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Speaker: The Honourable Jobie Nutarak, M.L.A.

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Akulliq)

Peter Kattuk
(Hudson Bay)

Hon. Peter Kilabuk
(Pangnirtung)

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(Amittuq)
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Elders and Youth; Minister of
Human Resources*

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(Iqaluit Centre)

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Thursday, May 13, 2004

Members Present:

Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Honourable Olayuk Akesuk, Mr. David Alagalak, Mr. James Arreak, Mr. Levi Barnabas, Honourable Levinia Brown, Mr. Tagak Curley, Mr. Joe Allan Evyagotailak, Mr. Peter Kattuk, Mr. Steve Mapsalak, Mr. Patterk Netser, Honourable Jobie Nutarak, Honourable Paul Okalik, Mr. Keith Peterson, Honourable Edward Picco, Honourable David Simailak, Honourable Louis Tapardjuk, Mr. Hunter Tootoo.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (interpretation): I call upon Mr. Alagalak to say the prayer.

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Before we pray, in Arviat there is a father and a son missing. They were supposed to come back on Sunday, but they haven't, so Arviat residents are now searching for them. We will pray for them.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good afternoon. Ministers' statements. Ms. Aglukkaq.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 004 – 2(1) Minister Kilabuk Absent from the House

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise members that the Hon. Peter Kilabuk will be absent from the House today. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' statements. In our orders of the day, Item 3. Members' statements. Mr. Mapsalak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 024 – 2(1): Congratulations to Repulse Bay and Kugaaruk Graduates

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (Interpretation ends.) I rise today to recognize the recent success of a number of constituents from the communities of Repulse Bay and Kugaaruk.

On April 1 of this year, Ms. Godeliva Putulik graduated from the Community Health Representative Program at Nunavut Arctic College in Pangnirtung. Ms. Putulik is currently doing her practicum in her home community of Repulse Bay.

On April 27 of this year six residents of the community of Kugaaruk completed their Early Childhood Education Program that was delivered over three years by the Kitikmeot Economic Development Commission and CEGEP de St. Felician College. I would like to congratulate Helen Anaituq, Sarah Immingark, Leona Apsaktaun, Magdallita Oogark, Kathy Anaituq, and Barbara Oogark of Kugaaruk on their achievements. Sheila Anaituq will soon be joining them in their success.

Mr. Speaker, you and my colleagues all recognize the importance of community health representatives and early childhood educators. These individuals contribute greatly to their communities. These constituents are examples to all Nunavummiut of what can be accomplished when you work towards your goals and pursue educational opportunities.

I ask the members to join me in congratulating these individuals in their achievements. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Members' statements. Mr. Tootoo.

Member's Statement 025 – 2(1): New Members of the Nunavut Economic Forum

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to congratulate the new board members and executive officers of the Nunavut Economic Forum. Last week the forum held its first annual general meeting here in Iqaluit. More than 37 organizations have become members of the Nunavut Economic Forum. The forum has taken on the task of preparing a list of territorial economic development priorities, organizing working groups to focus on the priority areas, and preparing a submission for federal funding under the new Northern Economic Development Fund.

All members of this House are focused on the priority areas and on the preparing of submissions for federal funding under the new Northern Economic Development Fund. All members of this House are fully aware of how vitally important economic development is.

Last year, I spoke in this House about the exciting development of the Iqaluit Co-op. Northern Co-ops have played a huge role in the development of the north, providing goods, services and jobs for Nunavummiut and co-op members. I am a proud co-op member and I look forward to the new Iqaluit development.

I am pleased that these organizations have joined together to create a vision for economic development in Nunavut. As members of this House where there are only 19 of us, we know that our diversity can make reaching a consensus a lengthy process.

The Nunavut Economic Forum, with no fewer than 37 member organizations, will definitely have their work cut out for them. I am confident that they will succeed by ensuring that the Nunavut Economic Development Strategy does not simply gather dust but is used to create measurable economic development in our territory.

I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Monica Ell, the president of the Nunavut Economic Forum, George Bolander, the vice-president, Doug Workman who was chosen secretary, and Tanya Scott, the treasurer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 026 – 2(1): Nunavut Association of Municipalities

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize the hard work of mayors, council members, senior ministerial officers, and all employees of municipalities across Nunavut.

The Nunavut Association of Municipalities held its 2004 annual general meeting in Pangnirtung earlier this month. Members are well aware that I served as president of the Nunavut Association of Municipalities while I was mayor in Cambridge Bay.

I strongly believe that the Nunavut Association of Municipalities is a crucial force in lobbying the federal government for funding. The Nunavut Association of Municipalities has also done some important work in conjunction with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. I am excited about the new deal that the federal government recently announced with the municipalities. This involved the municipal, territorial, and federal governments working together to improve the lives of people at the local level.

It is essential that all levels of government work together for common goals. Those goals must be determined at a local level to ensure that they are relevant to the needs of Nunavummiut. I strongly believe that the local hamlet councils are the backbone of life in the North and I strongly encourage the Nunavut Association of Municipalities to continue their work to better the lives of Nunavummiut.

Each year the association produces a number of resolutions regarding the needs of communities. At the appropriate time I will be tabling the resolutions that were passed during the 2004 annual general meeting. I urge the government to not only respond to the resolutions but to act on them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Barnabas.

Member's Statement 027 – 2(1): Burdens for Homeowners

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to rise today on the issue of fuel and utility subsidies for homeowners. (Interpretation ends.) Members are aware that it is difficult to be a homeowner in the North. Everything costs more than in the south. To compensate for this the government and previous governments have offered home ownership programs such as HAP, housing access programs.

The most expensive part of home ownership is not always the purchase of the home itself; the costs of maintaining and operating the home can be overwhelming. When many of us travel to Iqaluit from our home communities, we notice the difference in daylight hours: the difference between here and my High Arctic communities is especially remarkable. It has come as no surprise that the darkest three months of the year are also the coldest. The increased hours of darkness and cold lead to an increase in fuel and electricity bills for my constituents.

Mr. Speaker, these humongous costs mean that many homeowners cannot afford to do necessary renovations. It's time for the government to recognize the burden on homeowners.

>>Applause

I want all homeowners to be successful. I don't want them to sell their homes and move to public housing. The government needs to improve assistance to current homeowners, rather than placing new buyers in similar situations.

Mr. Speaker, I will be addressing the appropriate minister, when he is present. Thank you,

>>Applause

Speaker: Orders of the day, Item 3. Members' statements. Mr. Curley.

Member's Statement 028 – 2(1): Roles and Responsibilities as Members of the Legislative Assembly

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about a concern that has been raised by Nunavummiut. Nunavummiut expect that the elected personnel have the highest mandate because the rules have to be abided by.

As elected people for the Legislative Assembly, our business does not conclude here in the House. We have to work literally 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. We have not been asked to do this, but we have given that mandate to ourselves. And when we were elected, we swore to our obligation. For that reason, our responsibilities are higher.

That oath and these obligations were stated and sworn by our previous Speaker in the first Legislative Assembly. I believe that respect was broken and trust was broken, and he broke the law. I would like to say in the House and to the public, I personally will ask for a full investigation, and part of it will be who knew about it and when they found out about it.

