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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*

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)

Hon. Monica Ell

(Iqaluit West)

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Minister responsible for Homelessness;
Minister responsible for the Status of
Women*

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Community and Government Services;
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responsible for the Workers' Safety and
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of Health and Social Services*

Allan Rumbolt

(Hudson Bay)

Hon. Fred Schell

(South Baffin)

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk

(Arviat)

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

Louis Tapardjuk

(Amittuq)

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Whole*

Hon. Peter Taptuna

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*Deputy Premier; Minister of
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Transportation; Minister of
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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Thursday, June 7, 2012

Members Present:

Honourable Eva Aariak, Honourable James Arreak, Mr. Tagak Curley, Honourable Monica Ell, Mr. Ron Elliott, Mr. Joe Enook, Honourable Lorne Kusugak, Mr. John Ningark, Mr. Johnny Ningeongan, Mr. Hezakiah Oshutapik, Honourable Keith Peterson, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Honourable Fred Schell, Honourable Daniel Shewchuk, Honourable Peter Taptuna, Honourable Hunter Tootoo.

>>*House commenced at 13:31*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. Hunter Tootoo): *Qujannamiik*, Sergeant-at-Arms. Before we proceed with today's session, I would like to ask Ms. Ell to lead us off with a prayer, please.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ell. (interpretation ends) Moving on in our orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Madam Premier.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

**Minister's Statement 172 – 3(3):
Territorial Skills Competition and
Skills Canada Competition**

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to inform my colleagues about Skills Canada Nunavut's seventh annual territorial skills competition held in Iqaluit on April 24. Students and apprentices from seven communities

across Nunavut came together to compete in 11 areas.

Skills Canada Nunavut is a non-profit organization whose mission is to expose youth to trade and technology occupations by developing and delivering educational programs and activities to youth, educators, parents, and others. In partnership with the private and public sector, the organization is helping to address northern Canada's need for a skilled workforce.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the winners from this year's territorial competition who represented Nunavut at the Canadian Skills Competition in Edmonton May 13 to 16, 2012. We sent 13 competitors to Edmonton this year, up from 7 in 2011. I am thrilled to announce that Team Nunavut won the team spirit award at the national event.

Mr. Speaker, skills clubs are an important step in helping to guide our young people on the path to success. Volunteer professionals in the community donate their time and expertise to help Nunavut's youth to realize potential career opportunities.

Please join me in congratulating the members of Team Nunavut for their spirit and impressive work at the national skills competition. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Minister of Education. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Madam Premier.

**Minister's Statement 173 – 3(3):
Council of the Federation Award**

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a member of the Council of the Federation, I present one literacy award each year to a Nunavummiuq who has made a significant contribution to literacy in Nunavut.

This award was publicized in the newspapers, radio, public service announcements, online, and included outreach to schools, libraries, adult learning facilities, Nunavut Arctic College, government liaison officers, and of course, to Members of this Legislative Assembly.

I ask my colleagues and all Nunavummiut to look within their communities and identify and nominate an adult who encourages and shares ways to strengthen literacy skills with others. The nomination form and process can be found on the Government of Nunavut website at www.gov.nu.ca.

Please remember that the deadline for nominations for the Council of the Federation Literacy Award is June 8, 2012. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Culture, Elders and Youth, Minister Arreak.

**Minister's Statement 174 – 3(3): Inuit
Qaujimajatuqangit Katimajit**

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I send good afternoon greetings to Clyde River, particularly to my grandchildren and

daughters, as well as the residents of Qikiqtarjuaq.

Mr. Speaker, I stand today to thank the 15 members of the *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Katimajit*. They have served as an advisory on *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* to departments of this government for the past three years. Their term ends on July 31, 2012.

As well as representing the diverse geographic and linguistic areas of Nunavut, the committee members are individuals well respected for their knowledge, experience, and skills on *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* and culture.

I would like to take a moment to read the names of the members who have helped in shaping our programs, policies, and legislation. The current IQK members have served us well since April 2009. Co-chairs selected of the third committee were Arnaoyok Alookey of Taloyoak and Qabaroak Qatsiya of Cape Dorset. Members include:

Alice Ayalik – Kugluktuk
Liza Ningiuk – Grise Fiord
Andre Tautu – Chesterfield Inlet
Marie Anguti – Kugaaruk
Petersie Qarpik – Pangnirtung
Erksuktuk Eetuk – Coral Harbour
Gamailee Kilukishak – Pond Inlet
Ragalee Angnakok – Qikiqtarjuaq
Jacopie Iqalukjuaq – Clyde River
Sammie Peter – Iqaluit
Koonoo Oyukuluk – Arctic Bay
Simeonie Aqpik – Kimmirut
Leonie Qrunnut – Igloolik

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of what the *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* Committee has contributed. I would like my colleagues to join me in acknowledging their work

and commitment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Environment, Minister Arreak.

**Minister's Statement 175 – 3(3):
Lifting of Narwhal Tusk Ban
Restrictions**

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think today is Arreak Day.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform my colleagues of a major development on the export restrictions for narwhal products. The Government of Nunavut has been informed by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans that the export restrictions for narwhal have been lifted for all communities except Grise Fiord. The lifting of the ban is retroactive to 2010, so tusks harvested since that time can now be exported.

Since the restrictions were put in place in 2010, our officials have been participating in discussions with NTI, Canada, and the NWMB to seek a resolution to this issue. Most recently, we supported community consultations towards the establishment of a sound management plan to ensure that Inuit can continue to benefit economically from this sustainable resource.

This is a positive development and I appreciate the federal government's action on this issue which has been of major concern to Nunavummiut. I encourage the Department of Fisheries

and Oceans to continue to engage Inuit and other stakeholders on narwhal management and to complete necessary research to have the ban lifted for all communities.

Mr. Speaker, while the Government of Nunavut does not have jurisdiction for marine mammal management, we recognize the critical importance of marine mammals to Inuit. We will continue to be engaged in discussions for sustainable marine mammal management and will continue to advocate for the right of Inuit to maximize benefits they receive from harvesting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for South Baffin, Minister Schell.

Item 3: Members' Statements

**Member's Statement 279 – 3(3):
Congratulations to High School
Graduates in Constituency**

Hon. Fred Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say a very appreciative "good afternoon" to all of my constituents in Cape Dorset and Kimmirut.

Although several communities had their graduation ceremonies this past weekend, the communities I represent, Cape Dorset and Kimmirut, will be celebrating their graduations in the next several weeks.

In Cape Dorset, we have seven graduates and the ceremony will take place on

June 22. I will be in my home community at this time, so I will have the pleasure of joining these graduates and their friends and families as we pay tribute to these young adults in honour of their accomplishments.

The names of the Cape Dorset graduates are:

Ian Ross,
Neevee Jaw,
Elisapie Joanasié,
Josephine Kingwatsiak,
Nora Samayualie,
Amaudla Alariaq, and
Maata Jaw.

In Kimmirut, there will be four graduates, with the ceremony taking place this coming June 15. I'm planning on attending this ceremony as well so I can personally congratulate the graduates for all their hard work.

The number of graduates in Kimmirut represents a 67 percent graduation rate. This is very encouraging given that some communities are struggling to attain a 50 percent graduation rate.

The names of the Kimmirut graduates are:

Nina Manning,
Quppaapik Michael,
Jamesie Temela, and
Simeonie Itturjuak.

I ask my fellow members to join me in congratulating these young individuals who represent the future of our communities and Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Schell. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit East, Ms. Aariak.

**Member's Statement 280 – 3(3):
Gratitude to Volunteers in Iqaluit**

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to my constituents in Iqaluit East.

Mr. Speaker, volunteers in the communities are a positive force in their own communities in various ways. People with ability surface in the community and volunteer selflessly. They serve as role models to the youth that one can do positive things without expectations of financial gain. Many youth themselves do volunteer work and become excellent role models themselves. Volunteers demonstrate how communities gain the ability for self-reliance when we talk about how communities become able to stand up by themselves.

