

IQALUIT, NUNAVUT

Beauchesne's 6th edition, citation 55

[illegible]

PLEASE RETURN ANY CORRECTIONS TO THE CLERK OR DEPUTY CLERK

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-Niaqunnguut)

*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 Hickey
(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 Kaernerik
(Amittuq)

Mary Killiktee
(Uqummiut)

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*

Craig Simailak
(Baker Lake)

Officers

Acting Clerk
Michael Ball

Acting Deputy Clerk
Nancy Tupik

Clerk's Assistant
Kooyoo Nooshoota

Law Clerk
Michael Chandler

Sergeant-at-Arms
John Topic

Hansard Production
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

Table of Contents

Opening Prayer.....	1
Ministers' Statements	1
Member's Statements	7
Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.....	12
Oral Questions.....	13
Tabling of Documents	47
Orders of the Day	48

A.

Daily References

Thursday, May 29, 2025	1
------------------------------	---

B.

Ministers' Statements

606 – 6(2): Ministers' Absence (Joanasie)	1
607 – 6(2): Community Coroners (Gross).....	2
608 – 6(2): Gathering of Students: Nunavut Teacher Education Program (Nakashuk)	2
609 – 6(2): Wolf Sample Collection Program (Joanasie)	3
610 – 6(2): Welcoming Elders to the Kivalliq Long Term Care Centre (Main)	4
611 – 6(2): Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Improvements (Joanasie)	5
612 – 6(2): Government of Nunavut-Wide Inuit Employment Plan 2024-2034 (Akeeagok D).....	6

C.

Members' Statements

816 – 6(2): Kindergarten Graduates (Nutarak).....	7
817 – 6(2): Hockey Tournament (Quqqiaq)	7
818 – 6(2): Grandfather's Birthday (Malliki).....	8
819 – 6(2): Fishing Derby in Igloolik (Quassa)	8
820 – 6(2): Birthday Greetings (Savikataaq).....	9
821 – 6(2): Elders' Safety (Killiktee)	9
822 – 6(2): Inuinnaqtun Language (Anavilok).....	10
823 – 6(2): Condolences to Family Members (Akeeagok D).....	10
824 – 6(2): Tribute to the Graduates (Gross).....	10
825 – 6(2):Nunavut Sivuniksavut Graduates (Nakashuk)).....	11
826 – 6(2): Leroy Saunders Walk (Main).....	11

D.

Oral Questions

1274 – 6(2): Measles Prevention Initiatives (Brewster)	13
1275 – 6(2): Staff Housing Update (Hickes)	16
1276 – 6(2): Inuinnaqtun Language (Anavilok)	16
1277 – 6(2): Public Safety in Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq (Killiktee)	19
1278 – 6(2): Elder Vans (Savikataaq)	21
1279 – 6(2): Staff Housing Policy (Quassa)	23
1280 – 6(2): Transboundary Issues in the Kivalliq (Simailak)	24
1281 – 6(2): Court Orders to Abstain from Alcohol (Lightstone)	26
1282 – 6(2): Summer Student Jobs (Malliki)	29
1283 – 6(2): Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (Quqqiaq)	30
1284 – 6(2): Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (Quqqiaq)	32
1285 – 6(2): Departmental Positions (Nutarak)	34
1286 – 6(2): Carbon Tax (Qavvik)	35
1287 – 6(2): Delays of Recommendations to Languages Commissioner (Hickes)	37
1288 – 6(2): Child First Initiative (Malliki)	39
1289 – 6(2): Possible Extra Appointments while on Medical Travel (Simailak)	41
1290 – 6(2): Number of Bear Skins at North Bay Auction House (Qavvik)	44
1291 – 6(2): Number of Staff at the Elders Facility (Savikataaq)	45

E.

Tabling of Documents

398 – 6(2): 2024-2034 Inuit Employment Plan (Akeeagok D)	47
399 – 6(2): 2022 Annual Report of the Environmental Rights Act (Joanasie)	47
400 – 6(2): 2022-2023 Natural Resources Conservation Trust Fund Annual Report (Joanasie)	47
401 – 6(2): 2023-2024 Natural Resources Conservation Trust Fund Annual Report (Joanasie)	47
402 – 6(2): 2023 Quinquennial Report under Section 176 of the Wildlife Act (Joanasie)	47
403 – 6(2): 2024 Annual Report of the Nunavut Fire Marshal’s Office (Akeeagok D)	47

**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Thursday, May 29, 2025**

Members Present:

Hon. David Akeeagok, Hon. P.J. Akeeagok, Hon. Tony Akoak, Mr. Bobby Anavilok, Ms. Janet Brewster, Hon. Pamela Gross, Mr. George Hickes, Hon. David Joanasie, Ms. Mary Killiktee, Mr. Adam Lightstone, Hon. John Main, Mr. Solomon Malliki, Ms. Karen Nutarak, Hon. Margaret Nakashuk, Mr. Daniel Qavvik, Ms. Joanna Quassa, Mr. Joseph Quqqiaq, Mr. Alexander Sammurtok, Mr. Joe Savikataaq, Mr. Craig Simailak.

>>*House commenced at 13:35*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Mr. Tony Akoak) (interpretation): Good afternoon. Mr. Simailak, please open the prayer.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker: Sorry we were a little bit late this afternoon, a bit to clear the air. I got myself a haircut today.

>>*Laughter*

Speaker: Not anyone did I hear whoo, whoo, anything. I guess that's with age that don't cut it any more. Ministers' Statements. Hon. Government House Leader, Mr. Joanasie.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 606 – 6(2): Ministers' Absence

Hon. David Joanasie (interpretation): Good afternoon, Nunavummiut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to advise the members of Hon. Kusugak will be absent from the House until Friday, May 30, 2025 for personal reasons, and Mr. Speaker, the Hon. David Akeeagok will be acting as Minister of Finance, and I will be acting as responsible for Nunavut Housing Corporation during the duration of Mr. Kusugak's absence. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister's Statement. Hon. Minister of Justice, Ms. Gross.

Minister's Statement 607 – 6(2): Community Coroners

Hon. Pamela Gross: Quana, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon, colleagues. Good afternoon, Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, community coroners in Nunavut play an invaluable role. They serve their communities with dedication, compassion, and professionalism. Their work is often challenging, requiring them to navigate complex situations with sensitivity and integrity. In a territory where our communities are tightly knit, their role extends beyond fulfilling their technical duties it is deeply personal and rooted in a commitment to public service.

Our community coroners provide essential services to assist the chief coroner in determining causes of death, offering closure to families, and ensuring that investigations are conducted with respect and cultural understanding. They often work under difficult conditions, facing logistical challenges unique to our Territory, all while carrying the weight of responsibility that comes with their crucial work.

Mr. Speaker, the contributions of our coroners help strengthen communities by bringing clarity to difficult circumstances and supporting families during moments of grief. Their work is vital to public health, safety, and our broader justice system.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, the Office of the Chief Coroner issued a public call for new community coroners. More than 25 applications have been received so far. I encourage Nunavummiut who care deeply about their communities and want to make a meaningful contribution to consider applying. Your service can make a real difference across our territory.

Mr. Speaker, let's all recognize and thank Nunavut's community coroners for their extraordinary service. Their dedication deserves our recognition, respect and gratitude.

Quana, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Minister's Statement. Hon. Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Ms. Nakashuk.

Minister's Statement 608 – 6(2): Gathering of Students: Nunavut Teacher Education Program

Hon. Margaret Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, my colleagues, and to the people of Nunavut and as well Nunavut residents.

Mr. Speaker, on May 1, I had the privilege of welcoming students from years three and four of the Nunavut Teacher Education Program to Nunavut Arctic College's Nunatta Campus. The students came from Cambridge Bay, Arctic Bay, Pond Inlet, Iqaluit, and Kinngait. As the saying goes, weather is boss, and students from Arviat, Rankin Inlet, Baker Lake, and Nauyasat were not able to attend. Please know your presence was missed.

As this House is aware, the Nunavut Teacher Education Program is offered in communities across the territory, in person and online. This gathering brought the students together to take part in several activities, including taking courses and participating in workshops on digital collections, lesson planning, and trauma informed practices.

Thank you to Education Minister Pamela Gross and former Nunavut Teacher Education Program student Deputy Minister Rebecca Hainnu for attending and giving the students a warm and engaging welcome that encouraged, supported, and praised them and their efforts. Your words were well received by the students. And thank you to Nunavut Arctic College President Jackie Price and her staff for organizing this important event.

Qujannamiik, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister's Statement. Hon. Minister of Environment, Mr. Joanase.

Minister's Statement 609 – 6(2): Wolf Sample Collection Program

Hon. David Joanase: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the house that my department has continued to support Nunavut harvesters through our Wolf Sample Collection Program.

Mr. Speaker, This program compensates local hunters for harvesting wolves and providing samples and location data. It was initially launched in 2018 in the Kitikmeot Region and was expanded territory-wide in 2019. The program provides hunters \$500 per wolf across all of Nunavut, and \$900.00 per wolf in areas of special concern, such as the Bathurst, Bluenose-East and Dolphin-Union caribou herd ranges. The goal of this program is to support active harvesting in Nunavut through providing increased financial opportunities for harvesters.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that a total of \$518,000 in wolf sample collection payments were paid to Nunavut harvesters in the 2024-2025 harvest year. This represents the submission of 900 wolf samples to the department, representing both the highest number of wolves submitted under the program, and the highest amount distributed to hunters in a single fiscal year.

Mr. Speaker, My department remains committed to continue enhancing support for active harvesting in Nunavut through avenues such as the Wolf Sample Collection Program.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister's Statement. Hon. Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

Minister's Statement 610 – 6(2): Welcoming Elders to the Kivalliq Long Term Care Centre

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon, my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to provide an update on a significant milestone for our territory. This week, we welcomed our first group of Elders back to Nunavut into the new Kivalliq Long Term Care facility.

