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Iqaluit

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

Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Speaker

Hon. George Qulaut
(Amittuq)

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

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

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

Pat Angnakak
(Iqaluit-Niaqunnguut)

Steve Mapsalak
(Aivilik)

Allan Rumbolt
(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

Alexander Sammurtok
(Rankin Inlet South)

Tom Sammurtok
(Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet)

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

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq
(Arviat South)
Minister of Community and Government Services; Minister of Energy; Minister of Environment

Hon. George Hickes
(Iqaluit-Tasiluk)
Minister of Health; Minister responsible for Suicide Prevention

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

Isaac Shooyook
(Quttiktuq)

David Joanasic
(South Baffin)

Hon. Peter Taptuna
(Kugluktuk)
Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs; Minister responsible for Immigration

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut
Tuesday, September 19, 2017**

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 13:33*

Item 1: Opening Prayer

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

>> *Prayer*

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

Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Environment, Mr. Joe Savikataaq.

Item 2: Ministers' Statements

**Minister's Statement 373 – 4(3):
Baffin Bay and Kane Basin
Exportable Bears/Fox Pelt
Increase**

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to rise today to

provide information which will be beneficial for harvesters.

Recently released survey results show that polar bear harvest levels from the Baffin Bay and Kane Basin polar bear subpopulations are sustainable and have been since the 2013-14 season. As a result, I am pleased to announce that as of July 1 of this year, the negative non-detriment finding for these populations was removed and the trade ban lifted for pelts from the 2013-14 season to present. With the lifting of this trade ban, all polar bears in Nunavut are now exportable.

Mr. Speaker, the effectiveness of the polar bear management system in Nunavut is a testament to the co-management process we have in place and the quality of the co-management partners we work with. I am pleased to see that our sustainable management of polar bears has once again been recognized, and I look forward to seeing the trade in polar bear pelts from these subpopulations grow and thrive.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to announce that as part of changes to the Fur Assessment and Advance program, the Department of Environment will be increasing the guaranteed minimum payment for prime quality fox pelts from \$38 to \$45 per pelt.

>> *Applause*

The Fur Assessment and Advance program provides an advance to harvesters for their furs and facilitates access to markets through branding and similar activities, as well as subsidizing the cost of shipping furs to market.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Environment continues to support harvesting in Nunavut as the traditional economy of the territory and as a practice that is deeply tied to the culture and identity of Inuit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Minister's Statement 374 – 4(3):
Newly Created Indigenous
Advisory Circle at the Winnipeg
Art Gallery**

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Good afternoon, Nunavummiut, my fellow residents of Arviat, and the people of Whale Cove.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce the Government of Nunavut's representation on the newly formed Indigenous Advisory Circle at the Winnipeg Art Gallery (WAG).

The circle consists of Inuit, Métis and First Nations artists, leaders, scholars, and elders from across Inuit Nunangat and Manitoba. The Department of Culture and Heritage curator, Krista Zawadski, is a member of this circle.

The circle was created to give voice to Indigenous people – Inuit, First Nations, and Métis – and is mandated to lead and guide the discussion in the Winnipeg Art Gallery's overall structures, such as exhibitions, education, governance and programming, in areas such as content, collections, and training. This circle will

also influence the design of the future Inuit Art Centre at the Winnipeg Art Gallery.

Further, since last May, ground has been broken at the future site of the Inuit Art Centre adjacent to the Winnipeg Art Gallery. We look forward to the construction of the new Inuit Art Centre and the impacts it will have on the Inuit art world. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Minister's Statement 375 – 4(3):
Arctic College Environmental
Technology Program Celebrates
30th Anniversary**

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day to my fellow residents of Igloolik, Nunavummiut, and my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise in the House today to congratulate Nunavut Arctic College's Environmental Technology Program on achieving 30 years of success.

First started in 1987, the Environmental Technology Program is a two-year diploma program that has had many graduates who are now contributing to our territory in a wide variety of environmental and research-related careers.

