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**Thursday, October 20, 2011**

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**Iqaluit**

**Speaker: The Honourable Hunter Tootoo, M.L.A.**

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Iqaluit East)

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Minister responsible for Immigration;  
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**Iqaluit, Nunavut****Thursday, October 20, 2011****Members Present:**

Honourable Eva Aariak, Honourable James Arreak, Mr. Moses Aupaluktuq, Honourable Tagak Curley, Ms. Monica Ell, Mr. Ron Elliott, Mr. Joe Enook, Honourable Lorne Kusugak, Mr. Johnny Ningeongan, Mr. Hezakiah Oshutapik, Honourable Keith Peterson, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Honourable Fred Schell, Honourable Daniel Shewchuk, Mr. Louis Tapardjuk, Honourable Peter Taptuna, Honourable Hunter Tootoo, Ms. Jeannie Ugyuk.

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Speaker** (Hon. Hunter Tootoo): *Qujannamiik*, Sergeant-at-Arms. Before we get started, I would like to ask Mr. Elliott to lead us off with a prayer, please.

>>Prayer

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Moving on to the orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Environment, Minister Shewchuk.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements**

**Minister's Statement 071 – 3(3):  
Nunavut Research Vessel's First  
Season a Success**

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Good afternoon and thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to update my colleagues of the successful first season of the Department of Environment's new fisheries research vessel, the MV Nuliajuk.

Nuliajuk began an intensive summer of collaborative initiatives throughout the inshore and offshore waters of Baffin Island. Upon departing Iqaluit in mid-July, Nuliajuk spent several weeks conducting various research projects in Cumberland Sound. The research initiatives within this area included survey work on Cumberland Sound turbot stocks, satellite and acoustic tagging of turbot, arctic skate, and Greenlandic shark, a joint fish survey with CGS Amundsen and ArcticNet, and water chemistry data collection, to name a few. Also, the vessel was used for exploratory fishery work near Qikiqtarjuaq and Clyde River in September, where both gillnets and longlines were used to catch turbot in the offshore 0A area.

Mr. Speaker, with initiatives like these completed, I am pleased to report that Nuliajuk successfully completed 100 percent of the proposed research initiatives for the 2011 season. To continue this positive momentum and assure a successful second season, stakeholder consultations will continue throughout this upcoming winter. Additionally, the vessel will undergo several upgrades and modifications over the winter months to continue to build upon the vessel's research capacity, broadening the amount of research that can simultaneously take place aboard the vessel.

DOE is extremely pleased with the work that is being completed on the vessel to date, the extent of stakeholder collaboration which has made this research possible, and the positive response from Nunavutmiut throughout the territory. We are optimistic that next summer will be equally successful and

we are looking forward to the continued collaboration with stakeholders and to the exploration into the potential of Nunavut's fisheries resources. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Minister's Statement 072 – 3(3):  
Update on the Nunavut Carving  
Stone Deposit Evaluation Program**

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues and Nunavummiut. I rise today to speak about the Nunavut Carving Stone Deposit Evaluation Program and to provide some highlights from the first two years of this four-year project.

Through this program, Nunavut carvers work in cooperation with geologists to evaluate carving stone occurrences, including sites that are suggested by community carvers. These sites are evaluated for the quantity and quality of stone and for the sites' suitability and accessibility. A total of 42 sites outside of 11 Nunavut communities were visited during the 2010-11 fieldwork seasons.

The raw material most preferred by Nunavut carvers is a dark, soft rock called serpentinite. To date, the carving stone deposit evaluation program has identified significant carving stone resources near Repulse Bay, Hall Beach, Igloolik, Pangnirtung, Kimmirut, Cape Dorset, and Coral Harbour. The program will continue with community consultations and with helicopter-

supported evaluation of carving stone deposits across Nunavut during the 2012-13 season.

Mr. Speaker, carving stone is culturally and economically important for our communities and for Nunavut's arts sector, and this work is crucial to ensure that Nunavut carvers have reliable access to this resource. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for Human Resources, Minister Schell.

**Minister's Statement 073 – 3(3):  
Sivuliqtiksats Graduates and  
Training Fund**

**Hon. Fred Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our commitment to building excellence in our public service team and fulfilling the visions of Article 23 has been captured through the success of our training initiatives.

The Sivuliqtiksats program was established to develop Inuit in leadership positions within GN, particularly at the director and managerial level. Our department covers the salaries and positions as identified by departments and agencies based on their Inuit employment plans. I thank the departments and agencies for their support to this important program and encourage them to continue to inspire their beneficiary employees to build their careers as leaders in management in their chosen professions. 2011 has produced four graduates: two from the Baffin region, one from the Kitikmeot,

and there is a fourth anticipated from the Kivalliq.

This year also represents the second year of our enhanced training funding. Our department, in partnership with the Department of Finance, created a \$2 million training fund. The Building Capacity Committee recommended the funding be split into specialized training and program development to provide the greatest contribution to quality assurance in public service provision through our departments and agencies. Under this plan, the departments and agencies take the driver's seat in designing innovative and effective training initiatives.

In this fiscal year to date, nine departments are participating in various training projects and a total of 25 training agreements have been signed. Initiatives include:

- Training in environmental assessment and land use in relation to the Kiggavik project through the Department of Environment
- Year 3 of the career development officer training program through the Department of Education
- The new communications training program led by the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs and in addition to these important endeavours
  - 4 occupational training programs across two regions, with a fifth planned for the Kitikmeot, the third region and
  - 14 learning and development courses across three regions to date.

Our department is committed to excellence in service and providing the

tools to Nunavummiut to provide the best in leadership in all sectors of the public service. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Schell. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for Status of Women, Madam Premier.

**Minister's Statement 074 – 3(3):  
Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Good afternoon. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and I have provided each member with a pink sealskin ribbon to bring awareness to this important issue.

The Government of Nunavut is committed to creating healthy communities and supports initiatives that raise awareness about particular health issues. As the Minister responsible for the Status of Women, I am honoured to be able to rise today to recognize October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Mr. Speaker, even though Nunavut's breast cancer rates are relatively low compared with the rest of Canada, this month gives us the opportunity to raise public awareness of this disease and to help support those who have been diagnosed or affected by breast cancer.

As with many health issues, education and awareness are key. The Department of Health and Social Services has continued to monitor breast cancer rates through their cancer registry and offer Well Woman screening at all health



centres in Nunavut that includes a breast exam by a licensed health care provider.

Mr. Speaker, like millions of people across Canada, I will be doing my part to support breast cancer awareness by wearing my pink ribbon throughout the month of October.

Mr. Speaker, in honour of breast cancer patients, survivors, and their families and in memory of those who have passed away due to breast cancer, I would encourage all Nunavummiut to wear a pink ribbon and show their support. By doing so, you will actively increase awareness and promote public education around this very important health issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Madam Premier. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Moving on in the *Orders of the Day*, Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Tapardjuk.

### **Item 3: Members' Statements**

#### **Member's Statement 120 – 3(3): Congratulations to High School Graduates of Igloolik**

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): I want to wish a good afternoon to my colleagues and to my constituents in Igloolik and Hall Beach. The reason I rise this afternoon, Mr. Speaker, is due to my pride in the accomplishments of our youth in Igloolik who work really hard to complete their education. They are preparing for their future and wherever we can provide assistance, we try to provide that assistance as community members to our students.

Last Friday, October 14, 2011, the Igloolik high school saw 10 graduates from grade 12 and I want to mention their names, Mr. Speaker:

Janova Angutimarik, Joan Arnatsiaq, Emily Qattalik, who was a page serving us in June and I am very proud of her, James Kublu, David Qaunaq, Curtis Taqauraq, Aaron Tulugarjuk, and Paul Silas Uyarak, who also served as a page here in June and I am glad that he was also able to graduate. These youth are preparing for their future and we really want to support them, and this group includes Nathan Quassa and Emily Issigaitok.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to share my congratulations to our youth as we have to provide youth with our assistance when they are embarking on their future and we have to support them by any means. These students are very good role models and we hope that we will have more graduates in the next upcoming year and we will offer them as much support as we can. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

#### **Member's Statement 121 – 3(3): Financial Support for Elders in Nunavut**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address what I see as an urgent need re-evaluate and recalculate what level of support should be provided to our seniors and elders in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I'm not simply addressing the issue of poverty, although we know full well that many of our elders do face poverty on a daily basis. I'm referring to the bare minimum that is provided to our elders through such programs as the federal government's Old Age Security and Canada Pension Plan.

Mr. Speaker, I've had a number of elders and seniors in my constituency approach me saying that it is harder and harder for them to make ends meet with little financial support they receive. They say that with the increase in the cost of food, health care, heat, and power, times are tough.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that the Government of Nunavut also offers a number of programs designed to provide additional support to seniors. These include the seniors benefit and other income support programs, the senior home heating subsidy, the Senior Property Tax Relief Program, supplementary health benefits, and so on.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to call upon the Government of Nunavut to review the levels of financial support that are available to seniors and compare those levels with the varying costs of living across Nunavut communities. In determining what resources are necessary to enable a person, a senior, to live comfortably and securely, there is no one-size-fits-all solution.

Mr. Speaker, our government recognizes the disparity in the cost of living between different communities by providing to its employees northern allowance subsidies scaled to the cost of living where one lives. The same should

be applied to support payments for seniors.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage the Government of Nunavut to bring forward to the federal government the need to adjust federal program funding to take into account these same criteria. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Members' Statements. Member for Arviat, Mr. Shewchuk.

### **Member's Statement 122 – 3(3): The Nanisiniq Project in Arviat**

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I would like to say "good afternoon" to the residents of Arviat.

Mr. Speaker, for decades, Inuit elders have expressed concern about the knowledge Inuit youth have of their own social history and culture. The Nanisiniq: Arviat History Project is a community-based research project involving Inuit youth and elders from Arviat. The project, which began last year, is coordinated locally by an Arctic College graduate, Tamar Mukyunik, and by Professor Frank Tester of the University of British Columbia, School of Social Work. The project is funded through a two-year grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Mr. Speaker, the name Nanisiniq was chosen because this exciting project is quite literally a journey of discovery, bringing together Inuit elders and youth

in an exploration of their history and culture from an Inuit point of view.

Through the use of historical research, web-based technologies like videoconferencing, blogging, and the use of social media, our fluently bilingual youth have been learning and documenting their history from their own perspectives.

Next month, four members of the Nanisiniq project, Jordan Konek, Curtis Konek, Amy Owingayak, and April Duthiel, will join the Canadian youth delegation to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 17) in Durban, South Africa. To help raise money for this COP 17, the team organized a simultaneous Arviat-Toronto film screening and virtual online town hall discussion.

Mr. Speaker, more than 60 Arviat youth and elders used interactive technologies to discuss their perspectives about climate change and traditional knowledge with researchers and students from around the world.

This highly successful event would not have been possible without the invaluable assistance of a number of people and organizations from across Canada and beyond. I would like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to:

- Dr. Frank Tester and April Duthiel with the University of British Columbia in Vancouver;
- Canada Research Chair and Human Dimensions of Climate Change Dr. Ian Mauro of Mount Allison University in New Brunswick and

Nunavut's own Zacharias Kunuk of Igloolik;

- Annette Dubreuil, Chun Nam Law, Anders Sandberg, and Rachel Hirsch from York University and the Institute for Research and Innovation and Sustainability in Toronto;

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would like to ask for unanimous consent to complete my statement. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Shewchuk. The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There being none. Please proceed, Mr. Shewchuk.

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

- Mariette Wheeler and Daniela Liggett and the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists at Canterbury University in New Zealand;
- The York University Aboriginal Students Association;
- Nunavut Arctic College and the Nunavut Research Institute's new Arviat Research Support Centre;
- The Hamlet of Arviat, the Arviat Film Society, and the Arviat Elders Society;
- Arviat Elders Martha Okotak and Silas Illungiyok, who, as cultural advisors, have worked tirelessly this past year to support our youth in their traditional knowledge research;
- Youth Nicholas Arnalukjuak, Keith Otuk Alikut, and Abraham Eetak; and
- John Arnalukjuaq High School Teacher Gorge Bullard and Principal Jay Thomas.

