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Speaker: The Honourable George Qulaut, M.L.A.

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

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(Amittuq)

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(Gjoa Haven)
Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

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(Aivilik)

Allan Rumbolt
(Hudson Bay)

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(Pangnirtung)
Minister of Environment

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Simeon Mikkungwak
(Baker Lake)
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(Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet)
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(Tununiq)
Deputy Speaker and Chair of the Committee of the Whole

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(Iqaluit-Sinaa)
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Minister of Justice; Minister of Languages; Minister responsible for Immigration; Minister responsible for Labour; Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation*

Joe Savikataaq
(Arviat South)

Isaac Shooyook
(Quttiktuq)

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Hon. Peter Taptuna
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Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs; Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council

Hon. George Kuksuk
(Arviat North-Whale Cove)
Minister of Economic Development and Transportation; Minister of Energy; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation

Hon. Paul Quassa
(Aggu)
Minister of Education; Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk
(Netsilik)
Government House Leader; Minister of Family Services; Minister responsible for Homelessness; Minister responsible for the Status of Women

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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Monday, November 3, 2014

Members Present:

Mr. Tony Akoak, Ms. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Monica Ell, Mr. Joe Enook, Mr. George Hickes, Mr. David Joanase, Hon. George Kuksuk, Mr. Steve Mapsalak, Hon. Johnny Mike, Mr. Simeon Mikkungwak, Hon. Paul Okalik, Hon. Keith Peterson, Hon. Paul Quassa, Hon. George Qulaut, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Mr. Alexander Sammurtok, Hon. Tom Sammurtok, Mr. Joe Savikataaq, Mr. Isaac Shooyook, Hon. Peter Taptuna, Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk.

>>*House commenced at 13:30*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

Speaker (Hon. George Qulaut) (interpretation): Mr. Mikkungwak, can you say the opening prayer, please.

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good afternoon, members, ministers, and all Nunavummiut.

I also wish to share my gratitude with my wife, as today we are celebrating our 35 anniversary. You make me proud, and I cherish and love you.

(interpretation ends) Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Hon. Minister Mr. Quassa.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 075 – 4(2): OAG Updates: Implementation of the Education Act

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day,

Nunavummiut and my fellow residents of Igloolik.

Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to notify my colleagues of the progress my department is making towards addressing the findings of the Office of the Auditor General concerning implementation of the *Education Act*.

Important progress has been made on the development of an HR database. This database will capture information on both teaching and non-teaching staff, including language proficiency and ability to teach in more than one official language. The database will be developed in three phases with final completion planned for early 2015. This database will be instrumental in evaluating the current number of bilingual teachers in our system.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the Department of Education has initiated an external review of inclusive education, which is scheduled to be completed in January 2015. This review will provide the department with valuable suggestions and recommendations on how to ensure that school staff are meeting the needs of our students.

The department is planning for the launch of its literacy initiative and has provided training to principals, superintendents, and executive directors on differentiated instruction, balanced literacy, and benchmark assessments. Regional staff from each of the regions have undergone a three-day in-service on balanced literacy, benchmark assessment, and levelled literacy intervention.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I am confident that these initiatives will help address the issues identified by the Office of the Auditor General and ensure that our students are well supported to acquire the knowledge and skills they need. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister Mr. Sammurtok.

Minister's Statement 076 – 4(2): Sport and Recreation/Recreation and Parks Association of Nunavut (RPAN) Awards 2014

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased today to announce the 2014 Sport and Recreation Awards Banquet that occurred here in Iqaluit on November 1, 2014.

(interpretation ends) It is my pleasure to congratulate the recipients of the 2014 Sport and Recreation Awards which were presented at the Recreation and Parks Association of Nunavut (RPAN) Sport Awards gala on November 1, 2014.

The Sport and Recreation Awards Program recognizes the accomplishments and contributions of athletes, coaches, officials, and volunteers within Nunavut's sport and recreation system.

Each year, the Sport and Recreation Division of the Department of Community and Government Services seeks the nomination of individuals who have shown exemplary commitment to

developing sport in the territory. This is a rare opportunity to acknowledge some of the many volunteers who contribute their time, energy, and expertise to supporting participation in sport and recreation programs at all levels.

(interpretation) This year, we received over twice as many nominations for the sport awards than in past years.

(interpretation ends) This demonstrates a growing interest and involvement in sport across the territory.

The Sport and Recreation Division awards were presented in the following six categories:

- **Male Athlete of the Year**
Kenneth John (KJ) Putulik is from my hometown and riding of Chesterfield Inlet
- **Female Athlete of the Year**
Asini Wijesoorya from Iqaluit
- **Team of the Year**
2014 Arctic Winter Games Female Basketball Team and this team was made up of various communities in Nunavut
- **Official of the Year**
Josée Tremblay from Iqaluit
- **Coach of the Year**
Donald Clark and Steve Faulkner, both from Rankin Inlet
- **Special Recognition Award for Outstanding Contribution to Sports**
John Maurice from Iqaluit, Jeannie Arreak-Kullualik from Iqaluit, and Glen Ullyot from Baker Lake.

The Recreation and Parks Association of Nunavut presented three awards recognizing outstanding accomplishments and contributions to community recreation. The 2014 Recreation and Parks Association of Nunavut awards were presented to:

- **Recreation Leadership Award**
David Clark of Rankin Inlet
- **Community/Organization Achievement Award**
Cambridge Bay Wolverines from Cambridge Bay
- **First Air President's Award of Excellence**
Brad Mainse of Baker Lake

I would like to thank my colleagues from the House who came to attend the gala, MLA from Baker Lake Simeon Mikkungwak, Keith Peterson from Cambridge Bay, and Monica Ell, who were there to assist with presentations.

On behalf of all Members of this House, I wish to congratulate all of the recipients of the 2014 Sport and Recreation Awards and acknowledge their accomplishments for Nunavut's sport and recreation system. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister Mr. Okalik.

**Minister's Statement 077 – 4(2):
QEC's Awards and Recognitions
2014**

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Good day. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I share in your celebrations today and I hope you and your wife have a wonderful anniversary today, even if she isn't present here.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Qulliq Energy Corporation (QEC) for its recent awards and recognitions.

QEC won the National 2014 Canadian Society of Safety Engineering's North American Occupational Safety and Health Week, or NAOSH, Award for Best Representation of Theme "Making Safety a Habit." This honour was awarded to QEC on behalf of the corporation's participation in the annual NAOSH Week and its commitment to health and safety practices in the workplace.

NAOSH is an annual event that takes place in Canada, the United States, and Mexico. Its objective is to promote the importance of preventing injury and illness in the workplace and community. The award was presented to QEC in September of 2014.

In July, QEC received the Inuit Language Appreciation Award from the *Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit*. QEC was recognized for its continued commitment to providing information in all official languages in accordance with the *Inuit Language Protection Act*.

Finally, QEC was short-listed for the 2015 edition of Canada's Top 100 Employers. QEC's nomination for Canada's Best Employers for Recent Graduates category ranked the corporation as "an industry leader in

attracting and retaining quality employees” and “as an organization that offers reasonable employment prospects.” (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members’ Statements. Mr. Enook.

Item 3: Members’ Statements

Member’s Statement 167 – 4(2): Tribute to Ookookoo Quaraq

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to the people of Pond Inlet and our fellow Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a constituent and fellow resident of mine whose name is Ookookoo Quaraq.

Mr. Speaker, Ookookoo Quaraq has proudly served Nunavut and Canada for over 50 years as a member of the Canadian Rangers.

Mr. Speaker, as you and all members are very much aware, the Rangers are at the frontlines of asserting Canada’s sovereignty over our arctic lands, ice, and waters. The traditional knowledge and survival skills of Inuit members of the Rangers benefit the program immeasurably.

Mr. Speaker, I can say that Ookookoo Quaraq has been a guide on three expeditions to the North Pole, reaching the destination on two occasions and falling short by 10 miles on the third.

Mr. Speaker, although many historians and authors have written about northern expeditions after they have been up there, I daresay that were Mr. Quaraq to do the same, he would have bestsellers. However, Mr. Quaraq is a very humble man and he doesn’t consider himself better than others.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Mr. Quaraq for his leadership of championing Inuit traditional knowledge and societal values and applying them to his important work with the Rangers.

I ask all members to join me in acknowledging the accomplishments of Mr. Quaraq. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members’ Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, Ms. Angnakak.

Member’s Statement 168 – 4(2): Asbestos Abatement at the Nunatta Residence

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to address the issue of asbestos abatement at the Nunatta residence.

Mr. Speaker, the building that is currently being used as a Nunavut Arctic College campus is over 50 years old. Renovations were recently undertaken at the residence. Staff members working in the building have raised concerns that the asbestos may be affecting the health of individuals living and working in the facility.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that the college administration has recently stated that

the facility remains a safe living and working environment. However, a number of individuals remain concerned that more can be done to manage the removal of asbestos from the facility and to protect the health of staff and the students. I believe that the staff and students need to receive clear information about this issue.

It is important that the government ensures that all Nunavut residents have access to safe living and working environments, and I hope that this issue will be resolved in a timely manner.

I will have questions on this issue at the appropriate time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Arviat South, Mr. Savikataaq.

Member's Statement 169 – 4(2): 2014 Arviat Polar Bear Tags

Mr. Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On Friday, October 31, the polar bear hunting season for Arviat opened and hunters started hunting polar bears.

Inuit in our community absolutely enjoy hunting polar bears, although that joy is tempered by the low number of tags. Many Inuit who want to harvest bears can't do so because tags are allocated by draw and only the Inuit drawn are able to go hunting. Everyone knows right away which hunter was drawn.

As per our usual practice, this fall's draw was a bit extraordinary, as a set number of tags were allocated this year for our elders only. A result was an elder from

Arviat, John Karetak, who is 84 years young, was drawn for the first hunt. John Karetak is one of the oldest people in Arviat and he went polar bear hunting with one of his grandsons, Ryan St. John, as well as his great-grandson Jordan St. John.

What I can share with you today is that John harvested a polar bear over the weekend. John Karetak was ecstatic to harvest a polar bear, although all hunters who harvested a bear were quite happy in their own right. Nevertheless, the elder's joy probably eclipsed them all, as his last polar bear was one he harvested over 40 years ago. Between polar bears, he waited 40 years to finally harvest his next one. The community shared in his joy.