This past Sunday, a special event took place that was widely attended and enjoyed: the official opening of one of Nunavut's cathedrals, St. Jude's Cathedral. I'm sure few believed that volunteers would succeed in completing the church to this day. I am especially proud to express my gratitude to the following individuals who sacrificed their own time and effort as volunteers, who have met every Monday evening since 2004:

Ed. Picco, a former MLA of this House;
Mary-Ellen Thomas;
Rebekah Williams;
Frank Pearce;
Susan Gardener;

Malise Elliott; and
Deirdre and Jerry Peet, both of whom
have since moved elsewhere.

These individuals have worked very hard as unpaid volunteers and have noticeably helped change the community for the better. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Aariak. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit West, Ms. Ell.

**Member's Statement 281 – 3(3):
CanNor's Funding Cut to CEDOs**

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As someone who has been an entrepreneur in my hometown of Iqaluit, I know how challenging it is to start one's own business and to keep it running successfully.

Small business owners and entrepreneurs throughout Nunavut have always known that they could turn to the community economic development [officers] in their region for support in areas, such as training, education, child care, and business development. Many Nunavummiut have benefited from using their local CEDOs.

Mr. Speaker, the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency has announced that the federal aboriginal economic development programs that support Kakivak in the Qikiqtani region and other Inuit CEDOs will be cut by \$1 million.

Some Member: Shame, shame!

Hon. Monica Ell: This funding cut endangers the current level of programs and services, Mr. Speaker.

CanNor has chosen to achieve their programs' reduction targets only in Nunavut and only by reducing the programs that support the operation of Inuit CEDOs. Mr. Speaker, this is unacceptable.

Kakivak alone delivers over \$5 million worth of programming funding to beneficiaries in the Qikiqtani region every year, which has a demonstrated impact on the quality of life here.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that my colleagues join me in calling for CanNor to amend this decision and to reinstate the 2013-14 funding for Inuit CEDOs.

I received a letter on this matter from the chair of Kakivak Association's board of directors and will be tabling the letter at an appropriate time. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Ell. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, Mr. Kusugak.

**Member's Statement 282 – 3(3):
Rankin Inlet Study for a Port
Project**

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank my colleague, the Member for Baker Lake, for raising the issue of a port study for Rankin Inlet, the issue he raised on May 31.

I think it's very important to note that the community of Rankin Inlet has taken the initiative to approach CanNor for funding to undertake the study as a community and regional initiative. This is to be commended as an example of a community trying to address its own development.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge and express my appreciation to the mayor and council and our Member of Parliament, Leona Aglukkaq, for supporting this application.

Although this is just a preliminary study, I believe that if a project like this goes ahead, the benefits will accrue to the entire region. This could also help with concerns relating to the cost of food and miscellaneous goods due to improved efficiency.

Mr. Speaker, again I wish the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet well in conducting the study and in pursuing this facility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 283 – 3(3):
Congratulations to Arctic Bay
Residents**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I begin my Member's Statement, I would like to take the time to congratulate Mr. Terry Audla, a former resident of Quttiktuq, on being named ITK president yesterday at their annual

general meeting. I wish Terry all the best in his new position.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to have the opportunity today on the second last day of our sitting to congratulate a number of Arctic Bay residents who have been recognized by the Commissioner of Nunavut for their efforts.

Mr. Speaker, the Commissioner's Awards are open to individuals from any community across Nunavut. Anyone can nominate another individual for an award and forms are available on the Commissioner's website and through her office. I am very pleased that the Hamlet of Arctic Bay took the important step of collecting nominations from the community and forwarding them for the Commissioner's consideration.

Mr. Speaker, on March 27, 2012, Commissioner Edna Elias was in Arctic Bay to recognize the following individuals.

For bravery, the following individuals received Commissioner's Awards: Titus Eecheak, Matthew Taqtu, Chris Qaqqasiq, Jayko Olayuk, Lisha Levi, and Simeonie Allurut.

Titus Eecheak rescued Isaac Shooyoo, who had fallen overboard from his boat. Titus managed to hold Isaac in the water and give him CPR until help arrived.

Matthew Taqtu rescued young Ikilluaq Pullat, who fell into freezing water from an ice pan and could not get back on to the ice.

Chris Qaqqasiq and Jayko Olayuk saved six children from a devastating fire.

Lisha Levi and Simeonie Allurut rescued Olayuk Naqitarvik from drowning and recovered the body of Saqpinak Pitseolak.

For volunteerism, the following individuals received Commissioner's Awards: David Kalluk and Philip Qamanirq, both of whom are no longer with us. During their lives, they served on many committees, boards, and agencies within the community of Arctic Bay.

For humanitarian work, Paul Oqallaq, Naisana Eecheak, and Tom Naqitarvik received Commissioner's Awards for their roles saving individuals from suicide.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would request 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 are none. Please proceed, Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

And Qaapik Attagutsiak received a Commissioner's Award for special skills for a lifetime of passing on traditional skills to younger generations and for working on medical terminology for modern medicine.

Mr. Speaker, Qaapik is our eldest elder in Arctic Bay and will be celebrating her birthday next week, so I wish her a very happy birthday.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would also like to recognize Arctic Bay resident Frank May for being awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. The Diamond Jubilee medal is a national award which honours significant contributions and achievements by Canadians. Individuals are nominated through the office of the Governor General of Canada. The Commissioner of Nunavut presented Frank with the Diamond Jubilee medal for his ongoing work over the years in volunteering with various boards in the community and most recently as the commanding officer of the 3045 Royal Canadian Army Cadets.

I would like to thank the Commissioner for coming to Arctic Bay to present all of these awards in person and I look forward to her travelling to the communities of Grise Fiord and Resolute Bay to recognize the good work of the people from those communities as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

**Member's Statement 284 – 3(3):
Unmanned Drones**

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you. Good afternoon to the residents of Rankin Inlet, especially the people who are making preparations to go out on the land.

Mr. Speaker, the reason why I rise today is to restate the issues that I directed to the Premier last week on the federal

government's proposal to use unmanned drones to conduct surveillance flights in the Canadian Arctic as part of their sovereignty exercises, particularly to police the Northwest Passage related to shipping traffic. We noted the Premier's response that she had not been consulted on this matter and was not aware of this proposal. Regular members would like to have this matter reviewed and looked into.

Additionally, I would like to state that this is not the first time the matter has been voiced in this House. I would like to name the first member who spoke to this issue in the past. Our current Speaker, when he was a regular MLA for Iqaluit Centre, brought up this issue and I wish to read it for our information. "I rise today to express my shock and disbelief of the news that the federal Department of National Defence is considering the purchase of a fleet of unmanned drones to patrol the Canadian Arctic." So this is not the first time the federal government has brought up this idea, as this statement was made in 2007, when our current Speaker spoke to this matter in this House.

Just recently, last week, we were informed that the federal government is again considering the idea of purchasing up to six unmanned drones, with an approximate price range of \$150 million to \$170 million each. If the federal government was to indeed purchase these six unmanned drones, the total purchase price would surpass \$1 trillion. In my opinion, this is an absolute useless proposal for the Inuit homeland. I want it on public record that I consider it a pointless exercise.

Furthermore, I would like support from this House to voice a common position that they ought not to even consider this idea for the Inuit homeland of Canada's Arctic since they will not be used by the Inuit. Additionally, I want further support to make the recommendation to instead reallocate this amount to resolve the current challenges Inuit in the communities already have with their feet on the ground, showcasing Canadian sovereignty to the whole world. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. If my recollection is correct, I think they were called "Predators" and that was only time that I was not a Predators fan.

>> *Laughter*

Moving on to the orders of the day. Members' Statements. Mr. Arreak.

Member's Statement 285 – 3(3): Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since today is close to the end of our session, I wish to make a Member's Statement.

