NUNAVUT HANSARD

UNEDITED TRANCRIPT

OCTOBER 22, 2026

IQALUIT, NUNAVUT

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Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker
Hon. David Joanasie

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok
(Iqaluit Manirajak)
Minister of Family Services; Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation; Minister responsible for Homelessness; Minister responsible for Poverty Reduction; Minister responsible for the Status of Women

Hon. David Akeeagok
(Iqaluit-Niaqqunnguu)
Government House Leader; Minister of Education; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Arctic College

Hannah Angootealuk
(Aivilik)

Edward Attagutaluk (Aggu)

Hon. Janet Brewster
(Iqaluit-Sinaa)
Minister of Health; Minister responsible for Suicide Prevention

Hon. George Hickes
(Iqaluit-Tasiluk)
Deputy Premier of Nunavut; Minister of Justice; Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Nunavut; Minister responsible for the Labour Standards Board; Minister responsible for the Human Rights Tribunal

Jamie Kablutsiak
(Arviat South)

Gordon Kautuk
(Uqqummiut)

Hon. Brian Koonoo
(Tununiq)
Minister of Culture and Heritage; Minister of Languages; Minister of Environment; Minister of Energy

Simon Kuliktana
(Kugluktuk)

Hon. Cecile Nelvana Lyall
(Netsilik)
Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation

Hon. John Main
(Arviat North-Whale Cove)
Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister of Finance; Minister responsible for Indigenous Affairs; Minister responsible for Immigration; Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Liquor and Cannabis Commission; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Liquor and Cannabis Board

Johnny Mike
(Pangnirtung)

Fred Pedersen
(Cambridge Bay)

David Porter
(Gjoa Haven)

Abraham Qammaniq
(Amittuq)

Jason Iqaluq
(Hudson Bay)

Alexander Sammurtok
(Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet)

Hon. Craig Simailak
(Baker Lake)
Minister of Comm unity Services; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Development Corporation; Minister responsible for Mines; Minister responsible for Trade

Hon. Annie Tattuinee
(Rankin Inlet South)
Minister of Human Resources; Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission

Steven Taqtu
(Quttiktuq)

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
October 22, 2026

Members Present:

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok, Hon. David Akeeagok, Ms. Hanna Angootealuk, Mr. Edward Attagutaluk, Hon. Janet Pitsiulaaq Brewster, Hon. George Hickes, Mr. Jason Iqaluq, Hon. David Joanasie, Mr. Jamie Kablutsiak, Mr. Gordon Kautuk, Hon. Brian Koonoo, Mr. Simon Kuliktana, Hon. Cecile Nelvana Lyall, Hon. John Main, Mr. Johnny Mike, Mr. Fred Pedersen, Mr. David Porter, Hon. Craig Simailak, Mr. Steven Taqtu, Hon. Annie Tattuinee

>>House commenced at 13:29

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. David Joanasie): Item number 1, Ms. Angootealuk, can you please lead us in prayer.

>>Prayer

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Angootealuk and colleagues, welcome to the fall session.

Speaker's Statement

Speaker (interpretation): Before we proceed with the *Orders of the Day*, I would like to welcome members back to the House, and I'm very pleased to congratulate the new member for Hudson Bay; please feel welcome. And he was sworn in this morning which proceeded very well.

I also extend a warm welcome to Elders and Nunavummiut who are following our proceedings on radio, television and internet live stream.

I wish to take this opportunity to mourn the passing of two former members who represented Nunavut communities in the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories prior to division: they are Moses Appaqaq, who represented the constituency of Hudson Bay, and Ernie Bernhardt, who represented the constituency of Kitikmeot.

We send our condolences to their families.
And a person who has been an interpreter at the Legislative Assembly, I would like to recognize that person, Henry Ohokannoak, who was an Elder and a well-known interpreter/translator. We extend our condolences to their families.

And I also wish to take this opportunity to express our sympathies to the families of those who lost loved ones in the line of duty during the tragedy that recently occurred at the Canadian Forces Base in Wainwright, Alberta.

The national and territorial flags at the Legislative Assembly Precinct have been half-masted in honour of their sacrifice.

Now I am pleased to take this opportunity as speaker to congratulate two of my predecessors in this Chair. I would like to recognize former speaker, Tony Akoak and Paul Quassa for their appointments to the Inuit Heritage Trust's board of trustees. We congratulate them.

I also wish to take this opportunity to draw members' attention to the collection of photographs that are on display in the Legislative Assembly. This display is from the *Inuksiutit: Food Sovereignty in Nunavut* project, the stated purpose of which is to:

> "Promote the intergenerational transmission of country food knowledge and foster community health and well-being through capacity building in younger generations of Inuit, and advance local, regional, national and international understanding of the drivers of food insecurity so that people will know why the Inuit country foods have been affected due to climate change."

I encourage all members and visitors to take a moment to appreciate the stunning photography and I ask that you join me in expressing our appreciation to the project's organizers and participants, who included a number of respected Elders from Kinngait and Pond Inlet. And we remember Martha Jaw in Kinngait.

I am also pleased to advise the House that the *Legacy Window* for members of the 6th Legislative Assembly have been installed and can be viewed from the antechamber adjacent to the Natsiq room.

And as the member of the Legislative Assembly for the constituency of South Baffin, I recently had the honour of extending congratulations to individuals and groups, especially in Kinngait, that received recognition at this year's sport and recreation awards gala that was held last week.

The annual event is organized by the Recreation and Parks Association of Nunavut, the Nunavut Sport Federation, and the Government of Nunavut's Sports and Recreation Division; they do this together.
The stated purpose of the event is to "recognize and honour the extraordinary contributions, commitment and achievements of athletes, coaches, administrators, volunteers, officials and community leaders in Nunavut's recreation and sports sector" in our communities.

This year's honourees included: Novoalia Carriere of Kinngait, who earned the Calm Air Youth Leader of the Year award; and the late, very well-known Attima Hadlari was inducted into the Nunavut's Sports and Recreation Hall of Fame; and also the Kinngait Youth Group, which received the Volunteers of the Year award -- they do a lot of helping without getting paid throughout the year.

Please join me in congratulating all of this year's recipients.

And finally, I would be remiss if I did not take a moment to congratulate the member for Baker Lake on his recent nuptials. We wish him and his wife Marilyn many years of happiness together.

Before we proceed with *Orders of the Day* it is my duty to advise the House that I have received the following message from His Honour, the Deputy Commissioner of Nunavut. It states:

Money Message

Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise that I recommend to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut the passing of the following bills during the 2026 Winter Sitting of the 2nd Session of the 7th Legislative Assembly:

- Bill 10, *Appropriation for Operations and Maintenance Act,* 2027-2028;
- Bill 11, *Supplementary Appropriation Operations and Maintenance Act,* No. 3, 2025-2026; and also
- Bill 12, *Supplementary Appropriation for Capital Act,* No. 2, 2026-2027.

Written by Lou Philip, the Deputy Commissioner of Nunavut.

We will now proceed with the *Orders of the Day*. Item 2, Ministers' Statements. The Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Main.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 86-7(2): Alberta Referendum Results

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's great that we're all back here again and I would like to welcome the new MLA to the House. (interpretation ends).

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude and sincere appreciation to residents of Alberta who made their voices heard through votes. This week's referendum held in that

province was an important moment for our country, in terms of confederation and the important relationships between provinces, territories, and our federal government. On the question pertaining to a binding referendum, I was pleased to see a strong result reflecting a desire to remain in Canada from Alberta residents.

Alberta is a unique, beautiful, and important part of Canada, and Nunavut appreciates the many ways in which the province makes our country stronger. (interpretation) Our territory has important relationships with institutions in Alberta, for essential services like healthcare and higher education. Through these relationships, we are able to access specialized medical care that are available down there, educational opportunities, and also realize valuable business outcomes that come out of that. Residents of our territory regularly travel to the province, to Alberta, to access services, to visit family, or for leisure – to have a good time. I'm pleased these important relationships and access to essential services will continue uninterrupted with the result of the vote to remain in Canada. (interpretation ends)

In closing, our territory is a proud and grateful member of confederation, and we value all of our fellow territories and provinces across the country. In challenging and turbulent times, we're reminded of the value of one other, and the value of unity. Territories and Provinces create significant value when we collaborate, connect and cooperate across Canada. I'd once again like to sincerely thank all the Alberta residents who voted in this week's referendum. Nunavut appreciates Alberta's unique place in confederation and all the many contributions you make to Canada.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister for Family Services, Ms. Healey Akearok**.**

Minister's Statement 87-7(2): Children in Care

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok (interpretation)**:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) and thank you to my colleagues. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address an important issue of data transparency, accountability, and our responsibility to protect Nunavut's children and youth. When I became Minister of Family Services, I accepted responsibility for one of the most significant obligations this government carries: ensuring that children and youth are safe and, wherever possible, remain connected to their family, community, culture, and language.