I extend my congratulations to Johnny Karetak and his entire extended family for his successful hunt. Thank you.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 170 – 4(2): Future of Small Communities

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Firstly, I extend good afternoon wishes to my fellow community residents in Tununirusiq and to our fellow Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the future of the small communities that I represent in the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, in June of this year, I had the honour of attending the official

opening of the new Grise Fiord Hamlet Office Complex. I want to thank the Minister of Community and Government Services for joining me at this important event.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Grise Fiord were very pleased that the new facility was opened. The new facility includes space for the community's hunters and trappers organization, as well as a community hall.

Mr. Speaker, when I travelled to Grise Fiord to participate in this important event, many constituents expressed concerns about the government's long-term commitment to our smaller communities.

Earlier this year, there was discussion in the Legislative Assembly about whether or not the government can afford to continue providing programs and services to our smaller communities.

Mr. Speaker, the people whom I represent in this House have been very clear with me: they expect their government to live up to its responsibility and obligation to ensure that smaller communities, which are the heart of our territory, have a long-term, sustainable future.

Mr. Speaker, last week, we honoured John Amagoalik in this Chamber. During the ceremony, we were reminded about the legacy of the High Arctic relocations.

Mr. Speaker, the federal government also has a responsibility to ensure that adequate resources are provided... .

Speaker (interpretation): Mr. Shooyook, if you want to have more time, can you please request unanimous consent.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to ask for unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The member is asking for unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? I didn't hear any nays. Please proceed, Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): I apologize for not paying attention to the clock due to my impassioned speech. Let me return to my statement.

During the ceremony, we were reminded about the legacy of the High Arctic relocations.

Mr. Speaker, the federal government also has a responsibility to ensure that adequate resources are provided to ensure the future of our smaller communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Joanasie.

**Member's Statement 171 – 4(2):
Soccer Tournament in Cape
Dorset**

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I congratulate you and your wife for your 35th wedding anniversary.

Welcome to all who are listening in on radio or watching on TV.

I am very happy to rise today to celebrate a soccer tournament that took place in Cape Dorset. A large number of teams from various communities came in to participate in this competition. They ranged in ages and I am especially proud of our boys and girls 18 and under teams who won gold.

I am sure everyone from the various communities enjoyed all the games. I wish to thank them for participating in this tournament. It is always a great pleasure to see young people get together in the spirit of competition and make new friends.

I would also like to thank the coaches, referees, and others who were involved in making this tournament a great success. I thank you all. It was great for the community to witness all the action and I truly envied the athletes. I am just announcing what took place and to say it was a great success. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Mr. Okalik.

**Member's Statement 172 – 4(2):
Fundraiser for Soup Kitchen**

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express my appreciation to the attendees who went to a fundraising dinner on Saturday where support was provided to people who need assistance, particularly to people who have difficulty acquiring healthy foods.

In particular, one individual stood out whom I wish to acknowledge, as he has made Iqaluit home, Jag Narasimhadevadara. He undertook the preparations for the banquet, purchased the food for the event, and organized cooks to prepare the food. It was very heart-warming to see this type of commitment towards his fellow residents who are struggling with poverty and can't afford healthy food.

This individual took it upon himself to encourage the people to keep coming and raised the community spirit. I just wanted to express my gratitude to this man as well as to all the other volunteers who made this fundraiser a success. This assists those who need assistance to eat in our community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. (interpretation ends) Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Hon. Minister Ms. Ugyuk.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions*

**Return to Oral Question 191 – 4(2):
Information on Casuals**

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I have a return to Oral Question No. 191 – 4(2), asked by the Member of Iqaluit-Tasiluk on October 22, 2014, concerning the casual staff positions of children and family services.

*See Appendix for full text of Return to Oral Question 191 – 4(2).

Mr. Speaker, this return is quite detailed. I have filed it with the Clerk for transcribing into the *Hansard* for the public record and for distribution to all members. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Returns to Oral Questions. Hon. Minister Mr. Mike.

**Return to Oral Question 248 – 4(2):
Foxe Basin Polar Bear Population**

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) A return to an oral question asked by MLA Steve Mapsalak on October 29, 2014, “Can the minister indicate if he has received a final decision from the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board concerning the total allowable harvest for the Foxe Basin polar bear subpopulation?”

The issue is currently being considered through the co-management process laid out in Sections 5.3.7 to 5.3.15 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. (interpretation) The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board recently provided me with their final decision, which I have considered and will respond to according to the process. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. (interpretation) Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Savikataaq.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize my

wife, Susan Savikataaq, my wife of over 30 years, many more to come, and my daughter Wendy Savikataaq, who is taking the Nursing Program here in Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to recognize the following people sitting in the Gallery: Rebekah Williams, the new Deputy Minister of Family Services, and Assistant Deputy Minister Irene Tanuyak. I want them welcomed to the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names on my list. (interpretation ends) Item 6. Oral Questions. (interpretation) Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, Ms. Angnakak.

Item 6: Oral Questions

**Question 276 – 4(2): Asbestos
Abatement at the Nunatta Campus**

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my questions to the Minister of Environment.

The Government of Nunavut’s *Environmental Guidelines for Waste Asbestos* are published by the Department of Environment. These guidelines state, and I quote, “The Environmental Protection Division is the

key environmental agency responsible for ensuring parties properly manage waste asbestos and will provide advice and guidance on its management.”

Can the minister confirm that his department is currently monitoring the removal of asbestos from the Nunatta Residence and, if so, can he provide an update on the situation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister for Environment, Mr. Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for that question. Yes, we are currently handling this using the hazardous waste guidelines for asbestos removal. At this current time, they are following the guidelines listed for monitoring or removing asbestos.

The facility owners are monitored to ensure that they are in compliance with the hazardous materials guidelines and see if they are managing the hazard in compliance with the Environmental Protection Regulations. That is the only way we can manage these types of hazardous materials. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate what specific actions his department is taking to ensure that the air quality at the Nunatta Residence is safe for staff and students? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Indeed, the Department of Environment has no choice but to manage these situations in accordance with the legislation and regulations.

The owners of the facility are responsible for ensuring that asbestos or any other hazardous material doesn't constitute a hazard, as they have to follow the legislation pertaining to hazardous substances and its management of the substances. That is the only aspect where we are able to enforce the regulations as a department.

That is all I can speak to about this issue, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister indicate if any reports regarding the abatement of the asbestos at the Nunatta Residence have been completed and, if so, will they be tabled in the House? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of Environment, Hon. Minister Mr. Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the situation finds that there is non-compliance and we are required to table the report, then we will submit the report to the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 277 – 4(2): Future of Small Communities

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Premier.

In my Member's Statement today, I expressed concerns that have been raised with me by constituents in the High Arctic concerning the government's commitment to the long-term future of small communities in Nunavut.

My question for the Premier is this: does the government have any plans to reduce or eliminate services to small communities in the High Arctic, yes or no? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Premier of Nunavut, Hon. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Quttiktuq for his question. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the question from Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Speaker, in the past, we have indicated to the federal government that our small northern communities have a purpose and their purposes in the past were for sovereignty reasons. I have always said that sustainable, healthy communities up north are the best way to assert sovereignty up north.

At this time, there are no plans on reducing services to our smaller High

Arctic communities. The communities are there for one purpose. I intend to work with my colleagues in the Prime Minister's Office to find ways to assist the people of the High Arctic because these communities are important to Canada, and we intend to keep it that way. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In June of this year, the Premier was asked some questions about the issue of the long-term viability of smaller communities. In his answers, he referred to the responsibility of the federal government to support the small communities that contribute to our country's sovereignty in the High Arctic. Has the Premier raised this issue with the Prime Minister of Canada? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Premier of Nunavut, Hon. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I did not directly bring the issue up with the Prime Minister, but I continually bring it up to our MP for Nunavut. Minister Aglukkaq is quite aware of our situation up in the High Arctic and it is costly to provide services to the small communities, not just in the High Arctic, our smaller communities in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, all of our politicians understand that in order for Canada to maintain its assertion of sovereignty in the High Arctic, we do need sustainable, healthy communities. Our MP from

Nunavut is well aware of that and I continually bring that up any opportunity I get when I am in Ottawa. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In my Member's Statement, I spoke about the opening this summer of Grise Fiord's new hamlet office complex. The communities that I represent have a number of needs in the area of infrastructure. For example, Resolute Bay's utilidor system needs to be replaced. Can the Premier assure me that the Government of Nunavut remains committed to addressing the infrastructure needs of the High Arctic communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Premier of Nunavut, Hon. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, as the government responsible for Nunavut, we try and maintain equality and transparency in delivering infrastructure to our smaller northern communities. There is no doubt that we are in a desperate infrastructure need in Nunavut.

I have always said that Canada was built from the east to the west, but not necessarily from the south to the north. We maintain pressure on Ottawa that we do need more infrastructure up here in Nunavut. We have the longest coastline in Canada and we have one marine facility in Pangnirtung. In other

jurisdictions, they have over 300 in the Atlantic Provinces. In order for Nunavut to be part of the dominion of Canada, Ottawa has to pay attention to our needs up here.

In Nunavut, we have estimated that we're about \$6 billion in infrastructure deficit. Although it's a small population, the north is one of the most important locations in Canada. Therefore, Ottawa does have to pay attention to our needs up here. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 278 – 4(2): Update on Cape Dorset Sewage Lagoon

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question today is for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

This spring, I asked him some questions about the sewage lagoon in Cape Dorset. I would like an update on what's happening with the (interpretation ends) sewage lagoon (interpretation) in Cape Dorset. That's my first question, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of Community and Government Services, Hon. Minister Mr. Sammurtok.

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Regarding the sewage lagoon in Cape Dorset, we are presently doing a study and once it's completed, we will make sure that we get the process started. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I asked that question on March 11 about the sewage lagoon. At that time, he indicated that in the summer of 2014, there will be a study on the sewage lagoon. Do I understand that you haven't started the study yet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I didn't quite understand your first question and I do apologize for that. The architectural design has been completed. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My last question to the minister is your department indicated that the lagoon in Cape Dorset is going to be completed in the summer of 2015. Is that still the deadline for the completion of the lagoon in Cape Dorset? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of Community and Government Services, Hon. Minister Mr. Sammurtok.

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, that is still the completion date for that project. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet South, Mr. Sammurtok.

Question 279 – 4(2): The Need for an Elders' Facility in Rankin Inlet

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

Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, October 29, I asked a question in this House regarding the need for an [elders'] facility in Rankin Inlet. The minister responded that Health is planning to repurpose the eight underutilized beds in the Cambridge Bay Community Health Centre from acute care to long-term residential care.

