

NUNAVUT HANSARD

UNEDITED TRANSCRIPT

THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2025

IQALUIT, NUNAVUT

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Corrections:

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Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

Hon. Tony Akoak

(Gjoa Haven)

Hon. David Akeeagok
(Quttiktuq)

*Minister of Community Services;
Minister of Human Resources;
Minister responsible for Nunavut
Business Credit Corporation; Minister
responsible for Nunavut Development
Corporation; Minister responsible for
Trade; Minister responsible for Mines;
Minister responsible for the Workers
Safety and Compensation Commission*

Hon. P.J. Akeeagok
(Iqaluit-Niaqunngu)

*Premier; Minister of Executive and
Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister of
Culture and Heritage; Minister of
Indigenous Affairs; Minister of
Languages; Minister responsible for
Immigration; Minister responsible for
the Utility Rates Review Council;
Minister responsible for Seniors*

Bobby Anavilok
(Kugluktuk)

Janet Brewster
(Iqaluit-Sinaa)

Hon. Pamela Gross
(Cambridge Bay)

*Deputy Premier; Minister of
Education; Minister of Justice;
Minister responsible for Labour;
Minister responsible for Human Rights
Tribunal*

George Hickes
(Iqaluit-Tasiluk)

*Deputy Speaker; Chair of the
Committee of the Whole*

Hon. David Joanasie
(South Baffin)

*Government House Leader; Minister
of Transportation and Infrastructure
Nunavut; Minister of Environment;
Minister responsible for Energy*

Joelie Kaernerker
(Amittuq)

Mary Killiktee
(Uqqummiut)

Hon. Lorne Kusugak
(Rankin Inlet South)

*Minister of Finance; Minister
responsible for the Nunavut Housing
Corporation; Minister responsible for
the Nunavut Liquor and Cannabis
Commission; Minister responsible for
the Nunavut Liquor and Cannabis
Board*

Adam Lightstone
(Iqaluit-Manirajak)

Hon. John Main
(Arviat North-Whale Cove)

*Minister of Health; Minister
responsible for Suicide Prevention;
Minister responsible for the Qulliq
Energy Corporation*

Solomon Malliki
(Aivilik)

*Deputy Chair, Committee
of the Whole*

Hon. Margaret Nakashuk
(Pangnirtung)

*Minister of Family Services; Minister
responsible for Nunavut Arctic
College; Minister responsible for
Homelessness; Minister responsible for
Status of Women; Minister responsible
for Poverty Reduction*

Karen Nutarak
(Tununiq)

Daniel Qavvik
(Hudson Bay)

Joanna Quassa
(Aggu)

Inagayuk Quqqiaq
(Netsilik)

Alexander Sammurtok
(Rankin Inlet North-
Chesterfield Inlet)

Joe Savikataaq
(Arviat South)

*Deputy Chair, Committee
of the Whole*

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Uqausirmit Uqausirmut Inc.

**926 Sivumugiaq Street,
Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 3H0**

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

Website: www.assembly.nu.ca

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Thursday, May 22, 2025

Members Present:

Hon. David Akeeagok, Mr. Bobby Anavilok, Ms. Janet Brewster, Hon. Pamela Gross, Mr. George Hickes, Hon. David Joanase, Mr. Joeline Kaerner, Ms. Mary Killiktee, Hon. Lorne Kusugak, Mr. Adam Lightstone, Hon. John Main, Ms. Karen Nutarak, Hon. Margaret Nakashuk, Mr. Daniel Qavvik, Mr. Joanna Quassa, Mr. Joseph Quqqiaq, Mr. Alexander Sammurtok, Mr. Joe Savikataaq, Mr. Craig Simailak.

>>*House commenced at 13:31*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Deputy Speaker (Mr. George Hickes): Good afternoon. I would like to ask Member Simailak to lead us in prayer, please.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker's Statement

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Simailak. Before we proceed with *Orders of the Day*, I'm pleased to welcome members back to the house for our Spring Sitting. I also extend a very warm welcome to elders and Nunavummiut who are following our proceedings on radio and, television, and internet live stream.

On behalf of all members I wish to take this opportunity to express our condolences to the families of three recently passed individuals, Steve Mapsalak who represented the Akulliq and Aivilik during the Second and Fourth Legislative Assemblies, otherwise known as Mapsi. I know he was just recently in the House and we're all very sad to see and hear of his passing.

Kane Tologanak who represented the constituency of Central Arctic in the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories prior to division in 1999. I only recall meeting Kane once and he was very encouraging. I was a fairly new member of cabinet at the time and I recall just how encouraging and supportive he was in the conversation that I had with him.

I would also like to remember Eemeelayou Arnaquq who recently served as our Sergeant-at-Arms here in this House, who unexpectedly earlier passed away this year. He will also be missed. Personally I'll miss, whenever I came into the chamber, "Hey Hickes!" I'm going to miss that.

I wish to take this opportunity to advise the House that obviously with me sitting here Speaker Akoak's arrival in Iqaluit has been delayed until Friday, due to flight cancellations.

I also wish to take this opportunity to advise the House that the Member for Aivilik will be arriving in Iqaluit at a later date, due to family commitments as well as the Member for Aggu. Sorry, not Aggu, yes.

I also wish to like Michael Ball back to the table. Michael will be supporting us during the Spring Sitting while the clerk is addressing a family member.

And also a very warm welcome back to Nancy Tupik back to the table.

Money Message

Before we proceed with Orders of the Day it is my duty to advise the House that the Office of the Speaker has received the following message from Her Honour the Commissioner of Nunavut:

“Mr. Speaker:

I wish to advise that I recommend to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut, the passage of the following bill during the 2025 Spring sitting of the second session of the sixth Legislative Assembly:

Bill 80, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2025-2026*.

Sincerely,

Eva Qamaniq Aariak,
Commissioner of Nunavut.”

We will now proceed with *Orders of the Day*. Item 2, Ministers' Statements. Government House Leader, Mr. Joanasie.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 577 – 6(2): Premier Absent from the House

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon, people of Nunavut and members of the Assembly. I would like to advise you that our premier, Mr. Akeegok, will not be in the House today and tomorrow as he's attending the first Minister's conference. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Nunavut Arctic College, Minister Nakasuk.

Minister's Statement 578 – 6(2): Graduation Season 2025

Hon. Margaret Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon to members of the House, and good afternoon to the people of Nunavut and also to the people in the gallery.

Usually we congratulate people who are completing their works in our community social service workers, who dedicate their lives to supporting and uplifting the most vulnerable people among us, and also the culinary arts program, and office administration program, and social service workers. They have completed their training in Cambridge Bay and I am very proud.

On April 24, again in Nunavut, the Nunatta Campus in Iqaluit recognized students from the Adult Basic Education program, Office Administration program, College Foundation, and the Environmental Technology program. I am very proud of the graduates.

On April 28, the Kivalliq Community Learning Centre held a ceremony recognizing graduates from the Adult Basic Education program and Management Studies.

I would also like to recognize graduates in the Community Learning Centres who held community celebrations.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Makigiaqta Inuit Training Corporation for recognizing Inuit graduates from Nunavut Arctic College who graduated from certificate, diploma, and degree programs. Makigiaqta presented graduates from certificate programs with \$500, and those graduating from diploma programs with \$1,000. These awards were given to students in Cambridge Bay, Rankin Inlet, and Iqaluit. I know this was appreciated by the recipients.

I would also like to confirm that in June, graduates from the Nunavut Teacher Education Program, the Nursing Program, and the Pre-Health Sciences program will be recognized in graduation ceremonies.

Please join me in recognizing Nunavut Arctic College's graduating class of 2025.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Nakashuk. Minister responsible for Qulliq Energy Corporation, Minister Main.

Minister's Statement 579 – 6(2): Strengthening Infrastructure and Empowering Communities

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon to my colleagues. I am very glad to see you back here.

Mr. Speaker, as Nunavut continues to grow, so must the infrastructure that powers our homes, businesses, and essential services. Qulliq Energy Corporation remains focused on building and maintaining a reliable, efficient, and modern energy system to meet the needs of Nunavummiut.

(interpretation ends) As part of our approved capital plan, Qulliq Energy Corporation is advancing a total of 30 active capital projects across the territory, including five new power plants. These investments are critical to strengthening energy reliability, supporting future integration of renewables, and ensuring long-term sustainability.