Mr. Speaker, recent public reporting has raised important questions about information previously provided by Family Services regarding children and youth receiving services.

The department identified errors in the information initially provided, apologized, and supplied corrected information before publication. Those errors matter, and we take them seriously. Accurate information is essential for public accountability, sound decision-making, and confidence in the child welfare system. At the same time, an error in how aggregate information was compiled and reported should not be confused with whether individual children and youth are known to, and accounted for, within the child welfare system. The department maintains individual case records for children and youth in care, and their cases remain the responsibility of assigned departmental staff. Child safety remains our highest priority.

Mr. Speaker, as of July 31, 2026, here is the most current verified information available... There are 11 pathways through which children and youth access services in the care of Family Services. The total number of children, youth, and young adults aged 0 to 26 receiving services in care was 630. This broader figure includes young adults who continue to receive services beyond the age of majority. There were 271 children and youth were under a legal status, including a Temporary Custody Order, Permanent Custody Order, Interim Order, Adjournment Order, Supervision Order, or Apprehension. There were 131 children, youth, and young adults aged 0 to 26 receiving care outside of the territory, which may include specialized medical treatment, adoptions, foster or kinship care, therapeutic or residential group care supports, or other specialized clinical or wellness supports not currently available in the territory.

Mr. Speaker, these numbers change daily as family reunification remains a constant and ever-present goal. We also know and understand the importance of data for monitoring and evaluation of system performance, therefore, I am committed to providing this update to the House at every sitting.

Mr. Speaker, the placement of children, youth, or young adults out-of-territory is a last resort, as Family Services makes every effort to keep our young people close to home whenever possible. Our commitment remains clear: to protect children, strengthen families, improve the quality and reliability of our information, and continue to strengthen the transparency, accountability and quality of services we provide across Nunavut.

Qujanamiik, Mr. Speaker

>>Applause

Speaker: Minister's statements. Minister of Human Resources, Minister Tattuinee**.**

Minister’s Statement 88-7(2): Kitikmeot Region Long Term Service Awards

Hon. Annie Tattuinee: Mr. Speaker, in September, I had the privilege of joining Premier Main and MLA Fred Pedersen in Cambridge Bay for the Kitikmeot Long-Term Service Awards.

The awards provided an opportunity to recognize Government of Nunavut employees celebrating 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years of public service. These are remarkable milestones, and it was a pleasure to celebrate them alongside colleagues and community members.

Mr. Speaker, we often in this House talk about programs, policies, budgets and priorities. Behind every one of them are people. They are serving Nunavummiut in our communities, working behind the scenes, supporting their colleagues and sharing what they have learned with those who come after them.

For some of the employees we celebrated in Cambridge Bay, that commitment spans several decades. Over these years, they have seen our territory and our government grow and change, and they have continued to show up and celebrate to the communities they call home. That kind of commitment deserves more than an award. It deserves our gratitude and our respect.

Mr. Speaker, while in Taloyoak we were able to recognize Gina Pizzo in front of her community for her 35 and 40 years of service during the opening of the new high school. Gina's many years of dedication reflect the important contributions that long-service employees make to their communities and to the Government of Nunavut.

>>Applause

As Minister of Human Resources, I see tremendous value in what long-serving employees bring to our public service. They provide continuity, mentorship, and carry knowledge that has been built over many years of serving Nunavummiut.

As we continue working to build a strong, representative and capable public service, we should also recognize the people who have helped build the foundation we have today.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate everyone recognized at the Kitikmeot Long-Term Service Awards. Thank you for the years you have given to the Government of Nunavut, for the people you have supported along the way, and for your continued service to Nunavummiut.

Qujannamiik, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): We honour the long-term employees. Minister of Education, Mr. Akeeagok.

Minister's Statement 89-7(2): Administrative Directive on Immunizations by Health and Education

Hon. David Akeeagok: Mr. Speaker, today we rise together to highlight an important advancement in our departments collaborate to support the wellbeing of Nunavut students.

The Department of Education and the Department of Health have jointly developed the Directive on the Administration of Immunizations and Other Health Programs in Schools. This directive strengthens clarity, consistency, and student safety during all health-administered programs delivered in our schools. This directive outlines the respective roles and responsibilities of the Department of Education staff and Department of Health staff when immunizations, communicable disease screenings, oral health interventions, eye exams, or eyecare programs are conducted in school settings.

This work reinforces the importance of informed and explicit written consent, appropriate supervision, and clear communication between departments. It ensures that health programming in schools is delivered through safe, transparent, and accountable procedures that respect families, protect students, and support the professionals who carry out this work. This directive strengthens accountability, protects student wellbeing, and ensures that all health-related programs delivered in schools follow consistent, safe, and transparent procedures across Nunavut.

I would like to thank school leaders, regional school operations, community health teams, and families for their continued partnership as we implement this directive across Nunavut.

Qujannamiik, Mr. Speaker

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Health, Minister Brewster.

Minister's Statement 90-7(2): Seasonal Immunization Campaign

Hon. Janet Brewster: Mr. Speaker, today I am happy to launch Nunavut's seasonal immunization campaign here at the Legislative Assembly, with Members of this House helping to lead the way in protecting ourselves, our families and our communities.

Nurses from Iqaluit Public Health will be in the Legislative Assembly lobby today from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., offering influenza and COVID-19 vaccines. I encourage Members who are eligible to roll up their sleeves and join us. By getting vaccinated, we can show our collective support for protecting the health of Nunavummiut.

Vaccines are now available in all Nunavut communities for Nunavummiut aged six months and older. Flu and COVID-19 vaccines can be received at the same appointment, with an enhanced flu vaccine available for those aged 65 and older. FluMist, a needle-free nasal spray, is also available for eligible individuals aged 2 to 59.

RSV immunization is also being offered to Nunavummiut aged 65 and older, as well as babies born in Nunavut or upon their return to the territory, to help protect those most vulnerable to serious respiratory illness.

Mr. Speaker, receiving seasonal immunizations every fall helps protect our most vulnerable community members, including our Elders, who play a valued role in our families and communities, and who may be more vulnerable to serious illness. Protecting our infants and young children is equally important. Young children are particularly vulnerable to severe illness from influenza and COVID-19. When children and babies receive their seasonal vaccines, it also helps protect the community at large by reducing the spread of these illnesses.

This message extends also to regular childhood vaccines. It is important that our children receive routine immunizations when they are recommended according to the Nunavut immunization schedule. If your child has fallen behind, it is not too late to catch up.

We know that Nunavummiut are exposed to a great deal of information about vaccines. Some of it can be confusing or inaccurate. I encourage everyone to seek reliable, evidence-based information and to speak with their health-care provider if they have any questions or concerns.

Vaccines have been safely and reliably used for decades and continue to provide the best defense against many illnesses that can have serious health consequences.

Mr. Speaker, protecting our health is something we do together. By staying informed and keeping our immunizations up to date, we protect ourselves, our children, our Elders and one another. Together, we can help keep our communities strong.

Today, Members of this Legislative Assembly have an opportunity to demonstrate that responsibility together. Let us lead by example and protect what matters most - our children, our Elders, our families and our communities.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Qulliq Energy Corporation, Ms. Healey Akearok.

Minister's Statement 91-7(2): Advocating for Nunavut's Energy Infrastructure Needs

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok (interpretation)**:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to provide an update on Qulliq Energy Corporation's ongoing efforts to secure federal support for the renewal and modernization of Nunavut's electricity infrastructure.

As Members are aware, many of Nunavut's power plants have reached or are nearing the end of their expected service life. Replacement projects are advancing in Cambridge Bay, Gjoa Haven, Igloolik, and Kugluktuk, supported in part by federal investment. To date, the Government of Canada has provided $94 million through the Arctic Energy Fund to support priority electricity infrastructure projects in Nunavut. While this investment represents important progress, significant infrastructure needs remain across the territory.

The Qulliq Energy Corporation has identified approximately $954 million in electricity infrastructure requirements and debt relief. These investments are needed to replace aging facilities, modernize distribution systems, improve reliability, increase electricity generation capacity, and prepare our electricity systems for greater integration of renewable energy.

The scale of these requirements exceeds the financial capacity of the corporation and the Government of Nunavut. To address these funding needs, Qulliq Energy Corporation continues to seek greater federal investment. Multiple times over the last year, and as recently as this week, I wrote to several federal ministers outlining Nunavut's electricity infrastructure needs and their importance to Canada's broader energy priorities.

Mr. Speaker, our message to the federal government is clear: Nunavut's energy future depends on more than replacing aging power plants. We need to modernize our electricity systems, strengthen local grid infrastructure, and enable greater integration of renewable energy. These investments are essential to supporting Arctic security and sovereignty, housing development, economic opportunities, and Nunavut's long-term transition away from diesel.