Mr. Speaker, my question was about the need for a facility in Rankin Inlet, in the Kivalliq region, not about filling a need in another community in another region.

Can the minister indicate what is being done to provide long-term residential care for elders in Rankin Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I indicated that we are doing a (interpretation ends) long-term care facility needs assessment...not facility. (interpretation) It is an (interpretation ends) elder care needs assessment. Mr. Speaker, Health is assessing long-term elder needs care right now and we're just in the process of interviewing various people in the communities. At the present time, we

don't have a specific plan just for Rankin Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I also stated during my questioning on October 29, I have heard from a number of sources that a proposal for a blueprint for a 24-hour elders' care facility in Rankin Inlet was prepared some time ago, perhaps even a couple of years ago, and it was presented to the government. I asked the minister if she was aware of that plan. Can the minister clearly indicate if she's aware of the plan or proposal for a 24-hour care facility in Rankin Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of Health, Hon. Minister Ms. Ell.

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. I am not aware of one. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my understanding that the proposal for a blueprint for the 24-hour care facility in Rankin Inlet was prepared some time ago and had already been presented to the government. Will the minister commit to reviewing the status of this proposal and reporting back to me and to this House at the earliest opportunity? *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I cannot commit to something I have not seen. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Enook.

Question 280 – 4(2): Staff Housing

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation.

As the minister is aware, I have been raising concerns for several years about the issue of vacant staff housing units. In my community of Pond Inlet, approximately a dozen staff housing units are currently vacant and many of these have been vacant for significant periods of time.

As the minister will appreciate, residents of our communities become frustrated when they see staff units remain vacant for months or even years given the ongoing shortage of housing in Nunavut.

Can the minister indicate what the housing corporation is doing to address this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Hon. Minister Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to the people of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, the Member for Tununig has raised this issue. I understand and have heard the issue. However, we are working with other government departments in regard to the staff housing units remaining vacant. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The government's current business plan indicates that the Nunavut Housing Corporation and the Department of Finance have been working to "Finalize changes to the Staff Housing Policy" and to "clarify roles and responsibilities regarding the Staff Housing Policy." Can the minister tell me today when these changes will be completed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated earlier, our department alone is not responsible for this. CGS is responsible for staff housing units that are vacant. (interpretation ends) There is a process, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) There's a process that we need to follow as to how the Nunavut Housing Corporation can take on that responsibility and we need to abide by the process that is outlined. We do want to do what the member says due to the shortage of housing. It could alleviate some housing shortage.

If the units could be given to the Nunavut Housing Corporation, then we can be responsible. However, we have to follow the process and the policies. For

example, CG&S is responsible through their policy to maintain the staff housing units. Once these units have been allocated to NHC or the responsibility is given to us, we can take on that responsibility. At this time, when CGS is responsible, we can't really do anything about it. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wrote a letter and asked questions in regard to this issue last spring. Because this is a very important issue, I'm sure this issue is occurring not only in my community, but it's occurring where there are vacant staff housing units in other communities when we all lack housing.

I am aware of situations in my constituency where GN employees whose positions were not advertised with staff housing are living in substandard conditions or living with relatives, which contributes to the problem of overcrowding. I fully understand the frustration that they feel when they see that there are many vacant staff housing units in their community, but they are told that they are not eligible to apply for one. Will the minister commit to reviewing this issue as part of NHC's ongoing work on the Staff Housing Policy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Hon. Minister Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. As per my previous responses on this issue, this will continue to be a priority for the Nunavut Housing Corporation to resolve the (interpretation ends) staff housing (interpretation) challenges as this is part of the (interpretation ends) blueprint for action on housing. (interpretation) This outlines our future plans for housing in the future, as that blueprint report speaks to many issues faced by housing advocacy groups or associations. This too will require further review, particularly future needs in staff housing.

Mr. Speaker, staff housing is applicable only in situations where a person is hired as a permanent public servant for one of the departments of this government. It doesn't mean that they will receive staff housing. All positions are numbered 1, 2, or 3, and I mean (interpretation ends) class 1, 2, or 3 (interpretation) for the positions. The classes apply to various positions and denote their need for staff housing as part of their position. The class shows the requirement for housing.

However, with respect to my colleague's question, yes, we are developing plans to meet this need in the future and this issue will be part of our review of housing needs. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Question 281 – 4(2): Effectiveness of the New Rent Scale

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I

say "good day" to the people of Baker Lake and Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the new rent scale for the Nunavut Housing Corporation was introduced over a year ago. I am confident that there has been time to assess its effectiveness.

Can the minister provide an update on the effectiveness of the current rent scale and indicate whether it has resulted in more or fewer evictions of tenants? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for his question as well. His question on the current rental scale and whether it has resulted in more evictions or if the eviction numbers have decreased as part of the reasons, I can't respond to conjecture. (interpretation ends) I don't have that kind of information with me at this time. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has been brought to my attention that the rental officer always informs tenants who are being evicted over the phone and never face to face.

Can the minister clarify what procedures rental officers should follow when evicting tenants and specifically describe how these procedures are applied to income support clients? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of the Housing Corporation, Hon. Minister Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. The member's question is spelled out in the (interpretation ends) *Residential Tenancies Act* of Nunavut and it is written as section 41(4). (interpretation) This section speaks to the rental scale or what the member termed as the "rental officer," who is dealing with eviction notices to tenants who can't pay their rent.

Whenever a rental officer is going to speak to a tenant, they have to abide by a policy managed in conjunction with the LHO and outlining the roles of each party. We have to work with the LHO to resolve unpaid rental arrears and the LHO has to undertake their work first before it moves to the next level. They need to work out a payment plan with the tenant in arrears.

On the third level, there are three stages that they follow. If they cannot get any payment, that's when they finally reach eviction. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is nothing more heartbreaking than hearing about a family who is facing eviction when the cold, dark months of winter are upon us. Can the minister clearly explain how decisions with respect to evictions are made and carried out during the winter period? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I agree with the member. That's the last resort. We do not want to see any eviction, especially in Nunavut. In particular, the local housing organizations or the entities don't like to evict people in the wintertime. We do not want to see people being evicted in the cold, dark winter months.

We still consider how we can deal with them. We look for ways how the tenant can stay in the unit. We work with the tenants, the local housing entity, and our corporation. We work together. I'm sure the other communities and entities look at ways of how to solve the problem so that evicting a person is the last resort.

However, I stated before and I agree with the member that eviction is the last resort we use. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Arviat South, Mr. Savikataaq.

Question 282 – 4(2): Regulations under Nunavut’s Wildlife Act

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my questions today to the Minister of Environment.

As the minister is aware, the *Wildlife Act* came into force on July 9, 2005. However, regulations which govern the Act have not been established. An Act needs regulations in order for an Act to be fully functional.

During the Committee of the Whole’s consideration of the Department of Environment’s 2014-15 main estimates, the committee noted that the surcharges on licences issued under the *Wildlife Act* would be brought into effect in July of this year in association with new regulations. However, the department has not registered any regulations under the *Wildlife Act* to date.

Can the minister provide a detailed timeframe by which his department will bring the *Wildlife Act* regulations into force? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to thank my colleague for his question. We were expecting to see the regulations on July 1, 2014. We were expecting to see the implementation. As the Minister for Environment, I have requested that the date be deferred. I believe that it was in the best interest that this date be deferred to a later date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister inform the House as to why it has been almost 10 years since the *Wildlife Act* was passed and still no regulations with this Act? He stated that he deferred it. Can the minister tell the House why? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of Environment, Hon. Minister Mr. Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Yes, that’s the date that we set. However, we just could not complete it at that time. My staff was behind in their other responsibilities of caribou and polar bear work, which is considered important matters as well. We really had to work on the two animals that I mentioned. If we don’t work on them, then they too would be delayed.

We really have to pick and choose which items to do first. Those are the main reasons they were deferred. Whenever we are working on such important matters, we try to complete the priority items that we can work on currently. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand the minister’s statement saying that he has priorities and that’s his prerogative, to have priorities. Is his department short staffed? Are there capacity issues? This

has been going on for almost 10 years. Is there not enough staff to work on the passage of regulations? Can the minister confirm if it's because he is short staffed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of the Environment, Mr. Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On the topic at hand, we want the Wildlife Regulations to be a priority and we would like it to go forward. For now, I expect it to be completed in the New Year on January 1 and to have the Wildlife Regulations implemented.

As I stated, our staff have a lot of responsibilities. The caribou and polar bear work should be settled down soon. I can say that the preparations of the regulations are happening and we will be able to give them to cabinet soon. We have to hear from NWMB and by 2015, we should have the regulations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for (interpretation ends) Hudson Bay, Mr. Rumbolt.

Question 283 – 4(2): Surplus Disposal Policy

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

Mr. Speaker, the Department of CGS is responsible for the government's Surplus Disposal Policy. Part B of this policy applies to non-fixed assets, including mobile equipment. Under this policy,

surplus equipment that is no longer being used by the government due to age or condition is supposed to be disposed of by way of a public tender.

In my constituency, I am aware of situations where government owned vehicles that are no longer being used due to age or condition have been sitting idle for a significant period of time and have clearly not gone through the formal disposal and public tender process.

Can the minister clarify what the timeline is supposed to be for non-fixed assets that are no longer being used by the government to be declared surplus and offered for sale by way of public tender? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of Community and Government Services, Hon. Minister Mr. Sammurtok.

Hon. Tom Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Unless my department receives a request from a department to dispose of non-fixed assets, there is very little that my department can do unless we have that request for disposal from the department that is responsible for that asset. (interpretation) Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Part B of the government's Surplus Disposal Policy expired on September 30, 2014, just a month ago. When this issue was last raised in the Legislative Assembly in October of 2012, the government's responses to one of my former colleague's questions indicated that the policy would be reviewed prior

to its expiry this year. Can the minister indicate when a new version of this policy will be finalized? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The policy is being completed and as soon as it is complete, we will be able to present it to you. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Part B of the government's surplus policy states that one of the principles on which it is based is the principle that, and I quote, "local governments and Nunavummiut be given an opportunity to make purchases that they might not be able to afford under normal circumstances." However, the policy establishes an order of preference for disposal of surplus asserts in which GN departments rank above local governments, non-profit organizations, and the general public. Will the minister commit to reviewing this aspect of the policy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of Community and Government Services, Hon. Minister Mr. Sammurtok.

Hon. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The entire contents of the policy will be under review. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, Mr. Hickes.