Recent months have seen Qulliq Energy Corporation making significant progress on these infrastructure projects. Three design-build contracts have been awarded for new power plants in Cambridge Bay, Igloolik, and Gjoa Haven. Design work is underway in all three communities, with roughly 50 percent of the drawings completed and major equipment ordered. A public tender for the new power plant in Kugluktuk is in progress, while land acquisition efforts for a new power plant in Kugaaruk are also underway.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, (interpretation ends) progress continues on generator set replacements in 11 communities: Kugaaruk, Baker Lake, Iqaluit, Sanikiluaq, Kimmirut, Coral Harbour, Chesterfield Inlet, Whale Cove, Pond Inlet, and Rankin Inlet. Several of these projects have completed design and procurement phases and are moving into construction, installation, and commissioning.

Qulliq Energy Corporation is also enhancing emergency power reliability across Nunavut. Emergency generator units have been successfully installed in Rankin Inlet and Sanikiluaq, with more installations coming for Coral Harbour, Grise Fiord, Kugluktuk, and Igloolik. These targeted investments provide essential backup power and strengthen community resilience during outages and maintenance periods.

We're also investing in new software and hardware to enhance our internal capacity towards better remote project coordination and overall efficiency. Our engineering team is leading this work in collaboration with Qulliq Energy Corporation's Information and Technology division.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I look forward to seeing more of these important capital projects completed. These investments reflect a strong capital plan that supports the needs of Nunavummiut today and creates lasting benefits into the future.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Main. Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, Minister Joanasié.

Minister's Statement 580 – 6(2): Transportation And Infrastructure Nunavut Scholarship Programs

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I welcome all the visitors in the gallery today.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to update members on the Scholarship Programs administered by the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut.

This year my department is looking to provide Nunavummiut with access to 260,000 dollars' worth of scholarship funding through our Grants and Contribution programing, focusing on Infrastructure, Transportation and Information Management and Technology. The objective of this funding is to increase the eligible workforce in our communities to meet a growing demand for employees with technical professional education to fill essential roles in my department.

Mr. Speaker, my department's Grants and Contribution scholarship program provides a general scholarship for those studying in lines of business associated with my department, but also provides more enhanced incentive for focus on specific areas of business, such as information management and technology, and aviation transportation.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I encourage Nunavummiut to keep an eye out on our ads in local newspapers, public service announcements, and social media posts in the upcoming months. Applicants can expect to see the call-out for the Simata Pitsiulak Scholarship before the end of this sitting. The Technical Professional Studies callout will be issued at the end of the summer, with applications due at the end of September. Additionally, applicants can visit the Government of Nunavut's website to gather more information about the programs.

Mr. Speaker, this strategic investment aims to bolster the technical knowledge available within the territory and reflects my departments commitment to increase Inuit

representation in the technical and specialized areas of transportation and infrastructure Nunavut.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Family Service, Minister Nakashuk.

Minister's Statement 581 – 6(2): Community Social Service Workers

Hon. Margaret Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for recognizing me again.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address a matter of grave concern that affects the very fabric of our communities. Our community social services workers, who dedicate their lives to supporting and uplifting the most vulnerable people among us, have been subject to unacceptable levels of violence, harassment, and negativity on the front lines. This is a direct attack on these dedicated professionals and on the values we hold as Nunavummiut.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, community social services workers are the backbone of our community support systems. They provide essential services, mental health support, child protection, and assistance to those facing economic hardships. Their work is often challenging and emotionally taxing, yet they persevere with unwavering commitment and compassion.

(interpretation ends) It is deeply troubling that these individuals, who strive to make a positive difference, are facing threats and abuse. Such behaviour is intolerable and must be condemned in the strongest possible terms. We must ensure that our community social services workers can perform their duties in a safe and respectful environment.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon all members of the Nunavut Legislative Assembly, and indeed all citizens of Nunavummiut, to stand in solidarity with our community social services workers. Let us reaffirm our commitment to protecting those people who protect us. We must work together to create a culture of respect and appreciation for the invaluable contributions of these professionals.

To the social services workers of Nunavut, I say this: Your dedication and resilience are deeply appreciated. We recognize the challenges you face and the commitment to ensure our safety and well-being. You are not alone, and we will continue to support you in every way possible.

Qujannamiik, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Nakashuk. It's a very important message. Minister of Health, Minister Main.

Minister's Statement 582 – 6(2): Improving Access to Medications for Rare Diseases in Nunavut

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

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I rise to share an important news for Nunavummiut affected by rare diseases. The territory is receiving a federal investment of over \$7.3 million over three years to improve access to selected new drugs for rare diseases, and to support enhanced access to existing drugs, early diagnosis, and screening.

This agreement is part of a broader federal initiative to ensure that Canadians—no matter where they live—have access and can afford the life-saving treatments that they need. Nunavut's participation in this agreement means that new federal funding will be available to support the territory for four drugs under the National Strategy for Drugs for Rare Diseases.

Through this additional funding, Nunavummiut will have greater access to new and emerging high-cost rare drugs. For our part, Nunavut committed through this agreement to work with the federal government and other provinces and territories on developing and implementing a plan for improving screening and diagnostics for rare diseases. We look forward to working with our federal and territorial partners to implement this initiative in a way that reflects Nunavut's unique needs and realities.

In a territory where travel is often required for Nunavummiut who need specialized treatment and care, we will continue to work for better outcomes for all Nunavummiut living with rare diseases.

Mr. Speaker, this agreement is not only about medication—it is about health equity. While rare diseases affect one in 12 people in Canada, still, they deserve timely access to quality health services and medications, regardless of where they live or their ability to pay. It is about making sure our people, particularly our children and Elders living with rare conditions, no matter how small the numbers are, are not left behind.

Matna, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Main. Back to the Order paper. Item 3, Members' Statements. Mr. Qavvik.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 781 – 6(2): Reflections on Returning to the House

Mr. Qavvik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to my colleagues in this House, my constituents in Hudson Bay, and Nunavummiut across our territory.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honour to stand before all of you today.

I want to begin by thanking the members of the Legislative Assembly and my constituents for their patience during for welcoming me back to the Assembly.

I want to also thank the Members of the Legislative Assembly and my constituents for their patience during my recent absence from this House.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to formally and publicly apologize to you and all of the members of the Legislative Assembly, as well as my constituents and the Nunavut public, for my inappropriate actions that occurred last fall.

I especially want to apologize to all of the members of my family.

Mr. Speaker, I have taken full responsibility for my actions and I am getting the help that I need.

Mr. Speaker, I acknowledge that I make mistakes, and there is no denying that I must learn from my mistakes and move forward.

Words cannot describe how truly sorry I am, but they are a start.

Mr. Speaker, there is no denying that the last few months have been challenging and painful.

There were many dark days when I wanted to step down as a member of the Legislative Assembly.

I almost did resign, but I reminded myself why I stood for elections four years ago, and I took strength from the many Elders of Sanikiluaq who encouraged me to move forward and urged me to remain positive in life.

Mr. Speaker, although there are fewer than six months remaining in the life of the current Sixth Assembly, I am committed to being a strong advocate for Sanikiluaq's needs and a strong voice for its people.

Mr. Speaker, although my community and constituents continue to face infrastructure deficits and housing shortages, there is much reason to be optimistic.

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

Speaker: The member is seeking unanimous consent to complete his statement. Are there any nays? None. Please continue.

Mr. Qavvik: Thank you very much, members, for allowing me to conclude my statement.

Mr. Speaker, The promise of the Nunavut Agreement is something that we are all committed to achieving.

Progress takes time, and I am proud to have been part of this Assembly as we begin the work of implementing the historic devolution agreement.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to close today by saying that it is good to be back with all of you today, as we work together for a brighter future for our territory, communities, and our constituents.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Qavvik. Item 3, Members' Statements. Member for Netsilik, Mr. Quqqiaq.

Member's Statement 782 – 6(2): Successful Search and Rescue of Taloyoak

Mr. Quqqiaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge that the missing travellers between Taloyoak and Kugaaruk were found safe and okay on May 18, 2025 at 12:10 local time, which the search and rescue went on for three days.