Qujannamiik, Mr. Speaker

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you to our agenda. Item 3, Members' Statements. Members' Statements. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Iqaluq.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 96-7(2): Reflections on Being Elected to Represent Hudson Bay

Mr. Iqaluq: (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the people of Sanikiluaq for having placed their trust in me to represent them as their member of the Legislative Assembly for the constituency of Hudson Bay.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to my predecessors in this seat. Daniel Qavvik, Allan Rumbolt and the late Peter Kattuk all represented community with commitment.

I look forward to building on their work.

Mr. Speaker, the need for the community infrastructure remains great. I will be working with local leadership to identify priorities and to advocate for investment in this area.

Mr. Speaker, as a former member of the board of directors of Arctic Co-op Limited, the Mitiq Co-op and Sanikiluaq Hunters and Trappers Association, I recognize the importance of building a strong and sustainable local economy and supporting our harvesters. The islands and waters that surround Sanikiluaq are rich with potential, and I am committed to supporting work to develop the potential.

Mr. Speaker, there are many people whom I would like to thank today for their support.

The most important people are my family: my wife, Mina, and my children, Emillie, Sarah Jane, Charlie Jace. I could not have done it without them.

(interpretation) I also like to acknowledge and thank my grandmother, Mary and my mother, Annie and my cousin, Quentin.

And also want to thank Jimmy Meeko, Jimmy Takatak and all my former colleagues at Air Inuit. (interpretation ends)

If I have missed anyone, I apologize.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that the Assembly has been in office for almost a year.

I would like to conclude by thanking you, all of my new colleagues, for the warm welcome that you have extended me.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Please feel welcome, our new fellow MLA. Members' Statements. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Pedersen.

Member's Statement 97-7(2): Issues to Raise During Fall Sitting

Mr. Pedersen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to you all and to residents of Cambridge Bay watching on television, it's good to be back in the House again. And I, too, want to welcome our newest member, Jason Iqaluq, member for Hudson Bay, to the House.

With my statement today I would like to give notice to various ministers that during the oral question period on our daily agenda, I would be asking questions on topics like seasonal time changes, lack of high school classes available, Nunavut's debt limit, Inuit hiring in government, devolution, funding for youth shelters, paving of Cambridge Bay runway, Nunavut's debt limit. Oh, I said that already. Income limits for Nunavut Housing Corporation programs. I will also be tabling documents from government departmental representatives from Kitikmeot organizations and from Cambridge Bay residents.

Mr. Speaker, although you mentioned this already in your statement, I want to say that yesterday in Cambridge Bay we lost another one of our Elders, Henry Ohokannoak. He was a long-time interpreter/translator and had previously worked in this House providing Inuinnaqtun interpretation services. On behalf of my family, I offer our sincerest condolences to his family, and may he rest in peace.

I also want to thank the Alberta residents for their resounding referendum vote to remain a part of Canada. This alleviates a lot of fears and questions that Kitikmeot residents and this government would have faced if the result was different. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Arviat South, Mr. Kablutsiak.

Member's Statement 98-7(2): Grand Opening of Sakku Innovations

Mr. Kablutsiak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On September 29, 2026, I was honoured to attend the grand opening of Sakku Innovative Building Solutions in Arviat as MLA for Arviat South. Sakku Innovative Building Solutions is based in Arviat, Nunavut and the factory is 100 percent Inuit owned through Sakku Properties Limited, ensuring that housing investments create lasting economic benefits for Nunavut communities. The facility is a 64,500-square-foot factory with five production cells operated by a joint lecture between Sakku and The RG Solution, a Quebec-based modular manufacturing expert.

Mr. Speaker, at full capacity, the factory will produce 80 housing modules annually, the equivalent to 40 houses designed for Nunavummiut, purpose built for Arctic conditions and Inuit lifestyles with designs tailored to the realities of northern living, built in the north and manufactured year-round in Arviat reducing reliance on seasonal construction limitations and imported southern workers.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time during our Fall Sitting, I will ask the minister responsible for Nunavut Housing Corporation some questions related to my member's statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Before I recognize another member, I would like to inform members that the member for Amittuq, Mr. Qammaniq, is absent from the House due to his flight being cancelled. If he's able to arrive tonight, he will be joining us tomorrow morning.

I would like to now recognize Members' Statements, member for Uqqummiut.

Member's Statement 99-7(2): Recent Visit to Qikiqtarjuaq

Mr. Kautuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have in my heart the people who have lost their loved ones and those who have to go to the funeral this afternoon. I want to say that I love them, and I would like to say thank you to the people of Qikiqtarjuaq because they warmly welcomed me when I went to their community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): We send condolences to the people in his community. Members' Statements. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Taqtu.

Member's Statement 100-7(2): Recent Visit to High Arctic Constituency

Mr. Taqtu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This past July, on July 16 to the 20, I was in Arctic Bay. No, I was in Grise Fiord. If someone is listening from there, I'll see you again. The land is beautiful, but we were really worried about the flight getting cancelled though. And I noticed that their only store, the Co-op, has very expensive items, and at the right opportunity I will be asking questions to the minister about it. I was there for four days

and I bought food just for me, and it cost over $300; it's enough for two days. So we really need to do something about that, Mr. Speaker. At the right opportunity I will be asking questions about it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you as well. Members' Statements. Member for Pangnirtung, Member Mike.

Member's Statement 101-7(2): Recent Events in Pangnirtung

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for us all back here again and the person right beside me, Jason, who will be the new MLA now for Hudson Bay.

Jason and I have worked together in the past with the Arctic Co-operatives Limited, and I wanted to welcome him first of all, and we'll be able to work with him now.

Now in Pangnirtung there has been some worrisome issues and dangerous issues coming out. There were people getting hurt and people shooting, and it was traumatizing for the whole community, and it pops up at any time. So I will want to ask questions about that, especially with the firearm offences, and it gets very worrisome when it happens.
Even though they go through that, the people of Pangnirtung have people that encourage people to do better. For example, whenever something is happening in the community that is for the community, the people of Pangnirtung rise up and support them. For example, people who went to hospital have to travel to hospitals, or when someone passes away, there's always fund-raising for airline tickets, and that really helps the communities.

Even though it gets very difficult at times, my fellow residents of Pangnirtung, many of them help with social issues and matters, and I know it's obvious that we would like the wrongdoings to lessen in the future, because they cause problems to the community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you as well. Members' Statements. Member statements. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Koonoo.

Member's Statement 102-7(2): Opening of Nunavut Arctic College in Pond Inlet

Hon. Brian Koonoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon people of Tununiq. I want to say thank you, first of all. On September 25 there was an opening in Tununiq, in Pond Inlet, of the new Arctic College facility. I would like to thank, first of all, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, Baffinland Iron Mines, and Nunavut Arctic College and all the staff that made the process work out very well for the new school.

And I'm proud that in Pond Inlet they were very successful in catching caribou, and some of them are waiting patiently for fatter caribou later on. And I know that the caribou hunting will proceed a lot better now than before.

And I would like to welcome Jason Iqaluq to the House, and it's great that we're all back here again and I'm happy about that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. We are still on item number 3, Members' Statements. Member from Iqaluit-Manirajak, Ms. Healey Akearok.

Member's Statement 103-7(2): Students Back to School

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker (interpretation ends) and good afternoon to Iqalummiut following our proceedings online today. I also want to extend a welcome to our new colleague, the member for Hudson Bay. I just wanted to take a moment to recognize all of the young Iqalummiut who are back in school this fall. To our students I want to say your education matters. Everyday you show up and you're building a future for yourself and your family and Nunavut. We believe in you and we're so proud of you.

I know that for some of our youth in Iqaluit it's already been a hard year, and if you're struggling, please know that help is there. You can talk to a teacher or a counsellor or a staff member at your school. You can reach out to Iqaluit mental health. You can visit the youth drop-in programs where caring adults are ready to listen. And most of all, I want our young Iqalummiut to reach out to the people in their lives who love them. Parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, cousins, coaches and friends, they all want to support you. Asking for help is not a weakness. It takes encourage and it's one of the ways we take care of each other. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Simailak.

Member's Statement 104-7(2): Wedding Celebration in Baker Lake

Hon. Craig Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues. It's good to see all of you again, and a special welcome to our newest member, Jason Iqaluq. Welcome to the House.

Mr. Speaker, as you mentioned earlier, I had a special day back home in Baker Lake. Pretty much all my life I haven't been much for wearing jewellery, but I can now say that as of October 9, I will be proudly wearing my wedding ring.

>>*Applause*.

