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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

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(Amittuq)

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(Gjoa Haven)
Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

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

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

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(Iqaluit-Niaqunnguut)

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(Aivilik)

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(Hudson Bay)

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk
(Iqaluit-Manirajak)
Deputy Premier; Minister of Economic Development and Transportation; Minister responsible for the Status of Women; Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council

Hon. Johnny Mike
(Pangnirtung)
Minister of Family Services; Minister responsible for Homelessness; Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation

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David Joanasic
(South Baffin)

Hon. Peter Taptuna
(Kugluktuk)
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Iqaluit, Nunavut
Thursday, November 3, 2016

Members Present:

Mr. Tony Akoak, Ms. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk, Mr. Joe Enook, Hon. George Hickes, Mr. David Joanasié, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak, Hon. George Kuksuk, Mr. Steve Mapsalak, Hon. Johnny Mike, Mr. Simeon Mikkungwak, Mr. Paul Okalik, Hon. Keith Peterson, Mr. Emiliano Qirngnuq, Hon. Paul Quassa, Hon. George Qulaut, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Mr. Alexander Sammurtok, Mr. Tom Sammurtok, Hon. Joe Savikataaq, Mr. Isaac Shooyook, Hon. Peter Taptuna.

>>*House commenced at 13:30*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>>*Prayer*

Speaker (interpretation): Good afternoon, my fellow Nunavummiut. Members, ministers, (interpretation ends) Premier, (interpretation) as well as visitors and staff, welcome to the House.

Prior to commencing our sitting, I want to announce that today my wife and I celebrate our wedding anniversary. We have been married for 37 years. To my wife, I love you and thank you for reaching this day with me. Thank you.

>>*Applause*

(interpretation ends) Item 2.
(interpretation) Ministers' Statements.
(interpretation ends) Hon. Minister of Economic Development and

Transportation, Ms. Monica Ell-Kanayuk.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

Minister's Statement 209 – 4(3):
Community Tourism and Cultural Industries Program

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The department is committed to increasing support for tourism, culture, and the arts.

The Community Tourism and Cultural Industries Program provides funding to artists, arts organizations, communities, Nunavut businesses, licensed tourism operators, and hamlets that need financial assistance with projects that will benefit their region.

(interpretation ends) This program supports projects that have an objective of promoting community tourism initiatives as well as cultural industry projects.

Last fiscal year over a dozen projects benefited from this program. These projects include the Qaggiavut Performing Arts Summit, the creation of the Arctic Bay Adventures Inc., the Anchoring Tourism in Qikiqtarjuaq project, and support for a community tourism project in Gjoa Haven led by the Natilik Heritage Society.

We encourage artists, tourism operators, communities, and organizations to use the funding in this program to grow the sector and attract more tourists to our communities and to realize more benefits for the tourists who are already

visiting us. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ministers' Statements. The Hon. Minister of the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Mr. Johnny Mike.

Minister's Statement 210 – 4(3): Net Metering Program for Residential Customers

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Nunavummiut and my fellow residents of Pangnirtung, as well as my relatives.

In September during the Arctic Energy Summit in Iqaluit, I announced the Qulliq Energy Corporation's plan to launch a net metering program for residential customers across Nunavut in the spring of 2017.

(interpretation ends) The program will enable residential customers to generate their own electricity supply with renewable energy systems producing up to 10 kilowatts of power. Customers will receive credit for any excess power that they produce and feed back into the electricity grid.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, the Net Metering Program is an important enabler to promote the use of renewable energy technologies in our territory, and it is a significant step towards the fulfillment of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's vision to supply Nunavummiut with a clean and sustainable source of energy.

(interpretation ends) As Minister responsible for QEC, our commitment is to provide the territory with an electricity supply that is reliable and affordable. However, we recognize the importance of exploring all opportunities to reduce our reliance on diesel fuel and reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, renewable energy offers a path towards energy independence for our territory, and the Qulliq Energy Corporation's milestone initiative is the start of a clean and sustainable energy future for Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

Minister's Statement 211 – 4(3): Nunavut Teacher Education Program – Independent Review

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Nunavut Arctic College, the Department of Education, and indeed our present government are continually exploring options to enhance learning opportunities for our fellow Nunavummiut. I rise in the House today to share important information with my colleagues and the public regarding the Nunavut Teacher Education Program.

The Nunavut Teacher Education Program, as it is today, is the result of lessons learned and program elements have been modified over the years to address our unique and evolving needs in Nunavut. Because of programs such as the Nunavut Teacher Education

Program, we now have a number of Inuit and other Nunavummiut working as the frontline educators for our children and youth. To date there have been over 500 graduates of the Nunavut Teacher Education Program. This is encouraging. However, we will not stop here as there are opportunities through program enhancement to continue making positive steps towards meeting our shared goals and objectives related to education.

Mr. Speaker, I want my colleagues and fellow Nunavummiut to be aware that Nunavut Arctic College and the Department of Education are working together and with other partners to conduct a comprehensive program review of the Nunavut Teacher Education Program. (interpretation ends) This process will involve an independent third party conducting the review and will identify opportunities to further enhance the program and provide additional support for producing graduates that are qualified to teach Inuktitut in a bilingual education system.

This program review will also look at building on our recruitment and retention of students and ensure the program is more closely aligned with Education's practices ranging from inclusive education to literacy instruction and assessment practices, as well as professional standards and expectations. This review will also look at alternate delivery models, such as blended and distance learning, as well as many other elements which we can build on to guide the ongoing evolution of this vital education program. I will be happy to share the results of the program review once it has been completed.

To conclude my statement, Mr. Speaker, I wish to encourage Nunavummiut to seriously consider applying to this great program which is offered across the territory. We need more Nunavummiut to step up and join the growing number of home-grown teachers in this challenging, exciting, and highly rewarding profession. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 212 – 4(3):
Hivuliqtikhanut – Emerging
Managers' Series**

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

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the Public Service Training Division of the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs is starting the third series in the Hivuliqtikhanut Program.

The Hivuliqtikhanut Program consists of three streams: senior manager, supervisor, and emerging manager. So far, the supervisors' series has been fully delivered and participants graduated earlier this year. The senior managers' series is currently being delivered in Iqaluit. The emerging managers' series is the third series of the program and it consists of seven three-day modules. This series is being held in Rankin Inlet

and one module will be delivered in a decentralized community which has yet to be determined.

The first module runs from November 15 to 17 of this year. Participants are from 10 Government of Nunavut departments and nine Nunavut communities. 79 percent of the participants are beneficiaries and 79 percent are female.

Mr. Speaker, the eligibility criteria for participants in the emerging managers' series include program or project managers with less than two years of experience. Participants are motivated employees with the potential to become managers or supervisors within two years. Participants may have team leadership responsibilities but do not yet supervise others.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to reporting on the completion of the series and I'm very proud of all the participants and their hard work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. I have no more names on my list. Moving on. Item 3. Members' Statements. Member for Gjoa Haven, Tony Akoak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 386 – 4(3): Gjoa Haven's Literacy Action Plan

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, members, ministers, Premier, Nunavummiut, (interpretation) and people of Gjoa Haven.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address one of the most important aspects of our government's mandate: the promotion of education.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud of the Gjoa Haven High School Literacy Team. The members of this team have a passion to see Gjoa Haven students become the best citizens possible through a comprehensive literacy program that encourages them to be the best readers and writers that they can be.

Mr. Speaker, the goal of Gjoa Haven's Qiqirtaq High School Literacy Action Plan is to create a functioning library in each classroom that contains 1,000 books of high interest while at the same time serving the reading levels of the students. Through improved literacy, it is hoped that students will thrive and be successful in education, in business, and in the community.

Mr. Speaker, unfortunately the current literacy budget does not provide sufficient funds for this project. However, the team is working hard to get support for this investment. It is not just an investment in books, but in transforming the lives of students, families, and the greater community.

I will quote from Nunavut Arctic Colleges' Minister's Statement, "...producing graduates that are qualified to teach Inuktitut in a bilingual education system."

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 Joanasié.

**Member's Statement 387 – 4(3):
Qajaq Building Program**

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, my colleagues and all Nunavummiut listening to the proceedings.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak to this momentous occasion which I feel is very newsworthy and will take place in Iqaluit.

There is a project called Qajaqtuaq, which will consist of a five-week pilot project teaching a cultural revitalization program. It will be specific to Inuit from ages 19 to 100 years, consisting of interested Inuit from Cape Dorset, Iqaluit, and Kimmirut residents who can apply for this program. Furthermore, it will have three phases where they will learn how to build a traditional qajaq.

The first classes will begin in a short while, as the announcement stated a start date of November 21 and ending on December 2. This will be a two-week course with the introduction of the basics of building a qajaq, including the frame and the traditional technique of stitching it together. They will start in the classroom.

Eventually for the second phase, they will then start covering their frames with canvas, sealskin, or fake leather, with this phase scheduled to take place in March of next year. The second phase will involve learning how to make the covering for the qajaq. This course is going to be about a week and a half.

The third phase will involve the students taking their qajaq out to familiarize themselves with it and to learn different methods starting in July. This phase is expected to last two weeks in the summer.

The project instructors will be Emilayou Arnaquq and Moosa Akavak. I want to extend my thanks to them for taking the time to teach others, as well as the coordinator, Maxine Carroll, for reintroducing this traditional skills training course.

I also thank the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, Nunavut Arctic College, Piqqusilirivvik, the Nunavut Research Institute, the Department of Culture and Heritage, the Inuit Heritage Trust, as well as the body called NRS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 388 – 4(3):
Investigating Sounds from Fury
and Hecla Strait**

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to take this opportunity to provide an update to my colleagues regarding my Member's Statement on the pinging that was being heard in the waters close to Igloolik at a place called Aukkarnirjuaq (Fury and Hecla Strait) as well as near the island of Salliit.

Mr. Speaker, as you may be aware, fellow resident hunters in Igloolik, as well as our Speaker and other vessels

that have sailed in that marine area all reported the lack of seals and other marine mammals in Fury and Hecla Strait. Our hunters spend quite a lot of time in that vicinity hunting marine mammals in both summer and winter seasons. The sound that was heard was thought to be coming from the seafloor.

Mr. Speaker, we requested information first from our regulators here in Nunavut, such as the (interpretation ends) Nunavut Research Institute, (interpretation) that stated that no approvals were given for projects involving any sound-emitting technology as they must first approve projects beforehand.

After I made my statement, we sent a request through our Premier's Office to the Department of National Defence and the closest base is in Hall Beach with personnel administering the early warning system in Hall Beach. Although it is situated close to this area, when the request was sent to DND, they investigated the concern and they followed their protocol when investigating such security matters.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the Canadian Armed Forces dispatched a CP-140 Aurora aircraft under the mandate of Operation LIMPID to investigate the sounds. Various multi-sensor searches as well as acoustic search were employed by the crew and no contact surface or subsurface was made.

Mr. Speaker, if I can extend my statement, if the members agree. (interpretation) Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Mr. Quassa, please proceed.

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

(interpretation ends) Operation LIMPID is the routine domestic surveillance of the Canadian air, marine, land, space and cyber domains as well as presence in Canada's aerial, maritime and land approaches.

(interpretation) We want to thank the Department of National Defence for doing an investigation on this immediately after we informed them. I know they will keep investigating this. They will be kept informed by the hunters as well and they will inform the hunters as to what they find. I encourage hunters to keep telling the Department of National Defence what they hear.

After the Department of National Defence investigated, the noise apparently stopped. Perhaps they saw whales and belugas while they were investigating.

Mr. Speaker, sometimes there are mysterious things happening and there are people out there that report when they see or hear mysterious things. We thank the people of Igloolik for informing us when they noticed this happening. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Services, Mr. Johnny Mike.

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

**Return to Oral Question 467 – 4(3):
Assessing Services at Long-term
Care Facilities**

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question was asked by MLA Angnakak to me and the question was regarding the assessment of services at long-term care facilities for elders or youth.

(interpretation ends) **Question:**

“There are a number of facilities across Nunavut which provide care services for elders, adults, children, and other vulnerable individuals with long-term care needs. Can the minister provide an update on how often the level of care and services at these facilities is monitored and assessed and indicate whether he would be prepared to make these assessment reports available to members?”