As of today, this first group of Elders are receiving advanced Elder care here in our territory. The Kivalliq facility in Rankin Inlet will be their new home. This is part of our government's *Katujjiluta* mandate, under the priority of Aging with Dignity in Nunavut. We are fulfilling a promise to invest in care for aging Nunavummiut, so beloved parents and grandparents can spend their later years closer to family.

In the weeks to come, we will continue welcoming Elders back to the territory, with about three or four arriving each week from Ottawa via direct medevac flights. A state-of-the-art facility, the first of its kind in Nunavut, awaits them with a culturally enriching, safe, and home-like environment.

We know that the Elders who will live there want to hear Inuktitut being spoken. They want Inuit values and culture reflected in the activities, and in the food they are served. That is why Health has placed a strong focus on Inuit employment in the operating contract with Tagjaq Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, it has taken successive governments and many dedicated partners to reach this point where we are welcoming Elders back to Nunavut. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has made this week's milestone possible, to make the future of Nunavut better. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Minister's Statement. Hon. Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut, Mr. Joanasie.

Minister's Statement 611 – 6(2): Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Improvements

Hon. David Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share details on the continued efforts to ensure safe drinking water, while working toward phased improvements to water treatment infrastructure across Nunavut that are realistic and sustainable.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to share in this House the awarding of construction contracts for new water treatment plants in the communities of Grise Fiord and Arctic Bay. These two projects reflect our commitment to delivering safe and reliable drinking water for Nunavummiut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, these projects are critical to addressing long-standing challenges in water quality and infrastructure in our northernmost communities. The new water treatment plants will meet current federal and territorial regulations, and align with Health Canada's multi-barrier approach to drinking water protection—ensuring long-term, dependable access to clean water.

A key component of these projects is the meaningful involvement of Inuit labour. The awarded firms have committed to hiring community members throughout the construction process, creating valuable employment and skill-building opportunities in both Grise Fiord and Arctic Bay.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, these projects demonstrate how the principles of Inuit *Qaujimaqatuqangit* guide our work. Through *piliriqatiginniq* and *aajiiqatiginniq*, we are fostering stronger partnerships between government, local leadership, and Inuit businesses to deliver solutions rooted in collaboration and respect.

Mr. Speaker, I want to acknowledge the leadership of our local partners, the dedication of our technical teams, and the resilience of the people of Nunavut. Together, we are building not just infrastructure, but the foundation for healthy, self-reliant communities for generations to come and I look forward to keeping this House apprised of progress as the projects advance.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Hon. Minister of Human Resources, Mr. David Akeeagok.

Minister's Statement 612 – 6(2): Government of Nunavut-Wide Inuit Employment Plan 2024-2034

Hon. David Akeegok (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I am happy to rise today to provide an update on our long-term strategic direction and priorities with respect to Inuit employment for the Government of Nunavut as a whole, and in specific occupational groups in the public service.

Mr. Speaker, I plan to table the Government of Nunavut Inuit Employment Plan 2024-2034 during this session. The Government of Nunavut-Wide Inuit Employment Plan sets out strategic priorities for actions to ensure that that our government meets its Article 23 obligations, delivers programs and services that meet the needs of Nunavummiut; and functions efficiently and effectively.

The 10-year timeframe of the plan corresponds to the recently negotiated Nunavut Implementation Contract.

Mr. Speaker, the plan establishes a clear framework for government-wide actions that focus on:

- Providing Leadership and Oversight for Inuit Employment;
- Enhancing Programs and Supports;
- Establishing Employment Pathways;
- Implementing Pre-Employment Training; Connecting with Communities;
- Increasing Outreach and Recruitment; and
- Building on Partnerships and Collaboration.

Mr. Speaker, each department has also prepared a detailed Inuit Employment Plan that sets targets and includes specific actions to increase and enhance Inuit employment in the following areas:

- Operational Plans;
- In-Service Professional Development and Career Planning;
- Pre-Employment Training;
- Intensive Outreach and Recruitment; and
- Human Resource Management Practices.

Mr. Speaker, it is worth noting that government-wide and department-specific priorities and actions will be reviewed and refreshed in 2026-27, following completion of the Pre-employment Training Framework.

Mr. Speaker, Inuit Societal Values provide the foundation from which the public service will move forward in implementing our 10-year plan. We remain committed to working

in partnership and collaboration with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and the Government of Canada with respect to Article 23 obligations set out in the Nunavut Agreement.

Qujannamiik, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Item 3, Members' Statements. Member for Tununig, Ms. Nutarak.

Item 3: Member's Statements

Member's Statement 816 – 6(2): Kindergarten Graduates

Ms. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I was going to mention earlier regarding your hair. Wow.

Mr. Speaker, on June 5, 2025, the kindergarten in Kinngait, 42 will complete the first kindergarten grade and I would like to name the 42, although they are 42:

Lee Akpaliapik; Hope Angnetsiak; Savanna Angnetsiak; Neveah Aqqiaruq; Eunice Arreak; Madison Atagootak; Chase Enookolo; Megan Inuarak; Brianna Kadloo; Katelyn Kaunak; Brody Kautainuk; Anthony Kilukishak; Koonoo Kiyoapik; Angela Kunnuk; Juan Maktar; Sam Omik; Julian Ootoova; Scott Pewatoalook; Shiloh Pewatoaluk; Gabriel Simonie; Shane Suqslak; Hazel Anaviapik; Pauloosie Atagootak; Shane Innuara; Carmen Kasarnak; Simon Katsak; Grayson Killiktee; Samuel Kilukishak; Velma Komangapik; Chloe Maktar; Kalluk Manik; Hailee Oolateeta; Scarlett Oolateeta; Cyrus Ootook; Joan-Miranda Ootook; Mark Paniloo; Tira Panipak; Tracy Satuqsi; Chloe Simonie; and Princess Diana Singoorie; and Jackson Smale. These individuals completed their kindergarten, and this fall, they will be moving on to grade one. I wish them well.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister's Statement. Member for Netsilik, Mr. Quqqiaq.

Member's Statement 817 – 6(2): Hockey Tournament

Mr. Quqqiaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge on the date of April 11, 2025 to April 13, 2025 Taloyoak hosted the Senior Men's Netsilik Cup hockey tournament. Mr. Speaker, I thank the tournament organizers Justin Aqqaq and Simon Ittuq Tucktoo, and as well as all the volunteers who contributed greatly.

Mr. Speaker, I also thank Mimi Tucktoo, who got a lot of volunteers together to cook up a storm, and assured that all hockey players ate well during the weekend. My hat is off to you all. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Team Arvilikruq, who are the 2025 Netsilik Cup champions, second place Taloyoak Trailblazers, and third place team Taluq Rocks.

Mr. Speaker, I thank your constituency community of Gjoa Haven, my constituent community of Kugaaruk for attending this year's Netsilik Cup hockey cup tournament in Taloyoak.

Mr. Speaker, the Netsilik Cup goes way back in time, since 1991. The first Netsilik Cup was donated by former Netsilik MLA, the Hon. late John Ningark, and he's no stranger to this House, as well as the NWT Legislative Assembly. My respects.

Mr. Speaker, the Netsilik Cup that is utilized today was honoured and was donated by former Netsilik MLA the Hon. Leona Aglukkaq. Mr. Speaker, with great honours I thank all the former Netsilik MLAs before me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Member's Statement. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Malliki.

Member's Statement 818 – 6(2): Grandfather's Birthday

Mr. Malliki (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon, my colleagues, and my constituents in Naujaat and Salliq. Today I rise for my grandfather's birthday today, 92 years of age. And as a family we are proud of him and very appreciative of his birthday today. Although he's insufficiently healed, but we are very pleased of his birthday. He has been a great support and help as we grew up, and made every effort to help us all the time. I would like to recognize him and also for you to recognize him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Member's Statement. Member for Aggu, Ms. Quassa.

Member's Statement 819 – 6(2): Fishing Derby in Igloolik

Ms. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, to the birthday man which he just mentioned my uncle, happy birthday.

Mr. Speaker, in Igloolik will start their meeting on May 30, tomorrow, until June 1 in the evening, and they will be hosting the community and they host the community every year, and raise funds. Today they will have 17 prizes. First prize will be a 25-foot silver dolphin boat with a trailer, a TRX 520 Honda, and a 10-by-12 tent, and other prizes that are too many to name.

But we like to recognize and show appreciation to the organizers who make every effort to ensure people are happy and joyful. The fishing derby and those who will go, I wish them well and I hope they take me on a charter. I know they will be numerous, as they participate in the derby. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Member's Statement. Member for Arviat South, Mr. Savikataaq.

Member's Statement 820 – 6(2): Birthday Greetings

Mr. Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, Arviammiut. Mr. Speaker, at this time, it is my relative's, June Savikataaq's birthday today. It's her birthday and she just completed her schooling in the south. I'm very proud of her birthday. Happy birthday, Panila (ph).

Speaker: Member's Statement. Member for Uqqummiut, Ms. Killiktee.

Member's Statement 821 – 6(2): Elders' Safety

Ms. Killiktee (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I almost took my glasses off, Mr. Speaker, thank you.

I rise today, before I appreciate I like to say happy birthday to Naujaatmiut, and our MLA's grandfather. I hope they give him country food, of sorts. Have a good birthday.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today. The elders who are in unsafe situation at their homes need to be protected and a program set towards that end. I often wonder where the status is with that program. Anywhere in any community in Nunavut, some individuals are in danger and dire situations, and also intimidation factors that they have to face at their own homes.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time I'll ask the appropriate Minister of Justice with respect to protection for families, whether that program is effective or not, and if any support is made in the communities. I'll be asking those questions on the question period. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Member's Statement. Member for Kugluktuk, Mr. Anavilok.

Member's Statement 822 – 6(2): Inuinnaqtun Language

Mr. Anavilok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say good afternoon to Kugluktuk. I stand today and I want to find out in Kugluktuk and in our language, we're losing our language. I want to help them. Inuinnaqtun have the youth to encourage them to speak our language so that they can find out and help them and bring it back, our language, because it's diminishing. I will ask about it later on the languages to the appropriate minister because we want to find out for their support. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Member's Statement. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. David Akeeagok.