I'm very fortunate my other half said yes when I proposed to her last November. So it took a long time to plan it. Trying to plan it through all my scheduling, travels, and trying to prepare for our beautiful day, we managed to make it work on October 9. It was a beautiful celebration. I was fortunate enough that a few very special people took part in it. My mother, Jean, she is a retired church Reverend, but she still does help out in the church, so she presided over our ceremony. And my father has been decades now playing the organ in the church there, and he did the organ work for us.

There is a lot of people to thank back home in Baker that helped us celebrate this. A lot of our friends and families, all the cooks. We had a very difficult time trying to find caribou, but thankfully a long-time family friend and Elder John Avaala, and his family, they donated quite a few caribou for us. Actually, all the caribou we ate in the feast was from their catch. It was quite a few caribou that he gave us. *Mat'na*. All the other cooks that helped prepare the food, macaroni salad, the turkeys and the other foods that we ate, and the band that helped us rock the square dance floor and the arena crew. But all of our friends and family, thank you very much. Our kids, they helped to make it beautiful, of course. A few of my grandchildren made it to Baker Lake from here in Iqaluit, along with their mother, my niece Caitlin. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): We join your celebration, Mr. Simailak. Mr. and Ms. Simailak, if I might say. Members' Statements. Arviat North and Whale Cove, Member Main.

Member's Statement 105-7(2): Welcome our New MLA (Main)

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Those who also have comments are numerous, Mr. Speaker. It's great. And I would like to welcome our new MLA member, Mr. Iqaluq, from representing the community of Sanikiluaq. We know you will serve the community well. Being an MLA is a very different occupation and the day -- this may be your first day, but all of us here we had our first day here, and those who have been long-term members, just as you, they sat having their first day sitting. And there are many new MLA's; some are ministers. And if you have questions, comments, we are here.

And everyday is different. We have some hard days, days we struggle, and it's very much part of being an MLA. And to let you know, if you go through difficulties, you are not alone. You can reach out to your MLA who are out there and willing to work with you. And I would like to welcome you and when this morning he was being sworn in, we have a new MLA (interpretation ends) The birth of a new MLA was witnessed this morning

and it was a special moment, and this is a special day on behalf of our new colleague. Welcome to the House. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): I would also like to express my gratitude. Members' Statements. My last name on the list, Mr. Akeeagok.

Member's Statement 106-7(2): Thank Everyone for Prayers

Hon. David Akeeagok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't know where to start. Today I rise to express gratitude we have as family. There are many individuals who provided support through prayer and while my wife was going through her illness. And one thing, God was always there. Although we long for her so much, but she was taken away. The hospital, and words of comfort has been expressed by many individuals. We have been given a lot of support as family and we have been very grateful. I cannot add what more I can say in our gratitude. We are constantly being provided support. They may seem small at times, but many times they are huge support. Our children, our grandchildren, family, my in-laws, together we are supporting each other while we are in a very difficult situation. But through help from people, it also shows the strength of Nunavummiut, and we've been grateful.

Our saint is still here and I have been so grateful. My wife, who I've been with more than half of my life and have worked with her so many times. And she pursued a career. She was passionate to become a Reverend in the church, and I have been grateful for that. And I would like to say rest in peace.

And I also thank you, all the MLAs and Nunavummiut, the support that you've given to our families. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): We express our love to your family, your children, your grandchildren. And our fellow MLAs, while I have this opportunity, perhaps if I can ask for a moment of silence in memory of Mr. Akeeagok's wife. One minute for a moment of silence. Let us stand.

Let us sit. Our sympathies with you, Mr. Akeeagok, and the family.

Back to our *Orders of the Day*. We move on to item 4, Return to Oral Questions. Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Arviat North, Mr. Kablutsiak.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Kablutsiak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize a visitor from Arviat here in this House, and active out there in the lobby, Sharron Owlijoot. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the Assembly. And I recognize you. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery, Iqaluit-Tasiluk, Mr. Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome my eldest daughter, Hope Linderman to the House. Last time she was here was during our swearing in ceremony. So she saw the festive side of things and now she gets to see the work that gets done in the House. As as we're all here as legislators keeping our government to account and making sure that we're representing our communities in a positive way welcoming our new member here. But I would like to again publicly recognize Hope. She's a midwife in Calgary, so she doesn't have a lot of spare time. So I feel very blessed that she's willing to spend it here with me. Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Welcome. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery, Mr. Akeeagok.

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize two individuals who are here. First of all, my mother's namesake name, and I always believe and then she used to be that she came from (indiscernible); and her friend, I think my daughter's -- my sister's daughter, Lorna Kalluk, I would like to welcome them to our House. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm really happy to recognize two members of our healthcare team who are here today; Sharron Owlijoot, who is a public health nurse in Arviat, and she's been helping us to launch our immunization campaign today. Welcome to your house, Sharron. And Letia Nowdlukd, who is our CHR in Iqaluit. Welcome to your House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. MLA for Sanikiluaq, Mr. Iqaluq.

Mr. Iqaluq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize and welcome visitors in the gallery. Mina Iqaluq and Sara Iaqluq, my wife and daughter. We're privileged that she could come with me here, and I thank. And they will be with me today, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Speaker(interpretation): Welcome to the Assembly. Welcome you all, Nunavummiut. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery, Arviat North and Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Some people need multiple vaccinations; some people need multiple recognitions. Sharron Owlijoot was previously recognized. She's been a longstanding member of the team at Arviat Health Centre and she's been a role model for other young people in Arviat who are looking to get into healthcare. And so I wanted to thank her for that and welcome her to the House.

Arviat has a lot of reasons to be proud, and one of them is that there are so many amazing Inuk nurses and Sharon is one of them. Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): And it's great to see Inuit who work in these fields. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names. Moving on to item 6. Oral Questions. Who likes to start first? High Arctic MLA, Mr. Taqtu.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Oral Question 129-7(2): Baffinland Iron Mine Update

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

My question is to the Minister responsible for Mines, (interpretation ends) and they concern his recent public statement of the future of Baffinland Mary River Mine. I used to work there for multiple years. So as the minister is aware, I represent three communities. That's Arctic Bay, Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord in the Legislative Assembly. They are impacted by what happens at the mine.

As the Minister will recall, he issued a statement in May of this year concerning Baffinland's decision to restructure under court ordered protection.

Over the past few weeks, there have been a number of reported developments in the restructuring process.

Can the minister provide an update today on the Government of Nunavut's role in the process? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Community Services, Mr. Simailak.

Hon. Craig Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his question regarding Baffinland and the situation they have been in for a number of months now. It is a concern for us as a government. It provides many employment opportunities for many Nunavummiut, not just the three communities mentioned. There's quite a few number of communities that members -- or different communities that work at Baffinland and we have been watching it carefully. We've been waiting to hear back on whether there will be a new buyer, buying out Baffinland. They did enter into creditor protection while they try to find a way to keep the mine operating. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary question, Mr. Taqtu.

Mr. Taqtu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) As the Minister will recall, his statement indicated that, “Our top priority is protecting the livelihood and well-being of the hundreds of Nunavummiut employed at Baffinland, which is a major employer in the territory and contributor to the economy.”

Mr. Speaker, it has been reported that the restructuring process may involve the sale of Mary River Mine to new owners.

Can the Minister confirm whether or not the Government of Nunavut is considering acquiring an equity stake at the Mary River Mine? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Community Services, Mr. Simailak.

Hon. Craig Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his question. It's an interesting question. I know he's looking at trying to see if the Baffinland mine can stay open. I can say that anything could be on the table. As we've seen in the past, a previous government was looking at purchasing an airline, but at this point no firm decision has been made. I would say anything could be on the table. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Second and final supplementary question, Mr. Taqtu.

Mr. Taqtu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Information published by the federal government under the *Extractive Sector Transparencies Measures Act* indicates that the Qikiqtani Inuit Association received over $74 million in

fees, payments and royalties from the operation of Mary River Mine between the years 2021 and 2025.

If the mine closes down, this source of revenue ends.

Can the Minister indicate what discussions he has had in the recent months with Qikiqtani Inuit Association's elected leadership concerning the future of Mary River Mine? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Simailak.

Hon. Craig Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his question. Regarding discussions that I have had with the Qikiqtani Inuit Association regarding Baffinland Iron Mines, the discussion has been around Inuit employment, training opportunities.

I am being hopeful that Baffinland will continue to operate. As I said earlier, it provides a lot of employment, business opportunities for Inuit that might want to start up a business there. So we are hopeful that it will keep operating.

But to answer the member's question regarding discussions between me and Qikiqtani Inuit Association, it's been around training programs or labour training programs one might try to work on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Pedersen.

Oral Question 130-7(2): Seasonal Time Changes

Mr. Pedersen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today my questions are for the Minister of Justice and relate to seasonal time changes.

