trying again. Since it's an HR matter,

I can't talk about it much here, but I can talk to the member in her office or my office about the finer details. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your first supplementary question, Member Nakashuk.

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister. (interpretation ends) Can the minister clarify how his department works with Nunavut Arctic College to provide pre-employment training programs for residents who may be interested in pursuing careers in this field? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Environment does work with Arctic College for courses that would be helpful for anyone graduating from the Environmental Technology Program there so that they are qualified to apply for the starting level of wildlife officers too within Nunavut. I encourage Nunavummiut to take this program so that we can have conservation officers that are from Nunavut, that speak Inuktitut and can service their people in Inuktitut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your final supplementary question, Member Nakashuk.

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) On September 9, 2019 the cabinet announced that the government's Fisheries and Sealing Division will be

transferred from the Department of Environment to the Department of Economic Development. It is my understanding that the Department of Environment currently has at least two positions located in Pangnirtung that work on these issues.

Mr. Speaker, Pangnirtung is the centre of Nunavut's commercial fishing industry and I believe that this interdepartmental reorganization is a great opportunity to put more positions into the community. Will the Minister of Environment commit to working with the Minister of Economic Development to examine ways of doing this? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are working with the Department of ED&T to make sure that it's a smooth transition. I can assure the member that there will be no job loss and there will be no change in people's job description. There may be other jobs, but we're just transferring it and it will be completely transferred on April 1 due to financial arrangements for the budgeting purposes, but everyone who is doing their job now will be doing the same job in the sealing division, except that they will be under ED&T instead of Environment. I can assure the member that ED&T will be working hard to enhance the fisheries section. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members will note that the time for question period has expired. Continuing on with the orders of the day. Written Questions. Continuing on. Returns to Written Questions. Continuing on.

Replies to Opening Address. Continuing on. Petitions. Minister Akeeagok.

Item 10: Petitions

Petition 017 – 5(2): Minimum Wage

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Member for Quttiktuq, a petition was signed by the people of Quttiktuq regarding the (interpretation ends) minimum wage. (interpretation) It was provided to me by my colleague. The petition was signed by the people of Resolute Bay. I wish to present it to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. Petitions. Member for Aivilik, Member Netser.

Petition 018 – 5(2): Minimum Wage

Hon. Patterk Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the Member for Aivilik, a petition was provided by my colleague that was signed by the people of Naujaat regarding the minimum wage. I also wish to present it today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Petitions. Continuing on with the orders of the day. Responses to Petitions. Continuing on. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Member Main.

Item 12: Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters

Committee Report 021 – 5(2): Bill 26, An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I wish to report that Bill 26, *An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act*, has been reviewed by the Standing Committee on Legislation and that the bill is ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Bill 26 will appear on the order paper for Friday, November 1.

Tabling of Documents. Premier of Nunavut, Premier Savikataaq.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 210 – 5(2): Arctic and Northern Policy Framework

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I am tabling the *Arctic and Northern Policy Framework: Nunavut's Vision*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Tabled Document 211 – 5(2): Community Social Initiatives

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) The community of Pangnirtung has been working very hard to establish a healing facility to provide a comprehensive set of services to address the many social

and mental health issues being faced by community residents and families.

I am tabling a number of documents which illustrate the many efforts that have been and are being made to support the community of Pangnirtung as well as its hopes for the future. I encourage all my colleagues to read through them. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Continuing on. Notices of Motions. Continuing on. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Continuing on. Motions. Continuing on. First Reading of Bills. Minister of Health, Minister Hickes.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

Bill 36 – Mental Health Act – First Reading

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Arviat South, that Bill 36, *Mental Health Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried.

First Reading of Bills. Minister of Justice, Minister Ehaloak.

Bill 37 – Legislation Act – First Reading

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Arviat South, that Bill 37, *Legislation Act*, be read for the first

time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried.

Continuing on. Second Reading of Bills. Continuing on. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 8, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34 with Member Akoak in the Chair.

In accordance with the authority provided to me by Motion 50 – 5(2), the committee will stay in session until it reports itself out.

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

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:20 and Committee resumed at 15:48*

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

Chairman (Mr. Akoak): Hello, colleagues. I would like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole we have the following items to deal with: Bills 8, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to continue with the review of the capital appropriations for 2020-21, starting with the Department of Education and, if time permits, we will commence with the review of the Department of Justice and

the Department of Environment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Are we in agreement that we first deal with Bill 30?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 30 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2020-2021 – Education – Consideration in Committee

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

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I do. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Does the committee agree to let the minister and his staff officials go to the witness table?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

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

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

Chairman: Thank you. Welcome. Yesterday we did our opening comments with the minister and with the chair of the committee. Are there any general comments?

Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's just a general comment. I received and I know the minister received a letter from the Chesterfield Inlet District Education Authority requesting the establishment of a garage. When I questioned the minister on it, he said it would be a huge capital expense if he did it all across Nunavut.