Mr. Speaker, I thank everyone greatly who contributed to the search and rescue: The Department of Community Services, the Nunavut Emergency Management division, in coordination with the Nunavut RCMP hamlet officials; Canadian Armed Forces, community volunteers; and many ground search and rescue teams. My hat is off to you all and job well done. And volunteers, thank you, which included three communities,

Kugaaruk, Taloyoak and Gjoa Haven. Thank you Air Tindi for spotting the missing travellers, and thank you to the Canadian Armed Forces for dropping off a radio and supplies to the missing travellers. My acknowledgment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Quqqiaq. Member for Iqaluit-Manirajak, Mr. Lightstone.

Member's Statement 783 – 6(2): Public Safety for Nunavummiut

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's an honour to be here today and see so many distinguished guests that are in our visitors' gallery. I would like to say good afternoon to all of the Nunavummiut who are watching the proceedings today.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to make a statement. Over the years I have placed much emphasis on the need to enhancing public safety in Nunavut. I would also like to note that I intend to continue my efforts on this very serious issue and will have a number of questions during our final two sittings of this Legislative Assembly before our dissolution in the fall.

I would like to hereby give notice that at the appropriate time I will be asking questions to the appropriate ministers on a number of topics which I have been raising, such as the Liquor Act, and the much-needed amendments to the Liquor Act necessary to reduce alcohol related harm; the RCMP budget, and the need to enhance the number of RCMP in many of our communities to ensure appropriate levels of public safety; as well as the enhanced collaboration between a number of government entities such as the Department of Health, Department of Family Services, and the Department of Justice to help those who need the help the most, those that are contributing to so much harm in our communities.

Mr. Speaker, of course, this is a very concerning issue in so many of our communities, and I think that again it deserves much more attention, and as much attention that is necessary until we can all come together and be able to consider that all of our communities and all of our homes are safe once again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Lightstone. Members' Statements. Member for the high Arctic, Quttiktuq Mr. David Akeeagok.

Member's Statement 784 – 6(2): Coronation Medals and Commissioner's Awards

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last week, Mr. Speaker, Commissioner Eva Ariak and Minister John Main went to visit the high Arctic communities, and we gave awards of King Charles III's coronation awards and Commissioner's Awards were presented to the three public communities in the three communities. I would like to thank the commissioner, Minister Main, for going to the

communities with me, and also this individual won't be here, our mayor of Resolute Bay, Aziz Kheraj, as he will be leaving early today. The reception was very good with him when we visited and we met with him to talk about the concerns from the Council of Ministers. We had a good meal together.

And I thank the high Arctic communities, Grise Fiord, Arctic Bay, and Resolute Bay. Each community was very receptive and they were very receptive and welcoming, and I would like to thank them and congratulate them for their reception, and also I would like to thank the people who came up to high Arctic with me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Akeeagok. Item 3, Members' Statements. Mr. Anavilok.

Member's Statement 785 – 6(2): Community Nurses of Kugluktuk

Mr. Anavilok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, my colleagues. I want to speak about what's been going on in Kugluktuk.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I want to share some concerns from Kugluktuk, the way the nurses were handling the patients, ill people. Tylenol seems to be the miracle pill for all the illnesses. They're being sent home with Tylenol, even for cancer, and there has been some incidents where people were sent home and later on people passing away from not getting a second diagnosis from a doctor.

The doctor in Kugluktuk is there only six months of the year, and most times those times there was some people that didn't get a second diagnosis from a doctor. They ended up being sent home just with Tylenol. So that's a concern. I know it's probably like that in all the communities, but in the shortage of doctors and the way the nurses are handled.

I'll probably have further questions for the appropriate department on this matter.
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Item 3, Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Ms. Brewster.

Member's Statement 786 – 6(2): Tribute to Rhoda Inukshuk

Ms. Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, everybody, and welcome to your House. It's so nice to see so many familiar faces.

Mr. Speaker I rise today to pay tribute to one of my mom's dear friends and a really important person in my life, especially in my teens, Rhoda Inukshuk. She was born in Igloodik and she moved to Ottawa in the late '60s or early '70s to attend school.

She was amongst a group of young Inuit women who are not always spoken about. These young Inuit women moved to Ottawa in order to go to school and to be trained and to contribute to Inuit from afar, and Rhoda was one of the, she was the first Inuit woman elected as president of, it was ITC then, and I spent many, many years at meetings at ITC and TFN and Pauktuutit and all over Ottawa and Rhoda was always there, and she was always putting her best foot forward on behalf of all Inuit.

She passed away recently in Ottawa after a long illness. She was surrounded by her family and many friends, and I would just like to take a moment to send my condolences to her family and friends, and to say thank you to Rhoda for everything that she contributed that makes our lives better, and that helps to us focus on what we're here to do today and every day. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Brewster. Members' Statements. Seeing none, Item 4, Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Gross.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Pamela Gross: *Quana*, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon, colleagues, and to Nunavummiut across our territory tuning in and to everyone who is here with us today.

Mr. Speaker, I have the pleasure to acknowledge some very special guests into the House today. I'm pleased to welcome the international executive from the Inuit Circumpolar Council. The Inuit Circumpolar Council representatives are meeting in Iqaluit this week for their executive council meeting, and to prepare for the Nunavut Tunngavik for the next year's 2026 Inuit Circumpolar Council general assembly, which will be held here in Iqaluit.

The general assembly is a quadrennial meeting of Inuit from across the circumpolar region, and today I have the honour to introduce the Inuit Circumpolar Council chair, Sara Olsvig.

>> *Applause*

She is joined by Inuit Circumpolar Council Greenland representatives Hjalmar Dahl;

>> *Applause*

And Kathrine Bødker.

>> *Applause*

We also have with us today is our Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada representative, Natan Obed.

>> *Applause*

We have Inuit Circumpolar Canada Alaska representatives, Marie Greene;

>> *Applause*

Along with Nicole Wojciechowski.

>> *Applause*

They are joined by staff from the Inuit Circumpolar Council offices in Greenland, Canada, and Alaska. There is Sophia Geisler.

>> *Applause*

Lisa Smith.

>> *Applause*

Jocelyne Durocher.

>> *Applause*

Matthew Zammit.

>> *Applause*

Daniel Aviugana.

>> *Applause*

Eilene Adams.

>> *Applause*

And we also have special guests with us from Nunavut Tunngavik, our president, Jeremy Tunraluk, and as well as his executive assistant, Neil Henderson.

>> *Applause*

And vice-president Paul Irngaut.

>> *Applause*

I'm sorry I didn't catch the other names across, but we recognize you as well. Thank you to everyone who is here, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Gross. Welcome to the gallery. Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Kusugak.

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

(interpretation ends) I would like to recognize a pool shark who used to live in the Nunavut territory and he has come back for a visit. My good friend Mark McCullough. welcome to the Assembly.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Next name I have on my list, Mr. David Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you. It's great to see Inuit from all over the place, and please feel welcome in the House. And I would like to recognize our mayor is still here, and my good friend, Ozzie Grass (ph), who is the mayor of Grise Fiord.

>> *Applause*

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I'm looking forward to this one. Ms. Brewster.

Ms. Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I would like to welcome everybody again, and also recognize that Ms. Inukshuk was the president of Inuit Circumpolar Council as well, and I'm sure she has a lasting legacy in that organization as well.

Mr. Speaker, there are a handful of people here, of course, Mr. McCullough, who is a good friend of mine and former constituent. I can't believe everybody would want to leave my constituency, but I hope you are doing well.

>> *Laughter*

I have some family here. A lot of people know that Lyalls are connected to Labrador, and my cousin Elizabeth Ford is here, and it's very nice to see her in the House. Welcome, cousin.

>> *Applause*

And I think that many people will recognize the woman sitting behind me, including a lot of your constituents, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I am so happy to recognize my dear friend and sister-in-law Jessica Patterson, who is here visiting. She's actually a tropical Inuk. She moved to New Zealand a number of years ago, and she started a pizza business from a truck and now she's got two trucks. She's got an incredible partner in life, in business, and probably in crime.

>> *Laughter*

I was once her get-away driver. Just saying. And she's here for a brief visit.