My colleague from Kugluktuk asked questions on this matter back in May, and later today during the appropriate time I'll be tabling resolutions from a couple of Kitikmeot-based organizations regarding this topic.

My first question for the Minister is: What is his current position regarding seasonal time changes for Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Justice, Mr. Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member for the question. It's not the first question I've been posed on this topic in recent months. In fact, as a

regular member when I was sitting on that side, I was asking the government to entertain going to just the standard time as well.

Mr. Speaker, my position as a Minister of Justice is that we need to make sure that we're doing the time change correctly and to make sure that we consult with adjoining jurisdictions, making sure that we talk with our colleagues here to come to a final conclusion.

I have tasked my department a number of months ago to look at the feasibility of removing that time change in the spring and fall.

So, I don't make that decision myself. Obviously, there will be some discussions around the table, and I do welcome any correspondence that you have received, forward it to me. You know, tabling is one way to go about it. You can also just forward me any documents. Some of you already have. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary question, Mr. Pedersen.

Mr. Pedersen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I thank the Minister for his response. I want to point out that, you know, if the department started work on this when it was first raised, that it would have had ample time I think to make this happen this fall.

My understanding is that to end seasonal time changes it would not done by a bill, which does take time to make its way through this House, but rather, it can be done by simply making a change to the regulations, which is a much quicker process.

Can the minister confirm this? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yes, I can confirm that it's not a legislative change that needs to be made. It's a simple regulatory change. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary question, Mr. Pedersen.

Mr. Pedersen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for confirming that. My final question for the Minister is: Will he commit to replying to the Kitikmeot-based organizations in writing regarding the Government of Nunavut's timeline for ending seasonal time changes in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Justice, Mr. Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I do hope I get more questions on this, so I'll leave the response and say, yes, I will commit to responding. I just have to throw it out there that Nunavut having three time zones makes it extraordinarily more complicated than other jurisdictions, where some neighbouring jurisdictions have committed to eliminate the time change, other corresponding jurisdictions have not made that commitment.

As recently as last week, Makkivik in Northern Quebec, although they announced that they were no longer going to participate in the time change in November, they have since rescinded that because they recognize how complex -- I say it's a simple regulatory change. The simple part is my signature. The rest of it is not very simple at all.

So, there is a number of components that we do have to factor in. It is a very complex measure. It may seem quite simple; it's just a stroke of a pen. But when it comes time to our computers, our airline industry, a number of different corresponding jurisdictions how they regulate their time, we all have to all take under consideration. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Pedersen, your time for questioning on this matter is out.

>> Laughter.

I'll move on to the next member. (interpretation) Oral question. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Kautuk.

Oral Question 131-7(2): Health Infrastructure and Facilities

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

My questions concern the issue of health infrastructure and facilities.

As the Minister is aware, one of her department's major projects is the development of a new long-term care facility for Elders in the Qikiqtaaluk region.

In June of 2026, the Minister's department issued a request for qualification which indicated that it, “intends to conduct a two-stage procurement process to retain a qualified architectural and engineering consultant team for the design and construction, administration of the Qikiqtaaluk Regional Seniors Long-Term Care Facility in Iqaluit.”

In August of 2026, the department issued a notice which indicated that, “the current Request for Qualification for this project had been cancelled due to a change in project requirements."

Can the minister clearly describe what changes have been made, and can she indicate when a new Request for Qualification will be issued? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The Minister of Health, Minister Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The way forward is that we are going with a design -- pardon me, I'm just looking at my notes here. We're going forward with a design bill process. I can't speak to what substantive changes were made to go with that approach, other than the fact that we wanted to make sure that we're taking an approach that it seems odd to say that saves time, but we want to ensure that the design-build approach will better support the delivery of the facility; and with this approach, the design and construction components of the project will advance together instead of through separate processes.

And this change is not expected to affect the proposed overall project schedule at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary question, Mr. Kautuk.

Mr. Kautuk: (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister of Health. Mr. Speaker, my questions concern the issue of health infrastructure and facilities.

As the minister is aware, residents of Clyde Rive, Qikiqtarjuaq and other Qikiqtaaluk communities stay at the Larga Boarding Home when they are required to travel to Ottawa for medical treatment.

In September of this year, the Minister's department issued a cancellation notice regarding its Request for Proposal for the permission of medical boarding home services in Ottawa.

Can the minister clearly explain why this procurement process was cancelled, and can she indicate when her department's contract with the current service provider expired?

Speaker: Minister Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The simple answer is that the bid came in too high for the build and I'll -- I have to admit to everybody I'm really nervous. This happens every time. As time goes on, my nerves go away. So, I'll just listen to the next question and pull up that information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Second and final supplementary question, Mr. Kautuk.

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

As the Minister is aware, Qikiqtarjuaq's current health centre was originally built over a half century ago.

In April of 2025, the government issued a Request for Proposal for the design of a new health centre for Qikiqtarjuaq.

Mr. Speaker, I was very proud to have been able to vote in favour of $1.535 million in capital carryover funding for this important project during our recent Spring Sitting.

Can the Minister provide an update today on the status of the procurement process for the new Qikiqtarjuaq Health Centre? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The detailed design is currently ongoing, and it's scheduled to be completed by the end of this month, October 2026. And the Request For Tender and Award For Construction is anticipated to be between December 2026 and February 2027.

So, there is some progress being made. And like you, I'm very excited about having a new health centre built and that the community of Qikiqtarjuaq will have a much more improved journey through their healthcare because of that new build, and I'm looking forward to it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Item 6, *Orders of the Day*, Oral Questions. MLA for Aggu, Mr. Attagutaluk.

Oral Question 132-7(2): Baffin Island Caribou Management

Mr. Attagutaluk: My questions today are for the Minister of Environment.

Mr. Speaker, I want to follow up on questions that I asked during our Spring Sitting concerning the important issue of Baffin Island caribou management.

As the Minister will recall, new regulations under the *Wildlife Act* were published in August of this year concerning the total allowable harvest for Baffin Island caribou.

The regulations provided for an increase in the total allowable harvest to 6,000 caribou for the 2026-2027 harvest year with an annual increase of 125 caribou.

Can the Minister provide an update today on what feedback his department has been receiving from local Hunters and Trappers Organizations regarding the management of the new number? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Environment, Mr. Koonoo.

Hon. Brian Koonoo (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member for the questions.

The change that we all know happened recently, and this has been continued study since 2014. And it was great to hear that the HTOs were pleased with the increase in allowable harvest. That's how I can respond. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary question, Mr. Attagutaluk.

Mr. Attagutaluk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

It is important that caribou population numbers be closely monitored.

This information will be needed for the Minister and the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board to make informed decisions about future changes to the harvest numbers.

Can the Minister describe what initiatives his department is undertaking in this area? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Koonoo.

Hon. Brian Koonoo (interpretation): Thank you for your question. The Department of Environment worked closely with the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, and through the NWMB makes a decision. And Environment, we adhere by their decision.

We will continue to work with Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, and we are always giving announcement to the HTO's related issues.

And I would like to mention that when we make changes to increase or decreasing tags, the HTOs sometimes aren't able to respond at the moment changes are made. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Second and final question, Member Attagutaluk.

Mr. Attagutaluk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends)

As the Minister is aware, the new regulations that he approved indicated that, “The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board has not yet made a decision expressing the basic needs, level, or the allocation of the surplus for Baffin Island caribou as required under section 5.6.19 and 5.6.31 of the *Nunavut Agreement*."

The regulations also indicate that, “The Minister is of the opinion that this continued lack of decision constitutes an urgent and unusual circumstance requiring an immediate modification in harvesting activities with respect to the caribou on Baffin Island, particularly respecting the establishment of a basic needs level and allocation of any possible surplus.”

Can the Minister indicate if he has formally requested the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board to make a decision on this matter? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of the Environment, Minister Koonoo.

Hon. Brian Koonoo (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member.

Yes, Department of Environment are constantly working with the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, and the Department of Environment closely monitors the study on the number of caribou based on changes.

I wasn't really concerned that the study along with Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit from those decisions are made, and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit are always used as a measure by the Department of Environment. For that reason, I had no concern at all with the increase in allocation for caribou. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Oral Questions. Arviat North, Mr. Kablutsiak.

Oral Question 133-7(2): Devolution

Mr. Kablutsiak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Premier, and they concern the subject of devolution.

Mr. Speaker, the countdown to devolution is underway.

If my math is correct, there are approximately 160 days until the effective transfer date of April 1, 2027.

As the Premier will recall, he tabled draft devolution legislation during the Spring Sitting of the Legislative Assembly, and it is my understanding that he will be formally introducing the Bills during our current Fall Sitting.

Can the Premier indicate what feedback his department received from Nunavut Tunngavik over the summer months concerning the draft bills, and can he indicate the extent to which they have been changed to reflect the feedback received? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Nunavut Premier, Mr. Main.

