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Speaker: The Hon. Levi Barnabas, M.L.A.

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

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(Akulliq)

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Saturday May 29, 1999**

Members Present

Mr. Ovide Alakannuark, Mr. Olayuk Akesuk, Honourable Jack Anawak, Honourable James Arvaluk, Honourable Levi Barnabas, Honourable Donald Havioyak, Mr. David Iqaqrialu, Mr. Enoki Irqittuq, Mr. Peter Kattuk, Honourable Peter Kilabuk, Mr. Glenn McLean, Honourable Kelvin Ng, Mr. Jobie Nutarak, Mr. Kevin O'Brien, Honourable Paul Okalik, Honourable Edward Picco, Mr. Uriash Puqiqnak, Honourable Manito Thompson, Mr. Hunter Tootoo.

Item 1: Prayer

Speaker (Mr. Barnabas) (interpretation): Good morning. I would like to ask Mr. Puqiqnak to say the opening prayer this morning.

>>Prayer

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. Item number 2, Minister's statements. Minister's statements, Mr. Premier.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements**Ministers' Statement 25 – 1 (2) : Canadian Space Agency Astronaut Julie Payette**

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I rise today to ask the members to recognize with me the achievement of the Canadian astronaut, Julie Payette, who last Thursday was launched into space.

Miss Payette brought with her on board the Space Shuttle Discovery the flag of Nunavut.

The creation of Nunavut is the outcome of a dream for Nunavummiut and, as a means of celebrating this new era for Canada, the Canadian Space Agency and Ms. Payette included Nunavut in this historic space mission.

Mr. Speaker, Miss Payette has been invited to visit Nunavut and take part in the Nunavut celebrations on July 9. We look forward to her presence.

Again, I would like to ask the members to join with me in congratulating Ms. Payette. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Premier. Ministers' Statements. Members' Statements. Mr. Tootoo.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Members' Statement 80 – 1 (2): Capital Aesthetic Improvements

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on the issue of our capital. Mr. Speaker, several recent newspaper articles have commented on the state of our capital. Iqaluit has been called the capital city of poverty reflecting the income levels of many of our long time residents as well as the homeless. Iqaluit has also been called an ugly capital reflecting on the buildings and the layout of the town.

Forced growth and quick growth are having an impact on the town of Iqaluit and not all of it is pretty. Mr. Speaker, Iqaluit roads and parking spaces are becoming more and more congested. Old boarded up buildings waiting for redevelopment are unsightly, our signs aren't very aesthetic, and our water front as well, let's say its functional. And yet we have majestic hills surrounding the town and a beautiful view of the ocean.

We have artists, weavers and carvers who can transform entranceways and walls into cultural masterpieces. People should leave Iqaluit with an impression of this beauty and this needs to be incorporated into the capital. Mr. Speaker, Iqaluit should look like a capital. I recognize that this won't happen over night but we need to start somewhere. We need a capital city plan. At the same time not all of the burden for this should fall on the town of Iqaluit. We need a group of people with vision to develop such a plan.

A group of people with practical, sensible and aesthetic ideas to ensure we beautify the city and make it a home for new offices and tourists and allow it to take it's rightful place among the capital cities of Canada. We should also provide housing for all the Iqaluit residents and places for our youth and our children to play and to grow strong. Mr. Speaker, a task force should be struck with the Government of Nunavut, Town Council, and the Federal Government and Land Claim Organizations, local businesses, tourism and social organizations.

This task force should have its mandate to develop a long-term plan for the capital city of Iqaluit. Mr. Speaker, I hope that all the members of this house will support the Premier in establishing such a group and ensure that some capital funding is devoted to this need which will benefit all of Nunavut. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Just a caution that we still have rules. Make sure your statement is within two minutes and thirty seconds because I'm going to have to call you to sit down and you're going to have to ask for unanimous consent to finish your statement.
Members' Statements.

Speaker (interpretation): Members' statement. Mr. Arvaluk.

Members' Statement 81 – 1 (2): Nunavut Flag in Space

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. In regards to the Minister's comments I am very pleased that Julie Payette was able to go up in the space shuttle Discovery. We can now watch TVNC everyday to look at the current events and last night we saw the flag of Nunavut shown on TVNC and I can recall in 1971 that the Anik Satellite was launched for the first time.

Elijah Manirayak and myself went down to Cape Canaveral to watch the launch. During the celebrations that same evening, since he was a CBC reporter, he interviewed me in Florida. It's been 28 years today but I can remember that it was live and it was in Inuktitut by telephone to Montreal and then to the Nunavut communities. We were using the short-wave radio.

I believe that it was the last time that we did use the short-wave radio before it became the satellite services and then afterwards we used the Anik satellite system. I was very proud last evening when I saw the current events with the Nunavut flag. There has been a tremendous change over the last 30 years and I hope that and I do know that the youth will be involved in these evolving times. It's an honour to have been apart of these changes and it's for the betterment and for the self-sufficiency of the Inuit of Nunavut. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Members' statements. Members' statements. Mr. Kattuk.

Members' Statement 82 - 1 (2): Services for BCC Inmates

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you. I have asked several questions on this issue and at this time I would like to put it out as a members' statement regarding the Baffin Correctional Centre that's based here in Iqaluit. Mr. Speaker, the Baffin Correctional Centre needs support services for the inmates because at times it's very hard for some of the inmates as they're worried about their immediate family members that they've left behind.

With that in mind Mr. Speaker I would like say that the inmates should be able to get counselling and have healing services available to them because the Baffin Correctional Centre is used by a lot of Inuit. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kattuk. Members' Statements. Mr. Picco.

Members' Statement 83 - 1 (2): Anglican Church Synod in Iqaluit

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. This week in Iqaluit there are several Ministers and lay people from all across the arctic and indeed the north, from Nunavik to Nunavut and the Northwest Territories, to attend the Anglican Church synod. Mr. Speaker, the

delegates will be selecting two new Bishops, one for the Kitikmeot and one for the Nunavik portion of the Anglican Church ministry here in the north.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all the delegates, lay people, and especially Mr. Chris Williams, Bishop of the Anglican Church back to Iqaluit his old hometown, and wish them well on their deliberations and the selection of the two Bishops today. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. Members' statements. Back to our agenda. Item 4. Return to oral questions. Mr. Premier. Mr. Okalik.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return 7 - 1 (2) Fair and Equitable Treatment of Employees

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I rise today to respond to a question raised by the member for Iqaluit Centre regarding the mechanisms that are placed to ensure that there is a fair and equitable treatment of all Government of Nunavut employees and the public.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the member that we have established recruitment policies and procedures in place to ensure consistency in the selection and hiring of Government of Nunavut public servants. As well, Mr. Speaker, the terms and conditions of our employees are defined in the collective agreements included in the management handbooks. Mr. Speaker, to conclude, the Government of Nunavut through the Department of Human Resources implements these policies and procedures fairly and consistently. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Premier, Mr. Okalik. Return to oral questions. Return to oral questions. Item 5 recognition of visitors in the gallery. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Item number 5. Mr. Picco.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. It gives me great pleasure to welcome to the gallery today Mr. Jaypeetee Arnakak, who's is my brother-in-law and a senior employee with the Department of RWED here in Iqaluit. Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. Recognition of visitors in the gallery. At this time I'd like to welcome everybody here in the presence during our meeting. Welcome to the gallery. Item 6. Oral questions. Mr. Akasuk.

Item 6 : Oral Questions

Question 134 - 1 (2): Social Service Worker for Kimmirut

Mr. Akasuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Health and Social Services. The community of Kimmirut currently does not have a social service worker. My question is how long do they have to wait to get a social service worker? That's my question Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Akasuk. Minister of Health Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there is a process in place to staff up communities for dedicated employees like social workers. I don't know how long the position has been vacant in Kimmirut and indeed, if the community of Kimmirut has contacted the Baffin Regional Health and Social Services Board for the staffing of that position.

Maybe after the session this morning I can speak to the member directly to get some more information and then get back to him on the position and when this position could be filled. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral questions. Mr. Irqittuq.

Question 135 - 1 (2): Payment for Grave Workers

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I will direct my question to the Minister of CGHT Community Governments. Mr. Speaker, I think this is a difficult issue, but you have to deal with this, and this question has never really been answered.

This is a very old issue. In my community that in 1967 or 1968, five or six men were asked to move graves to another site. I was still a child but I do remember when that happened.

These people were supposed to be paid a good wage but these people were never paid up to today and have been going through various organizations to try to collect the wages they were supposed to be paid. I wonder if the Minister can reply to that.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Irqittuq. ...Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, this is a very old issue. I don't know what we can do about that but I think there are other cases and other groups who were never paid for doing public service like that.

I would like to ask the member to give me the names of these individuals and we'll do what we can.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak.

Mr. Irgittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker and thank you Mr. Minister of MACA for his positive response. I have a second question that I would like to ask. Does the Minister want those names right away?

Speaker (interpretation): Thank Mr. Irgittuq. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Yes, maybe during break.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral questions. Mr. Alakannuark.

Question 136 - 1 (2): Increase Polar Bear Quotas

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Sustainable Development. Polar bears sometimes come right into the community and this causes problems. Polar bears are under a quota. Even if a person wants to harvest more than one polar bear they're unable to do that. We've been requesting increases in our quotas. I wonder if that's been looked at.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. ...Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I can only respond by saying that quotas are only reviewed after a study has been conducted.

I think that this is one of the best programs in Nunavut. If there is going to be an increase to the quota we would have to look at the studies that have been carried out most recently in any given area.

I cannot increase any type of quotas but we have to follow the studies that have been carried out. There are 13 zones in Nunavut that have quotas for this species. We have to look at the quotas from year to year and on a case by case basis.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the answer that you have just given me. The reason I asked this question was that in Kitikmeot we have been requesting increases in polar bear quotas for sometime. Thank you for your response. Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Oral questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Question 137 - 1 (2): Land Fill Site Restoration in Pond Inlet

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. This is directed to the Minister of Community Government. As I have stated earlier our land fill site was moved from one area to another and the old site was supposed to be restored.