When I was elected to this office in 2004 and in 2008, I had to swear an Oath of Allegiance. At that time, I swore my allegiance to Queen Elizabeth II to serve in the office. Concurrently, it also happens to be the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, commemorating her 60th anniversary as the Queen. From the time I took my first breath to now, she has been our Queen and I am quite proud of her continuing reign.

Further, I have a grandson whom I will provide some background on since he cannot tell his side of the story due to his age. He is five years old. My grandson has stated previously that his best friend is Queen Elizabeth. When he was only two years old, his parents wrote his Christmas wishes to Santa Claus for what he wanted for Christmas. He wrote down that he wanted a picture of Queen Elizabeth from Santa Claus.

>>*Laughter*

On top of that, when he asked for a dog, which was given, he was asked what name he preferred for his new pet. I am sure you can just imagine his answer: Queen Elizabeth. Yes, I am very proud of my grandson.

I am also proud of our freedom of speech in Nunavut and the ability to make our own decisions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Arreak. Item 3. Members' Statements. We will move on with our orders of the day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Minister Taptuna.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

Return to Oral Question 366 – 3(3): Rent Scale for Public Housing

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to respond to Mr. Oshutapik's question of June 1, 2012 concerning the public housing rent scale, Question No. 366 – 3(3).

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Oshutapik was seeking a response that he felt was outstanding from my predecessor as Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. I have reviewed the *Hansard* from the last sitting of this House and would like to refer to Question 229 – 3(3), Affordable Housing, posed by Mr. Oshutapik on February 21, 2012. However, Mr. Speaker, I welcome the opportunity to provide information on the public housing rent scale to my colleagues.

My predecessor as Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation indicated in February that the proposed changes to the rent scale would be in place by the end of the year. The Nunavut Housing Corporation has developed options for the revision of the public housing rent scale which has been approved by the Nunavut Housing Corporation Board of Directors during their May 2012 meetings here in Iqaluit. The Nunavut Housing Corporation is currently preparing a submission for cabinet consideration. Any approved changes will likely be implemented in 2013.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to provide some clarification on the current rent scale. In terms of affordability, rents are based on household income and range from 10 to 28 percent, which is below Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's defined threshold. In reference to what appears to be a perception of some, rent does not increase as soon as a person is employed. Rent increases only occur every September and are based on the previous year's income. As such, no rent increases take place until almost a year

after finding employment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Moving on with our orders of the day. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Minister of the Nunavut Housing Coronation, Minister Taptuna.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Tamapta* seeks diversity in housing options. Today, I would like to recognize board members for Habitat for Humanity Iqaluit who are here with us today for their tireless dedication to promoting homeownership as a viable option for those who would not likely be able to afford a home without the community's and organization's support.

Mr. Speaker, the board members are:

Glen Cousins

Don Sinclair-Chenier

Ms. Elizabeth Kingston

Clarence Synard

Warren Borg

Kerone Folkes-Borg

Berta Azevedo, and

Melanie Abbott.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I made a statement regarding this great organization and, as you noted, Mr. Speaker, I don't get very many

opportunities to recognize visitors in the Gallery. I would also like to take this opportunity to invite my fellow members and all Iqalumiut to the upcoming June 23 midnight sun build, noon to midnight, where volunteers will have the opportunity to work alongside Habitat's Global Village volunteers to help build under the midnight sun. There will be a public barbecue at noon and midnight at the building site at Apex.

Mr. Speaker, please help me in giving applause to the board members of Habitat for Humanity Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. I welcome you all to the Gallery. As I said to the minister yesterday, I look forward to seeing him at the annual golf tournament.

Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Enook.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 394 – 3(3): Mental Health Strategy

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, residents of Pond Inlet, as well as my fellow Nunavummiut. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, Canada's Mental Health Commission announced its national strategy and

called upon the federal government to provide additional funding especially for mental health care. There is a growing awareness across Canada of the need to tackle mental health problems at a societal level.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that here in Nunavut, there is a growing realization that we need to break down the stigma associated with mental health problems and we need to acknowledge and address mental health issues up front.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister indicate whether he has reviewed the newly released national Mental Health Strategy and whether he has approached the federal Minister of Health to request additional funding to address this important issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister of Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Enook for the two questions. Yes and yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate your answer, Mr. Minister. Objective 2.5 of the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy Action Plan, which was tabled in this House in September of 2011, commits the Department of Health and Social Services to, and I quote, “strengthen mental health and wellness services available in Iqaluit, which serves as a catchment area for other communities.” Part of this objective was

to “identify the level of mental health and wellness resources required”. Can the minister describe whether all the required resources have been identified and what funds have been set aside to provide for them? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister of Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. Mr. Speaker, I have been advised by my officials in my department on behalf of the implementation committee that most of the objectives, if not all, for 2011-12 have been achieved or continue to be worked on and they’re working on other objectives.

Mr. Speaker, for 2012-13, the Government of Nunavut is investing a considerable amount of resources into mental health in all the communities in Nunavut. As the national Mental Health Strategy that was released last month indicated, it’s going to take time for all governments to start prioritizing and redirecting funds to mental health and addictions. That’s clearly stated in that strategy. The mental health folks, I understand, are coming to Nunavut in the near future. I hope to meet with them as well to talk about the strategy and how they can assist Nunavut to find resources and redirect resources to mental health.

Mr. Speaker, as we saw in the winter session, this House approved funding to renovate a facility in Iqaluit to convert it to a mental health facility to provide services to Iqaluit and, hopefully, to the

rest in Nunavut. I also indicated, I think, at the time, that I would be approaching the House at a later date, likely this fiscal year, to get additional resources to operate that facility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook: *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Health and Social Services committed to completing Objective 2.5 of the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy Action Plan by March of 2012. Can the minister update this House on his review of mental health needs for Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister of Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. Mr. Speaker, I understand that the *Mental Health Act* will be under review. It's an internal review to update it and make it more suitable for Nunavut issues. So it's a process that's underway. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North, Mr. Curley.

Question 395 – 3(3): Public Housing Rent Scale Review

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would like to thank the minister for his Minister's Statement in regard to the housing rent scale. I would like to ask a question in regard to that.

On June 1, 2012, one of my colleagues posed questions to the minister concerning the public housing rent scale review. The minister informed the House that "One of the things that we're trying to do with the review and amendments to the rent scale is to encourage economic activity and employment." Can the minister explain how the new rent scale will promote economic activity and employment in communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, the rent scale, as you know, has been ongoing since the formation of this third government. It was debated quite a bit and there were a lot of concerns surrounding the public housing rent scale. As you know, going through the process, there are a lot of entities involved, including Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, and, of course, Income Support had to be consulted to try and alleviate some of these concerns that Nunavummiut had.

We want to get the message out there that the rent that's charged to the folks out there who are in public units is a matter of putting in their income and that income is gathered from taxation in Revenue Canada to help the local housing authorities evaluate the rent to charge for the specific people who move into public units.

One of the things that were obvious was that once a person becomes employed, the rent charges go up accordingly to the rate of their income for that household.

That was more of a deterrent for keeping people employed. So we looked at that and that's being addressed with this new draft that will be out soon. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I'm not sure whether I understood exactly what his economic incentives are for Nunavutmiut because the rental housing policy in Nunavut is not a mechanism for creating economic activity or a mechanism to promote economic activity and employment.

On October 26, 2009, all Members of the Legislative Assembly announced that "comprehensive reviews of the public housing rent scale and the income support program are required. Caucus noted that these reviews should focus on identifying and removing disincentives to entering the workforce." Can the minister clearly indicate how the Nunavut Housing Corporation is working with the Department of Education's Income Support Division to ensure Nunavutmiut who are currently on income support are given incentives to work? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I thank the member for that excellent question. Mr. Speaker, over 60 percent of our tenants who are in public units pay less than \$100 a month.