I would also like to thank Zacharias Kunuk and Dr. Ian Mauro for donating a copy of their film, "Inuit Knowledge on Climate Change," to the John Arnalukjuaq High School. More students will be able to watch and learn from this informative and thought-provoking Inuit language film.

Mr. Speaker, when communities come together to support each other, incredible things can happen. Together, we are supporting opportunities for science, science education, the sharing of traditional Inuit knowledge, and exposing our youth and community to the many careers available in science, research, media, and education.

On behalf of our community, I would like to thank all those who took the time and effort to support our young Inuit researchers. I am very proud of our youth and wish Jordan, Amy, Curtis, and April a safe and successful journey of discovery to South Africa. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Shewchuk. Item 3. Members' Statements. Moving on in the *Orders of the Day*, Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.

#### **Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery**

Before we start, I'll take my prerogative to recognize an individual, a former colleague of mine, former Speaker, former minister, former regular member, and still a friend. I would like to welcome Mr. Peter Kilabuk to the Gallery.

>>Applause

Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.  
Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am quite ecstatic to be able to recognize the members travelling with the Nunavik youth who have travelled to Iqaluit to attend courses on government operations, including how the Legislative Assembly operates. They were chosen from a list of youth from Salluit, Chisasibi, and Kuujuaq. Furthermore, Makivik funded their travel costs to Iqaluit, as well as the regional Nunavik government.

I will recognize these individuals currently here: Lazarus Epoo Jr., please stand, Sarassie Forrest, Elisah Alaku, and Jonathan Epoo. As well, their professor, Thierry Rodon, is in the Gallery and the person from Nunavut who coordinates the logistics for this course, Anguti Johnston. These are the youth who have come to learn about government operations in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, we continue to maintain that youth are our foundation for the future, so this is similar to our statements. It is always nice to see students attending courses, especially on practical learning that is not contingent on just classroom activities but something that they can put their hands on. It is sometimes easier to learn topics in that manner, when you can see it right in front of you.

Mr. Speaker, the students have a secondary destination to learn more courses, so they will be travelling to Greenland. They will be spending six

days in Nuuk and they will be learning about the Greenland Home Rule Government. We are wishing them a safe and successful trip to Greenland. Furthermore, when they return to Nunavik, they will be preparing a report on what they have learned during their trip.

If I forgot anyone, I apologize. I want to welcome you all to Iqaluit and enjoy your courses here in Iqaluit. I hope you have a very good trip to Greenland and that you enjoy your courses there. I would like to welcome you to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Schell.

**Hon. Fred Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize four students who are taking the financial management training course. The first student is Nayet Tamaviivas. I don't know if I said that right. If you could stand up, please. Pitseolak Noah, Cassandra Miller, and Marilynn Soper, I would like to invite you to welcome them to the Gallery. Thank you.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Oshutapik.

**Mr. Oshutapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to rise today to recognize a fellow Pangnirtung resident who never stops taking action.

He represented our community previously as an MLA and once he left his position and returned to Pangnirtung, he turned to outfitting and has continued to provide that service. I wish to recognize the former Speaker and member of the Executive Council, Peter Kilabuk from Pangnirtung.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, I also want to recognize another individual who is from Pangnirtung but who has now moved to Iqaluit due to his job requirements, Mr. Jonah Kilabuk. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Arviat, Mr. Shewchuk.

**Hon. Daniel Shewchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize, I believe and I hope I get the name right, Maura Hanranhan. She is an associate professor with Memorial University and works closely with the Marine Institute in St. John's, Newfoundland in training our fishermen. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Shewchuk. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We don't usually recognize the same individual many times, but I don't think we have a limit. I want to recognize a friend of mine, *Aqiga*, and my brother-in-law Peter Kilabuk. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Enook. I think Peter is getting flashbacks to question period.

>> *Laughter*

Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.  
We will move in the *Orders of the Day*,  
Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for  
Iqaluit West, Madam Ell.

### Item 6: Oral Questions

#### Question 161 – 3(3): Homelessness in Nunavut

**Ms. Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

In my first Member's Statement, I spoke about the need to take action against homelessness in Nunavut. (interpretation ends) According to the recent Nunavut Housing Needs Survey, over 1,000 people in the territory are considered to be homeless.

The Nunavut Housing Corporation's current business plan states that a homelessness strategy for Nunavut is scheduled to be completed by the fall of 2011. Can the minister tell me today when this strategy will be completed and tabled in the Legislative Assembly? (interpretation) Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is a very

relevant question, particularly because it speaks to overcrowding and homeless people, who can be quite numerous. Some stay with their grandparents or wherever they can sleepover in the community. With respect to overcrowding, there is a good report on this issue, which my colleague referred to in her question.

What I can state about this matter is that the deputy ministers have a working group that deals with many issues, including people at risk, poverty, lack of nutrition, and issues related to the Nunavut Housing Corporation. They are part of our resources for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. My deputy minister also deals with the challenges we face for homelessness issues. He is involved in it. Once they have completed their report, I'll be able to present it.

On top of that, cabinet has already approved an assistance program that will be for homeless people. This will be through Social Services, where they would identify a unit in a local community that could be used as a shelter. However, it has a criterion and it's called *Tunngasuvvik* in Inuktitut (a place of welcome). It was recently approved this summer by the cabinet. If that unit is identified by the housing association, they would still need to create a body that would look after it. It would have to be a charity and they would have to try and obtain funding from various sources.

This is what we're planning towards to try to offer more assistance to people who are homeless. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Your first supplementary, Ms. Ell.

**Ms. Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The housing corporation's 2011-14 business plan also indicates that one of its priorities has been to "lobby the federal government for increased resources to combat homelessness in Nunavut." Can the minister update the House on what resources he has been able to obtain from the federal government? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What I can say is that every province identified this as a priority, particularly related to homelessness. Further, all provincial ministers of housing agreed to submit a common request to the federal government to place resources to combat homelessness.

However, there are several barriers we face because the federal government is in a deficit situation. I believe it was over a \$50 billion deficit last year. For that reason, the priority will be reducing the deficit and due to that, this is becoming an obstacle for all housing corporations in Canada.

We have told the federal government that homelessness is an urgent issue that needs to be dealt with here in Canada. As I stated previously, we're not the only jurisdiction with those challenges. We share this with the Yukon and the NWT. A lot of the other provinces as well have run into that barrier. We have discussed this issue and we will not stop working on this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Your second supplementary question, Madam Ell.

**Ms. Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister is aware, there is a homeless shelter for men in Iqaluit. This facility saves lives. In prior years, the government has provided funding to the shelter to keep it operational. Can the minister update me today on what resources are currently provided to the shelter by the housing corporation or if he knows how it has been laid out? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Madam Ell. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is a good question. Here in Nunavut, Iqaluit is the only community where we are assisting with operations of two shelters. The first is the Sivummut House and the second is the Oqota Shelter. We have two separate funds under two programs, one for the shelter's operations and the other for meals of the clients. These two programs provided funds totalling \$792,000.

The shelter is the only one available in Nunavut and at this time, this funding is only offered to the City of Iqaluit. There are other possibilities, but at this time, no other shelter has surfaced. So to date, we provide \$792,385 in funding for the two shelters' operations this fiscal year. This is set aside every year in the budget and cabinet has approved it every time we have requested it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Your final supplementary, Ms. Ell.

**Ms. Ell** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have heard some concerns from constituents regarding some of the policies of the shelter. For example, it is my understanding that intoxicated persons are not given access to the shelter. In the winter months, this may mean that their only option is the RCMP lock-up. Can the minister indicate if the housing corporation is working with the shelter to identify better ways of managing at-risk clients? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you. (interpretation) At this time, I cannot answer the question as anyone who is publicly intoxicated is considered to have committed a misdemeanour crime and those cases would involve the RCMP.

With respect to the shelters here in Iqaluit, this is how they are set up: during the day, the shelters are generally not utilized completely; the men's shelter is usually empty during the day but during mealtimes, meals are offered at those times; and when they open up the shelter for homeless people, the beds are made available.

However, in those cases where you have intoxicated people or people who have committed crimes, I cannot answer that as this is the mandate of the RCMP. Nonetheless, we cannot allow any type of risk in the shelters and due to that, they have rules to follow. Once all the people are in the shelter, they close it.

That is all I can answer at this point. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Oral Questions. Member for Natilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Question 162 – 3(3): Contract Award Process for Kitikmeot Air Ambulance**

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the residents of Taloyoak and Gjoa Haven, I wish them a good day. I wish to inform my colleagues that my constituents are quite concerned about the emergency air ambulance services and these concerns have to be responded to accordingly.

(interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

Mr. Speaker, I want to first state that I fully understand that the NNI Contracting Appeals Board is currently looking at the issue of the award for Kitikmeot air ambulance services. I am not asking questions about the board's deliberations.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Community and Government Services to provide a clear explanation today of what role his department played in the contract award process for Kitikmeot air ambulance services. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for raising a question on that



matter. The department that I am responsible for has several departments that they have to cooperate with whenever an RFP or tender is opened. Our CGS officials work with different departments on a case-by-case basis for any RFP or tender that is going to be put into the public domain.

I'll make this short and concise. Our officials assist the government departments to develop an RFP and provide assistance on the particulars of the tender process and whether they're following all the criteria involved in the tender. They work with the department from the beginning to the end of this RFP process. Perhaps I will just state that for the time being. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Your first supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) It is my understanding that the value of the Kitikmeot air ambulance services contract is in the millions of dollars. Can the minister clarify who in the government has the authority to approve and sign this contract? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you. The contracts are usually signed by the officials of the department that initiated the tendering process, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Your second supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Although he didn't really state the department, I think I got the point. (interpretation ends) The Department of Community and Government Services coordinates the government's contracting process and is responsible for issuing tender documents and requests for proposals.

I am still unclear as to what criteria were used by the government to evaluate the proposals that it received in response to its request for proposals for the Kitikmeot air ambulance services contract. Will the minister commit to tabling this information in the Legislative Assembly at tomorrow's sitting, yes or no? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, she asked what criteria we follow. The criteria that are followed in this particular case were the criteria that were brought to our department by our client department. They set out the criteria and all the terms of preferences, and those were followed throughout the tendering process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Your final supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I have been informed that one of the companies

that have been awarded the contract for air ambulance services in the Kitikmeot has been involved in a lawsuit against the government in relation to the awarding of the air ambulance services contract for the Kivalliq. I have also been informed that one of the government's senior officials who were named in the lawsuit was also a part of the review process for the Kitikmeot contract.

Can the minister confirm whether my understanding is correct and can he explain what the government's procedures are to ensure that its officials are not placed in a potential conflict of interest? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Mr. Speaker, her understanding is correct, and our department and this government ensures that utmost care is taken, that there is no conflict of interest in any of these cases, even to be seen to be in conflict. Utmost care is taken through the Department of Justice and all the parameters are ensured to be covered that there is no conflict of interest when the government is pursuing and looking at any public tendering documents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Question 163 – 3(3): Government of Nunavut's Response as per Tabled Document 92 – 3(3)**

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the newly minted Minister of Human Resources, the Hon. Fred Schell. It seems obvious that since he has not fielded any questions lately, he would only be too happy to be asked a question.

I would like to ask a few questions on a document that he tabled on October 18, specifically Tabled Document 92 – 3(3). I have a question on its contents. In the GN's reply to the report, the committee members who reviewed the Auditor General's report wanted further clarification on some issues, particularly recommendation #4. When the government provided a response, it stated that the Inuit Employment Plan was completed as of March 2011 and that it was submitted to the Executive Council of Nunavut. Furthermore, in June 2011, the number of Inuit employees was to be identified in time for the fall session.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister provide the information as to when these numbers will be available? Can we expect it to be available before the session ends? How complex is the remainder of the work on this report that has to be disseminated to the House? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister responsible for Human Resources, Minister Schell.

**Hon. Fred Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have that information, so I'll have to take it as notice.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Schell. The question has been taken as notice.

We will move on. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Question 164 – 3(3): Search and Rescue in Nunavut**

**Mr. Aupaluktuq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services, Hon. Lorne Kusugak.

Concerns have been recently brought to my attention by the Municipality of Baker Lake regarding the roles and responsibilities of the different entities that are involved in search and rescue operations, including the RCMP, community volunteers, and the territorial government.