Member's Statement 823 – 6(2): Condolences to Family Members

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are losing loved ones, and yesterday Shooyook, who used to sit here, lost a son due to illness, and we have them in our thoughts and in our prayers, and my prayers. Unfortunately I'm not able to go up there right now. We recently heard about a funeral that is happening today, and that person was always welcoming. I would go and eat with their grandchildren, and the funeral is today, so I have Rose Mary (ph) standing in my heart today, and the big family, because they really befriended me and I thank them for that, and all the family. I give my condolences while they go through this hardship. I'll try and help with prayer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Member's Statement. Member for Cambridge Bay, Ms. Gross.

Member's Statement 824 – 6(2): Tribute to the Graduates

Hon. Pamela Gross: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon to everyone in the House with us today and those across our beautiful territory, Mr. Speaker.

It's a special day that I rise to pay a happy graduation day to my brother-in-law, Jonathan Etaluk in Taloyoak. Wishing you a very wonderful graduation, alongside your classmates. I'm thinking of all of you and congratulate you on the hard work and the milestone to getting here. I know as a father yourself, as a young father, you have persevered through your education and graduated today. This is a true testament to those things that you can achieve to you.

I'm thinking of all the graduates across our territory, and at the appropriate time, as Minister of Education, I'll be paying a special tribute to all of our graduates but at this time I have Jonathan in my mind, and thank his family and his teachers and everyone in his community for supporting him and getting him this far.

I also have another brother-in-law, Colton in Kugluktuk, who's going to be graduating at the end of August, and at this time I just wish you all the best, Colton as you go on to pursue your education further, in Calgary, at State. We know we need strong people to take up the trades and you're going to be a perfect example for that. Wishing you as well all the best in your future career. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Member Statement. Member for Pangnirtung, Ms. Nakashuk.

Member's Statement 825 – 6(2): Nunavut Sivuniksavut Graduates

Hon. Margaret Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Nunavut Sivuniksavut program has been growing and growing, and more and more Nunavummiut are going down there. When I first went to Nunavut Sivuniksavut, over 30 years ago, it was a one-year program, and now it's a two-year program. And the students from Pangnirtung that graduate this year, I would like to recognize them: (names) Sylvia Kilabuk (ph) Nowland Koolootuq (ph), Iris Aloapik, Amasoo (ph). They completed the two-year program, Rhoda Nasilik (ph), Martha Joy Qaqasirk (ph) and Denise Naujuq (ph). Denise Naujuq was recognized for her achievement as a good leader and having always worked hard on her learning, and for recognition, she was given a ticket from Canadian North for her achievement.

I'm really proud of all these young people, who work real hard in trying to get higher education. So I congratulate the students from Pangnirtung who completed the one-year and two-year programs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Member Statement. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

Member's Statement 826 – 6(2): Leroy Saunders Walk

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wanted to add to what I said yesterday about Leroy Saunders' walk, or hike. He completed it yesterday, around 9 o'clock. He arrived in Rankin Inlet and it was great to know that. We followed him on Facebook and we were really supportive of his great effort. He's doing this in memory of people who lost their loved ones, and that's why he started this walk.

I believe he's very good at what he does, Leroy, and all the support he got from Rankin Inlet and Whale Cove, I thank them for their support and those who donated money, I thank them. They can still donate money, because I've been told that. You can send your

donation in Facebook if you want to donate. He's doing it on behalf of the people who lost loved ones, so I support Leroy. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Members' Statements. Item 4, Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Ms. Brewster.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Ms. Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon, everyone. Welcome to the chambers. I'm really happy today to be standing up to recognize one of the very important mentors that I had when I worked at the Department of Health. Mr. Dave Richardson is sitting across the way from me. He spent about 38 years in executive leadership in the area of health in BC, Alberta and in Nunavut. I think Ikaluktutiakmiut will recall that he lived in Cambridge Bay for a number of years, which is where I first started to meet him over the phone. And then he came over and worked in Iqaluit as ADM of operations and ADM of programs and standards.

Mr. Speaker, it's so important for people to be mentored in their careers. Dave was always very kind to me and gave me excellent advice, and was also really open to taking advice from me. And he's here at my invitation, along with his wife,, Barb Mackie (ph). and some of you may be surprised to see Megan Hunt here, as well. Deputy Minister Hunt is first and foremost daughter to Dave Richardson. And I teased her earlier; some may have seen her on her phone when we first started. She may have been on camera on her phone, and it was because I was teasing her because she's so used to sitting behind cabinet when she comes into chambers that she didn't come and sit behind me.

I would like to welcome you all here to this House, and just for the public record to express my gratitude to you, Dave. I think you were an excellent mentor and I'm happy to see you here. Welcome to your House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Welcome to your Assembly. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Cambridge Bay, Ms. Gross.

Hon. Pamela Gross: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the opportunity to have some special guests here in the House with us. We're fortunate to have some of our community coroners with us in the gallery, which include our Chief Coroner, Michael Foote.

>> *Applause*

Alice Hebb.

>> *Applause*

Maria Vargas.

>> *Applause*

And Alexie Compala-Biag.

>> *Applause*

I know we have some of our coroners watching us, Mr. Speaker, and those include Esther Dahunan, Pelagie Sharp, Alana Elsie Kuksuk, as well as Naznin Chowdhury.

Mr. Speaker, to all of our Nunavut coroners, once again, I thank you for the sacrifices that you make and the work that you do. You're providing true public service. On behalf of all Nunavummiut, we provide and offer our sincere appreciation to all of you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Welcome to your Assembly. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6, Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Ms. Brewster.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Oral Question 1274 – 6(2): Measles Prevention Initiatives

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

Mr. Speaker, there have been a number of stories in the national media respecting outbreak of measles in several Canadian jurisdictions, and at the beginning of May, Nunavut issued a public health advisory on this issue. One key message in the advisory is to protect yourself, your family and your community from measles by getting vaccinated. I wonder can the minister provide an update on whether this messaging has been effective and if his department has recorded an uptake in individuals, families and children going to health centres and hospitals to receive their measles vaccines. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I thank the member for raising this question. Measles is a growing concern in Canada and elsewhere, world-wide.

In terms of the immunizations, that's the real fortunate part of the measles problem is that there's a very effective vaccine, and it provides a very high level of protection. Looking at Nunavut right now, the first thing is we don't have a proper public health information system that would allow us to track our vaccination rates, but we have crunched some of the numbers. Our vaccination coverage is highly variable. Some communities are well-protected; some are less so. We have seen an uptake and some interest in the measles vaccine, but we would like to see more. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary, Ms. Brewster.

Ms. Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member always anticipates my next questions. Mr. Speaker, I do appreciate that it can be difficult to capture information with respect to the vaccination status of all Nunavut residents, especially considering that some communities have highly transient populations. However, having a highly transient population increases the risk of an infection like measles from being imported from a jurisdiction experiencing an outbreak.

And as my colleagues are aware, I am a strong advocate for the collection of health data, especially when it can support initiatives to prevent the spread of illness and promote our individual health and well-being. And having just indicated that there are some difficulties in capturing that information, can the minister tell us what his department is currently doing to monitor and evaluate Nunavut's vaccination programs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

Hon. John Main: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our Public Health team, led by our excellent chief public health officer, Dr. Ekua Agyemang, is leading some very important work around scoping out the requirements for a public health information system, which would translate into us knowing what we need, but then the next step would be finding the money to pay for that system.

But it is a need, and it's something that would strengthen our ability to respond to issues like measles. It's incredibly infectious, and so it's quite concerning to think about the virus arriving into a Nunavut community, which as we all know, we struggle with overcrowded housing and what have you.

So vaccination, vaccination, vaccination, especially to parents. The youngest of our population are also the most vulnerable. This is about protecting the little cutest Nunavummiut that we have, the infants, and so 12 months and under. It's the adults in the

room or adults in the territory or older children, we need to step up and get our vaccinations up to date so that we can protect those very vulnerable little infants. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Ms. Brewster.

Ms. Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do wholeheartedly agree with getting vaccinated to protect those who are too young to be vaccinated. And I can reassure the minister that my cute little mom got her vaccination recently, because elders are at risk as well, and it's harder to track whether or not they received those vaccinations.

Mr. Speaker, we have been talking a lot about the geopolitical landscape, especially related to Donald Trump being elected in the United States. There has been a focus on Arctic sovereignty; there has been a focus on trade. One of the things we haven't talked a lot about is the fact that in the U.S., RFK Jr., who is a known antivaxxer, is now the health secretary, and he has made cuts to the Department of Human Health, the American public health associations. There's concerns about the food and drug association's ability to function in the United States, and massive cuts to the Centers for Disease Control are undermining the work of all public health agencies.

The Canadian Medical Association Journal is urging Canada to step up its research funding to fill a void expected to be left by deep cuts to the health agencies in the U.S., and the reliability of North American health data that originates from Canada are more and more important than they have ever been.

And so I would like to hear, Mr. Speaker, from the minister what work is being done by the minister and his officials to advocate for more research, more data, and more knowledge to be created within the nation of Canada in order to inform public health decisions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) It's a great question. We are generally very supportive of groups that are doing research in Nunavut on public health issues like the COVID response and evaluating that response, groups in Nunavut that are leading Inuit-specific projects around maternal health, as well as at federal-provincial-territorial forums. We are supportive of research where we have opportunities to do so, because we realize it does benefit Nunavummiut.

The member mentioned the United States. A lot of the information, and what I would call poison that we find on social media, some people might use acronyms with a B and an S, but a lot of that misinformation is originating in the United States. And so for anyone who is consuming social media, if you are on TikTok, you really have to give a hard look at where the information is coming from and we know from the public health side, we

need a strong presence on TikTok, on Facebook, on all these social platforms, to spread good information. And we are working on getting there. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.)

Mr. Hickes: Oral questions. Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, Mr. Hickes.

