

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker Hon. George Qulaut (Amittuq)

Hon. George Kuksuk

(Arviat North-Whale Cove) Minister of Culture and Heritage; Minister of Languages; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation

> Steve Mapsalak (Aivilik)

Hon. Johnny Mike (Pangnirtung) Minister of Community and Government Services; Minister of Environment

> Simeon Mikkungwak (Baker Lake) Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

Hon. Paul Okalik (Iqaluit-Sinaa) Minister of Health; Minister of Justice; Minister responsible for Labour; Minister responsible for Immigration

Hon. Keith Peterson (Cambridge Bay) Minister of Finance, Chair of the Financial Management Board; Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation; Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission

Hon. Paul Quassa

(Aggu) Government House Leader; Minister of Education; Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College

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Isaac Shooyook (Quttiktuq)

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

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk

(Netsilik) Minister of Family Services; Minister responsible for Homelessness; Minister responsible for the Status of Women

Tony Akoak (Gjoa Haven) Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

> **Pat Angnakak** (Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu)

Hon. Monica Ell

(Iqaluit-Manirajak) Deputy Premier; Minister of Economic Development and Transportation; Minister of Energy

Joe Enook

(Tununiq) Deputy Speaker and Chair of the Committee of the Whole

> George Hickes (Iqaluit-Tasiluk)

> **David Joanasie** (South Baffin)

Pauloosie Keyootak (Uqqummiut)

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Iqaluit, Nunavut Tuesday, May 26, 2015 Members Present:

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

>>House commenced at 13:29

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>>Prayer

Speaker (interpretation): Good afternoon and welcome, my fellow Nunavummiut and members.

Colleagues, I wish to inform you today that two members will be absent from the House, Simeon Mikkungwak and Pauloosie Keyootak, due to weather. Simeon had lost a relative and they will be holding a memorial service today. They are both expected to arrive here tomorrow.

My granddaughter Tara Claire is celebrating her 12th birthday today. Have a wonderful day. I love you.

(interpretation ends) Good afternoon to all of you and welcome back to the legislature.

Money Message

Before we proceed with the orders of the day, I wish to read the following message that I have received from the Deputy Commissioner of Nunavut:

Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise that I recommend to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut the passage of Bill 22, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2015-2016*, during the Second [Session] of the Fourth Legislative Assembly.

Nellie Kusugak

Unfortunately, we have lost our audio. We will take a break for a few minutes.

>>House recessed at 13:33 and resumed at 13:42

Speaker (interpretation): Good afternoon. The technical difficulties have been fixed. Thank you.

We will proceed with our meeting. (interpretation ends) Item 2. (interpretation) Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Justice, Mr. Okalik.

(interpretation ends) There must be something going on. I'm sorry. My apologies.

Ministers' Statements. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 141 – 4(2): 2015 Summer Literacy Camps

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to my fellow residents of Amittuq and Aggu. I hope you have a great day.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to report on an exciting partnership project taking place this summer in Cape Dorset and Arviat.

In collaboration with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami's Amaujaq (interpretation ends) National Centre for Inuit Education, (interpretation) the TD Bank Group, the district education authorities in Cape Dorset and Arviat, and the Department of Education, (interpretation ends) Frontier College (interpretation) will coordinate and deliver a second summer literacy camp in Cape Dorset and bring the summer literacy camp to Arviat.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, research identifies underdeveloped literacy skills as the number one reason why students fail to graduate from high school. During these camps, children aged 5 to 12 take part in three weeks of fun, educational activities to develop their literacy skills in English and Inuktitut. The goal of the camps is to spread the love of reading, support and value culture and traditional learning, and promote healthy, creative social and physical activity during the summer months.

Summer literacy camps address "summer learning loss," the decline in student performance between the end of one school year and the beginning of the next. (interpretation) Mr. Speaker, locally hired staff attend a four-day intensive training and orientation that gives them the background, skills, and resources to plan and deliver the camp.

Last summer, over 40 children from Cape Dorset attended the summer literacy camp and over 390 high-quality books were left in the community for children to take home and share with family and friends.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, helping our children develop a love of reading improves literacy, giving them every opportunity to achieve academic success.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, thank you for giving me the opportunity to announce this good news. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Culture and Heritage, Mr. Kuksuk.

Minister's Statement 142 – 4(2): Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Resources

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to my fellow Nunavummiut and residents of Arviat and Whale Cove. Have a good day.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce the release of two books, *Inuit Kinship Terminologies* and *Inuit Parenting*, which are collections of *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit* from Nunavut elders and youth.

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(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, Culture and Heritage held family relations workshops between November 2010 and October 2012. The workshops were held across Nunavut between elders and youth to compile family relationship terms. Information gathered from these workshops were documented into the different dialects and formed into a book to be distributed to communities.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, at recess, I invite my colleagues and anyone who is in the House to visit our booth in the foyer where these important cultural resources are available. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ministers' Statements. Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

Minister's Statement 143 – 4(2): Joint Investigation of Child Sexual Abuse Training

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a very beautiful spring day and I am pleased that we are able to start our session again.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the frontline workers who participated in the joint investigation of child sexual abuse training in Iqaluit May 20 to 26, 2015 provided by the Department of Family Services and the RCMP.

This training will not only increase communication among frontline

workers, such as the RCMP, community social services workers, health centre staff, and the Office of the Representative for Children and Youth, but it will also minimize trauma on children and adolescents by ensuring that they only have to tell their story once.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the material covered in the training is of high standard for interviewing children and adolescent victims and witnesses in cases of alleged sexual abuse, physical abuse, and/or neglect. The training was adapted to Nunavut by the Department of Family Services and the RCMP in 2011. The training includes a cultural component that teaches cultural difference and is specific to Inuit. In addition, it covers how interviews should be performed so that frontline workers are using the same language when speaking with children and youth.