When we talk about economic activity, we're talking employment too. Mr.

Speaker, once a person is employed, they usually have difficulty in adjusting to sudden increases in their rent. Some of these folks, after having paid the minimum rent charged at \$60 per month for a certain number of years and they become employed, it's rather a shock to the tenants and the whole family when their rent goes up from \$60 to \$1,200 to \$1,400 because of the new income opportunities that they have found through employment.

So we're trying to find a way to alleviate some of these things with the help of the Department of Education, Income Support. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Question 396 – 3(3): Fuel Supply in Grise Fiord

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services and are based around the Petroleum Products Division.

We have heard during the spring sitting that there are two communities across the territory that are short on fuel. I just received, actually, some alarming emails from Grise Fiord that all flights to Grise Fiord are cancelled because there's no jet-A fuel left in the community. Could the minister confirm that there is a fuel shortage in Grise Fiord? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for the question. I could assure him that there are issues with fuel in his community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Other communities have long enough runways to be able to land a Herc with specialized fuel tanks to airlift fuel into the communities. I know Grise Fiord is definitely serviced by twin otter. I'm wondering: what will the government do in this type of situation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We will be replenishing the airplane fuel, for lack of a better term, in the community. To the best of my knowledge, we will be using twin otters to do the task. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that assurance. I'll definitely pass it on to the residents of Grise Fiord. Again, being at the end of the supply chain, I think there is concern and worry, and with some of the dynamics of the runway, ensuring the continued service of people as well as goods and services going into the community is definitely a concern, so I think that will help.

Like I said, my overarching questions are about the Petroleum Products Division. Annually, we see communities running out of fuel. I had sent correspondence to the minister over the past year questioning the amount of fuel that was being put into Grise Fiord and the reply that I received, if memory serves me correct, was that a two-year supply is supposed to be delivered to the community.

I guess my question would be: why, in this case, was that not happening? Was there an increase in flights going into Grise Fiord? As far I know, there has been no overburden of planes going in and out of the community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to respond to my colleague's question. Mr. Speaker, we are looking into why this happened and hopefully we will resolve that issue and start to deal with the big issue of fuel shortage in municipalities. This seems to be the year that we had this issue spring up in more than one community, but we are looking into the matter. Hopefully we will have the issue dealt with and we won't come across this kind of issue again, but we're looking into it right now, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not so sure whether this year is a

year that's unique because I know last year, there were a couple of communities. I remember hearing that Rankin Inlet had fuel brought in. The previous year before that, there was Coral Harbour experiencing it. I know one of my other communities, Rankin Inlet...or Resolute Bay... I don't want to take on four communities; I only want three.

>> *Laughter*

Resolute Bay had a similar situation. It wasn't jet-A fuel, but it was gas.

In Grise Fiord's specific case, is it? In terms of explaining sometimes why fuel is not put in the communities, is Grise Fiord's problem the capacity in terms of the tanks that are in the community for holding the proper amount for the community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak: ...as the plane flies over us.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for the question. I can't confirm that for sure, but once we confirm exactly why this is happening, I definitely will report back to my colleague. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

Question 397 – 3(3): Kugaaruk Water Quality

Mr. Ningark (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Community and Government Services.

I think the minister knows that in Kugaaruk, the water reservoir is very salty this year. I appreciate and thank the minister for the assistance that we received, but it still gets salty in the fall and the reservoir is becoming too shallow. Another reservoir has not been found. There were two or three places where people have started going to for water, but they were used for swimming.

I would like to ask the minister: can he tell me if he is planning with the community to search for a better water reservoir for the community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank Mr. Ningark for bringing that issue up. Firstly, with respect to the hamlet and residents of Kugaaruk, I appreciate their cooperation in resolving this issue, even though they had to go through a difficult time. We were able to cooperate to resolve this issue. You cannot do your daily chores without water. You cannot make tea. You cannot do dishes. You cannot do laundry. It really creates more problems. So I appreciate that we were able to collaborate with the hamlet.

Mr. Speaker, at this current time, we will continue to collaborate with the Hamlet of Kugaaruk to look for a solution to this water shortage. We will work with the

hamlet to ensure we meet this demand.
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Kusugak.
Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for
Tununiq, Mr. Enook.

**Question 398 – 3(3): Baseball Field for
Pond Inlet**

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you,
Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my
question to the Minister of Community
and Government Services.

Mr. Speaker, the responsibilities for
sport and recreation services will soon
be transferred to the Department of CGS
from the Department of CLEY. I hope
that some of the past
miscommunications with regard to
recreational infrastructure will be
eliminated as a result of this move.

In 2008, the Department of CGS agreed
to provide funding under its Community
Support Projects Division to the Hamlet
of Pond Inlet towards its baseball field
relocation project. To this day, this
project has never been completed and
there is no baseball field for people to
play in over the summer months. Can the
minister clarify the kinds of
circumstances that can lead to
contribution funding for important
community infrastructure projects being
delayed by almost four years? Thank
you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not exactly

sure whether it is indeed four years, but
if there was an agreement governing that
transfer where they changed the usage of
the land from a ballpark to a hockey
arena, this was the decision of the local
hamlet and the residents of Pond Inlet.
There was an agreement that a search
would be undertaken to look for a new
baseball field.

Mr. Speaker, what I can state is that this
agreement was negotiated between CGS
and the hamlet, but unfortunately, it was
not settled and the funding was set aside.
We now have to revisit this issue. It will
make matters go more smoothly when
the recreation division is transferred to
CGS and result in less confusion. Thank
you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you,
Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the minister's
response. The Department of CLEY
recognized Pond Inlet's need for a
baseball field several years ago. The
project was then referred to CGS for
funding as a community support project.
Can the minister provide an update on
what has occurred to prevent this project
from becoming a reality? Thank you,
Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation):
Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The
identification of the land that was
selected for the baseball field would
require a lot of gravel, 7,200 square
metres, and gravel is not cheap. A large

amount is required and we have been forced to look at alternatives and options. It will require deliberation between CGS and the local hamlet. Perhaps the first solution would be to look for a piece of land that does not require a lot of landscaping to make it a baseball field. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With the piece of land that was selected or even if they choose another future ballpark, will the Minister commit to making good on his department's promise to provide funding towards Pond Inlet's baseball field project? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I cannot make a commitment because I don't have the contents of the previous agreement. We debated this previously with your predecessor, but I cannot recall the exact details, so I cannot make this commitment. What I can state is that we will continue to work with the Hamlet of Pond Inlet to ensure that a ballpark is constructed in Pond Inlet. We want to have a common goal to ensure that a ballpark is built in the community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. Mr. Minister, can you agree

with my assessment that you will make this a priority and that you will deal with this immediately? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has been an ongoing issue and prior to a completion date, this process of collaborating will continue with the Hamlet of Pond Inlet. With the transfer of the recreation division into our department, we are already starting to cooperate on this matter. If they can choose another parcel of land, it would alleviate some of our concerns, but we would have to look at all the costs related to that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Kusugak. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Question 399 – 3(3): Plans for GN's Research Vessel Nuliajut

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Environment.

On October 20, 2011, the Minister responsible for the Department of Environment at that time stated the success of the new fishing research vessel in its first year of research. Can the minister update us today what his department's plans are for the research vessel this season? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister responsible for the Department of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Hudson Bay for raising that question. The research vessel has been sent back south to deal with some deficiencies that were discovered. It will be returning next month and we will be doing some mammal and fish research, as well as other research this summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister update us on what areas of Nunavut will be researched this summer? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Minister responsible for the Department of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The research vessel will be steaming through Baffin communities, starting with Iqaluit and all the way up to Pond Inlet prior to moving onto another area this summer. Thank you.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Does your department have a long-term plan for the research vessel? If so, will the minister commit to tabling the plan in the House? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt.

Minister responsible for the Department of Environment, Minister Arreak.