Mr. Speaker, we have to start on our own to get the public's respect in the House, in the Legislative Assembly, and within the government system. I will be stating that I will personally, to the best of my ability, go ahead. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker: Item 3, Members' statements. Hon. Minister Simailak.

Member's Statement 029 – 2(1): Care and Support Received When Uncle Passed Away

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize first of all for not being able to attend the meeting yesterday: my uncle from Qamanittuaq passed away on Monday morning. At this time, they're starting to gather in churches for the funeral and I'm thinking of them.

I rise today to thank all the people who cared and took care of my uncle at the Bobby Talorukusat Centre in Baker Lake. For caring for him during the day of his death, I would like thank these people: Daisie Avalas, Suzie Taipanaq, Martha Singaqtu, Eva Singaqtu and also the nurse, Linda Lafontaine. These people cared for him and they took care of him properly. I would like to thank them very much for all the care and support they had given us, as family members were taken care of, and everybody was sympathetic, by the staff and my family. I apologize to my family members in Qamanittuaq for not being able to attend the funeral. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Item 3. Members' statements. Mr. Netser.

Member's Statement 030 – 2(1): Annual Fishing Derby in Coral Harbour

Mr. Netser: "Qujannamiik, Uqaqti." Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to rise today in celebration of an upcoming event in my community of Coral Harbour.

The annual fishing derby is a time when families come together in celebration of our bond with the land and the sea. Starting later this week, the community will be full of activities as elders, parents, and youth head out to test their skills and mostly their luck.

While fishing derbies are a lot of fun for our youth, they also provide an opportunity for our traditional skills and values to be passed from generation to generation. This is a time when the community comes together in the spirit of friendly competition. "Uqaqti", if I were able to be at home in the community for this year's event, I think that I might even have a chance to win some of the excellent prizes that are available for the most successful catch. Probably not!

But Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to urge the community to make sure that everyone brings their garbage back to the community. We have a responsibility

as Inuit to keep our land and our waters clean and everyone has a part to play. Mr. Speaker, good luck to everyone in the derby. “Qujannamiik.”

Speaker (interpretation): I envy the people who are going to the fishing derby. To the Orders of the day, Item 3. Members' statements. Mr. Alagalak.

Member's Statement 031 – 2(1): Arviat School Choir Recognition

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today for a number of reasons and though it was not intentional, I was late the first day of the session. I had to go to Baker Lake yesterday and that was one reason that I was not able to make it on Monday, and I apologize.

I would like to focus on two items. You probably know that in Arviat, they have a lot of work to do and they are starting to get recognition internationally.

We have the school choir which is becoming very popular and we are starting to see them in the international media. It is a way of promoting Nunavummiut culture and language and possibly of promoting the use of traditional clothing and contemporary clothing that is used today. And again, with the different songs, the traditional songs and contemporary songs, they are starting to get recognition internationally. The Arviat choir is very popular and it is starting to pick up, not only in the territories, but also in the provinces. I hear that the southern population is starting to promote traditional singing in the schools.

I would like to congratulate the staff and the students who have revived Inuit culture through these programs. I can say that it is a way of promoting our economics through their ambassadorship and visiting nationally and internationally, and I would like them to be given support by the Nunavut government.

The next item: the people of Arviat are going to be celebrating a fishing derby. Though it is not the traditional way, we enjoy the community coming together by way of fishing derbies and other games.

As I said in my opening prayer, we have to think of the people of Arviat because they are looking for a 12- to 14-year old child; there is a search and rescue going on 24 hours a day. The Hon. Peter Kilabuk is not here, but I have spoken with him. There are always going to be search and rescue parties. Mr. Speaker, I would like unanimous consent to conclude my statements.

Speaker (interpretation): Any nays? There are no nays. Please go ahead, Mr. Alagalak.

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The news media and the GPS that we use now... I had a discussion with the Hon. Peter Kilabuk and I would like to let people know that there are locators that will be made available to the whole of Arviat. The locator is going to be used in a pilot project to see if it works up here and I am looking forward to findings from the project. If we use those locators, we are going to

save a lot of money on search and rescue parties. Thank you, Mr. Speaker for the opportunity to bring up these two issues in this meeting.

Speaker (interpretation): To the Orders of the day, Item 3. Members' statements. Hon. Paul Okalik.

Member's Statement 032 – 2(1): Congratulate the Toonik Tyme Committee

Hon. Paul Okalik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to acknowledge the Toonik Tyme committee; they had a wonderful organizing committee again this year and it was fun taking part. I got to go up again this year, and again Hon. Peter Kilabuk managed to beat me on the sea ice. That is the unfortunate part of the games: he gets to beat me every year. I think I'll have a rematch next year and I look forward to winning.

There is a lot of good stuff that happened: I heard about Fear Factor where a local Inuk ate a lot of worms and caribou droppings, and all those wonderful things, to take home a prize. I'm sure there will be similar events next year, and I look forward to taking part. The elders also took part in some games and everybody had a lot of fun. I invite everyone to come again next year. Thank you, Mister Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Orders of the day, Item 3. Members' statements. Hon. Leona Aglukark.

Member's Statement 033 – 2(1): Congratulate Gjoa Haven Graduates

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mister Speaker. I would like to offer my congratulations to the graduates of the Inuit Child Care Services Program in Gjoa Haven. On April 27 there were nine students who graduated, and my colleagues and I had the pleasure of meeting with them and congratulating the following: Lucy Alaralik, Leena Tungilik, Irene Iqulik, Teresa Oogak, Rebecca Ikuallaq, Luisa Oogak, Mary Porter, Eva Aqptangoak and Veronica Ullulaq.

I also want to thank members from the House —Mr. Mapsalak, the Minister of Education, the Premier, and Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, for attending the graduation. Thank you, Mister Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Back to the orders of the day. Item 4. Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Mapsalak.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize my constituency assistant in Repulse Bay who completed her course: Rachel Siusaarnaq is sitting by the interpreters' booth. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Item 6, Oral Questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 005 – 2(1): Affordable Energy Fund Coming Into Force

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister Responsible for Qulliq Energy Corporation. An Act to Amend the Power Utilities Act And Certain Other Acts in Consequence was assented to on March 28, 2003. Section 16 of that act provides for the establishment of an Affordable Energy Fund.

Can the minister tell the House when Section 16 will come into force? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is part and parcel; it's a clause in the act and it will be part of the general rate application. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Maybe I could ask the minister if he could explain why, if there is something in the act that sets an affordable energy fund within the government accounts, does that have to be part of a general rate application and not just a fund that's set up. I wonder if he could explain why it has to be part of a general rate application. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Responsible for Qulliq Energy Corporation. Mr. Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It will be part of a comprehensive package, when we put everything together into one and bring it all forward as a general rate application. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the past, I've often raised the issue of putting all our subsidies in one pot, and I'm assuming that's what this is going to be. But the minister is indicating that it's going to be part of a general rate application. Is he indicating, then, that it will not be the subsidy funds that are already appropriated by the government as funding coming directly from the government, but will be something that is contributed to through fees and payments made by consumers? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Simailak.