I just want to recognize Jessica for not only her personal contribution to me as a family, but what we know about being leaders in this House is that our families make a lot of sacrifice, especially whether we take on leadership roles. And Jessica's father, Dennis, was, as everybody knows, a member of the NWT Assembly. I know that Jessica and her siblings spent a lot of time apart from their father because of that, and so she is one of the first people I consulted when I decided that I was going to run for MLA, because she's the aunty of my youngest child, Miles, and I just wanted to check with her to see if she thought it would be a good idea for me to do this and she wholeheartedly said yes.

So, Mr. Speaker and everybody, please welcome my dear friend and sister-in-law Jessica Patterson. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: And also a long time friend and colleague of mine. Welcome back to the House, Ms. Patterson.

Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6, Oral Questions. Members, before we begin oral questions today, I would like to remind all of you to be mindful of our time. I know there are a lot of questions, but our time for oral questions is limited. Please be sure to keep your preambles short and your answers direct. This will help us make sure that all members who want to ask questions have an opportunity to do so. With all respect,

members, I will ask you to observe the clock and respect the clock. Thank you, members. First name I have on my list, Ms. Nutarak.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Oral Question 1210 – 6(2): Health Centre Staffing Concerns

Ms. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. People of Pond Inlet, as a good day and all of the people of Nunavut, and welcome visitors.

Mr. Speaker I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker (interpretation ends), as the minister will recall, the staffing situation at the Pond Inlet Health Centre is an ongoing concern of mine. I would like to thank him for providing me with an update on health centre staffing this past month, past March.

Since then, however, the department has suspended its extended hours pilot project once again, due to lack of staff.

Pond Inlet is a large and busy community. The situation cannot continue with just one or two nurses providing emergency care only. Can the minister provide an update on how his department's critical staffing measures will address the staffing situation at the Pond Inlet health centre, and the continuation of the extended hours pilot project. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Ms. Nutarak. Minister of Health, Minister Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for asking those questions about Pond Inlet.

I don't think the matter only involves Pond Inlet; I know the question is about Pond Inlet, though. However, it affects all of Nunavut.

(interpretation ends) In terms of the critical staffing measures, we're very pleased with the results to date in terms of our staffing picture, although we still do have very real shortages that do impact Nunavummiut. The critical staffing measures have helped us turn the corner in terms of our recruitment and retention. We're seeing very positive uptake in terms of our job share positions, very positive feedback from our existing staff in terms of the retention and recruitment bonuses or that we have put in place. So our plan with the critical staffing measures is to continue to implement those so that we can provide care to Nunavummiut, as they rightly deserve, including residents of Pond Inlet.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. First supplementary, member for Tununiq, Ms. Nutarak.

Ms. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the minister for all your efforts.

(interpretation ends) This past March I was very surprised to learn from the minister that Pond Inlet has been defined as a “hard to fill” community with respect to the health centre positions. It has always been my understanding that there was a long line of nurses wanting to come up to our beautiful community to work.

Can the minister provide further details on why it has become so difficult to recruit nurses for our community and what his department is currently doing to try and recruit staff, specifically to work at the Pond Inlet health centre.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Health, Minister Main.

Hon. John Main: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I thank the member for the question.

In terms of the recruitment challenges, the member is correct; the community has been designated a “hard to fill”, or the health centre positions have. And it’s looking at the historical numbers within the department that we’ve identified it as one of those communities.

In terms of the challenges, I’ll try to be short here, but we have numerous challenges that are impacting our recruitment: issues around staff housing, both the quality and the quantity of staff housing; the issues around provision of child care; issues around workplace violence, issues around burnout, and making sure that our workforce is being protected during peak demand periods, that they are getting the respite time that we need.

We are working on all these. I don’t want to list off a bunch of negative factors without providing the other side.

Through the critical staffing measures and other initiatives with our partner departments, we are launching a major recruitment and media campaign that we hope will run for the next two years. We hope that will help us recruit and retain more professionals.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Second and final supplementary, Ms. Nutarak.

Ms. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. And any way we can help, along with the hamlet? I have spoken with the mayor, and the eagerness to help is there, that we want full staffing in Pond Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, it has been brought to my attention that there has been some tensions with the headquarters office in Pangnirtung, which may be impacting retention as well as recruitment efforts.

(interpretation ends) The lack of nurses at the Pond Inlet health centre results in residents not getting their medication refills, not being seen early enough to prevent illnesses from getting worse, or even children eventually needing more medevacs. This is not sustainable. When will the minister commit to ensuring that the Pond Inlet health centre has enough staff to open its doors and provide regular services, and not just open for emergency only? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Health, Minister Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, (interpretation ends) and I thank the member.

I think I can hear the member's frustration there and maybe the community's frustration. We don't want to see health centres open only on emergency services. When we do see that, it's usually as a result of staffing challenges. As I indicated earlier, we are seeing good results from our critical staffing measures, and we're planning to continue implementing those. We feel like we've turned the corner; however, we still have a lot of work in terms of recruitment and retention.

Internally, with regards to the Pangnirtung office and within the department, we have strengthened our internal health professional processes and we're hoping to see these pay off in terms of more streamlined operations.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Qavvik.

Oral Question 1211 – 6(2): Water Infrastructure

Mr. Qavvik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my questions today are for the minister of the new Department of Transportation and Infrastructure. Mr. Speaker, work has been underway in Sanikiluaq for some time to improve the community's water infrastructure. Mr. Speaker, a request for proposal was issued in March, 2023, over two years ago, and the request for proposal indicated that the government's objective was to

begin construction on the new facility during the summer of 2024. Can the minister provide an update today on the status of this project. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I welcome our colleague from Hudson Bay back to the Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, Department of Transport and Infrastructure will be forging ahead with their planning activities for a number of water treatment plants, including in Sanikiluaq. As far as I know, it is in progress and the design and construction for Sanikiluaq is progressing as should be. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. First supplementary, Mr. Qavvik.

Mr. Qavvik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the update, Minister.

Mr. Speaker, issues with high salinity levels in Sanikiluaq's drinking water supply has been a major issue for the community in recent years. The community has been depending on reverse osmosis filters for some time now, for safe drinking water.

In May 2024, the federal government announced \$2 million in funding for a number of projects, including upgrades to drinking water treatment facilities in the communities of Sanikiluaq, Arctic Bay, Grise Fiord, Pond Inlet, and Rankin Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister provide an update today on the status of the Sanikiluaq project. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the water treatment plant in Sanikiluaq, we know the issues regarding the salinity. We are pushing forward on addressing that with the new water treatment system. Again, the planning has been completed for Sanikiluaq, as well as the other communities identified, and we do anticipate the design and construction to proceed. And we will share new information as it becomes available with my colleague. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Second and final supplementary, Mr. Qavvik.

Mr. Qavvik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the minister tabled the Government of Nunavut's Drinking Water Strategic Framework during the Spring 2023 sitting of the House. I'm not sure if we can remember that, but Mr. Speaker, I join with all my

colleagues who have emphasized the importance of our constituents having 24-7 access to safe, clean drinking water.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister provide an update today on the status of implementing this plan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Joanásie.

Hon. David Joanásie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my department is very much wanting to ensure that and make sure Nunavut know that our drinking water is safe and it does comply with our territorial drinking water and supply regulations.

Mr. Speaker, regarding the Drinking Water Strategic Framework, we do have goals and objectives through that, and working with our partners we are trying to make some headway on that. Of course it's going to involve a huge amount of infrastructure investment, which we're seeing today. But furthermore, there's going to be training components to ensure operations and maintenance of these facilities are up to the standards that we need to see. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Ms. Brewster.

Oral Question 1212 – 6(2): Oversight for Children in Care

Ms. Brewster: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Family Services, but first I would like to begin by echoing her remarks earlier imploring people to treat social workers with kindness. That public facing team, they are doing their best.

There is a new avenue for people to lodge concerns or complaints with Family Services about the service they're getting, and that is through their client relations team. I hope that rather than focussing on individual employees, that people take their complaints forward through that client relation process, for the safety of everybody.

Mr. Speaker, just a couple of weeks ago, along with my colleagues on the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts, we addressed a number of issues and concerns respecting children and youth in the care of the Department of Family Services, and at that time, we focused heavily on systemic issues and the department's proposed big picture solutions.

One area of ongoing concern is the status of children and youth who are placed in care outside of the territory, and I recognize that significant efforts are being made to ensure appropriate oversight and care for those individuals. However, some of those concerns could be reduced if there were more opportunities to provide care within the territory.