Hon. James Arreak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The research vessel has a full workload throughout Nunavut to go into every community. This work was started last year and the report on the results of that work will be tabled in the near future. This year, it will revisit some communities and go to such areas as between Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq. Hiring more employees from Nunavut is one of its goals. That is the work plan for the research vessel.

At this time, we don't have any particular details, but once we do have a plan available, I will table it in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Arreak. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Question 400 – 3(3): Bilingual Education Models

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are directed towards the Minister of Education.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to thank the minister for her response to the question I posed back in March on the bilingual education models being used in Nunavut's schools. The information provided focuses on the future implementation of bilingual education.

The three models of bilingual education for Nunavut's schools were introduced in 2004 and included the "Early Immersion" model, the "Qulliq" model, and the "Dual Language" model. Can the minister clarify for this House

whether her department tracks which communities are currently using which bilingual education model and if she would be able to make that information available? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, Education does keep track and when I do receive the information that is retrieved from the communities, I can provide him with that information. Thank you.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For some communities, instruction seems to be divided half in English and half in Inuktitut. Can the minister describe how her department monitors which language of instruction is being used to deliver which subject and how the quality of the language of instruction is evaluated? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member is asking very good questions that will require some collaborative work and a collection of the work that's conducted in that. Again, when I get that information, I will get back to him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Department of Education's business plan refers to a number of assessment activities that will be carried out in 2012-13. Can the minister clearly indicate whether or not those assessments will also evaluate the success of the bilingual models being used in Nunavut schools? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The fact that we are in the stages of implementing our new *Education Act*, it is very important that we keep track of the implementation of the Act. The assessment component of that is also very important. This assessment area is something that we are keeping a very close eye on. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm sorry if I have confused the minister because I was actually asking about the assessment of the bilingual models used in our schools; I wasn't talking about the assessment of the *Education Act*. Within the Department of Education's business plan, during the 2012-13 year, it will be looking at and assessing the bilingual models. So I'm sorry for that confusion.

For a number of my questions, the minister had said that she would have to go back and get the information. They're collecting information. Is there any idea of when we will get an answer back? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We may already have a lot of the information at the administrative level, so I will check into that and I will provide him with the kind of information he's looking for as soon as I can. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Aariak. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Enook.

Question 401 – 3(3): Pubic Disclosure Requirements for Senior Government of Nunavut Officials

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Premier, Hon. Eva Aariak.

The Premier knows very well that all of us here in the House are required to disclose annual financial reports which contain capital, income, and credit information. These reports are publicly available once they are tabled.

It's a very simple question that I'm going to ask the Premier here. Do cabinet ministers or, for example, the corporation presidents also have to disclose their financial statements, yes or no? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member wasn't clear on which level of

management he is asking about. From what I know, they are not required to make these disclosures. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If they are not required to make disclosures, can you, as Premier, commit to including senior management of departments and Crown corporations in the disclosure requirements so that they can be publicly available for scrutiny? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Members of the Legislative Assembly, the reason why we have to disclose them is because we are elected. We are held accountable to the people we serve in regard to our assets, liabilities, and business interests. For senior members of the public service, I'm sure they can negotiate if that has to be done or not and if they should be treated the same as elected members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I can ask the Premier: do you think they should make public disclosure statements? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): If I understood the member's question correctly, is he asking for my opinion? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Mr. Enook, would you like to rephrase your question?

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Was I asking about her personal opinion? Yes, I was. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. As you will note in our Rules, you're not allowed to ask a minister for their personal opinion on things, so I will have to rule that question as not in order. So if you have another supplementary question, Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Premier: can her department conduct a review as to whether this type of requirement could be followed in the future? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As elected members, we have to disclose statements. I don't know if that should apply to non-elected staff, but it can be deliberated upon. I can't say whether it is appropriate or not. He asked if my department can look into this. It can be

looked into, but I can't say that this will go ahead. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 402 – 3(3): Mentoring for New Teachers

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my questions to the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident that the minister will agree that there is a great need for teachers who are from Nunavut, who speak Inuktitut, and who live and understand northern culture. I believe that it is an important goal of the Nunavut Teacher Education Program, the NTEP program.

Unfortunately, I am aware of cases where NTEP graduates will no longer be employed in their school teaching jobs apparently because they don't meet the expectations of their employers. Can the minister clearly describe what efforts are made to follow up with NTEP graduates to ensure that they are properly oriented to their teaching jobs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank Mr. Elliott for that question. As he is aware and refers to properly, the NTEP program is a very successful program throughout Nunavut and has educated

more than 100 teachers, I think, since its inception.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavut Arctic College delivers the program on behalf of the Department of Education, which sets the curriculum for the program. There are various qualifications that are needed for all teachers in Nunavut. The candidates are tested to those qualifications upon completion of the program.

As far as a follow-up and mentoring that goes on in the schools, I think that's the Department of Education's responsibility and they could answer that part of the question better. They surely are qualified when they graduate and I believe it is University of Regina standards that they meet. As I said, with follow-up, though, I think that's the Department of Education's responsibility. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has been suggested that newly graduated teachers could benefit from a kind of mentoring program, especially during the first few years of employment. Can the minister indicate whether he works with his counterpart in the Department of Education to ensure that such mentoring programs have been considered and implemented for NTEP graduates? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, the Department of

Education would know more about the mentoring that goes on after these graduates are employed in the school system. Absolutely, of course, we are interested in working with the Department of Education to provide the best quality teachers that we can. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has been noted that a significant number of Nunavut teachers will be retiring over the next few years. Can the minister update this House on whether there will be sufficient numbers of NTEP teachers graduating to fill those newly vacated jobs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again Mr. Elliott is referring a question that really belongs to the Department of Education. I'm not really aware of the numbers of teachers that are going to be needed in the future. However, we will work with the Department of Education to address the needs as best we can. The NTEP program is very successful and it's going to continue to be offered across all communities in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I'm a little puzzled why. The

departments should be working together more. When we sat in Committee of the Whole during our March sitting, we were told, with the new funding that was coming through from the federal government to work with older students getting education, there was partnership between the Department of Education and you guys working together. The departments work together all the time.

Now, for a program that is as important as the NTEP program, which receives a considerable amount of money from this House and puts excellent teachers into the classrooms, I don't know why you wouldn't work together to try and do a forecast as to how many teachers you need to be training so that you could ask for the proper amount of money to do a program that will educate, train, and provide teachers that will be going to a class who are Inuit.

Again, I'm a little concerned because we have, first of all, this happening in the departments now where I think there should be cooperation. At the same time, there's going to be more cooperation needed when the mature student graduation diplomas come out. We have been assured by both, and I did ask questions to both the Minister of Education and the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, that they are working together, but obviously, what he's saying is that they are not working together. So I would like to see that.

One concern that has been raised is that many NTEP graduates are hired into government administrative positions instead of into teaching positions. How does Nunavut Arctic College record and track the employment paths followed by NTEP graduates? Thank you, Mr.

Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me be clear about this. I never said that we don't work together. I said, far from that, we absolutely do work very closely together. There's very much mutual respect and cooperation when we do that. So I kind of take offence to what the member has stated that we do not work together.

As far as following the graduates when they go through, again, I'm sure the Department of Education has those numbers for the teachers who have graduated and the teachers who are employed and what the prepared career paths they have look like. That information can be gotten for him no problem, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Question 403– 3(3): Review of Mental Health Act

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

In the business plan for 2012-13, it states that his department will be working on reviewing the *Mental Health Act*. I was wondering if the minister could provide an update to the House today on what is happened with that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott.

Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in answer to a member earlier, the department has initiated review of the *Mental Health Act*. It's an internal review. There are regional health managers and staff here who have begun that work. It's early. It's only June 7, so we're not even two and a half months into the fiscal year. So it is early. I assure the member that work is underway and when I have more to report, I will report it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for that answer. Has the department compiled a list of stakeholders whom they will be speaking to in regard to what amendments should be made to the *Mental Health Act*? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Health and Social Services, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott again for the question. Mr. Speaker, as I indicated earlier, it's early. The regional managers and our headquarters staff are doing an internal review. I'm sure, at some point, they will make a determination on what to do with the internal review and who to contact outside of the department. Thank

you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my understanding that, within the department, within the directors' responsibility in terms of the day-to-day operation of mental health within our communities, there are no standard operating procedures in terms of what frontline workers are supposed to do or not do. I'm wondering if part of this review will actually correct that mistake or oversight of not having standard operating procedures. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Elliott has obviously been doing his homework. Perhaps he has been over in the department reviewing the *Mental Health Act* himself. Mr. Speaker, as I indicated the other day, I'm not involved in the day-to-day operations.

I assure the member that mental health is a high priority for this territory and for this government. We are devoting resources, as I indicated in a previous answer. The Mental Health Commission of Canada has released a mental health strategy for Canada. I hope to have an opportunity to work with them.

I have stated on and off here for the last week and a half that there's always room for improvement. We identify deficiencies in programs and policies and we try to correct them. That's what

we will be doing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I always try to do my homework and make sure. . . . In terms of being given the great responsibility of representing three of the best communities in Nunavut, I want to make sure that I know what I'm talking about.

In regard to one of the things that the department is doing, and we approved funding for this in March, was the hiring of some new mental health workers. I was wondering if the minister could update the House on the hiring process for these individuals and explain how that's going. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm sure we all agree, all the Members of this House and all Nunavummiut, each and every community we represent is the best community. They're all great communities, large and small.

Mr. Speaker, the hiring of the mental health workers has begun. I believe several of them have been positioned throughout Nunavut. I don't have the details on the numbers and where they are, but I have been assured that they are receiving offers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

Question 404 – 3(3): Mentoring for New Teachers

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

Mr. Speaker, I am confident that the minister will agree with me that there is a great need for teachers who are from Nunavut, who speak Inuktitut, and who live and understand northern culture. I believe that it is an important goal of the Nunavut Teacher Education Program.

Unfortunately, I am aware of cases where NTEP graduates will no longer be employed in their school teaching jobs apparently because they don't meet the expectations of their employer, which is the Department of Education.

Can the minister clearly describe what efforts are made to follow up with NTEP graduates and new teachers entering the school system to ensure that they are properly oriented to their teaching jobs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. My department is in the process of developing an orientation and mentoring program in partnership with the Nunavut Teachers Association.

When new teachers are hired, regional school operations send an information

package that includes information about teaching in the north, their specific community, curriculum and teaching resources. Because we are now hiring Inuit teachers who are from other communities as well, this orientation is also important for them.

An orientation plan is being developed for implementation during the 2012-13 school year. This includes a website that will provide information and resources regarding living and teaching in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For my second question I would like to ask the minister and again for my earlier questions regarding the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, I meant no disrespect, but I just find it hard, when I'm asking questions which, to me, seem linked so closely together between departments, why there's the inability to answer questions.

Can the minister indicate whether she works with her counterpart in Nunavut Arctic College to ensure that mentoring goes on and explain how your departments work together? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Nunavut Arctic College is in the business of educating people. Once the students graduate from Nunavut Arctic College, organizations,

governments, schools, and district education authorities hire the individuals who have graduated through the hiring process, interviews, and whatnot.

All the students who are graduating from Nunavut Arctic College are wonderful individuals. In fact, this weekend, we will be celebrating a number of graduates who are coming out of Nunavut Arctic College.

Our officials at the officials' level meet regularly, depending upon the kind of initiatives that they are working with.

There is a close working relationship within our department and Nunavut Arctic College. I don't have the information in terms of day-to-day activities as to how they work together, but I can assure the member that the working relationship with Nunavut Arctic College and the Department of Education is ongoing. It is essential that there is close collaboration, not so much in details in terms of administrative purposes, but looking at the broad picture of what is required within our territory in regard to, let's say, in the topic of our discussion right now, education. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate that answer. Mr. Speaker, it has been noted that a significant number of Nunavut teachers will be retiring over the next few years. Can the minister update this House on whether there will be sufficient numbers of NTEP teachers graduating to fill those newly vacated jobs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We always need a number of teachers every year. In fact, if you look at the implementation of our bilingual education system, we need close to 300 Inuit teachers right now, but I'm sure that it will come along in the future. We do need many Inuit teachers.

Again, in hiring the teachers to our schools, they have to go through the hiring process. In order to fill those positions, a number of graduates, I'm sure, will be applying for those empty positions or soon to be empty positions and as the job advertisements come out for teachers' positions, I'm sure there will be students who are graduating from NTEP who will be applying. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One concern that has been raised is that many NTEP graduates are hired into government administrative positions instead of into teaching positions. How does the Department of Education record and track the employment paths followed by NTEP graduates? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate individuals who have gone onto the administrative side of education. We need individuals who

have a wealth of knowledge in the area of education and in administration positions as well. I appreciate all the teachers who are working so very hard in their classrooms, but at the same time, as they gain experience in teaching and administration of the schools, sometimes they are hired in the area of administration, not necessarily in teaching.

In terms of actual data-gathering in the areas that the member has asked me, I don't have that information in front of me. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Minister. Members will note that the allotted time for question period has expired. We will move on with our 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. Mr. Ningeongan.

Item 12: Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters

Committee Report 024 – 3(3): Bill 38, An Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that Bill 38, *An Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, has been reviewed by the Standing Committee on Legislation and that the bill, as amended and reprinted, is ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to waive Rule 68(6) and have Bill 38 immediately moved into Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. The member is seeking unanimous consent to waive Rule 68(6) so that Bill 38 can be referred immediately to the Committee of the Whole. Are there any nays? There being none. Bill 38 is therefore referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters.
Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Human Resources, Minister Ell.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 212 – 3(3): Towards a Representative Public Service – Statistics as of June 30, 2011

Tabled Document 213 – 3(3): Towards a Representative Public Service – Statistics as of September 30, 2011

Tabled Document 214 – 3(3): Towards a Representative Public Service – Statistics as of December 31, 2011

Tabled Document 215 – 3(3): Correspondence from Kakivak Association from June 1, 2012 about CEDO Funding Cuts

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Minister of HR, I have three documents; I also have one as an MLA. Am I able to do those four items at the same time?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Department of Human

Resources “Towards a Representative Public Service” - Statistics as of June 30, 2011; Statistics as of September 30, 2011; and Statistics as of December 31, 2011.

As I mentioned earlier, I have received a letter from the chair of the Kakivak Association Board of Directors and I’m tabling the letter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Ell. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Minister responsible for Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

Tabled Document 216 – 3(3): Annual Report on the Implementation of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) for 2006-2008

Tabled Document 217 – 3(3): Annual Report for the Nunavut Implementation Plan for 2008-2010

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I am pleased to table two annual reports for the Nunavut Implementation Plan for the year 2008-2010 and 2006-08. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Tabled Document 218 – 3(3): Fuel Tax Rebate Program Annual Report for 2010-2011

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Fuel

Tax Rebate Program Annual Report for 2010-11. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Minister responsible for Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

Tabled Document 219 – 3(3): FPT Ministerial Report of the Northern Development Ministers’ Forum in Happy Valley, Goose Bay – February 1-4, 2012

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministerial Report of the Northern Development Ministers Forum in Happy Valley, Goose Bay, February 1 to 4, 2012. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Taptuna. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Minister responsible for the Department of Justice, Minister Shewchuk.

Tabled Document 220 – 3(3): Strengthening the Nunavut Human Rights System

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the report on “Strengthening the Nunavut Human Rights System.” Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Item 13. Tabling of Documents.

