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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)

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Minister of Executive and
Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister
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Minister responsible for Immigration*

Hon. James Arreak

(Uqqummiut)

*Minister of Culture and Heritage;
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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Hon. Keith Peterson

(Cambridge Bay)

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Allan Rumbolt

(Hudson Bay)

Hon. Fred Schell

(South Baffin)

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk

(Arviat)

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

Louis Tapardjuk

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*Deputy Chair, Committee of the
Whole*

Hon. Peter Taptuna

(Kugluktuk)

*Deputy Premier; Minister of
Economic Development and
Transportation; Minister of
Energy; Minister responsible for the
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Iqaluit, Nunavut**Thursday, October 25, 2012****Members Present:**

Honourable Eva Aariak, Honourable James Arreak, Mr. Moses Aupaluktuq, 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, Mr. Louis Tapardjuk, Honourable Peter Taptuna, Honourable Hunter Tootoo, Ms. Jeannie Ugyuk.

>>*House commenced at 13:31*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. Hunter Tootoo):

Qujannamiik, Sergeant-at-Arms. Before we proceed, I would like to ask Mr. Oshutapik to lead us off in a prayer, please.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. (interpretation ends) Moving on in our orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Minister Shewchuk.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 185 – 3(3):

**Arctic College Environmental
Technology Program Celebrates
25 Years of Success**

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to all Nunavutmiut. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise in the House

today to congratulate the Nunavut Arctic College Environmental Technology Program on achieving 25 years of success.

First started in 1986, the Environmental Technology Program is a two-year diploma program that incorporates classroom and practical lab and field experiences to develop students' skills for environmental and research careers.

Last year, we were proud to open the new Nunavut Research Institute and Science Campus facilities here in Iqaluit. These modern, state-of-the-art facilities provide our students with world-class learning, research and laboratory workplaces needed to ensure our students gain the skills they need to succeed.

Mr. Speaker, this highly successful and celebrated program has grown beyond its original home in Iqaluit to other communities through the college's Community Programs Division. For the past two years, the program has been successfully offered in Pond Inlet.

Graduates of the program have gained employment in a diverse range of environmental and research-related careers as environmental practitioners. Mr. Speaker, our graduates have found employment within the following organizations within the federal and territorial governments as wildlife officers, environmental protection officers, wildlife technicians, field researchers, and more with the program's many government and industry partners, such as Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Parks Canada, and Aboriginal and Northern Development Canada (AANDC, and also various

boards and agencies, and national and regional Inuit organizations.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating our Environmental Technology Program on its 25 years of success and in wishing them all the best of luck for the 25 more years and beyond. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Madam Premier.

**Minister's Statement 186 – 3(3):
Government Liaison Officers**

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. The Government Liaison Officer program continues to grow throughout Nunavut and there are now 15 communities being served by dedicated staff. All non-decentralized communities have a GLO and there are now more of the larger decentralized communities that have GLOs serving them and more positions continue to be filled.

Mr. Speaker, the GLO program is now working closely with the Motor Vehicles Division to assist in speeding up the process required to provide driver's licences. In those communities where the GLO has taken over these duties, efforts are being made to use computers and scanners to further speed up the process.

The role of the government liaison officer is changing to fit the needs of each community. One change is the role of the GLOs in directing people to

federal programs. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, to address the need for federal program information, the third GLO conference and training session was held in Iqaluit in September 2012 and Service Canada presented on the programs that all residents need to access. There were also briefing sessions on the work of the Office of the Public Trustee, the NNI Secretariat, discussion of the Nunavut Land Claims and its role, and a very good sharing of experience and new ideas on how to improve the program.

Mr. Speaker, the government liaison officers are a crucial link between our government and Nunavummiut in the communities. Their role is vast and important to this government and I commend them on a job well done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Premier. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Department of Human Resources, Minister Ell.

**Minister's Statement 187 – 3(3):
Signing of Collective Agreement
with Nunavut Employees Union**

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to announce that my department has signed a new collective agreement with the Nunavut Employees Union, effective October 1, 2012.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the Government of Nunavut values the contributions and dedication of its public servants and our new four-year collective agreement reflects this to the

best of our ability in these tight economic times. The new agreement provides NEU members with salary increases totalling 7.5 percent over the life of the contract, October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2013. These increases were also approved for all of our excluded and senior management employees.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of the importance of education and training in the development of trades personnel in Nunavut, wage rates for our apprentices were increased by 5 percent.

Mr. Speaker, other changes were agreed to that will bring efficiencies to the operations of the government, including the addition of a category of “as and when” or relief employees, and a change in the method of calculation of leave credits.

(interpretation) Throughout the life of this agreement, the GN and NEU have agreed to work together on other issues important to them, including Nunavut Northern Allowance and training for corrections staff.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank both bargaining teams for their hard work and dedication, Vince Ready for his able mediation assistance, and most of all, our NEU employees for placing confidence in the collective bargaining process.

Mr. Speaker, this agreement ensures that the government will continue to provide quality services to the benefit of all Nunavummiut. (interpretation) Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Ell. Item 2. Ministers’ Statements. Minister responsible for the Department of Economic Development and Transportation, Minister Taptuna.

**Minister’s Statement 188 – 3(3):
Memorandum of Understanding
for the Nunavut Round Table for
Poverty Reduction**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues and Nunavummiut. Mr. Speaker, Members of this Assembly will be aware that yesterday afternoon, Premier Aariak and President Towtongie formally signed a memorandum of understanding on the Nunavut Round Table for Poverty Reduction. The signing is an important milestone on our path to self-reliance.

At the Poverty Summit last November, participants agreed that the Nunavut Round Table for Poverty Reduction should provide leadership and oversight for The Makimaniq Plan, our shared action plan to reduce poverty.

By signing this MOU, we have made a joint commitment with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated to support the round table so that work on the implementation of The Makimaniq Plan continues to be undertaken in collaboration and for the long term.

Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Round Table for Poverty Reduction will provide the forum for partnership and collaboration on which our common effort to reduce poverty depends. More than this, by this memorandum of understanding, we will ensure that participation on the round

table extends to all those organizations that share our commitment.

To reduce poverty, we must make the best use of our resources – we must work together. The Nunavut Round Table for Poverty Reduction is the place where this essential collaboration for social progress will occur. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 303 – 3(3): Safe Handling of Firearm in Cape Dorset

Hon. Fred Schell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to wish a very good day to all of my constituents in Cape Dorset and Kimmirut and to recognize three young Kinngarmiut for their good sense and responsible actions.

Mr. Speaker, on September 26, 2012, three young Kinngarmiut came upon a loaded firearm while they were taking part in a very traditional goose rock throw. This hap chance finding of a loaded firearm could have resulted in a tragic ending.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to report a very happy and encouraging ending to this story. Instead of handling the firearm, the three young students made their way to the local RCMP detachment and reported the findings to the officer on duty.

With all the violence in our communities, especially as it relates to firearms, I am very proud to be able to stand up in this Assembly today and congratulate the three young Kinngarmiut who found the loaded firearm and who had the very good sense not to touch the firearm; instead to report their findings to the local RCMP. I commend these three young individuals: Jordan Kelly, Matt Jaw, and Kov Adla.

I am encouraged by the effort of the community to educate the residents on safe handling of firearms. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear!

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Schell. Members' Statements. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

Member's Statement 304 – 3(3): Patient/Client Relations

Mr. Ningark: Thank you and good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. I rise today again to talk about patient/client relations, as introduced in the Hon. Keith Peterson's statement. I appreciate that statement, so do my constituents in Repulse Bay and Kugaaruk in the Akulliq riding.

Mr. Speaker, it is so hard to get something out of the Department of Health and Social Services, especially when you return from travel. I would like to speak from personal experience. Over the summer period, my wife and I travelled for a major medical procedure. When we returned from the trip, we appreciated the privilege that the health

care department was able to provide all the tickets, hotel reservations, and so on.

When we returned from the trip, as expected, we filled out the standard medical forms. We enlisted the best person the system can offer at the community level to fill out these forms. That was the nurse-in-charge in Kugaaruk and we appreciated her help. We also enlisted the best enforcement agency in the world to help with declarations and that is the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

We thought, my colleagues and Mr. Speaker, that everything was in order. So we filled out the information indicated and we mailed these forms only to find out that we still needed to do something. We thought we had the best help in the system. Later on, I will be giving my hon. friend, Mr. Peterson, an email that I received indicating that there was something wrong there. So this is kind of personal. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Nattilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

**Member's Statement 305 – 3(3):
Nunavut's Need for
Comprehensive Child Care**

Ms. Ugyuk: (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To all Kitikmeot and Nunavut residents, especially those in the Nattilik region, I wish them a good day.

(interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to raise a concern that affects many families across Nunavut: the lack of a comprehensive and stable child care system.

Mr. Speaker, there is an urgent need for adequate and stable child care services across Nunavut. We do not have a comprehensive and integrated system for funding daycares across the territory. At the same time, the state of the economy is not adequate for many communities to support their own long-term, self-sustaining daycares.

Mr. Speaker, there are many young parents who desperately need daycare services but, due to the high cost of living, cannot afford the rates the daycares must charge to stay in operation. At the same time, these parents are not eligible for subsidies if they have more than one child younger than school age.

Mr. Speaker, the lack of adequate daycares is affecting the lives and futures of many Nunavummiut. I envy our neighbours in Nunavik, where their regional government oversees, administers, and supports the region's daycare facilities thanks to an integrated funding agreement with the provincial government combined with the federal government programs.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavik's long-term commitment to early childhood education and care allows for staff training, nutrition programs, including country foods, culture and language programs, extracurricular activities, as well as general child care programming.

Mr. Speaker, the lack of an integrated approach in Nunavut deprives many of our children, parents, families, and communities of the opportunity for child care programs and services.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon our governments to address the need for a coordinated approach to ensure that adequate child care spaces and programming are available throughout Nunavut for all communities and for all parents and children who need it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Tununig, Mr. Enook.

**Member's Statement 306 – 3(3):
Appreciation to Pond Inlet Arena
Volunteers**

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To my fellow Pond Inlet residents, I wish a good afternoon, as well as to our fellow Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, this winter, the community of Pond Inlet was graced with a new arena, so I want to take this opportunity to extend our thanks to the government for completing the construction of the arena. Additionally, on behalf of James Arvaluk, I want to express thanks. Currently, he can now go skating in Pond Inlet without looking up at the star-crossed night through the holes in the roof.

Mr. Speaker, ever since the arena was opened in our community, many volunteers have dedicated many hours to teach youth to skate and to coach the various hockey teams. I want to express our thanks on their behalf. I also urge my fellow residents of Pond Inlet to volunteer freely, even without pay, to assist our community and not just at our local arena.

I want to recite these names of people whom we are grateful to for providing invaluable assistance which continues to this day. These people are: Kevin English, an employee of First Air; along with two RCMP officers, Bob Kavanaugh and Chris Sorenson; and our fellow resident, David Suqslak, and Ben Savard. I thank each and every one of these volunteers.

Mr. Speakers, when the arena was being constructed, we didn't have a Zamboni to resurface the ice, but I want to name the City of Cornwall, Ontario, who donated a Zamboni freely to our community. The entire citizenry of Pond Inlet thanks them tremendously for their generosity.