Can the minister clarify what agreements are in place between his department and the RCMP concerning responsibility for search and rescue operations and recovery operations? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister responsible for Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for the question. (interpretation) Mr. Speaker, the way the search and rescue process works in terms of organization responsibilities is whenever a search and rescue mission is required, that designation has to be made by the RCMP.

The Emergency Measures Organization under the Department of Community and Government Services provides the

funding for any search and rescue operation that is required. As you know, search and rescue usually involves expenditures as they require fuel and supplies to conduct a search, including equipment. There are also training exercises they must complete throughout the year for search and rescue personnel. They also need equipment, so they're also buying new equipment, such as GPSs, satellite phones, and the like. We do provide that kind of funding assistance for these organizations.

With respect to the determination of whether a search and rescue is required or when the search needs to be called off, that's the prerogative of the RCMP. Hopefully that clarifies the matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Your first supplementary, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Mr. Aupaluktuq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's good to know that there's an understanding as to who has the authority to determine when a search and rescue operation ends and a recovery operation begins.

My question, if I may, Mr. Speaker, is: can the minister clarify what funding is available for municipalities that may wish to continue searching for missing persons in circumstances where federal authorities have ended their search and rescue operations? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister responsible for Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's a good question, especially for communities who want to continue their search and rescue operations. The majority of community search and rescue organizations fundraise for their local search and rescue operations and for items, such as fuel, food, and rations, especially if it involves a longer search. This fundraising is never quite up to par with what they require throughout the year.

So when a local search and rescue society requests funding for a search and rescue mission, we provide some funding to underwrite the search but only to a certain extent. If I recall correctly, Mr. Speaker, I believe the limit is \$50,000 for all of Nunavut. We generally end up with a slightly higher number due to the extra missions we are required to undertake. From this fund, they provide some funding to assist with their mission when it is possible and when search and rescue societies in Nunavut need to search for longer periods in their communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Your second supplementary, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Mr. Aupaluktuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for his response. This is something that Nunavummiut must understand, especially how they can apply for more funding and how we can offer more assistance to our search and rescue societies. I know that it will continue to operate in that manner.

As the minister is aware, the Municipality of Baker Lake sent correspondence to the minister on September 12 of this year concerning an incident that occurred in Baker Lake regarding a missing person. My last question is: will the minister commit to providing me with a copy of his response to the municipality, whether or not he has a copy of his response to that letter, and if I could possibly receive a copy for my records? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank you for your question. Yes, I believe on October 14, I sent my formal response to Mayor Aksawnee on the letter he sent. Further, if you would like to receive a copy upon its arrival to the community, I will make it available to you either via email or copy of the letter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

### **Question 165 – 3(3): Number of Housing Units Committed for Completion**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to base my questions around the construction of new social housing units in our communities. It has been over a year since the over-

commitment of the Nunavut Housing Trust came to light. Under this program, how many units did the Nunavut Housing Corporation commit to constructing? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that the information that is requested is of interest not only to the member but all of my colleagues. I certainly am willing to provide all the necessary information. It's going to take a bit of time, in my view, to provide all the technical, all the scheduling, and everything else.

We have committed to completing all the units, particularly the 285 units. We have an agreement with the Government of Canada that they must be completed by the end of March 2012. That's the deadline we're working on and we're hoping that all the units that my colleagues at cabinet as well as our friends on the other side have committed to provide funding will be completed by the end of March 2012.

In terms of the exact progress in presenting each, I will be prepared to table all of that information. Likely, as we go through the Committee of the Whole on my capital estimates, no doubt, that information will be available and we will be having our technical vice-president as well as the president be prepared to provide further details. (interpretation) Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Your first supplementary, Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was trying to be very careful in the way that I was wording my question because I was actually dividing up my question into two parts: one specifically around the Nunavut Housing Trust, which was the first, and then I was going to ask questions about the Affordable Housing Initiative, which was the second part. I know he sort of mentioned the 285, so I'll try again.

To my understanding in discussions we had before, the Nunavut Housing Trust is actually complete. I was wondering if the minister could provide us with the actual number of housing units that are complete under the Nunavut Housing Trust. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like I said earlier, it's going to take a bit of time to break down all the details and I think we will be able to address them today as we go to the Committee of the Whole in terms of the details. I can assure the member, though, that there are remaining Nunavut housing units that are still being constructed, but the information I have is that they will be completed during this fiscal year, this construction season.

But in terms of the details and exactly how many they are, I am deferring that question as I appear before the Committee of the Whole today. Most likely by the end of the day, I'll be able to provide that information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Your second supplementary question, Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I can wait for that time, but it would be nice to get the answers now.

In terms of a final dollar value, then, on the Nunavut Housing Trust, I'm talking about specifically the Nunavut Housing Trust. I know there were problems in the past. We had the Auditor General look at the program and there were supposed to be monthly and quarterly updates to keep track of funding to make sure that it did not get out of control. So I would hope that the minister has this dollar figure available to us now. Does he have a dollar figure of what the Nunavut Housing Trust is costing the Government of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the member could probably rephrase the question. Do we have a current budget to work with? Yes, we do. We're working within budget and certainly our project and contractors are working hard to complete the units as per the contract stipulates, and we have no reason at this time to believe that there are any over-commitments whatsoever. If that is the case, I would immediately be informed and inform my colleagues.

Today we will be prepared to lay out the exact cost to complete construction and provide that information in more time required. So during the Committee of the

Whole, I'll be prepared to provide that information along with our officials. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Your final supplementary, Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guarantee to the minister that I'm trying to rephrase my questions so that I can at least get one answer to four of my questions I have been asking.

I'm just curious to find out if the minister could provide us with a number of completed units that have been turned over to the local housing authorities under the Nunavut Housing Trust. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, we will be able to supplement that question during the Committee of the Whole meeting in more detail and exact details of the whole question.

In terms of the summary, there were 700-some-odd units that the Nunavut Housing Trust committed for Nunavutmiut. Units completed as of March 31, 2010, if that is of any use, were 319. Units completed during fiscal year 2010-11, 226. Units completed year to date, 2011-12, 81. Units at 99 percent occupied, waiting for the inspections, etcetera and so on, 29. Units not yet complete as of October 13, 71. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Oral Questions. Member for Natilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Question 166 – 3(3): Contract for Kitikmeot Air Ambulance**

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services. Have you signed a contract for air ambulances services? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Nunavut's Department of Health and Social Services, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I spoke to that issue yesterday or the day before that once the appeal process is finalized, I will be able to provide details on the contract. The appeals board will be meeting next week and once this appeal process has been completed, I will be able to update the member on the details. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Your first supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Will you be able to table the criteria developed by your staff for the air ambulance service? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to

her question, what I can tell the member is that the RFP was advertised publicly in the newspaper and they included the criteria that my colleague alluded to. Whenever any business requests the RFP, it is sent out along with the criteria. We will be able to submit the report once the appeal process has been completed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Question 167 – 3(3): Update on Progress of Devolution Negotiations**

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

We have heard on the news about the Baffinland Iron Mines having submitted their environmental impact statement and they're holding pre-hearing meetings in communities. I would like to ask the Premier a question. It seems obvious that if this mine is approved, there will be royalties that the Government of Nunavut would have received if the GN was able to get responsibility over lands and resources via devolution.

I would like to know where the devolution process is. Has the negotiation process been restarted? Has the GN started talks with the federal government? I would like to hear about this in light of the mine development, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister responsible for Executive and

Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for that important question. I want devolution to be an issue debated throughout Nunavut by all people. To date, we are still deliberating on our choices in the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. We are currently considering our options on the issue of devolution. Wherever we have an opportunity to meet with the federal government, we continually remind them of this matter. At least I try to remind them.

We are exploring our options, especially areas where we can at least make some headway, and to lay the groundwork and to re-establish the negotiations. What we kept reiterating was the need to restart this process and we currently are exploring new avenues with the federal government on what the next steps will be. That is where we're at now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Madam Premier. Your first supplementary, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to the issue, during our June session, we allocated funding to continue this process. Nonetheless, although our government may be deliberating on their options, I believe that the Nunavut government will be left behind due to the snail-like pace we are witnessing.

Mr. Speaker, my question to the Premier is: are you still working with the chief negotiator whom you identified in the

past or do you have another negotiator who will be facing the federal government? I want to know where the process is because the House has to understand where this devolution process is going. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to self-determination and devolution, this is a very important priority for the Government of Nunavut. What we envision is that when we are able to operate self-sufficiently, we have to look at how we have to operate as a government. For example, education, health and social services, government operations, justice, and community justice: we have already identified most of these social-related portfolios which we are responsible for and it is good that we are responsible for these matters.

With respect to land and resources, I truly believe that once we have showcased our capability and capacity to take over responsibility, and wherever there are revenue generating developments stemming from the land or resources, we have to be able to obtain a share of those resources. I wanted to restate that position. This is a very important priority.

With regard to our negotiators, we do have negotiators identified. We are basically awaiting the federal government's notification to initiate negotiations. We have identified the terms of reference for the devolution



negotiations. We have deliberated upon all of the details involved in the devolution process up to and including the breadth of negotiations and this was done collaboratively with our negotiator. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Madam Premier. Your second supplementary, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I am aware that we have the responsibility for the current portfolios we have, but all of the funding for that is from federal government coffers. We don't have a very large tax base nor do we have any incoming royalty revenue to date.

From this time onwards, will we always be the stewards of the federal government for our operations or will we have to look at various options to allow Nunavummiut to search for ways to become more self-determining and self-sufficient? This can only occur if the federal government devolves more powers to our government and only then can we realize that dream.

So, Mr. Speaker, I again reiterate my previous question: did the government retain the same chief negotiator previously announced? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With this matter, if we perhaps look at it this way... I thank the member for his

comments as our colleague's words are very succinct. What I want to state is that based on the *Tamapta* Mandate, which is our blueprint for Nunavut, it states that our people in Nunavut have to make their own decisions in order to become more self-determining and to research ways to solve the challenges they face.

To cite the example my colleague in Rankin Inlet spoke about earlier, it was excellent to hear the story about a committed individual who undertook his own initiative without any government prodding so that he could start the initiative to assist his community. Those are the types of examples we want to see.

With respect to government funding, we eventually want to be able to generate our own revenue so we are not entirely dependent on federal government handouts. This is a very important aspect of the devolution process to become self-reliant in the long-term future.

Further, with respect to his question about devolution and our chief negotiator, to date, we have retained our existing chief negotiator. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Madam Premier. Your final supplementary, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Boy that was fast! Nonetheless, I'll use the remaining time I have to ask a question about this matter. The process is rather slow and as per the Premier's statement, the federal government still has not responded as to whether they want to commence

negotiations. Based on what I heard, the federal government will notify us when they are ready to commence negotiations.

Has any thought been given to changing the GN chief negotiator? The reason I state that is because of partisanship. My example is that we have a Conservative government, but our GN chief negotiator is a well-known NDP member. Will that not be subject to partisanship and thereby slow the process further? I tend to worry about that. Has our government ever considered a different chief negotiator to see if we can speed up the negotiation process to devolve powers from the federal government to the Nunavut government? That is my last question for now, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated previously, the ability to be self-reliant, we are looking at all the details involved in that process and to see what we need in order to move forward on this file. Our departmental officials are concentrating on developing the positions for the territory and this includes the consultation with the elected members here in the House as we have to be very active in trying to complete this process.

I thank you for raising your questions, but in response to your question, we are reconsidering all of the issues included in the devolution process to come up with a viable plan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Madam Premier. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

**Question 168 – 3(3): Program Management for Building Houses**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Mr. Speaker, I would like to continue with my questions around the construction of new social housing units in our communities.

