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Official Report

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Tuesday, February 21, 2012

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Iqaluit

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

Hon. Hunter Tootoo

(Iqaluit Centre)

Hon. Eva Aariak

(Iqaluit East)

*Premier; Minister of Education;
Minister of Executive and
Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister
responsible for Aboriginal Affairs;
Minister responsible for Immigration;
Minister responsible for the Status of
Women*

Hon. James Arreak

(Uqqummiut)

*Minister of Culture, Language, Elders
and Youth; Minister of Environment;
Minister of Languages; Minister
responsible for the Utility Rates Review
Council*

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(Baker Lake)

Tagak Curley

(Rankin Inlet North)

Monica Ell

(Iqaluit West)

Ron Elliott

(Quttiktuq)

Joe Enook

(Tununiq)

Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Hon. Lorne Kusugak

(Rankin Inlet South – Whale Cove)

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Community and Government Services;
Minister responsible for the Qulliq
Energy Corporation*

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Johnny Ningeongan

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Committee of the Whole*

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(Pangnirtung)

Hon. Keith Peterson

(Cambridge Bay)

*Minister of Finance, Chair of the
Financial Management Board; Minister
of Health and Social Services*

Allan Rumbolt

(Hudson Bay)

Hon. Fred Schell

(South Baffin)

*Minister of Human Resources;
Minister responsible for the
Nunavut Housing Corporation;
Minister responsible for
Homelessness; Minister responsible
for the Workers' Safety and
Compensation Commission*

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk

(Arviat)

*Minister of Justice; Minister
responsible for Nunavut Arctic
College*

Louis Tapardjuk

(Amittuq)

*Deputy Chair, Committee of the
Whole*

Hon. Peter Taptuna

(Kugluktuk)

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Economic Development and
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Iqaluit, Nunavut**Tuesday, February 21, 2012****Members Present:**

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

>>*House commenced at 13:35*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. (interpretation ends) Before we proceed with the orders of the day, I am very pleased to take this opportunity to announce that nominations for the Order of Nunavut have opened for the year 2012.

Information concerning the nomination process, including nomination forms, is available on the Legislative Assembly's website and will be provided to all members' constituency offices.

My colleagues and I on the Order of Nunavut Advisory Council look forward to reviewing this year's nominees.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the residents of Iqaluit, Arviat, and Rankin Inlet for making the recent Order of Nunavut investiture ceremonies a tremendous success.

As members are aware, the first recipients of the Order of Nunavut were the Reverend Michael Gardener, the late Mark Kalluak, and the late Jose Kusugak. Commissioner Elias and I were very proud to preside over the investiture ceremonies honouring these distinguished and deserving individuals.

We look very much forward to this year's ceremonies, which will be held later this year.

I would now like to read the following communication from the Commissioner of Nunavut:

Money Message

Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise that I recommend to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut the passage of the following bills during the Third Session of the Third Legislative Assembly:

- Bill 24, *Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, 2012-2013*;
- Bill 25, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 6, 2010-2011*;
- Bill 26, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2011-2012*; and
- Bill 27, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 1, 2012-2013*.

Signed by the Commissioner of Nunavut.

Welcome back, everybody. It's good to see everyone here. We will move on in the orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 106 – 3(3): Notice of Budget Address

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's good to be back. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the House that on Wednesday, February 22, 2012, that I will be delivering the Budget Address. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Minister Kusugak.

Minister's Statement 107 – 3(3): Qulliq Energy's GRA Phase 2 Update

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day. It's good to be meeting again.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to update Nunavummiut on the status of phase 2 of Qulliq Energy Corporation's latest General Rate Application (GRA). QEC has been authorized to move towards implementing territorial power rates effective April 1 of 2014. Territorial rates will be phased in over a number of years beginning in 2014 with limits placed on the maximum increase or decrease that domestic and commercial

customers will face during the transition period.

Mr. Speaker, the GRA phase 2 application is solely a rate rebalancing exercise between communities and rate classes to collect the revenue approved in the phase 1 of the GRA. Phase 2 does not seek to increase overall revenue for the corporation. The Utility Rates Review Council (URRC) agreed with the corporation's proposal to phase in territorial rates over a number of years.

Mr. Speaker, the URRC accepted QEC's request to limit the maximum territorial rate adjustment to a 5 percent increase or a 4 percent decrease for the domestic and commercial rate classes in any community at any given time.

Mr. Speaker, delaying the move towards territorial rates allows customers time to adjust to the rate increase implemented in April 2011. It also provides the Government of Nunavut an opportunity to review its electrical subsidy programs to ensure they provide maximum benefit to Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the efforts of the URRC in organizing the community consultations for the general rate application. The URRC ensured that Nunavummiut were provided an opportunity to discuss the corporation's application and that their concerns were heard. *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for Environment, Minister Arreak.

**Minister's Statement 108 – 3(3):
Nunavut Coastal Resource
Inventory 2012 Status**

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I send my greetings to the people of Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq, as well as Jimmy.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to inform members on the progress of this very important project: Nunavut Coastal Resource Inventory.

The Nunavut Coastal Resource Inventory Project was started by the Fisheries and Sealing Division of the Department of Environment in 2007. Our first project was conducted in Igloodik and since then, we have carried out projects in Kugluktuk, Chesterfield Inlet, Arctic Bay, Kimmirut, Qikiqtarjuaq, Sanikiluaq, Gjoa Haven, Iqaluit, and Repulse Bay.

Community-based coastal inventories are a way to collect, record, and map *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* into a central database. This information can then be linked with other scientific research and knowledge. Coastal inventories are an integration of *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* and science information on Nunavut marine species.

Information is gathered from community interviews, reports, research, and maps. Gathering this type of information in one central location will be the future foundation of fisheries and fur management and other species relevant to Nunavut's renewable resources. It will assist in determining where fish resources are located, areas to conduct test fisheries, where to develop new

fisheries, and where there is a need to gather more data.

Information collected may also lead to the identification and development of coastal parks, related tourism opportunities and economic development in coastal areas. Information collected will be useful in identifying sensitive terrestrial and marine coastal areas, breeding grounds, species location and populations, habitats, and significant landscape features.

Community residents are employed during the project to help conduct the interviews and gather data. Community involvement is encouraged throughout the process and final reports are provided to the community.

Mr. Speaker, we all recognize that social and economic change is forever upon us. Therefore, it is incumbent upon us to ensure we record, protect, and conserve Nunavut's traditional coastal, biological, cultural, and ecological knowledge before it disappears. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Minister's Statement 109 – 3(3):
Qikiqtarjuaq Air Terminal
Building Opening**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues, Kuglukturmiut, and Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that the grand opening of the Qikiqtarjuaq Airport Terminal Building on January 10, 2012 was a huge success. The entire community turned out to celebrate this important milestone in the hamlet's history.

Mr. Speaker, by leveraging our own capital with federal funding under the Building Canada Plan, we were able to secure the \$4.3 million that was required to complete this project.