(interpretation) **Response:**

The Department of Family Services currently has responsibility for the long-term residential care needs of children and adults, including the funding of three elders’ homes and a facility for children with significant disabilities.

(interpretation ends) The Department of Family Services completes a comprehensive review of all long-term care facilities under the department’s mandate on an annual basis. The most recent facility reviews took place on the following dates:

- Iqaluit Elders Facility, September 15, 2016
- Baker Lake Elders Facility, August 31 to September 1, 2016
- Arviat Elders Facility, August 27 to 30, 2016
- Naja Isabella Home, October 29 to 30, 2015. The next facility review is scheduled for the week of November 14, 2016.

(interpretation) The levels of care for the three elders facilities are reviewed quarterly and the most recent assessments for the clients of those three facilities occurred concurrently with the facility reviews mentioned above.

Assessments for the levels of care for clients at the Naja Isabella Home are completed regularly and the clients are seen by staff at the local health centre. Clients of the Naja Isabella Home have annual checkups in Winnipeg or as required by the specialist/medical personnel in Winnipeg.

(interpretation ends) The current facility reviews are being finalized and will be reviewed by the Department of Family Services. Once a review is complete, the department can provide an overview on the content of the reports that respects the confidentiality of the clients residing in the facilities. The levels of care assessments cannot be shared because they contain personal and confidential medical information regarding the clients. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Please note that

members will be provided with the Inuktitut version once the table receives it from the minister.

An Hon. Member (interpretation): As usual.

Speaker (interpretation): Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Mr. Paul Okalik.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 530 – 4(3): Hivuliqtikhanut – Senior Management Program

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Premier regarding his statement earlier.

This program does have an Inuktitut name that he referenced. It is called Hivuliqtikhanut (management training program), which he stated is a beneficial program training upper management skills for government employees.

We all know that the numbers of Inuit employees is much lower in our government than was planned as a goal. Further, I anticipate a response that this program is for all residents of Nunavut as the government representing the public.

Nonetheless, the Charter of Rights speaks to any group of people who have faced discrimination or haven't been included in past initiatives by other groups and that groups facing barriers can receive additional support from the government.

Why is our own government not using this legislation to increase the training

numbers of Inuit employed within our public service? It seems again that Inuit are being placed on the second tier, although they face systemic barriers within education, especially if we state we are representing Inuit in Nunavut. Why are we still trying out this process? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the member's question. Mr. Speaker, there have been many programs that are available for beneficiaries and we created more, and one of them is in my Minister's Statement. We want to ensure that we are able to have beneficiaries move up and get positions that are senior, senior managers, managers, and supervisors. There are many other programs that we have made throughout this government.

Yes, it's very difficult to get the 85 percent representative of our beneficiary employment within the government. It has been stalled practically at 50 percent or 51 percent. Mr. Speaker, at times it's very difficult to increase these numbers when the number of positions in the government increases year by year unlike in the past where there were only a few positions that were available.

Mr. Speaker, we continue to try to increase those beneficiary numbers. Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated is a partner in this to try to train Inuit beneficiaries to get employment not just in the Nunavut government but with other governments, including the Government of Canada. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If we are to follow our own documented goals and to be taken at face value for our commitment, then it should be specific to Inuit beneficiaries, especially if our stated goals are to increase the numbers of Inuit in senior management positions.

We should specify this is geared towards Inuit beneficiaries and try our utmost to increase the numbers of our fellow Inuit in these upper management positions. Our Inuit haven't caught up to the representative level in many areas.

This should be for Inuit, especially with that Inuktitut name for the program. Will this program be specific to Inuit in the future? We seem to be abusing our representation of Inuit, even with this erroneous name for the program, as the numbers of beneficiaries are lower than our target. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The Hon. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Peter Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are many attempts that have been tried in the past and we continue to do that. We provide programming where we enable beneficiaries to come into these positions.

Mr. Speaker, one of the things that we tackle on a daily basis is to try to increase our graduation rates. That is one of things we face every day. Our labour pool in Nunavut is very small. Once you take a 15-year-old out of that pool, it

becomes a very small pool of employable people. That doesn't mean the Government of Nunavut is going to stop and blame it on something else.

With our partners, the federal government and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, we have "strategized" to come up with more Inuit employment within the Government of Nunavut, within the Government of Canada, and overall employment in Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, we will continue to do that. We will continue to look for opportunities to create beneficiary employment.

First of all, with the help of the Minister of Education, we're trying to increase our graduation rates. Without that it is very difficult for some of these positions. Mr. Speaker, as you know, most of the employees are outside of Iqaluit and we want to pay attention to the smaller communities and we want to increase the level of employment in these smaller communities also.

Mr. Speaker, with the MLAs' support and with the support of the NTI, we do have opportunities here now for Article 23, where in the past we had only \$10,000 to train Inuit. As I mentioned the other day, now we have \$40 million compared to \$10,000 a year. We do have \$40 million where we can actually make long-term plans to gain more beneficiary employment within our government through training. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That answer didn't include a response to my question.

Within the Minister's Statement, it speaks to a 79 percent figure in this program. If we are going to fully represent all of Nunavut, then that number should be at 85 percent or even higher than that number. Our Inuit employees at the senior management levels are far below our stated goals. In my estimation, the focus should be on Inuit specifically in this program.

If our stated goal is to provide more training for Inuit to allow placement in upper management levels of our government, especially since the program has an Inuktitut name, it would seem specific to Inuit, but again, the reality is that Inuit comprise a much smaller portion of the program in light of our representation of Inuit in the territory.

When will the changes be implemented to improve this program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the member's question. Mr. Speaker, as a public government we try to assist all of our employees, beneficiaries and other employees that are within our workforce.

Mr. Speaker, we do have 79 percent beneficiary rates at the Hivuliqtikhanut program here in this one particular program for the manager, supervisor, and emerging supervisor series. That is just one program. There are many other programs. This enables our beneficiaries to move up in positions and these vacated positions can be put to use for

upcoming beneficiaries. That's about the only way we can increase our beneficiary numbers.

We can't just pluck people out from the street and make them employees of the government. There's got to be a process. This is one of the processes we try to adhere to and this is supported by the organization of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. We do have Inuit employment plans within our department. There is a strategy. There is a public service strategy. There are a number of different things that we try to do.

Mr. Speaker, the amount of money spent on a small group of people is enormous. With the partnership of NTI, we do spend a lot of money on training Inuit to fill these positions. Mr. Speaker, it doesn't mean we're going to stop doing that. We want to continue finding ways to increase our levels of beneficiary employment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 531 – 4(3): Enforcement of Anti-smoking Legislation

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) Good afternoon. (interpretation ends) My questions are for the Minister of Health.

Yesterday I tabled a document that contained the names of over 400 people who have signed an online petition calling for a ban on smoking in multi-unit dwellings in Nunavut due to health concerns about the effects of second-hand smoke.

Earlier this week the minister revealed that no fines or other penalties have ever been levied for contraventions of the *Tobacco Control Act* with respect to smoking in prescribed areas.

Mr. Speaker, this is a perfect illustration of how issues like this can get complicated. On the one hand, people want to ban an activity that can cause significant harm to others, but on the other hand, calling something a “ban” is meaningless without real consequences for violators.

However, on the other hand, it’s probably not realistic to expect the government to potentially threaten to evict significant numbers of people from their public or staff housing units and make them homeless if they simply ignore a ban on smoking in their homes.

Can the minister first clarify what kinds of information his department has produced and distributed with respect to the dangers of second-hand smoke in multi-unit dwellings? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for her raising this issue so quickly after the petition that she tabled yesterday, which I was going through while I was waiting for question period to start. I noted a number of names and I was unaware of this petition going around.

There are a number of different ways we can address this and the Department of Health, through our smoking cessation

team, is currently doing any number of initiatives, talking about the dangers of smoking in general and specifically making special mention of smoking in dwellings, smoking in vehicles, or smoking while your baby is in your amauti. Like the member just stated, it’s an educational campaign.

Right now, without any dramatic changes to legislation, it is difficult for a government or an entity like workers’ safety to enforce these smoking boundaries. I think the biggest thing that people need to realize is that there’s self discipline, if you see somebody smoking within those boundaries, to say something.

When we’re talking specific to multi-dwelling units of not smoking, I’m not aware of any specific campaigns that we’re doing. It is more of a general of the dangers of smoking in any dwelling, not specific to multi-dwelling, but it is something that, upon reading this petition, I made a note of for myself to follow up with the department to see if there’s a way where we can include that type of viewpoint. When we’re talking about multi-dwelling units, there are shared air exchange systems in some of them and it does create hardships for people that live in there.

I acknowledge the member’s work. It’s something, again, I just brought it today, so I need to digest it a little bit and I’ll take it to my officials at the Department of Health and see how we can progress further education campaigns specific to what she’s looking for. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for your willingness to look at this. I think it's a very important issue that we all need to be more aware of. The consequences are actually deadly.

Mr. Speaker, government decisions should be based on solid facts and evidence. Will the minister commit to working with the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation to undertake a survey of smoking rates in public and staff housing so that we can get a complete picture of this issue? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Hickey: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I've got a lot of information in front of me and more upstairs in my office. I do know there's a lot of work that our teams are doing on recognizing smoking rates across the territory, even at the community level, if I recall some of the information correctly.

With regard to the level of detail that she's looking at, I can speak to my officials, who I'm sure will touch base with Minister Kuksuk's officials at the Nunavut Housing Corporation to see how something like this could be arranged and identify the value of it going forward to make sure, from an educational standpoint, that the information that we gather is relevant and enable us to be able to perform type of an action. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister. This is a good day for me with you. I appreciate your willingness to really look at this issue and that way I can work with other people. I think that needs to be part of the picture of the work that needs to be done.

Mr. Speaker, both the minister and I are well aware that Nunavut's highest concentration of multi-unit dwellings is here in Iqaluit. Is the minister considering the feasibility of community-specific regulation in the area of tobacco control? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Hickey: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are countless issues that I deal with on a daily basis with the Department of Health. As this has just been recently raised to my attention, I can't say that I've had an opportunity to really even analyze the logistics or the legality of such a ban. I'll take it under advisement and it's something that, as a part of my communications with my officials at Health, to see exactly what we can do, what we're able to do, and to make sure that we find out all the information that we need to gather to be able to even look at something like this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 532 – 4(3): Staffing within Nunavut's Corrections Division

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon. Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Minister of Justice.

As the minister is aware, community corrections officers or probation officers are responsible for coordinating the community programming and risk assessment needs of clients that serve community sentences. These officers are also responsible for the direct supervision of all adults and youth serving probation, conditional sentences, and federal paroled offenders.

Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the department's community corrections officer position in Sanikiluaq has been vacant since July. Can the minister indicate if his department is currently in the process of filling this position and, if not, why not? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for that question. Mr. Speaker, my information here is it is vacant. I can confirm that.

>> *Laughter*

The interesting thing is, as Mr. Rumbolt has been actively raising the issue of office space in the last few days, our problem in Sanikiluaq isn't office space. Our problem is housing. We don't have a house for the individual. Although there was an individual, she did leave in June. We were trying to staff the position, I believe, through casual

staffing and that didn't work out and we do continue to try to staff the position. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The department's community corrections officer position in Sanikiluaq was previously filled by an individual who had planned to live in the community temporarily.

While I would like to extend my appreciation to individuals who fill these important positions and who I have no doubt do their best to fulfill their duties, I believe that it is important to make every effort to fill these positions with individuals who are committed to remaining in the community to ensure continuity for the department's clients and for the community as a whole.

Will the minister commit his department to making every effort to fill this vacancy locally? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I won't commit, but I will tell Mr. Rumbolt that we will make every effort. As I said, we did have an individual who was in a position to take the job, but I don't want to reveal too much. Other factors came into play that prevented that person from taking the job. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I recognize that staff turnover is a challenge that many departments and other non-governmental organizations continue to face.

On August 6 of 2015 the department awarded a contract to Aarluk Consulting to conduct a “review of the staffing, overtime, and organization structure for Corrections Nunavut.”

Can the minister provide an update on the status of the review and can he indicate when we can expect a report on this review to be tabled in the House? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As members can appreciate, when I became justice minister on March 7, there was a tremendous volume of work to do in terms of reading reports and reading former commitments. There were studies underway and a tremendous amount of work to do. I do try to read stuff. I don't want to be one of those guys who say I read the report, but I didn't actually read it. I do read these things. I read the draft of that report and I wasn't satisfied with the way it was written. I asked for a rewrite to be clearer. I was hoping I could table in this sitting, but I believe we will be tabling in the winter sitting, unfortunately. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 533 – 4(3): Supporting the G.R.E.A.T. Program

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question today to the Minister of Family Services.