Oral Question 1275 – 6(2): Staff Housing Update

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Human Resources, but before I do, I would like to take a very brief moment. People in the audience may have noticed one of my very, very rare attendance gaps here in the House. Unfortunately I spent about six hours at the Qikiqtani General Hospital a couple of days ago. I want to give a very brief shout-out to Ray and Murray and Martin and Jane for the care that I received. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Mr. Hickes: Mr. Speaker, my question, like I mentioned, is to the Minister of Human Resources. I would like to get an update on the staff housing review. Thank you.

Speaker: Hon. Minister of Human Resources, Mr. David Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, let me find my notes. I'm going to have to take this as notice because I don't find it in my notes right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Taken as notice. Oral Questions. Member for Kugluktuk, Mr. Anavilok.

Oral Question 1276 – 6(2): Inuinnaqtun Language

Mr. Anavilok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) My questions are for the Minister of Languages, and they concern the issue of the Inuinnaqtun language. Mr. Speaker, during the Legislative Assembly's sitting of March 10, 2023, the minister's predecessor indicated:

"We are proposing shifting the focus of Inuinnaqtun translations to prioritize areas that are either likely to improve revitalization or directly support access to service."

Mr. Speaker, my understanding is that this shift would provide new learning resources and to support access to services for those who are strengthening their use of Inuinnaqtun. Can the minister provide the House today with an update on what specific resources his department has created to promote the revitalization of Inuinnaqtun. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Minister of Languages, Mr. Pauloosie Akeeagok.

Hon. P.J. Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank my colleague for his question and his continued push for us to really do what we can do revitalize especially Inuinnaqtun, where we see a trend and a real keen interest, especially from the youth, of wanting to learn. Mr. Speaker, I was fortunate to just have been in Kugluktuk just a few weeks ago, and I was really inspired to see so many young people wanting to retain not only the culture but the language. I wanted to start with that.

Mr. Speaker, our director has just met with the very incredible team of interpreter translators we have in Kugluktuk. We continue to have those engagements with our officials there to see what more we could do to see the expansions around that.

But specifically to the member's question, I'm trying to pull it up. Culture and Heritage has a grants and contributions budget of over \$8.5 million a year; of that, specifically to language, there is 1.35 million. And of that, 475,000 did go to Inuinnaqtun specifically, albeit not just Kugluktuk, but others as well. But it does tie into the work that we are doing to do our part to help communities revitalize the language. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary, Mr. Anavilok.

Mr. Anavilok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, thank you for your response. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, Statistics Canada released *Languages in Nunavut* report based of statistics collected in 2021. Mr. Speaker, the report indicated that:

“almost half of people with Inuinnaqtun as a mother tongue were aged 55. This aging of speakers signifies that a decline in the number of people reporting Inuinnaqtun as a mother tongue is to be expected in coming years.”

Can the minister clarify what actions his department has undertaken to support the promotion of the Inuit language, more specifically the Inuinnaqtun language.
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Languages, Mr. Pauloosie Akeeagok.

Hon. P.J. Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I want to thank my colleague for his question. We do some incredible work around promoting Inuinnaqtun. In every communication output that we've done, most if not all of news releases, among others, always includes official language of Inuinnaqtun, so we really put the emphasis around that.

Further, Mr. Speaker we do work very closely with all levels of government, in particular the Department of Education, as we work towards creating either curriculum or different programming around what we could do to support at the community level. But there's a lot that we do.

Mr. Speaker, specifically again, just to highlight a lot of the grants and contributions that are available, we really encourage the communities to bring their solutions of what they want to see, and that starts with an idea from a community member to bring that forward. The department is always open, and actually there's a second callout that just came out that will be closing on June 20, where we are accepting applications from all community groups. I really encourage people in Kugluktuk as well as Cambridge Bay and your community of Gjoa Haven, who speak Inuinnaqtun, to really apply. We very much look forward to seeing those applications, and hope to see them approved so that they can do very important work at the community level, preserving Inuinnaqtun. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Mr. Anavilok.

Mr. Anavilok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I understand there is a funding that an individual can apply for up to \$100,000 to start a teaching program either in evenings or daytime, so I was happy about that.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage my constituents to continue speaking Inuinnaqtun at home and in school. Our language keeps us rooted in our cultural knowledge, traditions and identity.

Mr. Speaker, the department's approved 2025-2026 business plan indicates that the department's new translation policy is "placing a clear emphasis on Inuktitut for internal communications and focussing Inuinnaqtun efforts on legal obligations and language revitalization."

Can the minister provide a clear update today on the status of this important work. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Languages, Mr. Pauloosie Akeeagok.

Hon. P.J. Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I really want to thank the member for introducing me to the incredible staff that we have in Kugluktuk just a few weeks ago, and the important work that they do. I want to thank them for their incredible public service around that.

As I had mentioned, we are continuing to explore what more we can do. I've mentioned a few times in this House that we are exploring finding creative ways to ensure that employment opportunities are opened up to ensure that we have qualified Inuinnaqtun

interpreters and translators in the system. We are continually looking at expanding that. We are very lucky to have the group that we do have, but we would love to see more and be monitored along the way with the incredible knowledge holders that we do have. And it goes back to even some of the communities here. So we are doing a lot of creative thinking at the moment, and we're very opening to suggestions as well, so if the member has further ideas, I'm always open to those. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Member for Uqqummiut, Ms. Killiktee.

Oral Question 1277 – 6(2): Public Safety in Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq

Ms. Killiktee (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the new Minister of Justice and they concern the issue of public safety in Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq. As the Member of the Legislative Assembly representing the constituencies of Uqqummiut, I will continue to be a strong advocate for increased measures of public safety for all of Nunavut's communities, including Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq.

Mr. Speaker, the approved 2025-2026 business plan indicates in its environmental scan that "Nunavut continues to have the second-highest crime severity index in Canada. Nunavut also has the highest violent crime index in the country."

Mr. Speaker, these statistics are quite concerning, and I recognize that the responsibility of crime prevention and reduction does not depend entirely on the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Mr. Speaker, can the minister explain what crime preventions initiatives her department is currently undertaking in collaboration with other identified key stakeholders. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Minister of Justice, Ms. Gross.

Hon. Pamela Gross: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for her questions. Keeping our communities safe starts with preventing crime before it happens, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Justice Community Justice outreach workers in our communities are collaborating with the RCMP and community corrections and other stakeholders across our territory, to lead in many crime prevention measures, and those programs that they lead include traditional Inuit cultural activities; firearm safety training and education; and sports and recreation programs. As an example, our local justice staff in Clyde River launched a recreational library that lends skates and equipment to youth. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary, Ms. Killiktee.

Ms. Killiktee: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for your response. Mr. Speaker, the department's approved 2025-2026 business plan indicates that one of its priorities for

2025 is to “expand Restorative Justice division program, Therapeutic Justice program, and Spousal Abuse Counselling programs, to provide additional community-based justice initiatives as alternatives to the criminal justice system.”

Can the minister confirm if these harm-reduction programs will expand into the communities of Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Justice, Ms. Gross.

Hon. Pamela Gross: *Quana*, Mr. Speaker and *quana* to the member for the question. Yes, Mr. Speaker, I’m pleased to share that the Restorative Justice Division is active in both the member’s constituent communities of Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq. The program provides an alternative to the traditional criminal-justice system, prioritizing reconciliation as well as accountability and healing, supported by the Community Justice Outreach Worker, local community justice committees receive referrals from the RCMP and the crown prosecutors. And with that, Mr. Speaker, they help participants address the root causes of their behaviour, as well as repairing relationships and also fostering community well-being. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Ms. Killiktee.

Ms. Killiktee (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would not be asking too many questions if you would provide the list, or information to the public. At times it seems like there’s hardly any support program for violent crimes.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, on May 31, 2023, the minister tabled the government’s most recent shared directional statement with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police “V” Division. The shared directional statement indicates that one of the government’s priorities is to reduce and prevent crimes in communities. The shared directional statement also indicates that “a firearms safety and education program will be implemented to focus on enhancing public safety and community wellness.”

Can the minister clearly explain what work her department is undertaking in collaboration with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to achieve this priority. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Justice, Ms. Gross.

Hon. Pamela Gross: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you to the member for her questions. Considering the statement about knowing more about opportunities, I’ll make sure that we have the discussion with the department on how to ensure that information is more readily available and shared amongst our communities.

Mr. Speaker, in terms of working with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police on firearms safety, we've been able to work to promote firearm safety through activities in collaboration with the RCMP chief firearms office, and the activities include offering firearm licensing courses; distributing trigger locks to prevent accidents; as well as running safety awareness contests across our territory, which encourage responsible firearm use.

Also, Mr. Speaker, the department has facilitated Train The Trainer, which is with the Canadian firearms safety instructor courses, which enhance locally trained capacity and the resources to deliver those programs.

We look forward to more awareness and more courses being delivered, and once I here more, I can be sure to share that with our constituent representative of Qikiqtarjuaq and Clyde River. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 1278 – 6(2): Elder Vans

Mr. Savikataaq: Mr. Speaker, I would like to question the premier on the elders vans, as two of my colleagues have questioned the premier on the elder vans that were purchased roughly a year ago, and we've been informed they are still not operational. So up to date, that has been a million-dollar photo op.

What I want to do is quote from a CBC article, Mr. Speaker. This is a quote from the Northern Future Skills Development executive director. He says:

"I don't want to say that we will change our goal, but if we can not secure both funding, we might have to revisit the project goal or vision."

My first question is: The premier purchased the vans. Does the premier have any control whether these elder vans actually get used for the intended purpose or not? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Pauloosie Akeeagok.

Hon. P.J. Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank my colleague for his question. I think it's important to note that Northern Futures has indicated that they have submitted proposals for funding to all levels of government, as well as Inuit organizations, and I still remain hopeful that the applications that they have submitted will be successful. But at this time they have indicated they haven't heard back, so I'm still very hopeful they will get a positive response from those applications. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary, Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question was whether the premier has any control over whether those elders vans are used for the intended purpose. I didn't ask about the funding. The premier has stated before that they have applied for funding.