This spacious, new energy-efficient building will serve the community for many years to come. In addition to providing the travelling public with a comfortable place to gather for departures and arrivals, the new structure provides for improved baggage handling and more office space for the air carriers and airport staff.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the individuals, departments, and companies that were involved in the completion of this project. Most of all, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the people of Qikiqtarjuaq for their patience throughout this whole process and for their warm and generous hospitality, which was displayed in abundance during the festivities on January 10.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the people of Qikiqtarjuaq on the opening of their new airport terminal building. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, Minister Arreak.

Minister's Statement 110 – 3(3): 2012 Arctic Winter Games

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Arctic Winter Games are the highest profile multi-sport games competition for Nunavut athletes. The 22nd Arctic Winter Games will take place in Whitehorse, Yukon March 4 to 10, 2012.

The games will provide an opportunity for 289 Nunavummiut to compete in sport and take part in cultural exchange with participants from around the circumpolar world. Team Nunavut will consist of 230 athletes and cultural performers, 48 coaches, and 14 mission staff selected from across Nunavut to compete and interact with other participants from around the Arctic world.

Colleagues, I ask that you join me in wishing all the participants best luck in their sporting and cultural activities as they head to the Arctic Winter Games next week and to thank the volunteers who make these events possible across Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak. I'm sure all members wish all 230 delegates from Team Nunavut the best of success in Whitehorse.

Moving on in the Ministers' Statements. Minister of Education, Madam Minister Aariak.

**Minister's Statement 111 – 3(3):
Canada's Outstanding Principals
2012**

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also would like to welcome all the members to our first day of session.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate someone who has made a significant contribution to our society. I am proud to announce that Gina Pizzo, principal of Netsilik School in Taloyoak, has been named one of Canada's outstanding principals for 2012.

The Canada's Outstanding Principals program was developed by The Learning Partnership and is now in its eighth year. This program recognizes individuals who show exceptional leadership by sharing their vision, engaging their communities, and supporting and encouraging their staff and students.

Mr. Speaker, Gina Pizzo began her career in Nunavut in 1985 and she has always worked closely with her students, their families, and the community. She has built partnerships with staff, parents, elders, and community members so that she can provide her students with learning opportunities that are based on their language and culture. Her understanding of the need to incorporate language and culture in the public education system has helped her students gain a strong sense of self and pride in where they came from.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, Gina Pizzo has the ability to be innovative and creative in finding solutions that best meet the needs of her staff and students.

Netsilik School offers many intramural sports, instrumental music, a breakfast program, a fall caribou hunt, and a spring seal hunt. Preschool and primary grades are taught entirely in Inuktitut.

Mr. Speaker, Gina's work with the community and her belief in her students has allowed her to build a welcoming, inclusive school that supports successful learning. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Please join me in congratulating Gina Pizzo.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Aariak. Congratulations, Gina. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Tapardjuk.

Item 3: Members' Statements

**Member's Statement 149 – 3(3):
Televised Proceedings in Hall
Beach**

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am also quite ecstatic to return to Iqaluit for our winter session.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of Hall Beach residents in particular. For quite some time now, they've had no access to the audio and transmission of the televised proceedings of the Legislative Assembly, even though we have been meeting and they are only getting bits of information. I was recently informed that the faulty parts have been replaced and that the community will receive full access to the televised proceedings and people will be

able to listen in, just like all Nunavummiut through television.

Essentially, I am welcoming the Hall Beach residents back to the digital age. Like their fellow Nunavummiut, they will now be able to watch the proceedings and they have rejoined their fellow citizens. So I would like to ask my colleagues to share in welcoming the community of Hall Beach as they will have access shortly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Members' Statements. Member for Qamani'tuaq, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Member's Statement 150 – 3(3):
Banking Services in Smaller
Communities**

Mr. Aupaluktuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I send my greetings to Baker Lake residents, both elders and youth, as well as people we have met in the Kivalliq region, along with entrepreneurs and those Inuit who are benefiting from the developments currently underway, along with the mining industry.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the need for expanded banking services, as several constituents have encouraged me to speak to this issue, particularly in relation to acquiring a banking facility in our community, as well as in our smaller communities throughout Nunavut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, as you know, these are exciting times in the Kivalliq for development.

Earlier today, Agnico-Eagle Mines announced that it has received permission from the Nunavut Impact Review Board to proceed to the next step of permitting for the construction of an all-weather access road to the Meliadine advanced exploration gold project.

In my community of Baker Lake, Mr. Speaker, the Meadowbank Gold Mine continues to be a major driver of economic development. The mine has created much needed employment for my constituents and I am proud to continue to be a strong advocate for environmentally responsible mining development.

Mr. Speaker, there continues to be a need for expanded banking services in Nunavut communities outside of the regional centres.

In recent years, the Atuqtuarvik Corporation has been working with its strategic partner, the First Nations Bank of Canada, to explore opportunities for expanded community banking in the Kivalliq. I'm sure the same applies for the Kitikmeot as well as other communities in the Baffin.

The need for expanded banking services has also been identified by the government as an important factor in economic development.

Mr. Speaker, Baker Lake and other communities are open for business. I invite our banks and other financial institutions to join us in partnership in order to provide the basic service needs of consumers as well as contributors to the development of Nunavut, these basic essential needs for access to services and

transfer of dollars in order to bank their good earnings and planning for the future of their children.

It was just a statement that needed to be verified in terms of wanting to ensure that all communities have access to resources and being able to transfer resources as well. So on behalf of Baker Lake, it was a statement that I would like to share with the House. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Members' Statements. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

**Member's Statement 151 – 3(3):
Federal Support for Healthy
Lifestyles**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address an inconsistency in the way our federal government supports measures intended to promote healthier lifestyles amongst Canadians and particularly northerners.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident you will be aware of a number of national initiatives focusing on dietary choices which pose a threat to the health of Canadians.

Mr. Speaker, in 2011, the national Sodium Working Group recommended that the federal government introduce regulatory measures to reduce dietary sodium and impose restrictions on the commercial marketing of high-sodium foods to children, amongst other suggestions. However, the federal government chose not to endorse the Sodium Implementation Report and has not introduced the recommended regulatory mechanisms. Instead it is left

to the food producing industry to make any such reductions voluntarily.

Mr. Speaker, a Health Canada expert panel recommended that energy drinks, such as Red Bull and Monster, be labelled as "stimulant drug containing drinks" in part to limit the marketing of such stimulant loaded drinks to teens and children. The federal government chose instead to introduce new labelling of these products and they remain on the food shelves.

Mr. Speaker, in recent years, the dangers of trans-fats in foods have become well known, as they increase the risk of clogged arteries and heart disease. And yet, the federal government chose not to adopt the Trans Fat Task Force's recommendations to establish regulatory trans-fat limits. It is still left to industry to reduce those levels voluntarily.

And yet, Mr. Speaker, with a program such as Nutrition North Canada, we find that the list of foods eligible for federal subsidy when being shipped to northern communities is determined according to guidelines, such as sodium levels and other health-related criteria.