Mr. Speaker, I ask, can the minister provide an update on what initiatives are underway to provide more services for children and youth in care within Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: We're all adjusting to the role, Ms. Brewster. Minister of Family Services, Minister Nakashuk.

Hon. Margaret Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for raising this issue and thank you for your support to our social workers, which is very heavy oftentimes. Family Services try and seek solutions, in particular, after a report was given, what solutions may be pursued that is under our responsibility. And to date, the responsibilities in operations having need to be improved, we have increased our staffing to see how we can run more efficiently with respect to those in care and those who need further investigation, the staffing care with children or youth, what improvements we may realize especially with the staffing that have looked at means and ways that can run more efficiently or under operations. For example, what improvements can we make. And we have sought solutions with various areas that we have been dealing with.

To have better care with our children and youth, to the question, I'm not saying this will be the only means, because there are a number of responsibilities as well, but again, our responsibility is also immense. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. First supplementary, Ms. Brewster.

Ms. Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the department is making efforts to recruit additional foster parents across the territory, and at different times various Nunavut-based group homes have also provided specialized care for specific groups of children or youth. However, their success always seemed short-lived, and more recently serious concerns have been raised respecting services being provided to children and youth in care in the territory.

Can the minister provide an explanation of why her department failed ensure that services were being safely and adequately provided at the Nunavut care services home in Cambridge Bay, and what has happened since February to ensure safe and adequate care for the youth who are living there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Family Services, Minister Nakasuk.

Hon. Margaret Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for your question here. With the agreement we arrived at in regards to care centres for children and youth, the facility of concern, it was similar agreement and they are agreements that we looked at to ensure they are followed through to date, the concerns

that were raised recently and were investigated and what improvements can be made and what the staff can come up with solutions to ensure children and youth are safe.

I can't really speak to the facility in concern here, but they were, well in advance being looked into, and daily visits were made to the facility to ensure that children are properly taken care of, but it was obvious improvements had to be made.

To date we're continuing to review where improvements can be made to ensure the children and youth are in safe hands. thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Ms. Brewster.

Ms. Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In recent weeks residents of Kinngait have publicly raised a number of serious concerns and allegations respecting the conditions and operation of the department's family wellness facility in that community. I wonder, Mr. Speaker, would the minister like to take this opportunity to clarify for the record what steps her department is taking to address the concerns and allegations that have been raised; and even more importantly, what is being done to ensure the comfort and safety of those children who are in the department's care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Nakasuk.

Hon. Margaret Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for that question. We place a priority on the safety of youth and the children, and at every meeting we have indicated that we are looking for foster parents. Some of the communities are lacking foster parents, and that's of a concern to us. Usually when there are children who do not have anyplace to go, they are under the care of the social service workers. We are actively recruiting foster parents, and also we have problems in some communities about the lack of social service workers. Because of that, we have placed some social workers in Kinngait, but I would like to say that we would like to see more foster parents because at times some of the children have to be under the care of the social workers in their communities in their offices. We have to have a close working relationship with the communities in this regard. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Netsilik, Mr. Quqqiaq.

Oral Question 1213 – 6(2): Nunavut Housing Corporation Initiatives

Mr. Quqqiaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my questions today are for the Minister responsible for Nunavut Housing Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, as the Member of the Legislative Assembly representing the constituency of Netsilik, I continue to be a strong advocate for housing needs in the communities of

Taloyoak and Kugaaruk. Mr. Speaker, as the minister will recall, the Nunavut Housing Corporation and NCC Development issued an announcement on April 28, 2023 concerning the signing of the 2023 annual allocation and purchase agreements, and the number of new housing units planned to start construction during the year.

The 2024 agreement and allocations were announced January 31, 2024.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister confirm when the 2025 annual allocation and purchase agreements will be signed with NCC Development, and can he confirm how many new units are planned to begin construction in Taloyoak and Kugaaruk later this year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister responsible for Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have numbers all over the place, but I will try to get to the point in terms of the communities that my colleague is referring to.

The 2024 sea lift, 2025 new builds for modular units that the corporation is working on in terms of public housing units, for Taloyoak, we have two detached units going into Taloyoak this year.

In terms of Kugaaruk – I’m just trying to find them here – the 2024 sea lift units, construction, we’re just waiting for the schedule for construction starts in Kugaaruk. The materials are in the community now and they’re waiting for the environment to allow them to begin the construction of the packs in Kugaaruk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. First supplementary, Mr. Quqqiaq.

Mr. Quqqiaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as the minister is aware, the 2025 Nunavut Housing Forum will be held in June of this year, just a few weeks from now. One of the topics to be discussed at the forum is the subject of modular housing techniques.

Mr. Speaker, as the minister will recall, the Nunavut Housing Corporation recently announced the signing of a memorandum of understanding with Agnico Eagle Mines that will result in 20 new modular housing units for the communities of Baker Lake and Rankin Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister confirm what discussions the Nunavut Housing Corporation is currently having with mining companies that are active in the Kitikmeot

with respect to introducing a similar initiative for communities like Kugaaruk and Taloyoak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the question on the Agnico Eagle participating and becoming active in helping us with the housing shortage in Nunavut. It was very exciting, Mr. Speaker, earlier this winter to sign an agreement where Agnico Eagle Mines is going to transport those units at their cost. Mr. Speaker, that's going to save us millions of dollars that we would have spent on freight that we can now turn into housing units, more housing units.

Mr. Speaker, this is the first run of that. We are looking forward to and continuing to have meetings with Agnico Eagle to see where we can expand that kind of contractual agreement with Agnico, if it's going to run into the Kitikmeot regions.

But whatever benefits that we gain from Agnico Eagle delivering housing units before they get to Baker Lake or Rankin, if it's to Arviat or other communities, that benefit will benefit all of Nunavummiut because the savings of that money will enable us to build more houses in the Kitikmeot, in the Kivalliq, and in the Qikiqtaaluk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Second and final supplementary, Mr. Quqqiaq.

Mr. Quqqiaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, during our recent winter sitting, I asked a number of questions about the importance of supporting our local housing organizations, and I paid tribute to the good work of the board of directors in Taloyoak and Kugaaruk.

Under the topic to be discussed at the upcoming Nunavut Housing Forum is the subject of land development and municipal infrastructure. As the minister is aware, the government recently underwent a major reorganization. Mr. Speaker, can the minister highlight what new initiatives the Nunavut Housing Corporation is working on in this area, with the new Department of Transportation and Infrastructure and the new Department of Community Services. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, when they do some departmental shuffling, we still continue to work with those people that are from those departments, whatever department they may end up with. The work the housing corporation does with them in terms of land development or for other developments, that work continues regardless of what the department's title would be under.

We continue to be committed to work with all departments in terms of working with municipalities and land developments that affect the corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Member from Kugluktuk, Mr. Anavilok.

Oral Question 1214 – 6(2): Language of Instruction Report

Mr. Anavilok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my questions to the Minister of Education. Mr. Speaker, the Coalition of Nunavut District Education Authorities recently announced their report *From Promise to Practice: Inuit Voices on Bilingual Education*, which is a review of the state of language of instruction in Nunavut. Can the minister clarify whether her department was involved in the consultations which informed this report. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Gross.

Hon. Pamela Gross: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for that question. Yes, the Department of Education did the work alongside the Coalition of Nunavut District Education Authorities, and we also had our education partners. There were representatives that were there as well from the Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated during those consultations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. First supplementary, Mr. Anavilok.

Mr. Anavilok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for your response. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I note that the report's Recommendation Action Point 20 states, "Prioritize Inuinnaqtun and Netsilingmiut Language Revitalization in Kitikmeot."

Can the minister describe whether her department will be developing specific funding and initiatives to support Inuinnaqtun language revitalization, as suggested under this recommendation. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Education, Minister Gross.

Hon. Pamela Gross: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you to the member for that question. Yes, we do take those recommendations that were brought forward, and we're going forward with the feedback from those consultations and looking to incorporate them into our drafted regulations that are coming forward, as well as areas where we can best support those recommendations. Hopefully we'll see some good news coming forward alongside with our colleagues with the Department of Culture and Heritage, as they have been involved in this work as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Second and final supplementary, Mr. Anavilok.