Mr. Simailak: It will be a part of a very transparent process and therefore will be brought forward in that way. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Final supplementary question. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate whether the affordable energy fund will be a conglomeration of the subsidies already provided by the government through electricity, fuel, and other subsidies that the government provides to consumers in Nunavut, or whether it will be a fund that is replenished or contributed to through rates and fees by consumers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It would be as it is outlined in the *Ikuma II* report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral questions. Mr. Mapsalak.

Question 006 – 2(1): Programs for Non-decentralized Communities

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is being directed to the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. The communities of Kugaaruk and Repulse Bay are not decentralized; there are not enough jobs there and in the past five years they haven't received any kind of programs or any employment.

I was very happy to hear, when the cabinet was in Qikiqtarjuaq, that the places which are not decentralized will be given more jobs and employment. Can the minister tell me what kind of programs will be brought into the communities that are not decentralized? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The communities that are not decentralized, we will be looking at them this year, do have economic development officers. I don't know if there is a development officer in Naujaat-Repulse Bay. We will be working closely together with agencies in the communities, through the hamlets. And we will be looking at these for the next five years: how we can start bringing more opportunities to the smaller communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we know it was very expensive to decentralize. Can the minister tell me whether for the communities that are not decentralized, is he going to make sure that there will be no cuts in these

communities, because it's important that all the communities have programs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are just following what the first Assembly did when they were decentralizing, and right now I believe that there will be no major cuts in these communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will clarify my statements. Especially for the smaller communities that are not decentralized, and we do receive funding through economic development, I am asking if there will there be any cuts this year to the economic development programs. Thank you.

Speaker: Mr. Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): No, there will not be any cuts. We have not tried to look at the funding in the communities. Right now, we have to make cuts in our offices; we did not do this in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral questions. Item 6. Mr. Evyagotailak.

Question 007 – 2(1): Kugluktuk Healing Facility Update

Mr. Evyagotailak (interpretation): “Koanaqutit, Uqaqti.” My question is directed to the Minister of Justice. Last year, the community of Kugluktuk heard the welcome news that a new healing centre will be coming to the community. The community and the whole Kitikmeot region was pleased to hear this. My question to the minister today is: can he update the House on the status of this project for the community of Kugluktuk? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Justice, Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): “Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.” I am pleased to report that we recently hired the manager for the new facility, Ms. Helen Larocque, who is from Kugluktuk. I am very pleased to report that from here on in we will be looking at staffing the facility and training the people that will be working there. So, we have agreed to open the facility hopefully this September. “Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.”

Speaker: “Kugluktukmut maligaliuqti,” Mr. Evyagotailak.

Mr. Evyagotailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My supplementary question: as we know, there is always a need for employment in the community. How

many local residents will be hired at the centre and when can we hear of the hiring?
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Justice, Premier Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated, we do have a general manager right now; we just hired a manager and we will be hiring, probably, about twelve people. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Netser.

Question 008 – 2(1): Top Three Priorities for Non-decentralized Communities - Kivalliq

Mr. Netser: “Qujannamiik,” Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation. (Interpretation.) I am a member of the Legislative Assembly for communities that are not decentralized, and we heard that you will be looking at the smaller communities when you were in Qikiqtarjuaq, especially the smaller communities that are non-decentralized, in Chesterfield and Coral Harbour. We are looking into more economic development in those communities; they would like to have a meat plant.

(Interpretation.) To conclude my question for the minister today: what are the top three priorities of his department with respect to non-decentralized communities in the Kivalliq? “Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.”

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The smaller communities in the Kivalliq region have been making preparations on how there could be employment. We would be working with the members of the Legislative Assembly and through economic development and also with the hamlets. We will be working very closely with these communities that are not decentralized.

Also, how can we make transportation better through the hamlets, and their staff? We will be working on these issues, such as transportation in the communities, and how we could create more employment in the smaller communities that are not decentralized. Definitely we will be working closely together with the hamlets and the members of the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Netser.

Mr. Netser: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, these communities expect to have the department come to them to meet with hamlet representatives about their plan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Transportation, Mr. Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will be contacting the hamlet councils and also the members of the Legislative Assembly. We are going to be communicating with them very shortly to organize meetings with these communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Orders of the day. Item 6. Oral questions. Mr. Peterson.

Question 009 – 2(1): Nunavut Mining Strategy Report

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation. Yesterday I rose in the House to discuss mining in Nunavut. The question is: when will the minister table a new findings strategy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of transportation, Mr. Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): I'm sorry, I'm just looking at it. Mr. Speaker, I will take this as notice and I will come back to you.

Speaker (interpretation): The minister will take this as notice and will come back to you with the answer. Member for Arviat, Mr. Alagalak.

Question 010 – 2(1): Update on the Arviat Choir Funding Application

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth.

When this was started in April, when you became the ministe, I believe that you were speaking with the Department of Education and also the new Department of Environment, about how the Arviat Choir was going to be going to Israel. The Department of Education knows that they practice a lot and that they have to go to other countries. They have to do this in the school, they have to get professionals to teach them with the singing, and it is very expensive.

I would like to ask Minister Louis Tapardjuk of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, if there was an application that was sent to him on that issue. I would like to know where it is at right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, Mr. Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At the end of March 31 there were quite a few applicants for funding, and usually there are various

committees that review the application forms. There are two bodies that review the application in regards to this question. I know exactly what's happening but at this time I don't know what level they are at. But, tomorrow I will give him the information in regards to the application and where it is at; I will inform the member tomorrow. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Alagalak.

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Also, Mr. Simailak, I have to ask you a question.

Speaker (interpretation): The minister took your question as notice and I'm sure that he will be able to respond to your question tomorrow.

Go back to the orders of the day. Oral questions. Item 6. Mr. Tootoo.

Question 011 – 2(1): Summer Student Program

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Human Resources. I know that the government has a summer student employment program and I'd like to ask the minister if he could indicate how that program works and if it started already. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are various summer student programs. There are youth in Nunavut who will have to be introduced to the labour force eventually.

The human resources department, in co-operation with all the departments, has identified 141 students. We have set aside \$700,000 to be utilized for that and that funding will be split between all the departments. Of these 141 individuals, 98 of them are Nunavut beneficiaries. Perhaps when we were looking at the percentage, 70 percent of the students are beneficiaries in this coming summer season. Since this program started back 1999, the number of students has increased, and there are 16 communities who will provide summer work for the students.

So, we have identified this already; it has already been initiated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Member for Iqaluit Centre, Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to hear the program is in place and ongoing.

I would like to ask the ministe... I know that students get out at various times during the year. Some finish a little earlier than others, and I know that there are students that are

back here in the city of Iqaluit from secondary education for the summer that are looking for work and are being told that they have to wait.

I'm just wondering if maybe the minister can indicate why, if the program is in place, these students are being told that they have to wait before being offered employment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): I have not heard of any of the students being told that they have to wait to get a job. I will look into this and tomorrow I will give you the answer. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I look forward to that information.