Mr. Speaker, I find this inconsistency in the federal approach to be a glaring one. The federal government will not take a stand on regulating corporate industry for the greater good and the greater health of all Canadians. And yet, for a small population of northerners, the federal government imposes restrictions which totally limit the ability of northerners to make their own health and lifestyle choices.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would ask for unanimous consent to continue with my Member's Statement today. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I find this situation intolerable. If southern Canadians are free to make dietary decisions, then northern Canadians should have the same freedom of choice. I call upon the federal government to reconsider the list of eligible items subsidized under the Nutrition North Canada Program. Northerners are just as intelligent and able to make responsible and healthy decisions as other Canadians. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Members' Statements. Member for Tununig, Mr. Enook.

**Member's Statement 152 – 3(3):
Power Outages in Pond Inlet**

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to raise concerns regarding recent power outages in my community of Pond Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, in recent months, the community has suffered from power blackouts that have sometimes lasted for 12 to 14 hours. One recent outage occurred over Christmas. This was quite

stressful to the residents of Pond Inlet and it caused hardships for some.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, the worst time of year for such incidents to occur is in the middle of winter, when our temperatures plunge below minus 30 degrees and the community is in 24 hours of darkness.

Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to the local employees of the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Kain Killiktee and Kelly Manik, who work long hours to restore power, heat, and light to our community's homes. I want to recognize their dedication and to express our sincerest gratitude as residents for keeping our community from freezing.

Mr. Speaker, I am aware that the Qulliq Energy Corporation has published information for residents concerning safety during power outages.

As the MLA for Tununig, I am concerned that the frequency and duration of recent power outages in Pond Inlet indicates that the plant may need significant upgrades. Later in our sitting, I will have questions for the minister concerning the QEC's review of this situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit West, Ms. Ell.

**Member's Statement 153 – 3(3):
Tribute to Matty McNair**

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I send my greetings to the residents of Iqaluit West. I would like to

welcome my colleagues for coming back for the winter session.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to begin our sitting by taking this opportunity to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Matty McNair.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, Matty is a long-time resident of Iqaluit who was recently honoured by the Queen for her contributions to polar exploration.

Mr. Speaker, in December of last year, Matty travelled to Buckingham Palace to attend an event in her honour.

Mr. Speaker, Matty's commitment to this community and the north is well known. She is a respected female entrepreneur who has done much to promote and defend our sealing industry and the use of traditional clothing.

Mr. Speaker, this year is also the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. I look forward to the celebrations to honour deserving Canadians and Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in paying tribute to Matty McNair. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ell. Congratulations, Matty. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

**Member's Statement 154 – 3(3):
Miqqut Literacy Program at
Rankin Inlet**

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, people of Rankin Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, when I was in Rankin Inlet recently, I visited two projects which are helping our young people. The first one is the Miqqut Program delivered by the Rankin Inlet Nunavut Literacy Council office. This program is designed to offer essential skills to young women, where they learn to do traditional sewing and contemporary modern sewing with sewing machines and also learn basic literacy skills, read, write, and work on problem-solving skills.

There are 15 young women. The youngest one is 20 years old and the eldest one is in their late 30s. Their instructors are:

Marianne Inuaraq Tattuinee
Aline Kumak Kabvitok
Adile Kumaruaq Angidlik
Helen Iguptaq
Epiksout Dion, who is from Coral Harbour

The coordinators for this program are Catherine Quluaq Pilakapsi, Gloria Uluqsi, and Adriana Kusugak. Adrianna and Gloria also teach the literacy component.

Funding for the Miqqut Program is from the following organizations that I would like to thank:

Nunavut Literacy Council
Department of Economic Development
and Transportation, Government of
Nunavut (the Nunavut Sealing
Strategy)

Department of Education (income for older workers program to help pay salary)
 HRSDC, federal government (possibly for the literacy component)
 Sakku First Air Aviation gave a donation of \$7,500

They also received discounts for materials from the local co-op, Kissarvik Co-op, and local business, Kativik Enterprises. First Air also gave them a generous freight rate discount for materials received outside of Rankin Inlet.

Also, the Fur Production and Design Program is delivered in Rankin Inlet for the first time by Nunavut Arctic College. There are seven young women in this certificate program. The lead instructor is Rosemary Sandy. It is funded by NAC and GN (sealskin strategy). I would like to thank the young people for taking this course and I would like to see their future and they would be able to work on their instructions that they had learned.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Item 3. Members' Statements. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Mr. Clerk.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions*

**Return to Oral Question 213 – 3(3):
 “Solution Box” on Government Website**

**Return to Oral Question 219 – 3(3):
 Number of Active Cases of TB in Nunavut**

*See Appendix for full text of Returns to Oral Questions 213 – 3(3) and 219 – 3(3) filed with the Clerk.

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the returns to oral questions that were taken as notice during the October 2011 sitting. They are No. 213 and No. 219. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Peterson.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thought you might have forgotten where I was from, being here so much over the years.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome some very special guests to the Gallery today. I would like to welcome, and I apologize if I mispronounce your name, my colleague from Greenland, the Minister of Health, Agathe Fontain. Please rise.

>>Applause

With her is her staff, Ann Birkekaer Kjeldsen.

>>Applause

Julie Praest Wilche.

>>Applause

Hanne Vibjerg.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, the folks from Greenland had a long trip to get here. They had to travel from Nuuk and they had to go to

Europe, to Copenhagen, and then fly across the Atlantic Ocean to Toronto, Ottawa, and then up to Iqaluit.

We are very pleased that they came here. We had good meetings on the weekend and I learned quite a bit. We learned that we had some similar issues with the Department of Health.

I hope to visit the Greenland folks this summer, when there is, I believe, a direct flight going from Iqaluit to Nuuk. That will be a two-hour flight rather than a three-day trip.

I welcome our guests to the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Peterson. Welcome to the Gallery and to Nunavut. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Arviat, Mr. Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am honoured to rise today to recognize two of my young constituents from Arviat. Although they travelled all night and arrived here at two o'clock in the morning, they made it here.

I would like to welcome them to the Chambers, Mr. Speaker, two of the pages who will be taking care of us and our needs during our sitting of this Assembly this week, two grade 11 students from John Arnalukjuak High School in Arviat. Ms. Stephanie Aulajut, please stand up.

>>Applause

And Ms. Vayda Kaviok.

Welcome to these two young people and enjoy your time in Iqaluit and the experience you gain from contributing to our sitting of the House this week. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Shewchuk. Welcome to Iqaluit. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize several constituents visiting from our community. The first person, with whom I worked for many years at our local housing maintenance and who was my supervisor, managing several maintainers and who currently is working at a position here in Iqaluit. I would like to recognize my fellow community member, Steve Qarpik. Please stand up.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, further, sitting right next to him is another person who I know quite well and I see him from time to time and he is also a friend. I have never recognized him formally here, so this will be my first time recognizing him. Lenrick is an electrician in this region and travels to different communities to work on electrical work and many people know him. I would like to recognize Lenrick. Welcome.

