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Iqaluit

Speaker: The Honourable Paul Okalik, M.L.A.

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

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(Iqaluit West)

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(Iqaluit East)

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Adamee Komoartok

(Pangnirtung)

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(Rankin Inlet South – Whale Cove)
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Deputy Speaker and Chair of the Committee of the Whole

Louis Tapardjuk

(Amittuq)

Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Hon. Peter Taptuna

(Kugluktuk)

Deputy Premier; Minister of Economic Development and Transportation

James Arvaluk

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Moses Aupaluktuq

(Baker Lake)

Hon. Keith Peterson

(Cambridge Bay)

Minister of Finance, Chair of the Financial Management Board; Minister of Justice

Hon. Hunter Tootoo

(Iqaluit Centre)

Minister of Education; Minister of Human Resources; Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission

Hon. Tagak Curley

(Rankin Inlet North)

Minister of Health and Social Services; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation; Minister responsible for Homelessness

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Friday, February 25, 2011

Members Present:

Honourable Eva Aariak, Honourable James Arreak, Mr. Moses Aupaluktuq, Honourable Tagak Curley, Mr. Ron Elliott, Mr. Adamee Komoartok, Honourable Lorne Kusugak, Mr. John Ningark, Mr. Johnny Ningeongan, Honourable Paul Okalik, Honourable Keith Peterson, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Mr. Fred Schell, Honourable Daniel Shewchuk, Mr. Louis Tapardjuk, Honourable Peter Taptuna, Honourable Hunter Tootoo, Ms. Jeannie Ugyuk.

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. Paul Okalik) (interpretation): Thank you. Good morning. I would like to ask Mr. Curley to say the opening prayer.

>>Prayer

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Going to our orders of the day. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation. Minister.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

**Minister's Statement 239 – 3(2):
Community Access Roads
Program**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Ullaakut*, colleagues and Kuglukturmiut.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take an opportunity today to speak to the Members of this Assembly about the Community Access Roads Program operated by my department.

This modest program has, over the years, changed the face of many of our communities. It has done this by extending them outwards and making the lands and resources surrounding them more easily accessible. It has brought fishing lakes and rivers closer by cutting the time it takes to reach them. It has reduced the wear and tear involved in many hunting areas. And it has made it easier to ensure elders and our children can get out to these areas that they love.

Mr. Speaker, the roads that have been built under this program are almost entirely the work of the communities. The routes are chosen by the community; the work is undertaken by the community; the community dictates their own resources to construction; and the result is enjoyed by all in the community.

We are pleased, Mr. Speaker, we hope once again to be making our contribution to these valuable assets through our program expenditures in the upcoming year. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Health.

**Minister's Statement 240 – 3(2):
Taima Tuberculosis**

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to rise today to inform my colleagues and Nunavutmiut that my department is working collaboratively with Health Canada and Nunavut Tunngavik

Incorporated to fight tuberculosis in Nunavut.

In January, Health Canada committed \$800,000 to Taima TB, which is a program designed to raise awareness and educate people about the disease and prevention, and provide in-home screening. Mr. Speaker, these efforts will help reduce transmission of TB and advance our understanding of effective community-based TB prevention programs. They will be doing that in Iqaluit. The Taima TB program will be staffed by health care workers and Inuktitut-speaking TB awareness champions.

TB is a serious disease in Nunavut, and 102 cases of active TB were reported in 2010, which is the highest it has been in years. Almost half of these cases are from Iqaluit, and our efforts will focus on this community and others which are being affected by TB. My department is providing ongoing staff support to the communities affected by this disease. TB samples from the Qikiqtaaluk region are now being sent to a lab in Ottawa instead of Edmonton to provide results more quickly.

March 24 is World TB Day. Nowhere in Canada is this disease more serious than in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Environment.

Minister's Statement 241 – 3(2): Nunavut Visits China to Promote Seal and Fish Products

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to inform members of the recent efforts by the Department of Environment to expand market opportunities for Nunavut sealskins, furs, and seafood products.

Together, with the Hon. Gail Shea, federal Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, and the Hon. Clyde Jackman, Newfoundland and Labrador's Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture, members of my senior staff, and I took part in Canada's delegation to China from January 10 to 13. The purpose of this visit was to promote Canadian sealing, fur, and fisheries industries.

The delegation attended the China International Fur and Leather Products Fair and a Canadian seafood promotional event. On behalf of Nunavut, I witnessed the initialling of Canada-China Cooperative Agreement on Exports of Edible Seal Products, which will, for the first time, open China's doors to Canada's edible seal products. While Nunavut does not presently export seal meat or other edible products, we are taking a close look at this area as a possibility for the future.

For the second consecutive year, Nunavut ringed sealskins and furs were promoted at the China International Fur and Leather Products Fair in Beijing by the Fur Harvesters Auction, the marketers of Nunavut's furs. This trade show is the largest of its kind in the world, reflecting the fact that China is the world's largest fur manufacturer.

The Canadian fish and seafood promotional event provided an opportunity for seafood chefs and buyers to view and sample high-quality seafood prepared in unique and innovative ways. Nunavut shrimp and turbot are already marketed in China, and China remains the most important market for Nunavut seafood products in terms of potential growth.

The Department of Environment remains committed to marketing and promoting the products of Nunavut's fishing and traditional harvesting sectors to ensure that Nunavutmiut receive the maximum returns for these important industries. *Ma'na*, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ministers' Statements. There are no more hands up. Members' Statements. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Item 3: Members' Statement

Member's Statement 374 – 3(2): Consulting Nunavummiut on Uranium Mining

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to all in Baker Lake. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the importance of consulting with Nunavummiut on the issue of uranium mining.

Mr. Speaker, as you and my colleagues are aware, I have spoken on a number of occasions about this issue. Last year, I was pleased to have had the opportunity to ask a number of questions on behalf of my constituents to our government

about the status of its uranium mining policy. I was also pleased to have secured a commitment from the government to hold public forums in Baker Lake and other communities on the issue of uranium development

Mr. Speaker, Inuit leaders from across the circumpolar world met this week in Ottawa to deliberate on the issue of natural resources development. I look forward to the adoption of a circumpolar Inuit declaration on responsible resource development principles in Inuit Nunaat, which is a document that I would be extremely pleased to see tabled in this Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, I welcome the President of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated's announcement that NTI will be undertaking a review of its policy concerning uranium mining in Nunavut. As members are aware, this policy was passed in 2007. Subsequent to the adoption of the policy, NTI signed Memorandums of Understanding with Forum Uranium Corporation and Kaminak Gold Corporation concerning uranium exploration on Inuit owned lands.

Mr. Speaker, in light of this week's welcome news, I wish to take this opportunity to suggest that the GN and NTI should work together to jointly hold public consultations on uranium mining in Nunavut. As I noted earlier, the government has already announced that it will hold public forums on this issue, so it makes sense for both organizations to cooperate in order to ensure that public consultations are undertaken in an inclusive and effective manner.

Mr. Speaker, I will have questions next week to the Premier concerning this issue, and I hope that she will take the opportunity over the next few days to speak with the president of NTI about ways that the two organizations can work together in coming months on behalf of all residents of the territory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Quttiktuq.

**Member's Statement 375 – 3(2):
Narwhal Tusk Ban**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier this week, the media reported on our MP's recent visit to the High Arctic. In the article, it mentioned how there were many questions posed regarding the recent proposed drop in narwhal quota and ban on the sale of narwhal tusks and products produced from these tusks.

Mr. Speaker, I believe these lines of questioning show the genuine concern that my communities have for the well-being of having a healthy, happy community.

Mr. Speaker, constituents in my communities rely on country food to offset the high price of the family food budget. As all members are aware, country food does not only taste great but is also very healthy as it contains all of the vitamins and nutrients needed for a healthy diet. Narwhal meat is not only used for sustenance; it is also used to continue a traditional way of living.

Mr. Speaker, as southern values and interests continue to creep into our

communities, it is hard for people to continue to live a more traditional way of life. The meat from narwhal is used to feed many dogs for our dog teams. Mr. Speaker, there is also the lost income from the sale of narwhal tusks and products produced through carving. This income will be missed since there is a ban on the sale of the ivory.