Mr. Speaker, in recent weeks the government has issued press releases regarding the latest round of the Getting Ready for Employment and Training Program. This program is a good opportunity for income assistance clients to prepare for employment opportunities.

I would like to ask the minister if he can provide an update on what success the G.R.E.A.T. program has had to date in narrowing the unemployment gap and how many graduates of the program now have stable jobs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Family Services, Mr. Johnny Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for that question. The Getting Ready for Employment and Training Program is administered by the Department of Family Services and directed towards income assistance clients. Currently progress has been made with this program, especially via the *Sivumut Abluqta* Mandate for this government related to improving social services for Inuit.

The program has been quite successful, at least based on the information I was provided. The income assistance clients are receiving this training module for pre-employment as well as generic

employment training protocols if they wish to pursue a career and what kind of further training they would require to follow their plan for the future.

The program began as a pilot project and it was 12-week program. Clients had to pass the training courses. Due to the success of this pilot project and the original clients' advice to lengthen the course, the employment and training program was changed to a 14-week program from the original 12-week program.

I can state unequivocally, based on his question, that the numbers of people who took the program totalled 117 and out of the total number of students, approximately 70 individuals graduated. Of the 70 students who completed the training course, about 25 have found employment or used the program to qualify for more advanced courses either at NAC or other programs. Twenty-five graduates have progressed from the group who passed the training program. Some clients who were taking on-the-job- training received employment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for that response. Mr. Speaker, it is important that employment readiness programs meet Nunavut's labour force needs. Can the minister clarify how his department partners with other departments or agencies at the community level to address employment needs and opportunities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Family Services, Mr. Johnny Mike.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Within our communities as well as generally within Nunavut, it requires partnerships and collaboration and for these reasons, we focus on the residents who require the most assistance. In speaking of income support clients in particular, it is noticeable that we need to find solutions on how to face these challenges, especially related to employment opportunities in Nunavut, and to ensure their participation in the economy.

I work with various departments of this government on this topic as well as those involved in education and training. Any group that provides job-related programs is included in our discussions. Actually, with respect to the operations within this employment readiness program, it is obvious that each community adapts the course to the employment opportunities available.

To use Iqaluit as an example, many employment opportunities exist amongst the various groups. The organizations involved provide much-needed assistance. If the program is required within our smaller communities, we try to offer pre-employment training with different companies.

Whether it is in an office setting or other working environments or places with job opportunities, we work together to provide training so that they can learn about employment skills. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Every community is different with respect to the type of employment needs and opportunities that are available. I would like to ask the minister if he can commit to ensuring that programs such as the Getting Ready for Employment and Training Program explore ways to meet needs while training or serving the community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, I can do that. I can say yes to his question. I say yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 534 – 4(3): 2016 Cruise Ship Visits

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

Mr. Speaker, my question today is for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation. I will base my questions on the Minister's Statement on November 1 regarding the 2016 cruise ship visits.

Mr. Speaker, many of our colleagues are aware that the mountainous terrain surrounding Pond Inlet, including our community, is very scenic and many cruise ships travel to our community

bringing many tourists. Pond Inlet has many species of wildlife and the land is very picturesque. The result is we get the majority of the cruise ship tourists annually. This summer alone 13 cruise ships landed in our community. I believe that is the highest numbers of ships to arrive into any one community during one summer.

I want to quote from the statement the minister made prior to asking my question as I want to be clear in my understanding, so let me quote the passage. "Most significantly the 1,000-passenger Crystal Serenity visited Nunavut this year. The voyage resulted in a direct economic impact of \$110,000 in Cambridge Bay and \$35,000 in Pond Inlet."

Mr. Speaker, let me start with this question. What does the statement highlighting this \$35,000 mean for Pond Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Ms. Monica Ell-Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for asking for clarification. What that statement means in this case is that when the passengers landed in Pond Inlet, they purchased artwork and this figure is part of that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reason why I ask this question is in the communities and in the

case of Cambridge Bay, many artisans reported that with this particular immense cruise ship, although it had many passengers, not many purchased artwork.

Furthermore, in Pond Inlet many artisans complained that many pieces were not purchased, although this figure is quite large. I wonder where this figure was produced. Who calculated the purchases and came up with these figures? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Ms. Ell-Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for asking for clarification. The money spent by these tourists was calculated by employees from both of the listed communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question seemed to be sidestepped as I didn't hear an answer pertaining to it. Nonetheless, let me ask my supplementary question.

The reason why I wanted further clarification was each organization had different figures. I received correspondence from the hamlet stating that this summer, out of the 13 cruise ships that landed in Pond Inlet, the hamlet income reached \$51,000 from sales while their expenditures were approximately \$42,500 or thereabouts. If we are counting the profit from that, they

only made slightly over \$8,000. This does not include the salaries of the hamlet employees nor other related expenses such as overtime costs and so on.

For that reason and with the reports from the local artisans, they keep stating the tourists rarely purchase any large items when they land in a community. They tend to purchase cheap items and what is most obvious is communities undertake extensive planning for the cruise ships, running around on the day of the arrival, preparing events for the tourists. When the tourists finally arrive, it seems a total waste of time just in looking at the paltry amounts spent in our communities.

In consideration of this reality, let me ask my final question. What has the department planned for tourism, especially the cruise ship tourism sector? What other types of research or analysis is required to ensure that all parties have the same figures related to actual revenue and expenditures? Will we ever have comparable, correct figures here? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Ms. Ell-Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for questions on this aspect of tourism. Our department sent an employee to meet the big cruise ship prior to it arriving into the territory. We had government employees on hand in Cambridge Bay.

It seems obvious that due to the lack of banking facilities in the communities, some tourists like to purchase art with

plastic or credit cards. What we found was the need to offer this type of option so that tourists could decide which manner of payment they wanted to use so that it would allow for more purchases.

It is also noticeable communities must learn, especially with non-Canadian flagged ships, what materials can't be purchased and which materials are acceptable. Sometimes communities only have sealskins or ivory tusks to carve, which can't be imported to some countries. Perhaps this was part of the problem. We ought to communicate with our hamlets on the acceptable materials that can be purchased. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Gjoa Haven, Mr. Tony Akoak.

Question 535 – 4(3): Gjoa Haven's Literacy Action Plan

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

Mr. Speaker, in my Member's Statement I addressed a very important literacy project underway in the community of Gjoa Haven.

Given that education is a primary focus of our government's mandate, can the minister provide an update on what resources and funds are made available to promote literacy in Nunavut's communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The Hon. Minister

of Education, Mr. Paul Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for asking for information, education being very important. We have been working very hard on literacy and mathematics and it has been evolving. For instance, we started up on what we need to consider concerning literacy and the programs we have made available to our regional school operations to date.

There is new funding and new positions have been created especially for literacy programs. We have identified the positions in the regional offices and the NTEP teachers have provided literacy programs. If we can recall, last year we created literacy coaches and that's an ongoing program. Those are the current programs on literacy in Nunavut.

I know that it will be an ongoing program because you need to be able to read to graduate from grade 12. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister stated, one of the ways our students can graduate is if we help them for their futures.

Mr. Speaker, the Gjoa Haven Literacy Action Plan is an ambitious project to establish literacy libraries in Gjoa Haven's high school classrooms. Can the minister clarify whether his department would have specific funds available to support and promote this worthwhile initiative? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Currently the Department of Education has a program called (interpretation ends) balanced literacy (interpretation) specific to improving literacy and we are making progress on this front. More programs are being created for this reason and teachers are provided with materials and (interpretation ends) resources (interpretation) for reading programs.

Also, there are different programs under development related to literacy, as an example, as a part of our (interpretation ends) curriculum (interpretation) to be taught for this purpose. The curriculum is being developed for kindergarten up to grade 6.

We are currently focusing on the Inuktitut reading materials that are being developed for this purpose. We expect these materials to be ready and produced for the 2017-18 fiscal year. This includes teaching materials and resources, so we are really developing a steady stream today.

This program was initiated originally for kindergarten up to grade 2 and more materials are being produced to date, but as per my earlier statement, we are looking to develop this for higher grades that I am aware of and that I want my colleague to understand.

Our teachers and staff are also receiving training on the uses of the materials within the schools. These are the types of initiatives we are pursuing within the Department of Education.

Perhaps the situation in my colleague's school means we haven't been informed of the issues related to his question. I would like to get more information on what my colleague referenced. I can't really respond in detail now, but I am open to receiving more details on what they are requesting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To make it short, they're looking for 1,000 books in each classroom and looking for funding.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that the Department of Education, like other departments, faces many challenges in ensuring that there are enough resources and funds to go around.

Can the minister clarify what kinds of support his department can provide to community groups, such as Gjoa Haven's Literacy Action Plan, to access funding from non-governmental sources to achieve its dream of setting up functioning libraries in school classrooms? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Education, Mr. Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for requesting further clarification on this front. With the importance we place on this initiative, if we recall, communities are visited during the summer by literacy coaches from outside of Nunavut. The communities of Cape Dorset, Iqaluit, and one other community had visitors

who worked on literacy programming during the summer. This occurred outside of the school year. I am quite appreciative of the efforts of the communities that apply for and request these programs.

I imagine we would fully support the request, as we support our local libraries, as all of our schools have libraries. We request and search for reading materials for the (interpretation ends) libraries (interpretation) and how to provide more support. That is what I would like to hear more about and perhaps even to receive the request from the school or the local DEA. That is the type of information I would like to receive.

Obviously, on a personal note, I am fully supportive of any literacy programs and requests for more reading materials for our schools. Let us support our schools by acquiring books for the libraries. I would like to get more details in writing on this application if possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 536 – 4(3): Adequate Office Space for Baker Lake Program

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

Mr. Speaker, the Baker Lake Prenatal Nutrition Program has been operating very successfully for the past 21 years. Unfortunately this year it was determined that the space they have been using all these years may no longer be

available. As is the case in many communities, there is a general shortage of facilities that are suitable and available for delivering community programs.

Can the minister provide an update on the current status of the old hospice building in Baker Lake and what arrangements will be made to provide space for ongoing programs if that facility is closed down? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The prenatal clinic in Baker Lake will still be staying at the same building currently. The building was set to be closed, but the closing of that building has been delayed until we can find a suitable place for the prenatal clinic to continue on with the very valuable service that they provide. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Mr. Speaker, I recognize that the responsibility for the Prenatal Nutrition Program lies with the Department of Family Services. However, it is the Department of Community and Government Services that assists in locating office and program space.

Can the minister indicate whether he has had discussions with his colleague, the Minister of Family Services, to ensure that office space will be made available

for the ongoing delivery of this program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our staff have been talking with the staff of Community and Government Services to try to come up with a solution for this. The building we're talking is 50 years old and it has gone to end of its useful life. We are working to try to find another suitable place for the prenatal program that's being run out of there. That's about where it is right now. We haven't found a location yet and we are looking for a location. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Mr. Speaker, as you can appreciate, the managers of the very successful Baker Lake Prenatal Nutrition Program are somewhat concerned about the ongoing survival of this long-standing program. Will the minister commit to working with his colleague to ensure that adequate and appropriate space is available for this program for the foreseeable future? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I agree that the prenatal society, I'm not sure what they're called, does provide a very valuable service to Baker Lake and they are going to stay where

they're currently working out of until a suitable location is found. That's the best I can commit to, that we are looking to find a suitable place for them in Baker Lake. As the member is quite aware, we can't just magically produce a building that is suitable, but we are working with the community to find a suitable location for the prenatal program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 537 – 4(3): Visiting Specialist

Mr. Alexander Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) Greetings to my fellow residents of Rankin Inlet and Nunavummiut.

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

Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that during a recent visit by a medical specialist, none of the specialized equipment arrived, which resulted in appointments being cancelled or medical clients having to wait even longer for their appointments to be rebooked. Medical travel does not just include patients travelling out of their communities to receive medical care; it also covers medical specialists travelling into communities to deliver care.