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

In terms of the devolution bills, the member is correct, we have four bills that we are planning to introduce this sitting. And the plans are as part of the mirroring process to introduce two additional bills prior to transfer date on April 1, 2027, as well as a third *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act* to accompany those.

In terms of the mirroring process and bringing over the legislative authorities from federal government over to the Nunavut government, the mirroring process is collaborative and it's guided by a drafting protocol that's in the Devolution Agreement itself, and accordingly, all signatories are involved in that collaborative process, including Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated.

And so in terms of the bills that were tabled in the spring and the bills that members will see, there have been some minor adjustments, but no major changes. And members can verify that themselves following first reading over the next couple of days.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary question, Mr. Kablutsiak.

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

As the Premier will recall, he recently appeared before the Standing Senate Committee on Indigenous Peoples. The committee is considering parts of Bill C-31, which is a piece of proposed federal legislation.

Can the Premier inform the House what concerns the Government of Nunavut has with the Bill in respect to the devolution process? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Premier Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) In terms of the Bill C-31, it's seeking to amend the *Territorial Lands Act*.

I mean, first off, the Government of Nunavut supports the proposed measures, and we support measures that protect Canada's sovereignty and national security interests in the Arctic, and so we're not opposed to what is being put forward, and our testimony reflected that.

However, that being said, the timing has introduced a bit of complexity into our process of mirroring, and so we're currently working with the Government of Canada to understand how these proposed amendments can or should be reflected in Nunavut's legislation.

There are timing challenges, however, Mr. Speaker, and there are also fundamentally different roles and responsibilities between the territorial and federal governments. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Second and final supplementary, Mr. Kablutsiak.

Mr. Kablutsiak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

As the Premier is aware, the devolution process involves the transfer of a number of federal employees to the territorial government.

Can the Premier provide an update today on how many federal employees have accepted offers and how many have not accepted offers? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Nunavut Premier, Mr. Main.

Hon. John Main (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Out of respect for the individual decisions that employees have to make, I'm not going to provide a specific number. I can say that we're currently in the period where job offers are on the table in front of federal employees.

There's been a lot of back and forth in terms of very good questions to our government in terms of how we -- around benefits, around pay, around structuring of the new department.

And I just want to get out there that we really hope to see every one of those federal employees sign off and choose over to come over to the Nunavut government. There are a number that have already agreed. We want that number to increase.

And because we're still in that period where job offers are on the table, I'm not going to provide a specific number, and I hope the member understands why I'm trying not to publicly apply any pressure on any individuals.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Pangnirtung MLA, Mr. Mike.

Oral Question 134-7(2): Nunavut Land Use Plan

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to the people of Nunavut and everybody watching. My questions today are for the Minister of Environment.

As the minister will recall, I asked him a number of questions in regards to the Nunavut Planning Commission's recommended Land Use Plan.

Now, as the Minister knows and remembers, I asked him a number of questions during our Spring Sitting concerning the Nunavut Planning Commission's recommended Nunavut Land Use Plan, which was submitted to the federal government, the territorial government, and Nunavut Tunngavik almost, or over, three years ago.

And at that time the Minister indicated that the plan was under review by the three parties that I just mentioned.

On July 3, 2026, the Government of Nunavut, the Government of Canada and Nunavut Tunngavik announced their decision to reject the plan.

Can the Minister clearly describe the main reasons for the Government of Nunavut's decision to reject the plan? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Environment, Mr. Koonoo.

Hon. Brian Koonoo (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to my colleague for the question.

When we were working on the Land Use Plan, I know that we have to wait for certain organizations, and we want the Nunavut government, Canadian government, and Nunavut Tunngavik has kept on working on the plan to present to the Nunavut Planning Commission, and all the things that will have to be followed along with environmental stewardship have been included.

We all know how large Nunavut is, and we have to agree with other organizations on the matter.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: First supplementary question, Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the Minister.

The Nunavut Planning Commission announced that it had received the decision on July 6, 2026 that they had received a decision by the three parties. (interpretation ends)

Can the minister clearly describe what the next steps are in producing a new land use plan, and can the Minister provide a timeline for when the Nunavut Planning Commission is expected to submit a new plan to the three parties?

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Koonoo.

Hon. Brian Koonoo (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to my colleague.

This is always being worked on, and the Nunavut Planning Commission are always inputting things to their computer. It's all documented properly there, and they are available from the Nunavut Planning Commission's website. They are available there online, and all the reasons are there. If the member would like to see them, they are available.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Second and final supplementary question, Mr. Mike.

Mr. Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This has to be my final question. I hope I get a response to our questions. Sometimes our questions just disappear when the public needs to hear what we want to hear. Mr. Speaker, this will affect the devolution plan to start on April 2027.

The Nunavut government's announcement regarding the decision to reject the proposed land use plan, the planning for the land use plan, the government has indicated, (interpretation ends) “As of April 1, 2027, the Government of Nunavut will assume administration and control of Crown lands, natural resources, and inland waters in Nunavut under the terms of the Devolution Agreement signed by the Government of Canada, Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated.”

Can the Minister clearly indicate whether or not a new land use plan is expected to be submitted, reviewed and approved prior to next year's devolution deadline? Because this will affect the devolution startup. When can we expect the new land use plan to be submitted? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Environment, Mr. Koonoo.

Hon. Brian Koonoo (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to my colleague.

With devolution and the land use plan, they kind of touch each other, but they're not totally combined. There is a separation.

NPC stated what they plan to do. We work with them still with the federal government, the Nunavut government, and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. So we work with those two groups.

And to make sure we do things properly and make sure everything is set up properly, some of the laws have been changed, but the Nunavut government is very strong and we will wait for decision from the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Iqaluq.

Oral Question 135-7(2): Water Infrastructure

Mr. Iqaluq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister of Community Services.

As the Minister is aware, over a quarter of Nunavut's communities are under boil water orders or do not consume orderes.

For almost a decade, Sanikiluaq residents have been required to use reverse osmosis units.
Mr. Speaker, the community is looking forward to the completion of construction of the new water treatment plant. This is a process that I strongly support.

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

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Simailak.

Hon. Craig Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member for his question regarding the water treatment plant upgrades for his community of Sanikiluaq.

Mr. Speaker, safe drinking water is a core health, safety and community sustainability priority. It's for all the communities in Nunavut.

We work very closely with the hamlets and our partners at Transportation Infrastructure Nunavut and Department of Health to ensure water treatment infrastructure is built and operated to meet existing regulations.

Currently with Sanikiluaq, it is in the process right now of heading towards construction. And if my memory serves me correctly, a substantial completion should be about a year from now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary question, Mr. Iqaluq.

Mr. Iqaluq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that Sanikiluaq's new plant has been designed to produce drinking water that meets the new federal *Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality*.

Can the Minister describe how his department is working with the Municipality of Sanikiluaq to ensure that operators of the new plant receive the necessary training and certification before the plan becomes operational? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Simailak.

Hon. Craig Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his question.

It's a very valid question, as we need to have our water treatment plants operating at peak efficiency, trying to delay -- or not delay -- but prevent any turbidity issues for boil water advisories.

Currently what we have in the plans is the construction company or the contractor will work with the hamlet and community services and look at the training programs for locals to be able to operate the water treatment plant efficiently and correctly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary question, Mr. Iqaluq.

Mr. Iqaluq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

As the Minister is aware, Nunavut's Drinking Water Strategic Framework was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on May 29, 2023.

The document indicates that the total estimated cost to fulfill the strategy will be $610 million. It also indicates that, “The increased complexity of drinking water systems comes with an increase in operational and maintenance costs. Annual operation and maintenance costs for new infrastructure is estimated at $600,000 to $1.2 million per water treatment plant.”

Can the Minister indicate how much additional funding will be provided to the Municipality of Sanikiluaq to operate the new water treatment plant? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Community Services, Mr. Simailak.

Hon. Craig Simailak: I thank the member for his question.

That's a level of detail I do not have on hand, but I can get back to the member as to how much extra they may need to make sure that water treatment plant is operating. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): We are on item number 6, Oral Questions. I recognize Member for Kugluktuk, Mr. Kuliktana.

Oral Question 136-7(2): Corrections Branch

Mr. Kuliktana: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my questions today are for the Minister of Justice and they concern of the issue of the department's Correction Branch.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this year on, June 9, 2026, the Minister's statement in the house announced the expansion of the Community Corrections Divergent Program into all Nunavut's communities.

Mr. Speaker, this is great news. The Ministers' Statement indicated, “After early success in Kinngait, the program has expanded across the territory and can now be accessed by probation clients in all of our communities. To support consistent and effective delivery of this program, the Department of Justice provided joint training to all Community Justice Outreach Workers and Community Corrections Officers.”