Through both the Nunavut Housing Trust and Affordable Housing Initiative programs, a lot of construction materials have been shipped to all communities across Nunavut. One of the recommendations of the Auditor General of Canada was to make sure that overspending did not occur with monthly and quarterly reports on the progress of both projects. My question to the minister is: was this recommendation followed? Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Not only was that accepted and followed, our independent audit, as well as the new corporate management, unlike the previous management that were allowed to use unrelated figures, a flawed system of accounting, and cost controls that were not in place, yes, they are followed. We will be able to provide more details as we appear before the Committee of the Whole, directly with the chief financial officer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Your first supplementary, Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Speaker. With the construction to be completed by March 2012, what does the Nunavut Housing Corporation plan to do with the extra construction materials that are out there across the territory? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If there's any footage left at the boatyards or whatnot of any lumber, I think we addressed that during the winter session, but I think what we need to do is either donate it to the LHOs or we can find charity groups that may be interested in it. To date, we have not had a direct program that we have established, but the surplus materials are normally provided to the local LHOs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Your second supplementary, Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I remember some issues were dealt with during the winter sitting. I know one of the things that were asked that was not available, but now with the new accounting system in place, I'm just wondering: is there a full inventory or has there been a full inventory completed on the amount of excess building material there are out there across the territory? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The answer is yes.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Your final supplementary, Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For that inventory of excess material out across the territory, is there a dollar value attached to that just to give us an idea of how much is out there? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our new vice-president has done a very good job, Jamie Flaherty. He is a local here in Iqaluit. He has carried out a complete inventory of all the regions mainly to make sure that the ongoing construction has exact details of what's required, what's missing, and whatnot.

Once the construction season is completed by March 31, we will determine exactly what amount has been saved and we will determine where to dispose of the surplus materials. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Oral Questions. Member for Nattilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Question 169 – 3(3): Addiction Levels in Nunavut**

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions will be directed to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I don't think anyone can deny that many social issues are created, encouraged, felt, and made worse by addictions to substances such as illegal drugs, alcohol, or prescription drugs and to activities such as gambling. Can the minister clearly describe what steps his department is taking to identify, measure, evaluate, and address the level of addiction in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) Thank you. I wish to respond in this manner. With respect to abuse reporting, I am not aware if a report has been prepared or if any report exists, but these are the types of matters we are generally responsible for.

In 2002, the previous government developed a strategy specifically for mental health. The Mental Health Strategy is a lengthy document. This required an action plan, which we are currently redrafting, and this is including substance abuse. This action plan also requires an implementation plan, which is currently under development. I will be presenting this plan to my colleagues upon its completion.

Further, we are hopeful that it will be completed by this fall and our recommendations will also be submitted to the cabinet. If they are approved, then we're hoping that they will be allocated to the departmental O&M funding allocations and at this point, we are finalizing the cost estimates. At this point, that's all I can report to you.

With respect to abuse or convicted abusers, I don't know if any reports are being drafted or underway, other than statistics to use towards crime prevention. We are looking for the best available options and our officials are very busy trying to complete this work. We are expectant that it will be submitted to the Executive Council in the short term. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Your first supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) The Qaujiqatigiit Health Research Centre is based in Iqaluit and conducts research on various health and social issues affecting Nunavut. Can the minister describe how his department works with this organization to plan research projects and, if so, whether the topic of addictions has been identified for future research? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister of Health and Social Services, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All research that we are required to know and incorporate is used by our department, but policy proposals and action plans are currently being developed.

We are also aware that many residents have addictions, including substance abuse, whether it is alcohol or drugs. In Nunavut, these addictions usually lead to criminal acts, something that has been proven over time. That is why we are focused on crime prevention and addictions treatment facilities for people who want to combat their addictions. These are our priorities at this time.

The information in the research is an ongoing development as well. We work with the researchers and sometimes provide them research funding to study these issues. We are using all avenues available to us, but I'm not sure how that report would be worded. It may be available via the website. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Your second supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Would the minister agree that doing an in-depth research on types and levels of addiction in Nunavut would help to plan programs and services to address this problem? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister of Health and Social Services, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the point that the member should know is I think we're beyond that. I think we have identified the types of services that Nunavutmiut want and we will be making announcements on that. Perhaps even as early as next week, I will be announcing some of the principles that we are working on in terms of developing

substance abuse treatment facilities and mobile treatment services that I will be asking the cabinet to consider for the O&M budget. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott. Oh, sorry. You have one more. Sorry, I put an extra scratch and I shouldn't have. I'm sorry. Your final supplementary, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Will the minister commit to working with his colleagues and partners, such as the Qaujiqatigiit Health Research Centre, to conduct an investigation on the level and impact of addictions in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Don't thank me; thank my officials for catching my mistake. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We can consider any proposals that are submitted, but I certainly will not negotiate right now with the member here whether or not we should appoint a service that has not been requested. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Oral Questions. Hopefully I got it right this time. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

### **Question 170 – 3(3): ASIST Training**

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday I asked a number of questions to both the Premier and the minister regarding the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy Action Plan and the ASIST workshop. Both ministers recognized the importance of the training workshop and stated that they would want to take the ASIST training.

Mr. Speaker, we encourage our employees to take this program. Can I get the minister to commit to meeting with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and the House Leader to have all members, if they so wish, take the ASIST workshop? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for Health and Social Services, Minister Curley.

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's one of the best propositions that I have received. I certainly will do that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Laughter*

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Curley. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Tapardjuk.

### **Question 171 – 3(3): Carving Stone Deposit Evaluation Program**

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

In listening to his Minister's Statement, it was very interesting to hear that information about the program, which I

really liked, as many carvers are held back only by the lack of carving stone, especially serpentinite. This is the difficulty they experience in obtaining a ready source of carving material.

In your Minister's Statement, you identified that deposits had been found via the Nunavut Carving Stone Deposit Evaluation Program, which is to find significant deposits. Furthermore, in your statement, you stated that significant carving stone deposits were found near Repulse Bay, Hall Beach, Igloolik, Pangnirtung, Kimmirut, Cape Dorset, and Coral Harbour.

With respect to this information, Mr. Speaker, I want to ask the minister: will the department just be looking at identifying these carving stone deposits? Will you inform the communities about the sites that contain these significant deposits? How will the government, via the Department of Economic Development and Transportation, be able to assist communities who want to access these sites? Will the stone be quarried and transported to the communities?

Can the minister provide more details on the program to make it clear and concise? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister responsible for Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Amittuq for that excellent question. Mr. Speaker, the program is just to evaluate the deposits, quantities, and qualities. It identifies more deposits that are out

there in close proximity to the communities, but at this time, we would have no further... The evaluation program is going to be going on until 2014. After that, the accessibility and the quarrying methods will still have to be dealt with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Your first supplementary, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Minister of Economic Development for his answer. With respect to the program, how many more years will this evaluation continue? Is it two, three, four, or five years?

Once the evaluation has been finalized, what type of assistance will be provided? Will it be via funding or in-kind contributions that you will be able to assist those communities that wish to quarry and transport the carving stone to the communities? I wonder.

I really want to understand this program as the artists in Hall Beach and Igloolik who elected me to represent them will want to know what to expect once these carving stone sites have been identified to the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister responsible for Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Our first step is to evaluate the quantity and quality, and we get a lot of help from the local carvers. They do participate in the evaluations.

Throughout ED&T, our programs are aimed at usually proposal-based programs. Down the future, if there are credible feasibility proposals to get quarrying on some of these deposits, surely we will look at that as a department. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Your second supplementary, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for his response. I believe that the local hamlets will have to have this information. Wherever they have an economic development officer, the information should be made available to them because a lot of carvers are always looking for resources and they're always looking for ways to earn a little bit of income. Can the minister agree to disseminate information to all appropriate hamlets, economic development officers, and bodies to see how they can provide tangible benefits to the residents of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I thank the member for that question. Absolutely we're trying to get our carvers out there more products and more access to the soapstone deposits. Every time we're having a discussion or conference or even a meeting with mining companies and exploration companies, we ask them to help locate some of these soapstone deposits that may be out there.

One of the things that we've got to be careful about is how to actually quarry and access. One of the huge costs is going to be actually bringing the soapstone back into the communities for the carvers. After 2014, once the evaluation is done, surely, with the help of the carvers and artists of Nunavut communities, we will be able to come up with a good plan to access these quarries and deposits. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Your final supplementary, Mr. Tapardjuk.

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The year 2014 is a fairly long ways off. Do you have any programs available to provide assistance today? I believe this information is very relevant to carvers, especially those who are trying to survive through arts and crafts sales. Prior to the fiscal year 2014, did I understand correctly that the Department of ED&T can provide assistance to a community if they submit a proposal? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Hon. Peter Taptuna:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Within each community, we do have economic development officers. They are the ones who help write proposals for our artists and other entrepreneurs within these smaller communities. Absolutely we do have programs that are based on assisting, especially carvers and artists. With the help of the CEDO officers that are within the communities, any carver or artist can put in proposals to access more funding, whether it would be for

quarrying, accessing soapstone, or other various things for artwork. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Members will note that the time for question period is expired. Moving on in the *Orders of the Day*, Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 13, 14, and 15 with Mr. Tapardjuk in the Chair.

Before we proceed, we will take a 20-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:05 and Committee resumed at 15:29*

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

**Chairman** (Mr. Tapardjuk) (interpretation): Thank you for coming to the Committee of the Whole. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bills 13, 14, and 15. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Mr. Aupaluktuq:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As you are aware, our



committee had business from yesterday. We wish to continue with where we left off yesterday by dealing with the committee motion that is before us. When that has been concluded, we would like to continue with the review of the remaining capital estimates for the Department of Community and Government Services, followed by the Department of Education. If time permits, Mr. Chairman, we will proceed with the capital estimates of the Nunavut Housing Corporation. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Are we in agreement that we deal with the motion today?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Bill 15 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,  
2012-2013 – Community and  
Government Services –  
Consideration in Committee**

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. We were dealing with (interpretation ends) Community and Government Services. Capital Planning. (interpretation) That's where we left off. Minister Kusugak, do you have witnesses that you would like to bring to the table?

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We can go to the witness table at the appropriate time. I think it would be best if we go to the table after we deal with the motion, Mr. Chairman, as I will have to vote on it from where I'm currently sitting. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. In accordance with my discretion as the

Chair, I will allow you to proceed in that manner. I was going to ask that you return to your seat when we're voting on the motion, but it's all right with me if you would like to remain at your seat.

We are still dealing with the motion that Mr. Ningeongan had moved and you have a copy of the motion. The mover of the motion had already spoken, Mr. Kusugak and Mr. Curley had also spoken to the motion, but I would like to remind the members that they have 20 minutes to speak to the motion. Using my discretion as the Chair, I will give you an opportunity to speak if you have any additional comments. We will be following the list of names from yesterday. To the motion. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yesterday during Committee of the Whole on deliberations of this specific line item, I asked a question to the minister trying to get a definite answer on whether or not this \$500,000 was for the planning and design of an arena in Rankin Inlet. I did that on purpose because I wanted to determine whether it was specifically an arena or not. In listening to all of the other members speak, ask questions, and make general comments, I was kind of curious to find out where it was going and what the project actually entailed.

In reviewing the *Hansard* from yesterday, I said, and I quote, "Are we approving \$500,000 for a planning and design for an arena specifically or are we approving \$500,000 for a planning and design for a recreational complex?" Those were my exact words. Mr. Chairman, to this I received the answer, and I quote, "We probably likely looking at this..." and another quote, "It's just

looking at probably the arena replacement.” The response continued, and I quote, “If a multiplex is not sustainable, then we won’t be moving in that direction.”

Mr. Chairman, these answers seem to me that the intention of the \$500,000 is to move forward on the feasibility study of a multiplex. As well, in terms of our line items, what I’m trying to do is substantiate my argument whether I’ll be supporting or not supporting the motion. We base our decisions and I know I base my decisions on what information we’re given by the government itself. The line item that we’re being asked to vote on is actually entitled a multiplex (arena). Again, that is another sign that shows it’s working and leaning towards a multiplex.

As well, Mr. Chairman, the minister’s department has prepared substantiation forms for this project. The forms talk about an arena, that part is true, but it also talks and mentions the idea of feasibility studies, it talks about the scope of work to include weight rooms, high capacity volume seating, as well as an Olympic-sized swimming pool. To me, again, these substantiation forms and the scope of work define what will be done and what the department plans to do. My understanding from what has been explained to us and the way we have passed funding for the last couple of years is those substantiation forms are the marching orders for the department to continue to work on a project.