Can the minister provide an update on what specific agreements have been negotiated with Nunavut's major airlines to ensure that medical specialists are able to travel and arrive with their equipment? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Services provided in the Kivalliq region, specifically to Rankin Inlet, are provided by the J.A. Hildes Northern Medical Unit that provides a number of different specialist services.

With regard to specifically with the airlines of what types of contracts, normally the contractor would be responsible for getting their equipment to the community that they're providing those services in. I can look into the specifics.

The member knows my door is always open to discuss such issues as they arise. I wasn't made aware that there was an issue and a delay in the services to be provided out of the specialist clinic, but it's something that if the member can give me more information on, I can look into the situation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. While I recognize that everyone has the right to travel with their personal belongings, I believe the minister and my colleagues will agree that when specialists are contracted to deliver important health services to a community, extra care must be made to ensure that their professional equipment arrives safely, securely, and on time.

Can the minister clarify whether the government's medical travel contracts

specifically address the transportation of professional medical equipment? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the time that I have held the portfolio as the Minister of Health, I haven't had the opportunity to go through every contract and all conditions within the contracts. The way I understand it is that the contractor is responsible for getting the equipment to the community. I'm sure if that information gets communicated appropriately to the airlines, I know that they're not there to hold up medical clinics, I think that they would make all accommodations possible to get that equipment into the community as needed.

Again, 90 percent of the issues that I deal with on a day-to-day basis are communication. I think that if the member wants to sit down with me and discuss this circumstance in a little bit more detail, I can find out the specifics of this incident and make sure that communication lines are open between the contractor, the airline, and the Department of Health to make sure such an incident doesn't happen again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Sammurtok: Mr. Speaker, it would seem that the cost of flying in a medical specialist to a community only for them to be unable to see clients and the cost of rebooking appointments and maybe even

adding more days to the specialists visit contract would be an unwelcome additional expense to the government.

Will the minister commit to raising this concern with Nunavut's major airlines as soon as possible so that it doesn't happen again? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We're in continuous communication with airline officials. As recently as last night a lot of members here attended a presentation of one of the new planes that First Air is putting out. At that function I had the opportunity to speak to the CEO of First Air and talk about some of the circumstances that I have been made aware of over time. He himself said that he is very concerned on making sure that there are no errors when it comes to providing services to medical clients.

Although we didn't talk specifically about medical contractors, I can assure the member that I'll look into the circumstance to find out where the breakdown was. If it was with the airline, then we will have discussions with them to make sure circumstances like this don't arise again. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa, Mr. Paul Okalik.

Question 538 – 4(3): Hivuliqtikhanut – Senior Management Program

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) The Premier mentioned that we're a public government. I would like to follow up that the Charter of Rights permits some of forms of discrimination for public governments where a group has been disadvantaged from prior years and where the group needs to catch up to the rest of society.

We're a public government and we all know that Inuit are at the bottom of the socio-economic ladder, so we have to do all we can to allow Inuit to catch up to the rest of our communities here in Nunavut. When will this government introduce programs to truly support this initiative to allow Inuit to catch up to the rest of the territory?

When the Premier says there is this program called *Sivuniqattiarniq*, for example, it's an Inuit word. One would think, "Is it for Inuit to try to catch up in terms of management in our government?" We then realize 79 percent of those participants only, not even the level of our population. When are we going to catch up to the rest of society if our own government does not permit programs for Inuit to participate equally according to the population?

I ask the Premier: can you reconsider this for the benefit of our own territory and citizens? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the question from the former Premier of nine years that put in some of these programs. We have many more; priority hiring for Inuit. For him to say that Inuit are on the social bottom of our society is absolutely wrong. Inuit are right up there with everybody else. I don't know where this is coming from.

We have many programs to try to increase the number of beneficiaries in our government. We have Article 23. We have a partnership with NTI. We have Inuit employment plans. We have Inuit employment programs, many of them; career development; Sivuliqtiksavut. We contribute to the funding of Nunavut Sivuniksavut in Ottawa. We support the students that do go down there. The number of the students that are out there is well over 300 in colleges and universities, and that's Inuit. We support those students through FANS.

There are many programs we run to try to ensure that we have Inuit employment within the government. We want to increase those to 85 percent representative, but everybody knows that if we don't have those bodies there, it is just next to impossible. We just have to keep training our beneficiaries to try to reach that number.

Mr. Speaker, we have many committees. We formed a committee and board of directors for the Makigiaqta Inuit Training Corporation in partnership with NTI, and that is multi-year funding. We're quite optimistic that we will train more Inuit to be employed not only in the territorial government but also in

other governments and other entities that are out there.

We do have to remember that some of our graduates don't necessarily want to work in the government. They go out and work for other industries and other Inuit organizations. We can't just pluck them out and grab them and force them to work for the Government of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) We need only look at the unfortunate situation that Inuit face today in our own territory. In every level of education and every level of participation in our own government and employment, we are not even close to our target of 85 percent. How are we going to get there if we're not going to train for senior levels of government in our own territory?

I am offended that our own Premier is questioning that Inuit are well off. We are not even close. If we were close, I wouldn't be explaining where we are today. I have done whatever I could in every office I have held in my own territory to try to improve our standing in our own communities. I'm offended that my past would be brought up. I have done whatever I can. I will continue to pursue this in every level that I hold.

Can the Premier explain again why this program that he's touting, which has an Inuktitut name, only permits 79 percent of its participants to be Inuit, not even 85 percent at our level of population in our own territory? Why? (interpretation)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the passion of the member in trying to increase Inuit. It's the same as my passion. I am offended that we put more programs into this government and they're not good enough.

Mr. Speaker, we can't grab our employees and force them to do what they don't want to do. We accept any beneficiary into these programs when they want to. We do not force people or Inuit to do what they don't want to do. It's as simple as that. I'm offended that even with the 79 percent beneficiary participation in one program, and we have many programs, it's not good enough for the member.

Mr. Speaker, we want to increase Inuit beneficiary numbers and that's exactly what we're doing. With our increasing graduation rates, I'm sure that the numbers are going to increase. There's no magical solution. If he has one, show it to us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members, the time for question period has expired. Moving on. Going back to the orders of the day. 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. Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committee on Bills and Other Matters. Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Hon. Minister of Nunavut

Arctic College, Mr. Paul Quassa.

Item 13: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 211 – 4(3): 2015-2016 Annual Report for Nunavut Arctic College

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the 2015-16 *Annual Report for Nunavut Arctic College*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. The Hon. Minister of Economic Development and Transportation, Ms. Monica Ell-Kanayuk.

Tabled Document 212 – 4(3): FPT Energy and Mines Ministers' Conference

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the FPT Energy and Mines Ministers' Conference 2016 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, August 21 to 23, 2016. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Finance, Mr. Keith Peterson.

Tabled Document 213 – 4(3): Interim Financial Report (Unaudited) March 31, 2016

Tabled Document 214 – 4(3): 2015-2016 Grants and Contributions Report

Tabled Document 215 – 4(3): 2015-2016 Nunavut Liquor Commission’s Annual Report

Tabled Document 216 – 4(3): 2015-2016 Annual Report for the Nunavut Liquor Licensing Board

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have three documents I would like to table as the Minister of Finance.

I am pleased to table the Interim Financial Report (Unaudited) for March 31, 2016.

I am pleased to table the 2015-16 *Grants and Contributions Report*.

I am pleased to table the 2015-16 *Nunavut Liquor Commission’s Annual Report*.

As the Minister of Justice, I am pleased to table the 2015-16 *Annual Report for the Nunavut Liquor Licensing Board*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. (interpretation) I have no more names on my list. Moving on. Item 14. (interpretation ends) Notices of Motions. Hon. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Mr. Tom Sammurtok.

Item 14: Notices of Motions

Motion 037 – 4(3): Extension of Review Period for Bill 19, Unlawful Property Forfeiture Act – Notice

Mr. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation

ends) I give notice that on Monday, November 7, 2016, I will move the following motion:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, that the period of time for the Standing Committee on Legislation to report Bill 19, *Unlawful Property Forfeiture Act*, back to the House to be extended by a further 120 days.

(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Notices of Motions. Hon. Member for Qamani’tuaq, Mr. Simeon Mikkungwak.

Motion 038 – 4(3): Extended Adjournment – Notice

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Monday, November 7, 2016, I will move the following motion:

I MOVE, seconded by the Hon. Member for Aggu, that pursuant to the provisions of Rule 3, that when the House concludes its present sitting, it shall be adjourned until February 21, 2017.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Item 14. Notices of Motions. I have no more names. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 14, 20, 22, 23, and 24 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 15:13 and Committee resumed at 15:32*

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.

First of all, Nunavummiut 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 14, 20, 22, 23, and 24. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good afternoon. Mr. Chairman, we wish to continue with Bill 24 and resume the review of the Nunavut Housing Corporation, then we would commence with the review along with the supporting documents of Bill 20, Bill 22, and Bill 23. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Members, are we in agreement that we first deal with Bill 24?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 24 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2017-2018 – Nunavut Housing Corporation – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Let's deal with that bill first. Go back to page L-3. Welcome, Minister Kuksuk. As we proceed, would you like to have your officials with you at the witness table? Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Yes.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk would like to have his officials with him at the witness table. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister's officials in.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. Minister Kuksuk, for the record, please introduce your witnesses. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, my colleagues and Nunavummiut watching and listening to the proceedings.

With me again this afternoon (interpretation ends) to my left, (interpretation) Gershom Moyo, Chief Financial Officer for the Housing Corporation, and to my right is Terry Audla, President of the Nunavut Housing Corporation. That is who we are, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, minister. Welcome to the House, Mr. Audla and Mr. Moyo.

We can proceed. We are on page L-3. I have a bunch of people still on my list. The first one will be Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) I almost called you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Chairman, thank you. I want to touch a little bit about homeownership because for myself, for example, I own my own home. It's not easy to own your own home and it's expensive.

The former president of the Nunavut Housing Corporation appeared before a committee of the Senate of Canada. I think it was last year. In her testimony she said that the cost of owning and operating a house in Nunavut ranges from about \$158,500 to \$186,000 per year. This means that it's the minimum income you would need to be able to afford homeownership in various communities. If you make under that, it would be very hard to have your own home.

Can you tell me if you think that these estimates are still accurate? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member for that question about the cost of homeownership. Mr. Chairman, first of all to operate and maintain a house, to live in the house and to make all the payments, it's around \$26,000 per year and that's just to

operate and maintain it, to keep it warm and other expenses that are needed to run the house.

If I understood the other question or please advise me if I did not, but I think she asked how much they're supposed to be making in the household. It's a different number for each community. The question was if the number is still the same. Yes, we still follow those same figures. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): My question was not answered. Mr. Chairman, what I'm trying to ask is the former president of the Nunavut Housing Corporation said that you have to make \$158,500 to \$168,000 a year to be able to afford your own house in Nunavut because it's so expensive. I was asking if you think that estimate is still the same. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I thank my colleague for clarifying the question. Yes, the figures are still the same. The household income is still set at that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If you want to request a subsidy from the Nunavut Housing Corporation, some people are said to make too much money and that makes them ineligible to get approval.

What is the salary cap or income threshold? Can you remind us what the figure is now? (interpretation ends)
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk, please remind us.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The income threshold is \$155,500 right now. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you for reminding us about that. Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's set at \$155,500 right now. Will that figure stay the same or when will that number be reviewed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. We have started reviewing that, but we are still using the same figures. We know that the threshold is different in each community, whether it's in Arviat or Iqaluit or other communities. Each community has a threshold. Even though we use that threshold today, we have plans to review it again to see if we can improve it for those people who are interested in getting their own homes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can the minister tell us if CMHC has anything to do with the

thresholds? According to your agreements with them, do they have anything to do with "This should be the threshold agreement" or not? Can you tell us if CMHC has anything to do with that? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If you don't mind, I would like Mr. Moyo on my left to respond to that in detail. Thank you.

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

Mr. Moyo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, CMHC provides income eligibility limits for homeownership, but in Nunavut, NHC adjusts the CMHC number to take into account the higher cost of living and the higher cost of owning and maintaining your home. We last reviewed the HPIE limits (homeownership program income eligibility limits) in 2014. As the minister said, we will continue to review and to take into account inflation and many other factors. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm trying not to ask too many questions.