Mr. Speaker, we have 12 community social service workers who took part in the training, and I am very proud of all of the participants for the hard work that they do within our communities when dealing with just difficult issues. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. I have no more names on my list. We will move on. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Gjoa Haven, Mr. Akoak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 284 – 4(2): Please Don't Forget the Kitikmeot

Mr. Akoak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to firstly thank the ministers who visit Gjoa Haven, Minister Kuksuk, Minister Okalik, and Minister Quassa. I would like to remind our government and the Premier that we have the Kitikmeot region. We keep saying that we should not forget the Kitikmeot. We have the Kivalliq and Baffin regions, but we also have the Kitikmeot region and we don't want to be forgotten. (interpretation ends) *Quanaqquhi*, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Enook.

Member's Statement 285 – 4(2): Congratulations to Recipients of Commissioner's Awards

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to the people of Pond Inlet and Nunavut. I would like to send my condolences to the people who lost their loved ones. You are in our thoughts today.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to publicly congratulate a number of my constituents in Pond Inlet who recently received awards from the Commissioner of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, a ceremony was held in Pond Inlet on April 15 at which former Commissioner Elias presided over the awarding of 11 bravery, volunteer, community service, special skills, and long service awards. I had the honour of being in attendance at this ceremony and I wish to thank the Office of the Commissioner for having organized such a moving event.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the following residents of Pond Inlet whom we are very proud of as residents of Pond Inlet and Nunavut:

- Nathan Ootoova, recipient of the Commissioner's Award for Bravery;
- Jessie Peterloosie, recipient of the Commissioner's Award for Bravery;
- Sheati Tagak, recipient of the Commissioner's Award for Volunteer and Community Service; and his wife
- Leah Tagak, recipient of the Commissioner's Award for Volunteer and Community Service.

Mr. Speaker, these individuals were also given awards:

- Apphia Killiktee
- Lizzie Simonie
- Isaac Qiyuapik

They were the recipients of the Commissioner's Award for Volunteer and Community Service.

Also, Regilee Ootook was a recipient of the Commissioner's Award for Volunteer and Community Service, so was Rhoda Pewatualuk.

Two individuals who are special and whom we are especially proud of are Gamailee Kilukishak, who is an elder, who is the recipient of the Commissioner's Special Skills Award, and last but not least, I would also recognize Ookookoo Quaraq, recipient of the Commissioner's Long Service Award for his 50 years as a member of the Canadian Rangers, whom we are especially proud of.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating my constituents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 286 – 4(2): Congratulations to Joe Karetak on his Medal of Bravery

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) First of all, I would like to recognize Mr. Taptuna, Mr. Kuksuk, and Mr. Quassa for coming to visit Arviat for two days. It was a very joyous event for the residents of Arviat and I would like to thank them all for visiting Arviat.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to publicly congratulate an individual from my community who received a Medal of Bravery.

Two years ago, Joe Karetak Sr. demonstrated remarkable courage when he risked his own life to save another while stranded on sea ice outside of Arviat.

In January of 2013, Mr. Karetak sacrificed his own safety to save the life

of a helicopter pilot who had been attempting to execute a rescue mission on freshly formed, thin sea ice.

Mr. Karetak's resourcefulness and decisive actions during that dangerous incident are exceptional and honourable and the community of Arviat is fortunate to have such an upstanding resident in its midst.

On May 1, the Governor General presented Mr. Karetak with a Medal of Bravery for his actions.

Canada's Medal of Bravery recognizes people who have risked their lives trying to save or protect the lives of others during hazardous circumstances.

Mr. Speaker, rescue teams lay their lives on the line every day to save the lives of citizens, but sometimes it is the everyday citizen who must save the life of a rescuer. I commend all individuals involved in the safe rescue of Mr. Karetak and his son.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in commending Mr. Joe Karetak on his actions and his recent award. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Member's Statement 287 – 4(2): Nursing in Nunavut

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would like to welcome our listening audience, especially my husband. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to acknowledge and thank Nunavut's hardworking nurses for the effort and dedication that they put in to providing professional medical services to Nunavut's residents.

Mr. Speaker, May 11 to 17 was National Nursing Week, when nurses around the world were acknowledged for their commitment to health care. Even though that official period has passed, I believe that we should take every opportunity to express our appreciation for those who undertake such challenging work on our behalf.

Mr. Speaker, many jurisdictions across Canada struggle with a shortage of qualified professional health care workers. We are, indeed, fortunate that many choose to live and work in our remote territory where there are many unique challenges to face and experience.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that our government takes the necessary steps to recruit and retain nursing professionals to work in Nunavut.

We also need to step up our efforts to encourage young Nunavummiut to stay in school, study hard, graduate from high school, and maybe even choose a career path in the health care field.

Mr. Speaker, we are fortunate to have dedicated and committed nurses all across Nunavut. However, we also face nursing shortages, high staff turnover, and a confusing mix of agency, casual, and indeterminate nursing positions.

I call upon our government to step up its efforts in this area. At the appropriate

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

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

Member's Statement 288 – 4(2): NS@30

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day to all Nunavummiut and to our visitors in the Gallery. Welcome.

Mr. Speaker, as an alumnus of the Nunavut Sivuniksavut program, I am delighted to stand today and provide a report from the NS@30 conference held in Ottawa last month.

Mr. Speaker, over the course of the three-day gathering, more than 200 delegates from different parts of the country and around the world had much to say about post-secondary options for Nunavummiut. The conference was also a time to celebrate the many accomplishments that Nunavut Sivuniksavut has achieved throughout the past three decades.