Mr. Speaker, why would my constituents not ask these questions or raise these concerns? It's only natural, while our MP, our representative on all federal matters and policies, was in the community, that they would seek answers to questions they have not received answers to and not continue to harp on issues that have been dealt with.

When a community like Arctic Bay sees a drop in the proposed narwhal quota from over 100 tags to 28 tags, it will raise concerns. Again I commend my constituents for being aware and for not being afraid to let their concerns be known. It is only through open and candid communication that issues can be brought forward, discussed, and dealt with.

Mr. Speaker, I will have questions regarding this matter for the Minister of Environment at the appropriate time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove.

**Member's Statement 376 – 3(2):
Hockey Tournament this Weekend
in Rankin Inlet**

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

It's not a very celebratory Friday compared to yesterday because the Montreal Canadiens lost to the Maple Leafs, but the good point about today is that we will have a short day today.

I would like to remind my constituents of Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove that if they wish to contact me, I am always available. My assistant, David Kritterdlik, in Whale Cove is always available, and Johnny One in Rankin Inlet is the main contact and he is always available. I thank both of my assistants because they are very capable and competent.

Furthermore, starting today, there will be a hockey tournament in Rankin Inlet and the younger people will be playing. There will be a lot of people watching and playing. Please be welcomed in Rankin Inlet and I know you will be made to feel hospitable.

This is the time to start preparing for the Avataq Cup in Rankin Inlet, which will be next Friday. We will have 10 teams that will arrive in Rankin Inlet to partake in this tournament. We look forward to welcoming them to play in the hockey tournament. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Have a very good day.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. I hope they have a good referee; they did not have a very good one last night. Member for Akulliq.

**Member's Statement 377 – 3(2):
INAC Water Use Inspection
Reports**

Mr. Ningark: Good morning. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to bring

attention to the urgent need to improve waste management facilities in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, during yesterday's sitting of the House, I tabled the water use inspection reports which were prepared by the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada for the two communities that I represent: Kugaaruk and Repulse Bay. Later today, at the appropriate time, I will be asking questions on these reports.

Mr. Speaker, these INAC water use inspection reports that many of my colleagues have been asking questions about this week have clearly revealed that the majority of Nunavut communities are not compliant with their water use licences which are issued by the Nunavut Water Board.

Mr. Speaker, as human beings and stewards of the earth, I believe we are all tasked with protecting our eco-system. One of our guiding principles as Inuit is *Avatittinnik Kamatsiarniq*, which means to respect and care for the land, animals and the environment.

Mr. Speaker, *Tamapta* states, and I quote, "All Nunavummiut deserve to have their basic needs met. This means working together with families and communities to ensure affordable, healthy food, safe water and a home." It also states that a priority of the government is "stewardship of our environment and wildlife."

I'm watching my time here.

Mr. Speaker, there's an old saying: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

Mr. Speaker, I also recognize that there's no quick fix as the resources that are required to address this issue are considerable.

I would like to ask my colleagues to conclude my Member's Statement. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. The Member for Akulliq is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Member, you may proceed.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, my colleagues.

The federal, territorial, and municipal levels of government all have responsibilities and I encourage them to work together for the sake of our communities and our environment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Nattilik.

**Member's Statement 378 – 3(2):
Kitikmeot Hockey Tournament**

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Good morning. I say "good morning" to my constituents in Nattilik. They must just be starting to wake up now.

Just prior to my trip, I helped open the hockey tournament which was held from February 18 to 20 in Gjoa Haven. The residents of Gjoa Haven were very hospitable and welcomed the visiting hockey teams. One of the winning teams was a team from Gjoa Haven. I

celebrated that team because they came first. I am also very happy because the team from Taloyoak came in second.

It must have been very boisterous during the hockey game when everyone started cheering their team. It's unfortunate that I missed it because it becomes very exciting to watch the teams from Taloyoak and Gjoa Haven. For that, I'm grateful.

The third place team was the team from Cambridge Bay. I also congratulate them for placing third. There were four communities that went to this hockey tournament. One of the teams was from Kugaaruk, and they came in fourth and the fifth place team was the second Gjoa Haven team. They had two teams from Gjoa Haven participating. Team 1 won the tournament while the other team finished fifth.

I thank the residents of Gjoa Haven for hosting a very good tournament. They are very hospitable when they conduct these kinds of tournaments. They were very welcoming and the players were looked after and well fed.

We are expecting next year that the Kitikmeot Cup will be played in Kugluktuk. The year after, in 2013, it will be held in Taloyoak. This year, it was supposed to have been in Taloyoak, but unfortunately, our arena was not ready and available, so they ended up having to work. I would like to remind everyone that our arena will not be ready for 2013. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit East.

**Member's Statement 379 – 3(2):
Iqaluit Pages of the Legislative
Assembly**

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning. I say "good morning" to my constituents of Iqaluit East, and Adamie Itorcheak, who is at my constituency office. I thank him for his very good work.

I stand today, Mr. Speaker, (interpretation ends) I would like to recognize these young people here in our Chambers, wearing these beautiful *Amautit* and *Atigit*. These youth from Inuksuk High School have worked very hard this week in providing us all the water that we need and the notes and messages that need to be passed around. It is no doubt that they have been very patient, and I truly hope that we have inspired them. Perhaps one day they will sit here where we are seated and represent their people, just like we are representing our people here in the House.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that three of the four here are from my riding, Iqaluit East, and I would be honoured to recognize Simonie Alainga, (interpretation) he is sitting here, (interpretation ends) Margo Crawford, (interpretation) over there, (interpretation ends) and Jennifer Moore, (interpretation) over here, and Samuel Tagalik over there. (interpretation ends) They have done us very proud. I would like to congratulate Simonie, Margo, Jennifer, and Samuel. We are all very

proud of you. (interpretation) Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome and thank you. Members' Statements. There are no more hands up. We can now go to Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Minister Curley.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

**Return to Oral Question 523 – 3(2):
Pandemic Flu Plans**

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to oral question asked by (interpretation ends) MLA Ron Elliott (interpretation) on Tuesday, February 22, 2011, Question 523 – 3(2), regarding pandemic flu plans. Mr. Speaker, this is quite a lengthy response, so I would like to have it entered into the record as read (interpretation ends) into the *Hansard*.

On February 22, 2011, the member from Quttiktuq asked an oral question in the legislature regarding the Department of Health and Social Services (HSS) on the status of Nunavut's pandemic flu plan and an update on the current flu season situation.

Mr. Speaker, HSS is continuing to complete revisions to the Nunavut pandemic plan for the health sector. The territorial, regional, and community levels of Health and Social Services plans have all been updated. The territorial plan has been extensively rewritten from the last draft plan of 2006.

The regional plans are being revised and will require finalizing when the territorial plan is completed to ensure that they link with both to the territorial and community plans.

The community plans have been revised and completed in each community by the regional HSS staff with support from the regional HSS staff with support from the Public Health Agency of Canada. During this process, HSS has consulted with community partners, such as the hamlets and RCMP. In the future, revisions to all levels will be considered on a regular basis to all plans.

On February 16, 2011, HSS, with assistance from the Public Health Agency of Canada, emergency preparedness staff and exercise planners held a full day tabletop exercise. This exercise was to test the territorial plan. The exercise was held in Iqaluit, Pangnirtung, Rankin Inlet, and Cambridge Bay HSS offices using Telehealth with PHAC facilitators in each office and was successful. The plan will be further modified and finalized when input from the recent tabletop exercise is provided.

Mr. Speaker, the 2010-11 influenza season in Nunavut has been similar to the influenza seasons in prior years, with the exception of the 2009 H1N1 influenza season. This year, as in the past, Nunavut has offered all of our residents the influenza vaccine at no cost. In each community, our nurses have been providing the vaccine (“the flue shot”) and have let community members know when and where the vaccine is available. To date, the types of influenza seen in Canada and in Nunavut are all protected against by the vaccine.