What I asked was: Does the premier have any control whether these elders vans get used for the intended purpose or not? Can the premier make this company make these vans available for the elders that desperately needed them a year ago? They were quickly bought because the elders needed transportation, and up to today they are not working.

I'll ask my question again: Does the premier have any authority to make this company use the vans for its intended purpose? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Pauloosie Akeeagok.

Hon. P.J. Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I've shared many times, including through correspondence through the standing committee in terms of the chronological timelines as well as sharing what's in the pilot that we did mention, it's very clear that the proponent does own the vans, but we still remain hopeful in terms of the operations that will be there in terms of what the pilot program was to be. I had mentioned that we will learn from this pilot moving forward. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I still did not receive the answer from the premier. I asked very clearly: Does the premier have any authority to make this company use the vans for its intended purpose for bringing elders to and from and taking them where they have to go? It's obvious that the premier is not going to answer that question, so I'll move on and ask another question.

The premier said this was a pilot project and they are learning from it. Mr. Speaker, my question is: So far what has the premier learned from this pilot project? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Pauloosie Akeeagok.

Hon. P.J. Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I really appreciate the member's question. There's much to learn. As I had indicated, the importance around the urgency and for us to be able to move very quickly was there. However, the operational piece of that is something that I think is important to note, and that requires partnerships throughout that

we can't solve and do everything as an individual, whether it's government or a private entity. But it does require a lot.

This pilot is still ongoing so I don't want to get ahead of myself. There's a lot that we will look through. I'm still remaining very hopeful that we will secure the operations and maintenance -- not we will, the proponent will -- secure the operation and maintenance around the elder van. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Member for Aggu, Ms. Quassa.

Oral Question 1279 – 6(2): Staff Housing Policy

Ms. Quassa: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the new Minister of Human Resources. Mr. Speaker, I want to revisit the issue of the government staff housing policy.

As the minister will recall, I have previously raised concerns that there appear to be an increasing number of situations where long-term Inuit employees of the government find themselves homeless after they retire and vacate their staff housing units. For employees living outside of the capital city there are often no private housing options, and the waiting list for public housing units are years in length. When I last raised this issue with the minister's predecessor, I was assured that the government is aware of the situation. Can the minister provide an update today on what the government is doing to address this situation. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Minister of Human Resources, Mr. David Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as part of the staff housing policy review, that particular section for the soon-to-be-retired or retiring staff and that are living in staff housing, those we will try and address through that policy. That work is progressing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary, Ms. Quassa.

Ms. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the normal age of retirement for members of the public service is 60 years of age. Can the minister indicate approximately how many Inuit employees of the government are older than the normal age of retirement, and can he indicate how many will reach this age within the next five years. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Human Resources, Mr. David Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I don't have that level of detail in terms of the data of who is older; I don't know if we track that. But if we do, I can definitely prepare that. The issue of moving away or moving out of staff housing from retirement to private or public housing is a huge challenge that we have identified, and that is something that we'll continue to try and address. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Ms. Quassa.

Ms. Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I agree, it would be a lot more convenient that when employees are near retirement age and are in government staff housing, we have seen that when they move out of government staff housing with no place to reside, they normally return back to their former jobs.

(interpretation ends) The government's current staff housing policy was last updated in April 2019, over half a decade ago. As the minister is aware, his department's recent business plans have indicated that one of its priorities has been to update the policy. Can the minister indicate what major changes to the policy are being actively considered.
(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Human Resources, Mr. David Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we are targeting the policy to be done within the next three months, and once that is approved I would rather get into those details, because right now it's still under drafting. It would be premature for me to start saying what is in there without it being approved yet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 1280 – 6(2): Transboundary Issues in the Kivalliq

Mr. Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my questions today are for the premier. I want to follow up again on transboundary issues in the Kivalliq.

As the premier will recall, he participated in an announcement that was issued in late November of last year by the federal government, concerning transboundary land claims in our are region. When I raised this subject earlier this year during our winter sitting, the premier indicated that:

“The Government of Nunavut is currently working to finalize the Ghotelnene K’odtjneh Dene and Athabasca Denesųliné implementation plans. The Government of Nunavut will have distinct implementation obligations to fulfill, similar to those under the Nunavut Agreement. The Government of Nunavut is also currently negotiating the amount of

implementation funding that the Government of Canada will provide annually to carry out these obligations.”

Can the premier clearly describe some of the specific implementation obligations that it will be required to fulfill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Pauloosie Akeegok.

Hon. P.J. Akeegok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank my colleague for having given me a heads up just the other day that he will follow up on this very important issue. As I have indicated in the question, Canada, Nunavut, as well as Nunavut Tunngavik and the Ghotelnene K’odtīneh Dene as well as the Athabasca Denesūliné – I apologize for not saying that – had signed off on a five-party agreement, where we outlined the importance around establishing a path forward between the parties, as we are embarking on this very exciting chapter that has been long overdue in terms of the wish of all partners to conclude this.

With that agreement, aimed to resolve the historic differences and ongoing litigation and enable progress without further legal procedural barriers, and as part of that five-party agreement, the GN committed to improving communication and cooperation with the two groups that are involved, specifically with respect to matters impacting their proposed settlement areas; and then second, to include a commitment to work with and consult on relevant matters.

That work in terms of identifying what protocols are to be negotiated is still ongoing, and we are still hopeful that we will conclude this before the transfer date of devolution, which is scheduled for April 1, 2027. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary, Mr. Simailak.

Mr. Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Premier. Mr. Speaker, when I raised this subject earlier this year during our winter sitting, the premier indicated that, and I will quote again, and I will butcher it as well:

“The Ghotelnene K’odtīneh Dene and Athabasca Denesūliné settlement lands are on what is currently federal Crown land, which is subject to transfer to the Ghotelnene K’odtīneh Dene and Athabasca Denesūliné. On their settlement lands the Ghotelnene K’odtīneh Dene and Athabasca Denesūliné will have similar rights as Inuit, such as harvesting rights, land ownership, and resource management.”

Can the premier clearly explain whether or not this means that these groups could potentially veto infrastructure and natural resource extraction projects that are supported by both the Government of Nunavut and the Kivalliq Inuit Association. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Pauloosie Akeeagok.

Hon. P.J. Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I really appreciate my member's question. Yes, in terms of, to the question, we very much support the building of a strong relationship with all Indigenous groups as we signed on to the devolution agreement. We have been very fortunate to have such a strong relationship with Inuit, with a very clear, modern, land-claims agreement that touches on very clear responsibilities and different roles. As part of the devolution agreement it was very important for us to build upon the relationship that we have with our Indigenous organizations, 13 altogether, and the two Dene groups are in particular ones we're debating right now.

But through the negotiations that are to occur, I don't want to get ahead of myself, but the protocol and our ability to be able to identify the relationships and how that consultations will occur is something that is being negotiated right now, and our approach has always been guided by a commitment of collaboration, transparency, and respect for all rightsholders, throughout. And I very much look forward to building that stronger relationship that we already have with Inuit, but that with the Dene as we move forward in the next few years, as we negotiate this moving forward. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Mr. Simailak.

Mr. Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, when I raised this subject earlier this year during our winter sitting, the premier indicated that "on their settlement lands the Ghotelnene K'odtineh Dene and Athabasca Denesųliné will have similar rights as Inuit, such as harvesting rights."

Mr. Speaker, we know the Government of Nunavut has had to take action to protect the long-term health of certain caribou populations. Can the premier explain whether or not our government will have clear jurisdiction to enforce the territorial *Wildlife Act* on the Ghotelnene K'odtineh Dene and Athabasca Denesųliné settlement lands within Nunavut borders. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Pauloosie Akeeagok.

Hon. P.J. Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Manirajak, Mr. Lightstone.

Oral Question 1281 – 6(2): Court Orders to Abstain from Alcohol

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to start off by apologizing I will not be whistling at you today, but I will compliment your neat do.

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, my questions today are for the Minister of Justice and I would like to continue on my questions from yesterday with regards to court orders to abstain from alcohol.

Mr. Speaker, as my colleague Ms. Killiktee had indicated earlier, Nunavut and Northwest Territories continue to lead Canada in the highest crime severity index, and according to Statistics Canada Nunavut's rate of violent crime had increased by 14 per cent and much if not most, is likely related to alcohol or is fueled by alcohol.

I was quite surprised with the minister's response yesterday that the courts are actually trending towards issuing less court orders to abstain from alcohol, so I would like to ask if the minister would be able to elaborate a bit further on the rationale behind this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Minister of Justice, Ms. Gross.

Hon. Pamela Gross: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for the question. In terms of community corrections and court orders, we don't have the specific number, as many people suffer addictions with alcohol. We have noticed, however, Mr. Speaker that there is a trend with court orders or client orders. They have gone down in numbers from what we see, but I don't have the specific numbers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary, Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given the amount of harm and crime and violence that is associated with alcohol, I think that is why I've been raising this issue so closely and specifically with community corrections within the Department of Justice, and I'm a little disappointed that the department has not paid specific attention to this area.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that all convictions involving violent crime while intoxicated should be accompanied by court orders to abstain from alcohol; and further, I also believe that convictions involving severe crime such as rape and murder while intoxicated should be accompanied by the much stronger interdiction order, again both being paired with alcohol treatment orders for those individuals who may be addicted. I would like to ask: Does the minister share my position? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Justice, Ms. Gross.

Hon. Pamela Gross: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for the questions and raising these points within the House. I know that every case is different, and for the interdiction orders, I want to say, Mr. Speaker, that these orders have long faced strong criticism across Canada for unfairly affecting Indigenous and vulnerable people, and for raising human rights concerns.

As our Minister of Finance had noted last week, the interdictions are not practical or effective. There are other tools in the *Liquor Act* that can restrict alcohol use, such as decisions by a local alcohol education committee or automatic restrictions for certain liquor offences. Mr. Speaker, these fall under the responsibility of the Minister of Finance.