Further, Mr. Speaker, the Zamboni was supposed to be shipped up via sealift with the accompanying freight charges, so I want to express our gratitude to our fellow resident, Pond Inlet's Itturuluk, Jim Kocsis. He used his own funds to pay for the freight costs of the Zamboni. Thank you, Jim. Additionally, Mr. Speaker, I urge my fellow Pond Inlet residents to now call Jim "Ittukuluk" starting today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Enook. Members' Statement. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Elliott.

**Member's Statement 307 – 3(3): 2012
High School Graduates of Arctic
Bay**

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker I rise today to extend my congratulations to the 2012 high school graduates of Inuujaq High School in Arctic Bay.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that we recognize this significant achievement. A high school graduation certificate is a step towards greater opportunities in higher education, careers, and employment in the future. It also represents much hard work and effort in the past. Our graduates are community role models, a title they have earned and should be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, six graduates from the Inuujaq School in Arctic Bay took part in a reception and graduation ceremony on October 12, 2012. I would like to acknowledge them and encourage them to keep working hard towards their goals. They are:

Jacqueline Arnauyumayuq
Bob Barnabas
Terry Ejangiaq
Qajaaq Qaminirq
Nick Muckpa
Steven Taqtu

Mr. Speaker, parents and family members play a big role in supporting and encouraging our youth to succeed at school. I would also like to extend congratulations and appreciation to the parents and families of our graduates because part of this success is theirs to celebrate as well.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Inuujaq High School graduates on their achievement and in wishing them continued success in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Kugluktuk, Mr. Taptuna.

**Member's Statement 308 – 3(3):
Opening of Kugluktuk Hamlet
Office**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to Kuglukturmiut. My condolences to the family members who have lost loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the community residents of Kugluktuk in light of the grand opening of their new hamlet building. I was happy that I had the real pleasure of being there in person to witness the opening, which was a great event. I would like to thank the community of Kugluktuk, the hamlet, mayor, and councillors for their patience and vision to the building of their new hamlet office.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank our Member of Parliament, the Hon. Leona Aglukkaq, and also the Minister of CGS on behalf of the Government of Nunavut, Minister Kusugak, and his departmental staff for providing the funding required to build this new facility. Their investment, dedication, and hard work has made projects like this one coming to a reality that may be used and enjoyed by Kuglukturmiut residents and many others for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, in Nunavut, we have a great need for new infrastructure to be invested in our territory. I look at the new hamlet building in Kugluktuk as the beginning of a further investment yet to be realized by the people of Nunavut.

Once again, congratulations to all Kuglukturmiut and all the parties that made this event possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 309 – 3(3):
Correspondence from Constituent**

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to the people of Rankin Inlet. I would like to make a Member's Statement in regard to this letter that I have received from the students as their MLA and I shall read it. It's in English, so I'll read it in English.

(interpretation ends) My name is Layla Autut and I'm a 15-year-old Rankin Inlet resident. I'm writing this letter to bring to your attention all the Inuktitut-speaking issues we're having in our schools. I'm a regular student in high school and wanted to learn more about the Inuit culture.

Some of the problems I have noticed are that Inuit kids are unable to understand or speak their own language. That is because we are not having enough time in school to learn Inuktitut. Having to help out elders around the community, I think the youth find it hard to communicate with them. I'm concerned about this and there should be something done about this.

If we were to have a well Inuktitut-speaker or someone who has gone to school and took a course in Inuktitut to teach everything we should know about

our culture, then the kids of Rankin Inlet would be able to speak and understand much better than they do now.

Thank you for your time and effort to read this letter. I hope you consider trying to help our schools with more Inuktitut. I hope to hear back from you.

Mr. Speaker, I will be asking the minister a question on this today. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Item 3. Members' Statements. Moving on in our orders of the day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery.

Before we proceed on to Item 6, I would just like to inform all members that yesterday, there were individuals that were on the list to ask questions during question period and time ran out, so they never got to ask questions. So I just ask all members to keep in mind that everyone would like an opportunity to ask questions.

Moving on to Item 6. Oral Questions. Member Baker Lake, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 420 – 3(3): Mine Safety in Nunavut

Mr. Aupaluktuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Baker Lake residents are in my thoughts at this time as they are undergoing hardships. So I send my condolences to my fellow Baker Lake residents who have lost a loved one; may you find solace.

(interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission, Hon. Minister Kusugak.

As the minister is aware, the WSCC administers Nunavut's *Mine Health and Safety Act*. This important legislation addresses health and safety for workers employed in mines.

Concerns have recently been raised with respect to asbestos levels at the Meadowbank mine near my community of Baker Lake. Can the minister indicate if the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission has been in contact with Agnico-Eagle on this issue and, if so, is the WSCC fully satisfied that the situation is being addressed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his question. I will look into this with WSCC and how the situation is being addressed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Nunavut is anticipating the opening of new mines across the territory. As we look forward to new opportunities, we must not lose sight of the rights of our workers.

Can the minister indicate how often the WSCC inspects health and safety conditions at the Meadowbank mine and will he commit to tabling the results of the WSCC's inspection reports? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is legislation in place for the safety of the mine workers. There is the *Mine Health and Safety Act*. This Act requires that they inspect health and safety conditions. They follow the *Mine Health and Safety Act*. If there is any further information, I'll be able to provide that to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The people of Nunavut as well as Baker Lake would be more than happy to be informed as well in regard to the *Mine Health and Safety Act*.

Section 6.04 of the regulations made under the *Mine Health and Safety Act* require that training for workers in mines "includes provision for the instruction of persons who may have a poor understanding of the language commonly used in the operation of the mine." In my Member's Statement earlier this week, I addressed the need to respect language rights. Can the minister indicate how the WSCC ensures that mines comply with this provision of the regulations? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for raising that question. No one should be forced into an unsafe situation and that includes workers everywhere, whether it is in the mining sector or others. Workers should never work in an unsafe environment. There is legislation that is applicable to worker safety and all companies have to understand the legislation and abide by it.

Perhaps this is even more relevant in the mining sector. The workers in the mines are subject to the *Mine Health and Safety Act* that is monitored by government officials who also ensure the companies know the obligations they are required to follow. If there was a misunderstanding of the legal obligations, then the officials would work with the mining company to ensure compliance.

In some cases, workers need interpretation to ensure that they are also following the rules and regulations. This can lead to different understandings when various languages are in use, and we have to ensure all parties understand the regulations related to worker safety and safe workplaces. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I very much appreciate the response by the minister as environment

and safety are predominantly in the back of the minds of Nunavummiut and beneficiaries.

In response to the *Mine Health and Safety Act*, section 19 states that "The owner and manager of a mine shall ensure that no employee is discriminated against in any manner...for complying with this Act and the regulations." Can the minister indicate how the WSCC investigates concerns that are raised by workers at mines regarding allegations of discrimination? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission, Minister Kusugak.

Hon. Lorne Kusugak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have a copy of the *Mine Health and Safety Act* in front of me, unfortunately. Once I understand exactly what his question entails, I will look into it. Once I have understood the legal requirements that need to be complied with and once I have an answer, I will ensure that I provide that response to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 421 – 3(3): Child Care across Nunavut

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education.

Earlier in my Member's Statement, I urged our government to take a coordinated approach towards providing a comprehensive and stable child care system across Nunavut. Can the minister clearly describe the government's approach to ensuring that early childhood education and care services are available in all of Nunavut's communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Madam Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank our colleague for asking this very important question. When we speak about daycare services, it is quite an important issue, particularly in this day and age. The majority of Nunavut's population is comprised of young people. To cite this example, about 52 percent of our population in Nunavut is under the age of 25. Many of these young people are already bearing children as well. This illustrates the growing importance of this issue.

The Department of Education has various divisions that look after the different aspects related to the daycare service provision. It is unfortunate that we can't provide any funding for the construction of new daycare facilities. These are the issues I want to speak to in English.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the Department of Education has the following programs to support early childhood development: we have licensed daycare \$2.15 million fund, which monitors, inspects, and supports licensed daycare facilities, daycares,

family day homes, preschools, Aboriginal Head Starts, and after school facilities. Another one is healthy children's initiatives, \$908,000, designed to build the development of early childhood, family-centred programs and services in communities that would support the developmental needs of young children and their families from before birth to age 6; young parents stay program, "Young Parents Stay Learning" is the official title for it, \$140,000, a parental subsidy that pays licensed daycare fees for parents who are attending school to achieve their high school diploma and are under the age of 18 years. Another one is daycare user subsidy, \$502,000, a needs-based parental subsidy that pays child care fees for parents who are attending school or working.

District education authorities early childhood education funding is also available to assist DEAs in complying with section 17 of the *Education Act*, which requires them to provide an early childhood education program that supports development of the Inuit language and knowledge of the Inuit culture, as well as developing and providing early childhood resources in the Inuit language and culture.

Mr. Speaker, it is an important aspect of what we need to address and that is daycare. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also would like to thank the minister for her response on the new guides to daycare. (interpretation ends) I recognize that the Department of

Education assists organizations through funding and support to help facilitate the delivery of early child care services. Can the minister update this House on the number of daycares that are currently operating across Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for Education, Madam Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are quite a lot of daycares that are in progress and operating and that are waiting for further initiatives at the community level. I have a long list of all the daycares. If I were to provide the long list of all the communities that are operating daycare initiatives and so on, it would be quite a while. So I would compile the information and provide the member with the complete listing and I would even go as far as tabling that information. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for the explanation. Now I am anticipating the document to be tabled.

(interpretation ends) Can the minister update this House on the number of daycares that are currently closed across Nunavut but have indicated that they would like to open? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Madam Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With the information that I will be compiling, the information that I will be providing with the daycares that are already operating, I will include the information of the ones that are not yet operating or on hold. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for her response. (interpretation ends) Daycares receive government funding according to attendance numbers. The amount of funding has a direct impact on daycare sustainability. Will the minister commit to reviewing the subsidy rate for daycares? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Madam Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are certain areas in child care initiatives that we are continually monitoring and assessing, even looking at the *Child Day Care Act* to ensure that our current *Child Day Care Act* is up to par, and so on. This is an ongoing initiative the Department of Education is doing. With new initiatives, I will be happy to update the member on those kinds of initiatives. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Tununig, Mr. Enook.

Question 422 – 3(3): Community Nurse Staffing Allocations

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Health and Social Services, the Hon. Peterson.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, in those communities where there is no resident physician, the first level of health care is provided by nurses at our community health centres. The populations of most Nunavut communities have grown significantly over the past decades. However, the number of nursing positions allocated to health centres has not changed in a very long time.

Can the minister clearly describe what formula or guidelines are followed by his department to ensure that an adequate number of nursing positions is allocated to each Nunavut community? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. Mr. Speaker, I don't have that information or formula here, but I can assure Mr. Enook that in his community of Pond Inlet, there are an adequate number of nurses currently. They are fully staffed and one vacant position has a casual.

We do have approximately 250 nursing positions in Nunavut of various types. It's quite complex, but we fill them with agency nurses, casual nurses, and indeterminate [staff]. We do take health

very seriously and we work hard to make sure that the nursing positions are staffed in all communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister said that we have adequate nursing staff in Pond Inlet, but even with that, far too often, the residents of Pond Inlet are turned away from the health centre because there are no appointments available. There are quite a lot of people who can't make any appointments and there is no other health facility that they can go to as an alternate.