Mr. Speaker, to date, approximately 450 people have completed the Nunavut Sivuniksavut program since its inception in 1985. I note that a recent survey conducted by Nunavut Sivuniksavut showed that out of 212 respondents, 121 alumni are now working full time while another 45 alumni continue in other training or post-secondary studies within or outside of Nunavut. Only 5.19 percent, or 11 respondents, claimed to be unemployed, which is less than the national average of 6.6 percent according to 2014 statistics. Mr. Speaker, after the conference was over, it was a pleasure to watch this year's graduation ceremony.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

Speaker (interpretation): The Member for South Baffin is asking for unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Please proceed.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, my colleagues.

As I was saying, the graduation ceremony highlighted the memories that students shared and their reflections on years past.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating all of this year's graduates.

The first year students are:

- Alexie Baillargeon
- Anna Churchill
- Art Sateana
- Ashley Appaqaq
- Ashley Koonoo
- Desiree Autut
- Eva Obed from Nunatsiavut
- Felicia Tugak
- Jessica Inookee
- Keisha Nivingalok
- Kristen Kownak
- Lewis Sammurtok
- Lynn Mike
- Mandy Tatty
- Peter Derek Ottokie
- Qilak Kaludjak
- Rita Claire Mike

- Silpa Suarak also from Nunatsiavut
- Tamara Takpanie
- Tapisa Koonoo, and
- Vanessa Aglukkak

The second year students are:

- Erik Ikoe
- Jennifer Amagoalik
- Jo-Anne Idlout
- Jutai Jr. Toonoo
- Marley Dunkers
- Mick Appaqaq, and
- Nicole Hachey

Mr. Speaker, I wish the Nunavut Sivuniksavut program continued success in the years ahead and encourage my colleagues and other Nunavummiut to promote the program within their own communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Kugluktuk, Mr. Taptuna.

Member's Statement 289 – 4(2): Recognition of Commissioner Edna Elias

Hon. Peter Taptuna (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, members and cabinet colleagues, Nunavummiut, and Kuglukturmiut.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a resident of Kugluktuk. She is the former Commissioner and resident of Kugluktuk, Edna Elias.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, Edna took on the role of Commissioner and made it her own. She has worked countless hours to support and celebrate Nunavummiut across our great territory in this role and we will certainly miss her.

Through her good work in recognizing individuals for their heroism and volunteerism, she has helped bring pride to community service in our communities both big and small.

She has led the campaign for cancer research through her community walks and she has helped raise awareness for cancer throughout the territory of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, Edna is now retired from the position of Commissioner and on behalf of this House and, indeed, the people of Kugluktuk, we wish Edna the very best and thank her for her services to the communities and to the territory as a Commissioner. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for (interpretation ends) Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Kuksuk.

Member's Statement 290 – 4(2): Thanks to the Premier and Minister of Education

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you again, Mr. Speaker. I again say "good day" to my fellow residents of Arviat and Whale Cove and Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to rise today to announce that Premier Taptuna and the cabinet ministers, Minister Quassa, including the staff, were able to come to Arviat. We met with them and we met with the hamlet and district education authority. Even though they were quite busy, they were able to come to Arviat.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, recently, we had the pleasure of accompanying the Premier and Minister Quassa on a trip to Arviat. I say "thank you" to my colleagues for their participation and for taking the time to visit one of my communities. The good people of Arviat had a lot to share in terms of community concerns and positive stories. It was a worthwhile trip.

Mr. Speaker, we have had the cabinet come to meet in Whale Cove this past October and now have had the Minister of Education and the Premier to visit Arviat last week. I think this helps show Nunavummiut that our government is active and does care about both the large and smaller communities.

The Premier and Minister Quassa had an opportunity to meet with the hamlet as well as the local DEA. We also visited the site of the new hamlet office, toured the health centre, and toured the two local dumps. Our group had a chance to meet with the hamlet's economic development staff and young people during the drill training program. I was very impressed by the activities that are being done locally and to see such initiatives.

We also attended an elders' feast at the elders centre, and we would like to say a big "thank you" to the staff of the Arviat elders centre for an awesome lunch that they provided us when we arrived in Arviat. I want to also thank my colleague, MLA for Arviat South, Mr. Savikataaq, for taking part in the discussions and visits and took part in the meetings of the local officials.

We're proud of our community and we look forward to welcoming other members and ministers to our beautiful part of Nunavut. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Aggu, Mr. Quassa.

Member's Statement 291 – 4(2): Thankful for Successful Search and Rescue

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would like to say that I am very impressed and we are all very proud of the search and rescue members in our communities and those in our communities who take part in search and rescue activities. Many times, they successfully find others through very hard work, volunteering to take part in searches. I want to mention these people first of all today.

Recently, there was a search and rescue operation taking place near our area and it took the work of four communities working together to operate this search. Many of you know of Brian Koonoo and we are grateful he came out okay and will now be going home. I want to recognize these individuals from search and rescue as they stand out of many who took part. Hall Beach resident Solomon Nashook didn't sleep much, going for seven days, and he even slept in a cot at the search and rescue headquarters. I want to recognize him, as he went all out to help in this search.

I would also like to acknowledge Siniqqaq Tausaruapik from Hall Beach and Abraham Ullalaaq. I am very proud of him. Even though he had just recently lost his family member, he worked hard as well on this search and rescue.

I would like to acknowledge the search and rescue members from Igloolik: Jake Maliki, Danny (Boy) Angiliq, and David Amaqsainnuk Aqiaruq.

These search and rescue members from Hall Beach and Igloolik were very busy. I want to thank and praise everyone, including the RCMP in Igloolik for allowing the use of their snowmobiles in this search.

I ask my colleagues to join me in showing our gratitude for the fact that Brian Koonoo will be on his way back home to Pond Inlet. I have heard that he is just waiting in Repulse Bay as we speak. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Netsilik, Ms. Ugyuk.