Mr. Anavilok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the specific education needs of Inuinnaqtun-speaking communities are only addressing a couple of areas in this report, despite Inuinnaqtun being most aggressive loss within the Inuit language family, and especially given the lack of Inuinnaqtun teaching resources and instruction.

Recommendation Action Plan 20 suggests:

“Increase representation of Kitikmeot educators and leaders in territorial education decision-making to advocate for their language and cultural needs.”

Will the minister commit to establishing dedicated positions for Inuinnaqtun speakers within education decision-making systems to determine the language of instruction in Nunavut schools. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Gross.

Hon. Pamela Gross: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for that question.

Yes, we are committed to having more Inuinnaqtun speakers in our schools, and are working to have more Inuinnaqtun teachers and language speakers within our schools. We will look to the future, and continuing the work with the district education authorities in the Inuinnaqtun-speaking communities to see how we can best support the teachers. Hopefully within the next couple of months we'll have more information as this work continues, and we work on this as a priority. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Next name I have on my list, Member for Iqaluit-Manirajak, Mr. Lightstone.

Oral Question 1215 – 6(2): Liquor Legislation

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned earlier during my member's statement, I'll be utilizing my time today to address the need to amend the outdated *Liquor Act*.

Mr. Speaker, as I'm sure you can attest, in 2024 the Iqaluit RCMP responded to over 5,000 alcohol-related calls for service. In that same year there were over a thousand assaults, and over a hundred sexual assaults, not to mention thousands of other offences.

Mr. Speaker, it's no secret that violent incidents and sexual assaults in Nunavut are all too often fueled by alcohol.

My first question today for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Liquor and Cannabis Commission is very simple: Does the minister consider the current level of alcohol-related crime in Iqaluit to be at an acceptable level? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as Minister responsible for Finance, which includes alcohol and drugs, it's not my position to decide, and have nothing to add whether it's at an acceptable level or not. There is no acceptable level. As to what we're comparing with, Mr. Speaker, I simply can't answer that question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary, Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the minister's short response.

Mr. Speaker, as I have mentioned numerous times in this House, there's a large amount of crime that's committed by a very small percentage of the population, and far too often, again, there are far too many court convictions for individuals that are under court order to refrain from the consumption of alcohol. And for some reason, the government cannot enforce these court orders to refrain from the purchase and consumption of alcohol.

As the Minister responsible for the Liquor and Cannabis Commission is aware, the department's current business plan indicates that the department will "continue working on drafting materials that can be used to support a legislative review" of the *Nunavut Liquor Act*.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to note that this has been a priority of the Department of Finance throughout the life of this Assembly, and throughout the life of the previous Assembly. This has been a priority of the Department of Finance in the business plans since the fiscal year 2017-2018.

So I would like to ask: Can the minister clearly explain the reasons for the delay in this process, and can he indicate when such detailed options papers are to be expected and presented to the newly elected members of the Seventh Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the answer is quite simple: The Department of Finance have had very large challenges in terms of this government, Mr. Speaker. I can't speak on behalf of the previous government, but in terms of this government, since I have been Minister of Finance, the biggest issue we have had in terms of dealing with the *Liquor Act* review is staffing. As my colleague knows, there is a very large gap in the amount of staff we have within Finance, and unfortunately, because of that, the department was not able to put in the effort and time necessary to ensure that this *Liquor Act* review gets into force.

In terms of that, it will be up to the next government to decide how they deal with the situation. The next finance minister will have to decide when and how it will be put into force, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Second and final supplementary, Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the minister's response. I do hope that the next Minister of Finance and Minister responsible for the Liquor Commission will prioritize the need to amend and update the outdated, antiquated *Liquor Act*.

But I do have a suggestion that I would like to make to the minister: Mr. Speaker, the current *Liquor Act* allows for locally elected alcohol education committees, which have the legal authority to decide who may consume, possess, purchase, and import alcohol into the community.

As the minister is quite aware, I recognize and understand that it is likely not practical in large communities to have such a committee to review potentially thousands of applicants per month to purchase beer and wine, or import liquor, Mr. Speaker, but again, I believe that much must be done, especially in large communities, to prevent those that cannot consume alcohol responsibly from purchasing and consuming such alcohol.

I would like to ask the minister to consider the updated or the amendment to the *Nunavut Liquor Act* to provide for the establishment of a committee that would have the ability to prohibit individuals from the possession of alcohol upon presentation of appropriate evidence, by law enforcement or other such authorities such as Social Services, especially regarding individuals that have a history of committing violent crimes while intoxicated.

Will the minister commit to having his department include such in the upcoming review the *Nunavut Liquor Act*? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the line of questioning from my colleague. This is a very serious issue and concern, in terms of who can and cannot

purchase alcohol. Mr. Speaker, there already is in the act an interdictions order that can be done by the justice department. Since this Act has been in order in 1999, there's only ever been one given.

Mr. Speaker, the issues be around that talk to I think very directly into how would you enforce that act. Would it be that they can't consume any more alcohol just from the beer and wine store, which means bootlegging comes back into order? If it means they can't purchase alcohol and drugs, or alcohol from any drinking establishment in Nunavut, it would require, when you think about this, the server to check to see if you are on an interdict list somewhere. And that would mean that they would have to check everybody they serve. So you could see how much work would be involved in doing that.

There are people who cannot survive without alcohol, and there's that need.

So I hear you, Mr. Speaker. I hear my colleague, and it's an issue that we have talked about within our department. And again, I think it's something that needs further discussion with more in-depth input from colleagues such as yourself, Mr. Lightstone, to see where we can do something, if there is something that we can do. But there are a lot of issues around that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Next name I have on my list, Member for Uqqummiut, Ms. Killiktee.

Oral Question 1216 – 6(2): Water Infrastructure

Ms. Killiktee: I will direct my question to the Minister of the new Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I want to rise and I want to revisit the issue of water infrastructure in my constituency of Uqqummiut, talk about the importance of having modern water treatment facilities in all Nunavut communities, including, why I'm asking this question, the communities of Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq.

Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to note that the minister's department issued a request for proposals last week for the development of a business case for water infrastructure in Qikiqtarjuaq. The request for proposals closed in June of this year.

Can the minister confirm that his department's long-term plan is to construct a new water treatment plant for the communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, Mr. Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for her questions in regards to the water infrastructure in the communities, especially when the communities are always trying to develop their water infrastructure. We always try to come up with the capital funding for these services, but we review all the communities, Qikiqtarjuaq and Clyde River, is also included in the communities that we review.

Although the funding has been set aside for Clyde River water infrastructure and the RFP has been open, request for proposal, I'm not exactly, exactly, where it is at but I remember my colleague wanted to be kept up to date about these issues. But also I can tell you that for the Clyde River, 45 percent we have drawn up the business case. We have been moving forward with this all the time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary Ms. Killiktee.

Ms. Killiktee: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for your response, but I was asking questions in regards to the two communities of my constituency.

As the minister will recall, the government issued a request for proposals in June 2024 for the development of a business case for new water treatment infrastructure in Clyde River. Just moving on, information published by the government indicates that the contract for this project was awarded to Dillon Consulting in September 2024. Can the minister provide an update today on the status of this work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Going back to your first question, in regards to Qikiqtarjuaq, I will get more information and afterwards I will get back to the member in regards to Dillon Consulting Limited and now starting the work, but at this time in my department and also on the other departments, they are working on the directions and what the communities' requests are.

Once the business case is completed, it will be presented to Community Services department so that he can request for funding. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Second and final supplementary, Ms. Killiktee.

Ms. Killiktee (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for providing information on Qikiqtarjuaq and also for your response. We would like to see the water infrastructure completed, and also we're looking forward to reviewing that. We want this to be completed with this project.

Mr. Speaker, (interpretation ends) access to safe drinking water is extremely important for Nunavummiut. The request for proposal for Qikiqtarjuaq's project indicates that:

"The Government of Nunavut's Department of Health is currently revising the public water supply regulations to align with treatment goals outlined in Health Canada's guidelines. In response to this initiative, the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut has developed a standardized water treatment train to meet forthcoming regulatory requirements for the implementation of a new water treatment facility across the territory."

Can the minister highlight some of the main features of his department's new approach. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I appreciate the member pressing on this matter. Again, Mr. Speaker, my department, we are in the process of working on, and with our regulators drinking water treatment supply, regulations being updated, supporting Health in the development of the municipal drinking water regulations. We do anticipate it will replace the existing public water supply regulations that no longer represent the best approaches for safe drinking water in Canada. And as these evolve, my department will continue to strive to meet the operating and maintenance requirements of our water treatment infrastructure.