Can the minister update this House on what steps are taken to measure and evaluate the workload of nurses in our community health centres? I'm asking that question because all the appointments are booked maybe because the nurses are overloaded. My question is: what steps are taken to measure and evaluate the workload of nurses? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Enook for the question. First of all, I would like to thank all the nurses across Nunavut for their commitment to delivering health in our communities. As Mr. Enook says, they're the first line of health in many cases and they do a tremendous job under some very often difficult times, as

we read in the newspapers and hear on the radio.

Mr. Speaker, this similar question came up with me in the Kitikmeot a couple of weeks ago at the Kitikmeot Inuit Association AGM, where people were telling me that they would go to the health centre and they would see people sitting there, but they couldn't do a walk-in appointment and were told to get an appointment.

I asked my staff [to review]. There's a regional office in every region that works with the health centres. My regional office looked into some of the concerns and it turned out that a lot of people would book appointments but not show up for the appointments. The nurses had already booked, expecting for them to come. I have asked my staff to look into how we can better communicate and ensure that the appointments are kept or we can follow up with the patients to ensure that they do come on the day that they are expected to come in for their appointment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Minister Peterson made a reference saying that we have adequate nursing staff in Pond Inlet according to the population. We believe that additional nursing positions are necessary. Will the minister commit to providing me with an update on his review of the staffing allocations? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Enook again. Mr. Speaker, nursing is a difficult, challenging position. We know that from debates in this House and the media reports over the years that recruiting nurses for Nunavut is a challenging proposition all over Nunavut and Canada. We are encouraging young folks to get into nursing so that we can place them in our communities in Nunavut.

In Pond Inlet, I think there are four community health nurses there currently. That's on our org. chart. That's what our business plan shows. It's my understanding that most, if not all, of those positions are filled. Unfortunately, with the constraints that we have in this government, we can't put additional nurses into communities.

There are other considerations as well. There's the whole housing crisis we face. That's a challenge. There are constraints in many of our health centres. They're not large enough to support more nurses or more health [workers]. We're working hard on that to replace the nursing centres or health centres in the communities as we move forward. They're very expensive and it takes a lot of time to construct. We are well aware that communities would like to improve health in their communities for the citizens and our department and this government are committed to that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Maybe if I rephrase my question. A lot of the communities think that they have inadequate nursing positions and we know what's happening at the community level, but the minister indicated that there is no need to increase staffing. Can the minister advise us which communities are in an urgent need to increase the nursing positions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have that information available to me right now. I haven't heard from the department or from any communities that there is an urgent need. The issues I often hear about are getting appointments with the health centres. We're working on ways to be more efficient and effective with that; the scheduling of appointments, the walk-ins, and those types of issues. We're hoping, as we work with the health centres in the communities, we can make the health centres, like I said, more efficient, more effective, and addressing people's health concerns. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 423 – 3(3): Declining Use of Inuktitut amongst Youth

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Education regarding her Minister's Statement.

Further, all the members here, I believe, can state unequivocally that the Inuit language and culture is something we have to know, particularly those of us Inuit members who can speak our language. We are continually reminded by the elders that we have to preserve our language.

With respect to this young 15-year-old, she stated that many young students are no longer capable of understanding Inuktitut in the schools in her community. If they understood or if they had classes revolving around the Inuktitut language, this would benefit the students.

Can the minister provide some background as to why so many of our students are no longer capable of understanding or speaking or writing the Inuktitut language within the school system? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for that very important question respecting the Inuktitut languages. We continually hear and are admonished that if we are to properly learn our mother tongue and be able to speak it, it has to start at home. Starting back when I was in my youth, this piece of advice has continually been spoken by our elders, many of whom have already passed on. Their observations were that the youth no longer spoke proper Inuktitut and these observations started in the 1970s.

This issue is very dear and important to many people throughout Nunavut, which is quite obvious. Additionally, students in the schools have started to be instructed in Inuktitut primarily up to grades 3 or 4. Further, there are now classes available for the higher grades in high school. Also, another issue which I am very happy to report on is the number of schools utilizing elders as instructors is on the rise. Certification of these elder instructors has begun, allowing elders to instruct students on the topics for which they are certified and this increases the usage of Inuktitut with elder instructors present in the schools.

However, some parents prefer that the primary language of instruction be in English and the lessons are only in English. This is part of the reason why some students no longer speak Inuktitut when all of their classes are only in English.

Let us also know that as Nunavummiut, during the drafting of the *Education Act*, many Nunavummiut stated that Inuktitut and English have to be part and parcel of a bilingual educational system so that our students can be fully bilingual upon graduation. Perhaps if we were to look at July 1, 2009 when the *Education Act* was enacted, the first graduates of this new bilingual system will graduate by the year 2019. As our students progress to the higher grades, it would include Inuktitut classes, enabling them to speak in Inuktitut.

However, this includes a caveat as currently... I will state a fact here. When the *Education Act* was enacted, many resulting curricula will still have to be produced. This is one of the focuses

of the department. The entire set of curricula can't be disgorged in one fell swoop with a year. It takes time, but we are working hard at this.

Furthermore, once we have enough bilingual teachers available, this process will start to move forward. I am quite happy to announce that at this time, we have 11 communities delivering the teacher education program to students who can speak Inuktitut in our various dialects and these are offered through the Nunavut Arctic College campuses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand exactly how the planning is going. My next question is in regard to the Inuktitut language and culture. It's good to see that implemented in the schools. The Inuktitut language has been with us for a very long time and it is also recognized as an official language.

I know that there are more and more young people losing their Inuktitut and a lot of them are not speaking Inuktitut in their home. Maybe one of the reasons is that while it is not a priority of the government to preserve and promote the Inuit culture, it could be one of the barriers. There is no requirement to use the Inuktitut language in the government workplace. Maybe it's because there is no objective. We are looking at the people graduating just in English so that they can obtain a job.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the minister to make an amendment or a change to the objective to make sure that

individuals who know how to speak Inuktitut will be placed as a priority in the workforce or in obtaining a job. Thank you.

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

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the member for bringing up the question of Inuktitut because it is very important. In the school environment, it is becoming more and more important to teach Inuktitut. It is very true what the member stated and it is very true that more and more Inuit are not using Inuktitut in the home place. That's why they are speaking Inuktitut when they are talking to their children. So it is very important to use the Inuktitut language in our home place.

When the Nunavut government was created, we stated that Inuktitut would be used in the workplace and it is supported by a piece of legislation so that the Inuktitut language would be preserved. I'm thankful to Arctic College for providing Inuktitut studies programs. There are more and more government employees taking Inuktitut courses.

I can't give you a number of how many employees are learning Inuktitut, but there is an increasing number and it is going very smoothly. This is being administered by the Department of Human Resources. There is the (interpretation ends) Inuktitut language training for government employees (interpretation) and again, that is being administered by Arctic College and it is

open to anyone who would like to learn Inuktitut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the minister. I agree that they're taking Inuktitut studies as a subject. It is of requirement to use the Inuktitut language and also learn syllabics, the Inuktitut writing system. It is a requirement. Talking about the schools, it doesn't seem to be the case in the elementary schools.

For example, there are no Inuktitut subjects or Inuit studies in the elementary schools. I know they teach Inuktitut, but there are no mandatory Inuktitut courses in the schools. Can the minister tell us that there are Inuktitut studies as a subject and is it mandatory just like science, math, and so on? They would become more proficient in Inuktitut if it was a mandatory course taken in the elementary schools. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister of Education, Madam Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We teach the Inuktitut language differently in each school. We are now certifying elders who can be instructors in the schools. I would also like to bring up the issue of, if I say it in English, language arts to be introduced in the schools where they're producing a variety of those subjects regarding the Inuktitut language and those are for grades 1 to 6. That would be (interpretation ends) Inuktitut

language competencies for grades 1 to 6 in service in schools in 2013-14.

Inuinnaqtun and Nattilik framework for school language learning is currently underway and it's under review. Work is starting this year on an Inuktitut second language framework for that dialect. For bilingual, Inuktitut/English as a second language, theme units are developed for grades 1 to 3. That includes major subject competences for students to learn activities, assessment strategies, and learning material. Work is continuing on more units in that area. Three bilingual early childhood education units are also being developed. (interpretation) Those would be for elementary levels.

(interpretation ends) Two successful approaches to teaching language arts in both Inuit Uqausingit and English are being introduced to schools across Nunavut. Five communities received training and classroom coaching on the approaches in 2011-12, with five more planned for this year. A teacher planning guide for K-6 on year planning, theme planning, assessment, using curriculum and *Inuit Qaujimagatutqangit* sample lessons, and other teaching support items will be in service in all kindergarten to grade 3 schools in 2012-13. Curriculum staff members in the Pangnirtung office are working very hard on the project for grade 7 to develop benchmarks to assess student writing in Inuktitut and English.

These initiatives are by teams made up of elders, Inuit educators, and long-term Inuit educators. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, minister, for giving us the information to assess the children in school, but I would like to encourage the minister that young people who are going to high school also have to be taught Inuktitut as a subject. They would be able to have more Inuktitut competency. What is happening with that? Are there Inuit studies in the schools? Is it optional or are there none at all? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Curley. Minister responsible for the Department of Education, Madam Premier.

Hon. Eva Aariak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. After the *Education Act* has come into force, there has to be a bilingual education system. For instance, the Inuktitut curriculum for high school students has not come about yet. There is no curriculum at the moment for high school students.

Some of the high school students are taught Inuktitut on how the Inuit language is structured, for instance, if I say it in English, (interpretation ends) orthography and phonology. (interpretation) Those are the things that are being developed at this time.

My responses are long, but if I do it in a short version, it might not be understood. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 424 – 3(3): Status of Government Restructuring

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Finance in his capacity as the Chairperson of the Financial Management Board.

On July 11 of this year, the Government of Nunavut announced a major government restructuring initiative, which includes the creation of a new Department of Family Services. As of today, what is the status of this initiative and is it on track to be fully implemented by April 1, 2013? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question, fortunately, in my capacity as finance minister. I am also the health minister, so I can ask myself how things are going over there.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, things are going well. We are on track. We hired a new deputy minister. There was an announcement, I believe, in July. Deputy Minister Aluki Rojas was hired to lead the creation of the new department. She is hard at work on that process.

It's something that's not done every day. We're proceeding cautiously to make sure that all the steps that are necessary are undertaken carefully. There is the issue of writing job descriptions, identifying budgets to transfer over, the person years to transfer over, and

working through the main estimates process.

I think things are on track. I am very encouraged. I had a briefing last week and I was very encouraged by the progress made to date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The government's announcement also indicated that core functions of the Department of Human Resources are to move to the Department of Finance and the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Can the minister clarify which functions will be taken on by the Department of Finance and which functions will be taken on by the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll put my other hat on. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate Mr. Elliott following up. If I recall correctly, there will be staffing, labour relations on the Finance side, but on the EIA side, it will be training and development. There is one other component in Finance; I'm just losing it for the moment, but I can follow up.

Again, that has been going very well. The two departments of Finance and Human Resources and staff are working well together. They have established the org. charts. A team has gone out to all

the regional offices to talk to staff of Finance and Human Resources. The staff is looking forward to that transition. It's on track, again, to occur on April 1, 2013. I don't foresee any problems there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the past, the departments of Education and Health did much of their own hiring. How will this change under the new structure? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Minister responsible for the Department of Finance, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are looking very closely at the whole structure in devolving recruitment and staffing to all the departments. I think that will be a longer term proposition, probably in late 2013-14, to some of the major departments, but I believe Human Resources has delegated some authority for hiring nurses and teachers. That has been in place for a while now, but longer term, it's something we're working on. We had to restructure first and then continue working at the area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister had previously informed the House that the analysis and recommendations which have led to the restructuring initiative were contained in what I believe everyone is referring to as the "Lovely Report." It's clear that the

government has accepted much of this report, which I believe contained a lot of useful information that would help explain to Nunavummiut why these changes are taking place. Can the minister explain why he has not yet tabled this report in the Legislative Assembly? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. Mr. Speaker, if Mr. Elliott asked me if I will table the document, at some point, I likely will table the document. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Oral Questions. Member for Akulliq, Mr. Ningark.