Could the minister tell us how flexible CMHC is when you make allowances for certain environments that we experience in Nunavut? How flexible is CMHC? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Yes, they are pretty flexible and they're even beginning to be more flexible in working with the numbers that we deal with in terms of the type of questions you're asking. We're quite pleased and happy to work with them in those areas. Thank you.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you very much. That's a good thing because we are different here, aren't we?

I want to go on to my next question and that is to look at the new Seniors and Persons with Disabilities Housing Options Program that you have. I know that Mr. Mikkungwak also wants to ask you questions on that, but I'll keep it to Iqaluit.

To date, how many applications under this program have been received and how many applications under this program have been approved for Iqaluit? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member. We will find it for Iqaluit.

Mr. Chairman, if you don't mind, I can't read the script here; the font is just too small. He has better sight. If you don't

mind, I would like Mr. Audla to respond.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. That's fine with me. Mr. Audla.

Mr. Audla (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) If I understand your question, for the 2016-17 period for Iqaluit for senior-specific programs for homeownership, we have zero. Under the opening, pending, waitlisted, and new applicants for Iqaluit, we have two in one category, two in another category, and one is on the waitlist. There are five total for Iqaluit. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: That was going to be my last question. I'm talking about the program where if an elder is in their home and then they feel that they can't keep up with their costs anymore, just that really, where the Nunavut Housing Corporation buys back the home. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Right now there are none for (interpretation ends) this year.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I guess you heard my name since you said it. Thank you very much. Welcome to the minister and his officials.

In talking about private homeowners in Baker Lake, the situation is many of them are getting older and some have physical disabilities. With that being the case, earlier my colleague was asking about this matter. How will this benefit homeowners who are seniors or have physical disabilities?

In my constituency of Baker Lake, is this issue noted by your corporation and how will these homeowners receive assistance? It seems on top of aging, they have to also deal with the increasing costs of fuel and electricity. When you are a homeowner, the (interpretation ends) insurance (interpretation) can't be allowed to lapse. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague for asking about that issue. Mr. Chairman, yes, we do have programs specific to senior homeowners or persons with disabilities who may struggle as homeowners. There are various programs available to assist them.

However, he asked about aging homeowners who may have physical limitations but have to pay for fuel or electricity and if this results in their inability to pay these expenses. In looking at this scenario, existing programs are available for assisting them in paying for the expenses.

The community where the home is located may have public housing available for them. This is another program that can be used for elderly

homeowners to move into (interpretation ends) public housing (interpretation) units to alleviate their challenges. This can be resolved with another LHO to sell their home to another resident or body.

Hopefully I was understandable with my response. 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 clarifying that. What about the homeowners who are aging or have disabilities and they want to keep their home? How can the housing corporation provide assistance in that case? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have different programs for that purpose for disabled people and elders. We can provide funding assistance for renovations or for maintenance. They clearly indicate as to what kinds of assistance we can provide them. If the homeowner is going to stay in the house, then they can utilize our funding programs.

As I stated earlier, if they want to let go of the house or if they want to transfer it to the housing organization, that's open for elderly homeowners and the cost of maintenance, fuel, and utilities would be under the housing association. If they want to move into a public housing unit, then their house can be given to the housing association or organization.

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 that clear response. We're on page L-3 and my colleague asked questions, but I wanted to ask an additional question. The Nunavut Housing Corporation, as I look at the substantiation sheets, gets funding from CMHC for people in public housing. My question is: with regard to other income or revenue, can you provide further details so that it is understandable? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I'm sorry if I didn't understand. I think that you are asking about the funding we get from the federal government for different programs. We get funding for different programs from the federal government for the elders.

We work closely with the Department of (interpretation ends) Family Services (interpretation) to run programs for elders' homes. We get federal funding for different programs, but the biggest part of it is to provide (interpretation ends) public or social housing (interpretation) in Nunavut and the funding is slated towards that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're on page L-3 and I'm referring to the last paragraph on the Nunavut Housing Corporation. "The corporation receives additional funding through contributions provided from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), tenant rentals and other income." Is other income from Family Services or do you have any other income that you could identify? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, my colleague, for clarifying that. I didn't quite understand. I'll have Mr. Moyo respond to that, Mr. Chairman, if it's okay with you. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Moyo.

Mr. Moyo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll try to be as specific as possible. We had received funding from mainly four sources, the first one being the Government of Nunavut, which is the budget that we're discussing today, \$39,965,000.

The second major source of funding for our capital budget is from CMHC. During this planning period we will be getting a total of \$84.1 million from CMHC through the Social Infrastructure Fund.

We have also been receiving \$4.2 million every year from CMHC under the Social Housing Agreement and that money is set aside specifically for renovations, modernization, and improvement.

The last envelope that we get is also from CMHC under the Investment in Affordable Housing and it's \$1,465,000. That money is specifically to construct new houses or purchase new houses.

The other income and tenant rentals, we budget to receive about \$13.5 million as rent assessments from tenants. The other income is insignificant. We fill enough income that comes in from various sources. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As my colleague was asking about income threshold to be an eligible homeowner, when we look at homeownership... . The official sort of led into my next question here. When we look at homeownership and renovation programs, is that threshold the same as indicated by the minister, which is \$155,500? Is that the same with homeownership and renovation programs? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The threshold that is identified for the communities is different. (interpretation ends) It varies, (interpretation) for instance, in Baker Lake or Arviat. (interpretation ends) It varies from community to community. (interpretation) The income threshold for homeowners varies. Thank you.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe through the Chair, we could be provided that information in a written document. Maybe that will be my question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk, you say it's different for every community. Perhaps you can send it through the Chair so that all the members will see it. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we can provide the document. We have it on hand. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. We will look forward to it. Any more questions, Mr. Mikkungwak?

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I still have some time, so I'll ask another question.

(interpretation ends) During the fall 2015 sitting of the Legislative Assembly, which the minister's going to be very familiar with, \$4.7 million was approved for this warehousing project which is for Baker Lake. This project was not part of the capital carryovers that were approved by the Legislative Assembly during its recent spring 2016 sitting. How much of the \$4.7 million has actually been spent to date? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I

personally don't have that information, so Mr. Moyo can respond to that, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Moyo.

Mr. Moyo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is correct. Baker Lake got an allocation of \$4.7 million in the last capital budget. Not a lot of it has been spent because it was inadequate. The \$4.7 million was inadequate to do what we wanted to do in Baker Lake. We have applied in this budget that we're discussing today for an additional \$4.9 million. The total of \$9.6 million would be available, not all of it for the Baker Lake warehouse. We estimate that it would cost in the region of \$8 million to construct the warehouse, which includes offices, a workshop, and a proper warehouse for our stock. We plan to spend the money in 2017 to start the construction in 2017. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I surely don't want the capital coming to Baker Lake to fall off the tables here.

When we look at the substantiation sheet for this project, it indicates that it will "commission a detailed architectural and engineering design and a class "A" estimate is expected to be finalized in the fall of 2016-17," which I presume is the fall sitting, "Due to financial constraints, the \$7,911,000 budget has been reduced to \$4,900,000. The \$4,700,000 allocated in 2016-17 will be carried forward to 2017-18, for a combined budget of \$9,600,000, which

will be used to construct the Baker Lake warehouse."

Can you clarify what the total costs of the warehouse is expected to be? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like Mr. Moyo to respond. (interpretation ends) Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Moyo.

Mr. Moyo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have tendered out the structural design to get a class "A" estimate. It's currently ongoing. We fully expect that by calendar year-end. By December we should have received that class "A" estimate. What we do have now and what we do know for sure is a cost estimate of \$8 million based on a class "C" estimate. By the end this calendar year we will have a class "A" estimate, which we're hoping will be in the same amount, but we don't know that yet. We plan to tender construction in the winter of 2017 so that construction can begin in the summer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Why was this project not included as part of capital carryovers that were approved by the Legislative Assembly during its recent spring 2016 sitting? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I would like Mr. Moyo to respond to that question. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Moyo.

Mr. Moyo: Thank you again, Mr. Chairman. It is correct, it was not included as part of the capital carryovers because of the nature of NHC's budget. The Nunavut Housing Corporation gets allocated an appropriation and we get to keep the funds from year to year. We can accumulate with the privilege to accumulate the funds if we don't spend them.

In this case, because the construction of the warehouse didn't begin because funds were inadequate, we still had the \$4.7 million that was voted last year and that is the same with all our capital budgets. They are not part of the GN's capital carryovers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Does NHC still plan to completely replace one warehouse each year and, if not, what specific factors have caused NHC to change its plans? Aside from inappropriate funds, as indicated by the official, are there any other factors that are taken into consideration? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Yes, this issue was previously discussed and we wish to move it forward if possible and if it will be allocated adequate funding. Every year the funding is allocated for one year for the (interpretation ends) warehouse office maintenance shop (interpretation) and that is the type of facility we would like to build. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Let me move on to something else. I would like my colleagues the workplace we mentioned and I am voicing that thought now.

Nonetheless, for another issue in Baker Lake, it is obvious in the past that the population has increased exponentially, as the minister is well aware, as he has visited Baker Lake. Once a mine was built adjacent to Baker Lake, the population exploded. Has the Baker Lake LHO requested more housing units and, if so, what would be the causes for the delay? Has the LHO submitted housing requests to NHC, in particular public housing units? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to the existing plans for housing and specific to Baker Lake, I think that information is next to my other seat here about the actual request or allocations.

Mr. Chairman, I just found the information pertaining to that. Mr.

Chairman, we had to work closely with the LHOs and require working with them continuously on the housing needs. When we have to allocate housing units, what I have kept reiterating is that allocations are based on the most urgent needs where communities have a large housing deficit.

We use the (interpretation ends) allocation methodology (interpretation) to determine which community is prioritized and the (interpretation ends) percentage (interpretation) was used to determine the priority list. If my colleague can recall, I spoke to this issue during a (interpretation ends) standing committee (interpretation) review, but I don't recall the dates.

Nonetheless, to briefly summarize, at this time in looking at Baker Lake, there are five units identified in the 2017-18 fiscal year, so they will receive five units. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, minister. Moving on. Mr. Alexander Sammurtok.

Mr. Alexander Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will start with (interpretation ends) proposed new construction for the communities for 2017-18 and 2018-19. (interpretation) They will be constructing new housing units in 16 communities. (interpretation ends) The second largest community in Nunavut is not listed there. Can you explain that? Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. If you don't mind, I'll be talking about Rankin Inlet so that my colleague will have a good understanding because it's his constituency community.

Since March 31, 2016 there were 72 applicants who applied for housing in Rankin Inlet. Since then (interpretation ends) Rankin Inlet had nine vacant units that were being repaired to be put back into the housing stock, this is Rankin Inlet, and known units under construction. Therefore the waitlist number adjusted for new construction and pending units was 63.

In March of 2016 Rankin Inlet's public housing stock totalled 337. Therefore in March of 2016 Rankin Inlet's needs as a percentage of stock calculation were at 18 percent. (interpretation) Using that as an example where Rankin Inlet is with their priority, it's only at the 18 percent, but the other communities have a higher percentage. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Mr. Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the minister appeared before the committee in September 2016, I'm reading a letter from that date. (interpretation ends) The Nunavut Housing Corporation's housing allocation system for the local housing office waitlist March 31, 2016, (interpretation) so that I will have the same level of understanding with the minister.

I just want to get further clarification. I called the LHO in Rankin Inlet and I was told this, (interpretation ends) "Rankin

Inlet waitlist for March 2016 were 52 one-bedroom, 35 two-bedroom, 9 three-bedroom, 4 four-bedroom.” If my calculator is right, that’s 100 applicants. With the minister’s housing allocation system, instead of 63, 100 people on the waitlist of 337 would make it to 33.7 percent, which would be just under Pond Inlet and ahead of Kugluktuk.

Can the minister explain if he got all the information from the local housing association and why our numbers differ? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. My officials consult with each other on the differences and I don’t deal with that on a daily basis. I’ll have my deputy minister inform you about the figure we have and the figure the member has. I would like Mr. Audla to respond to his question. Thank you.

Chairman: Mr. Audla.

Mr. Audla (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) To respond to the question, for this year in the spring, in February and March, we had contacted through our Arviat office with NHC all the local housing authorities to send us their numbers as to what their waitlist might be.

Each number that was given to the Arviat was checked and double-checked and we went back to the LHO to confirm whether or not that number included actual applications. Once we received that list of numbers with attached

applications, it was the number that we used.