The minister had indicated that 70 percent of the students were beneficiaries, but under the program, does it differentiate between a beneficiary and a non-beneficiary student, or is a student just a student under the program? Is there any priority for beneficiaries or non-beneficiaries under the student employment program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Government of Nunavut has agreed with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and the federal government: on Article 23, where it states that 85 percent of them should be Inuit. Yes, we will be working very hard on this issue and we are committed to working with them and we're going to train them under Article 23. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Final supplementary. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I assume, then, by what the minister is stating that if a non-beneficiary student is in town and looking for employment, they're being asked to wait: "we have our quota of non-beneficiary students; we're looking for more beneficiary students." Or, if they're here looking for work and there are employment opportunities under that program, they'll be directed to the appropriate position. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Tapardjuk.

Hon. Louis Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are many applicants and also the Government of Nunavut is a public government; under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, Article 23, we have to abide by that. Although, there are non-beneficiaries who have applied and we consider them full-heartedly. Last year, the number of students interested was smaller than this year. But if there is a non-

beneficiary who would like to obtain a summer job, we're not going to close the door on them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Orders of the day. Item 6. Oral questions. Mr. Alagalak.

Question 012 – 2(1): Representative for Manitoba/Kivalliq Road Meeting

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the minister responsible for economic development. Today or tomorrow, we have heard, there is going to be a meeting taking place in Manitoba to talk about the Manitoba-Nunavut road, and a feasibility study was going to close today.

The department of economic development, are they going to send a representative for that meeting? I am sure that you will be sending a representative, that is why you are here; it is a very important meeting. Therefore, I would like to hear if your department is going to send a representative to that meeting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister responsible for economic development, Mr. Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Yes, there will be a representative from the department of transportation for that meeting in Winnipeg. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Are you finished? Thank you. Member for Cambridge Bay. Mr. Peterson.

Question 013 – 2(1): Review of Minimum Wage Report

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question today is for the Minister of Justice, this is posed for the Nunavut Labour Standards Act. I read with interest in the document you tabled yesterday who is responsible. That was: under the labour standards act, the Government of Nunavut is legally required to read the minimum wage annually, and report the results of that review to the Legislative Assembly.

I read that the government has not yet met its legal obligations in this regard. My question for the minister is this: has the government reviewed the minimum wage in the past year, and when will it fulfill its obligations to table the results of the review in this House? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Member for Justice, Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik: “Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.” I will be tabling the review during this session and at the appropriate time. Probably not today, but perhaps tomorrow. “Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.”

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the minister tell us how the government undertook the review of the labour standards act? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: “Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.” I do not have the document with me at this time, but I will be tabling it at the first opportunity. “Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.”

Speaker (interpretation): Are you finished? Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could the minister indicate whether the minimum wage will be increased?.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik: “Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.” Actually, we just recently increased the minimum wage. At this time, I am not prepared to increase it until further studies and more consultations have taken place with the private sector. “Qujannamiik, Uqaqti.”

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral questions. Mr. Barnabas.

Question 014 – 2(1): Immigration Problems with People from Greenland to Nunavut

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know we have to settle Nunavut and put everything into place, but we have experienced a problem with an immigrant coming from Greenland. He is married to a Canadian citizen.

After 9/11, it is becoming very difficult to get into Canada, especially to go through immigration. I would like to direct my question to intergovernmental affairs, Mr. Picco, in regards to whether the duty fees have been amended.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

Mr. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, let me say that the case in question that the member was speaking about, I don't want to get into a great amount of details on it because it is confidential information concerning people. However, I can say that the member brought it to my attention last week and indeed within 24 hours I met with the two people. We expedited the file to Ottawa and ensured that it is with the proper authorities to make sure that the immigration goes smoothly.

As the minister responsible for immigration, we have seen a lot of difficulty not just in Nunavut, of course, but in Canada and indeed the world since 9/11. These are some of the issues. As ministers of immigration for the country of Canada there have been a large amount of discussions around.

On the reciprocal cost of the fees themselves, there are some issues with that. However, the fee structure is not in place to deter immigrants from coming to Canada. Indeed, it is there to help facilitate, as well as look at the logistics, administrative, and financial costs of such an application process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Some people from Greenland were already living here when that 9/11 incident happened. The process for administration... I'm asking about that documentation process. Some of these individuals, even though they are married to a Canadian citizen, have to wait seven years, literally. They've lived seven years in Canada; they have to wait so many years for the documentation to be completed. They've been asked to leave Canada and they've been deported. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister Picco.

Mr. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me make it perfectly clear that the rules and regulations on the immigration of immigrants to Canada are federal legislation, federal statutes. After saying that, our job and my job as the minister for immigration for Nunavut is to help expedite and facilitate for people who want to stay in Nunavut.

Indeed, the member is correct. There are several people from Greenland who attempted to stay in Nunavut. At the same time, the proper checks and security clearances as well as the immigration laws of Canada have to be followed. Our job is to help facilitate that. For example, as we just indicated for the case the member was talking about, we believe we are going to be able to bring it to a successful conclusion. And again, it was the first time as the minister responsible that I had a chance to handle the file.

On other cases, for example, as the minister of immigration, we have been looking at opportunities for bringing medical professionals into Nunavut from other jurisdictions. We help facilitate that file. I've had discussions with our MP, Nancy Karetak-Lyndel, on issues around passports and so on.

So, I would suggest to the member that when people are applying to be in Nunavut, if they're coming from another jurisdiction they can't just come here and marry someone else. There are rules and regulations and processes to be followed, and that is what we're attempting to do: follow the letter of the law, as it were. At the same time, if the member has issues with constituents, or if any other members have, who have come from another country and are attempting to stay in Nunavut, and there are issues around the process, then the member can make those people's names known to me and I will be able to facilitate that to the best of our ability as a government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Barnabas.

Mr. Barnabas (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand completely. But, there is a problem regarding immigrants who do not have work permits and who are not allowed to work here. Is there some way that we can make it easier, through the Government of Nunavut, so that they can work in the communities? They are hunters and they provide food for the community. Since they don't have work permits they are not allowed to work, but of course it costs money to go hunting. Is there something that we can do about these kinds of situations? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Hon. Ed Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are different rules and regulations regarding people who move from another country, from their place of birth, to Canada. In this specific case, we are talking about citizenship that these people want to take out, or for purposes of working, they may have landed immigrant status.

Again, I can't say specifically on each case because each case is different. However, if someone comes in from another jurisdiction and has been in Canada for a considerable period of time, they are usually considered under landed immigrant status if they hadn't already chosen to move towards Canadian citizenship.

The member knows, for example, here in Iqaluit and many other communities in Nunavut, people are sworn in on every July 1 who have resided in Nunavut. However, I don't know if we want to open up the floodgate to people who have just moved to Nunavut from a different country to allow them to hunt, fish, and so on, and maybe take work away from the people who live here.

That's why we have rules and regulations in place under citizenship as well as landed immigrant status. If there are specific cases, as the members have made some good cases like there was one last week... We were able to help the couple out. If you could bring those forward to me, we'll help you with the file.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. To the orders of the day, Item 6. Oral questions. Mr. Curley.