A new protocol for treatment of seasonal influenza with antiviral medication (“Tamiflu”) was developed by the office of the CMOH, the director of medical affairs, and the territorial pharmacist, and this protocol was distributed to all health centres on January 31, 2011. (interpretation) Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Curley is asking that it be entered into the record as read. Are there any nays? There are no nays. We are on Returns to Oral Questions. There are no more hands up. Item 5 in our *Orders of the Day*. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Pangnirtung.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Komoartok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize a visitor to the Gallery who is from Pangnirtung. He is my cousin and an esteemed carver, Jaco Ishulutak. Welcome to the Gallery.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. I am quite glad to see you as you seem to be the only visitor in the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Thank you. We can now go back to our orders of the day. (interpretation ends) Item 6. (interpretation) Oral Questions. The first one who would like to ask a question is the Member for Baker Lake.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 550 – 3(2): Development Partnership Agreement with the Meadowbank Mining Corporation

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, the Hon. Peter Taptuna.

As members are aware, the operations of the Meadowbank gold mine have a significant impact on the community of Baker Lake. In 2007, the Government of Nunavut signed a development partnership agreement with the Meadowbank Mining Corporation. This entitled the company to be eligible for benefits under the GN's Fuel Tax Rebate Program. The development partnership agreement was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on March 12, 2008.

Under Article 9 of the agreement, an annual report is required to be prepared on the operations of the agreement. Can the minister indicate when the most recent annual report was provided to his office and will he commit to tabling it in the Legislative Assembly? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the question. Once the report is available, I will surely table the report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your supplementary, Member for Baker Lake.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Under the terms of the GN's

development partnership agreement with Meadowbank, the corporation, the Government of Nunavut, and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada participate in a Meadowbank Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee. Last year, one of the priorities in the business plan of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation was to "compile and collect information on poverty through the Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee indicators."

In light of the minister's ongoing work to develop an anti-poverty strategy for Nunavut, would he commit to tabling in the Legislative Assembly a report on the activities of the Meadowbank Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We do have three socio-economic monitoring committees; one within each region. They do work with the corporation and other organizations in determining how well the economic activity is going within the communities, within the activity, within the mine site there, and around the surrounding communities. We do get those reports and I would be pleased to table those reports once they are available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your supplementary, Member for Baker Lake.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Under the terms of the Government of Nunavut's development partnership agreement with

Meadowbank, there is a requirement to develop guidelines for Inuit and local hiring. Can the minister indicate if his department is satisfied with the levels of Inuit hiring at the Meadowbank mine? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister of Economic Development.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. We are absolutely elated there are over 200 Inuit people working at the mine site, and that's not including another 200 or so that service the company through various contracts. So we are pleased that there are a lot of Inuit content, a lot of Inuit employed within the company. Of course, within the next couple months, we are hoping to get a report on the exact numbers.

We are pleased that there is a certain element to the DPA where Inuit employment is discussed, but for the most part, there are also the IIBAs, which the company negotiates with NTL. There are inclusions and agreements in there for Inuit content and employment within the company. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Member for Baker Lake, your final supplementary.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to hear that the minister is pleased to see that Inuit in Nunavut are contributing to the economy and social development of Nunavut. I am pleased to see that the minister indicated the IIBA because my final question, Mr. Speaker, is in regard to the people of Baker Lake have concern

about whether or not our socio-economic needs will be met and will there be any contributions.

So my final question, Mr. Speaker, to the hon. minister is that the Kivalliq Inuit Association has an Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement in place with Meadowbank, as the minister indicated. I recognize that it is KIA's responsibility to ensure that the company is living up to its socio-economic commitments in the IIBA. Can the minister indicate whether or not the KIA shares any information with the Government of Nunavut with respect to the implementation of the IIBA? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister of Economic Development.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. The IIBA negotiated between KIA and the company is confidential. We do not have jurisdiction, or authority, or we don't have privy information to what is in the contents of the IIBA.

There are reports that we can gather, especially on the side of the number of Inuit employed within the company, but for the most part, we deal with our own DPA, the development and partnership agreement, and we try and maintain that through the agreements that were signed by both parties. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Member for Amittuq.

Question 551 – 3(2): Funding for Docks

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

I was very pleased when he spoke to the issue about building access roads to fishing areas and areas where people enjoy time on the land. That's very good, but when you are situated on an island, you cannot really go past the boundaries of the island unless you use a boat to go fishing and caribou hunting. It's not conducive for roads.

Mr. Speaker, what I want to speak about is that many communities depend on harvesting, especially my two communities. For example, Hall Beach doesn't even have a dock or a wharf, and a lot of the boats are destroyed by storms. So I'm wondering whether the funding that is available for access roads could be diverted to building harbours or wharfs for the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. That question is directed to the Minister of Transportation. Minister.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that excellent question. The Community Access Roads Program has been a long, outstanding program within our government; it has been an excellent program. There are a lot of communities that access it, especially in the Kitikmeot and the Kivalliq. The member is absolutely right that there are fewer uptakes on this program from the Baffin communities.

The Baffin communities are somewhat more focused on offshore transportation; boats and whatnot. I will surely look into seeing if there are any other programs that may be available just for that type of operation, whether it is going to be for business or hunting purposes for these communities. I will surely look into that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your supplementary, Member for Amittuq.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe the minister is aware that the Arctic is very unique compared to the needs of the southern counterparts. Our sea freezes over and it becomes a virtual highway for the harvesters when they are out hunting. Due to our uniqueness, when we identify funding specifically geared towards Nunavut, the needs are always different. For example, they want docks, harbours, or things that allow them to utilize them even more.

To me, it seems as though it is not much of a priority for the federal government, especially when dealing with Nunavut. Can the minister check with the federal government to see how best to deal with the needs of Nunavummiut? Again, our infrastructure is very minimal and a lot of communities do not have small craft harbours. I believe Pangnirtung is the only one with a small craft harbour.

Can the minister check the funding allocations down the road to see what kind of assistance is available for economic development and harvesting? There are usually programs related to economic development and harvesting, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that excellent question. With the department being assigned the poverty reduction file, yes, we are looking into that. We talk a lot about country food harvesting and that is exactly what we have been saying about more country food for poverty reduction. It's a basic need and it's one of the things that we are working on with that file of poverty reduction, including community freezers.

I will surely pass on his concerns, our concerns, and Nunavummiut concerns about getting more infrastructures to tackle the big problem we have with poverty. Yes, Mr. Speaker, we will continue with lobbying the federal government on getting more infrastructure and making efforts to reduce poverty in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your supplementary, Member for Amittuq.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I believe this is a very important part and it should be a priority. There are people who want to drill for oil offshore, as well as other activities. With Nunavut becoming a focus, we have to protect our communities.

Although we are considered Inuit and Canadian citizens, the federal government does not seem to pay attention unless there is an issue that pops up. I look forward to seeing this

becoming a more pressing concern or priority in our future because this infrastructure really assists us when we are trying to develop our economy in Nunavut. That was just a comment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. That was just a comment. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq.

Question 552 – 3(2): Addressing the Federal Narwhal Tusk Ban

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are directed to the Minister of Environment.

Mr. Speaker, in my earlier Member's Statement, I spoke of the proposed drop in narwhal quotas and the ban on the sale of ivory. I was wondering if the minister could explain what his department and the Government of Nunavut are doing to address this issue. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Environment.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for the very good question and concern about narwhal in Nunavut. The Government of Nunavut was as surprised as anybody when this news came out about the negative non-detriment finding of narwhal in six out of eight populations in Nunavut.

We absolutely are behind NTI. NTI has now filed an application for a judicial review in regard to the process that this narwhal was listed. We would agree with their position that the Nunavut land claims were not followed; there was no proper consultation and proper

information gotten from communities, so we support that position. It is very disturbing.

I have spoken personally with Minister Shea, the DFO minister, about this. I also have written her a letter asking her to lift this export ban until the proper consultation has been done. We are very involved in this file. Even though, Mr. Speaker, narwhal is not the jurisdiction of the Nunavut government, it is of the federal government under DFO, we still support NTI's position on the narwhal file. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your supplementary, Member for Quttiktuq.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that reply. I also thank you for cc'ing all members on the letter that went to Minister Shea.