Tabled Document 221 – 3(3): Sitting Calendar for 2012

Tabled Document 222 – 3(3): Report of Members’ Absences from Sitting of the House and Meetings of Committees and Caucuses to the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut January 1, 2012 to March 31, 2012

Members, I have two documents to table today, the first being the Legislative Assembly’s updated Sitting Calendar for 2012 and the Report of Members’ Absences from Sittings of the House and Meetings of Committees and Caucuses for the period of January 1, 2012 to March 31, 2012.

Moving on in our orders of the day. 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. Madam Premier.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills

Bill 40 – Representative for Children and Youth Act – Second Reading

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by Hon. Member for Iqaluit West, that Bill 40, *Representative for Children and Youth Act*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this Act establishes the office of the *Nutaqqanut Kakkuttunnnullu Kiggaqtuiji*, or representative for children and youth, and guided by Inuit culture and Inuit societal values, will advocate for the rights and interests of children and youth and assist the Legislative Assembly and the Government of Nunavut in ensuring that

the needs of children and youth are met. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 40 has had second reading and is referred to the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Minister's Statement 155 – 3(3) and Bill 38 with Mr. Enook in the Chair.

Before we proceed to the Committee of the Whole, we will take a 20-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:18 and Committee resumed at 15:47*

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

Chairman (Mr. Enook)(interpretation): Good afternoon. I would now like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bill 38 and Minister's Statement 155 – 3(3). What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to proceed with the review of Bill 38 and when completed, we will proceed to discuss Minister's Statement 155 – 3(3). Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Does the committee agree that we first deal with Bill 38?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 38 – An Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to ask the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier, if she would like to make her opening comments on Bill 38. (interpretation ends) Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will read my opening comments in English as we have capable interpreters with us. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman and committee members, I am pleased to appear before the Committee of the Whole today to answer any questions you may have.

Hold on. I'll have to start from the beginning of my presentation here. (interpretation) I apologize, Mr. Chairman. I don't have the first part of my opening comments.

Thank you. I'll start all over, Mr. Chairman.

(interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Chairman and committee members. I am pleased to appear before the Committee of the Whole today to answer any questions you may have on Bill 38, *An*

Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Nunavut's *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* was inherited from the Government of the Northwest Territories upon division in 1999. Since that time, only minor changes have been made to the Act. Bill 38 would mark the first substantive amendment to the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

The *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* is important legislation to all Nunavummiut as it gives them the right to access information held by the Government of Nunavut. It also obligates the government to respect Nunavummiut by protecting the privacy of their personal information.

It has been noted over the years that the privacy provisions of our Act are not adequate. We have heard these concerns and have committed to improving the privacy rights of Nunavummiut.

This amendment will do the following:

1. It will provide a time extension for the government to provide access to records in any official language of Nunavut. This provision will require the government to release the records in the language they are found within the 30-day time period but provides a reasonable amount of time to provide the translated copies. This will ensure delays are not a barrier to access to information.
2. It will allow the government to deem a request abandoned where the applicant has failed to respond to the

public body within 90 days of receipt of notice. Often, the government requires an applicant to provide clarification on a request or pay applicable fees. This will give the applicant a timeframe for response. If the applicant does not provide the government with the clarification or pay the fees, the public body may deem the request abandoned and close the file. This should not be seen as a barrier to access as it does not limit an individual from placing another, even similar, request in the future. It is an administrative tool we can use to ensure files are not left open from year to year.

3. It will increase the privacy rights of Nunavummiut. Currently, the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* has provisions that protect against the "intentional" breach of privacy. However, there is no oversight, internal or external, to handle accidental breaches of privacy. Finally, there is no recourse for an individual who feels their privacy has been breached by a public body nor is a public body required to inform the individual or commissioner where a privacy breach has been identified.

The amendment to the privacy provisions will increase the privacy rights of Nunavummiut in the following ways:

- I. Allow individuals to request a review be done by the Information and Privacy Commissioner.
- II. Allow the Information and Privacy Commissioner to initiate a review where she has reason to believe that

the public body has inappropriately collected, used, or disclosed personal information.

III. Allow the Information and Privacy Commissioner to make recommendations regarding administration to the Government of Nunavut which must be addressed by the minister responsible for the public body in question.

IV. Requires public bodies to assess all breaches of privacy to determine harm and notify individuals where the breach creates a risk of harm to the individual.

My department has engaged in consultations with all public bodies through the ATIPP Coordinators Committee, with the Department of Justice's Legislation Division, with *Tuttarviit*, the interdepartmental group consisting of *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* coordinators, and with the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut. I am pleased to say that all consultations were positive.

I am confident these amendments will address many of the concerns noted by the Information and Privacy Commissioner and by the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts.

I will be pleased to have the opportunity to answer any questions that you may have on this bill. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses in.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. (interpretation ends) Madam Premier, (interpretation) for the record, please introduce your witnesses. (interpretation ends) Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my right is Daniel Vandermeulen, my Deputy Minister at EIA, and on my left is Jessica Bell, Manager of Access to Information and Privacy Protection of Privacy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: *Qujannamiik*, Madam Premier. Welcome to the witness table. (interpretation) Does the chair of the standing committee have comments? Mr. Ningeongan.

Mr. Ningeongan (interpretation): Yes, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislation, I am pleased to make some brief opening comments as we begin consideration of Bill 38, *An Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

The standing committee is pleased to note that the government has made progress in amending the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* to address concerns and

recommendations that have been raised in the annual reports of the Information and Privacy Commissioner and in reports of this Legislative Assembly's standing committees.

The proposed new provisions in the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* will provide clear legal authority for the Information and Privacy Commissioner to undertake reviews of potential breaches of personal privacy concerning information held by a public body. Other provisions will require a public body that knows or has reason to believe that a breach of privacy has occurred with respect to personal information under its control to report the breach of privacy to the Information and Privacy Commissioner.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee looks forward to further amendments being made to this important legislation to address other matters that have been discussed in this House.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments. The standing committee recommends the passage of Bill 38 to all members. *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Are there any general comments on Bill 38? Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to make a couple of comments and I have some questions.

Thank you for bringing this bill forward. This will be beneficial to Nunavutmiut who are seeking information from the

government. Their privacy has to be protected.

During the in-camera committee meeting, a concern was that if a person requests information, they have 30 days to get the information from the government. If they want further information and if they request information for the housing corporation or something or needs additional information, then I think that would be a delay because 90 days is quite a long time. I have a concern with the timeframe.

For example, even though we're not dealing with it, if the Integrity Commissioner is given 90 days once they receive a complaint, maybe they can go up to 90 days if they didn't word the complaint properly. I wonder about the 90 days. Isn't that kind of long? I wonder if they would have to pay first. So if the people who requested the information received the information, they would have to pay first in order to get the information they requested. Can this be answered? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. (interpretation ends) Madam Premier, (interpretation) if you wish to respond at this time, I'm giving you an opportunity. (interpretation ends) Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for the question. It was a request that it be extended to 90 days by the committee. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Premier Aariak. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps the second part of it was... . My concern was that it could become a standard. You initially had a 30-day provision to getting information and so on without an additional 90 days. If the question arises that an official from the public body is seeking clarification or maybe looking for payment, could not paying the [fee] become part of the delay? If the payment is not received within 90 days and if the 90 days pass without paying a fee, does that mean the information originally requested by an individual through access to information deemed abandoned? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Premier Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the member for his question. I'll have Jessica Bell respond to that question if that's okay with you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Ms. Bell.

Ms. Bell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the question. It's a good question. I think it requires clarification.

With the 90-day time period, this is actually to allow the applicant more time to figure out what they're trying to request. When we're going back to the applicant for clarification or requesting a fee payment pertaining to an ATIPP request, it is usually because we're not sure where the information they are looking for is located. So we're requesting more detail so that we can assist them in finding the information they are looking for.