Can the Minister explain how his department will provide this program to adult and youth probation clients in communities who do not have a resident Community Corrections Officer or Community Justice Outreach Worker? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Justice, Mr. Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Mr. Speaker, this is a very successful program. Currently there are community justice workers, and 22 of the 25 positions are currently filled, so we've made significant progress in that way.

To directly respond to the member's question, where there are opportunities for program delivery in a program in a community where there currently is unfilled positions, we

would utilize staff from regional offices or outlying communities to be able to provide that program delivery in the community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary, Mr. Kuliktana. You can hear? First supplementary, Mr. Kuliktana.

Mr. Kuliktana: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for your answer.

Mr. Speaker, the department's 2026-2030 Business Plan indicates that one of its priorities for 2026-2027 fiscal year is to, “Expand the restorative justice program for probation clients to at least five additional communities where there are Community Correction Officers and Community Justice Outreach Workers.”

Can the Minister confirm which five communities his department is considering expanding the Restorative Justice program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I don't have that level of detail in front of me of which communities are going to be rolling it out to next.

And just to supplement an earlier response, I'm assuming the member was asking about the position in Kugluktuk. That position job action did close the second week of September, so we do look forward to screening those applicants and getting that position filled.

But I will commit to following up with the member with a list of those communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Second and final supplementary, Mr. Kuliktana.

Mr. Kuliktana: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Minister.

Mr. Speaker, the department's 2026-2030 Business Plan indicates that one of its priorities for the 2027-2028 fiscal year is to, “Expand our Inuit Cultural Skills program with land-based and classroom instruction to the Rankin Inlet Healing Facility and the Ilavut Centre."

Can the Minister explain what specific actions his department will be undertaking to achieve this priority? Thank you, Mr. Speaker

Speaker: Mr. Hickes.

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

Mr. Speaker, as I'm sure the member can imagine, when you look at providing programs out on the land, there's a significant investment in equipment that's needed to be done, as well as making sure that there are other staff in-house that are able to deliver that programming, or local contractors or local people that would be able to fulfill that need as well.

Mr. Speaker, again, it's something that has been done in the past, so we're not reinventing the wheel, but we do have to make sure that we take the health and safety of not just our clients, but the program deliverer representatives as well, to make sure that everything's done safely.

And it is a very rewarding program, so I do look forward to moving on within the Rankin Inlet facility as well as in Kugluktuk when that facility opens up and starts taking in clients again for getting that program up and running. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Aivilik MLA, Ms. Angootealuk.

Oral Question 137-7(2): Firearms and the Chief Firearms Officer

Ms. Angootealuk: My questions today are for the Minister of Justice, and they concern the issue of firearms and Chief Firearms Officer.

Mr. Speaker, as the Minister will recall, he recently co-signed correspondence with the Minister of Justice for the Northwest Territories and Yukon to the federal Minister of Public Safety.

Mr. Speaker, the correspondence from the three Northern Ministers called on the federal government to pause its Firearms Compensation Program consider a Northern exemption, and to consult with the territorial governments to ensure that national firearms policy reflects the unique cultural, traditional harvesting and safety needs of the Northerners.

Can the Minister confirm if he received a reply from the federal Minister in response to the correspondence that he co-signed?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister of Justice, Minister Hickes.

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

Mr. Speaker, the member is correct, there was a joint letter submitted by the three territories to the Minister of Public Safety.

I would have to check my mail correspondence to confirm, but I don't recall if we've had official reply response to that. But I will say I have spoken to Minister Anandasangaree numerous times about this program, as well as other issues. I was speaking to the Minister as recently as last week.

So, this continues to be on our radar. We do recognize there wasn't a level of consultation that we would expect for something that has potential impact to our harvesters.

So, I want to be very clear that Hunters and Trappers Organizations and other stakeholders should have been consulted before such federal legislation was brought forward. And Mr. Speaker, I will continue to have correspondence and dialogue with the Minister of Public Safety on this topic. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): First supplementary, Ms. Angootealuk.

Ms. Angootealuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

On September 17, 2026, the government issued a new release announcing the creation of a Chief Firearms Officer position to serve the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, the news release indicated, “The new Chief Firearms Officer has ... responsibility for firearms services in all three territories and is supported by Firearms Officers in each territory. An open process will be run to appoint the permanent northern Chief Firearms Officer.”

Can the minister indicate what position is on this federal announcement? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Hickes.

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

Mr. Speaker, my position is that I think this position is a very important component to making sure that all three territories have access to program delivery, with firearms safety programs coordinating with our own staff at the community level to make sure that programs are delivered and available to be delivered.

Obviously, Mr. Speaker, there are firearms in many of our houses across the territory, and we need to make sure that all the safety measures that can be taken are taken, and that we

support our harvesters wherever available, and promote safe firearm use. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Second and final supplementary, Ms. Angootealuk.

Ms. Angootealuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Mister.

When I last raised this issue with the Minister during our spring sitting, I conveyed my constituents' concerns regarding the issue of lengthening firearms license terms.

At present, the licenses are valid for five years. As the Minister will recall, I suggested he raise this subject with his federal counterpart to explore the possibility of changing the term to ten years, which is similar to passports.

Mr. Speaker, at that time, the Minister indicated in the House that he will, “commit to follow up with my officials to propose that as an option going forward.”

Can the Minister indicate what discussions he has had with his federal counterpart on changing the five-year firearms licence term of residents of remote and northern communities? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member for that question.

Mr. Speaker, I just had a briefing with some of my officials yesterday, and unfortunately we didn't get to this topic in my brief, and I have another briefing scheduled for either tomorrow afternoon or Monday -- I can't even remember now.

But, Mr. Speaker, I did ask task the Assistant Deputy Minister at the Department of Justice who is on the working group dealing with Publici Safety Canada, and I just have to get updated on where exactly that file is.

Again, when you're looking at extending the licensing of something such as that, it does take a number of factors into consideration. But I will commit to getting an update for the member in the coming days. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Minister for Cambridge Bay **(sic),** Mr. Porter.

Oral Question 138-7(2): Substance Abuse and Treatment

Mr. Porter (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends)

My questions today are for the Minister of Health in regards to substance abuse and treatment.

As the Minister is aware, her department has recently announced that it is developing a new alcohol awareness campaign in for Nunavut.

The announcement indicated that representatives from her department are travelling this month to a number of communities in the Kitikmeot, including Gjoa Haven, Kugaaruk and Cambridge Bay.

Can the Minister describe what information and resources are being provided to the residents at the community meetings? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Our teams are going into communities to talk about the programs that we are running related to addiction services. We talk about healthy choices, and use that opportunity as well to get feedback directly from community members about what their needs are in their own communities and what ideas they have to help to uplift people to make healthy choices related to alcohol and drugs, and to health in general. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): My apologies for not mentioning your name right. First supplementary, Mr. Porter.

Mr. Porter (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends)

Information published by her department indicates that one of the issues that the awareness campaign will address is providing information to the public concerning where to get help for alcohol abuse.

As the Minister is aware, the new Aqqusariaq Nunavut Recovery Centre has been under construction in Iqaluit for a number of years.

Can the Minister confirm when the facility will begin offering programming to the public, and can she assure me that the residents from all Nunavut communities, including Gjoa Haven, will be able to utilize this facility? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm really happy to say that the facility is nearing substantial completion, and invitations to come out and celebrate that completion are imminent.

What I can tell you about the work so far towards creating the opportunity for Nunavummiut to start accessing services there is that there have been a number of protocols put in place.

The director of the centre has been hired. They are currently working on staffing that centre, and working towards creating the training and knowledge, pulling the staff together in order to start the intake.

I can't say when exactly that will occur, but I can say that there is an incredible amount of work that's been put in to ensuring that the programs that are run for Nunavummiut are grounded in Inuit values and led by Inuit as much as possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Second and final supplementary question, Mr. Porter.

Mr. Porter: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for your response.

As the Minister is aware, the use of cannabis is now legal in this country.

Although some Nunavut communities, including Gjoa Haven, have chosen to prohibit the possession of alcohol, cannabis can be legally consumed in all 25 communities.

Mr. Speaker, the use of cannabis is not without health risks.

Can the Minister describe what initiatives her department is undertaking to raise awareness of the health risks associated with cannabis abuse? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Minister Brewster.

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I thank the member for that very important question.

One of the greatest issues of concern related to cannabis use and the impacts on health is related to young people using and overusing cannabis. And so the department is working to create awareness about the impacts of overuse of cannabis on the growing minds, growing brain.

And, also, our CHRs, our Community Health Representatives, are making community members aware of the risks of cannabis use and always of the potential health impacts.

In terms of the one-on-one healthcare that's provided to individuals are physicians, nurse practitioners and healthcare professionals who receive regular training about all sorts of things that impact health, and that includes cannabis use and overuse.