Member's Statement 292 – 4(2): Another School Year Ends

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am grateful for the opportunity to speak. Spring is upon us and spring activities are happening in Taloyoak.

Today is the last day for students at Netsilik School. I would like to wish all the students a great holiday and a good summer and to the teachers to take a well-deserved break.

Two of my younger sisters are teachers and many relatives that are Inuit teachers, I wish you all a good spring. If you are heading out camping, be safe. Spring is a great time to gather food and for being on the land.

I would like to recognize Gina Pizzo, who is the principal. I would like you to have a good rest. She is a long-term teacher and employee of Netsilik School.

Have a good summer, especially to the children and that they are looked after well. I would like to thank the people of Taloyoak and the children to have a very good summer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet, Mr. Sammurtok...Alex Sammurtok.

>>Laughter

Member's Statement 293 – 4(2): Thankful for Successful Search of Brian Koonoo

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to acknowledge the people that went to search for my brother-in-law, people from Hall Beach, Igloolik, Pond Inlet, and Repulse Bay. I would like to express my gratitude to all the search and rescue volunteers who worked so hard to search for the missing person.

Minister Paul Quassa and you, (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, (interpretation) I would like to express my gratitude to both of you. When I didn't know where to turn to for information, I was able to talk to you and communicate by text.

We have to totally support the search and rescue groups and I am very grateful for all the searchers who work so hard. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list. We will move on. (interpretation ends) Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. (interpretation) Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Mr. Hickes.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to have the opportunity to recognize a number of visitors in the Gallery today. These visitors have joined us from the Parliamentary Intern Program of the House of Commons.

Mr. Speaker, these young Canadians are currently working in the offices of Members of Parliament and are in Nunavut this week for their annual study tour.

Mr. Speaker, this previous Sunday, I along with the member for Niaqunnguut, Ms. Angnakak, and the Member for South Baffin, Mr. Joanasie, had a question panel that we attended with these youth Parliamentary Intern Program participants.

At that time and later on in the evening, I was able to address a number of questions. There's a lot of interest in Nunavut and I hope that all these interns bring back some of the knowledge that they learned from the members of this legislature to their MPs in Ottawa.

Mr. Speaker, while they're in Nunavut, they're also taking the time, at their own expense I might add, to visit Kimmirut in order that they may have the experience of a smaller community.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, please join me in welcoming:

- Gregoire Baribeau;
- Jessica Brousseau;
- Natalie Brunet;
- Innessa Colaiacove;
- Darya Dolzikova;
- Patricia Doyle, who I might add used to work for the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba under the Office of the Speaker, the Hon. George Hickes Sr.;
- Alexa Greig;
- Pascale Laliberté-Martineau;
- Michèle Meilleur Sarazin; and

• Constance Naud-Arcand.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. I welcome all of you to the Gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names on my list, but I would like to welcome visitors in the Gallery.

(interpretation ends) I am very pleased to take this opportunity to welcome a guest from the Visitors' Gallery who has travelled a very long way to be with us today.

Mr. Gerry Wood is an independent Member of the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory. On his own initiative, Mr. Wood has travelled from Australia to the Arctic to observe our legislature at work. Later this week, Mr. Wood will be flying to Yellowknife to learn about our sister territory's legislature.

Please join me in welcoming our distinguished guest, Mr. Wood.

>>Applause

(interpretation) Please feel welcome in the Gallery.

Oral Questions. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Mapsalak.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 482 – 4(2): Update on Repulse Bay's New Sewage Lagoon

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will direct my question to the Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Mike.

Mr. Speaker, during our previous winter sitting, I asked the minister when his department will begin the construction of Repulse Bay's new sewage lagoon.

In response, on March 12, 2015, the minister indicated that his department was "waiting for the federal government for a water licence."

Can the minister indicate if his department has received a water licence for this project and, if not, at what stage is the application for this licence? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for asking that question. So that I understand the question correctly, are you talking about the sewage lagoon or the reservoir? I don't quite understand what he is referring to and I apologize for that. If the member can clarify the question, I can respond to it properly. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Member for Aivilik, can you clarify your question, please. **Mr. Mapsalak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The question I have is in regard to the (interpretation ends) sewage lagoon. (interpretation) We don't have one in Repulse Bay. That's my question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. I will to take the member's question as notice. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The question has been taken as notice and the minister will respond to you at a later date. We will proceed. Member for Arviat, Mr. Joe Savikataaq.

Question 483 – 4(2): Plebiscite on Alienation of Municipal Lands

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are still for the new Minister of Community and Government Services.

As the minister will recall, I asked a number of questions during our recent winter sitting concerning next year's Nunavut-wide plebiscite concerning the sale of municipal lands. Now that the government has had a few months to think about the issues that I raised, I anticipate that we will hear some clear answers today.

Can the minister confirm which department of the government will be the formal plebiscite authority for next year's vote, which will occur in March 2016? Thank you, Mr. Speaker. **Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Community and Government Services, Mr. Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for asking that question. On April 16, 2015, the cabinet directed the Department of CGS to administer the plebiscite. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now that we know that CG&S will be the plebiscite authority and the minister is here, has the minister thought ahead? I raised the issue before that land owners and land lessees should be the ones determining the future of who is going to be able to vote. Has CG&S determined who is an eligible voter for this upcoming plebiscite? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will explain this further. In regard to the municipal lands plebiscite, all of the municipal owned lands are what it's about. Following the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, there had to be a land plebiscite on April 10, 1995 and that was supposed to be set for 20 years. The year 2015 marks the 20 years following. According to the land claims agreement, we have to hold a plebiscite. The government has directed CGS, the department that works with the hamlets, to plan how the plebiscite will work, who will be eligible to vote, when the actual vote will be, and how much information will be distributed. All of this is now under the planning stage and that's the response I can give you at this point. It's all in the planning stage where they're setting things up. After all that is completed, I know that it will become clear as to how the plebiscite will work in regard to municipal lands.