Question 015 – 2(1): Premier Meeting with Territorial Premiers in Yukon

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

As we heard on the news, the Premier went to the Yukon to meet with the other two territorial premiers of Yukon and the Northwest Territories. You went there representing Nunavut. Could you inform the House of the discussions that took place at the premiers' conference, and what came out of it? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We talked about a number of issues. We especially focused on health issues and whether we have sufficient funding, that if given from the federal to the territorial level, we are going to be cooperating together as territorial premiers. And we also had discussions about exploration and mining. Those are the two issues that we are going to be working on together as premiers of Nunavut, Northwest Territories, and Yukon.

We talked about how we could be more involved in the issue of missile defence. Another issue: we talked about the funding that was set aside by the federal government and how there have to be some kinks worked out of it.

In 2007, the Arctic Winter Games are going to be held in Whitehorse. They want Nunavut and Northwest Territories to participate in the games in a joint project with Yukon. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the Premier for mentioning some of the issues that were covered at the premiers' conference.

My next question is with regards to working together as a government and as an entity of Nunavut. For example we can cover the EDA , economic development agreement, health and social services, and the missile defense program. I don't think we can conclude all these issues during oral questions. I would like to ask the Premier if it is possible to table a document that covers all the issues that were discussed at the premiers' conference.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have the report, but I could table other documents that were used at the conference, if the members would like to scrutinize those documents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): My last question, Mr. Speaker. Those issues are very important, especially since we don't have the economic development agreement; we understood that it will be operated by the federal government without giving the funding to the Nunavut government. Because of that we have a lot of concerns, and I am sure that some of the smaller communities will not have access to those funds that were set aside by the federal government.

I think that if there is a joint consensus with the three premiers we will be able to give support and will have easier access to the funds. We have to discuss those issues in the House, and we need all the information so that we can make an informed joint statement to the governments and the entity.

The Inuit Circumpolar Conference has discussed these issues but I would like to see you table those documents, if we can make an informed support with regards to the missile defense system. I would like the Premier to table those documents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Premier.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We can table the documents that we compiled together. There is not much information there, but it does outline some of the concerns and the possible solutions to those issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 016 – 2(1): Ikuma II Report and Hidden Subsidies

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I go into my question, I would like to recognize some of the Iqaluit Fire Department that are here: fire chief Cory Chegwyn; volunteer firefighters Barry Rogers; Pauloosie Nuyalia; Eyetsiak; Corey Bell; and Chris Wilson. I would like to welcome them to the gallery. Also, one of the coroners is back there as well [No audio.]

Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister Responsible for Qulliq Energy Corporation. Earlier the minister indicated that the Affordable Energy Fund would be as outlined in the *Ikuma II* report. The *Ikuma II* report talks about setting up this fund to get rid of the hidden subsidies. And in the report it states that, I think just in PPD alone, they are looking at probably uncovering about \$10 million in hidden subsidies.

I would like to ask the minister if the Qulliq Energy Corporation has figured out what all those hidden subsidies are and how much would be required to be appropriated by the government to fund this fund? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The Minister Responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Minister Simailak.

Hon. David Simailak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are currently compiling the information, but I will take your questions as notice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): The minister will take it as notice. To the orders of the day. Item 6. Oral questions. Mr. Tootoo.

Question 017– 2(1): School Building Safety

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the eloquent Minister of Education, as he likes to be known.

Mr. Speaker, in the Government of Nunavut press release that was dated May 5, the Minister of Community and Government Services stated, and I'll quote: "I am confident that our schools are safe." Not long after that, I heard a story on the radio about a roof-collapse at a school. My question for the Minister of Education today simply requires a yes or no answer: does the minister agree with the cabinet colleague of the assessment of our schools' safety? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Education, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, the roofing question was in Inuvik; I've been to Inuvik several times and have been to the schools. I was quite surprised to have seen the roof collapse when we heard about it. I guess it was from the weight of the roof.

After that happened, it was on the news, a complete inventory was done of all schools in Nunavut to make sure that the roofs... . If there was a situation involving snow buildup on the roofs, would we have the same situations? And it's my understanding that indeed, our roofs are safe in Nunavut, at our schools. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, the minister has done a good job in assessing and making sure that all our roofs are safe in our schools in Nunavut. I'd like to ask the minister: as of today, has every school in Nunavut had a complete safety inspection in the last three months, not just the roofs, but a complete safety inspection? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Education, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member knows the Department of Community and Government Services is responsible for the maintenance of all government infrastructure, of property, buildings, and so on, that we have under the inventory of the Government of Nunavut.

It is my understanding that as part of routine school maintenance, snow-load is monitored, for example, in this case. I cannot say with any degree of certainty that in the last week, or two weeks, that our schools have all been checked. I can say, with the information provided to me, that all our schools were checked for snow-load shortly after what we heard on the radio. The experience was in Inuvik. As part of the course of general maintenance, all school buildings as well as other infrastructure belonging to the government are regularly checked, and I guess that would be the answer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As you know, the schools are a haven, I guess, for our young people, our children that are going to school, and we certainly would not want anything to happen to them in a government facility.

Would the minister be prepared to provide the members with a list of when the schools in the communities, in Iqaluit and in the other communities, were last inspected for safety and provide that to the members? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I noticed that the member does not seem afraid or frightened or terrified to be in this building which is a government-owned or a government-leased facility operated for, and by, the government of Nunavut.

Indeed, as I said earlier, the Department of Community and Government Services does regular checks on all buildings. What I can do for the member is get the information on when the last checks of our schools were done and provide that to the member as well as what the regularly scheduled maintenance services are.

I will have to have some communication with the minister responsible for community and government services and see if we can get that information for the member and for the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister put it quite well, I am not afraid to be in this building: it is only four years old. Some of the schools that we are looking at, the one here in Iqaluit is over 30 years old, getting close to 35 years old, some of the other schools I have seen throughout the communities across Nunavut are just as old. Does the Department of Education have a policy on when and what things should be checked on in the schools by the Department of Community and Government Services? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not sure if there is a policy in place. What I can say to you is that under the at-risk or loss policy of the government, and indeed, it was in place before April 1, 1999 and has been in place since, there are format standards and requirements and criteria that have to be followed by the Government of Nunavut in its ownership of infrastructure and so on. In this case, for example, buildings that we lease or in the case of the schools, buildings that we own.

That is my understanding, Mr. Speaker; it is my understanding that the old Department of Public Works and now Community and Government Services follows that type of annual maintenance. And like I said earlier, I will provide to the members when the last regular

maintenance checkup was held at our schools. I know it was in the past several days because of the incident that occurred in Inuvik where inspections were done in '99.

However, at the same time I am prepared to work with my colleague in community and government services to get the other information that the member has requested for schools specifically. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Item 6. Oral questions. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Are we on Item 7 now?

Speaker (interpretation): We are not on seven yet. Oral questions. Going on to Item 7. Written questions. Mr. Curley.