Question 425 – 3(3): Issuing of Welfare Cheques

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Hon. Minister of Health and Social Services, in other words, I'll state, "Welfare System," and I have every respect in the world with the office of the minister.

Mr. Speaker, when I travel between Repulse Bay and Kugaaruk, which I didn't do enough, people know that and people complain. That's fine. It goes with the mandate. Mr. Speaker, my constituents tell me that when they go to an income support office, in some cases, they are told, "Well, we have to consult with the regional office to make sure that you are eligible." When we, the Government of Nunavut, let major contracts in the system and when we are told that we are not hiring local, people

have no productive choices but to go into the income support office.

Now, my question to the hon. minister is... I have every respect in the world for the frontline workers, so don't get me wrong. Does the local frontline worker have any authority at all to issue cheques to a client without getting authority from the regional office? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Mr. Ningark, if I could just ask if you're talking about the income support workers. Yes? Okay, then the Minister responsible for Education, Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We do have our income support workers issuing cheques to clients. I am trying to understand what the actual question was. I believe the member is asking whether they have authority or not; if he can clarify his question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Minister. Mr. Ningark, can you clarify that for the minister, please.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to apologize to you that I was under the assumption that the Minister for Health and Social Services was the lead minister, but I should know it is Madam Premier. My question is: does the local income support worker have full authority to issue cheques without consulting with the regional office? Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you for the clarification, Mr. Ningark. Minister of Education, Minister Aariak.

Hon. Eva Aariak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In terms of when the income support worker has to consult with the regional office is the area I will have to check and get back to the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Madam Minister. Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Aupaluktuq.

Question 426 – 3(3): Interpreter/Translator Programs

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

Mr. Speaker, in my Member's Statement earlier this week, I spoke of the need to support language rights at the community level. The delivery of interpreter/translator programs at Nunavut Arctic College could play a critical role in increasing the government's capacity in this area, as well as protecting, promoting, and enhancing the rights of Nunavummiut.

Can the minister clearly describe what interpreter/translator programs are currently being offered by Nunavut Arctic College? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that very important question. I think we all know that we are running out of interpreter/translators in our territory and they are very skilled people and very

important people to ensure that communications go on and all territorial businesses are well understood and we can work together on issues.

At present, we have an interpreter/translator program in Iqaluit. We do have four people who are taking that course right now. In very many of our programs, we also have an Inuktitut training component and a language component, which is in the NTEP program and the Nursing Program. We also have in the Government of Nunavut, as the Premier has already alluded to, Inuktitut training in HR that is delivered to all Government of Nunavut employees. At present, though, the only program that we offer for interpreter/translator is in Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As you will recall, I spoke of the need for an interpreter/translator course being delivered at the community level, enabling community residents to increase their skills and employability without having to leave their homes and families. Can the minister update this House on what interpreter/translator courses are being or will be delivered at community learning centres and, if there are none, will he consider the delivery of community-based interpreter/translator courses in the near future? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister of Nunavut Arctic College, Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again thanks for the question. The member outlines a very important issue and at present, I do not recall of any courses that are offered in communities. However, it is absolutely possible for communities that are interested in having such a program offered in their communities to have that done. It would need to be done through the adult educator and the community. Every spring, there is an assessment of programs that the community prioritizes to be offered. It would go through that process and it absolutely could be looked at. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given the legislated requirements for language services across the public sector, can the minister confirm that he is working with governmental representatives to evaluate and determine the need for interpreter/translator services and ensuring that the necessary training and educational programs will be provided? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Aupaluktuq. Minister of Nunavut Arctic College, Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can assure the member that we are working as a government as a whole in introducing and incorporating Inuit language and culture. It is a very high priority under the ILPA and OLA Acts that have been passed and that we are going to implement. It is very important and we are all working

together to increase these programs.
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Aupaluktuq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the response simply because we are catering to the specific needs of Baker Lake, which is why I have been presenting these questions.

As my colleagues may know, Baker Lake is the only distinct inland Inuit community and there are five distinct Inuit groups as well. I want to ask the minister: can the minister describe what efforts have been made by Nunavut Arctic College to recruit Nunavummiut, especially young adults who are looking to develop skills and enter the labour force, into the field of interpreting and translating? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are always recruiting people through Arctic College. Information is on the website at the college. If anyone is interested in becoming involved in the education of being an interpreter/translator, it is open to everyone across the territory of Nunavut. We will continue to do that. I can just suggest to people that if they are interested, we do have a program offer. The intake is very low. We would expect it to be higher. So I would encourage all of the MLAs in this House to communicate that we do run this

program in Iqaluit and it's open to everyone. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Members will note that the allotted time for question period has expired. We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Mr. Elliott.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 238 – 3(3): Government Correspondence Regarding Processing of Inuit Heritage Trust Concerning Traditional Place Names Proposal

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table a copy of correspondence that all MLAs received regarding the processing of Inuit Heritage Trust Traditional Place Names. The letter speaks to issues brought forward by Tabled Document 229 – 3(3): Correspondence from the Inuit Heritage Trust Concerning Traditional Place Names. I table this for the public record. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Minister Shewchuk.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

Bill 44 – An Act to Amend the Justices of the Peace Act – First Reading

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Kugluktuk, that Bill 44, *An Act to Amend the Justices of the Peace Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. The motion is in order. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried and Bill 44 has been read for the first time.

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 41, 42, and 43 with Mr. Ningeongan 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 15:02 and Committee resumed at 15:34*

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

Chairman (Mr. Ningeongan) (interpretation): Thank you. I would now like to call the committee meeting to order. In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bills 41, 42, and 43. What is wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to continue with the

review of Bill 41, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2013-2014*, beginning with the Department of Justice, followed by Nunavut Arctic College and, if time permits, the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Does the committee agree to proceed in that manner?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 41 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2013-2014 – Justice – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Does the committee agree to bring in Mr. Shewchuk and his witnesses?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort Minister Shewchuk and his witnesses in.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. At the start of our committee meetings, we must introduce witnesses appearing at the table for the record. Minister Shewchuk, I welcome you and your officials. Please introduce your witnesses. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right, I have Chris Stewart, the Manager of Capital and Special Projects. Yesterday he had a promotion; I gave him a director title.

>>*Laughter*

To my left, I have J.P. Deroy, Director of Corrections. In the Gallery, in the back, we have Christine Bens, Director

of Corporate Services, and Deputy Minister of Justice Norman Tarnow. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk and your officials. Yesterday, you were asking questions on the opening comments of the minister and we got to page C-3. (interpretation ends) Directorate. (interpretation) The member who had questions is not here right now, but I will recognize him when he returns. I have Ms. Ugyuk on my list. You now have the floor if you have questions on the opening comments or page C-3. Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I also wish to extend a welcome to you all.

Firstly, I wish to state that here in Nunavut, we have many churches and those of us who regularly attend church offer our prayers for the inmates in our system. We pray for their help, to have them return home safely and to not be re-incarcerated. That is what we pray for as regular churchgoers. Our priest also states that as a religion, if this belief doesn't include forgiveness and service, then that is not a Christian belief. That is why we pray for those people who are inmates in our community. Through our prayers, the inmates say that they are assisted. That is something I want understood by Nunavummiut.

With that being the situation, those people who are incarcerated aren't immediately thrown into jail, as the court due process has to be used where they go on trial. Some defendants are remanded into custody. Some are incarcerated for many years if their crime is serious, which includes

prisoners on remand awaiting trial. There are two categories of prisoners: those awaiting trial in remand and those who are already incarcerated. Sometimes there's recidivism as well.

We have now been apprised in a previous session that the correctional centres in the NWT don't want any further Nunavut prisoners. This includes southern institutions, such as Ontario, that don't want any further prisoners from Nunavut and this list is growing. This is becoming a concern.

As Members of the Legislative Assembly, representing our constituents, will we also abandon our prisoners or will we ensure that our inmates are properly housed? Many inmates aren't just thrown into prison, as all prisoners undergo a trial, or if it is a very serious crime, then they are remanded into custody. I understand through the statistics that more males are incarcerated than females in our prison system. As a mother, it is very painful to have a son incarcerated. Many of our sons are incarcerated in the correctional centres. As people, we constantly look for ways to provide assistance to them.

The community justice committee members are usually elders who partake in cases where Inuit are being tried for crimes. Through this process, it really helps as the elders provide proper advice about life and that crime isn't a proper way of life. Unfortunately not many people take this to heart, so they become repeat offenders. As they are our fellow Inuit and residents, we have to ensure that they are properly housed. I want this completely understood.

Another facility we are expecting is the Rankin Inlet Men's Healing Facility, which is to be opened soon. It will be a medium-security facility, with a healing centre included. This healing facility also offers healing programs meant to teach the inmates. Once it opens, many inmates who are fathers have children awaiting their return. These children need their fathers, but they are incarcerated, although the father has to teach his children about being a proper father. Many children are affected negatively when their father is in prison. I want the Department of Justice to understand these issues.

We are now seeing an increase in the number of women being incarcerated. There is only one correctional facility for females in Nunavut and it is quite small. As leaders and Members of the Legislative Assembly, we know that many women experience violence in their homes. When women are backed against the wall, sometimes they fight, especially after years of violence. It is heart-rending to see this occur amongst women because they can go as far as murdering their children.

Will we also see overcrowding amongst our women prisoners? This is an issue that has to be carefully considered, especially by the community justice members, as well as the court system. Will they also be overcrowded, such as we see now with the men already facing overcrowding?

The Northwest Territories government had stated that they don't want to house Nunavut inmates by next year. All this is in light of the possible passage of Bill C-10, which may come into force by November of next year within our court

system. We have no choice but to abide by this legislation as it is a piece of our federal government's legislation that applies nationally when it is enacted in Parliament. Any federal legislation enacted is legislation we have to abide by as we are citizens of Canada.

The comments I am making are hard pieces of facts, but we have to face these facts as Members of the Legislative Assembly, and I am sorry that we don't have a proper figure, especially when it falls short by a country mile. However, I believe that there is room for improvement.

I am in full support of the temporary relief structure. With many jurisdictions no longer accepting our inmates from Nunavut, such as the NWT and southern institutions, do our correctional facilities now have to be changed to house more dangerous, high-security inmates? What will happen to our low- and medium-security inmates? Will they be housed with these high-security inmates or will we create a low-security facility?

We also have the Ilavut Centre in Kugluktuk, which we should consider to enlarge so that we can have more space for Nunavummiut in facilities closer to home.