I think the work was supposed to be completed sometime this summer but there have been no funds identified to do the project. Until that land fill site is restored we cannot use that area for houses or anything. I wonder if the Minister is going to be looking for funds to do that work this summer? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for Community Government. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Yes, thank you. Yes, I think NCC is going to be building in that area and I know this is an urgent matter. If there is a health concern I can work with the Department of Health to look at this right away so that NCC can start building in Pond Inlet. We will look at this right away to try and identify funds to restore the site so that construction can start this summer. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral questions Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have another question. I wonder how long its going to take him to look into this and when can he respond to me?

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Nutarak. Two questions Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): I can only tell the member that perhaps I'll be able to give him a response by Tuesday.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Question 138 - 1 (2): Environmental Report on Land Fill Site

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker just to follow up on the last question, I'd like to ask the Minister for Community Government and Housing and Transportation if he is aware that that there has been an environmental health report done on that site in Pond Inlet. I'm just wondering if he's been aware of it and if his staff has reviewed it. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Two questions Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak: Mr. Speaker I thank the member for his question. I think that's why there is some concern right now for that particular area because of the environmental concerns. However, we're talking to the Department of Health to see what we can do to ensure that the buildings are built in that spot that they're destined to be.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I've reviewed that report in the past and I'd like to ask the Minister if he's aware that report deals with not only housing that is going to be built by NCC but also it deals with houses that are already existing on that site. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister responsible for Community Government, Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak: As much as we want to make sure that the decentralization proceeds, we want to make sure that the safety and health concerns are considered. I'm sure the staff of the Community Government and Housing and Transportation is taking a look at the report.

We'll proceed accordingly after making sure that the environmental safety concerns will be dealt with before putting any building in there.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier not only does that report deal with housing that is being planned to be there but also that the report was done as a result of some concerns over some houses that are already existing on that site. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak: Mr. Speaker I'm sure we will. I just usually generalize when I want to make sure that where the new units are built health environmental safety concerns would be considered. The safety goes for the buildings that are already on that site. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral questions. Final supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker maybe if I could just ask the Minister if he could get back to me at some point in the future on how the situation came about in the first place with houses being built within a site where they're not supposed to be built just so that this does not repeat itself in other areas in the future. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Anawak

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Yes, thank you. I am not quite certain how this situation came about, but, I used to live in a small community too and it was common practice for the GNWT to dictate where buildings went and the communities just went

along with it. But now, with the Nunavut Government now in existence, communities will be given more of a say.

Community residents should be given first choice of the best sites in the community for buildings, rather than for example putting in a parking garage.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Anawak. Oral questions, Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 139 - 1 (2): Inuit Traditional Knowledge in Wildlife Studies

Mr. Iqaqrialu(interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker, My question is to the Minister for Sustainable Development. We spend a lot of time and money on wildlife studies, and I believe that Inuit traditional knowledge is very valuable in this area. Can the Minister tell me if the new government will put more effort into this?

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Minister responsible for Sustainable Development, Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I think that I would be wrong to say that this is not what we are going to do about Inuit traditional knowledge. I know that more and more traditional knowledge is being incorporated into wildlife studies. Whenever there is a study done on wildlife, we have had positive results by using Inuit traditional knowledge. It is my desire to incorporate such knowledge.

Speaker: Oral questions. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you very much for that answer. Thank you.

Speaker: Oral questions. Mr. O'Brien.

Question 140 - 1 (2): Business Incentive Policy

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Premier or the Minister of Public Works, depending on who can answer the question.

It has recently been announced that the Business Incentive Policy has been adopted from the period of April 1st 1999 until March 31st, 2000 and applies I believe to Nunavut firms only. My question is what efforts is the government making to ensure that Nunavut businesses are aware of how to take advantage of this policy?

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Mr. Premier, the question was directed to you.

Hon. Paul Okalik: Mr. Speaker, I believe the question was directed to the Minister of Public Works. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Public Works, Ms. Thompson.

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you Mr. Speaker. We will be consulting with all of the businesses if we are going to make any changes. Up to now I don't know of any changes coming up with BIP, if there are going to be anything new coming out we will consult with the northern businesses before making any decision.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Ms. Thompson. I would just like to make a clarification here. When there is a question you have to identify the appropriate Minister and if the Ministers want to refer the question to the appropriate Minister they can do that.

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker in some documentation that I received from the Premier, he did make it clear that there will be a review of the BIP. My question would be, is it the intention of the Minister to involve all of the stakeholders to ensure that they have input and that they are consulted. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. O'Brien. Ms. Thompson, Minister responsible for Public Works.

Hon. Maniok Thompson: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I don't know what document he is referring to. I don't have a copy of it in front of me, but we do consult with all of the stakeholders if we are going to be making any changes on the BIP. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Ms. Thompson. Oral question, Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Regarding the land fill site in Pond Inlet, I think the debate here made it sound like that it is very filthy there, but the land fill site is actually quite clean, but it is only the smell that is a concern, there are no hazardous materials there.

There is going to be no construction happening there right away in the area adjacent to that land fill site. Some of the buildings that are being done now are not too close so I think that if the site is restored then building can start immediately.

Speaker (interpretation): No question, just a comment. Oral questions, Mr. Akasuk.

Question 141 - 1(2): Payroll Tax

Mr. Akasuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Finance. The 1% payroll tax, is that going to stay or is that going to be taken away. That is my question, Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Akasuk. Minister responsible for Finance, Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker as it stands now it is in effect for the current operating year and as I've indicated in responses to other questions about taxation issues and whether or not there will be amendments in the next fiscal year.

That will be taken into consideration as we develop the budget for the 2000/2001 year. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Ng. Oral question. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Question 142 - 1 (2): Yard Space Around Houses

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct this question to the Minister of Housing. New homeowners increasing today due to the efforts of the Housing Corporation, but it seems to be at a snail's pace for public housing, although some private homeowners are increasing at a rate.

It seems that in some communities that the houses are very closely spaced together and you do not have room for a shack or other items. It seems to be cluttered, and I would like to know if communities can be given more control over land within their boundaries. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Minister responsible for Housing, Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak (interpretation): Thank you. In respect to the close spaces between the houses, I am well aware of the issue and the concerns that he raises. In respect to the spaces there are regulations for that, I am not sure of the exact details.

In respect to community governments and their mandates and responsibilities I am not aware of what they have done and the codes that they have to follow. But I will let the member know that this problem is something I am well aware of it and I will work with the communities on this issue..

I know that it is a problem and I just wanted to tell the member that I will look into the matter. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral questions. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Question 143 - 1 (2): Banking in Smaller Communities

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I will direct my question to the Minister of Finance. Mr. Speaker, the question I would like to raise today is in respect to the lack of financial institutions such as banks in smaller communities.

I am wondering how that will be dealt with in the Nunavut Territory. My question is with the creation of Nunavut, we are now running more our own finances. We should

ensure that these financial institution services are close to the people, Thank you Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. Minister responsible for Finance, Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Sorry Mr. Speaker, I didn't quite catch that question from the member. Could he please repeat it.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Puqiqnak, could you please repeat your question.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): I apologize to the Minister of Finance, I didn't know he was away from the table, because we are on the same side of the table. My question is directed to the Minister of Finance, the communities that are smaller than the regional centres do not have access to the financial institutions and their services especially for the unilingual Inuit.

They could take advantage of the financial services, so my question to the Minister of Finance is, with the creation of Nunavut and knowing that we must operate with funding, I am wondering whether these types of services and financial institutions will be available to the communities?

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. Minister of Finance, Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, part of the proposal call that the government of Nunavut put out for financial services from the banking institutions included what type of services they could possibly provide outside of the main centres and within Nunavut as a whole.

So that was part of the component in the assessment of their proposals. As members know the Royal Bank was the successful proponent as the result of those proposal calls. I don't know the full details quite frankly, of the analysis, and what was proposed outside of the regional centres, so I will find that out and get back to the member. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Ng. Oral questions. Mr. Kattuk.

Question 144 - 1 (2): Polar Bear Management in Hudson Bay

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I want to direct my question to the Minister of Sustainable Development. In respect to polar bears and the Hudson Bay management area as well as Hudson Strait. I know that there was research into the populations but there were problems during the process.

A bear was killed by the researchers and Sanikiluaq's quota was reduced as a result. The researchers inadvertently killed that bear. So my question is directed to the Minister, are you going to be utilizing traditional knowledge in relation to wildlife research.

We know that they have to be incorporated, but although I have stated that it should have been incorporated, it seemed as if our opinions were sloughed off and I am wondering whether researchers are utilising traditional knowledge, because the communities contain a lot of traditional wisdom about wildlife and the government researchers have limited knowledge about wildlife.

I am wondering now whether they are going to use traditional knowledge. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Kattuk. Minister responsible for Sustainable Development, Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. My officials and I want to incorporate traditional knowledge in the workings of my department. But I am not sure how they're being utilized in wildlife research in respect to traditional knowledge.

As the Minister responsible for Sustainable Development and Wildlife and specifically polar bears, I will direct my department and specifically the researchers to incorporate traditional knowledge in their research.

In respect to his question, yes we will try to utilize traditional knowledge to ensure that it is properly used and in the proper context.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kilabuk. Mr. Kattuk.

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. It is not really a question, more of a comment. The researchers now use satellites to do research, and again traditional knowledge states that bears leave the area once they have been captured. Also Inuit do not like to hunt polar bears which have been captured and drugged by the researchers.

In this day Inuit are now leery about research caught bears and the people of Sanikiluaq are concerned about this.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister responsible for Wildlife, Mr. Kilabuk.