Mr. Chairman, I am torn. Minister Curley, when he spoke to the motion, is correct. We need to think about the youth in our communities. We need to provide healthy choices for them to

participate in. I only have to think of Grise Fiord and Resolute Bay that have never even had the privilege of an arena. As well, all three of my communities of Grise Fiord, Resolute Bay, and Arctic Bay have never had a swimming pool, let alone an Olympic-sized swimming facility. I would further like to point out that at no time did I or any other regular member say that we did not support youth in our communities.

I will be voting in favour to strike this line item for the capital plan. Sometimes we have to make hard decisions. As we are all aware, regular members do not have the ability to tell the government where to reallocate the \$500,000, but I will say that if this comes back before me in the form of a supplemental appropriation with the substantiation sheet specifically saying that the funds are for the planning and design of an arena, not a multi-complex, then I would be pleased to vote in favour of it.

Again I reiterate my suggestion would be that the Government of Nunavut reallocates the \$500,000 with substantiation forms that back up that this will be going to the design and planning of an arena. My suggestions will not slow down the process, but it will allow his department to align the project and get it back on track. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. The next name on my list is Mr. Allan Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Some of my comments are along the line of Mr. Elliott’s, but I will read them as I have them written. I would like to make some comments as

we resume the consideration of my colleague's motion.

I want to begin by stating that this issue should not come as a surprise to the minister. A year ago, I noted concerns with the scope of this project in my opening comments to the Committee of the Whole on the occasion of our consideration of the department's 2011-12 capital estimates.

The department has had a year to clarify the information that is provided to the members in this House. It has not done so. Only the minister can explain why not and for the benefit of the listening public, I am going to take some time to read into the record exactly what information the minister's department has provided to describe this new recreational complex (arena).

The scope of work for this project is described as the following, and I quote, "Design and construct of the recreational complex will include a hockey arena capable of seating 3,000 people, a soccer pitch, exercise weight area, indoor games area, a gym, swimming pool, curling rink, meeting or convention area with kitchen and canteen space."

The department describes one of the benefits of this project as follows, and again I quote, "A new Olympic-sized swimming pool will provide additional recreational facilities to the community. A new exercise weight training facility will contribute to the health and well-being of the community."

Mr. Chairman, nowhere does it state this funding is for an arena only. Mr. Chairman, I would also note that nowhere do we see any reference to

cost-sharing with the federal government.

Mr. Chairman, I do not know if the minister reviews and approves the documents that are prepared by his department to describe major capital projects of this nature. I also want to say that this is a good example of the frustration that we experience on this side of the House and perhaps a lesson for all of us. We frequently ask questions only to be told by ministers that they do not have that detail in front of them. We ask for copies of studies and reports to be tabled in the House and often it happens slowly, if it happens at all. We are asked to approve hundreds of thousands of dollars for major projects based on very little detail.

Mr. Chairman, the department is asking for approval to spend \$500,000 in the 2012-13 fiscal year for the design of a new facility. As the minister is well aware, capital projects takes on a life of their own once enough money has been put into a given project and sometimes there is no turning back.

I would also remind the minister that the Legislative Assembly had previously approved \$200,000 in funding for this project initiation and planning. It is our understanding that a technical assessment was undertaken in 2010-11 and a feasibility study was undertaken in 2011-12. I am sure that we would all welcome the opportunity to review these documents.

Mr. Chairman, yesterday a member stated that we may not have the best interests of youth in mind, but, Mr. Chairman, this is all about the youth of Nunavut. In reality, we have youth

swimming in our freshwater sources and we have youth drowning in our lakes and oceans because we do not have the proper recreational facilities in our communities.

The way the substantiation sheet is written, it is the hope that Rankin Inlet will get a bigger and better facility than they already have. That is my issue with this project. How can I justify approving this \$500,000 when there are so many communities that don't have the basic recreation infrastructure?

When we were given these substantiation sheets, we were led to believe that they were fair and accurate. If these substantiation sheets are written wrong, as the minister states, then maybe we should be questioning the rest of the government's capital plan. Mr. Chairman, I will be supporting my colleague's motion based on the information that is presented in the capital plan because we have to assume that these documents are written correctly.

Mr. Chairman, if we pass this motion today, nothing is preventing the minister's department from going back to the drawing board and coming back to us with the request for supplementary funding based on a clear, comprehensive, and accurate description of this project. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Ms. Ugyuk.

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to make a statement of my opinion and I will also be voting for the motion along with my

colleagues here. Yesterday, during the proceedings, the minister stated that the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet wanted to see a project that would evolve into a complex and due to their plans, they have requested funding. As members, we can approve their request or we can deny it if we so wish.

When the capital plans have a detailed substantiation sheet which is comprehensive and understandable, it is easy to follow. In the benefits section, it mentions a new Olympic-sized swimming pool, with future extensions and additions made when the community can afford it. To hear about it after the fact with comments such as, "No, it's not like that; all that this is, is an ice arena," we were misled with faulty wording as the government that approves these requests. I am quite displeased with that occurrence.

Additionally, we were reprimanded by our colleagues that the members are not supporting young people and that we do not have any love towards them. Look here, in Taloyoak, we have not had an arena for over three years. So does this mean our community does not support or love our youth? Our colleagues have accused of this exact situation and this has been flipped around to mean that. This is very hurtful and unacceptable. For that reason, I will be supporting the motion to delete this section.

In the future, as per previous comments, when they have completed the arena-only request for a supplementary appropriation request for funding, we can review it at that time. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Mr. Joe Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also wanted to make a few comments in support of this motion. Discussions, particularly among regular MLAs, are very important.

We heard different stories about this issue and we don't deserve blame for that. We must hear about substantial matters and not stories that end up being different. As our colleague, Ron, stated, we want to be open and although we cannot make decisions, we want to be open to revisit this issue if it arises again this winter. This matter won't go away just because of the motion before us today.

When a matter comes up that isn't presented clearly or constantly changing... As it turns out, a department submitted something where some statements and responses are inconsistent or appear to be inconsistent. We keep saying that we want to help our youth in any way and we want to keep deliberating on their needs. We will take this matter very seriously if it is brought forward again, but based on the way it's drafted now within the capital estimates by the department, I find it impossible to support.

Mr. Chairman, if I could state, we act with the utmost sincerity and effort as regular MLAs. We want to speak the truth and indeed we must. Our fellow Nunavummiut were told yesterday, according to the *Blues*, that regular members didn't approve the project because Rankin Inlet is the constituency of one of the ministers. None of the members said anything like that. If you read the *Blues*, not one member said that and none of us would ever say that and we should never behave that way.

If someone lives in that particular community, no matter what they do, we should not say, "Let us not give them what they want." We can't do that. I didn't appreciate that and you can read that in the *Blues*. Furthermore, within the same *Blues*, it states that we are belittling the community, at least in the English version. I don't believe anyone tried to put down the community. We don't want to belittle any other community, even if it's not where we live.

**Chairman** (interpretation): A point of order has been raised by Mr. Curley.

#### Point of Order

**Hon. Tagak Curley:** My point of order is I believe the member is alluding to my comments which I made in Inuktitut and the wording that he read in the *Hansard* is likely in English. What I said in my language was and it is fact that the minister responsible for presenting the item was also a member for that riding, which is a fact. That's all I said, which makes it difficult for himself, in many respects, to defend the line item. I think it implicates him a bit. That was my tone of the language.

It has nothing to do with the fact that the opposition comes in as he is the minister responsible. It really is just stated the fact that it was stated as said in Inuktitut. (interpretation) He is the Minister for Community and Government Services and that community is in his constituency. (interpretation ends) I'm trying to clarify and help the member that it has nothing to do with what the member is stating, as I said it, and it's perhaps an English version. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. (interpretation ends) I will take it as notice. (interpretation) I have taken it as notice and I will review the point of order later and we will make our deliberation at that time and we will report on it. Mr. Enook, please proceed.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can I speak to this matter?

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. With respect to the point of order, which was related to your comment, it is something we will have to review and deliberate upon with my staff and I, and that point of order was with respect to your comments. I will make that decision later on as my mandate as the Chairman. So that's why I stated I will take that as notice with respect to the point of order. That is something we will look at shortly.

Let me clarify that that is a particular comment that was under the point of order. If you want to withdraw your comments, I will give you that option.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With your permission, I used both the Inuktitut and the English versions of yesterday's *Blues*. In Inuktitut and English versions, they seem to be saying the same thing based on what I was talking about. However, you said you would return to the point of order. Can I speak to another matter?

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is information I really want heard and I also want to lay it out for Nunavummiut that those of us who are regular MLAs have not abandoned youth and we will never do that. We were reminded very

succinctly yesterday how we say the youth represent our future and how proud we are of our youth. We have to continue to be proud of our youths' accomplishments because they are our future and they will replace us one day.

On the comments we make, when you are quoted to a small part of those comments, we will completely confuse our youth. When we quote the *Blues*, it would be much easier or I would find it easier if we included the whole comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. Mr. Peterson.

**Hon. Keith Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Originally I was going to speak to the motion, but now I'm going to request if we can take a five-minute break before we vote. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. You have that opportunity to make comments to the motion, but we can take a break before we vote on the motion. You have an opportunity to speak to the motion.

**Hon. Keith Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I could say a few things, but I'm not quite sure how I'm to say them now.

I have sat on the other side and I sat there for almost five years. I did make a motion in the Second Assembly to delete \$500,000 from a government department and we had the numbers to do it, and then we made a recommendation on how to use the money. The government of the day actually came back and surprised us and did use it for the purposes we

recommended. It was something that was of a Nunavut-wide benefit. It benefited many people in Nunavut, all communities, in fact. So we were quite pleased with the government when it did that.

When I have also been on this side as the Minister of Justice in December 2009 where I was defending a capital substantiation sheet where I was looking for \$300,000 to undertake a project to look at upgrades, renovations, and an expansion of the Baffin Correctional Centre, and it was... . Unfortunately the substantiation sheet came across like I wanted money to build a new facility for 150 prisoners. Of course, it got quite divisive in the standing committee and the Committee of the Whole, and I recall the vote at the time was a tie in the House here. Of course, the cabinet lost because the Chairman votes with the regular members. It was quite unfortunate because now I continue struggling with capacity issues at the Baffin Correctional Centre.

Only a few months later, the Fire Marshal of Nunavut was giving us quite a ride there with some fire code issues and the media was quite eager to lambaste the government for not doing anything about the Baffin Correctional Centre and it got a lot of national attention. I understand how these things work and I believe that... .

I read the substantiation sheet for this project. It does say an Olympic-sized pool and I'm not sure who in Nunavut would benefit from an Olympic-sized pool. We have a pool in Cambridge Bay. It's an above ground pool. It is a metre deep and 12 metres long. I actually learned to swim in that pool. It's quite

beneficial to me and many other kids in Cambridge Bay. We used to have a lot of drowning tragedies every few years. One year, there were four kids who drowned when they were out rafting. We started teaching water safety and other things, and now I think every kid in Cambridge Bay knows how to swim and practice water safety. So it has been beneficial.

So I understand, from a small community perspective, that every community in Nunavut would benefit from a pool. I wish, as a government, we could do that for every community because it is great for the community, it is great recreation, and kids love to swim. It doesn't matter who you are, you love swimming.

But I do believe that this project in Rankin Inlet is for an arena. I think it is well known that Rankin Inlet is a hockey hotbed. Their facility is getting quite old. It's a facility that will probably get quite a bit of use. I would urge or suggest to the members that if they were concerned, maybe they could make recommendations that the substantiation sheet does come back for an ice arena and an ice arena only or, following this vote, make another recommendation to the government that the money be used for that specific purpose.

Unfortunately, when the motion was made, the word "deleted" complicates making amendments to the motion, so the only way we can change it is if the mover of the motion was to withdraw that motion and make another motion, and then we could proceed to vote on the new motion to give money for the ice arena only.

When the vote occurs, of course, I will be supporting my cabinet colleagues. With that, Mr. Chairman, I'll end my comments. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): I have no more names on my list for comments to the motion. The mover of the motion will have the right to the last reply. I don't have any more names.