Mr. Speaker, this highly successful and celebrated program has grown beyond its original home in Iqaluit to other

communities through the college's Community Programs Division. For the previous two years the program has been offered in Cambridge Bay in anticipation for the opening of the Canadian High Arctic Research Station this fall.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating our Environmental Technology Program on its 30 years of success and in wishing them all the best of luck for 30 more years and beyond. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Minister's Statement 376 – 4(3):
Imago Mundi**

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my pleasure to announce Nunavut's participation in an international art exhibition, Imago Mundi, entitled *Land of Arctic Ice – Contemporary Inuit Artists*. This project is organized by the Benetton Foundation and is taking place in Venice, Italy from August 29 until October 29, 2017, coinciding with the Venice Biennale.

(interpretation ends) Imago Mundi is Luciano Benetton's vision of creating a global project which offers "art without borders that transcends differences, breaks the silence, pushes civilization towards new horizons."

Artists were invited to create an original work of art of their choice on a 10 by 12

[centimetre] canvas. (interpretation) There is great talent and imagination on display, using paint, pencil, stone, fur, beads, fabric, and many other materials. In total 140 pieces were chosen for the "Land of Arctic Ice – Contemporary Inuit Artists" collection.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I am excited by the opportunity for Nunavut artists to exhibit their work on the world stage at this prestigious event. Imago Mundi and the Venice Biennale are outstanding international platforms to promote art and culture.

The art produced and displayed by Nunavummiut will invite attendees of the event to engage with our Nunavut artists' work and experience the spirit of the Arctic. I applaud the talent and achievements of Nunavut's artists on the world stage. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ministers' Statements. The Hon. Minister of Family Services, Hon. Johnny Mike.

**Minister's Statement 377 – 4(3):
Nunavut Sivuniksavut**

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day to the people of Pangnirtung and Nunavut, as well as to the visitors in the gallery. Good day to my fellow members and ministerial colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the 2017 graduates of Nunavut Sivuniksavut.

The Nunavut Sivuniksavut program plays an integral role in the development of Inuit youth's knowledge of Inuit history, culture, and language. With the knowledge, skills, and abilities gained through the Nunavut Sivuniksavut program, graduates will contribute to the future of Nunavut.

The Department of Family Services recognizes the importance of Nunavut Inuit youth having opportunities to attend post-secondary education, particularly those that foster unique cultural and academic learning experiences.

Through the Financial Assistance for the Nunavut Students program, the department demonstrates its commitment to helping students achieve their goals by offering financial support to help offset the costs of pursuing a post-secondary education. Last year the department provided approximately \$1.1 million in support to Nunavut Sivuniksavut and its students, and this year we are providing approximately \$1.2 million in support.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the 2016-17 graduates of the Nunavut Sivuniksavut program, as well as wish Nunavummiut entering the 2017-18 academic year of the program well. These students are keen to continue their education and enter the workforce, and I wish them the best of luck in their future endeavours. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Ministers'

Statements. The Hon. Minister of Health, Hon. George Hicke.

**Minister's Statement 378 – 4(3):
Indigenous Cultural Competence
Training**

Hon. George Hicke: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Jury for the Coroner's Discretionary Inquest into Suicide recommended that a cultural orientation program provide frontline staff with a good understanding of suicide risk and protective factors, along with the effects that historical trauma has had on Inuit.

Similarly the Qikiqtani Truth Commission Final Report, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Final Report, *A Journey Through Heartache*, and two recent inquests recommended cultural competency training.

Mr. Speaker, we recognize that a long-term, multi-pronged approach is needed. Last summer two deliveries of Indigenous Cultural Competency were pilot tested and were seen to be valuable for Inuit and non-Inuit alike. Following that, a train-the-trainer program funded by the Specialized Training Fund was run. There are now seven certified trainers in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, the two-day training program covers our country's history with indigenous people; self-awareness of one's own culture and values; colonization and its impact on indigenous communities; the resilience of indigenous people; the role of an ally; challenging racism; and personal and professional opportunities to contribute to reconciliation.