Hon. Peter Kilabuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. This is not much of an answer either but I will try to clarify this situation. I want this clearly understood in respect to the research that has been undertaken to date, they do not intentionally hurt the animals, but they are trying to discover characteristics or other things about the animals that they were conducting the research on.

In respect to the traditional knowledge I know that we will be utilizing this and that there will be more of traditional knowledge in the future. I am encouraging traditional knowledge to be incorporated so that it will meet our needs and challenges that we face in our operations today. As to the other issue raised that Inuit do not want to eat polar bear meat that has been tainted by the drugs of the researchers, it is true.

I would like to state that in our department we are aware of the concerns that Inuit have in respect to the research caught bears and there is a 48 hour limit for the drugs to pass through the body. We also ask people not to eat the meat if it had been drugged within the past 1 year.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral question, Mr. Tootoo.

Question 145 - 1 (2): Increase in MDAPP

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister responsible for Community Government, Housing & Transportation. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was listening to the radio and heard the Minister announcing that the MDAPP program was going to be increased from 15 thousand dollars to 30 thousand dollars. I am just wondering Mr. Speaker, if that is now being put into place under that program. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister responsible for Housing, Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak: Mr. Speaker, I don't know if the translation came out wrong but the interview was in Inuktitut, but all I said about MDAPP was that we are looking at it and we would like to take a second look at it and see if we would like to target it more towards the lower income group rather than having it applicable to anyone who applies. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral question Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I heard on the radio in English saying that the program would be increased to 30 thousand dollars. I am wondering, Mr. Minister if that is indeed what the intention is. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister responsible for Housing, Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak: Mr. Speaker, if I said I was going to do it, it was probably in the context that we would take a second look at the program to see if we should raise it, as has been mentioned before. I have made no commitments to either raising it or doing away with it, but I repeat what I have said all along, that we would like to take a second look at all the housing assistance programs to see if we should re-target them, but again no decision has been made on this. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral questions, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the interview also stated that the Minister was going to be making an announcement in regards to this program prior to the existing program running out at the end of June. I am wondering Mr. Speaker when the Minister will be making that announcement. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister responsible for Housing. Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak: That comment I made about an announcement was just that. As the program is running out at the end of June, we have to make an announcement of some kind, one way or another, and that was the context of it. If we are going to make changes to it I can assure the member that we will be seeking input from the members. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral questions, final supplementary Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this program has been criticized in Nunavut, and I believed I have made those comments as well, saying that 15 thousand dollars isn't enough for someone to buy a house. I commend the Minister if they are looking at increasing that amount so that it is adequate and suitable for residents in Nunavut.

But I would also like to ask the Minister to ensure that, although doubling the money would make it more suitable to here, I would like to ask him if you are going to take a serious look at ensuring that the dollars that go to the people that need it. The other criticism of this program was that it went to people that didn't need it. I would like to ask the Minister if that will also be taken into consideration. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Minister responsible for Housing, Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak: Yes, Thank you Mr. Speaker. I agree with the member and I have said it as soon as the program was announced back in 1998, the concern that I had was that anybody would be eligible for it, and I would like to confirm to the member that whatever decision is made, whether it is doubling or whether it stays the same, I fully agree with the member that we should be targeting the more needy, lower income families for assistance, if they so desire, to try and find, build or buy a house. Thank you.

Speaker: Mr. McLean.

Question 146 - 1 (2): Liquor Warehouse

Mr. McLean: Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question today is to the Minister responsible for the Liquor Commission of Nunavut. I know this government is only in its infancy and we have other priorities in Nunavut, but I am getting concerns and questions from people in various organizations about the accessibility of alcohol.

The current situation is that we have one liquor dispenser in Nunavut at this time. Has the Minister considered making any more buildings available in Nunavut for the residents. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. McLean. Minister responsible for the Liquor Licensing Board. Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I know that it is an issue out there right now in respect of access. Right now I am in the process of the call letters for appointments to establish the Liquor Control Board so that they can take office and review the status and make recommendations on how we can proceed.

We also have the issue, of course, on the decentralization aspect of the Gjoa Haven situation where the Commission and the warehousing is supposed to go. So those are the factors that have to be taken into consideration over the next few months as we try to formalize a plan. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Ng. Oral question Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you Mr. Speaker. The Minister answered my question and he seems to be looking at this issue. My other comment is that currently I am beginning to hear that if this isn't done soon, bootlegging could begin to become a real issue and concern in Nunavut, so I wish the Minister would fast track this. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. McLean. Minister responsible for the Liquor Licensing Board. Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am fully aware of the issue of bootlegging in our communities and quite frankly one of the issues as a government that we are going to have to tackle when we do a review of our legislation in respect to liquor is some of the provisions on how to curtail that particular activity particularly in respect to enforcement and punitive measures that may be in any legislative changes, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Ng. Oral questions Mr. McLean.

Mr. McLean: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I was pleased to hear the Minister say that about the bootlegging and the lack of enforcement that we currently have in bootlegging have in certain communities. So the Minister is committed to cracking down on the bootleggers in Nunavut. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. McLean. Minister responsible for the Liquor Licensing Board, Mr. Ng.

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yes, it is an issue that the Cabinet is aware of and we are going to try and do whatever we can legislatively to make it more difficult for bootleggers to operate within Nunavut. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Ng. Oral questions, Mr. Alakannuark.

Question 147 - 1 (2): Causes of Illness

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am directing this question to the Minister of Health and Social Services. The government does research in the communities to find out what kinds of illnesses they have. My question is what is the major cause of illness in the communities. What is the frequency of doing examinations of these people? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Minister responsible for Health, Mr. Ng.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am not Mr. Ng, but I would be pleased to...

Speaker: Mr. Picco, sorry...

Hon. Ed Picco: ...answer the members' question.

>>laughter

Hon. Ed Picco: Mr. Speaker, there are many different causes for different diseases in our communities. When this question came up I believe it was last week, I tried to explain that last week one of the changes that we are seeing in many cases includes such things as increased rates, for example, of diabetes which we haven't seen in the past in Nunavut. We now see an increase and indeed I believe there was 15 or 16 new cases last year found.

At the community level what we're trying to do is look at the prevention of diseases and look at the holistic approach to dealing with incidents of different diseases that are coming forward.

But specifically on what diseases are more troubling and what diseases are coming forward, I believe it would be safe to say that we're seeing increases of cancers, we're seeing increases, for example, new diseases like diabetes and some incidences we're seeing an increase now of tuberculosis, indeed TB, was almost eradicated. It's actually coming back and it seems that one of the health indicators that we're getting is with the overcrowding in housing in our communities is causing an increase of TB. I hope that it helps the Member with his question. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral questions Mr. Alakannuark

Mr. Alakannuark: (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. The reason why I had asked this question is because in Gjoa Haven there was an old DEW line site and it was used in the past and there is old material left over there and old trucks have been sunk into the ocean.

The old drums are leaking to our water stream but the reason why I ask which illnesses is more prevalent in the communities. There has been research done for many years and the researcher's keep on saying that the results are good and they say it's safe, it's not contaminated so therefore many people have been thinking that they are getting more illnesses from what they eat. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Minister responsible for Health Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker yes this has been an ongoing concern of many people in Nunavut and indeed myself having lived close to DEW line site for many years. What the scientists have done through the Department of Environment is to study the impacts of PCB's, as an example from these DEW line sites and indeed in animals themselves, we've notice the fallout in the industrial areas of the United States and in Canada and those types of toxins have been prevalent now in the animals and in the environment here in Nunavut.

Testing has been carried out, specifically by the Department of Health have been in conjunction with the department of Renewable Resources or RWED, Sustainable Development and I cannot really comment further on what type of diseases is more prevalent than that causes but we do know that there are some concerns.

If the community that the Members talking about has a concern from the actual site or the problem with the leakage of substances into the ground that's something that we can bring forward and we can look at it. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral question Mr. Alakannuark

Mr. Alakannuark: (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I will ask a question in regards to the water because we're concerned about the quality of our drinking water. Can you make a comment on that. Thank you

Speaker: (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Minister of Health Mr. Picco

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker if there was a specific concern with the drinking water in the community, than indeed as a department we'd like to look into it. So I appreciate the Member bringing this issue forward and maybe later today I'll have an opportunity to speak with the Member any specific concern with the water.

In general Mr. Speaker the water and so on would be under the Department of Sustainable Development and environment and I would work co-operatively conjunction

with my colleague Mr. Kilabuk and look at the concern that member bringing it forward. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Picco. Oral questions Mr. Iqaqrialu

Question 148 - 1 (2): Liquor Concerns

Mr. Iqaqrialu: (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I'm directing this question to the Minister responsible for liquor licensing boards. In regards to your earlier comment about liquor licensing, I want to pose another question in regards to issuing licenses.

I know that the Act is going to have to be different in Nunavut. One thing that I'm concerned about that liquor has been the major cause of death in the North, especially hypothermia and from accidents. When will you will be looking at the Act, I would like to know when you will be reviewing the Act.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Minister responsible for Liquor Licensing Board Mr. Ng

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker right now we're just trying to figure out whether or not to develop a legislative proposal, so we could have some prior discussions across Nunavut on possible changes or whether or not to go forward with some proposed legislation and take that out as a consultation. So those are the some of factors that are consideration right now Mr. Speaker. Thank you

Speaker: Qujannamiik Mr. Ng. Oral question Mr. Puqiqnak

Question 149 - 1 (2) : Credit Unions

Mr. Puqiqnak: (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. The first question I have is in regards to having financial institutions in the smaller communities. How can we get the financial institution closer to the smaller communities.

I appreciate the Minister of Finance for telling me that he'll look into it. Mr. Speaker my question is this is not the first time we have asked this question with the previous government when our finance Minister was with the previous government. I'm sure he has heard about it and when I was the Mayor of my community and when the Minister of finance was a member of the legislative assembly.