I would say that if we can chip away at it one community at a time, one year at a time, consideration should be given by the department to include bus storage facilities as part of its capital infrastructure because we have to keep them safe from vandalism and bad weather. I wanted to make those general comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Towtongie. Minister Joanasié wants to comment. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for the comments on the Chesterfield Inlet situation. The Department of Education pays for storage spaces through busing contracts in some communities where it's available and that's through O&M. However, there is limited vehicle storage in all communities and the construction of new bus storage facilities would have to compete with all the other GN priorities for capital projects. We do pay through bus contracts in some communities. That's in some communities where there is available storage, and we do pay for that through contracts. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. General comments? Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The buses are used for the students and sometimes they are requested annually and sometimes they are not requested. We have heard in the past more than once that even though there are buses, there is a lack of storage space for the buses. The education authorities have to identify storage space if they are going to have proper buses. That is done almost annually. They haven't really talked about storage space for the buses.

I want it mentioned periodically that if they don't have storage space for the bus they're requesting, it causes a real problem in the communities. I wanted to comment on that, Mr. Chairman. If the communities are going to have buses, they need proper storage spaces so that our children are taken care of in the winter. I know they take care of them, but I'm looking at the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié, I think you answered that, but if you would like... .

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe to add onto it, we can state today that in counting all of the communities in Nunavut, I think there are eight communities that park the buses outside and the other communities have a garage, but I'm not sure where. However, on top of that, I can say that we have asked the Department of Community and Government Services to give more consideration to this. With different types of vehicles in the communities, we would like buses to be considered further. I think there's only one community without a bus, if I have

the proper information, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. General comments? Seeing none, go to page G-3. Education. Corporate Services. Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know a couple of members talked about bus storage, so I'll ask a few questions regarding buses to get things started. First I'll start with: what criteria would you use to determine which communities will receive a new school bus in 2020-21? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for his question. We look at the student enrolment numbers for the school, the distance of the school in relation to the layout of the community, maintenance requirements for a bus, the storage requirements, safety, and also the lifecycle of a bus, which is approximately ten years. We look at that and compare what the fleet of busing services that we have currently. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know I brought this up in the past and just to get it out there and refresh everybody's memory on the process, I wonder if you can update us on the process by which if a community wants a special needs bus just so that the information is out there for the people. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We would ask that the DEA submit a request through a letter and normally that would include a motion from the DEA to the department requesting a special needs or even a standard bus. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think you mentioned a little while ago that there are currently eight buses that are stored outside in the territory. I know that in some of our communities they're stored in municipal garages and we're also seeing municipalities are getting very short on the amount of space that they have for their own vehicles. What kind of efforts are you making in order to have adequate storage spaces for your buses in the communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to reiterate, we have brought this issue up with CGS about including or considering best storage requirements, but I would like to have Mr. Cornthwaite elaborate on this, Mr. Chairman, if you will allow. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Cornthwaite.

Mr. Cornthwaite: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. During ICCP earlier this year it was brought up regarding working collaboratively together with CGS and other departments on the storage requirement in the community that the

project be expanded to take into consideration all vehicles, including buses. It has been talked about and we are working towards that. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is with regard to the IT infrastructure. Funding of \$1 million is being requested for updating IT infrastructure across Nunavut schools. According to the documentation provided by the draft capital estimates, the cost for IT infrastructure expenditures for the upcoming year 2020-21, including the replacement of closed-circuit television systems, paging and bill systems, speech enhancement systems, and the replacement of Internet-capable devices, will total approximately \$2 million, \$1 million more. How will the department prioritize what IT infrastructure will be purchased in the upcoming year 2020-21? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for that question. Normally we go through what's called an evergreening process or initiative. It provides the necessary inventory to continue with replacement of essentially replacing older devices with newer ones. If we were to break down that figure regionally, we have identified and based on the school ratio per region it's roughly 50 percent in the Qikiqtani, 30 percent in the Kivalliq, and 20 percent in the Kitikmeot. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My next question is: do all of Nunavut's schools have adequate access to the Internet, and are they able to effectively access distance learning resources? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, as far as I know, every school has Internet capabilities and access to distance learning tools. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My final question, I know we have had issues with Rankin Inlet schools facing vandalism. My question is: how many schools across Nunavut still do not have skirting or other types of barriers to prevent people from going under the schools and causing damage? It's my final question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to have Mr. Cornthwaite respond to that if you will allow, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Cornthwaite.

Mr. Cornthwaite: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. All new schools are being developed without skirting to prevent people from getting underneath. We're working very close with Community and Government Services to ensure that the skirting that

does exist is maintained and corrected whenever possible to ensure the access under the school is limited. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Ms. Kamingoak.

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome, minister and your officials.

A number of schools have had utilization rates well over 85 percent for a number of years, and Kugluktuk has been on the top for a number of years. Other factors such as road condition or long-term community population projections are also important considerations.

Now, in Kugluktuk the grade 6 classes were in the high school or are in the high school except for one class. One class had to be given back to the elementary school because of classroom shortages.

How will the department prioritize when and where Nunavut's new schools will be built? *Koana*, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for the question. We use three main factors to help determine future educational space requirements of schools: looking at the age of the school, one; the condition of the schools, two; and the utilization of that school. When a school reaches a utilization rate of 85 percent, we submit a substantiation sheet for consideration in the GN preplanning process. I may note that from using the statistics, we have at least ten schools in this category which have either 85 percent or higher.