Question 284 – 4(2): Minimum Wage in Nunavut

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My first question today will be for the Minister of Justice.

Mr. Speaker, as the minister will recall, I asked him questions in this House in March, May, and June of this year regarding the minimum wage in our territory. Nunavut's minimum wage is currently \$11 per hour, which is the same as Ontario's minimum wage.

Mr. Speaker, under section 12.1 of the *Labour Standards Act*, the minister is required to "review the minimum rate of wages annually" and to "report the results of the review to the Legislative Assembly."

The 2012 report under this provision of the Act was tabled on June 4, 2014. When will the minister be tabling the 2013 annual report? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of Justice, Hon. Minister Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) A draft report was submitted to me just last month and I found it to be insufficient. I sent it back for more work, so I'm awaiting those results. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I look forward to that redo.

As I noted in the preamble to my question, Nunavut's minimum wage is \$11 per hour, which is the same as Ontario. When I pointed this out on June 5, 2014, the minister agreed with me that the cost of living in Nunavut is substantially higher than in Ontario.

The minister also indicated that work with other departments, including Family Services, was needed before a final review of the minimum wage could be done. For the benefit of the listening public, can the minister update us today on the status of this work? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Justice, Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) From what I understand, the department is currently looking at a proper consultation plan to make sure that all affected parties have an opportunity to express their concerns before we come up with a final decision on this matter. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There has been extensive discussion over the past year in this House regarding the urgent need to fight poverty.

Back in March, I pointed out that the minimum wage in Nunavut has not gone

up since January of 2011, nearly four years ago.

Mr. Speaker, in *Sivumut Abluqta*, it talks of a vision of seeing a strong and prosperous territory with Nunavummiut who have a positive outlook on life.

Does the minister agree that now is the time to raise Nunavut's minimum wage? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister of Justice, Hon. Minister Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Although I understand the circumstances facing our territory, I also have to respect those that are trying to create opportunities for our territory that may need to face challenges about running a business. I have to respect those as well as trying to make sure that the employees are provided with proper compensation for their services. All parties have to be consulted properly to make sure that we come up with a proper balance. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Tununig, Mr. Enook.

Question 285 – 4(2): Addressing Homelessness

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for Homelessness.

Mr. Speaker, the minister may recall that back in June, I asked some questions

about the definition of homelessness. We are now settling into another winter and living in tents or shacks becomes less and less possible, especially for those with young children. I understand that individuals in these circumstances are considered “unsheltered” under the broader definition of homelessness.

Can the minister describe what steps are being taken right now to identify individuals currently living in tents, shacks, huts, or sheds and ensure that they have a warm and safe shelter to live in, especially during the winter months? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister responsible for Homelessness, Hon. Minister Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Tununig for requesting information on that. The study is still underway. The Department of Family Services is looking into shelters or places where homeless people are presently staying.

Other communities don't have homeless shelters. If they want to set up a homeless shelter, then we can work on that through an agreement. The work and the request have to come from the communities. The study is currently underway. I hope I answered his question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Firstly, I wish to thank the

minister for her response letter of July 25 of this past spring or summer.

I would like to thank the minister for her letter of July 25, 2014 this past summer. As the minister will recall, during our spring sitting, a number of questions were raised about the results of a recent study on homelessness in Nunavut. I believe you partially answered the question. The minister has indicated that those results would be validated and the completed study would be tabled in this fall sitting. Will the minister be tabling the homelessness study before the end of the week? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for Homelessness, Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for requesting clarification on this issue. (interpretation ends) Due to limited resources and time available for completion of the project, in-person surveys could not be conducted in each community. However, the other 22 Nunavut communities were contacted by phone to collect information on the extent of absolute homelessness outside the three regional centres. The research project has been completed and is currently under review. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe we all are aware of and I personally realize that many homeless people live in our communities and that there are many factors leading

to homelessness and different types of homelessness.

I appreciate and recognize that our government is working hard to develop a homelessness action plan for the territory. I would like to ask the minister: can she provide an update on that plan and whether or not it will be completed by the end of this fiscal year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister responsible for Homelessness, Hon. Minister Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the Member for Tununiq for asking that question. As I stated, the research project has been completed and is currently under review. The research project will then be used to further inform and develop the Homelessness Action Plan.

(interpretation) Those are the types of expectations we can envision for combating the effects of homelessness and for people who are stuck in inadequate housing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Baker Lake, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Question 286 – 4(2): Baker Lake Housing Association

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

(interpretation ends) Under the *Nunavut Housing Corporation Act*, there are two types of local housing organizations: “housing associations,” which are formed under the *Societies Act*, and “housing authorities,” which are incorporated under the Nunavut Housing Corporation’s own legislation. The members of housing authorities are appointed by the minister.

The Baker Lake Housing Association has expressed concerns that the Nunavut Housing Corporation may be considering changing its status from a housing association to a housing authority. Can the minister confirm whether or not NHC is considering this change? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Hon. Minister Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Based on my understanding of this issue, I have yet to be briefed on that matter and the information hasn’t been provided about the subject of his question. Thank you very much.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I recently received correspondence from the Baker Lake Housing Association. Can the minister assure me today that no decision regarding this issue will be taken without the full agreement of the Baker Lake Housing Association’s board

of directors? Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Regarding the statement by my colleague, I cannot provide the answer at this moment. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was able to attend the most recent annual general meeting of the Baker Lake association at the community hall and I was pleased to note that it has made significant progress in collecting rental arrears. Can the minister indicate what assistance NHC has been providing to the Baker Lake Housing Association in this area? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I don't know if I fully understand his question. We have worked with the local housing associations in the communities in the past and we will continue to support them when they need it. That is the response I can provide him, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, Ms. Angnakak.

Question 287 – 4(2): Nunavut Arctic College's Centre for Excellence

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Nunavut Arctic College.

Mr. Speaker, in its most recent business plan, it states that Nunavut Arctic College will be creating a Centre of Excellence for Language and Culture. Can the minister describe what will be the mandate of this centre and provide some specific examples of the type of work that will be done there? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Hon. Minister Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for her question. That is how we coin it, to use the best venue for languages and cultural practices to ensure that the best language and teaching are available in Nunavut Arctic College.

At this time, we all know that some courses are already offered, but we want to gather the information on Inuit culture and language. The purpose of this centre is to have Nunavut Arctic College identified as the institution providing the best linguistic and cultural courses and of having the best resources. Arctic College will be identified as an institution for providing good language and good life. This is what is needed in our northern communities.

Nunavut Arctic College will be providing courses on Inuit culture and knowledge, as well as interpreter courses at the Centre of Excellence for Language and Culture. The college will be providing a centre of excellence in teaching language and culture, which is also provided by other jurisdictions. This is the type of information that we are in the process of collecting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the minister for his detailed response. It's good to hear.

Mr. Speaker, given the unique linguistic and cultural characteristics of Nunavut, I understand that it is an important area to focus on. Can the minister provide an update on the timeline by which he expects to establish and open up this centre of excellence? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for her interest about this issue, which I am sure many Nunavummiut share in her expectations about the centre.

At this time, we are finalizing the plans and our expectations are that some time in the upcoming year, the centre will start being used. Also, I want to state that Nunavut Arctic College will house this new centre of excellence in order to

lessen the financial impacts. Since we have the resources and funding to start the centre, the centre will be able to start shortly after the resources are identified and allocated. Once the work is completed, it will open. My expectations are that it will open either this fiscal year or the next. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the minister for his answer. Mr. Speaker, can the minister clarify how the centre of excellence will function and what kinds of working relationships it will have with other entities in Nunavut which also have mandates that focus on language and culture? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Hon. Minister Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated, we would be working very closely with entities such as the, (interpretation) I forgot the name in Inuktitut, Inuit Language Authority as well as the Department of Culture and Heritage. These are the types of bodies we will be working with, as there are different bodies we have to work with.

You are true in stating that there are different departments that have a role in this field, but if they can send all the information to be gathered in our department, it would alleviate the confusion, primarily due to the reason that our future students will still be quite numerous studying languages as we

want the language properly spoken, especially since they will be teaching subjects with language.

There are many others we have to work with, some of whom are already up and running, including the Nunavut Languages Commissioner. These are examples of departments and positions we will be cooperating with in this area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Members will note that the time for question period has expired. We will be going to Item 7. (interpretation ends) 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. Peterson.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 053 – 4(2): Towards a Representative Public Service, Statistics as of December 31, 2013

Tabled Document 054 – 4(2): Towards a Representative Public Service, Statistics as of June 30, 2014

Tabled Document 055 – 4(2): Towards a Representative Public Service, Statistics as of March 31, 2014

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to table the following documents:

- Towards a Representative Public Service, Statistics as of December 31, 2013;

- Towards a Representative Public Service, Statistics as of March 31, 2014; and
- Towards a Representative Public Service, Statistics as of June 30, 2014.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. Mr. Enook.

Tabled Document 056 – 4(2): Correspondence from the Ministers of Family Services and Justice

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table today a copy of correspondence that I have received from the ministers of Family Services and Justice concerning the issue of social assistance. This letter was received in response to my correspondence of June 4, 2014, which members will recall I tabled in the House at its sitting of June 5, 2014. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents.

Tabled Document 057 – 4(2): Speaker's List of Outstanding Statutory Tabling Requirements

Tabled Document 058 – 4(2): 2013-2014 Annual Report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut

**Tabled Document 059 – 4(2): 2014
Annual Report of the Integrity
Commissioner of Nunavut**

The first document is a list of outstanding statutory tabling requirements.

**Tabled Document 060 – 4(2):
Quarterly Report on Members’
Absences for the Period April 1,
2014 to June 30, 2014**

The next document is the 2013-14 Annual Report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut.

**Tabled Document 061 – 4(2):
Quarterly Report on Members’
Absences for the Period July 1,
2014 to September 30, 2014**

The next document is the 2014 Annual Report of the Integrity Commissioner of Nunavut.

**Tabled Document 062 – 4(2): 2013-
2014 Annual Report on
Indemnities, Allowances, Expenses
and Benefits Paid to Members of
the Third Legislative Assembly**

The next document is the Quarterly Report on Members’ Absences for the Period April 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014.

**Tabled Document 063 – 4(2): 2013-
2014 Annual Report on
Indemnities, Allowances, Expenses
and Benefits Paid to Members of
the Fourth Legislative Assembly**

The next document is the Quarterly Report on Members’ Absences for the Period July 1, 2014 to September 30, 2014.