We had requested to get a financial institution such as a bank closer to the community or in a smaller community, the Arctic co-operative had proposed to get a credit union in the North. I want this to be looked into.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. Minister of Finance Mr. Ng

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker if there was a specific proposal that the Co-operatives wanted to bring back for the possible establishment of Credit Unions that is certainly something that the government seriously consider.

At this stage I don't know if there is a concrete proposal. I know that in the past the government of Northwest Territories had made a financial commitment as a contribution towards this goal.

To my understanding there hadn't been any follow up from the perspective of the Co-operatives in the credit unions because they had been speaking to the credit unions in the southern parts of Canada, but I don't believe any further development had taken place after those discussions Mr. Speaker. Thank you

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Ng. Oral questions Mr. Puqiqnak

Mr. Puqiqnak: (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I sure hope with the Nunavut Government we can initiate this because it has not gone any further, so I would like to see it go ahead and I would like to raise this issue again sometime in the future. Mr. Speaker I would like to ask another question.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. If you would like to ask another question I will let you ask another question after the other Member have asked. Oral questions Mr. Akesuk

Question 150 - 1 (2): Paving Airstrips

Mr. Akesuk: (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I'm directing this question to the Department of Transportation in regards to the communities that have airstrips large enough for jets, I was wondering if you will be paving the airstrips on the communities that receives jets. Thank you Mr. Speaker

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Minister responsible for Transportation, Mr. Anawak

Hon. Jack Anawak: (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Yes, Mr. Speaker I have not looked into this issue, but there's more than one community requesting to have their airstrips extended. We have communities that want have their airstrip extended and others that want to pave their airstrip.

We have not looked into this because the Federal Government is always changing their acts, but in Nunavut, there are 2 communities that we have to deal with, Pangnirtung and Kimmirut as a priority and the terminal in Iqaluit will have to be fixed and that we're going to have to use quite a bit of capital for Iqaluit terminal but we will look in to the legislation and acts. Thank you

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral questions Mr. Puqiqnak

Question 151 - 1 (2): Liquor Warehouse

Mr. Puqiqnak: (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. this is a question to Minister responsible for the liquor licensing board, he was talking about a warehouse in Gjoa Haven.

I don't think there's going to be a liquor outlet in Gjoa Haven, but I was just talking about liquor licensing board. I was just talking about Nunavut Liquor Licensing Board. If the Minister didn't quite understand my question, I'm just trying to elaborate my question. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. Oral questions. At this time I will ask for a recess until 1:30. Sorry we have checked if our catering is here yet, but we will continue until the catering comes in. Oral question. Okay will have a 10 minute break

Speaker: Back to Orders of the Day, we've 2 minutes left. Oral questions, Mr. Akesuk

Question 152 - 1 (2): Airstrip Paving

Mr. Akesuk: (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I'm directing this question to Minister of Transportation, it's the supplementary to the previous question I had asked earlier. According to federal government legislation the airports had to be paved for the communities that have jet services. I was wondering if you could look into this further. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Minister of transportation Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak: (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. In regards to the regulations it's going to become a bit harder for the northern communities and we're going to see if we can make any progress in regards to the Members question. We hope to see larger aircraft going into the communities of Nunavut. I will look into it and update you on what's happening. Thank you

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Anawak. Oral questions Mr. Akesuk.

Mr. Akesuk: (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. If there's going to be a review done, my question is are you going to be consulting the regular Members'. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Akesuk. Minister of transportation Mr. Anawak.

Hon. Jack Anawak: (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. As I told the Member from Arviat, I said that I would consult the regular members when we look into this issue.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Anawak. Question period is over. Item 7 written questions,

Item 8 returns to written questions, Item 9 replies to opening address, Item 10 petitions, Item 11 reports of standing and special committees, Item 12 reports of committee on reading of bills, Item 13 tabling of documents, Item 14 notices of motion, Item 15 notices of motion of first reading of bills, Item 16 motions, Item 17 first reading of bills, Item 18 second reading of bills,

Item 19 consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters, Bill 1 appropriation act, Bill 2 Boards of Management Dissolution act, Bill 3 Divisional Education Council Dissolution act, committee reports 1-1 (2), 2-1 (2), 3-1 (2), 4-1 (2) with Mr. Puqignak as the Chairperson. Sergeant of Arms

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

Chairperson (Mr. Puqignak) (interpretation): Thank you. At this time as the Chairperson of the committee of the whole we will break for lunch and return at 1:30. Also we will deal with the Department of Culture Language Education and Youth today and we hope to complete that department. I'm sure you are all hungry, let's break for lunch.

>>Committee Recessed at 12.31 and resumed at 1.31 pm.

Chairperson (interpretation): Okay, we'll start our meeting again. We are now with the Department of Culture, Elders, Language & Youth Department. Mr. Arvaluk?

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): We can't hear the other channel.

A Member: That's one channel that doesn't work.

Chairperson: Can you get channel 6 now?

A Member: Six?

A Member: Channel six?

Chairperson: Can you get channel six?

A Member: Did you program channel six?

Chairperson (interpretation): As the speaker said today, he would like to thank every one for being able to meet on Saturday. Since today is Saturday, we would also like to thank the Department of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth for being here. Donald Haviyok's department can go up to the witness table with Mr. Haviyok and his officials.

Hon. Donald Haviyok (interpretation): Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): You look very nice today with your traditional clothes on. Right now, we are in the directorate, we're on page 8-4 in the Culture, Language, Elders & Youth Department Directorate. Operations and maintenance – total operations and maintenance \$1,280,000 dollars Capital – total capital 0 balance; total expenditures \$1,280,000.

And the next page 8-5, Language & Communications Bureau - operations and maintenance - total operations and maintenance, \$2,089,000. Mr. Tootoo?

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, under this area here, there is, under the grant and contribution, \$788,000. I'd like to know, Mr. Chairman, if the Minister could provide us with the detail of what the \$788,000 will be used for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Minister Haviyok?

Hon. Donald Haviyok (interpretation): That section there, so \$788,000 dollars, I'm not quite sure where it's going to be spent so I think one of my officials can clarify that for us. Where the section is allotted for. He can explain a little bit further. Mr. Bain? Thank you, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Mr. Bain.

Mr. Bain: Those two numbers are made of \$702,000 in grants and contributions under the language branch, and \$86,000 in grants and contributions that are under the regional operations within the budget. Our grants and contributions policy as it matures will break down those two numbers as we come to the Cabinet with the grants and contributions policy. Nakumik.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, from what I heard, then \$702,000 for additional language promotion and protection, that there is not a plan in place on how to spend that, I just wondering how they came up with the amount even though they didn't know...the department wasn't sure how they're going to...where they're going to allocate those dollars. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Minister Haviyok?

Hon. Donald Haviyok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Once we have policies in place, we define this...where this section will go. We're going to be using it for traditional use of languages and that's how we're going to spend it, we will be using for the communities, maybe the hamlets will use it, maybe the schools, educational colleges are going to use it to enhance our languages in the schools and that, but, no, we're just working on the final stages how we're going to spend this at this time and Peter will add further details for you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Minister, Mr. Deputy Minister, Peter Irniq.

Mr. Irniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To make a supplementary comment to the Minister's statement, we would like to work together with the community organizations when it comes to traditional languages. When we talk about traditional languages, it's Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun languages that are used in the communities and it's for the preservation and enhancement of the traditional languages. We would also hope to work with all the organizations in the Nunavut area in regards to the use of traditional languages Thank you. Quyanamiik.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Tootoo?

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, maybe a better way to put this is... is this number of \$702,000, is that in line with the number that would have been allocated by the department, the former GNWT, I'm just wondering where that number came from. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister, please recognize the Chairperson, Mr. Havioyak?

Hon. Donald Havioyak (interpretation): We inherited that from the GNWT and we are making plans on how to spend it or give it to some organizations. That's the one we inherited from the GNWT. And also, we'll be using this in our communities, how we're going to spend it, maybe some organizations will make some of this to enhance our Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun languages. That's going to be used for some organizations as well.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Tootoo?

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I'm not trying to take away from the importance of trying to preserve the language, you know, I myself know how, having lost my language and how important it is to try and retain it, and how much of a struggle it is to try and learn it later in life.

I guess, what I'm getting at is there's an awful lot of money allocated for that and in some other areas, and there's other areas through which the department has some jurisdiction over, like the area that I brought up yesterday was for youth. I'd like to urge the Minister to take a look at how those dollars are allocated within his department and maybe shuffle some of those numbers around..

I guess there are some concrete plans on how to expend those dollars, maybe there's other areas that traditionally may not have been addressed by the GNWT. Would the Minister say this is being basically transferred over from the GNWT? If he can take a

look at reallocation based on Nunavut needs and things that people in Nunavut feel are important? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Yes. Mr. Haviyak?

Hon. Donald Haviyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Your comments are very appreciated and that's what we want to use it on because we inherited it from the GNWT. If we don't spend it all, we could spread it out to other areas that will require some money.

But like we said, we're a brand new government and we need to find out where we going to spend it, maybe some areas that need more money. Hopefully, I answered your question.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Language & Communications Bureau. Mr. Nutarak?

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Puqiqnak. Regarding the \$702,000 that Mr. Tootoo mentioned, under Language & Communications Bureau, do the communities have to make a request to get some money through the grants and contributions? For example, if Pond Inlet wanted a hundred thousand dollars, do they have to make a request for this money? Or is it going to be based on per capita basis?

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Minister Haviyak?

Hon. Donald Haviyak (interpretation): Yes. If the communities want to access some funding, they can ask our department, like for instance, for enhancing languages in the schools, if your community had wanted that. The communities will have to request for funding if they want to use it for language programs for their community.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Haviyak. Mr. Nutarak?