With that, right now we have three projects currently approved for preplanning and waiting for a completion of business cases to consider in future capital planning. These three projects are Arctic Bay Inuujaq School major renovation, Iqaluit Nakasuk School major renovation, and Taloyoak Netsilik School addition.

The department also prioritizes a list for future consideration and hopefully that will in future years...this list includes Arviat Qitiqliq Middle School major renovation, Iqaluit Joamie School addition, Kimmirut Qaqqalik School major renovation, Kugluktuk High School addition, and Pangnirtung Alookie School renovation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Kamingoak.

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Okay, Kugluktuk will be in the books for an addition, yet you use three categories in considering building a new school. Kugluktuk, I believe, is the oldest school in Nunavut, and the other one, we have been well over the 85 percent utilization rate. Can the minister...? How can I say this? When you have proposed an addition when I have been advocating for a replacement, I'm going to suggest that you change that to a replacement. That's just a suggestion.

The other one I wanted to ask was arson is becoming a growing problem across Nunavut communities and schools are often the target. What has been the impact of recent arson activities on the Department of Education's facilities and activities? I know we had a recent arson to our Kugluktuk High School and I

believe there were two more by the elementary school. Correct me if I'm wrong. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll first talk about the reasoning behind addition versus a new school. Like any capital project, there are different factors that contribute to the decision on renovating an existing school or a new build. We work closely with Community and Government Services as well as the municipalities, looking at such things as land availability, the age of the school, and potential costs of demolition of an old school. In some communities renovation is the only feasible option and the most affordable considering GN's competing priorities, but throughout the entire planning process, health and safety and functionality are the priorities when we look at renovating or building new.

With respect to the recent arson attempts on schools, we want to prevent any one of our school buildings burning in our territory. We have recently established an ongoing working group with Community and Government Services in response to some of the recent activities around arson. We want to work with the RCMP as well on school safety, on different ways where we can safeguard not just the school building but the entire facilities around it.

Playgrounds are another thing that comes up where things are vandalized, but I think this is where we want to also get the community to step up. The DEA or hamlet council, if we can work together on keeping these in pristine condition as best we can. They are

intended to help the community and build them into a great future for our children. I look forward to working with the member and others on this in addressing that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: You're done? Thank you. The next name on my list, Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome, minister and your deputy minister.

I am going to ask questions about the French school. Now, we are aware that the school uses federal funds, but it looks like it's not identified clearly. It was indicated that the tender was awarded in August 2019. First of all, I'll ask for an update on the federal funding to be used for the French school. Has the funding been received or what's the status? I understood that this tender was awarded in August 2019. I don't know how to say it properly in Inuktitut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. We have made a proposal for the federal government to at least pay for half of the French program. This would include, for example, a gymnasium, library, the foyer, and improving the exterior of the building. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I feel like I didn't grasp that response. You have already requested the funds. I seem to

understand that you are requesting the funds now. Well, I don't quite understand your point.

When will the renovation begin for this facility, or is that still up in the air? I don't speak French, but I still want to know when this facility will require renovation, as it isn't identified. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize. Perhaps the French school is being planned for an addition and renovation. At this time we have approved funds for the design and it has been pushed forward. This is where it stands at the current time, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will speak in English. (interpretation ends) If federal funds are not allocated to help pay for the cost of the addition that the minister just indicated to Iqaluit's French school, what specific impact will this have on the scope of the project? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Perhaps I will have my deputy minister respond to that, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

Chairman: Ms. Okpik.

Ms. Okpik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this time one of the issues mentioned was the design phase

and how the addition will be constructed. This will continue to be the focus of the department over this upcoming year. Further, part of the work will be done in the years 2020 and 2021. Once the design has been completed, we anticipate that the construction will begin in the fiscal year 2021-22. That is our expectation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the same subject, will it remain in the lot in which it is housed? Obviously an addition will be required. Is the lot large enough to accommodate the foundation for the planned addition? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, from our understanding, there is enough room in the lot and work has progressed along those lines, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is wonderful to hear that since any school, irrespective of the targeted audience, is still an important facility that will be enlarged. I am always encouraged by additions to existing schools since our children continue to increase in numbers.

Other schools throughout Nunavut have been clearly identified for extensions or additions, albeit the minister may have already mentioned them. Are there funds for renovations or additions to the other schools? Where exactly will these

schools receive additions? If we're looking at every school in Nunavut, where are the additions being constructed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As to the ones that I already mentioned, we are trying to proceed with the planning for the three schools in Arctic Bay, here in Iqaluit at the Nakasuk School, and in Taloyoak at the Netsilik School.

In the future we will try to submit a proposal for the five schools I already mentioned: Arviat's Qitiqliq School, Iqaluit's Joamie School, Kimmirut's Qaqqalik School, (interpretation ends) Kugluktuk High School, (interpretation) and Pangnirtung's Alookie School.