>>Applause

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize everyone else who's here in the Gallery that wasn't recognized and welcome them to our proceedings.

Moving on in the orders of the day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 223 – 3(3): Fuel Tax Rebate Program

Mr. Aupaluktuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would particularly like to recognize and welcome the delegation from Greenland. I've had the opportunity to go to a very scenic and beautiful place in Greenland. I even lost my homesickness during that trip.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, my questions are directed to the Hon. Minister of Finance.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Finance is responsible for administering the government's Fuel Tax Rebate Program. Under this program, companies that enter into development partnership agreements with the government are eligible for a fuel tax rebate. The government's most recent annual report on the administration of this program was tabled in the Legislative Assembly by the Minister of Finance on October 27, 2010.

Can the minister tell the House today when he will be able to table the 2010-11 annual report on the administration of

the Fuel Tax Rebate Program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Aupaluktuq for the question. Mr. Speaker, as everybody well knows, it's important to table required documents as soon as possible. I assure the member that I will follow up with the status of that particular report and let him know when it will be tabled. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have here a note by Agnico-Eagle on January 23, 2012 addressed to the minister and as well, I received a copy of this in regard to the letter by Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd. on the fuel tax rebate. With this, I think I would like to ask with respect to the department and the process of ensuring our companies are also being acknowledged as well and participating in the development of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, it's my understanding that the Meadowbank division of Agnico-Eagle Mines has applied for a fuel tax rebate on the fuel taxes that were paid in 2010 but that its application was partially rejected by the Department of Finance. Can the minister explain why the company's application was partially rejected and can he indicate if this issue has been resolved? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Aupaluktuq for that question. Mr. Speaker, as everyone knows in this House, there are contribution agreements and other types of agreements that are signed and there are conditions in the agreements. I understand from that particular . . . I think he is referring to a development partnership agreement. There were conditions. The report that they were supposed to file was not received on time. I can report that the issue hasn't been resolved. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On March 12, 2008, a copy of the development partnership agreement that the hon. minister mentioned was between the Government of Nunavut and Meadowbank Mining Corporation. Mr. Speaker, it was tabled in the Legislative Assembly at that time. Under the agreement, the company is required to produce annual reports.

As the hon. minister indicated that it's prudent that departments provide annual reports on its activities, my question, Mr. Speaker, is: will the minister commit to working with his colleague, the Minister of ED&T, to ensure that these annual reports are tabled in the Legislative Assembly? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Aupaluktuq again for the question. Mr. Speaker, I will work with my colleague to endeavour to make sure the reports are tabled on time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Your final supplementary, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to ask the minister as well if there are any indicators if any other companies operating in Nunavut have expressed interest in entering into development partnership agreements with the government and also applying for fuel tax rebates. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Aupaluktuq for the question. Mr. Speaker, I don't have the information at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

Question 224 – 3(3): Contracting Policy for Air Ambulance Services

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services, whose department has primary responsibility for the government's procurement and contracting activities.

Each and every year, the Government of Nunavut spends tens of millions of

dollars on emergency air ambulance services for sick people, including medical travel for Nunavutmiut on scheduled airlines.

Last year, the government awarded its contract for the provision of air ambulance services in the Kitikmeot to Aqsaqniq Airways Ltd.

My question for the minister is very simple and perfectly clear. Does Aqsaqniq Airways Ltd. actually hold a valid air operator certificate issued by Transport Canada, yes or no?

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question the member posed refers back to the contract approved during his tenure as the HSS minister, so that is something he should be familiar with.

I can check into the details you have requested for this contract, whether it be an air ambulance charter licence or a valid air operator certificate for all airlines in Nunavut, at least those we contract out, as the paperwork is not always immediately available. Once I have completed the work outlined in your question with respect to a certificate, then I will be able to provide a yes or no answer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You may be surprised to

learn that Aqsaqniq Airways is simply a registered company that has a business relationship with Air Tindi, which is itself a subsidiary of Discovery Air in Ontario. It is my understanding that Aqsaqniq Airways does not even own a single aircraft. How can the government justify awarding such an important contract to a company that exists only on paper? Can the minister answer my question?

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe the member understands, just as the government side understands, that when they award contracts to companies, the Department of Community and Government Services assists Government of Nunavut departments in procuring these services.

As an example, for this air ambulance contract, when the RFP was let for this service, the Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services had to make public all their contractual agreements for this air ambulance service. The health and social services department had to supply their explanation for the need to contract out air ambulance services. The minister and all of his officials had to bare all of this information laying the foundation for the need for this contract, basically needing air ambulance services. The minimum requirements, capabilities, and specifications were included. The information we got was received from the Minister of HSS.

CGS contractual staff provided its assistance when the Department of Health was doing their contract agreement. They detailed out the minimum requirements for the contract. This was the work that was undertaken. From that point forward, once the RFP was let, companies that wanted to bid for the contracts then filled out the RFP terms of reference and submitted their applications with their notes on how they would fulfill the requirements.

Once the bids had been received and vetted against the requirements listed in the RFP, the Department of Health and Social Services made their decision on which company would be the successful bidder. They didn't just take over the contract; CGS officials only provided assistance to HSS officials who based their decision on the RFP. At that time, the previous HSS minister was involved quite heavily in the review and decision made by the department, and that is quite clear. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, air ambulance services in Nunavut and everywhere, as a matter of fact, are matters of life and death for our constituents. It impacts all members here whenever a death is reported. It is my position that the only criterion the government should be considering when awarding these contracts is performance. What is the government's position on this matter? How can a company that exists only on paper be awarded a contract? How can just a registered paper shell company be allowed to bid on the RFP?

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): In this case, the member referred to the HSS contract that was let. Based on my understanding of the tendering process, there was a committee reviewing the bids for the contract in the Department of Health and Social Services. Five individuals undertook the review and they were from the Department of Health and Social Services with one CGS staff member, whom I know personally, that was involved.

For any kind of contractual requirement, there's a tendering process that lays out the process, the wording of the RFP, prior to it being released. They also have a list of criteria that is required to be met at a minimum, as well as points for meeting each criteria as well as penalties for not meeting the requirements. We follow what the department requires in the contract. All of this is done prior to any RFP being released for the tender process.

The review committee, from the HSS department in this case, as per my colleague's question, Mr. Curley, had five individuals from that department with one staff member from CGS. These are the people who made the decisions as to what criteria would carry the most weight when they were reviewing the bids for the contract. Once the RFP is approved, it is opened, bids submitted, and each bid is screened and reviewed. They then make the final decision on the successful bid based on the criteria they included.

They can't just have one bid, so I imagine there were several bids for this contract. I believe that each bidder's proposal was reviewed against the criteria appended to the RFP. I don't think that they decided that only one criterion would be sufficient to win the bid and that is obvious, at least from my perspective, as there were quite a number of bids for this contract.