**Tabled Document 064 – 4(2): 2013-
2014 Annual Contracting Report
of the Office of the Legislative
Assembly**

The next document is the 2013-14 Annual Report on Indemnities, Allowances, Expenses and Benefits Paid to Members of the Third Legislative Assembly.

**Tabled Document 065 – 4(2): 2013-
2014 Audit Report under the
Legislative Assembly Retiring
Allowances Act**

The next document is the 2013-14 Annual Report on Indemnities, Allowances, Expenses and Benefits Paid to Members of the Fourth Legislative Assembly.

**Tabled Document 066 – 4(2): 2013-
2014 Audit Report under the
Supplementary Retiring
Allowances Act**

The next document is the 2013-14 Annual Contracting Report of the Office of the Legislative Assembly.

(interpretation) Thank you.
(interpretation ends) I have 10
documents to table today.

The next document is the 2013-14 Audit Report under the *Legislative Assembly Retiring Allowances Act*.

The final document is the 2013-14 Audit Report under the *Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act*. (interpretation) Thank you, members.

(interpretation ends) Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Mr. Okalik.

Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

Bill 11 – An Act to Amend the Corrections Act – Notice

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on November 5, 2014, that Bill 11, *An Act to Amend the Corrections Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister Mr. Peterson.

Bill 12 – An Act to Amend the Tobacco Tax Act – Notice

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, November 5, 2014, that Bill 12, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco Tax Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister Ms. Ell.

Bill 13 – An Act to Amend the Vital Statistics Act – Notice

Hon. Monica Ell (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, November 5, 2014, that Bill 13, *An Act to Amend the Vital Statistics Act*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 with Mr. Enook in the Chair.

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

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 15:10 and Committee resumed at 15:33*

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

Chairman (Mr. Enook)(interpretation): Good afternoon. I would now like to call the committee meeting to order.

Before we proceed, Nunavummiut and people who are watching the televised proceedings and listening to the radio broadcast, welcome to your committee.

In Committee of the Whole, we have the following items to deal with: Bills 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good afternoon. Mr. Chairman, we wish to commence with the review of the capital appropriation of the Department of Family Services, followed by the Department of Environment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. Are we in agreement that we first deal with the capital estimates for the Department of Family Services?

Some Members: Agreed.

**Bill 08 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,
2015-2016 – Family Services –
Consideration in Committee**

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. As we proceed at this time, Minister Ugyuk, do you have witnesses that you would like to bring to the table? Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Do members agree to bring in Ms. Ugyuk's witnesses?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. Ms. Ugyuk, for the record, please introduce your witnesses. Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Deputy Minister Rebekah Williams on my right. On my left is David Kolot, Corporate Services. (interpretation) Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the House, Ms. Williams and Mr. Kolot. (interpretation ends) Hon. minister, (interpretation) I would now like to give you an opportunity to

make your opening comments. Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman and hon. members of the Committee of the Whole, I am pleased to be here today to discuss the 2015-16 Department of Family Services' capital estimates.

The department requires ongoing small capital resources in the amount of \$600,000 to adequately maintain our facilities, keep our vehicles up to date, and replace furniture and equipment. More specifically, our small capital for 2015-16 will be allocated as follows:

For the Qikiqtaaluk region:

- In Arctic Bay, we plan to spend \$3,000 on furniture and equipment upgrades for both the income assistance and child and family services offices.
- In Cape Dorset, we plan to spend \$45,000 for vehicle replacement. The current vehicle is seven years old and is incurring high maintenance costs.
- Renovations required to co-locate income assistance and child and family services offices and create adequate storage and meeting space in Cape Dorset is estimated to cost \$20,000.
- Furniture and equipment comprising of desks and chairs for the income assistance office in Clyde River is estimated to cost \$15,000.

- We plan to spend \$15,000 in the Igloolik office for furniture and equipment.
- In Hall Beach, we will spend an estimated \$3,000 on minor renovations.
- In Pangnirtung, we plan to spend \$45,000 to purchase a new vehicle. The current vehicle is six years and is incurring high maintenance costs.
- A total of \$139,000 is earmarked for Iqaluit for minor renovations to co-locate income assistance and child and family services offices.

The Qikiqtaaluk regional allocation amounts to \$285,000.

For the Kivalliq region:

- In Baker Lake, we plan to spend \$20,000 on minor renovations required to co-locate programs.
- In Chesterfield Inlet, we plan on replacing aged furniture and equipment for an estimated total of \$10,000.
- In Coral Harbour, the department plans to spend \$10,000 on furniture and equipment.
- In Coral Harbour, the current vehicle is seven years and is incurring high maintenance costs. A total of \$45,000 is planned for the purchase of a new vehicle.
- Similarly in Rankin Inlet, the current vehicle is eight years and is incurring high maintenance costs and \$45,000

is planned for the purchase of a new vehicle.

The Kivalliq regional allocation amounts to \$130,000.

For the Kitikmeot region:

- We plan to purchase two new vehicles for Gjoa Haven and Taloyoak. The vehicles are 6 and 12 years old respectively. The two vehicles are estimated to cost \$45,000 each.
- Minor renovations are required to [co-locate] offices in Gjoa Haven for an estimated total cost of \$90,000.
- In Kugaaruk, we plan to spend \$500,000 on minor renovations in the income assistance office.

The Kitikmeot regional allocation amounts to \$185,000.

The Department of Family Services also requires one-time-only capital funding in the amount of \$1,190,000 to renovate the adult group home in Rankin Inlet. The building was constructed in 1994. The facility now requires extensive renovations throughout the building to update plumbing, electrical, and heating systems.

In the 18 months since the department was established, we have made steady progress towards achieving our mandate. I look forward to your continued support.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed Department of Family Services' 2015-16 capital estimates.

I welcome any questions or comments that members may have as we proceed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. Does the chair of the standing committee have comments? Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of Standing Committee on Social Wellness as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the proposed 2015-16 Capital Estimates of the Department of Family Services. Members note that the department's proposed capital budget for 2015-16 is almost \$1.8 million.

Mr. Chairman, the Standing Committee on Social Wellness recognizes that the Department of Family Services is still a fairly new department, incorporating a number of divisions and resources from other, pre-existing departments. Members note that the plan to establish this department was given long-term consideration and that the Legislative Assembly was assured that the transition of divisions into the new department would be smooth and seamless and would not result in any disruption of services.

As you will recall, in May of this year, the Assembly approved \$2.6 million in supplementary funding for the Department of Family Services to renovate the old courthouse building in Iqaluit in order that a number of divisions and headquarter personnel be co-located in a centralized area. While the standing committee supports the rationale behind consolidating staff and service delivery, members feel strongly

that such plans should have been included in the usual capital planning process, with regular updates being provided through such documentation as capital project substantiation sheets.

Members recognize that the Department of Family Services still needs to work on assessing its inventory of capital assets, such as vehicles, offices, and equipment, across Nunavut and cautions the minister not to delay in addressing needs at the community level as well as focusing on providing new space at the headquarters level.

Mr. Chairman, members note that in some communities, health care workers and family services staff continue to work out of the same office space and share access to GN vehicles. Members encourage the minister to work with her counterparts in the Department of Health and Community and Government Services to ensure that there is adequate and appropriate access to office space, equipment, and vehicles so that the effective delivery of all related services at the community level is not negatively impacted.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Family Services' 2015-16 capital estimates again include \$600,000 for small capital projects. The standing committee appreciated receiving a comprehensive breakdown of the department's proposed projects and the details of their estimated costs under this budget item. Members are of the view that prior to approving the expenditure of public money, it is important to know what it will be spent on.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of Family Services' 2016-20 five-year

capital plan does not indicate whether the department has given any consideration to planning for any additional facilities, such as elders' homes, shelters, or group homes. While the committee recognizes that different levels of care require different levels of support from individual government departments, members encourage the minister to work with her counterpart, the Minister of Health, to address future needs in this area and begin to plan for them as soon as possible.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2015-16 Capital Estimates of the Department of Family Services. Individual members may have questions and comments as we proceed. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Joanasie. Before we proceed, I would like to acknowledge an individual who is visiting the Gallery, whom I used to work with for many years. Sandy Teiman has worked for social services for a long time. Welcome to the Gallery.

We will move on. Are there any general comments on the opening comments? If there are no general comments, we will begin our review starting with page D-3. If any member has questions, please raise your hand so that we can write you down on the list. We're on Family Services. Branch Summary. Corporate Management. Total Capital Expenditures. \$1 million... . Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I wish to ask the minister this question while we are reviewing the capital

estimates, along with small capital. Your department has vehicles or is looking at purchasing new vehicles for your department. I would like to know exactly how many vehicles your department is expecting this summer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't understand my colleague. What is *Aujaqsiutit*? What is he asking about? Thank you.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): I sincerely apologize. Due to our dialectal differences, when I say, "*Aujaqsiutit*," I'm referring to vehicles. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague for asking about the vehicles and how many we expect this summer. There are some vehicles we are expecting for Igloolik, Iqaluit, and (interpretation ends) Clyde River. Igloolik is a new vehicle? Yes. (interpretation) They will be replacing the old vehicles with new vehicles; at least that is what I understand to be the case. A new vehicle will be sent to Iqaluit, (interpretation ends) Clyde River, Baker Lake, Cambridge Bay, Kugluktuk, and Kugaaruk.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: *Qujannamiiktauq*, hon. minister. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The vehicles your department will be purchasing, will the purchase be all at once or are you purchasing them singularly for each community? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Since my official is the one with that level of detail about the dates and such, I would ask that Mr. Kolot be allowed to respond to that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The vehicles that the minister referred to were purchased in 2014-15. The Department of Family Services worked with the Department of CGS to ensure that they were tendered and all the specifications the department required were met. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. If I speak in English, they will probably have a better understanding. (interpretation ends) I'll rephrase my question.