Chairman (interpretation): Ms. Ugyuk, I believe that you are on general comments. If you have any questions, as we have already finished general comments, you can move on to your line of questioning. If there are any questions on the opening comments or page C-3. Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you. I'm just following what had occurred

yesterday like making general comments. Yesterday, some members believed that the estimate for the relief structure is just a preliminary estimate. They didn't want to see a class "X" estimate. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. If members can recall, we went to page C-3. You can ask your questions to the opening comments or to page C-3. I apologize if I caused any confusion. That was just a comment. Mr. Curley, you were asking your line of questioning when we adjourned. You may proceed, Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you, *Iksivautaaq*. (interpretation) I'll speak in English. (interpretation ends) Yes, Mr. Chairman, I'll continue on with some questions I have. One was to try to justify the budget. I think we all agreed quite clearly that initially, when you proposed the amount of dollars needed, that was, I believe, the original target to at least enhance the existing service.

My assumption is and my thinking is that your officials may have gone into redesigning the whole thing and therefore eventually going to have to build a new facility. Are we approving a proposed new facility aside from the existing facility or are we just renovating it to increase additional facilities needed to house the inmates? So which one are we looking at? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll answer his last question first. This is a new facility, a

complete separate structure than the existing facility.

I would like to take this opportunity where we left off yesterday in the variance from the class "X" estimate that you had brought up to what we are proposing and what we say this is going to cost and where the figures are right now as a class "C" estimate, which I said yesterday was \$13.2 million. I've had discussions with my counterpart in the Department of Finance, the Minister of Finance, last night and this morning and he assures me and I do agree too that we are following the process as outlined in the Legislative Assembly. We did have a class "X" estimate and we have moved forward.

I am explaining now to you that we will be coming back to the winter sitting with the supplemental fund in quite a large amount. This is the path and the process followed through the capital planning process. There is some urgency to this. This was expedited, quickened up, fast tracked just to ensure that we could get this approved and constructed for next summer to meet the dire need and demand that we have over at BCC and housing our inmates. So we are going to continue on this process. From my understanding from the department, we will have a class "B" estimate here in mid-November or so. By the time I come back to you in the winter sitting, we will have a class "A" estimate with a very definite price tag to this.

So I hope that answers the process question that we ended off with yesterday. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Yes, the answers are evolving, obviously, because initially when you made the presentation, not just in this session but even in the previous session, you made a request to enhance the existing facility. That was the original idea. I did, at all times, indicate that I think that is separate because you and I know that \$8 million in initial funds were never going to be enough to facilitate a new facility.

So I think it's important to indicate to the committee and to Nunavutmiut that this is a new facility. That should be right up front. What you're asking is two-part, I think, and I think you need to be very clear to Nunavutmiut that we're not just approving capital planning dollar amounts. We're being asked to approve a capital planning amount needed to design. I'm not sure whether they had been tendered yet. If they are, I think the minister should indicate to us exactly where we are with the design process.

You're also asking us to approve some construction dollars. Am I correct on that? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To give a very insightful answer, I'm going to ask Chris, our manager of capital, to respond to Mr. Curley.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Mr. Stewart.

Mr. Stewart: Thank you very much. To give a little bit of background, the RFP was awarded to Stantec Architectural in

July. We began design in July after the award. We have proceeded in September when we got our class "C" estimate and are continuing with design work now and, even next week, are continuing that design to work towards the class "B." So design is ongoing right now. Thank you.

Chairman (Mr. Tapardjuk) (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Stewart. Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. So my next question to the minister is... So the contract was awarded. Obviously it's in the process. That particular contractor, are they using the funds that were allocated through the House and approved or do you need extra dollars to complete the whole design process? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll attempt to answer this and Chris can correct me if I'm wrong. That process is ongoing, but as Mr. Curley knows, we approved \$700,000 last spring in the House for this process. We actually needed some more funding and you probably saw in the supp bill there today where we transferred another \$600,000 carryover from the Rankin Inlet facility to complete this process. Thank you.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. That \$600,000, Mr. Chairman, would then complete the planning and design required by the contractor for the whole new facility. Would I be correct in that?

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's absolutely correct. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I'm sure there are work timelines that have been agreed upon through this contract. When exactly will these designs as well as the ongoing work required for the capital planning process that is handled by the contractor be completed? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will pass that question on to Mr. Stewart. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. (interpretation ends) Just before I recognize Mr. Stewart, I think, in your earlier comment, you made reference to Chris. I would appreciate it if you can at least be more courteous and address them by their proper names. It is a little difficult to use their first names, so I remind you, Minister Shewchuk. With that, I will recognize Mr. Stewart.

Mr. Stewart: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I was saying, the design work has started and is ongoing and will continue into the new year. We will be working towards a class "A" estimate and construction documents will be completed by March 2013. As stated, the funds we do have now will take us all

the way through design. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Stewart. Do you have any additional questions? Mr. Curley.

Mr. Curley: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, that proves my point that the minister has a lot of time to bring in a proper budget, whether they be class "C" or final estimates, in getting this thing completed. This funding that we have been asked to approve has nothing to do with the capital planning exercise. This has to do with construction dollars that are being handled by the architectural design contractor. So it is very difficult for me to say to the Auditor General of Canada, "We're going to now approve construction dollars in the amount of \$8.9 million, inclusive, for the design and planning that has yet to be completed." Would I be correct in stating that? Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, I will have Mr. Stewart add if I need to, but I think I will try and attempt to answer this question. I see where Mr. Curley is going with this.

I think, as with any other capital project, we are going through the process and we have a class "X" estimate. I do think, as we move forward, not with just this project, but with any project, that we can try and have maybe more of a precise estimate as to what we're doing. I think we all agree to that and I think that's an important lesson to be learned out of this whole study that we're doing here.

I do think that it's important to have the commitment of what we put forward. It's regular process that we will come back for a supplementary once we get a more precise class "A", class "B" estimate, and we will come for the required funding at that time. Yes, it is a lot. The question here, I think, is just the difference between the class "X" and class "A," and we're getting held up on this and it is process.

What I'm really concerned and what makes me feel really intense about this is that the process is one thing. It's the purpose and the need that we need to meet to the challenges that we face is the real issue here. I know that each and every one of you have concerns about this and feel that way, and each and every one of you probably has had a relative or know somebody or has a friend who has been through the system at BCC and have heard stories.

We are in a critical situation, and I have said that before and I'll say it again. Yes, the process is one thing, but the absolute need and purpose is another thing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. I understand all of that. I think what we're dealing with is not just the process; we're dealing with the procurement proposal also. We're approving the actual construction, material, and hardware costs that have yet to be identified clearly. Using the class "X" estimate doesn't prove anything. What I'm trying to get at is that by the time the class "B" and "C" estimates are done, eventually the class "X" estimate, which we have been asked

to approve in excess of \$8 million, will then be incorporated into class "C," no doubt about it, because that will be the total construction project cost.

So what I have been trying to do is... . The minister has a lot of time to complete the actual class "B" and "C" before the winter session. Why not wait until that time? You have enough dollars for the capital planning exercise, and then present them all at once at that time so we're not jumping the gun by approving \$8 million worth of construction allocations that are not going to be spent until next summer anyway. Is that possible? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. Minister Shewchuk, before you respond, I would like to remind the members that we're on page C-3. \$400,000. Directorate. Various Minor Capital. It hasn't been approved yet. We are talking about C-5 at this moment. I would like to remind the members that we're on page C-3 and you can ask additional questions when we go to C-5. C-4 has not been approved yet and it's \$400,000. I would like to remind members once again that we're going page by page. Minister Shewchuk, it's at your discretion if you would like to respond to this question, but I would like to go back to C-3 once the response is completed. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think it's important that we approve this \$8,575,000. I think it's important that we approve it and make that commitment today. When we come back for that supplement bill in the winter session, the members will have the opportunity to either approve it or not approve it at that time too. I feel like

we should follow the process we're going on and I'll leave it at that, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. I understand your point. I think the director is also responsible for a whole lot of things, including capital planning requirements.

My point really has to do with also complying with the planning requirements of all major projects. I think the Auditor General has indicated over and over to the departments and to all the MLAs that dollars, unless they have been identified properly, is one that we are simply normally not required to vote on because we have, for instance, class "C" and class "X" estimates that really don't mean anything. That's the only point that I'm getting at.

We're not disagreeing at all that this facility is put into question or not. I will say that I support the proposal, but we need proper dollar amounts. We are going to be approving \$8 million that will not be tendered until likely April or May, not until the next fiscal season.

Mr. Chairman, that's the only point that I'm making because eventually it will be identified that the planning and developing actual estimates properly have not been followed through. That's the only point I wanted to make. It's just a comment for now. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. That's a very good comment. I have no other names on my list. We're on page C-3. (interpretation ends) Directorate. C-

3. \$400,000. (interpretation) I have no more names on my list. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Justice. Directorate. \$400,000. (interpretation) That was approved. We will go to page C-5. Corrections. (interpretation ends) Justice. \$8,575,000. I believe Mr. Enook has a question. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Minister and your officials. I have a question for further clarity and some comments that were made earlier. Sometimes we don't understand right away when a subject comes up. There was a question by my colleague, Mr. Curley, about the overcrowding relief structure. I would like to know exactly what it is for my clarity and for the people of Nunavut.

It's about \$8 million, so the people might think that we're going to be building a new correctional facility. It states that it's a temporary structure. Eventually, a few years from now, we will see new plans for a new structure. I would like to get that clarified first and foremost because it requires \$8 million. We know that there is going to be supplementary appropriations in the winter session. So exactly what is this relief structure so we will be on the same page?

I'll have another question afterwards, if you give me the opportunity. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will try and explain all the answers to Mr. Enook's question.

First of all, I think that we have changed the name on the structure now to call it an overcrowding relief structure because "temporary relief structure" doesn't help out what this facility really is. This facility is a new structure that we are proposing to be built. We have before us today a capital request for \$8,575,000. We know right now for this structure, we have a class "C" figure out there and it's going to be \$13.2 million. We expect it not to exceed \$15 million.

The purpose of the structure is to absolutely relieve the pressures we have on our existing facility. The facility was built for 66 beds, 66 inmates. I know, as of last week, there were days where we had 107 inside the facility. Anyone who has been there, I have taken a few of you on a tour. The gymnasium is serving as a huge bedroom in it. The conditions are very poor. The structure is an old structure. We have very little room and space for a proper rehabilitation programming that goes on.

So we have come up with this plan to build the structure to relieve those pressures. Also, half of the structure is going to be designated to mental health inmates. Part of the structure is we're going to have proper programming space in there to deliver programs, education programs, schooling, and cultural programs that we have designed. So that is the purpose of the structure. It's something new.

As far as the temporary part, it's not temporary. It is going to be a structure we will always use. Of course, our plans

in the future are to construct a more permanent residence for all of our inmates and hopefully we could house all of our inmates from the territory within our territory at some point in time into the future. That is going to take a huge amount of negotiation, funding, and funding sources to do that.

A structure like that, looking into the future, we're estimating even right now that it could be \$150 million to \$200 million. This is going to be a major capital project when it does take place. Up until that time happens, we need to do something and this is our attempt and answer to do something about the problem we're facing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank Mr. Minister for clarifying the situation. I would like to ask this supplementary question prior to moving on to another matter, as I have further questions on other matters related to this.

If we were to approve this structure and it proceeds to construction, do I understand that in the upcoming years down the road, when the Nunavut government is contemplating a new correctional facility for construction, this structure will eventually be an addition to this new facility? Did I understand this correctly? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If and when that time came that we had the resources to absolutely build something that is larger, more state-of-the-art, and meet our needs like a facility that I did see in Whitehorse, Yukon when I was there and toured it, we would continue to use this structure for programming, storage space, and many other reasons. It's something we would always have use for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Do you have any more questions? Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity. This other question I want to raise relates to my colleague Mr. Curley's line of questioning about the \$8 million fund and when it has to be utilized. In order to ensure I completely understand the situation, I would like to rephrase the question in this manner. This \$8.5 million, which Minister Shewchuk would like approved, why do we have to approve it at this time? Why can't we review and approve this appropriation in our upcoming winter session?