These are the types of issues that were looked at when reviewing the bids and the winning bidder would have had to qualify on more than one criterion. There were no politics about ensuring this or that company would be blacklisted. That is now how we operate this government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank the minister. What I was trying to state was that any company operating in our territory ought to have a proper licence and that was what I was trying to define. Furthermore, a company that is bidding on a contract should have some experience in the area for which they are bidding, and then compile a list of companies that qualify under the criteria, not just because they are a paper corporation that qualifies, as per other guidelines.

Mr. Speaker, what I want to do now is to raise this further question regarding Aqsaqniq Airways Ltd. I believe that the only reason why they were awarded this contract worth millions of dollars was because of the bid adjustments it received under the NNI Policy. As I

have clearly indicated, the actual work of flying patients will be performed by subcontractors, which are not owned by the Aqsaqniq Airways and are the property of the subcontractor, Air Tindi or Discovery Air.

Will the government commit to rethinking its entire approach to awarding medical travel and air ambulance services contracts to ensure that only the properly qualified medical and air ambulance companies with appropriate licences can bid, yes or no, and, if not, why not?

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A tender is let for any contracts from the government, irrespective of whether it is the Department of Health and Social Services, Education, or whichever department.

As per the member's question, if the Department of Health and Social Services is looking for the provision of a contract, the department identifies the need for a contract for emergency ambulance services to be provided here in Nunavut. They identify the type of services that would need to be provided. Based on the needs they require under this contract, the criteria are written to ensure that only those types of companies can bid on the contract.

If the criterion stating that any bidders would have to own their own planes had been included, as per the member's statements, then we would have had only those companies that own air ambulance

planes qualify. Since the member was the minister responsible for that department at the time, only he understands exactly how the tendering process was undertaken and he would be privy to the criteria to be included.

However, the procurement process outlined the types of services that had to be included. So if there are different services required by the government, then it is obvious that our staff and the ministers would have to follow this process and we will continue to review the process.

We always search for the best contractor within the tendering process. If there needs to be improvements made to the system, we will have to identify the areas that need improvement. If we were requested to make these changes, then we look for the best contractor based on the new needs. Whenever an improvement can be made that will alleviate some of our issues, it can be changed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 225 – 3(3): Coastal Resource Inventory

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Environment. I would like further clarification on the Minister's Statement he made earlier with respect to Nunavut coastal inventories and what the plans are for 2012.

Mr. Speaker, in his Minister's Statement, it states that DOE initiated the study in

2007 and they conducted their first project in Igloolik. They were studying coastal wildlife, particularly benthic species. It states that they "have carried out projects in Kugluktuk, Chesterfield Inlet, Arctic Bay, Kimmirut, Qikiqtarjuaq, Sanikiluaq, Gjoa Haven, Iqaluit, and Repulse Bay."

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Environment this question. Since the inception of the study in 2007, what type of coastal resources has been inventoried off the communities that are listed? What are the results of the studies on our inshore resources? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk Minister of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank my *Annuraaqatik* for asking that question. I imagine that we may shed that namesake afterwards.

>> *Laughter*

Indeed, Mr. Speaker, as per my earlier statement where I identified the communities that have had their coastal resource inventoried, we are currently in the process of sharing the results with these communities outlining the species found in their marine environment. This will outline the resources found.

Once the community has returned the results, they will become public knowledge as we will then be able to provide the results via the Internet as well as through publications and posters. It will also outline what species are commercially viable, what can be

harvested for commercial harvesting, and what species are important to the food chain.

At this point in time, we are just trying to find out what resources are in our inshore environment. However, at this time, I don't have the information available on what has been found and I can't respond to your question as to what species we have until the communities have responded to the information we have sent out.

The information is just a start as the results still have to be reviewed and further surveys undertaken. The communities will know what species are in their immediate offshore and coastline, particularly the different fish species in the marine environment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank my *Annuraaqatik*, the Minister of Environment. In your Minister's Statement, you indicated that for the coastal inventory, they are gathering data on different species, I suppose. It states that they are trying to delineate the habitat used by different species, the population of certain species that may be harvestable, and it even talks about mapping out these resources for the communities by incorporating *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit*. Apparently, the data will be inputted into a database where they will compile the information.

Mr. Speaker, what I want to ask is this: where is the headquarters? Is it in

Igloolik or Iqaluit? Where is it located? If I wanted the surveyors of the coastal resource inventory to study a certain area or if I wanted to check out an area for its marine species, then where can I conduct my study? If I am from one of the communities, where can I get that information, Mr. Speaker?

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the statement, it only talks about a central database being created. At this time, we haven't determined the location, so I can't answer his question. Once I have more information on the issue, I will respond to the question as raised at that time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Many of us are very interested in this information and my constituents in Igloolik and Hall Beach in the Amittuq region have a number of concerns. The concerns relate to Foxe Basin, particularly the development project proposed by Baffinland, which was detailed out in another submission to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. This document outlines the possible impacts the development may cause on the environment.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Environment again if he could inform us what the walrus population size is in the Foxe Basin area, which marine habitat they occupy,

especially the possible impacts caused by shipping with the proposed three ships per week that will continue throughout the winter, summer, fall, and spring. What impacts will this cause on the walrus population in the Foxe Basin area? If the study results are true, then how can we utilize that information to alleviate this concern? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The results listed in the reports of the inventory were sent out and so far, the community of Igloolik and Kugluktuk are the only ones to respond. The other communities I mentioned haven't returned the results as of yet. I believe that the Igloolik Hunters and Trappers Organization has a copy and I know for a fact that the local renewable resource office has a copy. If the copies are not available from these two offices, my staff can look into the issue and see if we have copies available.

With respect to the proposed shipping routes and the possible impacts once the shipping commences, I don't have the results of the walrus studies, but once we have that information, we will be able to provide that information to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Indeed, that raises my expectations. We really look forward to

that information, especially the information the minister just spoke to. We look forward to receiving those results.

In reading his Minister's Statement, in the last paragraph, it notes that this government is responsible since we must have the best information in order to protect the environment and to ensure we conserve our animals, particularly the marine mammals and coastal species. These species form part of the foundation of our culture, livelihoods, and part of our IQ knowledge base.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister provide more details on how he will cooperate with various departments, such as EDT, to look at the possible impacts of the proposed shipping route that would be operated all year long, in the winter and summer habitat of our walrus in the Foxe Basin? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. Minister of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If that information was available, we wouldn't withhold that information, but we would ensure it is available to the public. The Nunavut Research Institute has that pertinent information here in Iqaluit. Further, the results of the study proposed for March of this year will be completed as soon as possible. We will look into the particular set of information the member is requesting, as per his questions. So we will look into that information the member requested in his question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit West, Ms. Ell.

Question 226 – 3(3): Review of Iqaluit Infrastructure

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

Earlier this year, the city of Iqaluit faced a major disruption of water services following a breakdown in our community's aging water infrastructure. I want to begin by thanking the frontline staff who worked extremely long hours to restore water services as quickly as possible to our community's homes and businesses.