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you. I was concerned because we're going to try promote the Inuktitut language Nunavut wide, for example, if I was from Sanikiluaq, if I didn't make a request for it, then the money would just stay in the pot, so that's how I understand it, right? If there's no applications from the communities, the money just stays in the pot.

Chairperson (interpretation): I believe that question was understandable. Would you like to make supplementary comments, Mr. Haviyak?

Hon. Donald Haviyak (interpretation): Yes, the money that is here for the communities who request for funding to use for language programs and it can be used by or for younger students. They can use it for enhancing our language, our Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtun languages, and the youth can use this money as well for elders and youth programs as well

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Minister? Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): My question was if the communities wanted to make requests from this \$702,000, the communities could make a request. This money is not given to the communities on a per capita basis, you have to make a request in order to access these funds. Is not possible to allocate these dollars on a per capita basis per community?

Is not possible to do that? Because I'm sure that some of the communities will not request for these dollars. The reason that I want it allocated on a per capita basis is because I don't want to leave any of the communities out. If they don't make a request, they're not going to be using that money.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. If you got the question, Mr. Nutarak is trying to say, for example, Gjoa Haven or Pond Inlet, all the Nunavut communities should have access to these dollars and allocate the dollars on a per capita basis so that every community will have access to these funds. I believe that's Mr. Nutarak's question if you got it through, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Donald Havioyak (interpretation): Yes, I think I got your question now. The communities can request this funding if they wish and this can be distributed to the communities who request it, but we're going to be using this in Nunavut wide, so it can be...it's got to be spent to all that communities .

If the communities want to use it for enhancement of their language, they can then teach the young kids land based. And also, Peter has further details for you as well how we're going to spend this and distribute this money.

Chairperson (interpretation): So is there going to be forms that we have to use or application forms we have to use in order to access these funds? Thank you.

Hon. Donald Havioyak (interpretation): Yes. Our department will be working on how we're going to distribute this money to the communities.

Chairperson (interpretation): Deputy Minister would like to make a comment. Mr. Irniq?

Mr. Irniq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To make a supplementary comment to the Minister's, there's a lot of things that we can do under the Language & Communications Bureau through working together with the communities, we can work on their promotion and preservation of the traditional languages.

We'll be doing that through close working together with the communities. We have Atima Hadlari who will be working with the various communities in the Nunavut area.

What we're doing at this time is teaching the Inuktitut and the Inuinnaqtun language to Nunavut employees through the Human Resources Department, and we are also looking at the Inuit who have lost their own language. That's going to be taken as part of the consideration when we're talking about languages in communities and working with the communities. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Nutarak?

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I was going to be applying for some of this money, is there a ceiling to the amount of dollars that I can access through these applications? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Quyanamiik. Thank you. Mr. Minister Havioyak?

Hon. Donald Havioyak (interpretation): Yes. We are just working how you will be applying or what the feeling would be, we are just writing up the policies right now. We are working on our policies right now, but we will let all the communities know what our decisions are on that issue.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu?

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regards to the grants and contributions .Some communities make requests, but then their applications are turned down because there's so many rules and regulations that you have to follow.

Sometimes it's quite hard to access these funds when you have to go through the application process because of all the bureaucratic steps that we have through; I'm sure it's going to be the same thing even when we became a Nunavut government, even though it's not the GNWT anymore.

I'm sure that we're going to have to redo it to conform it to the Nunavut system when you're a regular Inuk, there's a lot of bureaucratic things that you have to do. It's not the decision makers that set up these barriers, it's the employees of the departments that make it hard to access these dollars and I'm sure that's going to be the same case, so we have to fix it. That's just a comment, thank you , Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Havioyak?

Hon. Donald Havioyak (interpretation): Yes. That is correct, but we will make sure that it wouldn't be too difficult for everybody across Nunavut. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. I have no more people on my list. Mr. Tootoo?

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just one final question here. I'm sure that some members are relieved to hear those words. Mr. Chairman, on the Bureau, on the

Language Bureau, it indicates that this department is basically a watchdog regarding the government's legislative responsibilities as directed by the Official Languages Act. Mr. Chairman, I was just wondering if somebody could just kind of give me a little brief overviews what those responsibilities are? that we have underneath or as a result of the Official Languages Act? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Havioyak?

Hon. Donald Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, as I stated before, we still have a lot of work to do. My staff are trying their best. After we've done this we will be going to the cabinet and Peter we'll proceed to answer your question. As I stated before we are still working on the policies.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I wondering if the Minister or staff could at some future point provide us with a brief summation of what the Legislative responsibilities are as directed by the official languages act. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Minister Havioyak.

Hon. Donald Havioyak (interpretation): Yes, thank you. We will definitely be doing that. We really apologize that we are very new and we are just working on the policies. Peter will be elaborating a bit more on this.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Irniq.

Mr. Irniq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Yesterday in the Minister's opening comments he noted the Language and Communication bureau will be starting from now, in the office in Cambridge Bay, working on this. Whether it is the language or interpretation services while we are working on the languages with the other agencies such as Nunavut Social Development Council. We're working with that agency to enhance the language, to preserve the language. In regards to interpretative services we have three interpreters in Igloolik and at times some of the interpreters are utilized in the sessions. In regards to language it's to preserve and to enhance the use of traditional languages. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you. At least we're pronouncing our names well now. Mr. Chairman, on culture and enhancing and preserving our traditional languages and enhancing the youth programs and Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit traditional knowledge, your department is responsible for these things and I'm quite proud and happy of the fact that you are working on these issues.

However, traditional ways of doing things is part of our history. For example in 1958, 1959 at the time we were going through starvation and the food was scarce and some of the parents are still alive today, but those of us who grew up in that generation are still alive today. For those of us who experienced the hardships of the traditional way of life we know it and it's still a part of us. I know that all the young people not in my age group have not gone through this experience. But there are people who have gone through this experience as young children and they're elderly now and they should be working for your department because they are experienced.

I have experience and I can talk about my experiences myself. I could talk times of famine when the food was scarce and we were going hungry. I know that in Baffin Region, Kivalliq, and other regions I'm sure that there were Inuit people who went hungry, if possible these people should be utilized as professionals. The Inuit who were being sent to communities from their camps and to the settlements should also be included because those are all a part of our history, this is Nunavut history. It should be part of your responsibilities here with your department. I think we have to find dollars to enhance all this knowledge and the history of Nunavut.

As Nunavut we should document all the experiences of our older generation. I could just use myself as an example. I was wondering if you can work on these history issues. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Puqiqnak. Mr. Havioyak.

Hon. Donald Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. Yes, you are very correct in what you are saying as we talked about elders yesterday that it's very important to pass on their traditional knowledge to us. Yes, we will use workers in the very near future so that we could get elders to work with us. We call our elders professors of our language and this is what we want to start doing because of their traditional knowledge. We will be definitely be utilizing the elders whom we respect very much. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I also appreciate the Minister for giving me a great answer so therefore I have good expectations. I'm just making a supplementary. As I have stated, I have experienced these things myself. It's just in 1958 that I have experienced this. There are other elders too that have experiences prior to 1958 and who went through hungry times. The people who are older than me can talk about their experiences more than I can, even though I feel that I'm experienced in that area but my elders have more knowledge than I do. Although I feel I have pretty good traditional knowledge but when I work and talk with the elders I realize that my knowledge is so small, so therefore my request is for you to work with the elders. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Havioyak.

Hon. Donald Havioyak (interpretation): Yes, I agree with you. We will be working with the elders.

Chairperson (interpretation): I have no more names on the list. We'll go to the main estimates. Total operations and maintenance. 2 million, 89 thousand. Are you agreed. Agreed. Capital, total capital zero dollars. Total expenditure 2 million, 89 thousand. Are you agreed. Agreed. Going to the other page, Culture, Elders and Youth. Operations and Maintenance. Total Operations and Maintenance 2 million, 893 thousand. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In here under grants and contributions it states one million forty-six thousand. At the top on Culture, Elders and Youth if we look at the explanation line by line that the part of this money would be utilized for Youth. I feel that we should increase the number for youth. Is that what it is? Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Havioyak.

Hon. Donald Havioyak (interpretation): Yes, looking at this very carefully because the youth are very important so that the younger generation can utilize the language. Yes, we are working on it. Does that answer your question.

Chairperson (interpretation): Let's go back to the page. Total Operations and Maintenance 2 million 893 thousand. Total Capital nil. Total Expenditures 2 million 893. Do you agree? I have forgotten my glasses again so I can't focus too well. Mr. Puqiqnak.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, in regards to enhancing traditional languages and what, there must be a typo.

Chairperson (interpretation): Where are you Mr. Puqiqnak. 8-7. There is a typo somewhere. Mr. Puqiqnak, it should say Culture and Heritage.

Mr. Puqiqnak (interpretation): Mr. Chairman I forgot to mention what I was going to say earlier on. One issue that we are quite concerned about because of when we were going through hungry times in my community. In those days we did not have any writing material. We could have recorded all our experiences and all the survival skills that we had learned because we had survived from the land. I wanted the elders to be interviewed about the experiences but there was one Qallunaat person who wrote a document in regards to what we're speaking about. About Inuit people going through famine periods. There was one report done about that era. I would you to see and find out if there are any reports on that. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Do you want to respond or comment? Mr. Havioyak.

Hon. Donald Havioyak (interpretation): Yes, definitely. We will be. This is exactly what we do in Igloolik. We have our staff members collecting traditional knowledge of the elders. This is what they're doing right now. Igloolik is the first community, but all these staff members will be going to the Nunavut communities to interview the elders so that our tradition will be written. This is the reason why we have people in Igloolik that are doing this right now. Definitely we will collect our traditional knowledge and it will be put in paper. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Irniq.