Perhaps I should ask the question in this way. Prior to the start of the new fiscal year, April 1, is the reason for this prior approval request because part of these funds will be expended prior to the end of the fiscal year? Is this the reason why the members have to approve this request at this time, if we are to approve it here?

I hope that my questions are comprehensible. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think we're doing the approval now for a couple of reasons. We are in the capital process. Our winter sitting is going to be the O&M process when we go through that timing.

Another thing, I believe, is that I'm asking to get the \$8,575,000 approved because we have it dedicated in that capital. If we approve it, we don't need to spend it right now, but we are in the process and I think the proper process would be to approve what we have before the House with capital. We know it's not going to be less than \$8,575,000. We do know it's going to be more than that, and I will come to the winter sitting with a supplement funding amount. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. I don't have any more names on my list. C-5. Justice. Corrections. \$8,575,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Just before we go to C-2, I will get members to vote on C-6, Baffin Correctional Centre Temporary Housing Structure. Under C-5, even though the minister stated that it's going to be a permanent structure, it states over here that \$8,575,000 is for the temporary housing structure. (interpretation ends) Corrections. \$8,575,000. (interpretation) Mr. Enook, you have a question. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't want to ask a

question, but I just want you to give me some advice. We said and Minister Shewchuk also mentioned that the title now has changed. It states that we could just use the word “temporary.” Can we vote on that even though it says “temporary”? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. I am the one that made the mistake; I’m sorry. Under C-5, \$8,575,000, it has been agreed to. We’re going back to C-2. I’m sorry about that, I made the mistake myself. I’m sorry for confusing you. C-2. Detail of Expenditures. Justice. Total Capital Expenditures. \$8,975,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Do we agree that the Department of Justice is completed?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Shewchuk, if you have any closing remarks, I’ll give you the opportunity to speak. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank you and I would like to thank your committee for your support in this endeavour. I think it’s much needed by all of our residents and communities across this wonderful territory. I really do at this time would like to thank my staff for their work that has been put into this and the urgency in it.

I would like to thank all the staff in Justice, but especially the corrections

staff. They have a very difficult job to go to work every day and deal with the issues they have to deal with and come home, and then be with their families and have a normal life. To all the corrections staff out there, I would like to thank you very much for your services and continued hard work. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>> *Applause*

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk, Mr. Stewart, and Mr. Dero. Thank you for being present. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses out.

Thank you. Members, maybe we can take a five-minute break at this time before we start with another department.

>> *Committee recessed at 16:19 and resumed at 16:30*

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you for returning to the Committee of the Whole. I would like to call the committee meeting to order. We have quorum for Committee of the Whole. We will be dealing with Nunavut Arctic College. I would like to ask the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College to go to the witness table.

Thank you. Welcome, Minister Shewchuk. Would you like to make your opening remarks?

**Bill 41 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,
2013-2014 – Nunavut Arctic
College – Consideration in
Committee**

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Good

afternoon to you and to your committee. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to be here today to present and discuss the proposed 2013-14 capital plan for Nunavut Arctic College. As the Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, I am looking forward to the opportunity to advance the mandate of the Government of Nunavut, especially as it applies to Nunavut Arctic College.

Nunavut Arctic College has taken on the responsibility of their capital planning-linking facility development and delivery strategy. They continue to develop their internal capital planning capacity to build a firm infrastructure for training Nunavutmiut.

As the only post-secondary institution in the territory, Arctic College plays a central role in providing Nunavutmiut with adult learning programs and services. Our core business is training for employment. Building self-reliance through training and employment is our goal.

This year's submission requests \$8.27 million in capital funding. The focus is to build infrastructure which allows program delivery in all communities and facilitates student services and learning.

You will see on the plan that work continues on the Kitikmeot Residence and Daycare Centre in Cambridge Bay (\$6,560,000). Student accommodation and services is a foundational piece for program delivery at the campus level. Arctic College can only train as many students as we can house when taking campus-based programs. This supports the development of the Mine Training Centre/Campus in Cambridge Bay and will allow the enhancement of health and

education programs in the region. This project also provides us with great opportunities to build relationships with the Canadian High Arctic Research Station, which is scheduled to be completed for 2017.

Nunavut Arctic College's roots are the services provided for students in the communities. The core of our program delivery is in the community learning centres. There are three new CLCs in the planning stage: Iqaluit, Grise Fiord, and Whale Cove. The Grise Fiord CLC will continue to undergo planning and a site visit of the old hamlet offices is planned this fiscal year to review design options. The new hamlet office is scheduled to be completed April 2014. Whale Cove planning continues and a site has been selected. Design of the facility will begin in 2013 with the budget of \$460,000.

Continued efforts to develop a community learning centre in Iqaluit are in progress. Consultations with community stakeholders will take place this year, as well as site selection. Design of the facility will be initiated in 2013 with the budget of \$1 million. Completion of these facilities will provide a physical space for CLCs in all communities of Nunavut and strengthens the number of new initiatives which can be offered at the community level.

Minor capital of \$250,000 is also on the plan. This allows Arctic College the flexibility to address minor needs not met in normal maintenance but essential to the smooth running of facilities and programs.

The future design and construction of the Kitikmeot Campus and Mine Training Centre will ensure that each region has a

campus facility and the ability to deliver innovative and diversified programs. Design money for this facility is requested for 2014 in order to be completed by 2017.

The equipment training centre provides the delivery of equipment operation and maintenance programs as planned in the Nunavut Trades Training Strategy of 2006. The occupations of heavy equipment operator and heavy duty technician remain in high demand in Nunavut communities, airport facilities, and private industry, especially the mining industry. Interim program delivery is planned using the old trades training facility in Rankin Inlet and in partnership with institutions in southern Canada. The equipment training centre builds continued capacity in Nunavut to deliver these important programs in our own territory. We will be able to meet the needs of industry in heavy duty and automotive mechanics and heavy equipment operators needed by the industry.

The Arviat Teacher Education Centre is an important project for Nunavut in providing the necessary infrastructure to meet the needs of Nunavutmiut. Nunatta Campus includes a teacher education centre for the Qikiqtani region as well as the new Kitikmeot Campus for the Kitikmeot. The Kivalliq also requires a teacher education centre to support community-based deliveries in the region. Arviat has the second largest school population in Nunavut and also hosts the Curriculum Division of the Department of Education. Arctic College currently has a community learning centre and its administrative headquarters in Arviat. Both are in older

buildings which do not meet the needs for this increase in program delivery.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to be here today to discuss Nunavut Arctic College's capital plan for 2013-14 and the subsequent four years. This is a critical government investment in training Nunavutmiut for employment. I look forward to your questions, comments, and discussion. Thank you very much.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Yes, I would. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Does the committee agree to bring in the witnesses?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Thank you. Minister Shewchuk, for the record, please introduce your witnesses from Nunavut Arctic College. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I will. To my right is Mike Shouldice, the President of Nunavut Arctic College, and to my left is Eric Corneau, the Coordinator of Policy and Planning for Arctic College. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Welcome, Mr.

Shouldice. I didn't quite catch the name of the other official, Mr. Corneau. Welcome to the committee. Does the Chair of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness have comments? Ms. Ugyuk.

Ms. Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Social Wellness as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of Nunavut Arctic College's proposed 2013-14 capital estimates.

Nunavut Arctic College's proposed capital budget for 2013-14 is \$8.2 million, which will be allocated to three community-specific projects as well as towards minor capital projects, including upgrades and renovations to current facilities.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee recognizes Nunavut Arctic College's important role in providing adult educational opportunities in Nunavut, from basic upgrading and culture and language programs to training for employment and career development, as well as university level degrees in specific fields, such as teaching and nursing.

The college's community learning centres promote education and skill development at the community level and play a critical role towards developing educational advancements and employability of Nunavut residents.

The standing committee notes that Nunavut Arctic College's 2014-18 Five-Year Capital Plan proposes funding for a number of future projects. The

committee has expressed concern that significant expenditures on planning for new projects anticipate major expenditures in the future.

Given the number of projects which are being pushed back government-wide and the significant amount of money that has already been approved in carryover appropriations from one fiscal year to the next, committee members caution the college's capital planners to keep expectations to a realistic level.

Mr. Chairman, Nunavut Arctic College's biggest proposed project for 2013-14 is \$6.5 million for a residence and daycare centre in Cambridge Bay to support services at the regional campus. It is not clear to members why this project is also identified as the "Mine Training Centre" and would appreciate some clarification from the minister as to why these are not considered as two separate projects. The committee appreciates the assurances that these residences will be allocated to students and not to visiting researchers and professionals affiliated with the new research centre to be built in Cambridge Bay.

The standing committee would appreciate an update on any partnerships that have been considered in conjunction with mining companies and other entities to support capital investments to promote the delivery of training and other learning programs which can lead to employment and careers for Nunavummiut within the mining industry and other sectors.

Members also encourage the minister and his officials to give some consideration to delivering some trades training, such as heavy equipment

operating courses, at the community level.

Mr. Chairman, accommodation for college teaching staff has been raised as a concern, especially in those communities where the delivery of highly anticipated professional development courses relies on the availability of professional instructors who are not normally residents of the community.

The standing committee urges the minister to ensure that the lack of housing for teaching staff does not have a negative impact on the delivery of programs at the community level.

Mr. Chairman, the standing committee notes that three community learning centres are in the planning stages. Members encourage the minister to provide updates on these projects on a regular basis to ensure that expectations at the community level as well as for future capital commitments are realistic.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2013-14 Capital Estimates of Nunavut Arctic College. I am confident that my colleagues will wish to offer further comments of their own. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. I would like to remind members of the following: according to Rule 77(1), you have 10 minutes to speak, and according to Rule 77(2), subject to the discretion of the Chair, a member may speak more than once to a matter under discussion but not until every member wishing to speak has spoken.

Are there any general comments? If I could, as Members of the Legislative Assembly, we usually have Members' Statements. We're on general comments and we would like to follow that rule. We would like to hear of general comments when I ask you to do so. I have one name on my list. Mr. Ningark.

Mr. Ningark: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The opening comments of the Hon. Daniel Shewchuk, I don't have any controversial issue on his remarks. I believe that if we, leaders in Nunavut, beneficiaries of the land claims depend on the NNI Policy, mainly on Article 24, I wonder how far we will get. I think it is very critical and very important to ensure that we have the necessary credentials in specialized fields. That is a critical issue and I would like to underline that.

We, as politicians, indicate so many times in the House, in this forum how major contractors are coming up north, not hiring local people. I remember an old friend telling me that if you give a fish to a person, you feed that person for a day, but if you teach a person how to fish, you feed him for a lifetime. This is very similar in nature. I would like to acknowledge and appreciate that this is not an ambitious outlook for the future of the learning development in Nunavut. I think this is realistic and I appreciate that. There is no question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The community learning centres and Nunavut Arctic College, if you will allow me to speak, Mr.

Chairman, Nunavut Arctic College is very important here in Nunavut. When we finish classroom schools, we have to continue on to higher education.