Item 7: Written Questions

Written Question 006 – 2(1): Qulliq Energy Corporation

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Minister of Energy, David Simailak, of Qulliq Energy Corporation:

1. First of all, as of May 13, 2004, who are the members of the board of directors of the Qulliq Energy Corporation?
2. From January 1, 2003 to May 13, 2004, how many meetings took place between members of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's board of directors and members of the Government of Nunavut's Crown Agency Council?
3. From January 1, 2003 to May 13, 2004, what ministerial directives were issued to the Qulliq Energy Corporation?
4. As of May 1, 2004, how much has the Government of Nunavut spent in relation to the pending transfer of the functions and personnel of the petroleum products division of the Department of Community and Government Services to the Qulliq Energy Corporation's subsidiary known as the Qulliq Fuel Corporation in each of the following areas:
 - i. Relocation and removal costs for employees;
 - ii. Settlements and other compensation for employees;
 - iii. Advertising and recruitment;
 - iv. Office renovations, equipment purchase and other capital expenditures;
 - v. Legal services costs;
 - vi. Consulting services;
 - vii. Administrative costs; and
 - viii. Other expenses?

5. What specific factors account for the deferral until April 1, 2005, of the functions and personnel of the petroleum products division of the Department of Community and Government Services to the Qulliq Energy Corporation's subsidiary known as the Qulliq Fuel Corporation?
6. As of April 1, 2004, how many persons, broken down by community and position, are employed by the petroleum products division of the Department of Community and Government Services on a full- and part-time basis?
7. As of April 1, 2005, how many persons, broken down by community and position, are planned to be employed by the Qulliq Fuel Corporation on a full- and part-time basis?
8. From April 1, 2004, to April 1, 2005, what expenditures are planned by the Government of Nunavut in relation to the transfer of functions and personnel of the petroleum products division of the Department of Community and Government Services to the Qulliq Energy Corporation's subsidiary known as the Qulliq Fuel Corporation in each of the following areas:
 - i. Relocation and removal costs for employees;
 - ii. Settlements and other compensation for employees;
 - iii. Advertising and recruitment;
 - iv. Office renovations, equipment purchase and other capital expenditures;
 - v. Legal services costs;
 - vi. Consulting services;
 - vii. Administrative costs; and
 - viii. Other expenses?

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Written questions. Mr. Peterson.

Written Question 007 – 2(1): Nunavut Payroll Tax

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My written question is for the Hon. Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of Finance, on the new payroll tax. One question: are Nunavut residents who are paid a minimum rate of wages pursuant to Section 12 of the Labour Standards Act required to pay the one percent payroll tax pursuant to the Payroll Tax Act 1993 Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Under Item 7. Written Questions. Mr. Peterson.

Written Question 008 – 2(1): Performance Bonuses and Termination Pay for Members of the Public Service of Nunavut

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That was my short question, now it's my long question for the Hon. Paul Okalik, minister responsible for the senior personnel

secretariat. The subject is performance bonuses and termination pay for members of public service in Nunavut.

1. For each of the following fiscal years broken down by department, board, agency, and crown corporation, but not including names of specific individuals, how much is paid in performance bonuses to members of the public service in Nunavut, employees of the Government of Nunavut boards, agencies and crown corporations, for 1999-2000, 2000-2001, 2001-02, 2002-03, and 2003-04?
2. For each of the following fiscal years, broken down by employee entity but not including names of specific individuals, how many persons were eligible to be considered for performance bonuses to be paid by the Government of Nunavut in 1999-2000, 2000-2001, 2001-02, 2002-03, and 2003-04?
3. For each of the following fiscal years broken down by employee entity but not including names of specific individuals, how many persons were actually paid performance bonuses by the Government of Nunavut for 1999-2000, 2000-2001, 2001-02, 2002-03, and 2003-04?
4. For each of the following fiscal years broken down by employee entity, but not including names of specific individuals, how much was paid in termination pay, negotiated settlements, lump sum payments or any other form of monetary compensation to executive level members of the public service in Nunavut who departed the public service in 1999-2000, 2000-2001, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Item 7. Orders of the day, Item 8. Item 9. Item 10. Item 11. Item 12. Item 13. Tabling of documents. Mr. Evyagotailak.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 004 – 2(1): Donations and Contributions to Our Lady of Lights Church

Mr. Evyagotailak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table a letter from my Lady of Lights, the church of Kugluktuk. This letter is requesting donations to rebuild the church. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Orders of the day. Item 13, Mr. Peterson.

Tabled Document 005 – 2(1): An Assessment of the Income Impact of a Transportation Subsidy for Employment in the Mining Industry in Remote Communities

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to table this document called *An Assessment of the Income Impact of A Transportation Subsidy for Employment in the Mining Industry in Remote Communities*. It is an order-of-magnitude calculation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Orders of the day. Item 13. Go on to Item 14. Item 15. Item 16. Item 17. Item 18. Second reading of bills. Ms. Aglukkaq.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills

Bill 1 - Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2003-2004

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Baker Lake, that Bill 1 - Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2003–2004 be read for the second time.

This act provided additional funding in the form of special warrants to the Department of Justice and the Department of Education in order to meet their needs for the 2003-04 fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Bill 1 has had second reading and is now referred to the committee. There is a motion on the floor: are there any questions? Any opposition to the motion? The motion is carried. I was going a bit ahead, Bill 1 has had second reading. This can now be referred to the appropriate committees.

Item 19, Consideration of the Committee of the Whole of bills and Other Matters. We'll deal with Bill 1, with Mr. Netser as the chair. Before we commence with Committee of the Whole, we'll take a 15-minute break.

Sergeant-at-arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:04 and resumed at 15:27*

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

Chairperson (Mr. Netser)(interpretation): I wish for the committee meeting to come to order. Bill 1 - Supplementary Appropriation (Operation and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2003–2004. Are you agreed, we'll deal with Bill 1?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson: I would like to ask the minister responsible for finance if she can come to the witness table. Do you have witnesses you would like to bring to the table, Madam Minister?

Sergeant of Arms, please escort the witnesses to the witness table.

Madam Minister, can you introduce your officials please?

Hon. Leona Aglukkark (interpretation): Thanks, Mr. Chairman. With me is my deputy minister, Robert Vardy, and Paul Reddy, Director of Expenditure Management.

Chairperson: Before we proceed: members will have ten minutes to speak under Rule 77(2). Are there any general comments? Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to make a quick comment on this, this is over the last four years. I think this is the first stop that I have seen that has only been two items. Hopefully this is an indication of things to come: that we have more accurate and current budgeting practises in place, and that we have learned over the last four years, and they have got it down to an art that they only need to have supplementaries come forward with a couple of items in it because of emergencies. So, I look forward to more of that in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. I do not think there are any questions. Do you want to move on to the bill? Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): I am glad to ask him: I thought we were just going to do 10-minute general comments; where are we now? The opening statements or are we on questions? We are still on opening statements; I did not see any hands go up other than Mr. Tootoo's, so that is why I just went ahead.

Chairperson (interpretation): Would you like to make some general comments? Are there any questions with regards to Bill 1, Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): I would like to ask the minister, with regards to the Department of Justice: supplementary appropriation —it states, on page 4, that this \$1, 670,000 was going to be used for these additional resources on the Legal Services Board, Court Services and Corrections and Community Justice.

I do not see any breakdowns between them. I would like to know if you can give me a breakdown with the Legal Services, Court Services and Corrections and Community Justice, if you can provide me with the breakdowns, I would appreciate it.