Are the vehicle fleets that the department will be purchasing in bulk or are you going to be purchasing vehicles respectively at different times for each region? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hear that they will be purchasing them in bulk. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the minister for her response. Now, in Baker Lake, the Martha Talirug Centre, as the minister knows, as this isn't the first time I have mentioned it, the elders' centre and actually it was one of the facilities the ministers toured last summer. The vehicles servicing the centre are getting quite old and I wonder if the department will be taking that into consideration in the (interpretation ends) small capital (interpretation) budget in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Martha Talirug Centre is dealt with as a contracted service, so we cannot purchase a vehicle for them. The contractor has to purchase the vehicle themselves. If there is maintenance that needs to be done on the vehicle, I believe there is a benefit or allowance of \$15,000 to maintain the vehicle. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Ugyuk. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for your response from the hon. minister. My question now is that \$15,000 that you are referring to on top of the additional funding that the contract pays for the operation of the Martha Talirug Centre? Is that on an annual basis or after every five years or...? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) In the contract signed by the Baker Lake Hospice Society, there is a provision for vehicle maintenance, gas, and oil in the amount of \$15,000 and I believe that's a yearly contract. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So I presume that if the Martha Talirug Centre requires a new vehicle fleet, they could do a submission. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member asking those questions. For clarification, I can say no because the contractors are to maintain the vehicle. Therefore, we cannot purchase a vehicle for them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe I will rephrase my question here. If the contractor submits in their proposal to run their program or the program that they oversee and if they identify a vehicle or request for a new vehicle in their proposal, would that be captured in small capital or can that not be captured in small capital? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is my understanding that we do not provide vehicles for third party agreements due to liability for insurance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Let me move to another area to question. Now, she spoke about the capital estimates in her opening statement, including mention of renovation projects for some offices.

Now, for the renovations line item, I want to ask this question about the planned renovations of the offices in Baker Lake. There are vacancies currently in that office. When the renovations are being undertaken, will it include any additional space for the vacant positions? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We work through CGS for the renovations. They know what renovations need to be done and we know how many office spaces we need and nobody has moved out yet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for the response. On top of that, with the minor renovations that are going to be occurring in Baker Lake, when do we foresee that to be completed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like David Kolot to respond to that, please. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Go ahead, Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Since this is the capital plan for 2015-16, we anticipate that those renovations would be occurring in the 2015-16 year for Baker Lake. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Kolot. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) In reference to the minor renovations regarding the Baker

Lake office, does that also include refurbishing? That's my question. Does that also include refurbishing? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Within the substantiation sheet, it only talks about the renovation aspect of the project. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe we're getting a little bit into dialectal differences again.

With the minor renovations occurring in Baker Lake, would it be not feasible to do all the renovations all at once? So my question here again is: will they look at refurbishing while they're doing renovations on minor capital? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like David Kolot to respond to that. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the capital plan was prepared for the Department of Family Services, we consulted with regional directors and managers and frontline staff. At that time, for Baker Lake, it was anticipated

that renovations would be required in the amount of \$20,000. That did not include furniture. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question now is: why will refurbishing not be considered for the renovations? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As David Kolot was saying, they go through the regional directors to plan the renovations. Once we have all the details, we can provide them to you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When you are doing minor renovations to an office area, I would anticipate that you would consider refurbishing. At the same time, this would actually, in my opinion, accommodate the staff that is providing the service and at the same time, it would improve service delivery. Maybe that's something that the department can consider and, if so, will they consider it in the next capital budget submission? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to get David Kolot to respond to that. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's unfortunate that the furniture was not considered. We will take that as notice and when we prepare our future capital plan, we will look at the requirement for furniture for Baker Lake. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) I think, Mr. Kolot, you just said that the minister will take that advisement. (interpretation) Thank you. We are on page D-3. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Has your department identified any need to build new facilities over the next five-year capital period? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are working with the Department of Health. However, when it comes to capital expenditures, we don't have any plans right now. We are working with the Department of Health to plan things for the future, for future improvements. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm wondering if the minister can speak to the fact about the group home being closed and that a new

facility really is needed to address children who have physical disabilities who can't remain in their own homes or whose parents are unable to look after them. How are you going to address it and would you be discussing this with the minister to put it on the five-year plan? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to the five-year capital estimates, it is primarily for youth and children. We are finding out more and more cases of physical handicaps and why some cases are impossible to be served here in Nunavut. As we find out more information about these handicaps, as the Department of Family Services, we know that we lack doctors in this field and doctors need to be close to their patients. We are trying to deliberate on our options, especially for longer term plans to deal with these issues. I can only respond with that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I look forward to hearing more about that plan and further developments in that area because it's definitely a need in Nunavut.

The renovations that are currently being done for the family services department to move into, I think, what we refer to as the old court building, can you give us an update on that and how that's going? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Ms. Angnakak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. David Kolot can address that with your permission. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Department of Family Services, as we know, received \$2.6 million in capital funding as a supplementary appropriation of capital carry-forward for renovations to the old courthouse. The intent was to basically bring all the various parts of the department together into one facility. We're basically bringing headquarters staff in from five other locations within Iqaluit to be in the courthouse.

Renovations are proceeding according to plan. The building is projected to be ready by the end of November. We will be moving over during the weekend, the last weekend in November, to be fully functional the first part of December. Basically we're looking to locate 50-plus staff in the courthouse. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kolot. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the understanding of the number of staff that are moving into the old courthouse building here, the new Family Services building, in most other communities, there's a lot of shared space with the previous Department of Health. I understand that Community and Government Services is doing an

office needs study across the territory right now.

With the preplanning phase with the departmental split from Health and Social Services, I would think that your department would have had a head start, I guess we will say, during that preplanning process on the divisional split.

Are you able to identify needs across the territory to alleviate some of the stresses on the infrastructure and what type of use, I guess, is going to be needed? Will it be renovations? Will it be new buildings? What are some of the options that are going to be needed from the Department of Family Services? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My Deputy Minister, Rebekah Williams, can respond to the question. Thank you.

Chairman: Ms. Williams.

Ms. Williams (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As we should be all aware of, an extreme shortage of office space and housing exists throughout Nunavut and this lack of capacity is currently under review by CGS. Due to this reason, I was tasked by my minister to reassess all of our office needs to ensure we have adequate spaces. This highlights the lack of space, as per the member's question to the department.

We know that our social workers require adequate space in order to provide the best services possible. This is something

we are looking at to improve, not just through reviews and assessments, but by cataloguing the actual limitations we face already are we able to deal with future needs in order to resolve it at a later date. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that answer, Ms. Williams. I understand that you're still studying some of the needs, but I guess the kind of thing I was getting at with the preplanning phase of the departmental division, I would assume that a lot of this would have been looked at, at that time.

I don't see anything in next year's capital estimates on actual major renovations other than the Iqaluit project. Are there any coming in the year after next capital plan to renovate or build new office space for the Department of Family Services? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The department looks forward to receiving the Stantec report on regional facility needs assessments and will use this report for future capital planning in the regions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I'll bring that topic up again next year.

I would just like to take a step back and talk about the Income Support Case Management System that has been implemented within your department. I understand, through previous budgets, that there has been a fairly substantial capital investment in this project, but I don't see any ongoing capital investments in this year's minor capital plan. I do know that it's not ruled out in all communities yet. Is there money going to need to be [spent] or were there capital carryovers to cover that project? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Hickes. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps you can allow David Kolot to respond. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The income assistance delivery system is included under the O&M budget for the Department of Family Services. Within that budget, we have an allocation of \$307,000 and part of that includes the contractual requirements.

In terms of the current situation with the system, it has been deployed in Iqaluit, Pangnirtung, Pond Inlet, Rankin Inlet, Arviat, and Cambridge Bay communities. The system is currently being deployed in Baker Lake and Igloolik and hopefully will be online by March 2015. Now, we probably wanted to operate a little faster, but there were some problems in terms of contractual delays, but to date, that is the status of that project.

I think that the member is bringing up a very good question in terms of the whole area of system requirements for the Department of Family Services. It is our intention in future years and we have already had a preliminary discussion with the Department of Community and Government Services to look at the development of an IT plan across the department. That will most likely result in a capital submission for the Department of Family Services, which would probably not just be a link to the ISDS. It would be linked to all of our system requirements. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kolot. Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate that answer. That's exactly where I was going with the infrastructure IT needs.

Just to go back to the office space, has the Department of Family Services faced any major restructuring, reorganizing, or refurbishing any of the current office space to improve service delivery? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Perhaps David Kolot can respond. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Kolot.

Mr. Kolot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The priority for the department in this last year has been movement into the old courthouse. That came out of a facility needs assessment that was done by CGS and that's what we have worked on to

date. We look forward to the tabling of the facility needs assessment for the regions, which we should be receiving, I believe, in March of this year, which will be fundamental in the development of future capital planning. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Kolot. Let me remind you that we're on page D-3. Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to the community plan for Arctic Bay, a question just popped into my head about the proposed expenditure for that line item. This is with respect to the income support facility, perhaps they mean the social services building. I wonder when would be the proposed opening of this office. Is it this year or will it open in the next fiscal year? What timeframe does this planned renovation for the facility have? What kind of timeline are you looking at for this project? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Shooyook. (interpretation ends)
Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize for that lengthy discussion. For that project in Arctic Bay, the office project is scheduled for the fiscal year 2015-16. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This social service office, including the income support office, continually moves around and they haven't been able to get permanent

offices as they keep getting shunted from one building to another. The office keeps getting moved to another location, where the income support worker is based out of, and this is problematic to the clients they serve.

In looking at their plans for the future, have you included a permanent location to house your offices in our community of Arctic Bay? We don't want to see a rental building that can house all of the other services, such as the social worker, income support, and mental health and to have all of them housed in one building. Is this part of your long-term strategy for our community? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Shooyook. (interpretation ends)
Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague for his question. The Department of Community and Government Services handles the design and construction of office buildings for our department. Based on the studies to date, we will be adding more details on the capital budget down the road.

We are aware that office space is inadequate for some of our social workers and income support workers, and that some offices are relocated from time to time, especially where space is at a premium in the smaller communities. However, I want my colleague to understand that CGS is our partner for planning any future office space needs, but I expect that this will be brought up in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. (interpretation) Mr. Shooyook, any further questions? D-3. Family Services. Branch Summary. Corporate Management. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for allowing me this second round of questions. I just want clarification on the renovations of the adult group home. Is that third party or is that solely government owned? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for the question. It is owned and operated by the government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister. We are on Family Services. Branch Summary. Corporate Management. Total Capital Expenditures. \$1,790,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Go back to D-2. Department Summary. Family Services. Total Capital Expenditures. \$1,790,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Do members agree that the Department of Family Services is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister, (interpretation) we are done. If you have any closing remarks, you may now proceed. Ms. Ugyuk.

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you to the members and I thank the staff members who are here with me. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

As we agreed, we will continue with the Department of Environment after this break. We will take a five-minute recess while paperwork is being prepared. Thank you.