Mr. Keith Peterson requested a break. As the Chair for the Committee of the Whole, we will take a five-minute break. I have two reasons: to allow me to review Mr. Curley's point of order and you will have that opportunity before we make a vote on the motion. Using my discretion as the Chair, we will take a five-minute break.

*>>Committee recessed at 16:01 and resumed at 16:14*

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you for coming back. Before we start, I have a few comments to make.

(interpretation ends) Before we proceed with the closing comments by Johnny Ningeongan, I wish to inform you that there is a need to review the audio from yesterday's proceedings. This will take time, and I hope to be in a position to rule on Mr. Curley's point of order no later than Monday. (interpretation) I wanted to pass along this information.

Mr. Ningeongan, you have the right to the last reply as the mover of the motion before we vote on it. Mr. Ningeongan.

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the committee for the opportunity to speak. I wanted it noted with my colleagues and

with Nunavummiut that with respect to Rankin Inlet residents who want to get an arena, we don't have a problem with that particular request as regular members.

The only problem which we found was in the report written by CGS because it speaks about a multi-complex. That was the only problem that we found. If these words had not been included in this proposal, I believe most of the MLAs would have approved this project. Due to the fact that the wording was not done in that manner, my colleagues, I want to say to you that the motion I made and to which I spoke to yesterday, we're not just trying to stop the project. I want that understood clearly.

My colleagues have made their comments stating that if they submitted a proposal that was clear and concise with only the arena being listed and if they submitted it again, then we would be able to review it properly. We are expecting that we would approve that proposal if it's worded that way. Mr. Chairman, that's the reason why I wanted to comment on it again. I personally can state, even though I was a mover, that if there is a new proposal that's specific only to the arena, I would also be in support of that motion.

For these reasons, Mr. Chairman, I thank you for the opportunity to make comments. It's not to be against the proposal. We're not trying to stop the project, but basically, we're having problems with the wording. If the wording had been clearer, we would not have a problem. Mr. Chairman, for that reason, as I made it clear yesterday, when we vote on the motion, I want to



have a recorded vote. Thank you for the opportunity.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Johnny Ningeongan. With this recorded vote, I believe all of you want to see who supports and opposes the motion. You have the motion in front of you. It states that the \$500,000 listed in the CGS budget estimates towards a new arena complex for the fiscal year 2012-13 be struck. That is the motion before us.

All those in favour of the motion, please stand. Thank you.

Mr. Ningeongan.

When I state your name, please sit.

Mr. Moses Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Rumbolt.

Ms. Jeannie Ugyuk.

Mr. Hezakiah Oshutapik.

Mr. Ron Elliott.

Ms. Monica Ell.

Mr. Joe Enook.

All those opposed, please stand. I don't believe anybody opposes it. All those abstaining.

Mr. Schell.

Mr. Shewchuk.

Mr. Curley.

Mr. Taptuna.

Premier Aariak.

Mr. Arreak.

Mr. Kusugak.

Mr. Peterson.

(interpretation ends) The motion is carried. (interpretation) We will now return to the page-by-page review. Eight are for the motion and eight have abstained.

Prior to the review, Minister Kusugak, please go to the witness table. Would you like to bring in your officials?

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Yes, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Does the committee agree to bring in the witnesses?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the officials to the witness table.

Thank you. Minister Kusugak, for the record, please introduce your witnesses. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They are the same witnesses that appeared with me yesterday. To my left is Kathleen Lausman, my deputy minister, and to my right is Assistant Deputy Minister Roy Green. Please make them feel welcome. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Welcome, Ms.

Lausman and Mr. Green. We will go back to page H- 3. (interpretation ends) Community and Government Services. Branch Summary. Capital Planning. (interpretation) We will begin with (interpretation ends) Total Capital Expenditures, as amended. \$24,897,000. Do you agree? (interpretation ends) Did we see a hand up? Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The funding figure you just mentioned seems to be different from what I am reading, unless what I read is incorrect. What I have is \$25,397,000. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kusugak. There was a motion carried to delete \$500,000 from here and the amended figure is \$24,897,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): \$500,000 is now deleted. Is that what you want? Thank you. Go to page H-6. (interpretation ends) Petroleum Products Revolving Fund. (interpretation) Pages H-6 and H-7. (interpretation ends) Petroleum Products Revolving Fund. Branch Summary. (interpretation) Are there any questions? If there are no questions, we will go to (interpretation ends) Total Capital Expenditures. \$5,873,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Go back to H-2. (interpretation ends) Departmental Summary. Community and Government Services. Detail of

Expenditures. (interpretation) Go to page H-2. Total, as amended with the deletion of \$500,000. \$30,770,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): We have now concluded the department. Minister Kusugak, before I ask you for closing remarks, are we in agreement that the review of the Department of Community and Government Services has been concluded?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak, if you have any closing remarks, you have the floor now. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you and thank you for passing this as amended. First of all, I apologize on behalf of my staff for having to vote on the motion.

I would like to thank my officials at CGS. They work very hard because there are a lot of responsibilities within the operations of the Department Community and Government Services. They don't usually make a mistake, so first of all, I thank them. I thank my deputy minister and assistant deputy minister. We have to work closely together.

Also, before I conclude my closing remarks, I would like to thank my colleagues for being open. I am a member for Rankin Inlet and sometimes it leads to some conflict when you have to wear more than one hat and you have to walk a tightrope.

With your permission, as an MLA for Rankin Inlet, I would like to thank the members for being open, even though that funding was deleted. I hear from the members here that they are willing to reconsider it and that they would be in support of it within this fiscal year. You said that you would be in support of a proposal for just an arena. I apologize we had to go through this. If it was my fault, so I apologize and on behalf of Rankin Inlet, I would like to thank the members for being open to reconsider this issue. As a minister, I would like to thank you.

We will see each other again. When you have capital concerns and if you have any issues or interest, please go through the municipality. We would like to be advised of what the requests are through the members and through the municipalities. I thank all municipalities of Nunavut.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for allowing me to make my closing remarks. Thank you. Have a good day.

>>Applause

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kusugak. I would also like to thank your officials for appearing before the committee. This was a learning curve and it's going to be beneficial to us, even though we had to go through this. Sergeant-at-Arms, if you can escort the officials out, please.

Thank you. We're just following the process that was established. Minister Aariak, Minister of Education, do you have any opening comments? Ms. Aariak.

### **Bill 15 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2012-2013 – Education – Consideration in Committee**

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to be here today to discuss the proposed 2012-13 Department of Education capital projects budget.

Our government has many capital priorities in the area of education. With 43 schools across Nunavut, there is a substantial capital investment in educational infrastructure in every community in Nunavut. We have 8,503 students from kindergarten to grade 12 in Nunavut - 1,459 in the Kitikmeot region, 2,913 in the Kivalliq region, and 4,131 in the Qikiqtani region.

The Department of Education's proposed capital budget for 2012-13 is \$17,810,000, with an ongoing project budget of \$56,150,000 from 2012-13 to 2015-16. This budget reflects the reality of fiscal restraint which is being implemented throughout the Government of Nunavut.

Mr. Chairman, the \$17.8 million for this upcoming fiscal year will be divided into a number of projects. We have one new project: the planning of an addition to Arviat's Levi Angmak School. The school currently has an enrolment of 325 students, or 83 percent utilization of its capacity of 390 students. Student population projections indicate that within five years, enrolment at Levi Angmak School will be over 90 percent, so it is important to plan for this increase now. The planning stage for this initiative will cost approximately \$50,000 for this upcoming year.

Over the past few years, my department has been faced with emergency and urgent situations requiring immediate attention. To help curb these reactionary measures, my department initiated a program to assess all schools beginning in 2010-11. This assessment is in the area of both special needs and the general condition of the buildings. Thirty-seven of our 43 schools have been assessed to date. The assessment team is spending two to four days at each school to make on-site repairs and mechanical adjustments during the assessment process.

Mr. Chairman, we have budgeted \$3.5 million for the ongoing life cycle repairs initiative for our 43 schools in 2012-13. This initiative allows our department to identify issues within our schools and prepare a repair or replacement program in a proactive manner. Projects falling in this category are approved by the deputy minister.

For example, carpeting and flooring has been replaced in Grise Fiord, Igloolik, Cape Dorset, and Hall Beach schools to make them more environmentally safe and healthy for our students. The total cost for these four schools was \$555,000 for materials and installation. Boilers have also been replaced in Hall Beach and Pond Inlet schools to help alleviate heating issues. The cost of these projects was \$390,000.

The ongoing life cycle repairs budget may be accessed for unplanned expenses. These expenses are approved by the deputy minister before proceeding. For 2011-12, the following projects were given this high-level approval:

- a. Rankin Inlet, Simon Alaittuq Ford School repairs: \$180,000.
- b. Pangnirtung, Alookie School flooring: \$100,000.
- c. Arviat, Levi Angmak School flooring: \$200,000.
- d. Kugluktuk, both schools' generator installation: \$400,000.
- e. Taloyoak, Netsilik School flooring: \$150,000.

Mr. Chairman, my department also has a minor capital budget. This funding allows for a variety of minor capital projects to occur across the territory. Projects are primarily health and safety related but also include small projects not identified in the capital planning process. Projects falling into this category are approved by the deputy minister. During past fiscal years, the following minor capital projects were undertaken:

- Office renovation in Cambridge Bay: \$90,000.
- Nakashuk School playground improvement in Iqaluit: \$80,000.

Inuksuk High School will receive continued improvements and renovations during 2012-13. The planning for the summer of 2012 has begun and will include floor replacement and painting. The Department of Education has budgeted \$2,550,000 for this project for the upcoming fiscal year. As an update to the Inuksuk High School renovation project, the work continued on schedule this past summer and included the renovation of the senior students section of the school.

Mr. Chairman, my department gathers information from hamlets, district education authorities, communities, schools, and the Department of Community and Government Services to develop, plan, and manage our capital priorities. Through our comprehensive facilities database, we are able to analyze school utilization and their physical condition, along with planned program requirements to determine our capital requirements.

Mr. Chairman, my department reviews requests for school buses each year. There has been a significant increase in the cost of providing busing services in our communities. After our review this year, we provided a new bus as well as a special needs bus for Cape Dorset. Kugaaruk also received a new bus.

Mr. Chairman, we cannot spend more than our means. As a government, we must work within the budget framework. There are many implications to project costs, including staffing, associated housing requirements, building utilities, and ongoing maintenance that must also be considered as we look at creating new facilities and adding to existing structures.

I am pleased to be here today to discuss the Department of Education's capital budget for 2012-13 and the subsequent four years. I look forward to your questions, comments, and discussion, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Aariak. Do you have witnesses that you would like to bring to the table?

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Yes.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Do we agree to bring in the witnesses?

**Some Members**: Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, can you please escort the officials to the witness table.

Thank you. Minister Aariak, for the record, please introduce your officials. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The person on my left is my deputy minister, Kathy Okpik and to my right is Mr. Horn.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. I welcome the witnesses, Ms. Okpik and Mr. Horn, to the Committee of the Whole. The Chair of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness, Ms. Ugyuk, can now proceed with her opening comments. Ms. Ugyuk.

**Ms. Ugyuk**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the Department of Education's proposed 2012-13 capital budget of \$17,810,000.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Education's capital estimates for 2012-13 include five community-specific projects which are ongoing from previous years and five projects for which no specific communities or regions are identified.

Members note that funding is being requested for continued construction on two long-term community-specific

projects in Gjoa Haven and Iqaluit. The high school renovation project in Iqaluit is a multi-year project that can only progress during the summer when there are no students on the premises. The school renovation project in Gjoa Haven first got underway in 2004 but was delayed a number of times with changes to the project scope. Members were pleased to note that the second phase of this project will proceed in 2012-13.

Extensive delays and changes to capital plans can lead to confusion and misunderstanding at the community level. In addition, committee members expressed concerns regarding the long gap between planning and design phases for certain projects and the proposed future construction dates. The standing committee encourages the minister to keep members, communities, and DEAs informed and up to date on the status of projects, especially those identified in the five-year capital plan and, wherever possible, to provide an explanation for changes to the plan.