My department is committed to is collaborating with all municipalities on this, and our regulatory bodies as well, to ensure that our systems are safe and sustainable in their operations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Simailak.

Oral Question 1217 – 6(2): Critical Minerals

Mr. Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, all.

Mr. Speaker, my questions today are for the Minister responsible for Mines. Mr. Speaker, today is the first day of our Spring Sitting. As you will recall, I asked questions on the first and last days of our recent winter sitting about the issue of critical minerals, so I am pleased to be able to revisit this important issue today.

Mr. Speaker, since we were last together in the House, a federal election was held and a new prime minister and cabinet are now in office. Mr. Speaker I'm pleased to note that the national minister of energy and natural resources has a background in the finance and

energy sectors, so I'm very hopeful that he will be supportive of the mining sector up here in Nunavut.

Can the minister update the House today on what discussions he has had with his new federal counterpart concerning the issue of mining and critical minerals. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister responsible for Mines, Mr. Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have not had any conversations with any of my federal minister colleague yet, but I am in the process of sending letters out with the priorities that we do have within Nunavut, and I want to follow up with meetings after session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. First supplementary, Mr. Simailak.

Mr. Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Hopefully the minister's counterpart will be agreeable to quickly and timely meeting with him; there are only a few months left in this government, and we need to keep moving on mining and critical minerals.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this year a joint statement was issued by Canada's federal, provincial, and territorial energy and mines ministers. As the minister will recall, he was one of two members of our cabinet who signed the joint statement on Nunavut's behalf.

The joint statement indicated that federal, provincial, and territorial ministers will "take decisive action to ensure Canadian companies remain competitive and succeed in the global market, including the acceleration of resource development through more efficient and timely permitting and regulatory processes."

Can the minister update the House today on what specific actions are being taken in partnership with the new federal government to achieve this important objective. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, our premier has been very busy working with his colleagues, including the prime minister, in terms of what projects need to be seen in Canada, and to develop the north. It has been a key message, right from the northern premiers' conference, and he is in the Western Premiers Conference right now, which is trying to strengthen the more resources that are needed in order for the north to be developed. And through that, I have been working very closely with our premier in ensuring that critical minerals and mining are in that radar. Those are the very things that we're hopeful for with the new federal government.

We await to see what the Throne Speech will be, and that's going to shape what's in here.

The discussions that are being had across the country have been about Arctic sovereignty and security, and we have been taking this opportunity to express what we would like to see being developed in the north, and I'm very hopeful that this will translate into seeing such as a major road connecting to the rest of Canada. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Second and final supplementary, Mr. Simailak.

Mr. Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister, for your response.

Mr. Speaker, as the minister will be aware, the Nunavut and Northwest Territories Chamber of Mines recently issued a public statement in which it indicated that:

“Nunavut's mining sector still faces a lengthy regulatory process, compounded by multiple permitting processes, excessive reporting, and overlapping jurisdictional requirements, all of which can discourage investment and delay critical projects.”

Mr. Speaker, that is very concerning to read, especially whether we know that it takes at least ten years for a mine to open up. My question is as follows: Does the minister share my concern? Yes or no? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Next name I have on my list, Member for Aggu, Ms. Quassa.

Oral Question 1218 – 6(2): Water Infrastructure

Ms. Quassa: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I too would like to ask questions to the Minister of new Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I want to revisit the issue of water infrastructure. As the minister is aware, Igloolik has experienced a number of boil-water advisories in recent years. This continues to be a concern to the community. Mr. Speaker, I was very pleased that the department issued a request for proposal in July 2024, to develop a business case for new water treatment infrastructure for Igloolik. The department awarded a contract for this work in September 2024. Can the minister provide an update today on the status of this work. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, with regards to Igloolik, as well as Clyde River, Coral Harbour, the planning phase for those water treatment plants are in progress. And again, we'll try push forward as, once that planning phase is completed, go to the next phase of finding the funds to go into design and/or construction. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. First supplementary, Ms. Quassa.

Ms. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the minister. (interpretation ends) The request for proposal indicates that the final business case will be submitted in October 2025, a little over six months from now. As the minister is very much aware, the current Assembly dissolves in September of this year, and the next government will not take office until November. Can the minister indicate if his department will be able to include Igloolik's new water treatment plan in the government's 2026-2027 capital estimates. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, being an election year it is kind of a different cycle where we go typically go through the capital planning budget cycle in the fall sitting. However, we won't be doing that this year with the elections, and I cannot say for certain what the 2026-2027 budget will look like for the next government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Ms. Quassa.

Ms. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would be satisfied if just the planning could be written down.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, a new federal government has recently taken office. Can the minister indicate what discussions he has had with his new federal counterpart concerning new infrastructure funding for Nunavut. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to my colleague to the question. Up to now the federal government ministers, I haven't spoken to any of them yet, but I do know that at ministers' conferences in Canada, we have certain expectations of different things happening. And also we always talk about capital projects that are necessary, and we always tell them that Nunavut expects more and needs

more. And we need to be looked at as a unique jurisdiction in Canada. That's mainly how we talk to the government.

I know that we'll be working with the new federal government and they will have to be informed as to what Nunavut's needs are, and because we get funding from the federal government, we will work on agreements to get the work done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Next name I have on my list, Mr. Kaerner. Must have run here when his flight landed. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Kaerner.

Oral Question 1219 – 6(2): Strengthening Infrastructure and Empowering Communities

Mr. Kaerner: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I was running fast.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation. As the minister indicated in his comments, the Minister responsible for Qulliq Energy Corporation, I didn't see anything about Hall Beach. The information talks about replacement of generator sets in 11 communities that they have chosen.

The first question I would like to ask, Mr. Speaker, is: Why is Hall Beach no longer included in the plan for replacement of generator sets? Can the minister explain how the decision was made. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister responsible for Qulliq Energy Corporation, Minister Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank my colleague for arriving. That's great.

Which community or which capital buildings need upgrading, we focus mostly on the older buildings and we look at the conditions, and we decide as Qulliq Energy Corporation from the staff, and it goes to the board and the ministers. The cabinet decides and it's approved by Financial Management Board. That's the process, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. First supplementary, Mr. Kaerner.

Mr. Kaerner (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, yesterday we had a blackout for eight hours in Sanirajak. Why can't that be considered by Qulliq Energy Corporation? The plant is one of the oldest in Nunavut, and the minister mentioned that they look at the oldest facilities.

So why, and with constant maintenance required and emergency repairs required, and we have a number of visits in our communities this past year, which is inappropriate. What can Qulliq do? What considerations can you make for Sanirajak, as the building is now 42, perhaps 45 years old now? What consideration can you give in the near future? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Main.

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

(interpretation ends) We can certainly ensure that Sanirajak is considered and the needs of the Sanirajak power plant are considered, along with all the other communities in Nunavut. And with regards to the recent power outage, Qulliq Energy Corporation apologizes for any inconvenience to Sanirajak residents. I'm very happy to hear that at approximately 1:45 a.m. last night the power was restored, and I want to salute the hardworking crews who work so hard to keep the lights on for Nunavummiut or restore power in case of an outage.

In terms of the amount of capital work that we can do and the amount that's needed, we are limited by our budget. We're limited by the *Qulliq Energy Corporation Act*, which sets a limit in terms of our debt-to-equity ratio. Section 45 of the Act stipulates that the amounts borrowed shall not exceed at any time the corporation's accumulated surplus. There is a three-to-one ratio that we have to stay within.

Federal funding is so key for us to meet the needs of Nunavummiut, as well as upgrade our infrastructure, and we're going to keep advocating for the federal assistance. With the new federal government in place, we want to make sure they know and understand the needs of Nunavummiut, including Sanirajak residents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Second and final supplementary, Mr. Kaerner.

Mr. Kaerner (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the Qulliq Energy Corporation staff worked very hard and I'm very proud of the staff.