Mr. Speaker, to date nearly two hundred frontline, policy and senior managers have taken Indigenous Cultural Competency Training. Training is ongoing with plans to deliver across the territory throughout the year.

Mr. Speaker, we must know the past and understand ourselves before we can respond to the challenges of today. I encourage all staff to take the Indigenous Cultural Competency Training when it is available in their community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Education, Mr. Paul Quassa.

**Minister's Statement 379 – 4(3):
Northern Youth Abroad in
Nunavut**

Hon. Paul Quassa: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Fellow members, please join me in congratulating the Northern Youth Abroad program on its 20th year anniversary. Each year the program supports youth living in Nunavut to acquire professional skills and training through hands-on experience while earning high school credits. Students in the program are immersed in a cross-cultural work and learning experience in Canada or internationally.

Mr. Speaker, the 2016 program was the largest yet serving 30 youth from 17 communities across Nunavut. The Northern Youth Abroad program serves to enhance student participation and success in education, career development, and community leadership.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Education is proud to support this program. Mr. Speaker, this program promotes and supports Nunavummiut on their educational journey by providing students with an adaptable curriculum that provides access to those with different strengths and capabilities to achieve their potential.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the Northern Youth Abroad program for their 20th anniversary, but I also would like to recognize them for their active efforts in supporting many young Nunavummiut as they transition from youth into adulthood. Students involved in the program will be an ambassador for our territory as they interact and work with other youth from the rest of the world. Our students will come back to us with an enriched knowledge that will inspire fellow youth in their community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Minister's Statement 380 – 4(3): Be
Prepared**

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today as the Minister responsible for Nunavut Emergency Management to remind people to be prepared when boating or going on the land at any time of the year. I also want to thank the ground search and rescue volunteers and members of the Canadian Armed Forces who often assist people to make it safely home.

It is always a good idea to have a travel plan with a buddy and to let friends and family know where you are going and when you expect to return. It is also very important to ensure that you bring sufficient as well as extra fuel and supplies on each and every trip.

A reliable source of communication should be an essential on-the-land tool, whether it be a SPOT device or a radio or a satellite phone. As well, you need to ensure that you are familiar with your area you will be travelling, review the maps/GPS coordinates, and discuss potential issues with other knowledgeable hunters.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot stress enough how important it is that as leaders in our communities we share the message of being prepared. We are all responsible for taking care of ourselves and our fellow Nunavummiut. 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 Baker Lake, Mr. Simeon Mikkungwak.

Item 3: Members' Statements

Member's Statement 648 – 4(3): Reflections on Representing Baker Lake

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to thank the people of Baker Lake for their support over the past four years.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, representing the people and community of Baker Lake in the Legislative Assembly has been the greatest honour of my life.

Mr. Speaker, when I took my Oath of Allegiance and my Oath of Office in this Chamber four years ago, I was very much aware of the heavy responsibilities that I assumed.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my family for their support over the past four years. (interpretation ends) I would not have been able to do my job without their strength.

Mr. Speaker, I always like to say that Baker Lake is a progressive community. By that I mean that the community and the people are always looking at ways to build a better and brighter future.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, in recent years Baker Lake has experienced unprecedented economic growth. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have had the opportunity over the past four years to support my community in its efforts to ensure that this growing prosperity benefits as many residents as possible.

Mr. Speaker, over the past four years I have spoken out in this House for Baker Lake. I have spoken out in favour of taking action to finally address the need to clean up the old power plant, and I have spoken out on the need for our local housing organization to receive new infrastructure and facilities. I have spoken out on issues related to housing, food security, elders care, business support, and many other matters that concern all segments of the community.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, as you know, I have not been afraid to ask tough questions of the government. (interpretation ends) Although we don't always get answers to our questions, I want to thank our ministers for doing their best to at least provide us with responses.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my member's statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The Member for Baker Lake is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Mr. Mikkungwak, please proceed.