Mr. Irniq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. In regards to the question that was posed to the Minister. I did not quite understand the question that was posed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I believe the question was; in the past there have been many documentaries or publications made about Inuit people and some of the statements that were made in the publications are not entirely true and the rest of the world believes what has been published about Inuit. I think his question was that if you can also look into all the documents that have been published about the Inuit people because in the past they have been publishing untrue facts about Inuit people. I think that was his question. I would like to know more about it. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Arvaluk.

Hon. James Arvaluk (interpretation): I might be mistaken but I think during the Committee of the Whole or when we're in the Legislature I believe we're not supposed to talk about untruth. I can say that they're misleading. Or we can use other words. But I believe we cannot say that they're not the truth. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Arvaluk. Yes we are a new assembly and we will learn the process and the rules. Thank you Mr. Arvaluk for reminding us. Mr. Havioyak you may proceed.

Hon. Donald Havioyak (interpretation): Yes we will definitely work on this. Right now it is very difficult to answer that question about how we will be working on this.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. Perhaps I mislead the House if I misunderstood the comments in respect to Mr. Puqiqnak's question. I misunderstood the question. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Go to 8-7 to detail of Grants and Contributions. The total Grants and Contributions, this is for information purposes only.

Are you agreed? The detail of worked performed on behalf of third parties, again this is an information item. Are you agreed? Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): I believe this is geared towards the French language. I believe that's a Federal regulation. Did we inherit that from the Federal Government or regulations? Where did this appear? The agreement for French and any language in Nunavut.

Chairperson: Mr. Havioyak.

Hon. Donald Havioyak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. It is for French and Inuktitut languages. We are still working on this. We are working on the agreement, official languages agreement.

Chairperson (interpretation): Is that it? Thank you. I would like to pose this question again in respect to the informational items. The detail of the work performed on behalf of third parties. Again this is for information purposes. Are you agreed? Agreed. The details of distribution of budget. Again this is for information purposes only. Are you agreed. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I believe we're on 8-9. The middle in respect to total operations and maintenance. I'm not sure what that means because I don't understand the Inuktitut portion of it.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Iqaqrialu. We don't understand either. Can you put it more clearly.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. The grants and contribution, it say EA. I believe it's other Operations and Maintenance. Other O&M that he is referring to.

Chairperson (interpretation): Minister Havioyak.

Hon. Donald Havioyak (interpretation): Yes the other Operations and Maintenance. This is what it means. Operations and Maintenance.

Chairperson: Mr. Akesuk.

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman I'm sorry. I apologize. Mr. Iqaqrialu's question in respect to the Grants and Contribution in the Inuktitut version it's A8. We're trying to understand what this means in respect to 8.

Chairperson (interpretation): I believe it use to be "A" it used to be but it wasn't quite correct. I believe it's clearer now. I would like to ask again, there is nobody on the list. Do you agree? Agreed. To return, 8-3 in respect to the details of expenditure. Detail of Expenditures. Operations and Maintenance. Total Operations and Maintenance 6

million, 262 thousand. Are you agreed? Are you agreed? Agreed. Capital items. Total Capital is nil. The total expenditures is 6 million, 262 thousand dollars. Are you agreed. Agreed. Are you agreed to the department and the main estimates. I've cooled off. Thank you Mr. Haviyok, Mr. Bain and Mr. Irniq for having sat before us for over a day and for being so patient and we look forward to seeing you again. Thank you.

The members I believe as we're going to go back to the session I would like to propose a 15 minute break. No you do not want to take a break? Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman I believe the Legislative Assembly is up next maybe we can take a short five-minute break just to get organized for it and then go back into that department. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Agreed? Agreed .

>>Committee recessed at 2:28 and resumed at 2:38 pm

Chairperson (interpretation): The five minute break is over can you please return to your seats. Okay I think we can proceed with the meeting. What is the wish of the members? Mr. Akesuk.

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): I don't think the Speaker is here yet Mr. Chairman. Thank you. I am sorry I didn't see you.

Chairperson (interpretation): What is the wish of the members. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to return to the committee to report on Health and Social Services department. I move to return to the official session.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. O'Brien I think you had your hand raised.

Mr. O'Brien: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I think it is the wish of the members that we return and do the report on the Legislative Assembly.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. We will return to our official meeting. Perhaps if the Speaker could return to his chair. Is that what you were asking, you want to make a report to the Speaker. I think I am making procedural mistakes here. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman, Mr. Chairman, I believe that moving into dealing with the Legislative Assembly, either the Speaker or the Clerk would make opening comments, and then the committee would make it's report. Maybe just ask them to take the witness stand. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to ask the Speaker if he could return to his Chair.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I know that we are a new Assembly and whenever someone is going to sit here our Sergeant At Arms has to go and get the people that are going to sit in the witness Chair and you have to tell the Sergeant at Arms. I am clarifying this for the Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. You may proceed.

Office of the Legislative Assembly 1999-2000 Main Estimates

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I am very pleased to appear before the Committee of the Whole today to present the budget for the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut.

After my opening remarks and the presentation of the Standing Committee's report, the Clerk and I will be pleased to answer questions from the Members. Members know that it's not often that the Speaker sits in the witness Chairperson, so, please take advantage of this opportunity.

I should begin by outlining the mission statement of the Office of the Legislative Assembly, which reads:

"In keeping with the Vision of Nunavut, the traditions of Northern governance and established democratic principles, the Office of the Legislative Assembly provides quality programs and services to create an environment in which elected Members can best fulfil their roles and responsibilities as representatives of the people of Nunavut."

To accomplish this in the coming year, the Office is requesting approval for our 1999-2000 main estimates, which are 9 million 749 thousand in O & M expenditures; and 3 million 402 thousand in capital spending. There are not decentralized positions associated with the Assembly. Our legislative base is the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*, a statute that was inherited from the NWT.

I would briefly like to provide Members with an update on progress in staffing positions within the Office. As of today, a total of 17 permanent positions within the Office of the Legislative Assembly have been filled out of 25.5 FTE's that have been funded in the budget. Two of these positions have had offers accepted, with start dates in the next 4 - 6 weeks. Ten of these positions have been filled or will be filled by Inuit, a total of 58%. Eleven of the 17 are filled or will be filled by women, a total of 65%. I should note though, that one significant human resources challenge lies in the provision of adequate interpretation and translation services for Members. With the possible exception of the federal Parliament of Canada, this Assembly is, on a day to day basis, the most bilingual

in Canada. However, the staffing model which we largely inherited provides for only two full-time Interpreter/Translators. Clearly, the needs of the Members will have to be carefully assessed in the months ahead, and co-operation with the Department of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth will have to be undertaken. At the same time, we have a responsibility to control our costs--it simply may prove prohibitive for every dialect to be interpreted in the House.

As Members can appreciate, there are a number of significant challenges associated with the creation of Canada's newest legislative institution.

One obvious first challenge, as Members will appreciate from looking around this room today, is the move in to the new Assembly Building. I look forward to our next session being held in the new chamber, which is planned for late October.

Occupancy of the building will allow us, in the years ahead, to use the facility as a showcase for Nunavut art; as a place for youth and elders' events to be held; and as a meeting facility for national and international events. I am again pleased to acknowledge the number of donations that we are receiving from people and organizations across Nunavut.

Another initiative I would like to mention is the Assembly's website. A request for proposals has been issued, and we will be evaluating the responses in the near future, with a view to having the site up by the end of June.

Another challenge, and this again goes back to the language issue, is *Hansard*. The three northern territories contract their *Hansard* service to private sector firms. I am pleased to remind Members that the local Iqaluit firm which provides the service to us is an Article 24 firm.

However, as Nunavut is one of only three Canadian jurisdictions with a bilingual *Hansard*. The others are the Parliament of Canada and New Brunswick. The first of these, of course, enjoys human and financial resources far beyond what we could ever hope to secure. When the Assembly issued an RFP for the provision of *Hansard* services, it received assistance in evaluating proposals from the *Hansard Association of Canada*, which is an inter-parliamentary organization of *Hansard* professionals. The Association provided a number of insights into how challenging the task of producing a *Hansard* actually is. Even in larger centres, such as Ottawa, the time required for fully training *Hansard* editors and transcribers is quite significant. Given Iqaluit's small population, and given the intensive, time-consuming nature of the work, bringing our *Hansard* up to full capacity will take some time.

It should be recognized that, to a significant extent, a number of expenditures cannot be precisely forecast at this point, as we do not yet have the institutional memory and experience necessary to extrapolate future spending requirements from past trends. Should a Standing Committee decide, for example, to travel across Nunavut to hold hearing on a Bill, that is something that can't be routinely predicted.

The 1999-2000 budget, however, is closely based on the NWT Assembly's budget, adjusted for the difference in Members, the lower number of staff and the higher costs of living in Nunavut. There are a number of extra one-time costs that we are now experiencing for which funds have not been specifically identified in the budget. These, include, for example, the costs associated with holding our sessions in venues like this; furniture for Member's constituency offices; signage for the building; and the telephone system for the building. Additional capital funds will be required if we are to avoid having these sorts of items not be taken from our operating base.

In October, we will have had a half-year of experience behind us. At that time, I look forward to updating Members on all aspects of our operations, as we will have had time to assess and analyze our spending patterns.

I would like to refer to the number of positions and Acts which the Assembly has responsibility for. These include the Conflict of Interest Commissioner, the Access to Information and Privacy Commissioner, the Chief Electoral Officer and the Commissioner of Official Languages. These positions are all appointed by the Commissioner of Nunavut, on the recommendation of the Assembly. Funds for the independent operation of these offices are provided for in our budget. I anticipate that these positions will be filled over the coming months, as the Caucus agrees to processes for their selection. I should mention that the Final Report of the Chief Electoral Officer on Nunavut's first election should be available in the next few weeks.

I would like to stop now, Mr. Chairman, and invite Members to ask questions of myself and the Clerk, Mr. John Quirke, who is not a stranger to any of us. He will be sitting beside me, Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Quirke, if you could go to the witness table please. Mr. Tootoo the Chairperson of Ajauqtiit.