Chairperson (interpretation): If you could respond.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The breakdown for those three areas under the Legal Services Board was \$367,000. For Court Services, it was \$363,000. Corrections and Community Justice: \$388,000, and a savings of \$51,000 under other Nunavut justice branches. The information has also been sent to the chair of the regular caucus, as a request has been made, and that was dropped off at the office this afternoon. Thank you.

Chairperson (interpretation): Mr. Curley, anything else?

Mr. Curley (interpretation): My second question: within the Legal Services Board, \$367,000, within that, how many PYs were there, and within Court Services and Community Justice, how many PYs were there, or was that just for expenses?

Chairperson: Minister.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Mr. Chairman, I don't have the information whether it applies to PYs or not. The breakdown I have for that is that the Legal Services Board increased funding was to do with first time high profile jury trials outside of Iqaluit, the Cape Dorset trial which was held in January 2004.

An estimated \$120,000 was included for legal aid representation. That is the information I have, and it has no relationship to increased court services from what I understand. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman(interpretation): Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sure that the government has information with regard to that. It would be evident if the increase is for PYs within 2004-04: if there is an increase, I'm sure that these officials know about this, whether this was for expenses. And I'm sure this supplementary appropriation was used for PYs. Would you be able to respond, Madam Minister?

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: The information that I have relates to the special warrant and it does not include any PYs. What was included in some of that was more mental assessment of individuals that are incarcerated but not really due towards actual PYs. Individuals had to be sent down to the south to get the mental assessments, and that cost about \$18,000 each for the 25 incarcerated individuals prior to going to court.

So, in terms of services provided, the services were provided by institutions outside Nunavut, not an increase in PYs within the department itself. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Does that answer your question, Mr. Curley?

Mr. Curley (interpretation): In some part, thank you. This \$776,000 was used for the Legal Services Board, I'm sure it's geared towards the board. The information that's been provided to us was \$1,670,000, it states here, to provide additional resources. Is it just additional resources just for funding? Or does it include the consultants for court services? For that reason I wanted to get clarification. Or, is the Legal Services Board out of fund number two, court services, that I cannot understand. It is really expensive to have a court circuit, also with regard to corrections and community justice.

I don't think it is due to a lack of funding. Resources means PYs, or consultation, or consultants. If you can at least provide an explanation on the additional resources, I would appreciate it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Madam Minister.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The \$367,000 was due to increased court circuits in order to respond to individual rights, legal rights. The courts could not stop services because they don't have budgets. So, in order to respond to the right of incarcerated individuals to appear before the court, the additional funding was required for the court circuit to deal with incarcerated individuals incarcerated, so that amount was there.

The other question was whether financial debts are the only thing left, and the response to that question is, yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Anybody else? Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was the chairperson of the Kitikmeot Law Centre last year and we submitted an increased budget to get additional funds to operate our law centre across the Kitikmeot. We needed an extra \$80,000 and our executive director was having a difficult time getting the additional funds. Of course we are interested in providing timely services to clients in the communities.

I am wondering, Mr. Chairman, if any of this Legal Services Board money went to the Kitikmeot Law Centre. If you could answer that question.

Chair (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Madam Minister.

Hon. Leona Aglukkarq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The information before me, under the \$367,000, does not break down whether it went to Cambridge Bay or not. The information that I do have related to that funding responds to the Cape Dorset high profile court case recently. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chair (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister. Mr. Peterson do you have any further questions?

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would certainly be interested in hearing if the money went to help support the Kitikmeot Law Centres. When we are trying to deliver legal services in our region it is quite often that we run into the problem, and we've talked about it in caucus, that clients are not getting timely access to lawyers. They're not getting the support they need, and I think it comes down to resources. When I was mayor, they asked for this kind of help, as well from the Minister of Justice, if that could be increased. I'm wondering if some of this money is going to support the regional operations. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chair (interpretation): Madam Minister.

Hon. Leona Aglukkarq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The special warrant that was approved for justice was provided in the fiscal year 2003-04 for those emergency situations. If there was an additional request made for \$80,000 for the Cambridge Bay legal services office, I imagine that would be part of the normal financial review requirement of each of the boards. Whether it was a special warrant to be presented in the House, I can't respond to that; I don't have the background material on Cambridge Bay. The \$367,000 is to deal with the Cape Dorset high profile court case.

I can commit to the member to ask of the department if they can look into the concern you have because I don't have that information in front of me. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chair (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I was reading the letter that the minister sent to the chairperson of the regular caucus. Just under the Department of Justice, there was a line that says that the remaining funding was used by the board to enable it to carry out its mandate. So, I thought maybe you were using those additional funds to support regional operations. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chair (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Any further questions from the members? Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My question is on the amount for the Department of Education. Do we need to approve the justice fund first before we move onto education or can I fire away?

Chair: You can fire away after we finish dealing with justice. Thank you. I have no other names on my list. Go to page 4. Justice. Operations and maintenance. Special warrants. Various, \$1,067,000. Do you agree? Agreed? On page 4, maintenance. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Not quite yet, Ed. Mr. Chairman, my question here: with increased funding for FANS, was it a direct result of an increase in students? Or was it a result of an

increase of amount paid out under FANS as approved last year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Hon. Leona Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: There was an increase in the number of students under the FANS program. There was also an increase in the allowance from \$675 to \$825 per month. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Hon. Leona Aglukkaq. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is that, all students that applied that got that? Because I know there was some additional funding approved last year for beneficiary students, but does that also apply for non-beneficiary students as well? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Hon. Leona Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe it was across the board. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Hon. Leona Aglukkaq. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Does the minister have a breakdown of costs for the government besides the increase in number of students? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Tootoo. Hon. Leona Aglukkaq.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't understand his question, but do you want the difference between the increase in the number of students as well the way it was separated?

Chairman: Mr. Tootoo?

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was just wondering: of that increase from \$675 to \$825 per month, how much does that increase cost the government?

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Hon. Leona Aglukkaq, could you respond?

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Most of the increase is related to the numbers of students participating in the program. In terms of the dollars and the breakdown, I don't have that in front of me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Tootoo?

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe the minister could commit to having her colleague, the Minister of Education, provide that information to the members of this House sometime next week. I'm sure that he won't have any problem doing that. He seemed to be indicating 20 percent over there but I would like to see the numbers and a breakdown of how much an increase costs the government. We could just get an idea of how much of an increase is in there, plus how many new students, as well that there were 194 students accessing the program. I am sure that it also states that sometimes it is the same student accessing for different semesters.

If the minister could commit to having the Minister of Education provide us with an actual number of students, not the total number of people accessing the program that utilized the program last year. If she could commit to having the Minister of Education get that information for us as well? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Tootoo. Madam Minister.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In special warrants, for the \$1,965,000: those were for financial assistance. There was a 31 percent increase in the number of students coming to that program. It went from 651 students in one fiscal year to 845. The number that you made reference to was 194, an increase by 194.

In terms of the information of the breakdown, I will ask my colleague, the Minister of Education, to provide that information to you. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister. Is that it, Mr. Tootoo? Anybody else? Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): I had a question and if the minister is not able to respond, the Minister of Education can go up to the witness stand. There are 194 students who are receiving financial assistance, but can you tell me if they were at Arctic College here, or if they were going to school outside of the territory? I would like to know what percentage of them were going to school in Nunavut, and what percentage were going to school outside of Nunavut. How many of them were receiving assistance from the territorial government?