As for the fees, there are often times when individuals are required to pay fees pertaining to an ATIPP request. So when we know there are fees that need to be paid, we will go back to the individual and request that information. The 90-day time period gives them time to decide whether they want to narrow their requests so the fees will be less or they can go back to the public body and request that we waive the fees for them so they won't have to pay fees at all.

The 90-day time period assists the individuals and it assists us in communicating with them. It doesn't allow us to delay responding to requests for 90 days. The 90 days is for the individual to be able to figure out what they're trying to get from us. So it doesn't allow us to delay at all; it allows the individual more time to be able process their request. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Bell. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. I appreciate that information. That's good to know. The second part of my question is, and I alluded to it, that non-payment of the information requested could probably go through the similar process. If the non-payment time limit required, for instance, in this case, 90 days, passes without paying a fee, it could be deemed abandoned. Am I correct in that? The second part of my question that you can answer in both ways is: how many types of fees are we talking about? Is there a standard fee for requesting the information or is it at the discretion of the public body official? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Premier Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I'll let Jessica Bell respond to that again. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Bell.

Ms. Bell: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you again for the question. There are fees that may apply to an ATIPP request. They're outlined in the regulations of the *ATIPP Act*. For personal information, the individual is not required to pay any late fee. For general information, there's a base fee of \$25. There's a fee schedule that outlines other fees that may apply to requests, which include photocopying fees.

An individual, at any time, who feels like they cannot pay a fee, has the ability to request that it be waived by the public body or that the Information and Privacy Commissioner review our decision to apply fees. So there is that oversight as well.

The 90-day time period is when we have not heard from the applicant at all in any form. So if the applicant is coming back to the public body and requesting more information, clarification, or that we waive the fee, then we cannot deem the 90-day time period to have begun. It's only from the last time we hear from the individual or the last time we send them clarification that the 90-day time period is...(inaudible)... . Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Bell. General comments. I don't have any more names on my list. We will go clause by clause. Bill 38 is in your white legislation binders. I only have the English copy, so I'll read it in English. (interpretation ends) Bill 38, *An*

Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Reprint. (interpretation) We will start with clause 1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 2. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 3. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 4. Do you agree? Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. (interpretation) Mr. Chairman, I want this to be clarified. We heard that when people request information, they have 90 days. Are they given notice just once if they want more information or would they wait 60 days? Would the notice be given more than once instead of just the one time? I'm sure that's in the regulations, so I'm just asking for clarification. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Premier Aariak

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll have Mr. Vandermeulen or Jessica respond to that. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Which one?

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Mr. Vandermeulen will respond.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Go ahead, Mr. Vandermeulen.

Mr. Vandermeulen: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The 90-day period is just if we haven't heard anything. If, by accident, an applicant has allowed that period to expire, all they need to do is to re-establish contact and we can continue discussions with them and provide them with the information. It doesn't shut things off. It doesn't make them start all over. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Vandermeulen. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I understand that part, but what I'm trying to get at is whether or not... The onus is obviously on the applicant who is requesting information through the Access to Information Act. What I'm trying to get at is, when the 90 days start ticking, you initially sent a request for additional information, whether or not you are satisfied. I believe it's the obligation of officials in the public body to determine whether the correct information is received or not. Therefore, that would cause the ticking time bomb to 90 days. Once you send in additional requests for information to make sure that you are clear what the applicant actually wants, how often can you provide notice to that individual before you slam the door on them in 90 days? Thank you.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll let Mr.

Vandermeulen respond. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Vandermeulen.

Mr. Vandermeulen: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. If I understand the question correctly, it's a concern about "Does the clock keeps running?" When the enquiry is made by an ATIPP coordinator in one of the departments for further information, that's when the 90-day clock starts running. At any time that the applicant answers or in any way indicates that they need more time, at any point of communication after that, the clock stops and goes back to zero. It isn't like we keep sort of adding this up until we hit 90 days. The clock stops and it goes back to zero, and then we wait for another 90-day period for any kind of contact. So even if the applicant says, "I'm sorry, but I can't find what I'm looking for," that's communication, this file stays open, and the clock goes back to zero. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Vandermeulen. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. I appreciate that. What I'm concerned with this is sometimes the information sent by the bureaucracy or the public body gets lost somewhere en route and the 90 days start ticking, and my friend from Sanikiluaq may have no idea that additional information was requested. So it's a two-way obligation in my mind. The onus is on the applicant, I know that, but it's also the responsibility of the individual who is handling the access to information. One way to solve that is: will the additional information required be sent by registered mail? That way, you know when it's received and when it

isn't. What is the rationale for how the factual information is obtained? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Premier Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we have to let the applicant know what we are doing. So it's true what my colleague says, that the information is sent by registered mail. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Premier Aariak. Continuing on. Clause 4. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 5. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 6. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 7. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Do members agree to Bill 38 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Do members agree, pursuant to Rule 62(2), that Bill 38 can immediately be placed on the orders of the day for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Madam Premier, (interpretation) do you have any closing remarks? (interpretation ends) Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There were good questions from the members and I thank them for that.

As well, the amendment to this bill is very important. The Act hasn't had any amendments since 1999. It is a new bill and we will re-write it. It's very beneficial to the public out there.

I would like to thank Jessica Bell and Mr. Vandermeulen, especially Jessica because she was dealing with this bill. It's clear that she was able to answer the members' questions as she knows the bill inside out and I thank her. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Premier Aariak, I would like to thank you and your officials. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses out.

Chairman (Mr. Ningeongan) (interpretation): Thank you. We will be dealing with Minister's Statement 155 – 3(3). Mr. Enook.

**Committee Motion 009 – 3(3):
Minister's Statement 155 – 3(3) Be
Deemed Concluded**

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the mover of the motion to refer Minister's Statement 155 – 3(3) to the Committee of the Whole for consideration is not present, I move that

the item be deemed concluded. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. The motion is in order. Before we proceed with the motion, I have some comments as to procedures. (interpretation ends) Every member has a right to speak once to the motion for a total of 20 minutes. The mover of the motion speaks first. The mover of the motion has the right to the last reply, which closes the debate. For that reason, to the motion. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the mover, my reasoning is that as Members of the Legislative Assembly, we represent the people of Nunavut. I feel that we would like to finish the items that we're discussing. What I want to say to the members is that we wanted to meet on this Minister's Statement. It has been on the order paper for quite a few days now.

If we're going to bring up something to be dealt with in the House, we have to be present. It's delaying the session when the individual who wanted to deal with this is not here. For that reason, I would like to take this out of the order paper. If we're going to bring up items to be discussed under Committee of the Whole, we have to be present in this House. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. Are there any more comments to the motion? Mr. Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the Government House Leader, we will be supporting the motion by Mr. Enook. I would like to thank the minister who

was ready to answer questions about his statement with his officials. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kusugak. I have no more names on my list in regard to the motion. The mover has a right to the last reply, if he wishes. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to say that I encourage all Members of this House to support this motion. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. I have no more names on my list. We will now vote on the motion. I close the debate on the motion. The motion is in order. (interpretation ends) All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) All those opposed, please raise your hand. (interpretation) Thank you. I don't think there are any abstentions. The motion is carried. Thank you. (interpretation ends) What is the wish of the Committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this time, I would like to move a motion to report progress. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) We have a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion. All those opposed. The motion is carried. I will now rise to report progress. (interpretation) Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. *Qujannamiik*, Sergeant-at-Arms. Moving on with our

orders of the day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Ningeongan.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Ningeongan: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 38 and would like to report that Bill 38 is immediately ready for third reading and that one committee motion was adopted. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. (interpretation ends) There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Thank you, Mr. Schell. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Madam Premier.

Item 21: Third Reading of Bills

Bill 38 – An Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act – Third Reading

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet South and Whale Cove, that Bill 38, *An Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 38 has had third reading and is now ready for assent.

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 June 8:

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
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 39

20. Report of the Committee of the
Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you very much, Mr.
Clerk. This House stands adjourned until
Friday, June 8, at 9:00 a.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 16:30*