Just for clarification, does your department agree or disagree with DFO's statistics and feel that the narwhal populations are dwindling so drastically that such a huge drop is required? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. Minister of Environment.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated earlier, the jurisdiction of narwhal is the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. The GN does not do any research on narwhal; that is totally up to them to do that. Whether or not the population is increasing or decreasing, I think that is why they need to consult with communities and to have community input to provide that information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Member for Quttiktuq.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister mentioned working closely with NTI in terms of the judicial review. I was just wondering if the minister could explain exactly how the Government of Nunavut is involved with this process. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Environment.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Maybe the member took my statement out of context. We are not working with NTI; we support NTI in their position. This whole situation is completely with NTI and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, but we do support NTI and Nunavut in this position. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Your final supplementary, Member for Quttiktuq.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier this week in questions directed to the minister regarding the EU seal ban, he had explained that financial support was given to HTOs for these types of lawsuits. In this particular case with the narwhals and supporting NTI, as he has mentioned, will your department be helping in the same manner? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Environment.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will leave that to the request to be made. We have not received any requests to that effect. If we did receive a request, we would consider

and look at all of the situations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Oral Questions. Member for Akulliq.

Question 553 – 3(2): Kugaaruk and Repulse Bay’s INAC Water Use Inspection Reports

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Community and Government Services. I am asking this question from a matter that’s close to my heart. I hope his hockey team keeps winning down the road.

>>Laughter

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question relates to yesterday’s *Hansard*. When I made my Member’s Statement, I spoke about Kugaaruk and Repulse Bay and I had tabled the water licence inspections that were conducted by the federal government Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.

When we look at the water inspection reports for Kugaaruk and Repulse Bay, it talks about the solid waste site and that the mound is growing, it’s getting larger, and it has not been touched or burned for a period of three years. I believe it’s urgent that this matter be dealt with because it impacts the people, it poses health hazards and risks to the environment as well as wildlife.

Can the minister inform this House and me, including the Hamlet of Repulse Bay, as to whether his department can provide assistance to the community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. That question is directed to the community and government services minister.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you. I am very glad that you are supporting the team I support.

Now, we have been bantering back and forth about this issue this week, either related to solid waste, sewage lagoons, and the various aspects. Again, it’s an ongoing issue that we are dealing with in various communities. A lot of these were reviewed and we looked at how we could improve the situation and to fix up these problems.

I know for a fact that in Repulse Bay, we provide assistance, and we expanded the solid waste dump. Once a lot of these issues have been reported on and all of the problems are identified with this particular waste site, we would like to develop a work order to deal with all of these problems. Once the issues have been identified, we can provide a cost estimate and a work order down the road. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your first supplementary, Member for Akulliq.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I’m not really in support of that hockey team but I want to see them win.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regard to Kugaaruk, there is also an inspection report that states that the sewage lagoon is seeping into the ocean. The hamlet requires assistance to solve this problem. Can his department provide staff time,

funding, or other assistance to the community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Community and Government Services.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I support those of which he supports. However, this issue is being dealt with on an ongoing basis. The last time it was dealt with was in 2008, where they made improvements to the site.

It's obvious that once we have identified the projects, we will have a very large workload, especially if we look at the entire territory of Nunavut. As problems surface and infrastructure is becoming an issue to deal with due to community growth, Kugaaruk will be one of the communities we will identify as needing help. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your second supplementary, Member for Akulliq.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My second supplementary question is regarding the fact that I know that both communities require a lot of assistance because this is becoming more of a hazard. I know that the government is strapped for cash. Has the minister discussed this issue with the federal government to see how they could provide more assistance to deal with hazards related to dump sites and sewage lagoons? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Community and Government Services.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for asking that question. Yes, the Nunavut government is collaborating with the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs and we are looking at the problems that have to be resolved.

Once all of the problems have been identified and reviewed, we will work with the communities and the department. Once we have been provided a cost estimate based on the problems we have to resolve, we have to look for funding and to try to find a large enough pot of funds that enable us to deal with these issues.

I know for a fact that we have been working with the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs ourselves, including the hamlets, and we will have to partner on these problems because the hamlet are responsible for the dump sites. They are the sewage and water truck service providers, and they will be included in this planning, along with those who provide funding. The approval agencies will all have to be in line.

It's obvious this is not a petty issue and it's very hard to fix immediately. It's going to take a while to fix all of the issues that communities face, but when we're dealing with these areas, Kugaaruk and Repulse Bay will be included. A lot of communities have similar problems related to these infrastructure issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your final supplementary, Member for Akulliq.

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My last supplementary question is regarding the minister's portfolio. He is the closest to the communities and most involved in their daily operations. He also deals with the communities with contribution agreements and funding, as well as municipal service issues. If these issues are not resolved, I believe the hamlets may be charged with the responsibility to deal with this.

I think we heard from one of my colleagues that there are a lot of concerns out there. For example, if the hamlet was charged with not complying with the legislation, how can we provide assistance? A lot of these communities don't even have water licences. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Community and Government Services.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): I keep reiterating that we are working with the hamlets and those agencies that we need to work with in order to resolve the problems. This is a slow, ongoing process and will continue to be dealt with.

Once we reach the stage where communities will have to be taken to court, that will be one of the options we had planned for, but at this point, we are not expecting any communities to be taken to court. Even though the inspection reports states so, the report is done by an inspector, not the approval agencies. So when we reach that stage, we will have to deal with the court system. We will cross that bridge when we get to it.

Mr. Speaker, I know for a fact that we're dealing with the issues as they arise. It's quite obvious that there is a lot more work than we're able to do, but we will try to keep up in that manner. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Amittuq.

Question 554 – 3(2): GN's Participation at ICC Conference

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's quite aesthetic, and the reason why we moved to this side was to be able to ask questions. I have a question for the Premier, Mr. Speaker, with regard to a meeting that was held by the Inuit Circumpolar Conference in Ottawa.

My first question to the Premier is obviously with respect to Nunavut's waters and offshore resources. They are areas of interest for a lot of companies and it's quite obvious that we have become the focus. So my question to the Premier is: what is the position of the Nunavut government on this? Are they involved? Are they being consulted, especially when negotiations are being undertaken for offshore drilling and the like? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. That question is directed to the Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank our colleague for asking the question. A very important issue under discussion in Nunavut is the growing interest in the North.

We are listening to the Inuit Circumpolar Conference's recommendations. They are holding the meetings at this time in Ottawa. It is too bad that they are holding their meetings at the same time we are holding our session. If we were not in session, I would have gone there, but I usually cannot attend two meetings at the same time, although I want to.

I do want to work with the Arctic Council, NTI, and ICC as they will be working closely together. In the month of May, there is going to be an (interpretation) Arctic Council ministerial meeting (interpretation ends) in Greenland and I will attend that meeting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Premier. Your supplementary, Member for Amittuq.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the Nunavut government for becoming more involved in this process.

Another question I wanted to raise, Mr. Speaker: was the federal government still starting on the devolution talks between Nunavut and the federal government? There are still a lot of areas that are administered by the federal government, either through legislation or through their departments, and it would be good to try and make progress.

My question, Mr. Speaker, with regard to the devolution negotiations between the Government of Canada and the Government of Nunavut: prior to the initialling of the devolution agreement, can we proceed to come to some kind of mineral and oil gas accord? If they proceeded without that, would the

Government of Nunavut lose out on royalties before the devolution agreement is agreed to, if oil and gas development commences in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The question is directed to the Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Devolution is very important to our government because it is going to be very beneficial when the devolution agreement has been signed by the federal government and the Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. I have been working hard on that, and I know that all of these entities have been working hard on that from the past. I will continue to work hard on that, but we will have to complete the devolution agreement in Nunavut.

The land claims agreement has been signed and the Government of Nunavut has been established. In fact, the third issue is where we sign a devolution agreement. This is very important and it is going to be very beneficial after the devolution agreement has been signed, especially for economic development and for exploration. It is going to be beneficial as we continually say that we still need a lot of capital infrastructure, such as docking facilities. We need to improve and modernize the airports, and so on. Once the devolution agreement has been signed, they will be able to provide funding. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Premier. Your supplementary, Member for Amittuq.