As I stated, there are ten schools that have over 85 percent utilization rate. We try to make considerations with the district education authorities. When there are two schools in a community and one of them is not being used as much, some grades are moved to that school. We try to work with the DEAs like that. Whenever there are two schools in a community, the school that is not as full makes room for the other one. We try to accommodate them like that, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask this other question in English. (interpretation ends) Some schools have space allocated for daycares and I do know that any new school that is being built will have daycares. Some schools have space

allocated for daycare, adult learners, and as community learning centres. Are community needs for these other types of space taken into consideration when planning additions to existing schools? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, we don't take those into account. We are strictly looking at kindergarten to grade 12. Let me reiterate that we are looking at full-day kindergarten and rolling that out possibly. We're looking at options for that right now and we're reviewing the space requirements on our existing facilities. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have heard that when new schools are going to be constructed or added onto, they will include a daycare. Now, do I understand correctly that if there is a change in the way kindergarten is delivered, would the daycare spaces be scrapped? I hope my question makes sense. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize. Let me correct myself. Daycares are always included when we build new schools. We try to make room for daycares. However, I can say that, for example, the two new schools in Kimmirut and Cape Dorset both have daycares, but they are not being utilized

and we want them to be utilized. We are trying to make some plans to make sure that they are utilized as a daycare or for preschool purposes because they can be utilized for that too. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank you for clarifying that. Now, in Igloolik there is also a new facility that still hasn't been entered by students. That's the way it is and I fully expect that it will soon be opened as our new high school is being completed. My question now is: is there a daycare in that new school? I, too, haven't entered the school yet. Is there room set aside for a daycare in the new school in Igloolik? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it does. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The new schools now include daycares, as the minister indicated. What if they are not being utilized? The minister stated that one daycare hasn't even been used yet. I'm not sure where that is. If the space isn't being used, I believe the minister clearly stated that it could be used for preschool courses. Looking at the future, it's obvious that new schools are going to be constructed. Are you going to ensure that they always have daycares? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we will do that. Thank you.

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

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good day, minister. The minister stated earlier that even though there are a lot of new schools that need to be built or schools that need to be renovated, there doesn't seem to have been much progress in this area according to the budget. Using (interpretation ends) the Sakku School (interpretation) as an example, they haven't requested funding for that. Can the minister explain the reason for that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank you for the question. Work on the Sakku School has been progressing, as well as the French school. The contract for the design work was just awarded in August 2019 and we will not be able to plan for the design work until we have the funds for the construction, but they will be meeting with the communities. For the Sakku School in Coral Harbour, a community meeting has been arranged for November 4 and the community will be informed as to what the plan will be going forward. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) In terms of project management within the department, just putting aside financial constraints of the overall government, what's the maximum number of major renovations and/or school construction projects the department can manage at one time? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I'm advised we've had at the most five major projects on the go in one fiscal year and that's, I think, the most that we've ever had to deal with, but also at the same time Community and Government Services are a huge player in this when we're moving forward with our capital plans. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you, minister. The reason I asked that is it sounds the waiting list is getting longer for these major projects.

With regard to the Qitiqliq Middle School project, I understand it was not approved for preplanning. Could the minister clarify if that's an addition to the existing school or is that in reference to a new school construction? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is for future consideration and it's for major renovation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you, minister. I'm a bit disappointed to hear that there were plans at one point for a fourth school in Arviat and I believe somewhere around a million dollars was spent on planning for that project, but it had fallen off the capital budget and I guess now it has disappeared. (interpretation) I would like to get an update from the minister on what's happening with what was supposed to be the fourth school in Arviat. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that happened and that was due to the attendance of students that dropped and its 85 percent utilization... . Yes, that's what has happened in the case of Arviat. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I believe that school in Arviat is quite old. It has been renovated at least twice already in my knowledge and it's going to be renovated a third time. I would be interested to see the decision-making process behind that, but I'm not the capital planning expert; you guys are.

With regard to the Sakku School project, one thing jumped out at me that these

portable classrooms that you're using or will be using during construction will be repurposed to a new community learning centre. That's really interesting, making use of the resources. Can the minister explain whether this is a one-off kind of unique situation or if we will be seeing more of this repurposing of portables in future projects, let's say for example, Kugluktuk, if they see a major renovation or addition, or Arviat? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, that's not a one-off. I know that for Cape Dorset there's a whole set of classrooms that are now being used by the elementary school still, but also in the case of Naujaat and Kugaaruk too we have set this to the college for their use. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, minister. (interpretation ends) That's interesting to know and it's great because also a big need is community learning centres across Nunavut.

On the Kugaaruk new school paperwork that you have provided, I just have one question. It says here on the first page "partially insured." It's eligible for third party funding. It says "partially insured." Could the minister please explain what that's referring to? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Could I have Mr. Cornthwaite respond to the question? Thank you.

Mr. Cornthwaite: Thank you... .

Chairman: Mr. Cornthwaite.

Mr. Cornthwaite: Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry about that. I get a little anxious.

Basically what that means is that there is a deductible on our insurance. The deductible is left and that's why we indicated "partially insured" because of the deductible. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) On the issue of school fires, my colleague from Kugluktuk brought it up. Is there a trend in terms of the number of school fires or incidents to do with the fire across Nunavut? Is the trend going down as the department makes efforts to address security issues or is it pretty much the same? (interpretation) It would be good if there were no more school fires in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It has been an unfortunate reality that even before division, there have been school fires in the territory. In terms of, I suppose, looking at the past three to four years, we've had two of them that we have dealt with. I would say that it's on the rise, unfortunately, but at the same time we are trying to

mitigate these arson attempts in different ways, installing security cameras, and we have a working group struck between CGS.