Mr. Speaker, on January 19 of this year, the GN and the city jointly announced that both levels of government would be undertaking a joint review of this incident. Can the minister update the House today on the status of this review? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for asking that question. First off, I also wish to thank the frontline staff who worked extremely hard to combat the event, although things that can freeze will freeze when it is that cold, as well as inhibiting the equipment that is required. I thank the workers who had to undertake this work that was required.

The incident affected most citizens of Iqaluit and we have now past the event. Further work will be required to complete that report. Based on my understanding, they are still investigating the fire. The city's workers and our staff are investigating the matter and how we can best prepare for events such as this and how they could be better prepared. So that is what they are working on at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the minister. The joint news release that was issued by the GN and the City of Iqaluit identified the need to review the condition of Iqaluit's infrastructure, including its utilidor system. Can the minister indicate today what investments may need to be made in the near future to ensure that our capital city's infrastructure is capable of serving Nunavut's largest community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): When the emergency occurred, it became obvious here in Iqaluit, actually in most of the communities, our infrastructure is starting to break down due to its antiquated status. This has an effect on maintenance.

Iqaluit is not the only one affected, but my officials and the City of Iqaluit public works officials will work together in the upcoming months to look at the history of the infrastructure, to identify

what is past its useful life, what needs to be repaired, what is required to be replaced, and which parts are still useable.

This course of action will be undertaken over the next few months. As we all know, it is not conducive to spending long periods outside during winter. With the infrastructure covered in snow, many areas have to be cleared and some cannot be accessed due to the frozen state.

We expect that over the next few months, this review will be very useful. Once the work is completed, it would be good to see a report outlining the issues we face, where we stand, and what needs replacement, as per Ms. Ell's question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister. Will the minister commit to tabling a copy of the final report from this joint review in the Legislative Assembly as soon as it has been completed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to the responsibilities under the city, the department supports the city and we have an agreement with the City of Iqaluit as it relates to their operations and we work with them to search for these items.

It is clear that if the direction were to come from our department, it would be possible to do so. However, if the direction stems from the city, we don't control their operations and we're not privy to their decisions on these matters. I can provide some information to the member outside of the House. However, to reiterate, yes, if it is our report and if it is not ours, we can't dictate to the city what to include. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the minister. As the minister is aware as well, the Inuksuk High School experienced a number of closures due to issues with its water supply. Can the minister indicate how his department has been working with the district education authority and the Department of Education to address this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ell. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All I could say is that the city staff, our staff, and the contractors worked very hard to repair the utilidor that broke on the date in question. That has since been repaired and it is a temporary repair; it is above ground. I understand that if the weather permits and the ground permits, they will be able to put it back underground and replace the problem area. As of now, there are no issues with it, but hopefully the temporary fix will hold until a permanent fix is resolved, when the

weather and season allows us to do so.
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Kusugak.
Oral Questions. Member for Tununiq,
Mr. Enook.

**Question 227 – 3(3): Security at
Nunavut Airports**

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you,
Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the
Minister of Economic Development and
Transportation.

Mr. Speaker, at the present time, both
Canadian North and First Air offer
flights from Pond Inlet to Iqaluit that
depart early in the morning. This allows
my constituents to arrive in Iqaluit in
time to make connections to Ottawa and
other destinations. The reason why this
service is possible is because both
airlines overnight their aircraft in Pond
Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, concerns have recently
been brought to my attention that serious
acts of vandalism have been committed
against aircraft that are parked overnight
at the Pond Inlet Airport. If this situation
continues, Mr. Speaker, there is a risk
that airlines will no longer be able to
overnight their aircraft in Pond Inlet,
which will cause significant disruptions
to flight schedules and severely
inconvenience my constituents.

I would first like to ask the minister if he
has been made aware of this situation
and, if so, what actions his department is
taking to address it. Thank you, Mr.
Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr.
Speaker. I thank the member for that
question. At this time, Mr. Speaker, I'm
not aware of any vandalism happening
with parked aircraft within this
community, but once I get briefed on it
and get full information, I will surely let
the member know of the next steps and
what the department can do to assist.
More than likely, Mr. Speaker, it will be
an RCMP issue when vandalism does
happen. So once I get information, I will
let the member know. Thank you.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you,
Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister. A few
years ago, concerns about fires and other
acts of vandalism at Nunavut's schools
prompted the government to introduce
new security measures, such as the
installation of cameras.

Here in Iqaluit, Mr. Speaker, our capital
city's international airport appears to be
a very secure facility, including
biometric technology to control access to
the ramp. I would like to ask the minister
if he can clarify whether his department
has a standard set of criteria for security
measures and equipment at Nunavut's
airports in smaller communities,
including cameras and fencing. Thank
you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I thank the hon. member for that question. Mr. Speaker, I'm not aware of what's happening up there in Pond Inlet, in his constituency, but once I understand the full facts... . At this time, I will not be assuming of what's been happening there, so I'll take his question as notice and get back to the hon. member on that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. The question has been taken as notice. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Question 228 – 3(3):

Interdepartmental Monitoring Committee on Nutrition North

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

With the introduction of the Nutrition North Canada Program, the minister's department formed an interdepartmental Nutrition North Canada subsidy monitoring committee. I was curious to find out what the minister's committee has done to this date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Nunavut government supports the Nutrition North program. Furthermore, the government is pleased that improvements have been made, such as increased accountability

and improved entry points. They have indicated that the advisory committee has been struck, with the chairperson being from Nunavut. This has provided more assistance.

However, it is obvious, as my colleague well knows, that there are concerns that are still outstanding that require further improvements within the Nutrition North program as it is provided in the north. There are different aspects that have been identified and we still have improvements to make.

With respect to the member's question regarding the advisory committee that was struck by the Nunavut government, I don't have information as to what exactly this committee has undertaken, but they have been involved in the process throughout and they continue to monitor the efficiency, as they are what we would term in English the monitoring committee. That is basically their mandate, to monitor the Nutrition North program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the response. I think that when the committee was originally struck and when I had asked questions previously in the House, the committee was going to track statistical data on pricing and other different statistics. I was wondering if the Premier could elaborate on what type of statistics have been collected to date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This information was made available by this committee. Once I have been notified that they have the information, I will ensure that I provide that update to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have the information at this time.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I'm just wondering: does the Premier have a timeline of when she will have that information ready? I think, at one point, it was a discussion of possibly collecting data from different communities and maybe monitoring prices to see if the prices are actually going down. I think it goes towards my issues of what is affordable, providing affordable, nutritious food to communities, and how you come up with that dollar value.