>>Committee recessed at 16:25 and resumed at 16:34

Bill 08 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2015-2016 – Environment – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (interpretation): We are back. Thank you. We will proceed with the Committee of the Whole. We are going to be dealing with the Department of Environment. Minister Mike, I would first like to ask if you have witnesses that you would like to bring to the table. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Yes, I would like to invite two individuals at this time. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Do members agree to bring in Minister Mike's witnesses?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort my *Angajuksakuluk*'s witnesses in.

While the witnesses are being escorted in, let me remind you that we will be on page I-3.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister, (interpretation) for the record, please introduce your witnesses. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is my Assistant Deputy Minister, Steve Pinksen, and to my left is Niki Nweze, (interpretation ends) Director of Corporate Services.

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman, I do apologize that my deputy minister is not able to be here today. He is one of the co-chairman of the caribou management meeting that is happening here in Iqaluit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome, Mr. Pinksen and Ms. Nweze. We will now proceed. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister, (interpretation) if you have any opening comments, you may now proceed. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee of the Whole. I am pleased to be here today to introduce the Department of Environment's capital plan for the 2015-16 fiscal year.

(interpretation ends) For this fiscal period, the Department of Environment is proposing a capital of \$1.6 million.

This expenditure will permit the department to concentrate on two program areas: wildlife management and parks and special places.

(interpretation) Within our Wildlife Division, these capital funds will be used to replace aging mobile equipment (interpretation ends) and for improving and renovating aging infrastructure.

(interpretation) We will continue planning for the construction of a new wildlife office building in Resolute Bay in the 2016-17 fiscal year.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Chairman, our territorial parks and special places have an important role in the protection and promotion of Nunavut's outstanding natural and cultural heritage, (interpretation) and they provide positive recreation and tourism services to meet the needs of Nunavummiut and our visitors.

It is our intention that in the 2015-16 fiscal year, we will complete studies for a potential new park in Kugaaruk in the Kitikmeot region. (interpretation ends) As well, in keeping with our umbrella territorial parks Inuit Impact and Benefits Agreement, we will commence master planning for new parks at Napaaqtulik (interpretation) on Axel Heiberg Island and in Sanikiluaq, Arviat, and Clyde River. (interpretation ends) It is also our intention to continue to monitor and maintain infrastructure in all of our parks and campgrounds throughout Nunavut.

(interpretation) In closing, Mr. Chairman, the Department of Environment's capital plan (interpretation ends) is focused in the areas that clearly support the needs and

priorities of Nunavummiut.
(interpretation) Thank you.

Chairman: *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister.
(interpretation) Chair of the standing committee's opening comments. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good afternoon. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to provide opening comments on behalf of the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of the Department of Environment's proposed 2015-16 capital estimates. Members note that the department's proposed capital budget for the 2015-16 fiscal year is \$1.6 million. The department's capital budget for the 2014-15 fiscal year was \$3,407,000.

Mr. Chairman, the department's proposed 2015-16 capital estimates include \$100,000 in funding to undertake wildlife office renovations in various communities and \$1.5 million in funding for the department's small capital projects.

During the minister's recent appearance, members were informed that the aging wildlife offices across the territory require improvements and renovations. Members look forward to receiving a detailed breakdown of which wildlife offices will receive funding for renovations during the upcoming fiscal year.

The department's 2015-16 small capital budget includes funding for the replacement of mobile equipment and the development of infrastructure in territorial parks. Members recognize that

the territory's parks provide recreational and tourism opportunities for local residents and tourists. Members also recognize that the territory's parks require ongoing site maintenance and development.

In June of 2014, the Legislative Assembly approved \$1,393,000 in capital carryover funding for projects at a number of territorial parks. Members encourage the department to complete these delayed projects and look forward to receiving ongoing updates on the department's progress in this area.

Members note that the department's proposed 2015-16 capital budget does not include any funding for wildlife office replacement projects. Information provided to members indicates that the department intends to replace all 25 wildlife offices in the communities. Information provided by the department indicates that its schedule will require the replacement of one office on an annual basis over a 25-year cycle.

In June of 2014, the Legislative Assembly approved \$1,219,000 in capital carryover funding for the replacement of Resolute Bay's wildlife office and \$150,000 in capital carryover funding for the replacement of the Repulse Bay Wildlife Office.

During the minister's recent appearance, members were informed that the department has been experiencing delays in finalizing contracts for the completion of these projects. Members are also concerned that the department is falling behind on the 25-year replacement schedule and encourage the department to explore solutions that will allow it to complete those replacement projects in a

timely manner. Members look forward to ongoing updates on this important issue.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments on the proposed 2015-16 Capital Estimates of the Department of Environment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

>> *Laughter*

I'm rustling through too many papers.

Are there any general comments to the opening comments? We will go to our review starting with page I-3. If members have any questions while I read out the pages, please raise your hand and you will be recognized. We are on Environment. Branch Summary. Program Management. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have too many questions, but I would like to know if you could give me a status update about the Sylvia Grinnell Park development work that has been worked on over the last year or so and just a status update on that, please. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We started the project last year. Is that your question? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Ms. Angnakak, please rephrase your question.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I'm just wondering what additional work is going to be done over the next year and where you are at now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will refer this question to my assistant deputy minister, Steve. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Pinksen.

Mr. Pinksen: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. All the work at the Sylvia Grinnell Park this past year has been small capital, so it's small renovation projects, trail developments, and signage work. There is no major work planned for the short term for the Sylvia Grinnell Park. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do want to take this opportunity, I think, to say on behalf of everybody who uses it that that work was very well done. I think it was very appreciated. It is very good development for people to be able to get out with their families and that.

In 2015-16, through your capital estimates, you included \$1.5 million for small capital projects such as that one, including park-related projects. In June of this year, the Legislative Assembly approved capital carryover funding for a number of park-related projects.

Can you indicate which of your department's park projects are currently behind schedule? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to refer this question to my assistant deputy minister. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Pinksen.

Mr. Pinksen: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have a number of park projects which are a little behind schedule. One is some small capital work for Sylvia Grinnell. Another one is for the Iqalugaarjuup Nunanga Territorial Park in Rankin Inlet. There is a small project there that is a year behind. For the Clyde River territorial park project, that one is also behind. There is an ongoing project in Kugaaruk which is facing a few delays due to a lack of availability of identified land for the park. There is an ongoing project in Sanikiluaq as well, as well as Napaaqtulik park development, which is on Axel Heiberg Island. Thank you.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't have many questions either.

In June 2014, the Legislative Assembly approved \$1.1 million in capital carryover for funding for wildlife office renovations. On average, \$100,000 a year is budgeted for wildlife office renovations.

Can you explain how the carryover amount is ten times higher than the normal amount used yearly? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Savikataaq. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For a proper response, I will refer this question to Steve.

Chairman: Mr. Pinksen.

Mr. Pinksen: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The budget identified previously, actually, was quite a bit larger. We had \$500,000. There was also an accumulated unspent from the carryover, so it actually did add up to that full larger amount.

We have been able to take advantage of an opportunity to really to extend the life of a couple of our buildings that were really needing it, a couple of buildings that were either going to have to be torn down or rebuilt and we were able to get some more years out of them. Thank you.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is the minister anticipating spending the whole budget this year and there will be no carryovers and all the work will be done and completed? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Savikataaq. (interpretation ends) Hon. Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Those kinds of projects usually go very well. In fiscal year 2015-16, the capital projects and small capital projects are planned within the department and I know for sure that they work diligently to complete the projects. I can say that. In regard to the parks and the offices that are required, I believe that we do want to work diligently on those projects this coming fiscal year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Mike. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the minister didn't understand my question. I was just asking about the wildlife office renovations and whether he anticipates spending the whole \$1.1 million carryover and that all projects will be done and completed in a timely fashion so that there are no more carryovers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Savikataaq. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq, the minister replied yes.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On a different note, the department's position was that they are going to replace a wildlife office every year for 25 years until they're all replaced. I noticed that they skipped a year here. Can the minister just explain why they skipped a year? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Savikataaq. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): So that the member is clear on how the situation is, I'll have Steve respond to that question. Thank you.

Chairman: *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. (interpretation) Let me remind the members that in order to preserve our decorum and to ensure we follow the proper protocol, please don't just use the first names but the proper surnames. Mr. Pinksen.

Mr. Pinksen: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We did hope and developed a plan to replace one of the older buildings each year. That is not always possible because of changing government needs and priorities. The government has many capital needs and we're not always able to get everything we want as a department, so there is a question of priorities.

Also, we do face delays in projects on occasion. One project was delayed due to finding hydrocarbons in the ground that had to be dealt with before the building can be constructed.

There are various reasons why a given project may not proceed as planned and scheduled. Certainly, we have already faced delays in sealift and delays in contracting processes. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand about budgeting and delays and stuff, but the minister of the day had said before that they were

committed to replacing one a year. That being said, if you can't do it, when a project is deferred for one year in one community, does that affect the project the following year? For example, if the budget is there to do one a year, if one project is delayed, do you do two projects the following year or does it have a domino effect where every other project to replace a wildlife office is delayed a year? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Savikataaq. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is kind of a difficult issue and we have discussed this issue previously. When delays occur, for example, if we delayed an office construction for a year, our department finds out the reason why there's a delay and there's no other choice except to put it for the next fiscal year.

Whether or not it's going to have a domino effect, I'll have Mr. Pinksen respond to that part of the question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Pinksen: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is somewhat of an effect because the GN has a limited capacity, so we don't have an unlimited capacity. When a project gets pushed off to another year, it means you have an added workload to that subsequent year, so it is a factor. However, there have been years where we have been successful in building two facilities in a

given year. It is an effect, but it's not always a domino effect that carries on forever. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Pinksen. Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Not to lay blame, but just to get a clear picture, are the capacity issues due to the Department of Environment or is it due to other departments that handle the projects? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Savikataaq. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This has been a difficult issue. In the Department of Environment, when we make our plans and then add plans to construct a new office building or any kind of facility of the Department of Environment, we have to give that submission to another department to get the office building constructed, whether it's office space or a renovation project.

Once the project starts, the other department takes on the project. For that reason, that's where it becomes a difficult issue. We now realize that the capital projects, whether they are new office buildings, for example, when they need to be constructed and when they are contracted out, our department is not responsible for that part. Another department takes care of those projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: *Qujannamiik*, hon. minister. (interpretation) Before moving on, as the Chair, I would like to take this

opportunity to acknowledge an individual who has been our long-time friend and who has been very helpful to the individuals. He's the lawyer for residential school survivors. Steven Cooper, welcome to the Gallery.