We do want to nip it in the bud, if I may put it that way, but we need the community to step up and we need support in this area. It's a terrible experience to go through, if I can say so myself. It's something that we need to, let's say, be vigilant about regardless if we have children or not, young and old. We have to take every precautionary measure to address this issue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I agree with the minister on that. He mentioned security cameras. I'm trying not to stray into O&M, but aside from the capital items that were mentioned, security cameras and whatnot, have there been any investments made on the service side of things in order to address security concerns, for example, night watchmen services or that type, just to protect the capital assets of the government? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, there have been some cases where a DEA will employ a watchman or a security person and then send an invoice to our department to cover for it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) That's interesting to hear and I will make sure I let my DEA know in Arviat because there have been ongoing security concerns in between the three schools as they are very close together and it's a very popular place for teenagers to hang out, unfortunately.

On your ongoing lifecycle, the budget here is \$6 million, but then on the second page the total projects are at \$8.45 million, so if you could just explain to me what that means. Will all of these projects listed here be going ahead or will it just be a case of once you spend your \$6 million, the other ones will have to wait? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, when this budget runs out, the other projects have to wait until the next cycle. With the ongoing lifecycle budget, there is quite significant work that happens for those cases and we try to time it during the summer months when school is out. That's only really the time to do these types of projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) On this sheet here, the one in Cambridge Bay jumped out at me because it says "structural and flooring." Has the department made any efforts to link structural or flooring issues with climate change or permafrost shifting? The

reason I ask that is with an eye to maybe trying to access some federal funding in terms of climate change adaptation and mitigation, along those lines. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I'm advised that we haven't looked at that as a potential for a possible option to get federal funds. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I'm almost done my questions. I'll just put that out as a suggestion for the department and if it helps you to get more work done in your schools, I think it would be a win-win for us.

On the IT infrastructure, it says here on the second page that 25 schools require replacement or repair of CCTV and intrusion alarm equipment, but it mentions later on that you only have enough money...or it has only listed three schools for CCTV. (interpretation) If all the schools' equipment were replaced or repaired, what would be the total cost? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for his suggestion and we will take that to future consideration around climate change and structural integrity.

On the question regarding security

cameras, we have approximately \$150,000 per school to install new units. Looking at 44 schools right now in our system minus the new ones which already have existing security cameras, do the math, but yes, on a rough basis it's about \$150,000 per school. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) You have a million dollars in this line item and the departmental need that you have listed here is \$3.5 million. How will the department ever catch up on their needs with this budget remaining at a million dollars five years into the future, as listed? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I thank the member for his question. We do requests on occasion to increase this budget line item. However, with competing priorities, we work with what we are given. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We fully support the Department of Education in their request for additional funds. That's just a comment.

I'm now thinking of the school breakfast programs. It helps a lot and I'm sure that the minister is well aware of that. In the coming years, we would like to see more capital dollars spent on kitchen

appliances and so on. I look forward to that as some of us have been discussing this for quite some time. It's just a comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. It's just a comment. Last name on my list, Mr. Qamaniq.

Mr. Qamaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have a lot of questions, but with the preparatory work in 2014-15 for the Sakku School and it's now 2020-21, apparently there was preparatory work done for the Sakku School. Also for the French school, there was preparatory work started in 2014-15 and it's now 2019 and we're planning for 2020-21. Does it take that long to build schools across the territory from the planning stage to construction? That's my first question. Thank you.

Chairman: Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank you for the question. There are different reasons why projects may be deferred, as certain projects end up being constructed for longer periods. We try to anticipate any possible delays by having contingencies. For example, once a school crosses the 85 percent utilization rate, the plans are begun to explore additions. However, different cause and effect situations result in these lengthy delays.

I have noted that there are reasons, such as for the Sakku School in Coral Harbour. While I was visiting the community, I was informed that the addition plans have been in the works for many years, without any progress to date. We have now approved the design

and we're thankful that the project will go ahead in the following years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Qamaniq.

Mr. Qamaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It says that the Sakku School is going to have a large gym. I'm just following the English documentation. For the French school, it says it will have a full-size gymnasium. Maybe the gymnasiums are different sizes. I tried to question the minister on that subject. I think school gyms are built differently in Nunavut. I would like clarification. (interpretation ends) What is the difference between a large gymnasium and a full-size gymnasium? Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's what was done in the past. The sizes of the gyms used to be different when schools were being built. I don't know the real reason, but I can say now that if we do renovations to a school or build a completely new school, they will always have full-size gyms now, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Qamaniq.

Mr. Qamaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If that's going to be the case for the Sakku School, I think it should be identified clearly. I think the terms are different between a large gym and a full-size gym. What's identified for the Sakku School and Kugaaruk school is a large gym. That's all it states. Can the wording be changed? Can the

Minister of Education agree that they should be written that way for the proposed gyms in Sakku and Kugaaruk schools? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Just for the record and for the member, the Kugaaruk school is a full-size gym and the one in Coral Harbour, Sakku School, will be a full-size gym. Whether it's stated as a large gym or full-size gym, they're all going to be full-size gyms from here on in. (interpretation) I hope that's understandable, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Qamaniq.