And our overall message is to make healthy choices, and to use any kind of substance with caution and in small amounts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. I have no more names on the list.

We will proceed to item number 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 Committee on Bills and Other Matters. Number 13, Tabling of Documents. Item 14 -- my apologies, member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Pedersen.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 39-7(2): Correspondence from the Minister of Justice: Follow-up from the Committee of the Whole's Consideration of the 2026 – 2027 Main Estimates of the Dept. of Justice

Mr. Pedersen (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The first document which I am tabling in my capacity as Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole is a copy of correspondence from the Minister of Justice in response to questions that were asked during the consideration of the department's 2026-2027 Main Estimates during the proceedings of the Committee of the Whole during the Spring 2026-2027 Sitting of the Legislative Assembly.

Tabled Document 40-7(2): Correspondence from the Representative for Children and Youth: Follow-up from the Standing Committee on Oversight of Gvnmt Operations and Public Account's Televised Hearing on the 2024-2025 and 2025 - 2026 Annual Reports of the Representative for Children and Youth

The second document, which I am tabling in my capacity as Chair of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts is a copy of correspondence from the Representative for Children and Youth concerning the Standing Committee's recent televised hearing on her office's 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 annual reports.

Tabled Document 41-7(2): Correspondence from the Deputy Minister of Family Services: Follow-up from the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Account's Televised Hearing on the 2024 – 2025 and 2025 – 2026 Annual Reports of the Representative for Children and Youth

The third document which I'm tabling in my capacity as Chair of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts is a copy of correspondence from the Deputy Minister of Family Services concerning the Standing Committee's recent televised hearing on the office's 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 Annual Reports.

Tabled Document 42-7(2): Documentation Concerning Seasonal Time Changes

The fourth document which I'm tabling in my capacity as member for Cambridge Bay is a package of information concerning the issue of seasonal time changes. This package includes recent motions and correspondence on this issue that have been submitted by the Kitikmeot Chamber of Commerce, and the mayors of Cambridge Bay, Gjoa Haven, Kugluktuk and Taloyoak.

I encourage all members to review these documents with care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): My apologies. Tabling of Documents, number 13. Member for Kugluktuk, Mr. Kuliktana.

Tabled Document 43-7(2): Correspondence from the Yukon Minister of Highways and Public Works to the Federal Minister of the Environment Concerning Diesel Exhaust Fluid Sensor Requirements in Northern Canada

Mr. Kuliktana: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table today a copy of correspondence from the Yukon Minister of Highways and Public Works to the federal Minister of the Environment concerning the issue of diesel exhaust fluid centre requirements in northern Canada.

I encourage all members to review the document with care, and I will ask questions to the appropriate minister on this issue during our Fall Sitting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Tabling of Documents. Minister of the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Ms. Healey Akearok.

Tabled Document 44-7(2): 2026-2026 Quilliq Energy Corporation Annual Report

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I am pleased to table the Qulliq Energy Corporation 2025-2026 Annual Report.

Mr. Speaker, once the Inuktitut translations are complete, I will file with the clerk for distribution to all members. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Healey Akearok.

Tabled Document 45-7(2): Minister's 2024-2025 Report on Poverty Reduction

Hon. Gwen Healey Akearok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(interpretation ends). I am pleased to table the Minister's 2024-2025 report on poverty reduction.

Mr. Speaker, once the Inuktitut translations are complete, I will file with the clerk for distribution to all members. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Tabling of Documents. For myself, I have nine documents to table today.

Tabled Document 46-7(2): 2025-2026 Annual Report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut

The first document is the 2025-2026 Annual Report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut.

Tabled Document 47-7(2): 2025-2026 Annual Report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut

The second document is the 2025-2026 Annual Report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut.

Tabled Document 48-7(2): 2025-2026 Annual Report of the Integrity Commissioner of Nunavut

The third document is the 2025-2026 Annual Report of the Integrity Commissioner of Nunavut.

Tabled Document 49-7(2): 2025-2026 Annual Report of the Representative for Children and Youth

The fourth document is the 2025-2026 Annual Report of the Office of the Representative for Children and Youth.

Tabled Document 50-7(2): 2024-2025 Audited Financial Statements under the Legislative Assembly Retiring Allowances Act

The fifth document is the 2024-2025 Audited Financial Statements under the Legislative Assembly *Retiring Allowances Act*

Tabled Document 51-7(2): 2024-2025 Audited Financial Statements under the Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act

The sixth document is the 2024-2025 Audited Financial Statements under the *Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act*.

Tabled Document 52-7(2): 2025-2026 Audited Financial Statements under the Legislative Assembly Retiring Allowances Act

The seventh document is the 2025-2026 Audited Financial Statements under the Legislative Assembly *Retiring Allowances Act*.

Tabled Document 53-7(2): 2025-2026 Audited Financial Statements under the Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act

The eighth document is the 2025-2026 Audited Financial Statements under the *Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act*.

Tabled Document 54-7(2): Election under the Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act

And the ninth and final document is an election under the Supplementary *Retiring Allowances Act* following the Act. Thank you.

Back to the *Orders of the Day*. Item number 14, Notices of Motions. Mr. Porter, I recognize you.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Motion 5-7(2): Legislative Assembly Appointments – Notice of Motion

Mr. Porter (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends)

I give notice that on Monday, October 26, 2026, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Amittuq, that Jason Iqaluq, Member for Hudson Bay, be appointed to the Standing Committee on Legislation, the Standing Committee on Oversight and Government Operations and Public Accounts and the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker(interpretation): Yes, thank you. We will proceed to item number 15, Notices of Motions of First Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Mr. Main.

Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

Bill 5 – An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act - Notice

Bill 10 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2027-2028 – Notice

Bill 11 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2025 - 2026 - Notice

Bill 12 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2026 - 2027 - Notice

Bill 13 – Write-Off of Assets Act, 2025 - 2026 – Notice

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

I give notice that on Friday, October 23, 2026 that the following bills be read for the first time:

- Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act;* Bill 10, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2027-2028;*
- Bill 11, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance Act*), No.3, 2025-2026;
- Bill 12, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2026-2027*, and
-
- Bill 13, *Write-Off of Assets Act*, 2025-2026. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Item number 15, Notices of Motion of First Reading of Bills. Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Bill 6 – Archaeological and Palaeontological Sites Act – Notice

Bill 7 – Public Lands Act – Notice

Bill 8 – Surface Rights Tribunal Act – Notice

Bill 9 - Waters Act – Notice

Hon. John Main: I give notice that on Friday, October 23, 2026 that the following Bills be read for the first time:

- Bill 6, *Archaeological and Paleontological Sites Act*;
- Bill 7, *Public Lands Act*;
- Bill 8, *Surface Rights Tribunal Act*; and
- Bill 9, *Waters Act*.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Item 15, Minister of Health, Minister Brewster.

Bill 14 – An Act to Amend the Medical Profession Act – Notice

Hon. Janet Brewster: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, October 23, 2026, that Bill 14, *An Act to Amend the Medical Profession Act*, be read for the first time.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Item 15, Minister of Education, Minister Akeeagok.

Bill 15 – An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act – Notice

Hon. David Akeeagok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, October 23, 2026 that Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act* be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Moving on with our items. Item 16, Motions. Mr. Porter.

Item 16: Motions

Mr. Porter: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Whereas Section 17 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act* provides that the Legislative Assembly -- Sorry. Sorry, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today.

Speaker (interpretation)**:** Thank you. The member is on notice to deal with his motion today. Any nays? I haven't heard any. Carry on, Mr. Porter.

Motion 5-7(2): Legislative Assembly Appointments

Mr. Porter: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS section 17 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act* provides that the Legislative Assembly may establish such committees to aid and advise it as it considers necessary;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly is prepared to make appointments;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Amittuq, that Jason Iqaluq, Member for Hudson Bay, be appointed to the Standing Committee on Legislation, the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts and the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. Those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried. And welcome, our new member to the committees. The motion is passed.

Item 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. Where are we now? 21, yes. Third Reading of Bills; 22, Orders of the Day.

Clerk? Mr. Clerk?

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Mr. Clerk: *Orders of the Day* for Friday -- tomorrow morning, Friday, October 23 at 9 a.m.

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Responses to Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> Applause

Speaker's Statement

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Before we conclude, I wish to make two corrections for the record concerning the Money Message.

These are Bills 10, 11 and 12. They will be introduced during the 2026 Fall Sitting of the House, and Bill 10 is the *Capital Appropriation Act* for the 2027-2028 fiscal year.

I thank members for their attention. Our *Order of the Day* has concluded.

Tomorrow morning, we will convene on Friday, October 23 at 9 a.m. Sergeant-at-Arms.

>> House concludes at 15:54.