Mr. Speaker, I can't directly answer his question right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for being frank that they're all planning ahead. Hopefully the planning will be done soon since March 2016 is not that far away, but once the vote is held and each community is going to have a vote, is it going to be each community's vote will stand for each community's decision or is it going to be a Nunavut-wide decision on whether municipal lands will be sold or not? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for his question. The cabinet has asked the Department of Community and Government Services to take on the responsibility for the plebiscite, as well as the Department of Justice. In regard to the municipal lands plebiscite, the planning has started. NTI and Elections Nunavut are now working on the voting documentation and how the plebiscite will be set up. Therefore, I can't really provide a detailed response to the question because we have not completed the planning of the plebiscite vote. Once the planning has been completed this coming summer, I'll be able to provide a further response, but we're working on them as we speak. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 484 – 4(2): Status of Midwifery in Nunavut

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question today to the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, in 2008, Nunavut's Legislative Assembly passed the *Midwifery Profession Act*, a piece of legislation that not only sought to provide better maternal services to pregnant mothers closer to home, but also to incorporate traditional Inuit knowledge and childbirth practices into the birthing process.

Birthing centres were opened in communities such as Arviat and Rankin Inlet and many Nunavummiut had high expectations of being able to deliver their babies at home. Can the minister provide an update on the current status of Nunavut's midwifery services and how many birthing centres are currently operating across Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker. **Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Health, Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's a very good question. To date, we have two midwifery centres in Rankin Inlet and in Cambridge Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I tried to sneak in a second question in there, but I appreciate the minister responding to one of them.

Mr. Speaker, representatives from the Department of Health recently held a press conference on the success of the "More OB" program, which is intended to improve patient care of pregnant women and their babies. Can the minister describe what role midwives play in the "More OB" program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister for Health, Mr. Okalik.

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our staff, particularly in the two communities, provide the program and they are midwives. They have completed the midwifery program and they are recognized fully in their community, but we're looking for more midwives and we will continue to look for midwives so that this program can continue fully. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Your final supplementary, Mr. Hickes. **Mr. Hickes**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister described, they're always looking for more midwives. Certified midwives must be registered under the Nunavut Registration Committee to practise in Nunavut. Can the minister clarify how many midwives are currently registered to practise in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you Mr. Speaker. We have 10 positions that are open, but we're still looking to fill maybe four positions. That's my knowledge to date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 485 – 4(2): Vacant Staff Housing Units

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my questions today to the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

As the minister will recall, the Legislative Assembly approved \$20 million in supplementary appropriations earlier this year for the construction of new staff housing units across the Nunavut territory. Information provided to the Members of the Legislative Assembly by the Nunavut Housing Corporation at the time indicated that, I quote, "Addressing the ongoing issue of forced shared units as well as a review of longstanding vacant positions will impact each community's staff housing needs assessment."

As the minister is very much aware, these are concerns that I have been raising in the House for a very long time. Can the minister update me today on what concrete actions the government is taking to address the issue of longstanding vacant positions? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I can state today that his question regarding the \$20 million for staff housing, the allocation of units will be identified in 2016. To date, my department is still working on it and it's not completed yet. That's what I can tell the member. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, please ask me to clarify my question because the response I got had nothing to do with my question.

At the time, we approved \$20 million in supplementary appropriations, but I was asking the minister to update me on what concrete actions the government is taking. They were going to review the vacant positions and said that they would review these longstanding vacant positions. That was why I was asking that question in regard to longstanding vacant positions.

What is the housing corporation doing, not considering the \$20 million? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I want to be clear and I will try to make it clearer. I think his earlier question was in two parts. I thought I heard him asking questions in regard to the \$20 million.

However, longstanding vacant positions, not just in the community of Pond Inlet, but there are vacant units in other communities. Some of these are out of our jurisdiction because the departments, for example, the Department of Community and Government Services, we can deal with the issues by working with them.

The housing corporation alone can't deal with these issues, so we will have to work with the other departments in order to move ahead and deal with the vacant units because there are other issues that are outside of our jurisdiction. For that reason, it takes a very long time to fill these vacant units when there is more than one department responsible for dealing with that. There are various reasons why these units are not filled.

Mr. Speaker, I can look into it further. If the member is asking a question specifically in regard to why the units in the community of Pond Inlet are vacant for a long time or if it's because the positions are not being filled, there are various reasons why these units are not being filled. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are aware and it's evident that in the community of Pond Inlet and other communities that I know of, it becomes disappointing when we see government staff housing vacant for so many years.

The staff housing units have never been occupied when our constituents have been advocating for converting these empty units to public housing. I can say that in Pond Inlet, eight to ten staff housing units have remained vacant for approximately 16 years, yet we have a severe shortage of housing in our community.

I have asked whether consideration can be given to convert these vacant staff housing units to public housing units. As members of the public, we are in dire need of housing. Is the Nunavut Housing Corporation considering this option as a part of its review? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. That is a good question. Mr. Speaker, in regard to his question on whether we have considered to fill the vacant units, not just our department, if we can convert these empty units, we have an agreement because some of our staff units are owned privately and some of the staff units are owned by the Government of Nunavut and some staff units are leased from the private sector. That's how we provide housing to our employees.

If I understood the question the member is asking correctly, if we can convert these empty staff housing units into public housing, I have not personally been asked about this question. I cannot provide a response to the member's question because we haven't discussed the matter of converting the staff housing to public units within the community. We have not dealt with that. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 486 – 4(2): Impact of Federal Budget on Marine Infrastructure in Nunavut

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister of Finance.