And lastly, Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that in the justice system, judges can also restrict alcohol use as part of bail or probation orders under the *Criminal Code*, and these conditions vary depending on the case, and are enforced by the courts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Mr. Lightstone.

Mr. Lightstone: (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the larger communities that do not have restrictions on alcohol, such as Iqaluit and Rankin, there are no alcohol education committees to prevent individuals from accessing alcohol. It's very frustrating the amount of years and times MLAs have stood in this House and asked the government how someone can be given a court order one day to abstain from alcohol and go to the beer and wire store and buy alcohol the following day, or even order hard liquor through import permits. Mr. Speaker, I would like to move on, though.

I was able to find the Nunavut court's most recent annual report, which was from the year 2016-2017, roughly nine years ago. This annual report contains relevant information such as the number of charges, number of convictions, number of custody admissions, and bail or probation violation charges.

Mr. Speaker, nine years ago since this last annual report was published by the Department of Justice, the department had completed its upgrade and transition to a new court information system, which would easily allow the department to quickly put all this information together.

I would like to ask: When will the Department of Justice publish the next annual report, and will it include relevant information such as court orders to refrain or abstain from alcohol, and more importantly, interdiction orders to abstain from alcohol. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Justice, Ms. Gross.

Hon. Pamela Gross: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for that question. The Nunavut court annual report is prepared by the Nunavut court, which is independent of the Government of Nunavut. So preparing a new report would be up to the court to prepare and publish this report. But I'll have the department look into it and hopefully they can have another report soon with the member's recommendations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Malliki.

Oral Question 1282 – 6(2): Summer Student Jobs

Mr. Malliki (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Human Resources about summer student jobs. I have asked questions in the House here for the smaller communities non-decentralized communities, because they don't get student jobs. Has the minister made any consideration about the communities that I represent, if the communities will receive student summer jobs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Minister of Human Resources, Mr. David Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in this year the departments have to make a request for student jobs. In their communities, I'm not sure how many jobs will be created, but last year the communities had one student worker and sometimes there are more students having summer jobs and some years there are none. And it's the workplaces that have to request for funding to hire students. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary, Mr. Malliki.

Mr. Malliki (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in Nunavut the smaller communities that are not decentralized, they really look for jobs, and there are very few opportunities to get work in the smaller communities. It's just the stores that usually hire students.

Has the department made any consideration for the smaller communities to see if they can create more jobs for students in the summertime? We want our students to benefit from the experience, so I would like to know what consideration has been done on that regard. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Human Resources, Mr. David Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we made some adjustments for the whole year, and I explained them here in the House recently.

Now businesses who want to hire students, we are encouraging them to do that and we will keep on encouraging them to do that, because we would really like them to get summer jobs. And in the smaller communities, although the program is available but they need to have supervision. When there's no supervision available, that sometimes makes things not happen, and we have seen that in some of the smaller communities. Sometimes our staff take summer holidays, and that is part of the barrier.

But we will always try and brainstorm to see if the smaller communities can get the jobs, because student jobs are for all students, and that's what we call them here. I like to call them like that. We need to keep everybody informed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Mr. Malliki.

Mr. Malliki (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for making considerations about this. I would like to ask the minister about what the minister just said.

Now, when staff go on holidays, maybe some of the students can replace some of those workers while they are on holidays. I would like to recommend that for the smaller communities. Like, if we could get five or six or seven jobs. The smaller communities have just little requests like that. We don't make big requests. We try to make requests that will make things better for us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Human Resources, Mr. David Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, when students have summer jobs they have to follow the proper paperwork. If they are going to be replacing staff then they have to know all the things that the staff that they are replacing knows. So we can't just have students as replacement workers, because they need support and guidance. And so the employees, if they want to hire students, they can request for as many students as they can handle. So I encourage them to do that. We want to make sure that this is available in all the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Mr. Sammurtok.

Oral Question 1283 – 6(2): Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question today are to the Minister of Environment. I want to follow up on issues that I have raised during previous sittings of the Legislative Assembly concerning the marine protected areas impacting my constituency. As the minister will recall, I have asked a number of questions about the Southampton Island Area of Interest, which will lead to the creation of a new Marine Protected Area near the communities of Chesterfield Inlet and Coral Harbour. The

Legislative Assembly has previously been informed that the Department of Environment has been participating in a working level co-development community and an executive-level steering committee. Can the minister provide an update today on the status of this work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Minister of Environment, Mr. Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my department is committed to participating in the various processes around creating or establishing marine protected areas or marine reserves, and any national marine conservation areas as it pertains to marine waters or adjacent waters around Nunavut, and we need to be at the table. That is something that we're continuing to communicate with our partner stakeholders that are involved.

We will of course need to include as well the local partners. When we're advancing anything, everybody at all levels need to be at the same page. Work in this area is continuing, and as they progress we'll keep my colleagues informed as they proceed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary, Mr. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister is aware, the government's business plan indicates that the Department of Environment is currently working to "prepare policies, options and recommendations for consideration by the next government during the transition process regarding the development of a Nunavut Protected Area Strategy."

Can the minister provide an update today on the status of this work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Environment, Mr. Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I appreciate the question, as it allows, we do want to ensure that when we're developing such a strategy that we talk to all the stakeholders necessary, and we want to further define the long-term vision as well as the approach for these critical areas.

Mr. Speaker, it's ongoing. The discussions are still happening. And again, when there's movement or new developments, I'll keep my colleagues and Nunavummiut informed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Mr. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister will recall, I have spoken on many occasions about the need for new marine infrastructure and more economic development opportunities for the community and residents of Chesterfield Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, the current business plan of Nunavut Development Corporation indicates that:

“The corporation would like to work with hamlet of Chesterfield Inlet to look into the Iqalukpik fish plant to possibly create a subsidiary of Kivalliq Arctic Foods, such as the one in Whale Cove. Having another fish processing plant can help Kivalliq Arctic Foods in getting summer fishery, as well as employing Inuit to operate the plant and purchase Arctic char from the local fishery people.”

Mr. Speaker, it is a great idea and I fully support it. Will the minister commit to having his department work with Nunavut Development Corporation in relationship to the Southampton Island Area of Interest initiative? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Environment, Mr. Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I’ll commit to working with my colleagues around this area, and provided that the Nunavut Development Corporation is within the purview of my colleague Minister Akeeagok. But if they overlap around marine conservation areas and/or any infrastructure projects that might fall within those, we’ll continue to advance with the best interest of Nunavummiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 1284 – 6(2): Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my questions today are for the Minister of Environment.

Mr. Speaker, I want to revisit the issue of the draft Nunavut Land Use Plan, as it has been a long time in the making and Nunavummiut are waiting.

Mr. Speaker, the draft plan was submitted to the federal Minister of Northern Affairs, the territorial Minister of Environment, and the President of Nunavut Tunngavik back in June of 2023, two years ago.

Mr. Speaker, there have been a number of elections in recent months and new leadership is now in place at Nunavut Tunngavik and the Government of Canada.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister provide an update today on the status of the review of the draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Minister of Environment, Mr. Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the internal review is ongoing. The member is correct, there were a few events that, especially for the federal government elections, that we also had to make sure that we don't proceed without our federal counterparts. But the work is ongoing. I know the technical working group has been meeting on a weekly basis at this point, and we do anticipate something to come forward in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary, Mr. Quqqiaq.

Mr. Quqqiaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, during our recent winter sitting, the minister indicated that he is waiting for a final recommendation from his department on whether or not to support the draft Land Use Plan in its current form.

Mr. Speaker, can he provide a clear timeline today for when he expects to receive this recommendation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Environment, Mr. Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Unfortunately I don't have a specific timeline I can state at this point, but I do know that with the ongoing work still happening, I plan to work with my colleagues to keep them informed of where things are at, what the next steps will be. But again, I appreciate the patience that my colleagues and Nunavummiut have had on this file. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Mr. Quqqiaq.

Mr. Quqqiaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, many of my colleagues have been asking questions about why it is taking so long for the draft Nunavut Land Use Plan to be approved by the three parties.

Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the plan is not set in stone; it can be changed over time.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister provide a clear explanation today as to what specific issues have been causing the delays, and can he clarify what our government's position is regarding these issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Environment, Mr. Joanasié.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, although I won't get into the fine detailed, specific issues that are still being worked out at the technical working level, I'll state that there are also legal considerations. There are lawyers involved on all sides to ensure as this progresses it takes into account all the different concerns, legally, but also on the technical. There's a lot that has been gone through, and there is still more to do in this area.

But again, I also mention that there is a third-party facilitator that has been supporting the three parties as we progress through these, and we expect that work to be ongoing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Member for Tununiq, Ms. Nutarak.

Oral Question 1285 – 6(2): Departmental Positions

Ms. Nutarak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Minister of the new Department of Transportation and Infrastructure; he may need to consult with the new Minister of Community Services.

As the minister will recall, I have previously raised questions concerning the high vacancy rate in Pond Inlet with respect to positions in the previous Department of Community and Government Services. The government's most recent quarterly employment report indicated that the Department of Community and Government Services had 34 positions in Pond Inlet as of December of last year. The previous Department of Economic Development and Transportation had nine positions in the community.

Can the minister confirm how many positions in the new Department of Transportation and Infrastructure are located in Pond Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut, Mr. Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Sorry, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for her question. I'm looking at some of these vacancy tables. I think I'll have to get back to the member with the fine details on that, on her first question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary, Ms. Nutarak.

Ms. Nutarak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister also confirm how many positions are currently filled and how many are vacant, when he gets back to me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut, Mr. Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and my apologies for the first question, I believe. These statistics I'm sharing, I have to confirm; this is as of March 31, so it might change between the realignment between Community Services and Transportation, but for Pond Inlet there were 33 positions, 22 of which were vacant, and 11 filled. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Ms. Nutarak.