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I want to conclude by again thanking the people of Baker Lake for having entrusted me with the responsibility of representing them in this House. I want to take this opportunity to publicly confirm that I will be seeking their support again in the upcoming election, and I look forward to returning home tomorrow to be with them. (interpretation) Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 649 – 4(3):
Reflections on Representing
Tununig**

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has been a source of

immense pride and an honour to be a Member of the Legislative Assembly in terms of a personal impact in fulfilling my role as a representative for the Tununig riding and most of all, in serving the most scenic community from all of Nunavut, namely, Pond Inlet. Did I floor you?

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, I have been humbled and extremely proud as a regular MLA, and others who accepted me into their circle. I have been enabled by my colleagues, namely, Mr. Shooyook, whose words I try to take to heart. Mr. Joanasie, you are the youngest member here and I am proud of the things you say.

The friends I have made, all of my fellow members, I am always very happy and proud that we are able to talk frankly with the ministers. Although we have had disagreements, through discussion, the people of Nunavut are able to understand more things. Sometimes I think I'm not getting an answer at all, but that's not usually the case. That's okay. We represent the people of Nunavut and the government.

Mr. Speaker, four years ago I had the honour of rising in this House to formally and publicly express my deepest appreciation and gratitude to the people of Pond Inlet for having placed their trust and confidence in me to represent them in this House during the Third Legislative Assembly. Mr. Speaker, I again have this privilege today.

Mr. Speaker, when I first took my seat in this House, I committed to being a

strong voice for my community and constituents.

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The Member for Tununiq is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Mr. Enook, please proceed.

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

I committed and continue to be committed to raising their concerns and priorities with the government. I committed to being Pond Inlet's voice in Iqaluit, not the government's voice in Pond Inlet. That's what I have tried to do.

I committed to respecting the wisdom and experience of Pond Inlet's elders while also advocating for our youth and their aspirations for the future. Mr. Speaker, I hope that I have lived up to their expectations.

Mr. Speaker, four years ago I publicly stated in this House that I would be a strong advocate for improved marine and air transportation infrastructure in Pond Inlet.

I want to take this opportunity for thanking my colleagues today for their unanimous support in approving millions of dollars in funding towards the construction of Pond Inlet's new marine facility. I thank all of you sincerely. Pond Inlet has been calling for this investment for many years, and I am very honoured to have had the

opportunity to speak for the community in achieving it.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues today for their unanimous support in approving significant amounts of funding for the construction of new housing units in Pond Inlet. Although Nunavut continues to face a housing shortage, we have achieved progress.

Mr. Speaker, I very much look forward to the next Assembly and government demonstrating the same support for Pond Inlet's air transportation infrastructure. As I noted in the House last week, I believe that there is growing awareness of the need to formally designate Pond Inlet as the hub of the North Baffin region. I am happy to note that, yet much work remains in this area to realize that and I look forward to being a part of it.

I wish to take this opportunity to formally state that I will be again seeking the confidence of the people of Tununiq in our upcoming election.

Mr. Speaker, I want to conclude with some personal reflections.

(interpretation ends) Although our deliberations and debates in this House can get heated, I believe that this reflects a sincere desire on the part of all members to represent our constituents to the very best of our ability.

(interpretation) We are all passionate in our commitment to represent our constituents and this can lead to heated debates, but it has no personal connotation. We try to work hard together for the betterment of all Nunavummiut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, you have served a full term as our Speaker, and I want to thank you for your steady hand throughout this Assembly. It has been my distinct honour and privilege to serve as your deputy during that time.

I want to conclude by saying that none of us would be able to fulfill our heavy responsibilities without the support of our families.