For example, although the two projects planned for Arviat and Igloolik are both in the beginning stages, there will be an expectation for the construction of these projects to begin. However, no future funds are allocated in the 2013-17 Five-Year Capital Plan and it is not clear when the projects will proceed. It is important that the minister and her staff maintain an ongoing and open dialogue with community residents and DEA members on these issues.

Mr. Chairman, the issue of adequate housing for teaching staff has been raised in a number of Nunavut communities. With the department hiring approximately 60 more teachers

for the 2011-12 academic year in order to meet the student-teacher ratio as mandated under the *Education Act*, the department will be facing even greater pressures in this area. Members encourage the minister to work with her colleagues to ensure that the lack of adequate and appropriate housing for teachers and other essential staff does not have a negative impact on the delivery of education services.

Standing committee members appreciated receiving details of recent minor capital expenditures as well as a listing of some of the smaller projects that have been undertaken with this type of funding in the current fiscal year. The standing committee recommends that the minister and her officials consider including such information in documentation, such as the substantiation sheets, which are provided for standing committee review.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee is in full support of the department's ongoing life cycle repairs project which addresses repair issues, many of which relate to health and safety concerns in a timely manner. Members encourage the minister and her officials to continue to work with communities and DEAs to identify where such repairs are urgent and necessary.

The standing committee recognizes that the Department of Education is taking a proactive role with its schools assessment project. Members recognize that the rate of progress in this area is directly affected by the number of repairs and adjustments that must be made as the assessments are underway.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2012-13 Capital Estimates of the Department of Education. I am confident that individual members will also have questions and comments as we proceed. Thank you.

**Chairman** (Mr. Ningeongan): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. At this time, I would like to remind members of the following: according to Rule 77(1), you have 10 minutes to speak. At this time, I would like to ask if members have any general comments to the opening comments of the Minister of Education. Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to get clarification on the minister's opening comments regarding buses. However, Mr. Chairman, there is rationale stated on the budget for buses having increased far too much. In English, it states that there has been a significant increase. I imagine it's very important that it has been included in the report. Can the minister provide an update as to how large the increase is and why? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): I thank the member for asking that question about buses. The reason for the significant increase for busing services is due to contracts. We had to renegotiate some of the contracts and that has incurred a significant increase. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Minister Aariak. Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for that response. With respect to these renegotiated agreements that have led to this significant increase, why did this increase in expenditures occur? Is it because the DEAs have no option to negotiate or is it because they have no choices in selecting a busing company, especially in the smaller communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman**: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The busing requirements for every community is an ongoing concern and it depends on the community, whether they have requisitioned the buses, as well as their local DEAs. The reason for the significant increase includes details that I don't have, so I will ask my deputy minister to respond, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Aariak. Ms. Okpik.

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Bus contracting, first of all, is initiated by the DEAs. Sometimes when they don't want to run the busing contract, they return the contract to our department. In some communities, they have the busing contract and we hold the contract in other communities. Where it seems the bus service will be too expensive if we left the contract out in the community... . Some are actual contractors while others are employees of the DEA.

Where it's on a contractual basis and where the department holds it, we can

sometimes return to the contractors where we're looking at reducing the expenses related to busing. For example, they're not used all day. Sometimes the costs and expenses are fixed as if it was used on a whole day, so we have been able to go back and successfully renegotiate the contract.

However, we hold some of the contracts at the department where the bus drivers are employees of the DEA. That's how it's segregated into these different categories. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (Mr. Tapardjuk) (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Okpik. Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Ms. Okpik. Just for clarification, whenever you go through a contract, it's cheaper when you have more than one bidder.

If I could ask two questions, Mr. Chairman. For those communities that offer busing services, why are some of them going through the DEA and why are some of them going through contracts? Why are they not the same? Can someone please explain that to me? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will ensure that a proper response is given, so I would like my deputy minister to respond, please. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ms. Okpik.

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Generally, the underlying reason is because some communities do not have bus drivers or we provide training and they get bus drivers.

We also have to keep in consideration that where the community is offering busing services, we have to check to see if they have a heated garage where they can house the bus. Again, some are smaller buses and some have big buses with up to 72 seats. We also have to keep in consideration whether there are available drivers, who would maintain the bus, as well as the shelter for the bus.

Sometimes it can be very challenging for communities and some communities give up on the contract and then pass the contract back to our department. We give the DEAs the first option to undertake that responsibility. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Okpik. Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank Ms. Okpik for her response. However, I don't quite get the gist of it. Perhaps I'll ask this question. I don't think all communities have busing services. I believe it's the larger communities that have the buses. If I'm mistaken, please correct me. Those communities that have busing services, is there an independent supervisor?

Mr. Chairman, when I'm speaking in Inuktitut, I really like to include an English word, so I apologize. I want to ask about sole source contracts. Are there any sole source contracts specifically for bus contracts that have



never gone to tender? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. Ms. Okpik.

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am authorized to sign the sole source contracts and I have never signed a sole source contract for busing services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Okpik. Mr. Enook.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the deputy minister for her response. Why would some no longer want to keep the busing contract? What are the usual reasons for letting go of the contract? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The communities that take on these busing contracts sometimes find out that it's not a very easy task and find it too challenging and complex when they have to look for drivers and all of the other logistics related to buses. I believe they find that task overwhelming. With respect to his question, I believe there are 20 communities that have bus services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Aariak. We're still on general comments. If there are no more general comments, we can start reviewing page by page. You may ask your detailed questions at the appropriate page during

the page-by-page review. E-3. (interpretation ends) Corporate Services. (interpretation) Education. Branch Summary. (interpretation ends) Capital Expenditures. (interpretation) The details are on page E-4. \$17,810,000. Do you agree? Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Mr. Aupaluktuq**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If this isn't an appropriate forum, you can correct me. Under Capital Planning, I know for a fact that there's consideration of new schools being built in the near future. My question, Mr. Chairman, if I may, is: will there be new staff housing being built along with the proposed new schools? For example, in Baker Lake, there is possibly a middle school being built. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is part of the review process to determine the scope when they're constructing new schools, including the staff housing.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Aariak. Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Mr. Aupaluktuq**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In light of using the scope, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister of Education how a school is determined to be a better candidate for renovation or replacement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have done surveys in all communities on what

types of buildings there are which require renovations. The researchers sometimes conduct remedies, depending on cost. It is elaborated further in the documents as to which schools have been looked at. After they look at the communities, the results are based on data entered electronically.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Aariak. Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Mr. Aupaluktuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is evident that my colleagues have other questions with regard to this issue. I will leave it at that. I am finished with my questions.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. There was no question. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My questions are based around new schools and how decisions are made on which communities do get new schools. I'm speaking specifically for Arctic Bay. I know, in terms of the hamlet's list of priorities, there is the health centre that the community is searching for as well as a new high school. I'm wondering: in terms of capacity for the Inuujaq School in Arctic Bay, what is that at right now? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At the Inuujaq School, there are 214 students and they are at (interpretation ends) 61 percent capacity. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Aariak. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So in terms of deciding on a separate high school wing for the high school itself, is there a certain capacity or what percentage does the... ? I'm sure they do the projections of community growth and whatnot, but what's the magic number that tips everything over? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We do have a magic number and that magic number is 85 percent. (interpretation) Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Aariak. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Next I was going to concentrate on Resolute Bay because I know they have a fairly nice school, it's fairly new, but when it was constructed, there was no gymnasium added onto the facility or it was not built in the facility. So students actually walk across the road to the hamlet office and use the community hall for participation in physical activity or when they do awards ceremonies and whatnot.

I know that letters were written by the DEA and by the principal of the school in terms of requesting and just trying to find out more information about whether there would be a possibility of a gymnasium. I'm wondering: have you replied to that request? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Gymnasiums in the schools, of course, are very important. The cost of a school gym is around \$6 million.

With regard to the member's question as to whether we replied to the letters, my deputy minister, Kathy, will respond to it because I don't receive the correspondence; they go directly to the deputy minister. I'll ask her to respond.

**Chairman**: Ms. Okpik.

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this present time, I can't recall any details, so I will have to review my correspondence files to determine whether or not we have responded to those letters. I will provide an update later on to the member as to whether or not a response was provided. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Okpik. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that commitment. My next question was based around the ongoing life cycle repairs budget that's received. I know we just finished the Department of CGS and approved \$600,000 for the RECAPP program. I was just wondering: in terms of the money that you're allocating to go around for the different schools and assess buildings and facilities and life cycles, how does the minister's department work with CGS in terms of data sharing? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maintenance and other work that need to be done are entered into a computer databank. This is updated regularly so that the DEAs will have the relevant information about the school's maintenance history, including the year that it was constructed, the age of the facility, and what type of work is required. All of those kinds of details are entered in the computer databank. Once they have been entered and once they are noted on the work order, the departmental officials correspond with the Department of Community Government and Services staff to determine when maintenance work should be made.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Aariak. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is the program you had mentioned where they input the data into the same program that CGS uses? Is it the RECAPP program or is it a separate program? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is not exactly the same program, but apparently they are able to communicate with one another. If I were to say it in English, they are compatible.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Aariak. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under minor projects in terms of the new Anti-poverty Strategy with the expanded breakfast program, I'm wondering maybe if you've had a chance to find out how that program is going and whether there are other extra costs being incurred by the school to provide that service.

My understanding is that it's a program administered through Health and Social Services, but the breakfast program is done within the school itself. I'm not sure whether there were microwaves purchased or different items like that, but if the minister could expand on that. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I understood the member's question, those responsible for the breakfast programs are administered by an independent body. Sometimes the DEAs will task one of their members. The teachers are not involved; it is done outside. Did I understand your question correctly? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Aariak. Did you get the answer you were looking for? Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, I guess I can only talk to the three communities I represent and the way they run the breakfast program. They are run within the school and you're right, the DEA does provide assistance with it but people are hired from the outside. They do use facilities within the school that belong in and are assets of the

school, so again, stoves, pots and pans, and different things like that. I was wondering how that's affecting... . Again, to me, it's such a good program and it's nice to see different government departments working together on being able to feed the children across Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Elliott. I'm getting confused and we are now talking about capital estimates. Perhaps you're talking about what kind of equipment they have in the schools. I would like to remind the members that we're dealing with the capital estimates and minor projects. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this time, we have not heard any request for increases. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Aariak. Mr. Elliott, do you have additional questions?

**Mr. Elliott:** I do, Mr. Chairman. Thank you. My questions now are based around specifically the bus in Arctic Bay. I believe it wasn't this sealift but the previous sealift. A rather large and long bus showed up on the shore and then it disappeared. I thought I remembered asking questions and I seem to remember it being sent to Pond Inlet.

Before sealift actually came in this year, the bus showed up and I saw it driving around town with the driver. At this point right now when I checked in Arctic Bay, I was told there was no bus service. I don't know whether that's because of training that you were mentioning before, but maybe if you could just give me an update on what's happening with

the Arctic Bay bus. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliot. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have my deputy minister, Kathy Okpik, answer that question.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Okpik.

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the bus was indeed sent to Pond Inlet. In some cases, we are informed that either the bus is too big or that the bus is too small. In this case, rather than ordering a new bus, since Pond Inlet had requested a larger bus, and instead of reversing the order when Arctic Bay notified us that their bus was too big, we traded the buses and that allowed the department to save funds. That's the process we followed to accommodate the communities.

To date, I haven't been informed of any reasons as to why there is no bus running in Arctic Bay, but it may be due to the lack of qualified drivers. I will have to check into the matter. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Okpik. Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess the final question of interest that I had was in terms of information technology and sort of tying it in with fibre optics and high speed Internet within the schools, if we could get an update. I know that over the last couple years, with work through CGS and

through the Department of Education, that has been an ongoing priority. I'm wondering if that will actually come to fruition this year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for his question. This is part of the detailed operation of the school, so I'll have my deputy minister respond. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Okpik.

**Ms. Okpik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. WAN-LAN-MAN...

>>*Laughter*

...is the name of the information technology. CGS is responsible for that and they are now working on that for the health centres and schools.

We have separated decentralized and non-decentralized communities so that the non-decentralized communities can have fibre cable to connect computers, which is quite faster. We provide support to the communities so that the information technology can be inside the schools. In non-decentralized communities, we estimate as to how much it would cost.