Ms. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I would like to thank the minister. (interpretation ends) Can the minister describe what actions his department will be taking to fill as many positions as possible with Inuit residents of Pond Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut, Mr. Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my department does have Inuit employment planning, and we do try to encourage and facilitate any either existing Inuit employees or potential new employees to gain a foot in the door within our department, whether it's a starting as a casual and/or advancing into different positions that we currently have as vacant. Of course casual staffing actions are one of the primary uses, so that's an avenue we can address some of the vacancies at this time in Pond Inlet.

I encourage my colleague to have her constituents reach out to our department for such opportunities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 1286 – 6(2): Carbon Tax

Mr. Qavvik: (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good day to the people of Hudson Bay.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, my questions are also for the minister responsible for transportation and infrastructure, which is now responsible for the Petroleum Products Division. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the minister tabled the *Petroleum Products Division 2022-2023 Annual Report*, and I look forward to the 2023-2024 report being tabled before the end of our current spring sitting.

Mr. Speaker, in March of this year, the government announced that the fuel price for some categories would be decreasing as a result of the federal decision to "suspend" the carbon tax on fuel.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister confirm if his department has been formally advised by Ottawa that this tax will be permanently removed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut, Mr. Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the question, I'm not aware of whether or not that permanently be removed, the carbon tax. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second supplementary, Mr. Qavvik.

Mr. Qavvik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Petroleum Products Division attempts to minimize the cost that the government pays for fuel through pre-purchasing strategies and other means. Can the minister provide an update today on the status of the 2025 fuel resupply, and can he indicate whether he expects the price for Nunavut consumers to increase, decrease, or stay the same over the next year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut, Mr. Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the question. As of last month, April 18, 2025, Petroleum Products Division had secured all of Nunavut's fuel requirements, the 100 per cent of our fuel requirements for this upcoming 2025 resupply season and this entailed to the tune of 219 million litres of all the different fuel types.

The 2025 resupply is projected to be about 2.9 per cent lower than previous years. Of course if we didn't use much fuel over the past year, that means our fuel need doesn't need to go higher. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Mr. Qavvik.

Mr. Qavvik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I noted yesterday, funding from the federal Department of Transport has been recently announced from a number of Nunavut projects, including installation of safety lights at fuel resupply locations, and relocation of fuel resupply manifolds in order to reduce environmental risks.

As the minister will recall, an incident took place last summer in Sanikiluaq during the fuel resupply, which resulted in a temporary evacuation of the community. Can the minister describe what training initiatives his department is undertaking to improve safety for this year's fuel resupply. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut, Mr. Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, with the incident that happened in Sanikiluaq, we do want to note that, and of course we want to maintain safety for all the shipping, the landing, and all throughout resupplying communities, and all those involved. With that we do want to ensure that training is on a regular basis continued. And with that, we are also advancing some infrastructure upgrades funded through Canada's Ocean Protection Plan to ensure, whether it's upgrades to pipeline or shore manifolds, installing mooring bollards and also procuring resupply safety equipment across various communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Members be aware time allotted for question period is now over. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to extend the time allotted for question period. Thank you.

Speaker: The member is seeking unanimous consent to extend question period. Are there any nays? There are none. Question period is extended for another 30 minutes. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, Mr. Hickes.

Oral Question 1287 – 6(2): Delays of Recommendations to Languages Commissioner

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank my colleagues. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Languages. Mr. Speaker, I purposely waited until later on in the week, to give the minister an opportunity to go over the report that was provided and tabled here in the House on Monday.

I would like the minister to go to page 7 where it speaks specifically to the Government of Nunavut's response to the Office of the Languages Commissioner's recommendations, and I'll take portions of the quotations of what the Commissioner stated from September 20, 2024. It's a timeline on communication.

Mr. Speaker, in March 2022, we requested an update from the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs to monitor the progress of my office's past recommendations.

Mr. Speaker, the first deadline for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs' response was set for March 30, 2022, with an expectation that we would receive a full response, a full progress report by the next fiscal year from the territorial government. Our office did not receive a response regarding the progress status of the recommendations in the fiscal years 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024.

In March 2023 my office requested that the Premier's Office provide an update on the status and progress of those recommendations, with a deadline to respond by August 10,

2023. In the fiscal year 2023-2024 our office did not receive a response on the status and progress of those recommendations.

Mr. Speaker, it was also quoted that the fact of the matter ,is when I requested that information, there was no response within the timeline I outlined, nor an update after. And it's also quoted: "unless the territorial government institutions and public agencies provide updates on their efforts to address our office's recommendations, we cannot determine whether they comply with their language obligations."

Can the minister now inform us of why those significant delays have occurred, and to be frank, continue to occur as we learn even with the Office of the Auditor General responses? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Minister of Languages, Mr. Pauloosie Akeeagok.

Hon. P.J. Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank my colleague for his question. First, I do want to apologize for the delay in terms of the response that has not been provided. Specifically to that, I will have to check in with the department to see exactly where those challenges were and get back to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary, Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do look forward to that. I know this report was just tabled on Monday, but one of the standing committee recommendations was to describe in detail the process by which it will ensure that it provides timely responses to the Office of the Languages Commissioner recommendations. Can I get a cursory? I'm sure there have been discussions of this, because this has been going on for a couple of years now. What are some of the things that the minister has put in place to make sure that these responses are administered on a timely basis? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister of Languages, Mr. Pauloosie Akeeagok.

Hon. P.J. Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I thank my colleague for his question. Since then we have actually been engaged with the Languages Commissioner as well, to open up that communication, to ensure that our respective offices are in tune around that. I would really want to take the moment to acknowledge the incredible leadership that we had with Commissioner Arriak at the time, and I look forward to seeing who the next commissioner will be.

To that, we are engaged right now with the office, and ensure that we will continue to learn and continue to improve sharing of information and keeping that door open. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there's a transcript from that hearing. It has been on the website for a while. I'm sure the department has gone through the transcript.

But I'm going to go to page 9 on the report that was tabled on Monday regarding the training for Government of Nunavut staff regarding language law obligations. The department's lead for Culture and Heritage stated:

"We have had ongoing discussions with the commissioner on how better we can respond from the government side of the departments within the government that one department, the Deputy Minister of Environment, to take the lead."

I have to question: Why would the Department of Environment take the lead? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Languages, Mr. Pauloosie Akeeagok.

Hon. P.J. Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I want to thank my colleague for his question. Further to my comment, I do understand that the Languages Commissioner has been in communications with the deputies to address that, and we continue to work on a protocol with the commission around that.

Specific to the member's question, I will have to check in with the department, with my officials, in terms of that response and get back to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Oral Questions. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Malliki.

Oral Question 1288 –6(2): Child First Initiative

Mr. Malliki (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for recognizing me again. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Family Services in regards to the Child First Initiative. When they are no longer there, I know that it will create poverty in the communities. What have you been doing to make sure to provide support to the people that will be losing the Child First Initiative? What have you discussed through the Poverty Reduction Roundtable? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Nakashuk.

Hon. Margaret Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for asking the question. The last time during our session here the Department of Health's minister and I have written a letter to the minister appointed by the federal government

on what will they do about the Child First Initiative in the communities, because this program was very beneficial to the communities of Nunavut.

The federal government ministers, they recently had an election, and now there's a government in place now, but they have not connected or contacted us in regards to this

But during our latest Poverty Reduction Roundtable meeting last year, during that time they discussed how support and beneficial it was. It was beneficial, the Child First Initiative, and income support has been increased.

I really don't know how to respond, because the Poverty Reduction Roundtable has not met recently. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary, Mr. Malliki.

Mr. Malliki (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Child First Initiative, when that program came, the groceries in the communities, produce, everything has increased their prices. But the income support recipients, have you increased the income support to follow along with the price increases? Thank you.

Speaker: Minister of Family Services, Ms. Nakashuk.

Hon. Margaret Nakashuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for your question. I did not quite catch some of your question. Please repeat your question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Malliki, please repeat your question.

Mr. Malliki (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize. The Child First Initiative, when that program was in place, the groceries at the store, prices were hiked up and they have increased. Did you increase the price of income support to keep up with the price increase at the stores? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Family Services, Nunavut Arctic College.

Hon. Margaret Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for your question, again. Yes, we have heard about the grocery prices being hiked up, but we don't have actual data information, so that's why we cannot state that. But also, Canadian North, they stated that Canadian North had 14 per cent increase on their shipping cost and Guaranteed Basic Income.

We're now continually reviewing how we can provide support, and we had increased the price of income support up by 34 per cent. But in regards to the Child First Initiative, the

Inuit apply for funding for themselves to help alleviate the price of airlines, but many individuals have not been responded to by the municipalities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Mr. Malliki.

Mr. Malliki (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Madam Minister, for elaborating on that. I urge the minister to review these to make sure that they have adequate funding provided, because many families will not be eating healthy and especially in the spring time, when the family members stay up all night, they usually utilize the food that they have.

I urge the minister to make sure that they provide funding or increase to make sure that the income support is good enough to purchase good groceries. I'm just urging the minister to do that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Just a comment. The minister wants to comment. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Nakashuk.

Hon. Margaret Nakashuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for commenting on that. And I do believe that what you had stated, because the communities have been impacted very much on the benefits.

I also would like to respond that our premier has sent a letter to the federal government to request and state that we require more support in regards to this. So we will continually consider this and we will request for a funding from federal government, but our premier has written a letter of correspondence. We will be waiting for the response first. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 1289 – 6(2): Possible Extra Appointments while on Medical Travel

Mr. Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for recognizing me again.

I would like to ask the minister, back in 2020, Kivalliq residents, some of us members of the Kivalliq, we met in Winnipeg along with the minister in regards to before Uquutaq was open. One of the patients wanted to get clarification and understanding if there's any change on medical travel.

We were very pleased to hear about that one issue that we raised during our Winnipeg meeting that we were requesting to see if they could do research. Like for example, if the patient goes to Winnipeg, the first time that they will see the doctor, if a patient arrives to

Winnipeg during the weekend, they have to wait till the weekday, yes, perhaps while they are in Winnipeg, to make sure that they seen other services, like service providers such as optometrist or get their ears checked? They were wondering if they can do all those things, too.