>> *Applause*

(interpretation) To my friends, I sincerely thank you. To the many constituents who encouraged me to continue serving them and those who advised me when I made mistakes, I thank you all.

Lastly and most importantly, (interpretation ends) I must say that my wife, Mary, is my foundation and without her I would not be the member I am. I thank her for her patience and unconditional support. Mary, I give you all of my love. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Member's Statements. Member for Gjoa Haven, Mr. Tony Akoak.

**Member's Statement 650 – 4(3):
Reflections on Representing Gjoa
Haven**

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, my colleagues, community of Gjoa Haven, and my family watching.

I understand this morning when my granddaughter woke up, the first thing she said was, "Two more sleeps."

>> *Laughter*

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to offer my reflections on representing Gjoa Haven these past four years.

Mr. Speaker, as Gjoa Haven's representative in this House, my goal has been to voice the concerns of my constituents. I would like to express my gratitude to the residents of Gjoa Haven for placing their trust in me, and to the community representatives and local organizations for the support that they provided me over these past four years.

Mr. Speaker, prior to my election, I was not very involved in politics. Unlike many of my experienced colleagues, I did not have the benefit of experiencing what it was like to represent a community on a committee or on a hamlet council.

Mr. Speaker, my work as a Member of the Legislative Assembly has been a great learning experience for me. During my tenure there have been many people that have given me important advice, and I would like to say a special "thank you" to each and every one of them.

Mr. Speaker, today I learned a new piece of advice, and I quote, "speak from the heart, and speak for those who cannot speak for themselves." I pass that advice along to all of the incoming legislators who will be elected in the next Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member of the Legislative Assembly, I have focused my efforts on addressing...

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Please proceed, Mr. Akoak.

Mr. Akoak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member of the Legislative Assembly, I have focused my efforts on addressing the need to increase support for community-based search and rescue initiatives, the importance of retaining job positions within the community, and the need for more accessible and nutritious food across the territory.

Mr. Speaker, in my role I have also supported the economic development and tourism sectors within my community. With the discovery of HMS Erebus and HMS Terror, Gjoa Haven continues to grow in popularity with tourists from around the world. I look forward to the exciting opportunities that these growing sectors will bring.

Mr. Speaker, there is still much work that needs to be done in Nunavut. Nevertheless, I believe that we have made good progress during this Assembly.

In my early term I stood in this House to speak about the issues of overcrowding, homelessness, and the need for more public housing units in my community.

Last year the Legislative Assembly approved funding for almost 100 new public housing units across the territory. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleagues for supporting this initiative and for approving funding for the construction of a significant number of new public housing units for Gjoa Haven.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my family for the support that they have provided me during my term as a Member of the Legislative Assembly. It is with their love and understanding that I have been able to fulfill my duties, and for that I am truly grateful. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Steve Mapsalak.

**Member's Statement 651 – 4(3):
Reflections on Representing
Aivilik**

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day to the people of Naujaat and Coral Harbour.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my gratitude while I have the opportunity to the people of Naujaat and Coral Harbour for having re-electing me to represent the riding. I receive a warm reception whenever I go to Coral Harbour to attend to constituency matters and they have always been very hospitable on every visit to their community.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to especially thank my constituency assistants from this mandate, in Naujaat Levi Katokra and in Coral Harbour Selma

Angootealuk. They were instrumental in keeping me apprised of any developments in my riding whenever a constituent wanted assistance on a matter. I appreciated their ability to keep me informed.

Furthermore, the person to whom I have the biggest gratitude is my wife, as she has provided unconditional support throughout our lives whenever I have put my name forward to represent the riding or in other elected public positions.

Mr. Speaker, during my tenure as an MLA in the Second Assembly I worked tirelessly to push for more jobs for the smaller, non-decentralized communities in Nunavut, to have more employment opportunities from the government to be placed in the smaller communities that would receive funding support from this government. Upon my re-election for the second time, I spoke about the need to keep the smaller, non-decentralized communities in consideration, especially when considering government positions that can be created in these smaller communities.