I was hoping to rely on the department and the Government of Nunavut to provide some statistical data for, hopefully, use to take to Nutrition North to make sure and ensure that the prices are going down and more nutritious food is going to the communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) The Government of Nunavut

committee consisting of members from Health and Social Services, the Department of EIA, and the Department of Finance has been established to monitor the progress of Nutrition North Canada implementation, identify issues of importance to Nunavummiut and identify ways to address them. That's the basic outline of the mandate of that committee. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Over the past couple of months, I have been working with MLAs in both the NWT and the Yukon on the issue of Nutrition North Canada. I'm wondering if the minister, during the next tri-territorial Premiers' meeting, would be able to commit to raising the issue of Nutrition North with her new counterparts and come up with a pan-territorial position on this program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Nutrition North program provides nutritious foods in Canada and is being collaborated on by several agencies. I am thankful as well to the member as he has been quite involved in voicing concerns about this program, whether on behalf of his constituents or in providing information to his communities.

Up to now, there have been no indications as to what else will surface and whether new services will be offered

as we have not been apprised of any new developments. We are aware of the concerns that have been voiced with respect to the program, as my colleague knows.

Once we have requested further information from the program administrators in the short term, as I have also been informed that there was a letter from the member addressed to the federal government about the program, and once we have received a response, we will be able to revisit this matter and see what else is required in the area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Oral Questions. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Oshutapik.

Question 229 – 3(3): Affordable Housing

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to direct my question to the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. It's a brief question that the minister can respond to if he wishes. As he is a unilingual non-Inuk, I will direct my question to him in English.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I've got a very short question for the Minister responsible for Housing and I would like to get an answer. What is affordable housing, to start with? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Schell.

Hon. Fred Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his

question. It's a very short question but it's probably going to be a long answer. Basically what they look at is what's affordable to the average citizen in Nunavut. I understand that we're working on the rent scale both at the staff level and at the public housing level, and we're hoping to make some changes in there to make it a little bit more affordable. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Schell. Your first supplementary, Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Oshutapik: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we all know, in all the communities in Nunavut, when we hear affordable housing, we think of another thing in life that may be affordable for the department to build houses in each community. You can put it that way. The way I understand it is it's been like that. Due to this, I'm saying that I'm not living in affordable housing. I'm renting a house through the housing corporation. It's not affordable to me anymore in terms of paying rent.

I would like to get a quick answer to this: when are we going to change this rent scale? You said you are working on it. When are you going to change it? When can we expect to live in affordable housing? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Schell.

Hon. Fred Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Hopefully, by the end of the year, we will have a new rent scale in place. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Schell. Your second supplementary, Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, at this point in time, we would like to see this resolved in the short term.

Every time a Nunavut government position opens or when there's an employment opportunity in our community, and I can only speak to my community's challenges as I have not gone to other communities, part of the reason why people are not applying is due to the fact they will be impacted in their rent.

When people have to pay a majority of their take-home pay on their rent, many people need employment to offset the high rent scale in our community. This is even when people have their own home since our take-home pay is now lower as most of it goes towards our rent. That is why I originally asked for the definition of the term "affordable housing." I would like to know to whom "affordable housing" is geared towards.

In this current era, if a person is successful in getting a position, even though they are billeting at their grandparents or in another home or even if they are staying at a unit that they are not responsible for, they are included in the assessable rent. I would like to ask when this policy will be revised and improved. That was the reason for asking the question.

I would like to see it applied in this manner and I wonder if it can be taken into consideration. When a person has a job, can your department look at a simple flat rate applicable to all units?

Have you ever considered a flat rate? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Schell.

Hon. Fred Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, everything is open for discussion. They do have a flat rate rent in Nunavik. Actually, we're also meeting this week with the housing from Quebec. They're in town here as of yesterday; they also came in here today. We're looking at all options in order to make it more affordable.

The maximum rent that anybody pays, it doesn't matter what kind of a job they got or how many people are in the household, is 30 percent of their income. We have also looked at the possibility of not assessing every individual in the home and only assessing the individual who is on the lease. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Schell. Your final supplementary, Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Minister, for your response. Based on that, along with my fellow Nunavummiut, we will be expecting changes in the future for those of us who are renting public housing units.

My last question pertains to the current designs and I continue to speak about the problems we face as we are causing people to experience issues with the new designs of the units that are currently being constructed in our community. I am unsure of whether it is the materials

because the new units deteriorate a lot faster than the previous generation of housing units that were built 20 years ago. The units are experiencing issues within a few years.

In our case, the units are being affected due to the growth of mould as the building construction methods are no longer the same. I wonder if this is a result of the government trying to get the cheapest units for public housing that the majority of our residents reside in. Is this due to the units being constructed by the lowest bidder or is it due to the materials they use now?

I wonder if the minister is aware of this issue facing the communities. That is my final question to the minister. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Schell.

Hon. Fred Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, if we were trying to get the costs down in the construction, we obviously didn't do that in the last program, but I don't think the design... I think, if anything, we have overdesigned these buildings and that's why our costs are up. We are looking at all options in order to get housing in Nunavut, which includes homeownership, which also includes the private sector building units, and we're hopefully going to simplify the units to keep the costs down so that it's more affordable for the individuals. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Schell. Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Question 230 – 3(3): New Licence Plate for Nunavut

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Mr. Speaker, on October 27 of last year, I asked the minister questions concerning the Government of Nunavut's competition to choose a new design for our territorial licence plate. As the minister will recall, this competition closed on August 26 of 2011.

In his responses to my questions, the minister indicated that over 200 submissions had been received by the government and that the new design would be rolled out in the near future. Can the minister update us today on which design has been selected? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member from Sanikiluaq for that very important question. Mr. Speaker, we all know that the polar bear design was a symbol for Nunavummiut, but unfortunately, we couldn't use that design as it was trademarked and copyrighted by NWT.

Mr. Speaker, as the member indicated, yes, there were over 200 designs that were submitted. Our department received over 200 designs and through a process, we narrowed it down to four. Mr. Speaker, with the uniqueness of our

territory, I look forward to updating our colleagues here in the House and unveiling the new design hopefully at this session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm sure all of my colleagues are anxious to see the new design in the near future. Can the minister provide the House with details on his department's timetable for distributing the new licence plates to Nunavut's 25 communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we speak, the department is planning on production. They are talking to the production company on how to best deal with the manufacturing of the plates. As I said, Mr. Speaker, we will have information throughout this session, possibly before the end of the session, on the design and the manufacturing and distribution of the new licence plates to all 25 communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm sure that these new licence plates come at a cost to the government. Can the minister clarify whether residents will receive their new licence plates free of charge? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, throughout the process of acquiring licensing and registering vehicles, there is a fee involved. As usual, we will be looking at that to determine the best way to charge these fees to the users. Mr. Speaker, I don't believe anything is going to be changing from the user fees. We do have to charge a fee for a service provided by the government for this type of distribution of licensing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In my questioning back in October, the minister indicated that the supply of polar bear plates was running low. Will the present supply of polar bear licence plates be adequate to last until the new plates are available? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, the old supply is adequate to last until we roll out the new licence plate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Members will note that the allotted time for question period has expired. We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 7.

Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Mr. Clerk.

Item 8: Returns to Written Questions*

Return to Written Question 009 – 3(3): Enforcement of the Environmental Protection Act

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the return to Written Question 9 – 3(3). Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Mr. Clerk.