Now, again, Minister, in your list, Igloolik will be getting a new plant and for emergencies you have put aside for Igloolik with a new building coming into play. We have Grise Fiord, Coral Harbour, Kugluktuk, and Igloolik listed. Why, then, for emergency or urgent considerations that Sanirajak cannot be considered, with constant outage we have? You have these communities Igloolik needing a new plant, and also with a back-up generator perhaps isn't this something Qulliq Energy Corporation can consider for Sanirajak with the outages that we see, which is inappropriate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Main.

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

(interpretation ends) Sanirajak is considered. It is one of the communities that has been considered for capital investments. Just because it's not on the list or the minister's statement that I read out earlier doesn't mean that we're not committed to the community or making sure that the power is reliable.

There are limits in terms of how much we can do; the member mentioned Igloolik and the new power plant there. When we have a new power plant built in Igloolik, there is a potential for us to move some of the assets from the existing power plant, so the generator sets. When we look at emergency power backup units across Nunavut, in most cases they are used units that are kept ready in case of an emergency so that the new power plant in Igloolik will allow us to reallocate some of the infrastructure, and Sanirajak will be considered, considering its proximity and the needs that the member has mentioned. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Arviat South, Mr. Savikataaq.

Oral Question 1220 – 6(2): Number of Housing Units Completed

Mr. Savikataaq: (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues, and Nunavummiut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to question the housing minister to get some updates on public housing units built. Mr. Speaker, back in November 2024, I asked the minister how many public housing units have been completed and turned over to local housing associations within Nunavut since the NCC Development Corporation was signed with Nunavut Housing Corporation, and at that time it was 18. Eighteen units have been completed and turned over.

Can the minister give us an update how many public housing units have been completed and turned over to local housing associations within Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister responsible for Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in terms of how many units have been completed, there is a number. That number keeps changing. Mr. Speaker, I have before us the numbers, but they are kind of skewed so I will say this: We've got 16 units completed in 2023 from a number of communities, including Arviat. We had 18-plex completed in Iqaluit in 2024. We have a number of units being completed this summer. I don't have the exact number of exactly how many are completed as of today,

but I'm sure I can find the exact number at some point during the session and provide it to my colleague. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary, Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I look forward to the information, Mr. Speaker, hopefully in a return to oral during this sitting and it's the number of units that are completed and turned over to the local housing associations, since the agreement with NCC Development Corporation, not prior, but since then, because, Mr. Speaker, the minister stated there 16 units from 2023 that were turned over in Arviat.

Mr. Speaker, an 8-plex and 12-plex had started construction from NCC Development Corporation since the agreement was signed, and neither of these buildings are done yet. I believe the 8-plex will be done before the end of this government, but I have my doubts whether the 12-plex will be done.

Can the minister give us an update on the two units that are being built in Arviat, the completion and turn over dates in Arviat. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to let my colleague know that in Arviat the 8-plex is supposed to be finished this summer, and in Arviat the 12-plex should be completed this early fall. As my colleague knows there is no specific date when they will be done, but the plan is that both will be completed by fall, but we anticipate the 8-plex to be completed early this summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I questioned the minister at one time about all the public housing units that were in communities and what percentage they have been done. I have that information in my office, but I can't remember offhand, I'm not going to ask for every community, but when the material is dropped off in the community and no construction has started yet; I have talked to my fellow MLAs. A lot of construction materials are in the community but construction has not started. What percentage of the construction is considered to be done when the building material is in the community but has not started? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't understand the question. What do we consider to be done, and the material hasn't been started yet? Could you elaborate on that, Mr. Speaker, through you. Thank you.

Speaker: Can you clarify your question, Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'll try to clarify it. I'm sorry if it was not easy to understand.

When material comes into a community, the building material to be able to build public housing units, it's taken off the ship and dropped off in the community. When I asked the minister last what percentage of the construction is done, like to give me a number like 20, 40, 60 percent done, like the building done.

When the units are in a community but construction has not started, what is the percentage that is considered the building material, the building unit is done? Is it 10 percent done with when the material is there, but they have not started construction? Or is it zero percent completed when the material is there but not started? Just for the information of us members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I understand the question correctly now, until it gets started then you can't put a percentage on how much is done. Just putting the material in the community is not the starting of a project, Mr. Speaker.

I know my colleague knows this, that there are many communities where by the time the ship unloads the goods to the community construction cannot start. And often, unfortunately, there are times where the contractors who are supposed to be in there to put in the piles to put the units, that the piles may arrive at the same time as the units. So until the piles and everything is done by the contractor, sometimes the cart is there before the horse. But when it's ready for construction and the labour work actually begins on putting the house together, that's when we start counting the percentage of completion. I hope that answers my colleague's question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you for clarifying that, Mr. Kusugak. Members will note that the time allotted for oral questions is completed. Before we go to the next item on *Orders of the Day*, I'm going to take a 20-minute break. Thank you.

>>House recessed at 15:29 and resumed at 15:52

Speaker: I would like to call the committee back to order. Item 7, Written Questions. Item 8, Return to Written Questions. Item 9, Replies to Opening Address. Item 10, Petitions. Item 11, Responses to Petitions. Item 12, Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13, Tabling of Documents. Item 14, Notices of Motion. Sorry. My apologies, I grabbed the wrong list. Minister of Finance, Minister Kusugak.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents**Tabled Document 388 – 6(2): Response to the Standing Committee Report on the Review of the 2022-2023 Public Accounts**

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to table the Government of Nunavut Response to the Standing Committee Report on the Review of the 2022-2023 Public Accounts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Tabling of Documents. Minister Nakashuk.

Tabled Document 389 – 6(2): Nunavut Status of Women Council's 2023-2024 Annual Report

Hon. Margaret Nakashuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Status of Women Council's 2023-2024 Annual Report. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Tabling of Documents, Minister of Health, Minister Main.

Tabled Document 390 – 6(2): Provincial and Territorial and the Federal, Provincial and Territorial Health Ministers' Meeting, Halifax, January 29-30, 2025

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I'm pleased to table the Provincial and Territorial and the Federal, Provincial and Territorial Health Ministers' Meeting in Halifax, January 29-30, 2025. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Main. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Nakashuk.

Tabled Document 391 – 6(2): Family Wellness Ilagiitsiarniq Strategic Action Plan, 2023-2028 Progress Update Report, April 17, 2025

Hon. Margaret Nakashuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I am pleased to table the Family Wellness Ilagiitsiarniq Strategic Action Plan, 2023-2028 Progress Update Report, dated April 17, 2025. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Tabling of Documents. No more names. Item 14, Notices of Motions. Item 16, Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills. I recognize Minister of Justice, Minister Kusugak – apologies, I'm still getting clarified on the ministerial roles. My sincere apologies. Minister of Justice, Minister Gross.

Item 16: Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills**Bill 75 – An Act to Amend the Legislation Act and Other Acts Respecting the Nunavut Gazette – Notice****Bill 77 – Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act – Notice**

Hon. Pamela Gross: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Friday, May 23, 2025, that the following Bill 75, *An Act to Amend the Legislation Act and Other Acts Respecting the Nunavut Gazette*, and Bill 77, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills. I'll again recognize Minister of Justice, Minister Gross. My apologies, I'm busy reading and not doing enough listening. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills. Minister Main.

Bill 78 – An Act to Amend the Vital Statistics Act – Notice**Bill 79 – An Act to Amend the Hospital Insurance and Health and Social Services Administration Act – Notice**

Hon. John Main (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I give notice that on Friday, May 23, 2025 that the following: Bill 78, *An Act to Amend the Vital Statistics Act*; and Bill 79, *An Act to Amend the Hospital Insurance and Health and Social Services Administration Act* be read for the first time.

Speaker: Thank you. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Kusugak.

Bill 80 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2025-2026 – Notice

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, May 23, 2025 that Bill 80, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2025-2026* be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills. I have no more names. Item 16, Motions. Seeing none, item 17, First Reading of Bills. Item 18, Second Reading of Bills. Item 19, Consideration of Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. And Item 20, Report of Committee of the Whole. Not being any, Item 21, Third Reading of Bills; none are before us. Item 22, *Orders of the Day*. Please proceed, Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Mr. Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for Friday, May 23, 2025 at 9 a.m.:

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 the 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 Motion
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
 - Bill 75
 - Bill 77
 - Bill 78
 - Bill 79
 - Bill 80
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. *Orders of the Day.*

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Thank you. This House stands adjourned until Friday, May 23, at 9:00 a.m.
Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 16:00*