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wanted to clarify this. Would the Government of Nunavut try to stop oil and gas exploration and resource development prior to the signing of a devolution agreement? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If that scenario presented itself, our government would utilize all of its resources to try and procure benefits and support for Nunavut. However, I expect that the northern energy and minerals accords would have been signed off prior to any petroleum exploration occurring within Nunavut waters. We will continue to prioritize this since it can conceivably provide a lot of benefits to Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Nanulik.

Question 555 – 3(2): RFPs for Medical Travel on Scheduled Airlines

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Health and Social Services.

During yesterday's proceedings of the Committee of the Whole, testimony provided by witnesses indicated that the government's contracts for medical travel on scheduled airlines are up for review.

I have now had the opportunity to conduct a preliminary review of the GN's actual request for proposals, which closes on April 15, 2011.

As the minister is aware, there have been concerns in the Kivalliq about such issues as providing adequate washroom facilities on aircraft and accommodating passengers with limited mobility.

Can the minister outline some of the major changes that the new request for proposals contains with respect to requirements for the airlines? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's a very good question. In regard to your questions and the details you highlighted, yes, it's true that there is a request for proposals for medical travel.

We all know that the patients have to go back and forth to medical institutions where they have to undergo medical tests. We have no other means of transportation other than aircraft, and this is one of the most pressing concerns faced by the Government of Nunavut. I'm quite proud that we are able to deal with it and provide assistance to the medical patients.

We have heard a lot from the mayors in the Kivalliq and other regions complaining about the service and they have asked us to conduct a review. This current contract is under review. Again, there are patients that sometimes have to travel a long distance immediately after surgery and they undergo a lot of stress and difficulty. Along with my colleagues, we have received a lot of correspondence from various communities that this has to be fixed.

Due to this issue, cabinet came to a consensus that when the contract ends on March 31, we would create a new request for proposals and I believe it was stated that it would be open today. I still haven't seen them personally, but with respect to the evaluation of the proposals, I will ensure that he is included. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your first supplementary, Member for Nanulik.

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister is aware, residents of the Kivalliq have had a bumpy ride in recent years with respect to the issue of jet service from Rankin Inlet to Winnipeg being provided. Can the minister outline whether proponents will be required to provide jet service to medical travel passengers on this route under the government's new contracts? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I cannot answer the question at this time, but what I can respond to is that when they are conducting an evaluation about the cost, it will be included in the review and they will look at the best contract. It's not just one area; they also have to ensure that they have proper oxygen tanks available and sometimes they need to have stretchers.

Part of what you alluded to with regard to inadequate washroom facilities and things of that nature, these will form part of the request for proposals. So when they are evaluating each proposal, they

will be looking into these issues and try to pick the best contractor. The cabinet will review which proposal would be approved.

When medical patients under duress are stuck with travel, it causes more problems. That is all I can provide and answer at this time, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your supplementary, Member for Nanulik.

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Minister Curley, for your response. As I recall, there was some discussion during the previous Legislative Assembly regarding the process by which the government evaluated proposals coming from airlines, including the question of whether proponents would qualify for bid adjustments under the NNI Policy. As I also recall, there were some questions asked in the Legislative Assembly about the bid submitted by the Nunasi Corporation.

Can the minister indicate how the government will determine the eligibility of proponents for bid adjustments under the NNI Policy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not on the evaluation committee or whatnot, or actually setting any details with respect to the RFP. That is the responsibility of my colleague at CGS, with the help of Health and Social Services and managers.

With respect to the NNI Policy, that particular policy of the GN has been beneficial to many northern contractors. At the same time, those bidding on the medical travel contract surely must have credentials also from the Canadian Transportation Agency; they must be licensed carriers for passengers. Without that, I think we would be compromising some of the regulations and whatnot.

I am sure the evaluation committee and the people responsible for bid criteria surely will consider all aspects of what the member is saying. I will assure him that those who are bidding or taking advantage of the NNI Policy normally take advantage of that when they bid high. So they are normally awarded certain points to be eligible to compete for other bids.

I am not in that evaluation group, but I am sure that experts who consider the bid evaluation will take your concerns into consideration. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Member for Nanulik.

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the previous Legislative Assembly, I recall that the minister, when he sat on this side of the House, moved a motion to refer the government's RFP for medical travel into the Committee of the Whole for detailed consideration and I recall that he asked a number of important questions on the RFP. Would the minister welcome a similar motion to move the government's current RFP into the Committee of the Whole during the spring sitting so that he can respond to

questions from members? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can assure the member that whatever the member's privilege requires him to recommend to his colleagues, this side of the House, the cabinet, will go along with what the majority says. I specifically have no control over that part, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for South Baffin.

Question 556 – 3(2): High Rate of Tuberculosis in Cape Dorset

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question today is for the Minister of Health and Social Services, and he had a timely Minister's Statement today dealing with the issue of TB.

As the minister is aware, Cape Dorset has the highest rate of TB per capita in all of Nunavut. I was just talking with a TB nurse and apparently there is close to 8 percent of the population of Cape Dorset that is on medication. What is the minister doing to help the health centre in Cape Dorset with this serious issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, the information I have is that the program was initiated when the TB rates increased in Cape Dorset and was

instituted, and I can assure the member that the continuation of the program to actually ensure that the patients who are affected take their medication and observed continues.

I can also assure him that the program that was initiated by Health Canada and the Nunavut government for Iqaluit particularly is modelled on the basis of the Cape Dorset experience. At the same time, we probably have a larger group of people affected here now, but Cape Dorset continues to be something that we are taking seriously and support it. It's not something that we are turning our attention away from. Thank you. That's what I can assure the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your supplementary, Member for South.

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The problem is that the TB nurse has indicated to me that people don't show up to get tested. They know there are more cases in town, and she has even come up to me and said, "Well, maybe we should have a feast at the community hall and maybe have some door prizes so that people come in to get tested."

So my question is: how are we going to make sure? With the overcrowding of the housing units, it is very easy to pass it on from one to the other one, and if they are not going to go get tested, it's just going to get to be a real serious issue. What can we do to try to solve this problem to make sure that people go in there to get tested? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. Minister of Health.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do know that our health frontline workers are working hard, including the community health representatives, which Cape Dorset has one of the most effective community health representatives. I know that he personally does go to each home that has infected TB clients that we have, and he travels there on his snow machine to ensure that they do take their medication.

But in terms of the public awareness requirement, we can certainly improve upon that. I will take the member's suggestion seriously and see what the department can do to provide an awareness level because we do want to take control of the TB issue and improve upon it. I will take the member's suggestion seriously and respond to him at some point, and I will pass that information on to our officials. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq.

Question 557 – 3(2): Suicide Prevention Strategy

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education.

Earlier this week, I was pleased to get some commitments from the Minister of Health and Social Services regarding the role of the new Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy. Yesterday, my colleague from Akulliq tabled some

sobering statistics on the number of suicides in Nunavut since 1999.

The Department of Education is one of the partners in the Suicide Prevention Strategy. Can the minister clearly describe his department's involvement in the creation of the implementation plan or the action plan for the Suicide Prevention Strategy? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Education.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for that very important question. I think the department officials have worked with the other stakeholders in developing that. As far as the explicit level of detail of what they actually did, I know they worked together, there were stakeholders brought together to help develop that and provide ways to roll it out.

I know that there is the ability for staff in the schools to take the ASIST program and stuff like that. In that way, it's where they are moving it out and trying to help and assist and make sure that there are opportunities to give our educators an opportunity to access that training to be able to do that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Member for Quttiktuq.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm sure the minister is aware of the motion that was passed by the coalition of DEAs last October in which the coalition urged the Department of Education as a matter of the highest priority to make the suicide alertness and intervention training, the ASIST workshop that he was talking about,

available to all staff in Nunavut schools who wish to take it as soon as possible and on an ongoing basis.

Can the minister update the House as to what steps have been taken to address the coalition's motion? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Education.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated when I met with the coalition at that time, a lot of the professional development days and things like that are stipulated in the collective agreement.