In Rankin Inlet’s case, we had a number that did not match up with the actual number of applications, so we went back to Rankin Inlet and asked them, “Can you send, for the numbers that we have, the missing amount to confirm the number that we received from Rankin Inlet?” We asked not one but twice and probably a third time and we did not receive actual applications for those numbers. We deducted that from the overall number. At the end, as the minister had responded earlier, we had 72 actual on the list for that time period.

From this point forward every LHO in Nunavut is now aware that between the months of February and March we will be seeking new numbers, renewed numbers with actual applications attached to them. Each and every LHO will know when they should expect to actually keep those numbers up to date. At the same time it won’t differ from year by year. It is very important that every community ensures that their actual needs list is up to date with actual applications. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Alex Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) As the minister and his officials are well aware, when a waitlist is entered into a computer, they usually go through the applicant’s performance form. A lot of times they misplace the application, but the waitlist doesn’t change.

I'm going to ask again: will they reconsider building new public housing in the year 2018-19 if, like my colleague said, it is so hard to get land in Iqaluit, could you transfer some of that to Rankin Inlet? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: After giving due consideration for Pond Inlet. (interpretation) Thank you.

>>Laughter

Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Mr. Chairman, I don't want to be laughing, but it sounded like a joke.

I can say that we follow the present policies that we're using and we will keep working with the local housing organizations. As my deputy minister mentioned, please make sure that you submit all the applications that match the numbers so that we don't have different sets of numbers because we don't just estimate. We base it on the applications that are submitted by the local housing organizations, and then we look at the percentages and place the priorities on where we're going to be building our houses. That's the response I can provide. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Mr. Alex Sammurtok.

Mr. Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) It seems like I'm taking that answer as a no, but I'll keep fishing for it. In the last two years that I have been sitting here now, there were never any allocations

for the second largest community in Nunavut.

They should start thinking of that because in 2018-19 the mine in Rankin Inlet is opening up and there will be people going there and they will be looking for houses. That's just a comment. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Alex Sammurtok. That was just a comment. I will give you the discretion whether or not to respond to it. We will proceed then. Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome, minister and your officials. I would first like to go back to what was discussed yesterday about homeownership programs and the monies that were set aside for those programs, which I'm very pleased about. That's just a comment.

My question is concerning the older units that were constructed in 1968-69. That's when we were about 18 or 19 years old and I watched them being constructed. They were prefabricated houses and they're still part of the housing stock. Are these prefabricated units still going to be used or what do you plan to do with those older units? Perhaps the minister can respond as I would like to know. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member. I totally agree with him. I think that all Nunavut

communities have older prefabricated units still standing and being lived in.

Mr. Chairman, they can be renovated and retrofitted. If they can be retrofitted, we can still use them. We usually set aside some funding for modernization and improvement to be used for such purposes. We will keep using those prefabricated units. We have to be prudent and use our money wisely in order to keep the stock up. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. According to the minister's comments, the tenants who are renting those prefabricated units are usually moved out of the building while renovations and improvements are taking place.

These units shift because they're not on piles. The floors are very cold because of the shifting. At times there is flooding in the house, which causes mould, which you don't see because the mould is in between the walls.

My question is: what you are going to be doing with those units? If you do renovations and improvements, it is perfectly fine, but it's the mould that's the problem and mould remediation is not part of the improvement. That's my question to the minister. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. If

I understood the member correctly, he's talking about mould. Mr. Chairman, I had brought this up earlier and I'm not sure which of my colleagues asked about the health hazard mould can create for the tenants. There are quite a few units that have this problem. For that reason, we have remedied some of the units. We also use the local housing organizations in the regions to look at how they can clean up or remediate the mould in certain areas. They're all fully trained to do that sort of work and some of the communities did work on remediation of the mould in those units.

The local housing organizations have identified which units need remediation, whether it is to change the insulation or whatever is required, and we did provide training on mould remediation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have another question which is outside of what I was talking about and if I need correction, please tell me.

We know that the Nunavut Housing Corporation funds capital projects, but with regard to the five-plex and older detached houses, the multiplexes probably use less fuel. That has probably been identified by the housing corporation. Are these five-plexes better than older standalone units? I hope my question is clear. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. If I understood your question, you're asking me about the multiplex and five-plex units and the older units that are standalone or detached homes. I believe the question is which one is better.

As the housing corporation, we're building mostly multiplex units because it's cheaper than a detached three-bedroom house. One multiplex unit is cheaper than one detached house. We're trying to utilize our monies and make as many houses as we can with the limited resources that we have. That's why we're building multiplex units instead of detached units. I hope he understood me. Thank you very much.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Moving to another subject regarding what I just brought up about the current housing units and with the newer models that were discussed for the past few days, they only have one door. Are you going to keep building units with one door because of financial constraints or would you consider something else? That's my question to the minister. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Qirngnuq. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I again thank my colleague. Mr. Chairman, this was brought up yesterday, I believe, regarding one entrance per unit and why they only install one door.

Mr. Chairman, I believe he is asking whether we could look at other options. We indicated that we're building only one door per unit because it's cheaper to construct them that way and we can use those savings for some other purpose. I can discuss that with the department and look at whether we should keep building one door per unit or if we should look at building two doors. I'm very open to any suggestions and I will make sure that I talk about this issue with my officials in the future. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, minister. Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for responding to that. Let me move on to a different question. I believe I understood him to say that at some point in the future, in terms of housing units for the communities, everybody who needs housing will get housing. That's what I seem to have understood. Even in the smaller communities, the population is always growing. A 15-year-old today will be 19 years old in 2019 and probably will want to own their home or unit. How can that person get a house at that point? I hope I was understandable, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The system that we currently use as to who gets housing... . If I didn't understand the question correctly, then he can rephrase it.

What we're talking about right now are people with the first priority that really

need houses. Looking at the percentage, some of them are at a higher priority than others. The way he understood me is that at some point, we will have enough housing, but that's not what I said. We have explained that once we get below the 30 to 35 percent need in all communities, it will alleviate the situation. That is what we were trying to say, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for helping me to understand that better. I'm glad. This will be my final question. Whenever construction is happening, they go into a tender process in any community. In the future will you be looking more within Nunavut for people to build houses? That's my question, Mr. Chairman. I hope I was understandable. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the new houses that have to be built, according to our policy as a government, they are done through a free public tender like a call for proposal. Anyone is eligible to submit bids for those contracts no matter which community they are located.

However, we have it clearly outlined in the contract documents that whoever gets the contracts is supposed to hire people from the community and train apprentices, whether it's electrical, plumbing, or other trades. We will make sure that they have an apprentice that is registered through Nunavut Arctic

College or the Department of Education. We add the fact that they have to hire a registered apprentice for their projects.

As to his actual question, if we have put thought to make the tendering only for construction businesses in Nunavut, no, we haven't thought along those lines. When we need houses built, we keep it very open. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I still have a little bit of time, so I will ask another question. For example, if there are going to be homes built next year and companies will be bidding on that contract, how long do they leave the RFP open in any given community? I hope I was clear. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. We find no problems leaving them open for two months. We have the RFP open for about two months. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, minister. Let us proceed. Mr. Keyootak.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Although my colleague asked this question, I would like to get clarification. With respect to the older units that were built in the 1960s, the minister stated that once they remediate the mould, those units can be used again because of the lack of housing.

I asked questions in the House before about those houses that were built in the 1960s. Apparently all of them were painted with paint that contained PCBs. The example I used was the old DEW line site buildings. Inuit requested those buildings to use as houses, but they were told it was impossible in Qikiqtarjuaq because they all have PCB-based paint. During the 1960s all paints contained PCBs.

Is that a danger or a safety issue or have those houses that were built in the 1960s been inspected to make sure they don't have PCB paint in them? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I remember when this question was posed by my colleague here in the House. I stated that our workers in the regions have been trained on how to do mould remediation.

To keep it short, I haven't been notified about what he is referring to as PCBs. I have been notified about the mould. I explained to my fellow MLAs about what kind of mould remediation work we are doing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We were told that it was impossible to live in those houses because they have that kind of paint. The researchers from the United States went to go and look at the buildings at the DEW line sites. They had many

buildings near Qikiqtarjuaq. When the Americans were leaving them behind, the Inuit were interested in taking those buildings over, but we were stopped as the people of Qikiqtarjuaq.

People from other communities told us that those buildings are just too dangerous because they were painted with paint that contains PCBs and they were painted in the 1960s. We started asking, "Are these DEW line buildings the only ones that have that kind of paint?" The response we got was that all paints in the 1960s contained PCBs.

Since we got those responses, many Inuit became concerned because they lived in houses that were built in the 1960s, probably using that kind of paint. All paints contained PCBs in the 1960s. We became concerned that maybe Inuit had been living in these dangerous buildings all these years.

If those old buildings are going to have mould remediation, can the old paint be removed as well if they're going to be renovated, especially the interiors? Can that be done? When the mould remediation occurs, can they remove the old paint as well? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (Mr. Mikkungwak) (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague. Mr. Chairman, we deal with mould in our units in the communities. As I keep saying, our workers were properly trained in mould remediation. I want to say that if every community has buildings that have

mould in them that the local housing association worked on, they have all been completed.

However, with respect to my colleague's community of Qikiqtarjuaq and the other community that he represents, I can have that looked at to see where the remediation work is at now. Part of the question is not based on work that is done by a local housing association and we only deal with buildings that are under a local housing association or organization. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Keyootak.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I spoke about those DEW line buildings that don't belong to the local housing association. I was just using that as an example because we were told that all paints contained PCBs in the 1960s and people became very concerned about the safety factor of that. It was said that the DEW line buildings were too dangerous for people to live in them because they have PCB-based paint.

We started asking questions like "Are the DEW line buildings the only ones that were painted with PCB-based paint?" The answer that we received from the health department was, "All paint from the 1960s, no matter what it was for, such as exterior and interior paints, contained PCBs." The Inuit became really concerned about that.

We realized we have had to live in houses since the 1960s that have PCB paint in them. They were painted in the 1960s when that kind of paint was still being used. Our community is very

concerned about that because we have been living in those houses for many years. They were painted with those kinds of paints that were used in the 1960s. We have been made to live in those houses for many years.

This is a safety issue and I believe that the paint should be removed. If you're going to continue using those really old houses, it's better to remove the old paint. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. The units owned by the corporation, regardless of their location, as an example, in Qikiqtarjuaq, we have been provided information that none of our units have residual paint containing PCBs. That is what I wanted to point out.

With respect to unsafe conditions or as per my colleague's concern, we can always revisit the older units such as those in my colleague's community and in other communities and perhaps inspect units in communities where old DEW line sites were built near them. We can look into his concern and we will ensure that no safety concerns exist. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Following the list of names, Mr. Joanasié.

Mr. Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for recognizing me for a second round of questioning.

Good afternoon, Minister Kuksuk and your officials.

I have been thinking a bit about, first of all, that I commend NHC when, in your opening comments, you talked about how you're addressing the housing needs of communities and trying to close that gap. An example you provided for proposed public housing construction for the next two fiscal years, there will be no more communities at a critical or high public need or under the 35 percent needs level.

Also at the same time, looking at the housing allocation system, it's going to become harder and harder for you to decide which communities are going to get housing allocations. I guess my first question is: when there are equal or very similar needs in the communities, how will you decide which communities get housing after the next two years and moving forward? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (Mr. Enook)(interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. That's a good question, how we're going to deal with it once they're at the same percentage. Are the communities going to start competing? Mr. Chairman, my deputy minister will respond to that question, if it's okay with you. Thank you.

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

Mr. Audla (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Based on the question, it is true that most communities will almost be at an equal level of need.

When we look at the current allocations for the construction of new units in the 2017-18 and 2018-19 fiscal years, most communities will be at the 32 percent or lower needs of stock within their community, but there will still be communities that will be ranked higher. Ultimately we want every community at zero percent.

We will continue to concentrate on those communities that do have higher needs based on the percentage and it will be done again based on that level of percentage. If, at any point, it becomes more and more difficult, obviously we will be allocating blindly in the sense of not selecting one community over another but based on actual figures for the actual level of need. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that response. On another topic with regard to the cost of building housing, yesterday it was mentioned that it's about \$500,000 a unit. Can the minister clarify how many bedroom unit he is talking about? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That figure is based on a two- or three-bedroom unit. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): I'm sorry, Minister Kuksuk. What did you say?