I would like to remind the Minister for Arctic College and his officials that the people of Nunavut have always said that whatever is available as employment in our communities would be better if we get educated because we all have to have higher education. That's what we want to attain as people of Nunavut.

Grades 9 to 12 were started so that they can get further education. Some people don't go to higher education because they have to leave their community. When Minister Shewchuk thinks about higher education, I feel that we have to think about which communities can have Arctic College programs. I think that some of the students are more successful.

I have a son who went to Arctic College and he took the Environmental Technology Program. There are a lot of young males who take that environmental program. My son has a good job because he attained that training. Arctic College provides good education for employment for young people. I would like to thank Arctic College for the environmental technology program being taught in Pond Inlet. It's a two-year program and there hasn't been one student who quit that program. I urge the students there, because there are only a few months left, to take that training.

That's a good example of when you teach young people in the communities, they succeed. I would like the minister and his officials to think about that

because we have to work with each other. There are programs that could be started in Nunavut like mining training at Mary River so they can attain employment over there. If you talk with them, they can tell you which training should be taken because Mary River is close to Pond Inlet and there has to be more training for the residents over there.

We could succeed as well because adult learners can attain training, not just for driving or for cooks. Men and women would have the opportunity to get training through Arctic College. It states over here that there are problems that arise sometimes. Even though they want to have training in the community, they don't have any housing for the teachers who have to come in to teach.

Mr. Chairman, Minister Shewchuk, and the people who are taking training at Arctic College, I would like to remind them that the Nunavut government in Pond Inlet has a lot of staff housing that has never been used before. They could be used for those temporary teachers in Pond Inlet. Thank you.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you. (interpretation) Welcome, minister and your officials. (interpretation ends) Thank you. I appreciate the minister indicating two important university level degree programs that are supported and carried out by Nunavut Arctic College. I'm surprised that we're not moving quick enough to establish other university degree related programs. I think Nunavutmiut and young students are gearing up, really, and opportunities for

further training, such as my colleague already alluded to, a whole slew of them.

I also believe there are significant programs that are being carried out in diploma programs, whether it be environmental technology, that really should be transferred towards a degree program. I also feel that there are enough Nunavutmiut who are young people interested in degree programs related to social work. A lot of work and fields should be supported by the government.

My point is this, *Iksivautaaq*: what will it take, really, to start creating a wheel to get other degree programs other than just supporting the two fields that the minister alluded to, teaching and the other one was nursing? What is it going to take to develop those other fields that the young people of Nunavut could take instead of trying to get down south, which doesn't always work because they do have families to take care of at home? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Curley. We're under general comments, but I'll have your name on the list for questions. Mr. Oshutapik.

Mr. Oshutapik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Minister, for your opening comments. I have general comments and we will have some questions before I have a few questions to pose.

I do believe or the community believes that education is very important and we have to treat it as important as leaders, as elected leaders. We have capital estimates to review for Nunavut Arctic College. For that reason, Nunavut communities, no matter where they are,

there is a centralized community. You are planning for a centralized training program rather than at the local level. Once I understand this clearly, I will want to support the proposed capital estimates to improve community learning centres and I know that there is a lot of funding to help develop Arctic College.

The three regions in Nunavut do not have the same system in each region. Each region is interested in getting certain training programs, different from the other regions, so that they could develop themselves. Rather than asking how many of these programs are geared for the Baffin region, how many of these programs are geared for Kitikmeot, rather than asking regionally-related questions, we should be asking questions for Nunavut as a whole.

We have to approve the proposal. That's why the capital estimates review is very important. I will leave it at that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Oshutapik. I have no more names on my list for general comments. We will move on to questions. We will go to Finance. B-3. 2013-14 Capital Estimates. Finance. Centrally Administered Funds. Nunavut Arctic College. The breakdown for the \$8,270,000 is on page K-4. \$8,270,000. Are there any questions? Mr. Elliott, Mr. Curley, and Mr. Enook, I thank you for identifying yourself for questions ahead of time. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My questions are in regard to the new community learning centre which actually, I believe, is getting \$50,000 or

has \$50,000 already allocated to it for looking into the existing hamlet facility, which then, when the hamlet moves to the new hamlet complex, the community learning centre and Nunavut Arctic College will take over that facility.

With the \$50,000 that has been spent already, I know there's future allocation of \$300,000 which will be used to fix the building up, maybe washrooms, and make it up to the codes that we have in Nunavut. I'm just wondering: could the minister maybe update us to what has happened with the money that has been spent so far? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. I think either his information is wrong or mine is wrong, but there has been no money spent so far on this proposed project.

The \$50,000, as we all know, has been carried over for quite some time. The intent is to go with that \$50,000 once the hamlet staff and the operation of the hamlet has moved out of there to go and assess the building and see what needs to be done to bring it up to standards to be used as a learning centre. That's when we will have a more accurate figure of what the cost will be to do that and we intend to do that.

There is no \$300,000 planned in the future. Is there? Oh, yeah, I guess there is.

>> *Laughter*

There is. I didn't see that number before, but there is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess it should have said \$1.5 million.

In terms of the building itself, has there been any assessment at all done on the building in terms of the feasibility of what might need to be done? I'm assuming if there was another allocation of \$300,000, there has been some work in terms of assessing what might be needed to transform the building from a hamlet office to a community learning centre. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, there has been work done and I will get Mr. Corneau to expand further on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. Mr. Corneau.

Mr. Corneau: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There has been a site inspection done once the new hamlet office was scheduled. So the projects officers for that from CGS did an inspection and told us that it was suitable to be renovated and retrofitted to meet our needs. That was the inspection that was done. There are some design options that have been looked at by CGS and us. So the site inspection, when we go to Grise Fiord, will be to actually make a final assessment and see if those meet our needs.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Corneau. Just to remind members that we have to through interpreters, so please try and speak slower so the interpreter can keep up with you. Just to let you know ahead of time, we are utilizing interpreters. Thank you. Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In regard to the future site, right now, what's being done in the community for the community learning centre? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm sure the member knows what's going on there right now and how service is delivered there. I believe it's through the Income Support Office that they're utilizing right now to offer programs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Elliott: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the concerns that have been raised to me was over the last couple of years, in all of the community learning centres, as well as all the schools, there have been the fibre-optic, high-speed cables, and satellites for Internet. What's actually being done in Grise Fiord to mitigate some of the problems that they have been having?

I met most of the adult educators here over the past week when they were working with Nunavut Arctic College to get the training for the adult basic education, which requires Internet

access. I know it has had great support from CanNor. I'm just wondering in terms of what's being done for Grise Fiord, if they're planning on following through with that program in that community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Elliott for the question. I am proud to say that all 25 communities in Nunavut have high-speed access now and videoconferencing technology. Thank you.

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

Mr. Curley (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, I am very proud of the department because Nunavut Arctic College has a lot of work to do for post-secondary education for Nunavutmiut. I am very proud of Nunavut Arctic College, as I stated that the young people would like to get into higher education.

Some community learning centres are lacking funds due to limited resources. In spite of that, we are very proud of the communities wanting to develop adult education programs. We're starting to see trade and mine schools, which I am very proud of, with mining development occurring. I believe that Nunavut Arctic College should be delivering mining sector programs to the communities that are living near the mines. Some students don't want to leave their community or go down south and that prevents them from getting higher education.

I know that we're dealing with the capitals. I know that CLC buildings are

not going to be enlarged if the programs are not created. (interpretation ends) If there is no commitment for additional degree programs, we won't have to worry about expanding capital projects to facilitate the training needs of Nunavutmiut.

I had this question earlier: what would it take to establish further degree programs related to environment as well as social work rather than just a diploma program? There appears to be a lot of Nunavutmiut who have shown some interest in social work, for instance.

I just wanted to make a comment on that, (interpretation) Mr. Chairman, before the department is completed. Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I had meant to comment on this before because it's very important. First of all, I just want to tell you that I am very proud to be the minister of Arctic College. I'm privileged. It's a wonderful role to be a leader and see what's happening in the college these days.

I can tell you right now that the college has come a long way. In the last few years, enrolment has increased. Programs that we deliver have been increasing and ongoing, and they have been available to more communities across Nunavut than ever before too.

We're enhanced now with the long-distance learning that we just talked about that students can access programs that are delivered in the major centres

now in their home communities, which is very good.

Mr. Curley brings up a very good point about the degree granting and the degree programs that we have and how we can expand on that. We are doing that. We are doing that more and more. We are now entering into agreements and conversation with the University of Manitoba and University of P.E.I. in the environmental technology field. So the programs they take here will contribute to getting a degree in either place.

Eventually, we would like to do that here within Nunavut and that is the long-term planning in moving towards, at some point, maybe the formation of a university of the North or a Nunavut university, that concept. We're working towards that. What would it take? I think it's going to take the will, the development of plans to do that, and the resources that come along with that too. I think we're absolutely interested in moving that way. I am very proud of where we have come to this point, though, too. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Curley: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One last point, really. I know that the government funds are always limited, very crucial, as well in Nunavut, not only for college facilities, but for any other. I often wondered myself whether or not there should be a group established to do a serious fundraising initiative because there are some independent groups, no doubt, that probably would be. There are enough billionaires, and what do you call that,

around the world who could probably wish to contribute to the creation of some institutions that are designed towards higher education.

Has that kind of concept ever been made instead of just relying on one small pot of money that may not be available every year? Such an opportunity when we live in the Arctic, which is really kind of a unique environment; it's a learning environment, as far as I'm concerned. I know, Mr. President, he has certainly, I'm sure, considered it, but I often wonder why we don't try to establish a special group of people who may be willing to look around the world and see whether or not we could look for additional dollars.

I know this is out of theme, but in my preamble, I did indicate that unless we have some programs, you really don't need additional facilities, but I believe that we can plan ahead. So I would like the minister at least to indicate that this kind of thinking is either way off the mark or belongs on the moon or something like that. (interpretation)
Thank you.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I absolutely don't think that it belongs on the moon because I think something that we need to do more of is thinking outside the box and see how we can get the resources we need. And we do. About one-third of the college budget is from third party, it's from private sources, and that's growing all the time too because of the work we do and the search that we do look for third party funding. I think we do have

the man who can do that. He's got the skills to do that in his role.

I would just like to add too that Mr. Enook brought up something very important and again, it's for adult education, it's forming partnerships like we did in Pond Inlet with the mining industry to deliver such an important program there. Not only that, that program developed with Arctic College and being implemented partially by Arctic College and the government, but mostly private industry really adheres to the demand that the work is out there. I'm very sure that the graduates out of Pond Inlet will have opportunities in the mining industry in the Baffin region, for sure. So a partnership like that can always be worked on.

Something that you touched on before too and I know that it was brought up before by this committee is how can we involve more communities in offerings of different programs in their respective communities. First of all, we do assessments every spring with the communities to see what the priorities are in their communities.

Secondly, now with the long-distance learning and technology, I think we can partner, for instance, in the heavy equipment operators. We can use communities in part of the programming and establish programming there as a component of the course that's being delivered in a regional centre. I think we can look at that too.

Working with communities is what we want to do. We have expanded and grown. The fur design program has been offered all over. The NTEP program is a great success. It is involved in 11

communities this year. So we are growing and growing.