The department has no problem with adding that as something that could be included into professional development days for our educators, but right now, the priority is rolling out the new roles and responsibilities, and things that our educators, our schools, and the DEAs have under the new *Education Act*. That's our top priority right now.

If the Nunavut Teachers Association, with the schools and the DEAs, wish to, once that process is complete and once the training and the workshops are done with the staff on the new roles and responsibilities under the new *Education Act*, we would have no problem with adding the ASIST training into their professional development. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your supplementary question, Member for Quttiktuq.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate how many schools will be receiving the ASIST

training this academic school year?
Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Education.

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated, it's not on our list of "We're doing it right now." It's once the professional development and stuff that they're working on right now as far as the implementation of the new *Education Act* is done and it's identified by the communities and the DEAs that they would like to hold professional development and include that ASIST program, it would be up to them.

Right now, I don't have an idea of how many schools or communities would be holding that program. I think that would be a request that would come through the schools to the DEAs and to the group that's offering that training. It's not something that's offered by the Department of Education. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your final supplementary, Member for Quttiktuq.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm a little confused; when you have the coalition of DEAs putting forward a motion, to me, that is the schools saying to the Government of Nunavut's Department of Education that they want this type of training provided. So I'm a little confused as to what the minister is saying in terms of priorities and having the schools talk to the DEAs. To me, it's already done. They have already said, "We want this and it's something that we are concerned enough about to put forward in a formal motion."

Will the minister commit to providing suicide prevention training for all Nunavut school staff at the earliest opportunity? Thank you.

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

Hon. Hunter Tootoo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm sorry if I confused the member. I'm fully aware that that motion was passed by the Coalition of Nunavut DEAs and the department does take their motion seriously.

As I indicated, and going back to previous years, getting the new roles and responsibilities that they have under the *Education Act* was their priority before this one and that's the one we are following through on right now. Once that is complete, as I said, we would have no problem in assisting them to make sure that this ASIST training program is offered in the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Akulliq.

Question 558 – 3(2): Assistance for Business Start-up

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

While in Repulse Bay, I had the pleasure of meeting with different groups and different individuals. One such person I met is a good hunter, a good provider, and he does well when it comes to harvesting country food. He wanted to start a business of selling country food in

the community. At one point in time, Mr. Speaker, he has indicated to me that he's done it, but there is one obstacle: he is not an accountant nor has he any resources to hire an accountant.

My question to the hon. minister is: does the minister's department provide assistance to such persons who are not able to make a business plan? When he approached the local economic development officer, he told me that he was told that he had to come up with a business plan. He is not able to do that by himself. Will the minister indicate to this House how he can provide that under his departmental officials? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. The economic development officers are put into these communities to do exactly that, to assist community members in developing business plans, feasibility studies, and overall, assisting the local entrepreneurs who want to get into some sort of economic activity.

With the statement that you are making that the CEDO did not want to assist the member, I will get my officials to look into that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your supplementary, Member for Akulliq.

Mr. Ningark: Thanks. I thank the hon. minister for his answer. I thank you, Mr. Speaker. Outside of this House, I will provide the hon. minister with the name of the individual. When will the hon.

minister be able to get back to me as to when that person there can be seen by one of his economic development officers? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will have my officials look into that. We intend to assist the communities in whatever entrepreneurship that they are pursuing, the local folks of the communities.

Mr. Speaker, the EDOs are put in place to assist the local members in the communities and point them in the right direction to get assistance from any department, whether it be Economic Development, or other federal programs in community economic development. I will get back to the hon. member once my officials have looked into the case. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq.

Question 559 – 3(2): Nanisivik Road

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Earlier this morning, the minister did a Minister's Statement on the Community Access Roads Program. I know, in different conversations back and forth and also in oral questions, I asked about the Nanisivik road now that the Nanisivik Airport is closed. I just wanted confirmation if the road to Nanisivik from Arctic Bay is considered an access road, yes or no. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister of Transportation.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the road is considered an access road. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your second supplementary, Member for Quttiktuq.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Unfortunately that was the longest highway in Nunavut and the most northern highway. I remember putting in suggestions of having it as one of our cross-Canada or trans-Canada highways, but that didn't go through. In terms of it being an access road, that means it's purely the responsibility of the hamlet to maintain the road, keep the upgrade on it, and keep it paved... not paved, in Iqaluit, you get lots of money for paving, but to have snow removal as well. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Minister of Transportation.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The decision to build an airport in Arctic Bay was because of the long distance to Nanisivik and the cost of maintaining that road to Nanisivik. That is exactly why the new airport was built in Arctic Bay. There are still ongoing negotiations or talks with DND on what to do with that road.

As you know and as the member is well aware, the DND is talking about refurbishing the port there at Nanisivik and possible use of the Nanisivik highway, but for the most part, Mr. Speaker, the road is considered an access road and the department has no intention

of funding or maintaining that road unless there is an agreement with the community and DND. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Your supplementary, Member for Quttiktuq.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that answer. In a way, this is exactly what I'm looking for. I recently met with the Nanisivik Naval Facility Project people and one of the concerns they had was in terms of the access road, whether it was a GN asset or whether it was a hamlet asset. So in answering the question, he has sort of said it's a hamlet asset. In terms of it being an access road, is it actually owned by the hamlet? Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister of Transportation.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's an ongoing discussion with DND and the hamlet. As you know, the preliminary reason why the road was downgraded to an access road from a highway was the cost of maintenance. It was a high expense for the government to maintain.

At this time, there are still discussions ongoing with DND and the hamlet. There is a possibility that there may be some cost sharing between the three governments, but at this time, they are still discussing that. There is no agreement in place yet for that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Oral Questions. Would you like to ask a final supplementary,

Member for Quttiktuq? Okay. I wish to note that question period is now over.

Before we proceed further, I would like to welcome some guests. (interpretation ends) I want to welcome my fellow Montreal Canadiens fan in particular, Mr. Wayne Moore and his wonderful wife, Linda, to our Assembly. I am glad you came to counsel me on my recent loss. Thank you.

>> *Laughter*

I also want to welcome one of my constituents, Mr. Terry Forth, a very hard-working constituent. Welcome to our Assembly.

(interpretation) I welcome all visitors in the Assembly.

Going back to our orders of the day. Written Questions. (interpretation ends) Item 7. Item 8. (interpretation) Returns to Written Questions. (interpretation ends) Item 9. (interpretation) Petitions. (interpretation ends) Item 10. (interpretation) Responses to Petitions. (interpretation ends) Item 11. (interpretation) Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. (interpretation ends) Item 12. (interpretation) Tabling of Documents. Minister of Health.

Item 12: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 279 – 3(2): Annual Report of the Director of Child and Family Services 2009-2010

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Annual Report of the Director

of Child and Family Services for 2009-2010. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Tabling of Documents. (interpretation ends) Item 13. (interpretation) Notices of Motions. (interpretation ends) Item 14. (interpretation) Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. (interpretation ends) Item 15. (interpretation) Motions. The first one will be the Member for Amittuq.

Item 15: Motions

Motion 037 – 3(2): Appointment to the Management and Services Board

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

WHEREAS section 38 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act* provides that the Legislative Assembly shall appoint members to the Management and Services Board;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly is prepared to make an appointment;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Pangnirtung, that Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Member for Hudson Bay, be appointed to the Management and Services Board.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried.

We're on Motions. (interpretation ends)
Item 15. (interpretation) Member for South Baffin.

**Motion 035 – 3(2): Standing
Committee Appointments and
Revocations**

Mr. Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly is prepared to make appointments and revocations;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Akulliq, that Mr. Louis Tapardjuk be appointed a member of the Standing Committee on Legislation, a member of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts, and a member of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness;

AND FURTHER I MOVE that the appointments of Mr. Paul Okalik as a member of the Standing Committee on Legislation, the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts, the Standing Committee on Social Wellness, and the Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges be revoked.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion. Opposed. The motion is carried.

Motions. Member for Akulliq.

**Motion 036 – 3(2): Appointment of
Deputy Chairperson of the
Committee of the Whole**

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to move the following motion:

WHEREAS section 43 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act* provides that the Legislative Assembly shall elect two Deputy Chairpersons of the Committee of the Whole;

AND WHEREAS one of these positions is vacant;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for South Baffin, that Mr. Louis Tapardjuk, Member for Amittuq, be appointed as a Deputy Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried.