>> *Applause*

Moving on. We're on page I-3. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Since we're reviewing the Department of Environment, during the renovations for office buildings, what's the Department of Environment's position at the local level if there's a request for a capital project to help the community and to benefit the whole of Nunavut? What's the process? That's my first question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize; we did not understand his question fully. Perhaps he can rephrase it. I'm sorry we were asking him to rephrase. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Mr. Mikkungwak, please repeat your question.

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. In the Department of Environment, it seems like all the wildlife offices are going to be replaced according to the substantiation sheet. That's understandable.

My question is: if a project is going to benefit many people and if it's going to benefit to the best interests of Nunavummiut, have you considered that kind of a project, yes or no? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. Is that clearer now? (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, I'll have Mr. Pinksen try to respond to that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Pinksen.

Mr. Pinksen: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have an office and a staff in each Nunavut community. Those staff are there to provide services to the community. We need to be able to provide them with a facility that is suitable for them to work in and to provide the services to the community. It always is a consideration of benefiting Nunavut and Nunavummiut when we're planning our projects. I hope that is the answer. Thank you.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I'll speak in English so that he can understand me. (interpretation ends) In your paragraph, it indicates one of which is strategic planning. Your strategic planning is to provide adequate office infrastructure for all of your environment staff across the territory.

My question here is I'm looking at the global picture. Has the department considered capital infrastructure for our

community or the territory as a whole to benefit the territory? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Pinksen will respond. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Pinksen.

Mr. Pinksen: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When we're prioritizing our capital needs, we go through a process of assessing all current facilities.

In addition, when it comes to prioritizing renovation work and major projects like that, CGS does building site assessments for us to determine where the priority areas are and if things could be fixed in a cost-effective way. We do go through that Nunavut-wide assessment.

In terms of does the Department of Environment look at Nunavut infrastructure as a whole, no, we're dealing with our own program areas as opposed to broader territorial infrastructure needs. Thank you.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I'll make a preamble in order for it to be clear. I live in Baker Lake and there is a lot of different wildlife in that area, but it seems like nobody's really paying attention to the community's development. Some Inuit don't always work in the office. Some Inuit are full-time hunters and harvesters. I can say

that we're from the mainland. I know that in the community, we would like development for the benefit of the whole of Nunavut.

For example, there is a fish plant in Pangnirtung, there is a meat plant for muskox in Cambridge Bay, and there is another meat plant in Rankin Inlet. However, in Baker Lake, with all the wildlife available in the community, have you considered for the future to help the harvesters in the Baker Lake area and to help benefit all of Nunavut with wildlife? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Mikkungwak. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I finally understand what you're asking. The projects have to be initiated in the community. The community has to start it. It's an economic development job that you're asking about. For developing fish and meat plants, the request has to come from the community.

The Department of Environment cannot go to the communities and tell them to start a project. We can't really do that. Most of the businesses like that started from the communities. It's got a lot to do with economic development. Meat or fish processing plants is about making money; development. I know it's a good idea. I'm not trying to give you a bad answer. It has to be initiated from within the community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (Mr. Akoak): Thank you, Minister Mike. Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank the minister for his response. I'll move on. In reference to the second paragraph, it's typed in there, policy and legislation development. How many do we foresee in that aspect? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like Mr. Pinksen to respond to that. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Pinksen.

Mr. Pinksen: If the question is how many specific policies and legislation we are working on, at the present time in the current year, we're redoing our Harvester Support Policy. We've got a number of them that are under review for changes. We have no new legislation on the horizon at this point in time. Thank you.

Chairman: Thank you. The next name on the list, Mr. Hickes.

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just going back to one of the comments my colleague, Ms. Angnakak, mentioned of how much we appreciated the work and renovations that was done at the Sylvia Grinnell Park. Some recent media coverage informed me that not everyone was appreciative of it and that there was some vandalism done at the site. Has that vandalism caused a delay in this project and what type of monetary cost, and does that impact the budget of ongoing renovations to that project? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Hickes. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like Mr. Pinksen to respond to that. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Pinksen.

Mr. Pinksen: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The vandalism nature of it was somebody set a fire inside the washroom facility, so it damaged the interior of the facility, but there was no major cost to it. It was something that we were able to fix within our operating budget. There was an inconvenience that the facility was closed for some time. Thank you.

Chairman (Mr. Enook)(interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Mr. Hickes, are you done? (interpretation) We're on page I-3. Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The first question that I would like to ask the Department of Environment is: do you have any sheds or shacks outside the communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Pinksen will respond to the question. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Pinksen.

Mr. Pinksen: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In at least two areas, we have research camps. These are very remotely

located buildings like cabins that are used by our research staff when doing a lot of work in a given area so that they're not flying back and forth to communities all the time. I think there are at least two facilities, one in the Baffin and one in the Kitikmeot. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you. I think I heard that in your opening comments, but now where was that? Nonetheless, you referred to this subject in English as (interpretation ends) special places. (interpretation) You were talking about special places. My question is: are there many parcels identified by the parks division for this category of special places?

Further, your capital estimates state that there are park improvement funds. Are these the only funds available to us or are there other funds out there? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Joanasie. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Pinksen will provide a detailed response to the questions. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Pinksen.

Mr. Pinksen: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The term "special places" refers to any area that people want to recognize or designate for a cultural or an ecological or any other purpose that's

sort of driven by the wishes of the communities.

We have a number of territorial parks that we manage and operate. I forget the exact number right now. We have another seven or eight that are in development right now, various protected areas and community parks across the territory.

If you need more specifics, I can find it in my notes. Thank you.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I raised that question simply because there was a significant archaeological find. When this was being discussed, the residents of Kimmirut wanted support to develop this particular place.

Has the department collaborated with the Department of Culture and Heritage to place special recognition of this site? Alternatively, has your department considered a territorial park and, if so, are there any plans available? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Pinksen can respond to the question. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Pinksen.

Mr. Pinksen: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not aware if we've had direct involvement in that project, but it is very interesting and we could certainly

commit to having our staff contact the community and follow up on what they would like to see done with that area. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Are there any more questions on page I-3? Mr. Mikkungwak.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for allowing me the second round. I appreciate that. I just have a question.

I know that when I was a young boy, the HTO looked after a variety of cabins out in the wilderness, and I'm assuming that that happened across the territory of Nunavut. My question here is: would the local hunters and trappers organizations be able to submit proposals under small capital to renovate these cabins out in the wilderness? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, please submit any proposal or suggestion that can be used to construct these cabins. Yes, I am in full agreement with this idea. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We're on page I-3. Environment. Branch Summary. Program Management. Total Capital Expenditures. \$1,600,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Turn to page I-2. Department Summary. Environment. Detail of Expenditures.

Total Capital Expenditures. \$1,600,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Does the committee agree that the Department of Environment is concluded?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Future-older-brother-to-be (interpretation ends) hon. minister, (interpretation) we have completed your department. I would now like to give you the opportunity to make your closing remarks. Minister Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, future-younger-brother-to-be. You're a good Chairman. It didn't take long at all. I thank everyone and our staff here. Thank you.

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

What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

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

Chairman (interpretation): There is a motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion, raise your hand. Opposed. Abstentions. The motion is carried. Thank you. I will now rise to report progress to the Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.
Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Enook.

Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 8 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 (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Alex Sammurtok. The motion is in order. All those in favour.
(interpretation) Thank you.
(interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Mr. Mapsalak.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask to go back to Item 5 in the *Orders of the Day*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Member Mapsalak would like to go back to Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Are there any nays? I didn't hear any nays. Please proceed, Mr. Mapsalak.

Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am extremely gratified to recognize the visitors here today. First, Steven Cooper, who is well-

known by many people and whom I have known for many years, is in the Gallery. A fellow visitor whose name is Andrew Rice is going to be inducted into the Nunavut Bar tomorrow to practise law in Nunavut. That is why they are in the Gallery. Please welcome them to the Gallery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker: Welcome to the Gallery.

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. A reminder that there's a meeting of the Full Caucus tomorrow at half past ten in the Nanuq Boardroom.

Orders of the Day for November 4:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Responses to Petitions

12. Reports of Standing and Special
Committees on Bills and Other
Matters
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions
15. Notices of Motions for First
Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of
the Whole of Bills and Other
Matters
 - Bill 4
 - Bill 5
 - Bill 6
 - Bill 7
 - Bill 8
 - Bill 9
20. Report of the Committee of the
Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you.
(interpretation ends) This House stands
adjourned until Tuesday, November 4, at
1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 17:25*

Appendix – November 3, 2014

Return to Oral Question 191 – 4(2): Information on Casuals

Asked by: George Hicks, MLA (Iqaluit-Tasiluk)

Asked of: Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk, Minister of Family Services

Date: October 22, 2014

Question:

Earlier this year, in the Standing Committee on Oversight and Government Operations and Public Accounts, a question was asked and a written response was provided by the minister's office on the number of casual staff that they have.

Mr. Speaker, I received some correspondence just yesterday and it lists that there are 20 casual staff in the Department of Family Services, of which 4 are beneficiaries and 16 are non-beneficiaries. I'm sure with that question, the minister was briefed in a little bit more detail than this letter was providing.

I guess my initial question would be: how many of those 20 casual staffing positions are administrative and how many are program-related Family Services?

Response:

In response to your question to understand the breakdown of the 20 casual staff positions in the Department of Family Services, of which 4 are beneficiaries and 16 are non-beneficiaries, and a further breakdown between the positions being either administrative or program-related, before I respond to your question, may I take this opportunity to bring to your attention that the figures we provided you in September 2014 are for the Children and Family Services Division and not the Department of Family Services, as outlined in your question.

Please receive the updated figures that we provided in September showing a breakdown of program and administrative-related positions. In addition, we highlight the number of casual positions occupied by beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries. The information is provided in Appendix 1 and the data is accurate as of September 30, 2014.

Appendix 1

Casual Staff Information*: Children and Family Services

	Total	Program Related Positions	Admin Related Positions	Beneficiaries	Beneficiaries %	Non Beneficiaries	Non Beneficiaries %
Casuals	30	29	1	13	43%	17	57%
Acting	2	2	0	1	50%	1	50%
Transfer Assignment	4	3	1	3	75%	1	25%
Contractors	4	4	0	0	0%	4	100%

*Source: Department of Family Services Establishment Report as of September 30, 2014