Mr. Qamaniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps in the future when new schools are going to be built and additions are going to be made to existing schools, it would be good to have the type of gym identified. Looking at the English document, they mean different things. Perhaps in the future we will see only full-size gyms. That's it for me. Thank you for the adequate responses, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. It's just a comment. Last name, Mr. Qirngnuq.

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

Hearing my colleague's earlier question, it has caused some concern for me, my fellow Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove's question. I don't know the Inuktitut term for (interpretation ends)

insurance. (interpretation) It says that it is only partially insured. With that being the case, can the minister provide an update on the school in Kugaaruk and when the insurance is going to be paid for? I'm asking for more information on that, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I can have Mr. Cornthwaite respond about insurance, Mr. Chairman, with your permission. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Cornthwaite.

Mr. Cornthwaite: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As with all our schools, there is a deductible on our insurance amount. When the school in Kinngait burnt down, it was a \$10 million deductible, and since we have experienced another fire in Kugaaruk, our deductible is now \$20 million. That's when we say "partially insured," we're talking about the deductible portion of the insurance. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We don't want to see a fire anywhere, not only in Kugaaruk, with the schools and government buildings. If it were to burn down today, what will we do in Kugaaruk when full insurance is not paid? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The school in Kugaaruk is built to be fireproof. The interior and materials are meant to be fireproof, and they try to get full sprinkler systems installed. That's what we have planned. The school will not burn down in Kugaaruk, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I agree with the minister on school fires. We don't want to see fires anywhere. That's only a comment.

I will move on to another subject. If there is a response or not, I will ask about it even though it seems obvious. I don't know how many communities have bus storage and how many do not. In Kugaaruk there is no bus storage and in Taloyoak there is no bus storage, and it gets really cold in the winter. These are expensive items and if they break down, the cost will keep increasing. There are many schools that are going to be built in the communities. How far behind are you in bus storage for communities without storage? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I'll respond further to his earlier question on insurance. If the Kugaaruk school were to burn down, we would have to pay \$20 million ourselves for the construction of a replacement, if that makes sense.

With regard to the buses, there were eight communities without bus storage

within Nunavut: Arctic Bay, Pangnirtung, Arviat, Chesterfield Inlet, Coral Harbour, Whale Cove, Cambridge Bay, and Taloyoak. With some communities with bus storage and some without, we pay through a contract to have bus storage in communities where there is storage available. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. We're on page G-3. Education. Corporate Services. Total Capital Expenditures. \$8,330,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to page G-2. Education. Total Capital Expenditures. \$8,330,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Closing comments to the minister, Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the members for their questions.

I would very much like to thank my officials here with me, especially my deputy minister, who has returned to the Department of Education. She has made it possible for additional funds to be approved. I also thank Mr. Cornthwaite.

They are not present here, but I thank the district education authorities that help

implement these projects. In particular I thank the Department of Community and Government Services. Schools need to be constructed and we construct them.

Enjoy your evening, Mr. Chairman.

>> *Applause*

Chairman: I would like to thank you also for answering members' questions. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses out. A five-minute break? Five-minute break.

>> *Committee recessed at 17:03 and resumed at 17:08*

**Bill 30 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,
2020-2021 – Justice –
Consideration in Committee**

Chairman: Thank you. Welcome back. I would like to call the committee meeting back to order. I would now like to ask Minister Ehaloak: do you have officials that you would like to appear before the committee? Minister Ehaloak.

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

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

For the record, Minister Ehaloak, please introduce your officials. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right, I would like to introduce you to Acting Deputy Minister Simon Awa, and to my left is Director of Corporate Services Mubashir Mahmood. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Welcome to your officials. Please proceed with your opening comments, Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appear before the Committee of the Whole today to present the Department of Justice's 2020-21 capital estimates. A total amount of \$6,900,000 is being allocated for the Department of Justice capital expenditures for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

The department's major capital expenditure of \$6 million pertains to the construction of the Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre as we enter into year two of the project. I am pleased to inform the committee that the Inuit employment on this project has exceeded the original target of 20 percent. Currently Inuit employment in the construction phase is at 24 percent.

Additionally, eight of our inmates were provided with employment opportunities, which enabled them to learn new skills and provided them with wages to support themselves and their families. These opportunities will continue to be made [available] to our inmates throughout the life of the project wherever possible.

I am happy to report that despite issues with the sealift and poor weather, this project is only two days behind the original schedule.

The Department of Justice requires \$900,000 for minor capital expenditures. The budget consists of nine projects which include but is not limited to:

- Updating recording and audio equipment in order to increase the efficiency and maintain mandatory operations;
- Replace vehicles to meet operational needs; and
- Ensuring the safety and security of our buildings, clients, and staff.

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

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Ehaloak. Does the chair of the standing committee have comments? Ms. Nakashuk.

Ms. Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness concerning its review of the proposed 2020-21 Capital Estimates of the Department of Justice.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Justice is requesting \$6.9 million for its 2020-21 capital budget. This includes ongoing funding for the construction of the Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre as well as funding for small capital projects.