Ajauqtiit Report on Legislative Assembly 1999-2000 Main Estimates

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I along with other members of the Committee will be reading over the report of the Ajauqtiit Standing Committee. I will start off and pass it off to another member and then it will come back to me for a couple of motions.

I would just like to start off with a brief introduction. The members of Ajauqtiit reviewed the draft Business Plan and Preliminary Budget information for the Legislative Assembly on Tuesday April 27th, 1999, during a presentation from the Speaker, Levi Barnabas, and the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly. Members had an opportunity to review some of this information during an orientation and other meetings with the Speaker and the Clerk of the Assembly. However in this meeting, the Speaker, in effect appeared as the Minister and the Clerk as the Deputy Minister and members asked questions, as they would do with any other Minister or departmental official.

A total budget allocation for operations of the Legislative Assembly as indicated was 9 million, 748 thousand dollars. The operations and maintenance budget, the detailed breakdown provided to the members is as follows.

Office of the Speaker, 158 thousand 800 hundred dollars. Office of the Clerk, both sessional and committee admin, 1 million 771 thousand 5 hundred. Research and Library services 548 thousand 5 hundred dollars. Corporate Services 923 thousand 8 hundred dollars. Clerk and Deputy Clerk Offices, 886 thousand 3 hundred dollars. Expenditures on Behalf of the Members 4 million 802 thousand 5 hundred dollars. Office of the Chief Electoral Officer 299 thousand 7 hundred dollars. Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages 357 thousand 8 hundred dollars.

Mr. Chairman it was noted that independent operations of the Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner and the Office of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Commissioner are included under the Assembly's budget, Office of the Clerk.

Members were advised that, as with other departments, the budget projections were largely based on the experience of the GNWT and estimates have been made for Nunavut. Until the Legislative Assembly has gone through the first year or at least part of the year, it would be difficult to determine how accurate these projections would be or whether sufficient funding has been allocated for these expenses.

For example, it is not known how many times members will meet as a group in committees or the number of sessions there will be over the next year. As well, the work of the Legislative Assembly and the Standing Committees may not be typical in the first year of operations. For example, the new Legislative Assembly building will not be complete until the fall. So outside space has had to be rented for sessions and committee meetings. On the other hand, some appointments or staff may not be placed until later in the fiscal year and there will be savings in this regard.

There will also be one-time expenses, which may not have been factored in completely, such as opening celebrations. Members will wish to review these expenditures and budget items again at mid-year. The Speaker noted that if there were not adequate funding in this budget then supplementary funding will be necessary and members will want more information on this process.

On the Legislative Assembly building, the capital budget. Members were pleased to hear that we have received 3 million 400 thousand dollars for the audio/video and security systems for the new chambers. Members were advised that the system installation would be two months behind schedule, as it has been a very complex tendering process, which is being administered by Public Works Canada.

Companies interested in making a bid will be visiting the site. Members were advised that highly qualified specialists would be involved in evaluating the bids. The Clerk now expects final installation by late September or early October and has requested that the

chambers be the first priority in order to accommodate the first session in the new chamber in the fall.

Members are dissatisfied however, that these monies have had to come out of Nunavut's own capital funds, rather than the federal capital funds originally allocated for the building, and urge the Minister of Finance to vigorously pursue this issue with the Federal government.

Recommendation: That the Premier and the Minister of Finance continue their efforts to obtain capital funding from the Federal government for the audio/video and security system for the new chamber in light of the fact that they should have been incorporated in the original capital costs of the building which are under the responsibility of the Federal government.

Members also asked about the status of the automated library system and were advised that projected expenses, 100 thousand dollars which at this time is in the 5 year capital plan but not in this years budget. Members were also advised that it is hoped that there may be some slippage in the budget for staff which can be allocated to this item.

For opening ceremonies and one-time expenses, the Speaker noted that although there is funding in the budget for opening ceremonies this funding was used for the April 1st opening ceremony. There is no additional funding for the actual opening ceremonies for the new Legislative Assembly building once it has been completed.

As well, he noted that there is no funding in his budget for the furniture for constituency offices or for the telephone system in the new building. That funding has had to be found from other line items. Members are concerned that these expenses are examples of items which were overlooked in the planning. Members would like to have opening ceremonies for the new building in the fall, and would like to review some options for the activities and how they could be funded.

Expenses for sessions and work of the Standing Committees. Members were advised that the 1.7 million dollars budgeted for the sessions include the law clerks, the interpretation services, coffee and all the services that support the administration of the session and the committees. An amount of 320 thousand dollars is budgeted for travel for committees. It was noted that the budget for the Standing Committees will also need to be reviewed once the committees have set their plans for the year. The Assembly or the Standing Committees may choose to meet outside of Iqaluit and this will impact on the budget.

Members asked how many staff are hired under the research and library services. They were advised that three research staff and two library staff are included in this budget line. Members' constituency staff are paid out of another line item. Members wondered whether the funding for research support to the Standing Committees and members would be adequate. Members would like more clarity on how the budget for the Standing Committees will be allocated among the committees and how much a committee meeting

costs in or outside of Iqaluit. Members would like a complete list of what expenses must be factored into sessions and committee hearings.

Expenditures on behalf of members. It was noted that the 4.8 million dollars for members expenses includes many items such as constituency expenses, pension plan contributions, living allowances, it also includes the constituency salary for Cabinet members. The additional salaries and expenses for Cabinet are allocated in the budget for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Members asked if the Legislative Assembly has any funds for grants and contributions to groups and communities in Nunavut and were advised that there are none. The entire budget is for the provision of services to the members and the members only.

Thank you Mr. Chairperson, at this time I would like to turn the floor over to the Honourable member for Hudson Bay. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Kattuk.

Mr. Kattuk (interpretation): It is quite hot in here Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends). I would like to read in English at this time because when I was in school I was taught only in English writing and not in Inuktitut, so I never had a chance to learn to read in Inuktitut. So, bear with me with my wordings or my spellings.

I will be reading on the Hansard part. Mr. Speaker noted that the Legislative Assembly is trying to build local capacity in the private sector for the provision of our services. For example, *Hansard* will be produced by a local company in both Inuktitut and English. As it is developed members will be informed as to progress and costs. Members were advised that work had begun on *Hansard* in December with a Request for Proposals.

Mr. Chairman, the Offices of the Legislative Assembly have now had an opportunity to review hard copies from the Nunavut Leadership Forum on April 1, First Session. It is expected that by the May session we will have a contract in place for a fully functional *Hansard* in at least one language within 24 hours. It is noted that the costs for producing *Hansard* in two languages are significant, double the cost of one language, somewhere from 5 thousand to 8 thousand dollars per sitting day. Only two other jurisdictions prepare bilingual *Hansard* in Canada, the Parliament of Canada and New Brunswick. Only two other jurisdictions have private contractors preparing *Hansard*, Yukon and NWT. So Nunavut is learning as we go.

Members asked if funding for *Hansard* would be significant. Members were advised that it will be difficult to assess until we know how many sitting days we have, how many committee meetings, and so on. It was noted that the members have already made the decision to prepare *Hansard* transcripts of committee hearings when members appeared as witnesses but not for regular meetings.

These are the types of decisions that will impact on these costs. The Speaker also noted that the other areas to invest in local capacity were in printing services because when the

Assembly is fully operational it will be responsible for printing many documents and reports. Members look forward to hearing more about *Hansard* and our communications strategy as it develops and comment that the Legislative Assembly is supporting and encouraging Nunavut businesses.

Appointments to offices under the jurisdiction of the Legislative Assembly related to legislation. It was noted that there are 40 appointments made on the recommendation of the Legislative Assembly. Those budgets fall under the Legislative Assembly. Generally they also report to the Legislative Assembly and therefore Standing Committee, Ajaqtiit, has an interest in them. Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages, Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner, and Office of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Commissioner.

Members asked questions about the process for these appointments and their role in this regard. It was noted that the Management and Services Board which is chaired by the Speaker, has a mandate to appoint an interim Conflict of Interest Commissioner until a permanent position is appointed, and they have made a decision to do so.

Members were advised that the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly in Alberta was forwarding information on these processes and these would be made available to the Standing Committee. It was suggested that the committee might establish the criteria for these appointments and review information on applicants. The Standing Committee will likely play a role in bringing in recommendations and nominations formally to the Assembly by means of nomination in the House.

It was noted that in the case of the Information Commissioner and Conflict of Interest Commissioner there is not a budget for a full time position, rather it has been done in the past on an as-needed contract basis.

Members were advised that, in the past, the Official Languages Commissioner has been a full time position with additional support staff. This position is appointed by and reports to the Assembly, but works independently. In the Northwest Territories there are eight official languages that the Official Language Commissioner must protect and promote. However, it is generally understood that there are four official languages in Nunavut. The Standing Committee will need to review this position further, for Nunavut and its relationship with the Department of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth. Until the government formalizes its policy on language services in Nunavut it will be difficult to hire a Commissioner.

Members also asked if it was going to be their initiative in establishing legislation such as the Elections Act, Conflict of Interest Act, Official Languages Act and so on. It was noted that the Standing Committee would have this responsibility. Members look forward to receiving a list of legislation that is the responsibility of the Legislative Assembly and reviewing it with respect to their appropriateness for Nunavut.

Members would like to receive information from departments regarding the government of Nunavut's language policy as it develops and other information relevant to the Official Languages Act. As well as the Official Languages Act, members will also review the Conflict of Interest Commissioner's role and relevant legislation. Members will review issues relating to the appointment of these officials as a priority. It is further suggested that these issues be reviewed at a full caucus retreat. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Kattuk. Mr. Iqaqrialu.

Mr. Iqaqrialu (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. You might see sweat glistening off my brow or dripping and you will know it is coming from me. I will add to the comments already made.