As the minister is very much aware, Nunavut continues to face a significant infrastructure deficit in such areas as marine infrastructure. During our recent winter sitting, I was pleased to hear the minister describe the efforts that he has been making to explain Nunavut's situation to his federal counterpart and to advocate for strategic federal investments.

Can the minister confirm how much new funding was included in last month's federal budget for infrastructure in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker. **Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Ms. Angnakak for the question. Mr. Speaker, as Ms. Angnakak is aware, I did submit three proposals for the Minister of Finance for Canada to consider \$300 million for housing for Nunavut, \$200 million for energy upgrades, and a proposal to increase our debt cap to \$750 million. Unfortunately, we were only successful in getting the increase of up to \$650 million to our debt cap. Still, the details need to be worked out. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That leads into my next question. As you mentioned, the debt cap was raised to \$650 million. Later today at the appropriate time, I will be tabling the excerpt from a presentation that was made at the recent Nunavut Mining Symposium that points out that improvements to marine infrastructure in Nunavut will have significant benefits for other Nunavut communities.

Can the minister indicate if the Financial Management Board is prepared to use some of this increased borrowing room to invest in urgently needed strategic marine infrastructure for Iqaluit that will also benefit other Nunavut communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson. **Hon. Keith Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think Ms. Angnakak is lobbying for a port for Iqaluit.

>>Laughter

Mr. Speaker, as I said many times before in this House, we have tremendous infrastructure demand on us in the hundreds and possibly into billions of dollars across Nunavut, so we're open to all suggestions. I work with my colleagues at the cabinet. We receive proposals. They do all their analyses. If a proposal comes forward, of course, through our finance department, we will analyze it to see if it fits within our debt cap and our capital planning process and we would take it through the House like we always do and it gets approved here. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Once again that leads into my next question.

In June of 2009, the Minister of Finance introduced a supplementary appropriation bill that included \$925,000 in funding for the planning and design of a new Iqaluit Regional Marine Facility to, and I quote, "meet the needs of marine resupply as well as local boat owners and operators." However, no new funding has been allocated to this project since that time, Mr. Speaker.

The Minister of Finance's department is responsible for administering the government's Public-Private Partnership Policy. Given the success of the P3 approach to constructing our much needed new airport, is the government open to using a P3 approach for constructing a new strategic marine facility in Iqaluit, yes or no? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: I feel like I'm in a university class where they're writing exams, yes or no. It's not that easy, Mr. Speaker. Ms. Angnakak knows that. If a proposal comes forward through the planning process, we will consider it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 487 – 4(2): Support for Nunavut Sivuniksavut

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Mr. Speaker, as I indicated in my Member's Statement, the Nunavut Sivuniksavut, or NS, program has had a significant impact on Nunavummiut since its establishment 30 years ago. I want to thank our Premier, who went down to their AGM celebrations to speak on our behalf.

I note that the Government of Nunavut last provided support for the NS program through a Department of Education contribution of \$75,000 in the 2013-14 fiscal year. I would like to ask the minister: can he tell us how the Government of Nunavut has supported the NS program since the 2013-14 fiscal year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that excellent question. Mr. Speaker, I attended one of their events on April 27 and their 30th anniversary of the program. I've got to say that the member is quite right. There's an alumni that was there driving nice cars, so I'm assuming it's a very good program and it has been there for 30 years.

We know for a fact that these programs that they deliver at Nunavut Sivuniksavut are recognized through the Algonquin College and of course, they're specific to Inuit. The programs are specific to Inuit beneficiaries. Since 1985, these programs have been delivered through mechanisms there. There are a lot of funders that are out there, of course, the Inuit organizations, including Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and the regional Inuit associations, but these programs have proven successful and the students learn about the land claims agreement and of course, Inuit History 1, Inuit History 2, Contemporary Inuit Issues, Inuit-Government Relations, English, Computers and Career Orientation.

Mr. Speaker, I can't give an exact amount that we have contributed as a government to the programs going back, but certainly, we have contributed in 2014-15 through FANS to assist the students amounting to \$725,000. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. **Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Your first supplementary, Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I again take note of the survey that the NS program conducted which showed that out of 181 alumni, roughly one-third of respondents indicated they are currently working for the Government of Nunavut. Has the minister considered developing a formal partnership with the NS program to train Nunavummiut for jobs within the public sector and boost the government's Inuit employment levels? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I thank the member for that excellent question. Mr. Speaker, as a government, we're obligated under Article 23 of the land claims agreement to have a representative Inuit employment within our government. For the most part, it's at 50 percent. We aim to increase that.

In forming partnerships, we will certainly look at that. As members are well aware, early in the month, there was a signing ceremony that took place between Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, the Government of Canada, and the Government of Nunavut. As you know, the litigation clause has ended there with an agreement for the Government of Canada to give Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated \$255 million specifically for Inuit training. I will certainly be looking forward to NTI's plan on how they're going to deliver and disburse the funds to increase Inuit employment, not just within the Government of Nunavut; it's also in the federal government and of course, into NTI. Certainly, we will be taking a good, hard look at that to ensure that we best find ways to increase Inuit employment within the Government of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for his response. Will the minister commit to discussing the possibility of providing core funding to Nunavut Sivuniksavut with his partners at NTI and give serious consideration to making such funding part of the training and education components of the *Aajiiqatigiinniq* partnership agreements? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Mr. Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Of course, we do have an MOU, an agreement with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, where we plan on collaborating with Nunavut issues and that's one of them.

Mr. Speaker, I understand that our core funding contributions on an annual basis to Nunavut Sivuniksavut is \$75,000. Throughout the process and collaboration with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, we will certainly take another look at that to see how best we can increase the number of Inuit employees not just within the Nunavut government but throughout the territory. Of course, under Article 23, it is an obligation of the Nunavut government to increase the number of Inuit within the employ of the Government of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 488 – 4(2): Construction of New Staff Housing Units

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my questions to the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

As the member from Tununiq, Mr. Enook, stated earlier today, the Legislative Assembly approved \$20.0 million in supplementary appropriations for the construction of new staff housing units across the territory. One of the communities that have been considered for new staff housing units is Sanikiluaq, along with several other communities.