The standing committee fully supports the ongoing construction of the new Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre, which will significantly increase Nunavut's capacity to house adult male

offenders within the territory, accommodating medium- and maximum-security offenders. The standing committee greatly appreciated the level of detail included with the 2020-21 draft capital estimates, including a breakdown of current costs and expenditures for the Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre project.

During the minister's recent appearance before the standing committee to review her department's proposed 2020-21 capital estimates, members were pleased to note that efforts had been made to increase the level of Inuit employment on the healing centre project, including the employment of inmates, some of whom will also have the opportunity to continue their employment with the project after being released. Members have noted that renovations to the Ilavut Healing Centre in Kugluktuk are still not included in the five-year capital plan and encourage the minister in her efforts to bring this project forward in future capital plans.

Mr. Chairman, the department's proposed 2020-21 capital estimates also include funding for a number of small capital projects. Members appreciated receiving detailed information on proposed expenditures in this area over the upcoming years.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2020-21 Capital Estimates of the Department of Justice. (interpretation) Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Ms. Nakashuk. General comments? Any general comments? Seeing none, go to page E-3. Justice. Directorate. Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: I just have one question. I would like to know what the current status is of the Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre. Is it still on budget and within schedule? It's my final question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Ms. Towtongie, for your question. We are on budget and we are two days ahead of schedule. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: This is on Directorate. Justice. Directorate. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I'll just have the one question as well. The federal government committed to providing almost \$57 million towards the cost of constructing the new Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre. To date, how much has been recovered for this project under the Government of Canada's Building Canada Fund? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Unfortunately I don't have that information right now, but we can find it for the member. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. We're on Directorate. Last name on my list, Ms. Kamingoak.

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome, minister and your

officials.

I just want to touch base on the Ilavut Centre in Kugluktuk because it was on the preplanning list for 2019-2020 and it does not appear in the 2020-25 five-year capital plan. Can you elaborate on that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Ms. Kamingoak, for your question. The Department of Justice did prepare and submit a capital plan phase submission for the 2019-2020 fiscal year, but this submission was rejected. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. We're on Justice. Directorate. Total Capital Expenditures. \$900,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to page E-6. Corrections. Total Capital Expenditures. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good evening, minister.

Earlier she mentioned the beginning of construction and that Inuit employment has now increased to close to 25 percent. I thank you, minister. There is a high unemployment rate in Nunavut. In the opening comments regarding the workers, (interpretation ends) how many of those workers, the Inuit labour force, are on an apprenticeship type of program? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just getting confirmation that none of the employees at the correctional healing facility are under apprenticeship programs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) For that Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre, on page 3 of 6 it shows a detailed breakdown of the costs. One of the items on this list here are, it says NNI allowance, \$150,000, but it's not scheduled to be charged until 2021-22. (interpretation) Perhaps the minister can clarify that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Can you repeat your question? Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) On page 3 of 6 on your substantiation sheet, about halfway down the page, there is an item listed, NNI allowance, \$150,000. I'm curious as to what that refers to. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sorry, we're just trying to find the detailed information.

Sorry, Mr. Chairman, we're having a hard time trying to find the information,

but we can make sure we get that information for him. Sorry.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Is the minister able to provide any information as to how the NNI Policy impacted this project? It is a large project, \$84 million, and the construction contract was awarded to a company from Hall Beach, I believe. Having been over to that site or walked by it, I noticed that most of the equipment there says “Kudlik Construction” on it. I’m unclear if Pilitak, the builder, is subcontracting to Kudlik Construction. I’m just explaining why I’m asking this question in terms of the NNI Policy and this project. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The NNI Policy and the construction part of the project would fall with the Department of Justice and Community and Government Services. We can get that information for you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you, minister. I guess I’ll just request that that information be distributed to all of my colleagues. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Ehaloak.

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

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Moving on, the other item on your list here is minor capital and it makes a reference to the Rankin Inlet Healing Facility. There’s going to be some work done to add heat to a cold storage area and it mentions snow machines and ATVs, which I’m assuming are used for programming for the inmates. (interpretation) I’m now asking how this will help the inmates, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The original scope of the Rankin Inlet Healing Facility, a garage was built, but it was only built for cold storage, so renovations to that garage will include so that we can heat the facility so that our equipment can be stored in that facility and so that the lifetime of our equipment will last longer.

The snowmobile replacement of \$60,000 is for programs that we run, on-the-land programs, and we’re looking at \$60,000 for some snowmobiles that are used for cultural programming and activities and to replace some aging snowmobiles that we have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Main.

Mr. Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) My last question is: when it comes to capital,

if a community is interested in establishing, it could be an on-the-land program for inmates or it could be some sort of corrections-related program, is there an avenue for communities to come to Justice and apply for capital funding or would they have to go and find it on their own? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Great question. We do have some on-the-land programs with some other communities and if there's a group or individuals in the community that want to run the on-the-land programs, they can make a submission to the Department of Justice and we will come in this forum to request the funds for those programs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. We're on Corrections. Total Capital Expenditures. Ms. Kamingoak.