Item 11: Responses to Petitions

Response to Petition 001 – 3(3): Coral Harbour Nurse-in-Charge

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the response to Petition 1 – 3(3). Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you very much, Mr. Clerk. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Item 12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 140 – 3(3): Correspondence Dated December 13, 2011 to the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development on the Nutrition North Canada Program

*See Appendix for full text of Return to Written Question 9 – 3(3) filed with the Clerk.

Tabled Document 141 – 3(3): Joint News Release and Correspondence Dated February 20, 2012: Legislators Across Canada’s North Work Together on the Nutrition North Canada Program

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As you will recall, representatives from the Nutrition North Canada Advisory Board and the federal Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development met with all Members of the Legislative Assembly in this Chamber last fall.

I wish to table today a copy of my follow-up correspondence to the federal Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development on our meeting. I’ll be pleased to table any reply that I receive from the federal department.

Mr. Speaker, the second item I wish to table is the joint news release and letter that was signed yesterday by elected representatives from across the north concerning the Nutrition North Canada Program.

I am proud to have joined with colleagues from the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, Nunavik, and the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador to convey the concerns of our constituents to the appropriate federal ministers. I will be pleased to table any reply that we receive from the federal government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Tabled Document 142 – 3(3): 2010-2011 Public Accounts

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the 2010-11 Public Accounts. Mr. Speaker, this is the first time in Nunavut's short history that the public accounts have been tabled on time.

>> *Applause*

I would like to thank all officials and staff in all our departments and Crown agencies for their hard work in making this historic occasion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Congratulations, Minister Peterson. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Schell.

Tabled Document 143 – 3(3): 2010-2011 Annual Report for the Nunavut Housing Corporation

Tabled Document 144 – 3(3): Nunavut Housing Corporation's Contracting Report for Year Ending March 31, 2011

Hon. Fred Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have two documents to table.

First of all, I am pleased to table the annual report for 2010-11 for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

Also, I am pleased to table the Nunavut Housing Corporation's Contracting Report for the Year Ending March 31, 2011. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Schell. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. There are none. I have a couple documents to table.

Tabled Document 145 – 3(3): 2010-2011 Pension Administration Report

Tabled Document 146 – 3(3): 2012 Sitting Calendar

As required by the *Legislative Assembly Retirement Allowances Act* and the *Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act*, I wish to table today the pension administration report for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2011.

Also, as required by Rule 3(2), I wish to table the Legislative Assembly's 2012 Sitting Calendar.

Item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. Elliott.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Motion 021 – 3(3): Legislative Assembly Appointments – Notice

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, February 23, 2012, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Nanulik, that Mr. Tagak Curley be appointed a member of the Standing Committee on Legislation and a member of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts.

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

my motion today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. Ningeongan.

Motion 022 – 3(3): Extended Sitting Hours and Days – Notice

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on February 23, 2012, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that the Speaker be authorized to set such sitting days and hours as the Speaker deems fit to assist with the business before the House during the winter 2012 sitting of the Legislative Assembly.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Mr. Rumbolt.

Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

Bill 34 – An Act to Amend the Integrity Act – Notice

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, February 23, I will move that Bill 34, *An Act to Amend the Integrity Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Mr. Elliott.

Item 16: Motions

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. The member is seeking unanimous consent to deal with his motion today. Are there any nays? There being none. Please proceed, Mr. Elliott.

Motion 021 – 3(3): Legislative Assembly Appointments

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly is prepared to make appointments;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Nanulik, that Mr. Tagak Curley be appointed a member of the Standing Committee on Legislation and a member of the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? None. The motion is carried.

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. And as we have no items in committee, I will move to the next item on the *Orders of the Day*. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A reminder that the Standing Committee on Legislation meets tomorrow starting at nine o'clock in the Nanuq Boardroom.

Orders of the Day for February 22:

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

17. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
18. Motions
19. First Reading of Bills
20. Second Reading of Bills
21. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
22. Report of the Committee of the Whole
23. Third Reading of Bills
24. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you very much, Mr. Clerk. Before we adjourn for the day, I would just like to ask members, after I exit the Chambers with the Sergeant-at-Arms and the Mace and the staff, to please remain seated. The Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth would like to introduce us to some special guests that we have here today.

This House stands adjourned until Wednesday, February 22, at 1:30 p.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 15:28*

Appendix – February 21, 2012

Return to Oral Question 213 – 3(3): “Solution Box” on Government Website

Asked by: Allan Rumbolt, MLA (Hudson Bay)

Asked of: Hon. Eva Aariak, Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs

Date: October 28, 2011

Question:

Mr. Speaker, recently I was on the Government of Nunavut’s website. I have noticed something that I haven’t seen there before. There was a new icon called the “Solution Box.” Can the minister explain when this solution box was added and its purpose?

Response:

The “Solution Box” was added to the Government of Nunavut website last week on October 27, 2011 and we will now begin to promote its use.

The Government of Nunavut continues to look for ways to provide Nunavummiut with opportunities to give us feedback and input. The solution box is an easy and convenient way for people to send us their solutions, ideas, and input.

Email to solutions@gov.nu.ca is monitored daily. All input will be taken seriously and will be delivered to the appropriate department to consider as we strive to provide better service and governance in Nunavut.

The title, “Solution Box,” communicates that the GN has both the desire and the need to improve and the knowledge that others have solutions to assist us.

All Nunavummiut are invited and encouraged to visit www.gov.nu.ca and to send us their solutions by using the blue “Solution Box” button. With your help, we will move towards excellence.

Return to Oral Question 219 – 3(3): Number of Active Cases of TB in Nunavut

Asked by: Ron Elliott, MLA (Quttiktuq)

Asked of: Hon. Tagak Curley, Minister of Health and Social Services

Date: October 31, 2011

Question:

...can the minister provide an update on how many cases of active tuberculosis we have in Nunavut?

Response:

As of October 25, 2011, there were 62 cases of tuberculosis diagnosed in Nunavut since January 1, 2011 and that 98 percent of cases diagnosed this year have been in the Baffin region.

Cases of tuberculosis are classified as active when they are diagnosed. Active cases are reported by the calendar year in which they were diagnosed, as per the protocols of the Public Health Agency of Canada. So far this year, we will report 62 cases.

Return to Written Question 009 – 3(3): Enforcement of the Environmental Protection Act

Asked by: Moses Aupaluktuq, MLA (Baker Lake)

Asked of: Hon. Daniel Shewchuk, Minister of Environment

Date: October 31, 2011

Question:

1. Within the meaning of section 12 of the *Environmental Protection Act*, how many charges were laid between April 1, 1999 and October 31, 2011 for alleged contraventions of the Act?

Response:

Zero (0).

Question:

2. What were the circumstances of each alleged contravention?

Response:

Not applicable.

Question:

3. What was the final disposition of each incident?

Response:

Not applicable.

Question:

4. Between April 1, 1999 and October 31, 2011, how many fines were imposed for contraventions of the Act and what were the amounts and circumstances in each case where a fine was imposed?

Response:

No fines were imposed within this timeframe.