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Madam Minister.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The student financial assistance is available to Nunavut students, but how many students are going to school down south, and how many students are going to school up north, I don't have that information in front of me. But what I do have is that there are 845 students under that program for 2003-04. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, I would like to get some clarification on exactly where they are going. I would like to make a motion that the Minister of Education sit in the witnesses chair.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Curley made a motion. (Interpretation ends.) Point of order, Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a point of order that the minister dealing with this stuff is the Minister of Finance. It is okay if the Minister of Education, or any other minister that is affiliated with the line item gives the appropriate answer from their own chair. So, for example, with specific information that the minister may not have in Finance, and I have it available, I could stay in this chair and provide it as a part of a process, if that is what the members would concur to doing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Picco. Is that okay, Mr. Curley? Do you have any more comments or questions? Mr. Picco.

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will go through the numbers very quickly. For 2003 in the fall term, the numbers that we are dealing with right now. FANS, or student financial assistance, received 628 applications for student financial assistance; 344 beneficiaries and 80 non-beneficiaries, for a total of 424 students, were registered under the financial student assistance program for students. At Nunavut Arctic College, we had 62 beneficiaries from the Kivalliq, 16 from Kitikmeot, and 174 from the Qikiqtani Region.

In the south, in schools other than Nunavut Arctic College, for the Kivalliq region, we had: beneficiaries, 39; Kitikmeot region, 21; and from Qikiqtani region, 53. Non-beneficiary students from the Kivalliq region were 11; 9 for Kitikmeot; and 58 for Qikiqtani.

And the totals were: for Kivalliq region, 113; Kitikmeot, 47; and 294 for Qikiqtani, for a total enrolment of 454 students. The numbers will be off by 30 students, because of students who enrolled, some of them dropped out, and that's why you would see the difference, or they withdrew from the program. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you Minister Picco. Do you have any more questions Mr. Curley? Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I have a couple of questions. I wonder if it's more expensive to go to school in the north or is it more expensive to go to school in the south.

Part of that question, I guess, would be my second question: does the Department of Education conduct cost-of-living surveys in the north and south, where the students are going to school, to help them make these calculations? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. I think that is directed towards the Minister of Education. Do you want to answer that Minister Picco?

Mr. Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chair. There are different costs associated with attending school. For example in some cases, if you're attending school in your home community, if you are attending Nunavut Arctic College in Iqaluit, it may be cheaper than having to run your own apartment, buses, and so on if you're at a southern school. So, it depends on each situation. We do know of course, that the cost of living is more expensive in Nunavut in general than it is in the south but it depends on each student's situation. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Anything more Mr. Peterson?

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I guess I'll ask the Minister of Finance or maybe the Minister of Education: what calculation did you use to get the increase from \$675 to \$825? There must be some kind of numbers that were researched going into that to determine that increase. Why is it not \$800? Why isn't it \$900? Why is it \$825? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Madam Minister.

Hon. Leona Aglukkarq: Thank you, Mr. Chair. In September of 2002, there was a direction provided to increase the living allowance by 20 percent per student for a number of reasons. But one reason is more in the area of living allowance, because it hadn't been affected 1999. There had not been an increase to the living allowance since 1999 in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I thank the minister for that answer. I've talked to a lot of students in my region and during my travels, and they still say \$825 isn't enough. It's a 20 percent increase. Why didn't they pick 30 percent, or 35, or 40? How did you arrive at a 20 percent increase, and it still seems to not be enough? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. I'm sure we'd all like to see a 30, 40, 50 percent increase for our students away from their homes but I'll let the minister answer that question.

Hon. Leona Aglukkaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman; \$675 to \$825 was basically looking at the needs, but trying to balance what was also affordable within government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Madam Minister. Do you have any more, Mr. Peterson?

Mr. Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So, while we are here, could the Minister of Education perhaps... What will that department be asking for as an increase in their multi-mark for this current fiscal year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Can you answer that, please, Mr. Picco?

Hon. Ed Picco: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The issues around the total amount of monies within a certain budget have not come before the House, so I would not be in a position to comment on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Does that answer your question, Mr. Peterson? Not really; I guess we will have to wait a while. (Interpretation.) Are you finished, Mr. Peterson? Mr. Alagalak.

Mr. Alagalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Some of the questions I was prepared to ask have already been answered. I would like to ask the Minister of Education about Inuit and non-Inuit that go to school down south. When this is a public government they are able to get funding from us as well, and we know that some of the people just come up north and get the money out of the Nunavut government and go down south to go to school or university.

I would like to see this done by percentage. And I would like to know how many beneficiaries are using this, and also for the non-beneficiaries that go to school or university down south. We know education is very, very important and I would like to see these in the written notice, if you could give us a percentage of people who go to school down south before we get their special warrant. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Alagalak. I think that was just a comment. Does anybody have any questions? (Interpretation ends.) One, two, three, nobody? Getting on with the education operations and maintenance. Special warrants, adult learning and post-secondary services, \$1,965,000. (Interpretation.) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson: Total, learning and post-secondary services, \$1,965,000. "Angiqpisiuk?"

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson: Total, department, \$1,965,000. "Angiqpisiuk?"

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson: Okay, go to page 2, Schedule 1. Operations and maintenance appropriation, \$3,032,000. "Angiqpisiuk?"

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairperson: Good. Go to Bill 1 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act No.3, 2004, (interpretation) it is in the white binder. Have you found the page yet? Bill 1 – (Operations and Maintenance) at No.3, 2003–2004. Definitions, one. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Applications, number two. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Supplementary appropriations, number three. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Go to the schedule on page 2. Schedule 1. Operations and maintenance. Total, operations and maintenance, \$3,032,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total, supplementary appropriation,. \$3,032,000. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Back to clause four. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause five. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause six. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Clause seven. Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Is the committee agreed to Bill 1 as a whole? Is the committee agreed that Bill 1 is ready for third reading? Agreed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: I would like thank the minister and your officials for coming to the witness table. Do you have any more comments? Thank you Madam Minister and your officials. Mr. Tootoo.

Mr. Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to report progress.

Chairman (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? Nothing. Motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress.

Speaker (interpretation): Back to the orders of the Ddy. Item 20. Report of Committee of the Whole.

Chairman of Committee of the Whole, Mr. Netser.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Netser (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 1. Bill 1 is immediately ready for third reading and I move that the report of the Committee of Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Who is the seconder? Mr. Tootoo is the seconder. Are there any questions to the motion? All those opposed? The motion is carried. Thank you.

Item 20, Report of the Committee of the Whole. Item 21. Item 22, Orders of the Day: Mr. Quirke.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Mr. Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Orders of the Day for Friday, May 14.

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
20. Report of Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
 - Bill 1
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.

Sergeant-at-arms.

Wait a minute. I apologize. Tomorrow morning we will commence the session at 10:00 March 14, 2004. At this time Mr. Sergeant-at-Arms, you can come in.

>>*House adjourned at 16:12*