Another thing before I leave that is so important, and we talked about this, I have talked about this with the president, is the priority for getting young people into the [field] of social work and how we can do that and how we can make more offerings across this territory. Right now, the only program that's being offered is in the Cambridge Bay campus, but we need to expand that program too. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. If at all possible, we should keep in mind that we are dealing with the capital estimates. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe we are in K-3 and K-4. I have a question. I'm just going to follow through with what has been said earlier. In Cambridge Bay, they have "Kitikmeot Campus, Residence and Daycare." The total estimate is \$6,560,000. Again, there is a reference that states that it's going to support the mining school. Could we get some more information on that, please? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To explain that clearly, I'll ask Mr. Corneau to do that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Corneau.

Mr. Corneau: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The question is to explain

why the Kitikmeot Campus and the mine training centre... They're both one and the same facility. The idea is to consolidate all of the multiple buildings currently in Cambridge Bay that Nunavut Arctic College uses. So the idea is to bring them all within one campus. That also consolidates the mine training centre, which is currently not in Cambridge Bay. That's why it carries both names in the capital plan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Corneau. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If you put two things together, please make sure that we can see that it's two separate items under one umbrella. If I understood correctly, this campus is one unit, but it's going to be used for multiple tasks. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is the exact interpretation that should be used. That's right. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Enook. I have no more names on my list. We are on B-3. \$8,270,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): B-3. Centrally Administered Funds. Finance. \$8,270,000. Total Capital Expenditures was agreed to. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: We will now go back to B-2. Department Summary. Finance. (interpretation) Expenditures on Behalf of Nunavut Arctic College. \$8,270,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Are we agreed that we have now concluded Nunavut Arctic College?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Shewchuk, if you have any closing comments, you have the floor. Minister Shewchuk.

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank you and your committee again for supporting our request for capital submissions here for Nunavut Arctic College.

Again I would just like to say that if there is one thing that's very good news and what's happening well in Nunavut and I'm proud of is the college and the programs we offer in the college and we're growing. It's a post-secondary institution that is really growing. As we move through these times that we are facing with our economic development and whatnot, we need all the training that we can provide our people to have the skills to get the jobs out there.

So thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank my witnesses. I would also like to thank, at this time, the board of directors of the college who contribute greatly to the vision and path we're taking into the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Shewchuk. I also thank your officials for being here to respond to questions. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the witnesses out. Thank you.

Thank you. Following the agenda, if the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation can go to the witness table.

Thank you, Minister Taptuna. If you have any opening comments, you may proceed. Minister Taptuna.

Bill 41 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2013-2014 – Nunavut Housing Corporation – Consideration in Committee

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do have opening comments.

Chairman (interpretation): Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, we would like to hear your opening comments at this time. Minister Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The corporation's capital plan for 2013-14 consists of \$28,841,000 from the Government of Nunavut and additional funding of \$4,290,000 from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), for a total capital budget of \$33,131,000.

The 2013-14 capital estimates highlights are:

The Nunavut Housing Corporation's funding for the modernization and improvement (M&I) public housing renovations, homeownership programs, the Mobile Equipment Fund, the Heating

Oil Tank Replacement Program, and the Seniors and Disabled Persons Preventative Maintenance Program remain at approximately the same level as last year.

The Nunavut Housing Corporation's funding for the Fire Damage and Replacement Fund will increase by \$2,400,000 in 2013-14 to allow replacement of four public housing units destroyed by fire. Furthermore, the Nunavut Housing Corporation will receive increased funding of \$8 million for the construction of greatly needed public housing units.

Under the Government of Nunavut's Staff Housing Program, the corporation continues to construct new units and renovate older staff housing units in communities with the greatest needs. The Nunavut Housing Corporation's funding for the construction and acquisition of additional staff housing units will increase by \$2,250,000 in 2013-14.

I am pleased to report that the Nunavut Housing Trust has nearly completed delivery of the 726 units scheduled with only 19 units still under construction. In addition, 278 of the 285 units funded by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation Affordable Housing Initiative under Canada's Economic Action Plan have been completed, with the remainder to be complete by the end of October.

Construction through the Nunavut Housing Trust and Canada's Economic Action Plan has improved our ability to fulfill our mandate, but there is still a significant need for additional housing units. The Nunavut Housing Needs

Survey showed that 3,580 more units are immediately required. Furthermore, we estimate that an additional 90 units will be required each year to keep pace with population growth based on current Nunavut Bureau of Statistics projections in the proportion of the population currently dependent on public Housing.

Based on an average cost of \$350,000 per unit and the 2012-13 total Government of Nunavut capital estimates of just over \$94 million, it would take at least 20 years at today's prices for the Government of Nunavut to eliminate the current housing shortfall and meet the need being created by population growth if 100 percent of capital spending was directed toward construction of new public housing units and these units continued to be supplied as Government of Nunavut owned public housing in the same manner as in the past.

Furthermore, the net annual funding received from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation under the social housing agreement is scheduled to continuously decline from its current level of \$21.9 million until its elimination in 2037, which will further impact the Government of Nunavut's budget in order to fund the Nunavut Housing Corporation to operate, maintain, and modernize the existing housing stock.

Finally, with the current annual cost to operate and maintain public housing units being close to \$23,000, the completion of 1,011 units under the Nunavut Housing Trust and Canada's Economic Action Plan will have resulted in over \$23 million of increased annual operating costs. The increased annual

operating cost in today's dollars of meeting the current additional housing need of 3,580 units would be \$82.3 million plus an additional \$2 million each year for the 90 units added to keep pace with population growth. Therefore, we must continue to seek out alternatives as well as additional funding to address this critical housing issue.

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

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Taptuna. I will now recognize Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do have opening comments, if I can just go ahead.

Chairman: Please go ahead.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the proposed 2013-14 Capital Estimates of the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Members note that the corporation is proposing to spend \$28,841,000 for the 2013-14 fiscal year. The corporation's capital budget was \$16,004,000 for the 2012-13 fiscal year and its budget was \$23,894,000 for the 2011-12 fiscal year.

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

all Members of the Legislative Assembly.

In May of 2009, the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts held hearings on the Report of the Auditor General on the Nunavut Housing Corporation. The committee presented its report and recommendations in June of 2009. One of the recommendations made by the committee was for the Nunavut Housing Corporation to work with LHOs to address the issue of rental arrears. On November 27, 2009, the Nunavut Housing Corporation tabled its response to the standing committee's report. This indicated that a number of measures to address this issue had been identified and would be implemented. During the minister's recent appearance before the standing committee, members were advised that there are approximately \$18.5 million in rental arrears with local housing organizations. Members urge the corporation to provide ongoing updates on the status of its actions to address this issue.

Mr. Chairman, the Nunavut Housing Corporation administers a number of programs to assist homeowners and potential homeowners in Nunavut. Members note that the corporation is proposing to spend \$4,616,000 during the 2013-14 fiscal year for its various homeownership programs. The corporation's capital budget for homeownership programs has not changed since its 2011-12 capital estimates. On July 11 of this year, the Nunavut Housing Corporation issued a news release concerning changes to the corporation's Nunavut Down Payment Assistance Program. It indicated that "These changes aim to support the

development of private real estate markets in Nunavut” and that the Nunavut Housing Corporation “will be able to assist a greater number of Nunavummiut in becoming homeowners, and ensure fair access to assistance.” The Nunavut Housing Corporation’s previous down payment assistance program included an income threshold level in order to qualify for the program. However, the news release did not specify if the new down payment assistance program includes an income threshold level in order to qualify for the program. Members encourage the Nunavut Housing Corporation to clarify this issue and look forward to receiving ongoing updates on the corporation’s homeownership programs.

On March 22, 2010, the former minister announced in the Legislative Assembly that the Nunavut Housing Corporation would be providing a new Heating Oil Tank Replacement Program. The corporation is proposing \$500,000 in funding towards this program in its 2013-14 capital estimates. Members support this program to assist homeowners with the cost of purchasing new fuel tanks and encourage the minister to include a breakdown of the corporation’s spending on this initiative in its next annual report to the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Chairman, the Nunavut Housing Corporation’s proposed capital estimates for 2013-14 include \$5 million in funding for new staff housing units. During the minister’s recent appearance before the standing committee, members posed questions concerning the community allocation of these new staff housing units. The minister indicated that the corporation is working with the

Department of Human Resources to determine staff housing needs and vacant positions throughout the territory. Members support the construction of new units in communities where there are shortages of housing for frontline education and health staff. The committee also notes the importance of the Nunavut Housing Corporation working closely with departments to ensure that budgets adequately account for the incremental operating costs that accompany new units.

The Nunavut Housing Corporation’s proposed capital estimates for 2013-14 include \$8 million in funding for public housing units. During the minister’s recent appearance before the standing committee, members were informed that the corporation has not yet allocated this funding to any specific communities, and that the Nunavut Housing Corporation is using the Nunavut Housing Needs Survey and current waiting list statistics to determine which communities will be identified for these additional public housing units. Members look forward to receiving updates on this significant issue.

On December 15, 2011, a joint news release from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the GN announced that the entities had signed a bilateral agreement on a new affordable housing framework for 2011-14. The announcement indicated that the extension of the Affordable Housing Framework 2011-14 “is a combined \$9 million.” During the minister’s recent appearance before the standing committee, members were advised that this program is a 50-50 cost sharing program and that the Nunavut Housing Corporation had already allocated

\$1,465,000 towards the Nunavut Housing Trust shortfall. However, the minister indicated that the corporation will be allocating approximately \$1,465,000 of this funding in addition to the \$8 million in the proposed 2013-14 capital estimates for public housing units, for a combined amount of approximately \$9,465,000 for new public housing throughout the territory. Members look forward to receiving updates on this significant issue.

Mr. Chairman, the Nunavut Housing Corporation's proposed capital estimates for 2013-14 include \$6,342,000 for its modernization and improvement retrofit funding. The corporation's capital budget for modernization and improvement retrofit funding has not changed since its 2010-11 capital estimates. On September 15, 2010, the cabinet issued a news release following its Iqaluit retreat. One of the accomplishments included in the list was the completion of the "Condition rating of all public housing units." Members encourage the minister to table this information in the Legislative Assembly at the earliest opportunity, as it will undoubtedly be of use in determining where the Nunavut Housing Corporation needs to allocate its modernization and improvement resources.

The Nunavut Housing Corporation's proposed capital estimates for 2013-14 include \$3.4 million in funding for its fire damage funding. This is an increase of \$2.4 million from its 2012-13 capital estimates. Information provided to members indicates the funding increase is required to rebuild four units that were completely destroyed by fires.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the 2013-14 Capital Estimates of the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At this time, I would like to move to report progress. (interpretation) Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. There is a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour. Opposed. Thank you. I will now rise to report progress.

Before I do that, Minister Taptuna, I would like to thank you for appearing before the Committee of the Whole. We will be continuing tomorrow and you will be returning to the witness table. I thank you at this time, Minister Taptuna.

I will now rise to report progress.

Speaker: We will move on in our orders of the day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Tapardjuk.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Tapardjuk (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 41 and the capital estimates, and would like to report progress. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be concurred with. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Tapardjuk. There is a motion on the floor. Do I have a seconder? Thank you, Mr. Curley. All those in favour. Any opposed? The motion is carried.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Item 22. *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for October 26:

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

- Bill 44

19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

- Bill 41
- Bill 42
- Bill 43

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. Before we adjourn today, I would just like to ask members to join me in wishing one of our members a happy birthday today. He doesn't want his name mentioned, but I'll tell you that he only sits three seats away from me, so it could either be one of two people.

>>*Laughter*

Happy birthday.

>>*Applause*

This House stands adjourned until Friday, October 26, at 9:00 a.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 17:43*