At the time, the minister indicated that the allocation list was not final and earlier today, we were informed that the list is still not finalized. When will the minister be in a position to confirm which communities will be receiving new staff housing units from the \$20 million in new funding that was approved earlier this year by the Legislative Assembly? 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 also thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, as I indicated earlier, this is under the 2016 budget. We have to look at the lots and what is available in what community when it comes to building the staff housing units. At this time, it's still under consideration and I can't respond to your question because it's not finalized. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Information provided to Members of the Legislative Assembly by the Nunavut Housing Corporation also indicated that "any new construction is subject to availability of developed land and community infrastructure capacity." Can the minister describe what specific actions the Nunavut Housing Corporation is taking in cooperation with the Department of Community and Governments and the Qulliq Energy Corporation to address this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated earlier, we are still looking at the information. The Nunavut Housing Corporation cannot proceed with this initiative alone. We have to work with the municipalities and the Department of Community and Government Services, as well as other entities. We have to look at the Qulliq Energy Corporation and CG&S.

I can't give the information today because we haven't finalized the gathering of information in the communities. We have to look at all those issues along with Community and Government Services. We have to look at the lands that are available, including the Hamlet of Sanikiluaq. I do apologize that I can't give you that information at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Information provided to Members of the Legislative Assembly by the Nunavut Housing Corporation also indicates that the corporation has been "looking at developing a Request for Proposals for private sector construction of new units for lease." Can the minister update the House on the status of this initiative? 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 would like to state that before our session is over, I will be reporting to you about the question that you're asking. I will provide this information in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 489 – 4(2): Midwifery Training in Nunavut

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my next question also to the Minister of Health, keeping with the midwifery topic.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavut's *Midwifery Profession Act* permits qualified and registered midwives to provide maternal services to pregnant mothers in Nunavut. As with many health professions, having more Nunavummiut trained and qualified in midwifery can only benefit our health care delivery system as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister clarify how his department is working with Nunavut Arctic College to recruit and train Nunavummiut to become midwives, and what steps are taken to ensure they're employed as midwives after graduation? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the past, midwifery was being taught here, but it hasn't gone ahead to date. We are doing a review on this issue right now. It's an ongoing review that we are doing. We still have to speak with Arctic College regarding this issue so that there could be midwifery training at the college. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm just wondering maybe if the minister could just clarify that there is no midwifery programs currently being offered at Nunavut Arctic College. Was that his response? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Yes. Thank you. That is correct. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Hickes: Thank you for that clarification, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the minister. Mr. Speaker, almost exactly one year ago, two midwives graduated from the program in Cambridge Bay. As Nunavut has one of the highest birth rates across Canada, it is important to recruit and employ more midwives into our health care system. Can the minister maybe provide some further clarification on how his department is working towards encouraging, recruiting, and training candidates for Nunavut's Midwifery Program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have done a review on if we're going to be training more midwives here. We are still reviewing this and we are working closely with Arctic College concerning midwifery in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. **Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Enook.

Question 490 – 4(2): Vacant Staff Housing Units

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have another question for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, on numerous occasions, I have asked if there could be a review of government staff housing units in the communities that have remained empty. Mr. Speaker, all of us here in Nunavut know that we have a severe shortage of housing, especially for public housing. We know that there are many government staff housing units that have not been in use, especially in Pond Inlet.

Mr. Speaker, I have asked this question to the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation before and part of his response was that he wasn't told about this. Mr. Speaker, the reason I am seeking an answer to this is that the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation is responsible for housing within Nunavut. I feel that he doesn't have to be told about this because he is the minister for this.

We have been talking about housing in Nunavut for a long period of time. Can you see what we can do about those government houses that are not occupied? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Mr. Kuksuk. **Hon. George Kuksuk** (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I will ask my staff to look into this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So that we can all have a better understanding, are you going to be asking your staff to look into this or are you going to direct them to do so? Are you just going to be asking them? 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 do understand your question and I will be coming back to you on this issue in this House. Thank you.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As ministers, you are responsible and you shouldn't just wait for your staff to do things for you.

Mr. Speaker, I wrote a letter to the minister on April 11 and to date, I haven't received an answer. Are you going to be responding to my letter before the summer is over? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

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Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Before we adjourn at this month, I will be coming back to you on this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 491 – 4(2): Status of Nursing in Nunavut

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

Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, it was National Nursing Week to recognize the hard work that our nurses do all across Nunavut and across the nation.

Mr. Speaker, being a nurse in one of Nunavut's rural and remote communities is a challenging job, made all the more difficult by the ongoing turnover of staff, shortages of staff, and staff who arrive with a lack of understanding of the unique characteristics of Nunavut's population.

Can the minister provide an update on the current numbers of full-time indeterminate, agency, and casual nurses currently working in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are [272] nurses in all of Nunavut. To date, there are 178 full-time nurses, there are 96 open positions right now, there are 56 part-time nurses, and there are 19 contract agency nurses. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for providing us with that information. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that the shortage of nurses and other health professionals is a problem all across Canada. Can the minister describe what specific strategies his department has in place to recruit nurses to come and work in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague. We are looking into this. Even in the States, it's also like this, as is the case in Canada. We are trying to find other ways of dealing with this. Through Arctic College, we are training nurses within Nunavut and we are trying to recruit more Inuit to take the courses offered through Arctic College. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for his response. It leads right into my next question.