Motions. Member for Amittuq.

**Motion 034 – 3(2): Appointments to
the Standing Committee on Rules,
Procedures and Privileges**

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Appointments to the Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges:

WHEREAS section 17 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*

provides for the Legislative Assembly to appoint such committees to aid and advise it as it considers necessary;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly is prepared to make appointments;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Quttiktuq, that Mr. Adamee Komoartok, Member for Pangnirtung, be appointed a member of the Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges;

AND FURTHER I MOVE that Ms. Jeannie Ugyuk, Member for Natilik, be appointed an alternate member of the Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried. We congratulate the appointees.

Motions. Member for Quttiktuq.

Motion 038 – 3(2): Invitation to Witnesses from the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs and the Nutrition North Advisory Board to Appear Before the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Invitation to Witnesses from the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs and Nutrition North Canada Advisory Board to Appear Before the Committee of the Whole:

WHEREAS the Government of Canada's Nutrition North Program comes into effect on April 1, 2011;

AND WHEREAS all Members of the Legislative Assembly have an interest in ensuring that the Nutrition North Canada Program works well for Nunavut and Nunavummiut;

AND WHEREAS a number of issues of concern have been identified with respect to the design and implementation of the Nutrition North Canada Program;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the hon. member from Rankin Inlet North, that the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut, through the Office of the Speaker, formally invite witnesses from the Northern Food Security Directorate of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs and the Nutrition North Canada Advisory Board to appear before the Committee of the Whole in March of this year to respond to members' questions concerning the Nutrition North Canada Program;

AND FURTHER I MOVE that the Office of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly undertake such actions as are necessary to arrange for this appearance.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be speaking to the motion. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. The motion is in order, but before we go any further, I have some comments to make as to procedures. Firstly, every member has the right to speak once to the motion for a total of 20 minutes. The mover of the motion speaks first, followed by the seconder. Thirdly, the mover of the motion has the

right to the last reply, which closes the debate. To the motion. Member for Quttiktuq.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to begin by thanking my colleague from Rankin Inlet North for seconding the motion.

As with a number of motions that we have considered during this Legislative Assembly, the fact that members from both sides of the House have worked together demonstrates the strength of our consensus approach to government and I am very hopeful that the motion will receive unanimous support today.

It's very clear from listening to my colleagues that all of us in the Legislative Assembly are deeply committed to ensuring that our constituents have access to affordable food and essential non-food items.

It's also very clear to me that members have been receiving a number of questions and concerns from constituents concerning the new Nutrition North Canada Program.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, I was very pleased that federal leaders and officials recently travelled on very short notice to the High Arctic to meet directly with my constituents about the new program. As we know, the new program comes into effect in less than 40 days and it would not be reasonable to expect federal officials to travel to 25 Nunavut communities in that time.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that our invitation for federal officials and members of the advisory board to appear before the Legislative Assembly during our current

sitting should be welcomed as an excellent opportunity to explain the new program and respond to members' concerns and questions on behalf of all of our constituents.

In fact, I believe that the federal minister recently stated that Ottawa is going to step up its communication efforts on the new program, and I am hopeful that the federal government will recognize that this invitation that we are providing to them is a great opportunity for them to get their message across to the MLAs who represent all of our communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. To the motion. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

Hon. Tagak Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to this matter, I am also content with supporting this motion. I wish to thank the Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Ron Elliott, for taking on this issue. He has been very passionate in representing his constituency by meeting with the appropriate agencies, corresponding and consulting with his constituents as it currently has the highest food costs in all of Nunavut.

I think we all know that the original program, which was called the Food Mail Program, was administered by Canada Post. Many Nunavutmiut used this program to order nutritional foods and it was in place for a long time. It also benefited many families throughout Nunavut as it allowed them to place orders from suppliers in Winnipeg, Montreal, and for the Kitikmeot families, in Yellowknife or Edmonton. They would call the supplier, who would

then ship the food via the Canada Post program.

Many families became quite familiar with the program and, with the advent of the Internet and computers, it allowed for families to pool their money and collaborate on the food to be ordered. If one person had a credit card, then that person would place the order. This program was used by a lot of people in Nunavut, and this program was not broken but it was replaced.

Some of us have been taught this old saying which is a western society statement: "If it isn't broken, don't fix it." That is how I perceived this program, which the federal government administered and which was roughly between \$50 million and \$60 million per annum, that the Food Mail Program was not broken. In my opinion, I felt that not all of the particulars should have been deleted.

Some Inuit who live quite far from the southern suppliers and who suffer from very high food costs, such as the High Arctic communities, face more expensive costs than the prices we pay here in Iqaluit. Fresh produce, such as vegetables and fruits, are not utilized by all families and due to the time lag, it results in the produce spoiling by the time it reached communities like Grise Fiord. The only real issue was the spoilage caused by the time spent en route to the communities. However, most people would order canned vegetables to offset this and that will continue.

Based on this new program, if you read the particulars, it will be put in place by April 1, and one of the items listed as no

longer being eligible are canned vegetables. (interpretation ends) That is not right. (interpretation) The Food Mail Program was not broken, but when they tried to fix it, it seems that it lost its purpose. That is why we have invited the officials representing the suppliers to appear before the Committee of the Whole.

What I can say is this: we were informed that country food would be eligible for assistance under this program. (interpretation ends) That is good, (interpretation) but it also states that it is conditional since the CFIA has to stamp the foods prior to it being branded eligible. How will we accomplish this stamping of country food from the various communities? The only way to stamp country food is if it is butchered in a meat plant. Perhaps we may have to ship the country food to the meat plant in Rankin Inlet, where they can be stamped and then it would be shipped out. This is not acceptable.

The country food forms a large part of our cultural identity; it allows us to know that we are Inuit. (interpretation ends) My identity is based on my diet, not my appearance, not my language, my diet. That dictates whether this guy is an Inuk or not. You would be an urban Inuk, as far as I'm concerned. That's the difference. Inuit identity is really strictly tied to diet and we need to do something about that.

I fully support the motion. It will be an interesting discussion. Nunavutmiut want to hear exactly what's happening, and the federal officials, in my view, have an obligation to appear before the Committee of the Whole and explain to Nunavutmiut how great the program will

benefit Nunavutmiut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Curley. I would like to eat the country food even before they stamp it, if you have any country food, Minister Curley. To the motion. Member for Akulliq.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The motion has been moved by my hon. colleague, and if we approve it, and I will approve it, it will become public knowledge, and then we will hear things from the public. Once we support the motion, I encourage my constituents to send me information on what their concerns are. No doubt everyone has concerns on this very important initiative, and I will support the motion.

I once again would like to indicate that it will become public and then we will have the opportunity once they accept the invitation to speak to it in this House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. Member for Arviat, Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, rise today to publicly support this motion. On behalf of my constituents of Arviat, they have voiced their opinions and their concerns in regard to the Nutrition North program. People are very confused. I think people need answers and clarification on how this program is going to benefit people in Nunavut and how it's going to be implemented.

As I stated, I thank Mr. Elliott for making this motion. I believe that by having these appearances by the committee and the federal government here, we can get answers to our questions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. Are there any comments to the motion? Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Mr. Curley worries me now because I had pizza a couple of days ago and I ordered takeout from the Navigator Inn. Still, I'm Inuk, though.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, I truly support this motion. I hope that when they do come, they come with real answers and they could seek real solutions to this very important matter.

Mr. Speaker, they say that it's not in effect until April 1, but already today, there are people in my riding who cannot order food mail because it's already too much of a hassle for them and it hasn't even taken effect yet, Mr. Speaker.

I truly will support this motion, I know it has the backing of my constituency, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. Member for Baker Lake.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the Hon. Member for Quttiktuq for validating all of the issues that affect all

Nunavummiut. As we all know, it is the right and privilege to have access to health and well-being, and one of the critical things to meet that is access to healthy foods. I can't express enough and reiterate exactly what everybody said.