The Department of CGS has more information in their computers. I'll be able to provide a report to you as to which schools have already been worked on for fibre optics. I'll be able to get

back to the member on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Okpik. Mr. Hezakah Oshutapik.

**Mr. Oshutapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have almost lost my voice for having been silent for so long, so I thank my colleague beside me.

>>*Laughter*

Thank you. I haven't seen this in the capital estimates for the Department of Education. I would first like to ask if the budget has been established for both within the schools and the perimeters of the schools. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Hezakah. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I got the question. On minor capital, for example, it talks about gymnasiums outside of the school. Maybe the member can clarify whether or not he's talking about capital estimates. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Aariak. Could you clarify your question, please?

**Mr. Oshutapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to get clarification in regard to capital estimates and also minor capital that I noticed here on the proposed budget for the schools. I want to talk about the playgrounds outside the schools and if there is any funding for improvements to the land around the schools.

I'm sure everyone has been to my home community. Although the two schools are close together, one of the schools has a playground. There is no capacity for that playground for both of the schools' students. I'm not sure whether the DEA needed to request for a playground. I'm sure it's the only case in Nunavut.

There is a lot of loose gravel and huge boulders around the school. The school grounds are not even levelled and I have noticed that it has been like that for a long time. So that's the reason why I asked whether that is included in the capital estimates because I want the Pangnirtung students to have a proper and safe playground. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are very proud of the schools within our communities and we want them to be deserving of admiration. Yes, making requests will be possible. Either the DEA or the school can make a request through the minor capital program to obtain funds. With respect to landscaping, we would need to have the department conduct a review on it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Aariak. Do you have any further questions? Thank you. Johnny Ningeongan.

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to ask about the small capital program. I had requested the chair of the DEA to provide background as the current bus in our community is considered too large. I

wonder if the deputy minister can clarify this situation to trade vehicles in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Minister Aariak.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Using the dialect of our Chairman, the answer is of course.

>>*Laughter*

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Do you have any more questions? Mr. Ningeongan.

**Mr. Ningeongan** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for your response. As I stated, I'll ask the DEA to make a request to the Department of Education to get this initiated. That's it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. I have names on my list but they are not present in the House. We will go back to page E-3. \$17,810,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): We will go back to page E-2. (interpretation ends) Department Summary. Detail of Expenditures. (interpretation) Total Capital Expenditures. Education. \$17,810,000. Do you agree?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Does the committee agree that the Department of Education is completed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. You now have the floor for any closing remarks, minister.

**Hon. Eva Aariak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I would like to thank my two officials for appearing before the Committee of the Whole. The Director of Corporate Services, Mr. Murray Horn, I finally introduced him properly. I would also like to thank my deputy minister, Kathy Okpik. I also thank the hard-working staff at the schools, as well as the DEAs and parents.

Thank you for asking good questions. Thank you very much.

>>*Applause*

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Aariak. I thank your officials, Ms. Okpik and Mr. Horn, for replying directly. We hope to see all the communities of Nunavut get a bus. I do have to thank you for being able to immediately replace the bus that burned down last winter. My grandchildren are now riding on the bus to school.

I'm sorry questions are closed, Mr. Enook. Let me ask the officials to leave the witness table. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses out.

Thank you. The review of the Department of Education is now complete. We will move on to the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Mr. Enook, if you have any comments.

**Mr. Enook** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I would like to report progress.

**Chairman** (interpretation): There is a motion to report progress and it is not debatable. Do you agree? All those in favour, (interpretation) please raise your hand. Opposed. I am sorry, (interpretation ends) the motion is defeated.

(interpretation) Minister Curley, if you have any opening comments for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, you have that opportunity now.

**Bill 15 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2012-2013 – Nunavut Housing Corporation – Consideration in Committee**

**Hon. Tagak Curley** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will make my opening remarks brief and I'll be speaking in Inuktitut.

The Nunavut Housing Corporation's capital plan for 2012-13 consists of \$16,004,000 from the Government of Nunavut and additional funding of \$4,290,000 from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), for a total capital budget of \$20,294,000.

The 2012-13 capital estimates highlights are:

The Nunavut Housing Corporation's funding for the modernization and improvement (M&I) public housing renovations, the Fire Damage Repair and Replacement Fund, the Mobile Equipment Fund, the Heating Oil Tank Replacement Program, and the Seniors and Disabled Persons Preventative

Maintenance Program remain at approximately the same level as last year.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, under the Government of Nunavut's Staff Housing Program, the corporation continues to construct new units and renovate older staff housing units in communities with the greatest needs.

I am pleased to report that the Nunavut Housing Trust has already completed delivery of the 726 units scheduled, with 638 units being occupied. In addition, Mr. Chairman, the 285 units funded by the CMHC Affordable Housing Initiative under Canada's Economic Action Plan are scheduled to be completed by the end of the current fiscal year.

The current Nunavut Housing Corporation administration has worked hard to resolve problems inherited by its predecessors and the results are evident in the successful completion of hundreds of new public housing units. Although these changes should have occurred years ago, the new administration has ensured that financial controls are in place and taking steps such that a new Nunavut Housing board of directors will soon be installed.

Construction through the Nunavut Housing Trust and Canada's Economic Action Plan has improved our ability to fulfill our mandate, but there is still a significant need for additional housing units. The recent Nunavut Housing Needs Survey showed that 3,580 more units are immediately required throughout Nunavut. Furthermore, we estimate that an additional 90 units will be required each year to keep pace with



population growth based on current Nunavut Bureau of Statistics projections and the proportion of the population dependent on public housing.

Mr. Chairman, based on the average cost of \$350,000 per unit and last year's total Government of Nunavut capital estimates of just over \$122 million, it would take 14 years at today's prices for the Government of Nunavut to eliminate the current housing shortfall and meet the need being created by population growth if 100 percent of capital spending was directed toward construction of new public housing units.

Furthermore, net annual funding received from the CMHC under the social housing agreement is scheduled to continuously decline from its current level of \$23.9 million until its elimination in 2037, which will further constrain the Nunavut Housing Corporation's ability to operate, maintain, and modernize the existing housing stock.

Finally, with the current annual cost to operate and maintain a public housing unit being close to \$23,000, the completion of the 1,011 units under the Nunavut Housing Trust and Canada's Economic Action Plan will have resulted in \$23 million of increased annual operating costs. The increased annual operating cost in today's dollars of meeting the current additional housing need of 3,580 units would be \$82 million plus an additional \$2 million each year for the 90 units added to keep pace with population growth. Therefore, we must continue to seek alternatives as well as additional funding to address this critical housing issue.

Recently, the Nunavut Housing executive has been working collaboratively with the Quality of Life Steering Committee to create a GN comprehensive long-term housing strategy. The goal of this strategy is to develop achievable mechanisms to address the entire continuum of housing needs by increasing public housing, strengthening the rental market, and providing support for private homeownership. To date, the Housing Working Group has completed a gap analysis. One of the critical gaps identified is the need to develop affordable housing options through the fostering of private sector rental and homeownership solutions.

Mr. Chairman and committee members, thank you for the opportunity to meet with you today. I look forward to a meaningful discussion and we will be pleased to hear your comments and to respond to any questions you may have. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Curley. Do you have witnesses that you would like to bring to the table? My apologies. I went ahead of myself. Does the chair of the standing committee have any opening comments? Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the proposed 2012-13 Capital Estimates of the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Members note that the corporation is proposing to spend \$16,004,000 for the 2012-13 fiscal year.

The corporation's capital budget was \$23,894,000 for the 2011-12 fiscal year and its budget was \$27,269,000 for the 2010-11 fiscal year.

Mr. Chairman, the ongoing shortage of housing in Nunavut's communities is an issue of significant concern to all Members of the Legislative Assembly.

In May of 2009, the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts held hearings on the Report of the Auditor General on the Nunavut Housing Corporation. The committee presented its report and recommendations in June of 2009. Members urge the corporation to provide ongoing updates on the status of its responses to these recommendations.

On October 29, 2010, the minister announced in the Legislative Assembly that the Nunavut Housing Needs Survey was completed. The minister indicated that this survey would be used to make more convincing arguments and to strengthen the corporation's lobbying efforts for additional housing resources from the federal government. During the minister's recent appearance before the standing committee, he indicated that correspondence was recently sent to the federal government explaining Nunavut's priorities, which listed housing as the top priority. The standing committee looks forward to receiving ongoing updates on the government's efforts to secure additional housing resources.

Mr. Chairman, the Nunavut Housing Corporation administers a significant number of programs to assist homeowners and potential homeowners in Nunavut. Members note that the

corporation is proposing to spend \$4,616,000 during the 2012-13 fiscal year for its various homeownership programs. The corporation's capital budget for homeownership programs was \$4,616,000 for the 2011-12 fiscal year and its budget was \$4,116,000 for the 2010-11 fiscal year. Members look forward to receiving ongoing updates on the corporation's homeownership programs.

On March 22, 2010, the former minister announced in the Legislative Assembly that the Nunavut Housing Corporation will be providing a new Heating Oil Tank Replacement Program. The corporation is proposing \$500,000 in funding towards this program in its 2012-13 capital estimates. Members support this program to assist homeowners with the cost of purchasing new fuel tanks and encourage the minister to include a breakdown of the corporation's spending on this initiative in its next annual report to the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Chairman, the Nunavut Housing Corporation's proposed capital estimates for 2012-13 includes \$2.75 million in funding for new staff housing units for the communities of Cambridge Bay, Coral Harbour, and Taloyoak. Members support the construction of new units in communities where there are shortages of housing for frontline education and health staff. The committee also notes the importance of the Nunavut Housing Corporation working closely with departments to ensure that budgets adequately account for the incremental operating costs that accompany new units.

On July 4 of this year, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation announced that federal, provincial, and territorial ministers responsible for housing had agreed on a new affordable housing framework for 2011-14. The new Affordable Housing Framework is “a \$1.4 billion combined investment towards reducing the number of Canadians in housing need.” It also indicated that “each province and territory is working towards a bilateral agreement to respond to the program needs in each jurisdiction; in these arrangements, federal funding will be matched by provincial, territorial and other contributions, and governments will report to their citizens on outcomes.” During the minister’s recent appearance before the standing committee, members were advised that this program is a 50-50 cost sharing program and that the Nunavut government cannot match the federal funding with its limited funding resources. However, the minister indicated that the corporation is working on a bilateral agreement with the federal government. Members look forward to receiving updates on this significant issue.

Mr. Chairman, the Nunavut Housing Corporation’s proposed capital estimates for 2012-13 includes \$6,342,000 for its modernization and improvement retrofit funding. On September 15 of last year, the cabinet issued a news release following its Iqaluit retreat. This announcement included a list of what the government described as its most significant accomplishments of the past two years. One of the accomplishments included in the list was the completion of the “Condition rating of all public housing units.” Members encourage the

minister to table this information in the Legislative Assembly at the earliest opportunity as it will undoubtedly be of use in determining where the Nunavut Housing Corporation needs to allocate its modernization and improvement resources.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the 2012-13 Capital Estimates of the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Mr. Ningeongan.

**Mr. Ningeongan**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Given the time and so forth, I like to make a motion to report progress.

**Chairman** (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour, raise your hand. Opposed. The motion carried. I will now rise to report progress to the Speaker. I thank you for your patience while we deliberated. I will now rise to report progress to the Speaker.

**Speaker**: Moving on in the *Orders of the Day*, Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Tapardjuk.

### **Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Tapardjuk** (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 15 and one committee motion was carried. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Is there a seconder to the motion? Mr. Rumbolt. The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion. Any opposed? None. The motion is carried.

Moving on in our *Orders of the Day*, Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

### **Item 22: Orders of the Day**

**Clerk** (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for October 21:

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

### 17. First Reading of Bills

- Bill 16
- Bill 17
- Bill 18
- Bill 19
- Bill 20
- Bill 21
- Bill 23

### 18. Second Reading of Bills

### 19. Consideration in Committee of

the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

- Bill 13
- Bill 14
- Bill 15

### 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole

### 21. Third Reading of Bills

### 22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until Friday, October 21, at 9:00 a.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 17:51*