Mr. Speaker, the Nursing Program at Nunavut Arctic College has been ongoing for several years now. It has successfully produced qualified nurses who are from Nunavut and who are now able to work here.

Can the minister provide an update of how many beneficiaries have taken the opportunity to earn their nursing degree and are now working as nurses in Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I do have a copy here. To date, there are 22 students in the Nursing Program and of those, there are 9 beneficiaries. There are five students on their last year who are trying to complete the program and there is one Inuk as well. To date, as far as I know, we have approximately 14 Inuit nursing graduates. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. I have no more names on my list. We will move on. Item 7. Written Questions. (interpretation ends) Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Mr. Clerk.

Item 11: Responses to Petitions

Response to Petition 002 – 4(2): Petition to Request a 24-hour Elders Facility in Rankin Inlet

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am tabling the response to Petition 2 - 4(2) that was filed during the 2015 winter session of the Fourth Assembly. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. I have one.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 142 – 4(2): Actuarial Valuation Report as at April 1, 2014 under the Legislative Assembly Retiring Allowances Act

Tabled Document 143 – 4(2): Actuarial Valuation Report as at April 1, 2014 under the Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act

Thank you, Members. As required by the *Legislative Assembly Retiring Allowances Act* and the *Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act*, I wish to table today the [actuarial] valuation reports as at April 1, 2014. Thank you.

Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Ms. Angnakak.

Tabled Document 144 – 4(2): Excerpt from Nunavut Eastern Arctic Shipping Presentation on Marine Infrastructure

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table today an excerpt from a presentation concerning marine infrastructure that was delivered at this year's Nunavut Mining Symposium by the Nunavut Eastern Arctic Shipping Group. Mr. Speaker, this important presentation clearly outlined the benefits that will be experienced by a number of Nunavut communities through the successful achievement of urgently needed improvements to strategic marine infrastructure in our territory's capital city. I encourage all members to review this document with care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister Mr. Okalik.

Tabled Document 145 – 4(2): Public Engagement Report for the Crime Prevention Strategy

Hon. Paul Okalik: *Merci Monsieur le President*. I am pleased to table the Public Engagement Report for the Crime Prevention Strategy. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Tabled Document 146 – 4(2): Resolutions Passed at the 2014 Annual General Meeting of the Nunavut Association of Municipalities

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table today a collection of resolutions that were passed at the most recent annual general meeting of the Nunavut Association of Municipalities. Mr. Speaker, a number of these resolutions address issues that I have been raising in the House, including solid waste management and water licensing. I encourage all members to review these resolutions with care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. (interpretation ends) Hon. Minister Mr. Peterson.

Tabled Document 147 – 4(2): Qulliq Energy Corporation's Response to the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts' Report on the Review of the 2012-13 Annual Report and 2014-18 Corporate Plan for the Qulliq Energy Corporation

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to table the Qulliq Energy Corporation's Response to the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts' Report on the Review of the 2012-13 Annual Report and 2014-18 Corporate Plan for the Qulliq Energy Corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. (interpretation) The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Ms. Ugyuk.

Tabled Document 148 – 4(2): Response to the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts' Report on the Review of the Office of the Auditor General to the Legislative Assembly on the 2014 Follow-up Report on Child and Family Services in Nunavut

Hon. Jeannie Ugyuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the Response to the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts' Report on the Review of the Office of the Auditor General to the Legislative Assembly on the 2014 Follow-up Report on Child and Family Services in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. I have no more names on my list. We will move on. (interpretation ends) Item 14. Notices of Motions. Mr. Hickes.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Motion 022 – 4(2): Standing Committee Appointments – Notice

Mr. Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, May 28, 2015, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Aivilik, that the Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet be appointed to the Standing Committee on Legislation, the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts, and the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development.

Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will seek unanimous consent to deal with my motion today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

Item 15: Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills

Bill 22 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2015-2016 – Notice

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Thursday, May [28], 2015, that Bill 22, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2015-2016*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk, Mr. Hickes.

Item 16: Motions

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The member is seeking unanimous consent to deal with his motion today. Are there any nays? There are none. Please proceed, Mr. Hickes.

Motion 022 – 4(2): Standing Committee Appointments

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

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

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly is prepared to make appointments; NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Aivilik, that the Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet be appointed to the Standing Committee on Legislation, the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts, and the Standing Committee on Community and Economic Development.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried.

Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

Item 17: First Reading of Bills

Hon. Keith Peterson: Mr. Speaker, I request consent of this Assembly to waive the two-day notice requirement to allow for the first reading of Bill 22, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2015-2016.* Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The minister is seeking consent to waive the two-day waiting period so that Bill 22 can be read for the first time today. Are there any nays? There are none. Please proceed, Mr. Peterson.

Bill 22 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2015-2016 – First Reading **Hon. Keith Peterson**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Pangnirtung, that Bill 22, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2015-2016*, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 22 has received first reading.

Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Peterson.

Item 18: Second Reading of Bills

Bill 22 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2015-2016 – Second Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Pangnirtung, that Bill 22, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2015-2016*, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes supplementary appropriations to defray the capital expenditures of the Government of Nunavut for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill. All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 22 has received second reading and is referred to the Committee of the Whole. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Mr. Rumbolt.

Motion 023 – 4(2): Adjournment for the Day

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to Rule 46, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Aggu, that the House adjourn for the day. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion to adjourn is in order and is not subject to debate. All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried and I will proceed to Item 22 on the order paper.

Orders of the Day. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for May 27:

- 1. Prayer
- 2. Ministers' Statements
- 3. Members' Statements
- 4. Returns to Oral Questions
- 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

- 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
 - Motion 21 4(2)
- 17. First Reading of Bills
- 18. Second Reading of Bills
- 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
 - Bill 22
- 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 Wednesday, May 27, at 1:30 p.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>House adjourned at 15:25