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): He was asking what size the units are that we were talking about yesterday when we construct houses for that amount. My response is two- and three-bedroom units that cost that much. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. I apologize. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If it's a ten-plex, can you use an example? Looking at the 2015-16 annual report on page 35, they built ten units in Coral Harbour. Can the minister say how much those ten units cost? I think it was a ten-plex. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I don't have the figures on exactly how much it cost, but I believe our chief financial officer has the figures and I would like him to respond. Thank you.

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

Mr. Moyo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to make sure I understand, the Coral Harbour ten-plex? It was \$4.2 million. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the response. I wanted to find out if it saves

you money when you build more units in a multiplex.

(interpretation ends) I'm going to make some references to your *Blueprint for Action on Housing* and one of the actions. In Action 7 you talk about conducting market and statistical analyses to determine the need for public housing construction. Can you elaborate, under that action, what you plan on coming out with after that action? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I'll have my deputy respond to that as to what we're doing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Audla.

Mr. Audla (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) On Action 7, the action is to conduct market and statistical analyses to determine the need for public housing construction.

We will be working with the Nunavut Bureau of Statistics to conduct market and statistical analyses to define the need for public housing construction in the territory, including the number of new units needed to keep up with population growth. The analyses will include an assessment of vacant units, their impact on the greater housing picture, and their value for repurposing or renovations. We hope to do this in the short term. We will be taking the lead on this action and we will be working with Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, the Nunavut Bureau of Statistics, as well as the

federal CMHC. That's going to be completed hopefully within the next year.

Once we have done that, we will be able to make a determination as to whether these units that we currently build and five-plexes are adequate or whether we need to make improvements to see if we can try to keep up with the population growth. We know that in every community, 10 years ago we were short 5,000 units. Fast forward to now with the amount of builds that we have already made, we're still short 5,000 units. We need to look at how we can keep up with the population growth within each of the communities. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for that elaboration. It caught my eye when you were talking about vacant units. Does NHC have figures of the number of vacant units that currently need either renovations or you're trying to find others, maybe repurposing, as you stated in your action plan? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. With respect to his question on the vacant units, we don't have those numbers right now. Thank you.

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

Mr. Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I look forward to that assessment. I guess also with that, given that there are vacant houses sitting empty and with the need, perhaps the \$500,000 to repair five units might be better spent as opposed to building five new ones. That's just maybe food for thought.

Moving on in the blueprint for action, one of the actions is on land development and how you work with people at the local level to prepare for when you do construct houses. I brought it up in the House before that we need to make sure how houses are situated. Right now, for the purpose of either emergencies or climate considerations, houses that sit with doors facing a certain direction, there is hard access for, let's say, firefighters or in cases of emergencies. It's hard to get access into the house.

Just to consider that when you're building a new house, the land development should maybe consider where the front door is. We talked about having two doors in the construction of housing. That's just a comment I wanted to make. Since I brought it up, maybe the minister has a response to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk, would you like to comment on that?

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. We have to get lots and we have to make plans on the land. That's usually the first

thing we do in the communities. When we're going to construct units, we consider whether there is enough space and the municipality would need to allocate lots to construct units.

We ask the communities what kind of housing units they would like, whether it's going to be multiplex or duplex. We request information from the communities on what they would like to get. The municipalities also work with the Department of Community and Government Services in this regard. We have to work together to get the appropriate land. The communities have to identify the lot. We trust the municipalities and CGS when the housing corporation requests land.

Although I alluded to it earlier as to which way the unit should face, if the windows are facing the east where the sun rises, it would be warmer. That is what we have discussed. I remember speaking to this issue in the past, either in this House or in standing committee. We have taken that into consideration as the Nunavut Housing Corporation. We work with the local housing organizations to find out what direction the housing unit should face according to the land that is provided. That's just a supplement to the response I gave to his earlier question, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. We're on L-3. Moving on. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask a question under page L-5, Seniors and Disabled Persons Preventative Maintenance Program. The capital

estimates for 2017-18 are \$116,000. It's geared towards private homeowners. Which community uses that line item the most? That's my first question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member for his question. This program has been accessed by private homeowners in various communities in Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, minister. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe that this is a very useful program in the communities. My question was: which community uses this program the most? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I don't have that information in front of me, but Mr. Moyo has that information, so he can respond to the question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. Moyo.

Mr. Moyo: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Allow me time to refer to my document here.

For the period for the year to date, 2016-17, the Seniors and Persons with Disabilities Preventative Maintenance

Program, I believe that's what you're talking about, and we have approved only two applications for, I believe, the period to end of September. Those two applications both came from Iqaluit.

Last year in 2015-16 up to March 2016 we approved four applications. Three came from Iqaluit and one came from Arctic Bay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm very pleased that this program is there for the homeowners, but I heard that there was one applicant from Arctic Bay, which is a smaller community, and I would like to see that occurring more with the homeowners.

In Iqaluit we can just call a contractor to fix something if we have a problem as a homeowner. However, in the smaller communities, there are no maintenance people and there's no support for the private homeowners if something like their furnaces break down.

I would like to ask the corporation: can you establish a program for homeowners that will provide more services or training so that they have the skills necessary to maintain and repair their own homes? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank the member. I agree with the member. In the smaller communities especially, there are no maintenance people when

homeowners need maintenance in their homes.

I understand the member's question. I would like to tell my fellow members that we have considered this aspect and we will look into this issue to see how we can improve the situation. In the smaller communities it's very difficult for them to find a maintenance person to do repairs in their own homes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm very pleased that he's willing to look into that. This can be very beneficial to the homeowners and also to the government. Can the minister commit to tabling a report in the future? We need to improve this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. We will be reviewing this. Although we will not complete the review right away, we will consult with the LHOs and work with them. We will look into that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have less than a year. Can the minister commit to tabling a report as to what kinds of programs they will be providing to the homeowners in the smaller communities so that they can provide programs and services for them

to maintain their homes? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I would be very pleased to table such a report on the status and how much progress has been achieved. However, this is an item we need to complete. We will review this in detail and if possible, we hope to table it in the winter sitting and that would be acceptable, but I anticipate that it may take a bit longer after that sitting. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, minister. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I wanted to see that while we still have some time in our term. If it could be completed, this is our only window to actually see that. That is why I wanted to know if it would be the winter or spring sitting and limit it to one of those sittings. I would like an answer on this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I would expect this to be completed by the springtime. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Mr. Okalik, do you still have questions?

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Now that I know which sitting, I will use the spring sitting as my limit. When we meet in the

springtime, I will again remind him if the report hasn't been completed. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is it for me.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We will expect that in the springtime.

We are on page L-3. Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to welcome the minister, Terry, and the one on the left.

I wasn't going to comment on the issue the member was commenting on, but Arctic Bay is a smaller community and there are private homeowners there. In the past we have experienced many problems with our furnaces. This is very important. The homeowners can't maintain their furnaces themselves and when their furnaces break down, they have no one to approach in the smaller communities and it's a problem.

The local housing organization is always busy on a daily basis and the homeowners don't know where to go to when their house needs maintenance or if they're having issues with their water pipes, especially in Resolute Bay and my community. Will you commit to considering how you can provide those programs and services for homeowners in the smaller communities so that they can get help with the maintenance of their homes with the use of local housing organizations' maintenance staff? Can you elaborate further to me if they will be able to use the LHO maintenance staff? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. As I stated earlier, we will be reviewing this and looking at how smaller communities experience these problems due to the lack of contractors who can provide maintenance or repair work for these units, which is not really an issue in the larger communities.

When LHO maintenance staff are not too busy and they're caught up with their maintenance work, they could be asked to do the work. The maintenance staff of LHOs can be requested to do the work in the private homes as long as they're not too busy. With the contractors outside of the community, such as Arctic Bay, we would be able to bring a person to work on the private homes if there is no contractor in the community.

To elaborate further to my colleague, I believe that you're asking us to review this. Yes, I will expect this coming spring session that my department will have completed the review. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Mr. Shooyook, do you have another question? Mr. Shooyook.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess you didn't see me.

It is of concern to the smaller communities because we have issues with plumbing, wiring, and other housing issues like boiler problems.

I'm telling you that there is an individual in my community who submits bids on contracts. There is a tradesperson in our community who is willing to provide

that sort of work. The contract that is tendered has had no takers. Can that person ask to be eligible for that contract based on their credentials, especially when no one bids on that contract? Electrical wires are very dangerous when they are no longer functioning properly and perhaps cause a fire.

I'm aware that the LHO is overwhelmed with work, resulting in some units being taken off power for long periods of time. We have to rectify that problem. It is my sincerest hope that you are looking into this. That will be my last comment. Maybe you are willing to reconsider possibly contracting the individual from my community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Yes, as I indicated earlier, especially in the smaller communities, there are hardly any contractors available who can provide the maintenance and service work. As the housing corporation, we are responsible to identify available contractors in the communities. There are quite a number of individuals we can look at prior to the spring sitting. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We're on the Nunavut Housing Corporation. Nunavut Housing Corporation. Total Capital Expenditures. \$39,965,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Turn to page 2. It reads, Nunavut Housing Corporation. Detail of

Expenditures. Total Capital Expenditures. \$39,965,000. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Are we in agreement that we have concluded the capital estimates for the Nunavut Housing Corporation?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister's officials out. Before we do that, Minister Kuksuk, if you have any closing comments, I now give you the floor.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I also thank you for asking good questions.

I would also like to thank the officials and the Nunavut Housing Corporation staff who I'm sure are watching the proceedings. We will make sure that we look at all the issues that were brought up.

I would like to thank the interpreters once again. Thank you very much.

I again thank my officials who are here with me at the witness table. I thank all of you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Kuksuk. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister's officials out.

While we're doing that, please make sure that you have your white legislation binders and refer to Bill 24. They're in

your legislation binders.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. We will proceed with Bill 24. I do apologize because I do not have the Inuktitut copy, so I'll just follow the English.

(interpretation ends) Bill 24, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2017-2018*. (interpretation) Clause 1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Let's go to page 2. It reads, (interpretation ends) Amounts Appropriated for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2018. Vote 2: Capital. Total Capital Appropriation. \$200,644,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Go back to page 1. Clause 4. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Does the committee agree to Bill 24 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Do members agree, pursuant to Rule 62(2), that Bill 24 can now be placed on the orders of the day for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We will take a five-minute break.

>>*Committee recessed at 17:24 and resumed at 17:31*

**Bill 20 – Supplementary
Appropriation (Operations &
Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2015-
2016 – Consideration in
Committee**

Chairman (interpretation): I would now like to call the committee meeting back to order. We will be considering Bill 20. As we proceed with that bill, Minister of Finance, I now give you the opportunity to make your opening comments. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do have opening comments.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members. I am here today to present Bill 20, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2015-2016*.

Through this bill, the government is seeking an additional \$3,181,000 in supplementary operations and maintenance appropriations for 2015-16. This amount includes:

- \$523,000 for the Department of Justice to cover a budget deficit due to year-end accrual adjustments in compensation and benefits; and
- \$2,658,000 for the Department of Health to cover a budget deficit due to year-end accrual adjustments in compensation and benefits.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my opening comments. We will now take questions. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Before we go to questions, would you like to have officials at the witness table? Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have two witnesses. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Members, Minister Peterson would like to have his officials with him at the witness table. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister's officials in.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. Minister Peterson, for the record, please introduce your officials. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right probably wearing his Montreal Canadiens sealskin tie is Deputy Minister Jeff Chown.

>> *Applause*

He's also wearing his Montreal Canadiens socks.

>> *Laughter*

To my left is Dan Carlson, Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Welcome to the House, Mr. Chown and Mr. Carlson.

We will now proceed. Are there any general comments on the opening comments? If there are none, we will then proceed to page 4. I do apologize there is no Inuktitut copy in front of me. I'll just follow the English. Page 4. Mr. Tom Sammurток.