Have you put this in place? If you can give me the status on that, during the time when you were down there. I would like to get status on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I thank the member for the question. The best means in area of travel for patients are constantly being reviewed and from my understanding, if we make changes, and there are changes being made, for example if a person needs to be seen in Winnipeg and the following day a child or the parent has to be seen by a doctor, and the father being an escort coincides, that approach is being made.

(interpretation ends) We take a systematic approach to opportunistic screenings for cancer or other medical needs. We do have an ongoing project following our medical travel policy review in terms of developing a procedures guide for our medical travel staff. That was one of the things that was identified through our review is the need for a consistent approach, so that our staff can understand what procedures are in place for supporting travellers, so the travellers can understand what benefits or what options are available to them. So that's something that will help us to apply what the member is asking about. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary, Mr. Simailak.

Mr. Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's great that continued solutions are being pursued and we're grateful.

With regards to medical travel again, before a patient goes for travel, what has to be changed? If I would call you, for example, when you need to leave, but oftentimes it's at the last moment. And myself, I have experienced where I've seen patients going to Winnipeg and when they have arrived at their destination, their medical appointment has been postponed. And in Winnipeg, scheduling could have been notified in advance. And the medical staff have numbers in Winnipeg, and the medical people in Winnipeg utilize the fax machine to inform you, or by way of cell phone. And sometimes at the last moment some patients need permission to leave work. Are those areas considered for improvements, to notify patients in advance, is that being worked on? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

Hon. John Main: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank my colleague for the questions. Yes, fax machines are convenient, and it's unfortunate, though, that they are still being used. I've seen one at the Uquutaq Centre, a fax machine, and I said, "Are we still using this fax machine?"

At the Inuit services, Kivalliq services I was told to the question by the Baker Lake MLA, medical officers have, (interpretation ends) if we are talking about a specialized clinic in Winnipeg, for example, they don't have often access to the electronic medical records system so hence their reliance on the fax machine. And with the need for increased, enhanced communications tools for medical travellers and the escorts, that was one thing we heard loud and clear through our review.

It is something that is being worked on, whether it be an application on your cell phone, whether it will be a notification that can come through if your flight time changes, things like that. There's also a larger interoperability project that is happening nationally, and that would allow the Nunavut electronic medical record system to communicate better with Manitoba and other jurisdictions. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Mr. Simailak.

Mr. Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. My last question. On occasions one of the reasons that if Rankin Inlet is weathered out and when medical patients have to leave Winnipeg and travellers are told, you may fly over Rankin Inlet and be en route to Baker Lake, are those individual patients be able to lodged at the hotel in Baker Lake? When I ask questions along this area with Calm Air, and they don't provide the accommodations, and it is one of the concerns. The minister has indicated that I believe there are a block of rooms in Rankin Inlet. Have you inquired the block of rooms with Calm Air who would require accommodations? Are the hotels in constant communication with Calm Air and the hotels? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the MLA's question, we're not really clear yet how Calm Air approaches or what policy they may have or abide by. We're not really clear, but we are working with them, along with Baker Lake residents. We have also heard complaints in Arviat, the problem usually being you have to go through Rankin Inlet for the Winnipeg to Arviat route, and this has also been raised by the mayors in Kivalliq. It's something we have considered, what improvement we can make for travellers.

We went to seek the best solutions, but we have to know what policy the Calm Air provides. And if I do, finally I would inform my colleague. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 1290 – 6(2): Number of Bear Skins at North Bay Auction House

Mr. Qavvik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for recognizing me again. Mr. Speaker, I would like to question the Minister of Environment and they concern the issue of polar bears.

Mr. Speaker, for my first question I would like to ask the minister whether he has a number of polar bear skins that are sitting at fur harvesters' auction houses in Ontario. If he doesn't have that information in front of him, a correspondence letter would be fine. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Minister of Environment, Mr. Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the member can clarify his question. Is he asking how many polar bear skins are at, is it the North Bay auction house? Mr. Speaker, if that's the question, yeah, I'll have to get back to him. My notes don't have the detail in front of me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary, Mr. Qavvik.

Mr. Qavvik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and the scientific knowledge knows that there are more and more polar bears in Nunavut, and they have become a danger to life for all residents of Nunavut. I would like to ask the minister if he can commit to talking to his federal counterpart, along with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, to remove the polar bear quota system in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Environment, Mr. Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Environment, we are a co-management partner around wildlife management, including polar bears, so this would be a matter that Nunavut Wildlife Management Board would have to discuss at their board level as well. But my colleague, I suppose if he may want to get some work or approach Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and/or our federal counterparts on this matter, I would be willing to engage with them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary Mr. Qavvik.

Mr. Qavvik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, if the quota system cannot be removed, I would like to suggest and ask the minister if regulations to harvest polar bear cubs can be amended. We do have elders in Nunavut, and they would love to eat a very nice tender polar bear cub. I'm not too sure whether that can be changed, but I would like to question the minister on this area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Environment, Mr. Joanasie.

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, Mr. Speaker, we do work with our co-management partners around what wildlife is harvested in the territory, and I do note, as my colleague mentioned, our local elders do have, they have certain delicacies in our wildlife, and we do want to ensure that working with our wildlife management partners, what's manageable and what we can maintain for our future generations to ensure like, for example, the tuktu here in Baffin, there was a decline and of course we put in a moratorium, but also a limit. Now there is a limit of 450-some-odd caribou on an annual basis. This has proven to increase the population, so there's more abundance of that particular herd for our future generations, and we will have that in stock for the years to come. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Oral Question 1291 – 6(2): Number of Staff at the Elders Facility

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my questions to the Minister of Health. The minister has stated that the long term care facility in Rankin is open now, and has clients or patients there, and I'm glad to hear that Kivalliqmuit are going to be slowly going back there and being closer to home.

Mr. Speaker, my first question is: Have all the staff that is needed to operate the centre all been hired? And if not, how many of the total staff that are working there? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank my colleague for the question. (interpretation ends) I know that the member was on this side of the House when that project got started, and so in my statement earlier today I did acknowledge that it has taken successive governments to get that project completed, and so I just wanted to give credit where it is due, in terms of the former ministers and premier who made it happen.

In terms of the of the staffing at Tagjaq Corporation, it's ongoing. I don't believe they have hired all of the staff for the facility yet. I did have a chance to meet some of them personally. It's very exciting to see the very new facility, as well as the new staff getting trained up on their job duties. And the staffing process is ongoing. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary, Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I believe that most of the clients that are going to go there will be unilingual Inuit, as they're all older Inuit that will be there. I would like to ask the minister how many of the caretakers can speak Inuktitut that are working there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) In terms of the language proficiency, I don't have the data on that. Staffing is ongoing, so numbers are fluctuating. My understanding is we are currently around 35 per cent in terms of Inuit employment, and as I mentioned, that is a number that is changing as the hiring continues. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary, Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I was asking specifically for the caretakers. I understand that it's about 30 or 35 per cent, but he said total new employment. But this long term care facility was supposed to be run by Inuit for Inuit, and that Inuit would be able to get their care in the language that they understand, Inuktitut. And most if not all probably will be unilingual Inuit that are there for a while, anyway.

Does the minister have any control to make sure that all the caretakers, since it's a contract, that all the caretakers can fluently speak Inuktitut to the clients? The caretakers, the ones that will be taking care of the elders that are there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Health, Mr. Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) In terms of the specific requirements around hiring personal support workers for the facility, there is a strong emphasis in the contract around Inuit employment. I'll have to check. I don't know if there's a distinction that has been made between Inuit who can speak Inuktitut and those who don't.

We know that Inuit employment is a priority. there's a co-op program that is going to be established with high school and college students. There are career paths that are being established within the operations in the facility. This is all under Tagjaq Corporation. As well as in-service training to facilitate skill development and career development, and the partnership we have with Nunavut Arctic College around personal support workers.

So we're hopeful that this facility operations will lead to meaningful careers for Inuit, and absolutely, the use of Inuktitut in the facility is a priority, and we want to see the operator prioritize that. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Members be aware time allotted for extended question period is now over. Item 7, Written Questions. Item 8, Returns 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. Hon. Minister of Community and Government Services, David Akeeagok.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 398 – 6(2): 2024-2034 Inuit Employment Plan

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, what I mentioned today, that I said I was going to present. I am very happy to present the Nunavut Government's 2024 to 2034 Inuit Employment Plan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Minister of Environment, Mr. Joanasie.

Tabled Document 399 – 6(2): 2022 Annual Report of the Environmental Rights Act

Tabled Document 400 – 6(2): 2022-2023 Natural Resources Conservation Trust Fund Annual Report

Tabled Document 401 – 6(2): 2023-2024 Natural Resources Conservation Trust Fund Annual Report

Tabled Document 402 – 6(2): 2023 Quinquennial Report under Section 176 of the Wildlife Act

Hon. David Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table four reports: the 2022 Annual Report of the *Environmental Rights Act*; the 2022-2023 and the 2023-2024 Annual Report of the Natural Resources Conservation Trust Fund; and the 2023 Quinquennial Report under Section 176 of the *Wildlife Act*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Item 13, Tabling of Documents. Hon. Minister of Community Services, Mr. David Akeeagok.

Tabled Document 403 – 6(2): 2024 Annual Report of the Nunavut Fire Marshal's Office

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to table the 2024 Annual Report of the Nunavut Fire Marshal's Office. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Tabling of Documents. Item 14, Notices of Motions. Item 15, Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16, Motions. Item 17, First Reading of Bills.

Item 18, Second Reading of Bills. Item 19, Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Item 20, Report of the Committee of the Whole. Item 21, Third Reading of Bills. Item 22, *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Mr. Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for Friday, May 30, 2025, at 9:00 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
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.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: This House stands adjourned until Friday, May 30 at 9:00 a.m. Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 16:22*