Ms. Kamingoak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for recognizing me again. I just wanted to get further clarification on why or how the Nunavut healing/correctional centre was rejected when it was in the preplanning stages for 2019-2020. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the year 2017-18 in the capital planning cycle, a proposal was submitted for Ilavut's renovations for 2019-2020. That submission was rejected at the deputy level, but the Department of Justice will be

resubmitting the proposal to renovate the Ilavut Centre to be reconsidered for the 2021-22 fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. We're on Corrections. Total Capital Expenditures. \$6,000,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to page E-2. Justice. Total Capital Expenditures. \$6,900,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Thank you. Closing comments, Minister Ehaloak.

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to thank the members for their support within the Department of Justice, especially in corrections. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you also for answering the committee's questions. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses out.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, when they get here.

>> *Laughter*

Chairman: Okay. We will ask for a five-minute break while we're waiting. Thank you.

>> *Committee recessed at 17:32 and resumed at 17:35*

Bill 30 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2020-2021 – Environment – Consideration in Committee

Chairman: Thank you. I would like to call the committee meeting back to order. We're now on Environment. I would ask Minister Savikataaq to do his opening comments. Minister Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to be here today to introduce the Department of Environment's capital estimates for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

For this fiscal period, the Department of Environment proposes a capital budget of \$2.25 million. This expenditure will permit the department to concentrate on two specific program areas: wildlife management and parks and special places.

Within our Wildlife Management Division, we plan to spend \$370,000 on the replacement of old mobile equipment. This equipment is used for patrols to ensure compliance with the *Wildlife Act* and other legislation and to support wildlife research activities.

The Wildlife Management Division will also spend \$750,000 on wildlife office maintenance projects to create safe working environments for staff to deliver the department's programs and to fulfill our mandate.

Mr. Chairman, our territorial parks and special places have an important role in the protection and promotion of Nunavut's vibrant natural and cultural heritage. They provide necessary recreation and tourism services to meet the needs of Nunavummiut as well as visitors to our beautiful territory. All our work in this area is done under the spirit and intent of the Umbrella Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement for Territorial Parks.

The major project of the Territorial Parks and Special Places Division for the 2020-21 fiscal year is related to the development of infrastructure for the new Agguttinni Territorial Park north of Clyde River.

Mr. Chairman, we will also continue to monitor and maintain infrastructure in all of our territorial parks and campgrounds - Nunavut Ovayok in Cambridge Bay, Sylvia Grinnell and Qammaarviit in Iqaluit, Katannilik in Kimmirut, and Iqalugaarjuup Nunanga in Rankin Inlet, as well as our campground territorial parks - Tupirvik in Resolute Bay, Tamaarvik in Pond Inlet, Pisuktinu Tunngavik in Pangnirtung, and Inuujaarvik in Baker Lake.

Additionally, the department will continue the development of infrastructure as recommended in the new master plan for the Kugluk Territorial Park in Kugluktuk and for the new Kinngaliit...no, [Kinngaaluk] Territorial Park in Sanikiluaq.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Environment's capital plan is focused in these areas to clearly support the needs of Nunavummiut. We are pleased to put

forward these priorities for consideration and are happy to take questions from members at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Does the chair of the standing committee have comments? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the record, the name of the park in Sanikiluaq is Kinngaaluk.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development on its review of the proposed 2020-21 Capital Estimates of the Department of Environment. The department's proposed capital budget for the 2020-21 fiscal year is \$2.25 million, an amount which is unchanged from its 2018-19 and 2019-2020 capital estimates.

Mr. Chairman, the department's proposed 2020-21 capital estimates provide funding for wildlife office renovations and small capital projects, which include the replacement of mobile equipment and the development of infrastructure in territorial parks.

On September 10, 2019 the federal and territorial governments announced \$4.7 million in federal funding under the Canada Nature Fund to support the establishment of a new territorial park near the community of Clyde River. The standing committee continues to encourage the minister to begin the practice of tabling an annual report in the Legislative Assembly which details the department's activities, expenditures, and initiatives in relation to Nunavut's territorial parks system, in addition to

containing information concerning such measures as the annual number of visitors to our parks. This type of reporting would be of benefit to all members in evaluating the impact of the parks program.

That concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2020-21 Capital Estimates of the Department of Environment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Do members have general comments? Ms. Towtongie.

Ms. Towtongie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation) When I was recently elected, I found that the conservation officer in Chesterfield Inlet was using his own personal vehicle when he was dealing with polar bears coming into the community. The environment is very important across Nunavut. I just want to say that the conservation officers must not be required to use their own vehicles should there be anything happening. The government's vehicle fleet has to be contemplated by the Department of Environment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: General comments? Mr. Quassa.

Mr. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move a motion to report progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. We have a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion. All those opposed. Carried. I will now rise to report progress. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister.

Speaker (interpretation): Going to the orders of the day. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Member Akoak.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 30 and would like to report progress. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you very much. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Member Rumbolt. All those in favour. All those opposed. The motion is carried.

Continuing on. Third Reading of Bills. There are none. Continuing on. *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A reminder that the Standing Committee on Legislation meets at nine o'clock tomorrow in the Nanuq Boardroom.

Orders of the Day for October 31:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions

8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Responses to Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
 - Bill 36
 - Bill 37
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 8
 - Bill 29
 - Bill 30
 - Bill 31
 - Bill 32
 - Bill 33
 - Bill 34
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.
This House stands adjourned until
Thursday, October 31, at 1:30 p.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 17:46*