Mr. Tom Sammurток (interpretation): If you have those and turn them upside down, you have the Inuktitut. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation) Thank you. It's not going to be very nice if I keep turning my pages upside down. I'll just use the English for now. On page 4, please indicate by raising your hand if you have questions. (interpretation ends) 2015-16 Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) No. 3. Justice. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Total Directorate. \$523,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman: Total Department. Not Previously Authorized. \$523,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Page 5. It reads, (interpretation ends) Health. Operations and Maintenance. Not Previously Authorized. Total Health Care Service Delivery. \$2,658,000. Total Department. Not Previously Authorized. \$2,658,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Go back to page 2. (interpretation ends) Turn to page 2. (interpretation) It reads, (interpretation ends) Government of Nunavut 2015-16 Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) No. 3. Schedule 1: Operations and Maintenance. Operations and Maintenance Appropriation. \$3,181,000. (interpretation ends) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Go to your legislation binder and refer to Bill 20.

I believe you have the bill in front of you now. I only have the English copy, so I will just follow it. (interpretation ends) Bill 20, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2015-2016*. (interpretation) Clause 1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Turn to page 2. It reads, (interpretation ends) Schedule. Supplementary Amounts Appropriated for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2016. Vote 1: Operations and Maintenance. Total Appropriation. \$3,181,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Go back to page 1. Clause 4. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Does the committee agree to Bill 20 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Does the committee agree, pursuant to Rule 62(2), that Bill 20 can now immediately be placed on the orders of the day for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. We have completed that bill. Minister Peterson, you have other things to present. We want to proceed to Bill 22. Minister Peterson, if you have opening comments on Bill 22, the floor is now open for you. Minister Peterson.

**Bill 22 – Supplementary
Appropriation (Capital) Act, No.
3, 2016-2017 – Consideration in
Committee**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members. I appear before you today to present Bill 22, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2016-2017*.

Through this bill, the government is seeking an additional \$4,101,000 in 2016-17. These supplemental capital appropriations consist of:

- A budget reduction of \$31,000 to the Department of Education's capital budget related to carryover amounts for Cape Dorset's new high school and ongoing lifecycle repairs;
- A budget reduction of \$65,000 to the Department of Health related to the carryover amount for the Qikiqtani General Hospital's furniture, fixtures, and equipment; and

- A budget increase of \$4,197,000 to the Department of Community and Government Services.

The budget increase to Community and Government Services will fund various projects, including \$3,598,000 for the following projects supported by Canada's clean water and wastewater funding:

- \$500,000 for the Arviat Water Infrastructure project;
- \$425,000 for the Chesterfield Inlet Water Treatment System project;
- \$625,000 for the Sanikiluaq Water Infrastructure project;
- \$300,000 for the Emergency Water Treatment System project;
- \$875,000 for the Kugaaruk Wastewater Treatment project;
- \$625,000 for the Kimmirut Wastewater Treatment project;
- \$156,000 for the Water Plant Operation Optimization project; and
- \$92,000 for administration.

The supplemental appropriations to Community and Government Services also include the carryover of \$599,000 for the following projects:

- \$430,000 for the Gjoa Haven Hamlet Office renovations,
- \$14,000 for the Nunavut CTI upgrade,

- \$344,000 for the Cape Dorset Baler Shear, and
- A reduction of \$189,000 for the new PPD system.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my opening comments. We will now take any questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. As we proceed, are there any general comments on the opening comments? If there are none, let us go to page 4. I have the English copy, so I will follow it. Whenever you have a comment while I'm talking, you can raise your hand and your name will be written down.

It reads, (interpretation ends) 2016-17 Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) No. 3. Education. Capital. Not Previously Authorized. Total Corporate Services. -\$31,000. Total Department. Not Previously Authorized. -\$31,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Turn to page 5. It reads, (interpretation ends) Health. Capital. Not Previously Authorized. Total Directorate. -\$65,000. Total. Not Previously Authorized. -\$65,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Turn to page 6. It reads, (interpretation ends) Community and Government Services. Capital. Not Previously Authorized. Total Community Services. \$4,386,000. Mr. Joanasie.

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Minister Peterson, welcome, along with your officials.

I just have a few questions on first of all one of the projects listed under... . In your opening comments you talked about emergency water systems. I understand this is to treat sewage or that sort of thing. I think this one was a pilot project that they're trying to do in larger communities. Can the minister elaborate on what this emergency water treatment system will do? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With your permission, I would like to bring in another witness. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. The minister is requesting to have another official join him at the witness table. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort one of the officials and bring in the new witness.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. Minister Peterson, please introduce your new official that was just escorted in. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My new witness is Ms. Lori Kimball, Deputy Minister of Community

and Government Services. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Ms. Kimball, welcome to the House. (interpretation ends) Minister Peterson, do you want me to ask the member to repeat the question or are we satisfied that you can answer the question? Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We can answer the question, but I'll ask Ms. Kimball to answer it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the emergency water treatment, several years ago we had an issue in Arviat and some equipment was brought in. What this is going to do is allow us to configure that equipment in a configuration in sea cans so that we can deploy it. If we have a water quality issue such as the one in Sanikiluaq, we can quickly package this up and deploy it and actually turn it on within a matter of days. Right now the equipment would be weeks to months to be able to redeploy it. We want to reconfigure it to have an emergency system. Thank you.

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

Mr. Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the clarification. It says here in the information that was provided that it's a reverse osmosis unit and that this equipment is suitable for larger communities, but also you want to be able to deploy it to smaller communities if required. Are you looking at doing this

reverse osmosis unit in other smaller communities? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll ask Ms. Kimball to answer that question. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Ms. Kimball.

Ms. Kimball: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The reverse osmosis takes out certain types of issues. For instance, that equipment could deal with the salinity issue in Sanikiluaq. We would only deploy it if we have a water quality issue that a reverse osmosis unit can satisfy in a short term.

Building new water infrastructure takes years to go through the capital planning process and do proper design, proper planning, and proper build. We want to have this system to be able to deploy in case an emergency occurs so that we have something while we address a longer term solution. Thank you.

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

Mr. Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the other projects on the Cape Dorset shearer, you're carrying over \$344,000. Can the minister explain why they had to carry this project over? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Joanasie for the question. The carryover amount would be the balance of the total contract that we're carrying over. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Also I saw this equipment when it came into Cape Dorset. Was the equipment used for its purpose when it arrived? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, it wasn't used for the purpose as intended. When it arrived, it was damaged in transit. The plan is to repair it and use it next summer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Maybe it was during shipping that it was damaged. Is that correct? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, it was damaged during shipment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hope there was some

insurance on it and that the repairs won't be incurred by the government. Is this the case? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, there are claims against the shipping company. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I recall that when this project was brought forth, it was going to be used in Cape Dorset and then afterwards it would be planned to be used in other communities. Is this still the plan? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, that is the plan. It will be used two years in Cape Dorset in 2017-18 and then redeployed elsewhere. They haven't determined where it would be redeployed after Cape Dorset. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There's one line item under here that says, "Sanikiluaq Water Infrastructure," for \$625,000. I wonder if the minister could explain that line item please and exactly what that money is being spent on. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you. I've got paper coming down from both sides here.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Rumbolt for the question. The equipment would be used for a water treatment system to provide potable water by way of a cartridge filtration and chlorination system. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Tom Sammurtok.

Mr. Tom Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You've got a line item there, Chesterfield Inlet Water Treatment System. I wonder if the minister or his officials can elaborate on what's going to be done there. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Tom Sammurtok for the question. The plan there would be to increase the efficiency of operations in the community, including the addition of a screening system and all necessary modifications to the system to support the resulting increase in flow rate in the community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Mr. Qirngnuq.

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can you explain the wastewater treatment project in Kugaaruk so that I can understand it better? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Qirngnuq for that question. That pertains to the sewage treatment in the community. If there are repairs that are required to satisfy all the terms and conditions of the water licence, the compliance plan ensures there are no contraventions of Acts so that we can upgrade the sewage treatment facility. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Committee Motion 011 – 4(3): Motion to Extend Committee of the Whole to Conclude Bill 22

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Pursuant to Rule 6(1)(2), I wish that we would continue our sitting until we conclude Bill 22. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Rumbolt. There is a motion on the floor. The motion is in order and is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion, raise your hand. Thank you. Opposed. The motion is carried. As the motion has been carried, we will continue until we conclude Bill 22. Thank you.

We will proceed. We're on the page we started with. (interpretation ends) Community and Government Services. Capital. Not Previously Authorized. Mr. Alex Sammurtok.

Mr. Alexander Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr.

Chairman. To Minister Kuksuk, (interpretation ends) I'm not trying to take over your riding at all, but I've got a question in regard to the Whale Cove water issue that they had this summer and spring. This is indicating that the following projects are supported by Canada's clean water and wastewater funding, but I don't see anything in regard to the Whale Cove issue of their water that they had this summer. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. That is not really part of the bill we are dealing with, but maybe Minister Peterson wants to respond. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's correct. It's not part of this bill. The department is still evaluating what the solution might be for that particular issue. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize. I forgot this. There is a project for Kimmirut of \$625,000. If the minister can elaborate on what it's being used for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank Mr. Joanasie for that question. Again, that would be for the sewage treatment facility in Kimmirut to satisfy the terms and conditions of the water licence compliance plan and

ensure there are no contraventions of the Acts. They will review the system and upgrade it as necessary, and look at possible new wastewater treatment technologies that are suitable for the community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. We are on (interpretation ends) Community and Government Services. Capital. Not Previously Authorized. Total Community Services. \$4,386,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Also on this page, (interpretation ends) Total Petroleum Products Division. - \$189,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Total Department. Not Previously Authorized. \$4,197,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Go back to page 2. It reads, (interpretation ends) Government of Nunavut, 2016-17 Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) No. 3. Schedule 1: Capital. Total Appropriation. \$4,101,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Take your legislation binders and refer to Bill 22.

Thank you. I believe you now have the bill in front of you. I have the English copy, so I'll read it. (interpretation ends) Bill 22, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2016-2017*. (interpretation) Clause 1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Turn to page 2. It reads, (interpretation ends) Schedule. Supplementary Amounts Appropriated for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2017. Vote 2: Capital. Total Supplementary Appropriation. \$4,101,000. (interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Go back. Clause 4. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you.

>>*Laughter*

We're almost done. Committee members, are we agreed to Bill 22 as a whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Do committee members agree, pursuant to Rule 62(2), that Bill 22 can immediately be placed on the orders of the day for third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Peterson, we dealt with Bills 20 and 22 and we have completed them. If you have closing remarks, I give you the opportunity to make them. Minister Peterson.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank you and your committee for your hard work and scrutiny of these bills and asking us questions today.

I'm particularly thankful to the CGS staff and Finance staff in our government for identifying critical infrastructure projects under the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund that we can get on the 2017-18 capital plan and 2016-17 capital plan so that we can get the planning started, so that we can meet the cash flow of the projects over the three or four years of the projects. Those

are very critical to get approved during the sitting. I thank the committee for understanding for this on short notice.

I would like to thank my officials for appearing for me there today, again all our finance officials in various departments, and for putting all the materials together for us that we consider during these sittings. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Minister Peterson. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the minister's officials out.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-Arms. Pursuant to Rule 6(1), I now recognize the clock and I will report progress to the Speaker. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): 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 Bills 20, 22, and 24 and would like to report that Bills 20, 22, and 24 are ready for third reading. 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. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Paul Quassa.

>>*Laughter*

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

you. (interpretation ends) The motion is carried.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Keith Peterson.

Item 21: Third Reading of Bills

Bill 24 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2017-2018 – Third Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Arviat South, that Bill 24, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2017-2018*, be read for the third time. 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. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is carried and Bill 24 is ready for assent.

Item 22. *Orders of the Day*. (interpretation) I'm sorry. (interpretation ends) Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Keith Peterson.

Bill 20 – Supplementary Appropriation (Operations & Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2015-2016 – Third Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Arviat South, that Bill 20, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 3, 2015-2016*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. To the motion.

An Hon. Member (interpretation): Question.

Speaker: All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 20 is ready for assent.

Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Hon. Minister of Finance, Mr. Keith Peterson.

Bill 22 – Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2016-2017 – Third Reading

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Arviat South, that Bill 22, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2016-2017*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The motion is in order. To the motion.

An Hon. Member: Question.

Speaker: All those in favour. (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried and Bill 22 is ready for assent.

Item 22. *Orders of the Day*. Mr. Clerk.

Item 22: Orders of the Day

Clerk (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for 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 14
 - Bill 16
 - Bill 23
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 Friday, November 4, at 9:00 a.m.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 18:15*