I would like to thank the constituents of Baker Lake for continually sharing their concerns in regard to the Food Mail Program, and I'm sure there will be a lot more concerns that we can address if we have witnesses come before us. It doesn't make sense to have to pay \$32 for a cantaloupe. It just doesn't make sense. It's not feasible.

At the same time, I want to continue to encourage the people of Baker Lake to continue to contact our offices and all members. In Baker Lake, you know where my office is located and my constituency assistant would be more than happy to take emails, letters, phone calls, and concerns. So I encourage all Nunavummiut to be able to express themselves, and also guide us and also allow us to share their concerns.

I think this is an exceptional approach for the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Speaker, and I would like to wholeheartedly support the motion. It's an excellent initiative, and I think the consumers, all Nunavummiut, look to benefit for the sake of well-being. With that, I fully support the motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. To the motion. There are no more hands up. I would like to give the mover of the motion an opportunity, the Member for Quttiktuq, to the last reply. Member.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to thank all of my colleagues for their support and look forward to the vote.

I also wanted to thank my constituents for bringing this issue forward, having three communities, with three different types of problems all based around the transportation system that we have been working with the GN.

In conclusion, I should mention the names of two people in Arctic Bay who first brought the attention to me for this issue by walking in the Northern Store and seeing them take pictures. It was sort of their initiative to do something in terms of the prices being so high in the community.

It was Jimmy Enoogoo and Audrey Qamaniq who were actually in the store taking pictures. It intrigued my interest and said, "What are you doing?" And they since went from there, put those pictures up on Facebook, so again, we've got other media tools that seem to be working in favour of our community to get the word out and help us get recognition for different things.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to ask for a recorded vote. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. We have concluded with comments to the motion. A recorded vote was requested. Those in favour of the motion, if you would please stand. Those in favour of the motion:

Member for Quttiktuq.

Member for South Baffin.

Member for Iqaluit Centre.

Member for Arviat.

Member for Rankin Inlet North.

Member for Kugluktuk.

Member for Iqaluit East.

Member for Uqqummiut.

Member for Rankin Inlet South and
Whale Cove.

Member for Cambridge Bay.

Member for Nanulik.

Member for Akulliq.

Member for Baker Lake.

Member for Hudson Bay.

Member for Amittuq.

Member for Nattilik.

Member for Pangnirtung.

There are no nays. This motion is carried
unanimously.

>> *Applause*

Motions. Member for Quttiktuq.

**Motion 039 – 3(2): Invitation to
Witnesses from the Northwest
Company, Arctic Co-operatives
Limited, and Other Entities to
Appear Before the Committee of
the Whole**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
Thanks again to my colleagues for their
support.

Invitation to Witnesses from the
Northwest Company, Arctic Co-
operatives Limited, and Other Entities to
Appear Before the Committee of the
Whole:

WHEREAS the Government of
Canada's Nutrition North Canada
Program comes into effect on April 1,
2011;

AND WHEREAS all Members of the
Legislative Assembly have an interest in
ensuring that the Nutrition North Canada
Program works well for Nunavut and
Nunavummiut;

AND WHEREAS the operations of
retailers and suppliers serving Nunavut
communities have a significant impact
on the ability of Nunavummiut to access
affordable food and essential non-food
items;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded
by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet
North, that the Legislative Assembly of
Nunavut, through the Office of the
Speaker, formally invite witnesses from
the North West Company, Arctic Co-
operatives Limited, and other interested
retailers and suppliers serving Nunavut
to appear before the Committee of the
Whole during the spring sitting of the
House to respond to members' questions
concerning the Nutrition North Canada
Program;

AND FURTHER I MOVE that the
Office of the Clerk of the Legislative
Assembly undertake such actions as are
necessary to arrange for this appearance.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. The motion is in order. Are there any comments to the motion? Member for Quttiktuq.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It was short; it's the same motion but different people. Once again I would like to thank my colleague from Rankin Inlet North for seconding the motion.

I also believe that the retailers who do business in our communities will appreciate the opportunity to appear before us. As I noted earlier this week, I would hope that many of them who appeared before the House of Common's standing committee last year will also welcome the chance to meet directly with us to get their message across to the listening public and the members who represent our communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. To the motion. Member for Rankin Inlet North.

Hon. Tagak Curley: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, want to congratulate again our colleague, Mr. Ron Elliott, Member for Quttiktuq, in inviting the main players with respect to providing goods and services for most of our communities.

I think it's important nationally to be understood that even though Nunavut is normally known as heavily subsidized by the Government of Canada, that's the image of the Canadian government, let's not be shy about indicating to them that all of our marine transportation services are privately owned by private

companies that set their own transportation rates and they pass it onto the consumer. How is that passed onto the consumer? All of the retail businesses are also privately owned, private sector.

There is not one institution or company in Nunavut that is subsidized by the Government of Canada or the Nunavut government; these are all private enterprise businesses. I think Canadians, for centuries, misunderstood the fact that when they say "heavily subsidized," they don't get to appreciate the fact that all of our goods and service providing retailers are private sector and they are in the business of making money.

It's about time that Nunavutmiut get to face the main actors with the food providers and allow members to ask questions exactly how the new regime for Nutrition North will impact on consumers. For that, I will be supporting the motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Are there any more comments to the motion? Member for Quttiktuq.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to ask once again for a recorded vote. Thank you.

>> *Laughter*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Member. A recorded vote has been requested. All those in favour, please stand.

Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Schell.

Mr. Tootoo.

will go directly to (interpretation ends) Item 19. (interpretation) There is nothing to report there. (interpretation ends) Item 20. (interpretation) Third Reading of Bills. (interpretation ends) Item 21.

Mr. Shewchuk.

Mr. Curley.

Mr. Taptuna.

(interpretation) Clerk, will you ascertain if the Commissioner is prepared to enter the Chambers.

Madam Aariak.

Mr. Arreak.

Assent to Bills

Mr. Kusugak.

Bill 47 – International Interests in Mobile Aircraft Equipment Act – Assent

Mr. Peterson.

Bill 48 – Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2010, No. 3 – Assent

Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningark.

Bill 49 – Agricultural Products Marketing Act, Repeal – Assent

Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Rumbolt.

Bill 50 – Nunavut Outfitter Liability Protection Fund Act, Repeal – Assent

Mr. Tapardjuk.

Madam Ugyuk.

Bill 52 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2009-2010 – Assent

Mr. Komoartok.

There are no nays. (interpretation ends)
The motion is carried unanimously.

Bill 53 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2010-2011 – Assent

>> *Applause*

Bill 54 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2010-2011 – Assent

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Motions. There are no more hands up. (interpretation ends) Item 16. (interpretation) First Reading of Bills. (interpretation ends) Item 17. (interpretation) Second Reading of Bills. (interpretation ends) Item 18. (interpretation) Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. We will not be going into Committee of the Whole today, so we

Commissioner Edna Elias (interpretation): Members of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut, I am pleased to be here today. As Commissioner of Nunavut, I am

honoured to give assent to the following bills: (interpretation ends)

- Bill 47, *International Interests in Mobile Aircraft Equipment Act*;
- Bill 48, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2010, No. 3*;
- Bill 49, *Agricultural Products Marketing Act, Repeal*;
- Bill 50, *Nunavut Outfitter Liability Protection Fund Act, Repeal*;
- Bill 52, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2009-2010*;
- Bill 53, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2010-2011*; and
- Bill 54, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 4, 2010-2011*.

I hereby prorogue the Second Session of the Third Legislative Assembly of Nunavut and summon all members to meet in this Chamber at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, February 28, 2011, for the opening of the Third Session of the Third Legislative Assembly.
(interpretation) Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. If you would please read out the *Orders of the Day* for Monday, Mr. Clerk.

Item 21: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for February 28, for the Third Session:

1. Prayer
2. Opening Address
3. Ministers' Statements
4. Members' Statements
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Petitions
9. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters
10. Tabling of Documents
11. Notices of Motions
12. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
13. Motions
14. First Reading of Bills
15. Second Reading of Bills
16. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Monday, February 28, at 1:30 p.m. Have a great weekend. Thank you.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>House adjourned at 11:02