On the report of the Chief Electoral Officer on the First Nunavut Election and the review of the Elections Act. Members expressed interest in receiving a copy of the report from Chief Electoral Officer, David Hamilton, on the February 15, 1999 Nunavut election. The Clerk advised that he hopes to receive the report early in July. It will be filed by the Speaker and provided to all members. Members stated their wish to view this report and also discuss amendments to the Elections Act to make it more appropriate for Nunavut.

The Role of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker. Members had several questions to clarify the role of the Speaker. It was noted that although the Speaker does not belong to the Cabinet and cannot be asked questions during question period, he does have administrative authority and responsibilities similar to a Minister as he is running the Assembly.

The Speaker is not involved on Standing Committees because committees will have to table reports to the Speaker in the House. It was noted that one of the most important functions of the Speaker was to ensure that the committees get the support that they need, such as researchers, clerks and translators. He has overall management and responsibility for the Assembly budget and supports the members to ensure the committees are effective.

It was also noted that the Speaker is the Chairperson of the Management and Services Board. It was further noted that under the Financial Administration Act section 3(4), the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly may sit as a member of the Financial Management Board and participate in its' decisions where the Board acts on matters related to the Legislative Assembly.

The Deputy Speaker only appears if the Speaker cannot, therefore there is no separate budget for the Deputy Speaker except for an expense allowance as provided in the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act.

Nunavut. In terms of obtaining support for the committees, the members asked if a protocol was in place or being worked on regarding information coming from the departments. They reported that all of the Standing Committees had encountered

difficulties in getting detailed information regarding the main estimates. The Clerk expressed his hope that this current difficulty was part of the growing pains of starting a new government and that when everything had settled down the committees' researchers and staff assigned to the committees will be able to go directly to the departments and request this information without having to go through many hoops. The members look forward to hearing of progress on this matter as soon as possible so the Standing Committee can be assured of obtaining information necessary to fulfil their mandate.

Clarification of Roles and Relationships. The members noted that the Standing Committee has a broad mandate that overlaps somewhat with other Standing Committees. For example, the Standing Committee Ajauqtiit has the mandate to review Land Claims issues and has already met with NTI. However, departments of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs and Sustainable Development have formal staff responsibilities for Land Claims and they are also dealt with by two other Standing Committees. The Standing Committee Ajauqtiit will explore how the different Standing Committees will work on Land Claims matters.

Members want to ensure that the Legislative Assembly and all departments of government are adhering to Article 23 and 24 of the Land Claims Agreement. As well, the committee noted that where it deals with matters effecting the Legislative Assembly there would be times when regular members and Ministers alike will have an interest in these issues. For example, the Official Languages Act is of concern to many different departments and several committees. The Standing Committee Ajauqtiit will explore how this committee will relate to the independent commissioners and work on the legislation under the responsibility of the Legislative Assembly.

Members look forward to discussing these issues further and hearing from our colleagues in full caucus. I will now pass this on to Mr. Alakannuark. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Iqaqrialu. Mr. Alakannuark.

Mr. Alakannuark (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. This is in respect to Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit. Members want to ensure that the Legislative Assembly plays a leadership role in putting Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit into their systems. Our culture and language play a role in the Assembly.

Members also want to involve elders and youth and suggest working with the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders & Youth to ensure there is funding for this. Members are pleased with the efforts of the Office of the Legislative Assembly to date and so commend the Speaker and the Clerk.

Even though the Nunavut Legislative Assembly does not have its own building the sessions have a distinctly cultural and spiritual feel to them. The lighting of the qulliq, the opening prayer, the beautiful wall hanging from the students of Gjoa Haven, the magnificent mace from the Inuit Organizations, the carvings from the wonderful artists in Nunavut, the youth pages, the clothing of the officials have all contributed to the special

atmosphere of this place. The members also acknowledge the efforts of the Office in providing materials and also interpretation in Inuktitut for the Inuk members.

Members look forward to such future projects as model parliaments for Nunavut's youth, the development of the Assembly's art collection which will showcase the work of Nunavut's artists and as well, the use of the building for special community events.

I will now conclude my report and I want to give this to the Iqaluit Centre MLA, Mr. Tootoo.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Alakannuark. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairperson. Mr. Chairman at this time I would just like to thank all the rest of the members of the Committee that helped read the report so that I wouldn't have to read all of it myself. I would now like to turn the floor to Mr. Akasuk who has a couple of motions from the committee. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Mr. Akasuk.

Committee Motion 22 – 1 (2): Materials to be in Inuktitut and English

Mr. Akasuk: Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

I move that this committee recommends that all materials or correspondence provided by Government of Nunavut departments or Ministers to the members of the Legislative Assembly should be done in both English and Inuktitut and, further, that sufficient resources be allocated for translation services to ensure that this happens on a timely basis. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor. Are there questions or comments to the motion. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried. Mr. Akasuk.

Committee Motion 23 – 1 (2): Capital Funding for Audio/Visual Equipment

Mr. Akasuk (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. (interpretation ends).

Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that the Premier and the Minister of Finance continue their efforts to obtain capital funding from the federal government for the audio/video and security system for the new chamber, in light of the fact that they should have been incorporated into the original capital costs of the building which is under the responsibility of the federal government. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor. Moved by Mr. Akasuk. Are there questions or comments to the motion. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried. Mr. Akasuk do you have any further motions.

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): I am completed. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Any comments or questions. Mr. Nutarak.

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairperson. Every time I raise my hand my receiver keeps making a beeping sound. I would like to take a short break before we start with the new department. Perhaps ten minutes.

Chairperson (interpretation): Do you agree? Go ahead Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairperson. Mr. Chairman, we haven't finished off, we need to approve the budget. Maybe we could quickly do that before we go to a break. It should just take a moment. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): Go ahead. General Comments. Do you want to go clause by clause?

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): We will have to adjourn at 4 o'clock. For that reason I would like to take a short break, how long is it going to take clause by clause? I would like to know this ahead of time so that I could make a motion to extend the sitting hours, if we don't complete this by 4 o'clock. I would like to know how long it is going to take to go clause by clause, if it is going to take after 4 o'clock.

Chairperson: Mr. Akesuk.

Mr. Akesuk (interpretation): I think we can go clause by clause because looking at the pages, we can continue on it whether we finish by 4 o'clock or not, so I would just like to go clause by clause now Mr. Chairman, Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): You would like to do it line by line now, let's go to page 1 – 4. Office of the Clerk. Total operations & maintenance 4 million 430 thousand. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Open the page to 1 – 5 Office of the Clerk, in another dialect, total capital 3 million 402 thousand. Agreed.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): We will no go back to 1 –4. Total Capital 3 million 402 thousand. Total Expenditures 7 million 832 thousand.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Now turn the page to expenditures on behalf of members. Page 1 – 6, total operations & maintenance 4 million 803 thousand.

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Total Capital zero, total expenditures 4 million 803 thousand. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairperson. Mr. Chairman I heard, I don't know if it is just the interpretation, it said 4 million 803 thousand, and the amount is actually 4 million 802 thousand.

Chairperson (interpretation): The Inuktitut has version has 4 million 803 thousand, the English has 802 thousand in it but the translation has 4 million 803 thousand. So there is a variation between the translation and the English.

Chairperson: Mr. Nutarak

Mr. Nutarak (interpretation): Mr. Chairman what are we going to do, there are two figures now and both of the languages are recognized but the two figures are different. Perhaps the Chairperson or Minister of Finance can make a comment to that.

Chairperson: Mr. Ng

Hon. Kelvin Ng: Mr. Chairman maybe I can get away with the higher number, the Inuktitut version 4 million 803 thousand. Thank you.

Chairperson: Thank you Mr. Ng. Do you agree.

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you. Total expenditures 4 million 803 thousand. Now turn the page, Office of the Speaker, there was a missed translation there. Office of the Speaker. Total operations and maintenance 159 thousand. Total capital, no capital. Total expenditures 159 thousand. Go onto the next page.

Commissioner of Official Languages, operations and maintenance total 358 thousand. Total capital none. Total expenditures 358 thousand. Go back to page 1-3 detail of expenditures, operations and maintenance, total 9 million and 749 thousand. Capital total 3 million 402 thousand, total expenditures 13 million 151 thousand, do you agree that the department budget be concluded with. Agreed?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

>>Applause

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Speaker Levi Barnabas and John Quirke, thank you. I think we did this in a short period of time. Thank you. Would you like to take a short break. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you Mr. Chairperson. I don't know, just looking at the clock we only have another 15 minutes till we close. I'd like to maybe make a Motion to report progress at this time. Thank you Mr. Chairperson.

Chairperson (interpretation): There's a motion on the floor to adjourn. All those in favour. Opposed. Carried. We shall report progress with the Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you let's go back to the orders of the day, report of the committee of the whole, Mr. Irqittuq.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Irqittuq (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker your committee has been considering bill 1 and committee reports 1, 2, 3 and 4. Also bill 2 and 3. I would like to report progress. Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of committee of the whole be concurred with. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: There's a motion on the floor. Who seconds the Motion. Mr. O'Brien seconds the Motion. All those in favour, show of hands. The motion is carried. Item 21, Third Reading of bills, Item 22, Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Mr. Quirke: Thank you Mr. Speaker. On Monday, half past eight in the morning meeting of the Regular Caucus.

Order of the Day, Monday May 31, 1999

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. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
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:
 - Bill 1 - Appropriation Act 1999/2000.
 - Bill 2 - Boards of Management Dissolution Act
 - Bill 3 - Divisional Education Council Dissolution Act
 - Standing Committee Reports 1-1(2), 2-1(2), 3-1(2) 4-1(2)
20. Report of Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you Mr. Clerk. This house stands adjourned until Monday May 31, at 10.30 in the morning.

Sergeant At Arms.

>>House Adjourned at 3.38 pm.