I certainly hope that more emphasis will be placed on these non-decentralized communities by the next government for the Fifth Assembly, to make this a priority in creating job opportunities where possible. Currently the lack of employment is the biggest hurdle faced by residents living in non-decentralized communities.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to reiterate and hope that Naujaat will be considered after the upcoming election for a possible retreat of the MLAs when they consider the direction of the new government. Our community has the resources now, such

as ample room for delegates and meeting spaces.

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The Member for Aivilik is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Mr. Mapsalak, please proceed.

Mr. Mapsalak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members, thank you.

Mr. Speaker, I really wish to extend my appreciation to the many officials who work in the Legislative Assembly, as they prepare all of the work to ensure the House runs smoothly, including our travel needs and the spaces required for various meetings we are required to hold. The meetings usually proceed with no complications.

Furthermore, I would be remiss without mentioning the interpreters, as I personally use their essential services that keep us informed in our language. They provide the linkage for us where MLAs may prefer to hear their language.

I also thank the Members of this House, as I was able to work closely with many of you. Without exception, I thank you all.

Mr. Speaker, I also personally thank you since you have been a model of consistency. We also went to school together. You are always welcoming in various meetings.

I would like to tell my constituents that I will not be running again in the next

general election. I extend my best wishes to the people who will put their name for election to replace me and all the people who will become a candidate. I wish them good luck. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 652 – 4(3):
Reflections on Representing
Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield
Inlet**

Mr. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to reflect on representing Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet. Good day to the people of Rankin Inlet and Chesterfield Inlet.

First of all, I would like to thank my family for supporting me and for being understanding of the time I had to spend away from home.

Mr. Speaker, I have also appreciated the support and confidence of my constituents in Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet and it has been a true honour to sit in this House and represent them. They have encouraged me. I have brought forward a number of issues and concerns throughout my term. If I'm re-elected, I would like to make sure that these issues and concerns are brought forward throughout my term.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I have brought forward a number of issues and concerns throughout my term.

Mr. Speaker, I have risen in this place to support our hunters in their occupations and I was very pleased to hear the recent announcement regarding the pilot project for the testing of meat for trichinella in Nunavut, which is something I have lobbied for.

(interpretation) As you are aware, Mr. Speaker, and as all of my fellow members are aware, I have been a strong advocate for services for our elders and youth. There is still much left to be done in these areas.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, (interpretation) I would like to confirm that I will be seeking another term as the elected representative for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet. I feel that I still have work to do for the benefit of these communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Hudson Bay, Mr. Allan Rumbolt.

**Member's Statement 653 – 4(3):
Reflections on Representing
Hudson Bay**

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to the people of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reflect on the past nine years of representing the constituency of Hudson Bay and the great people of Sanikiluaq in the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin by thanking my family for their support and patience over the past nine years.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, I have focused my efforts in the Legislative Assembly on issues of concern to the community and its residents. These have included the need to address the high cost of living, the need for new infrastructure such as office space, recreational facilities, public housing, staff housing, and a new health centre, the need for effective programs, services, and economic development, the need to support our hunters, and the need to protect the unique environment of Hudson Bay and the very beautiful community of Sanikiluaq.

>>Laughter

Mr. Speaker, when we work together in this House, we can accomplish a great deal. It gives me great pleasure to see 15 new public housing units and 2 new staff housing units being constructed in Sanikiluaq for this year alone. For the past three years medical patients have enjoyed the comfort of larger aircrafts to and from their appointments in Winnipeg. A new health centre for Sanikiluaq has been approved with construction scheduled to begin next summer. I look forward to seeing other infrastructure improvements in the near future.

Mr. Speaker, I have been proud to rise in the House and recognize the growth and success of Sanikiluaq's young athletes in such sports as table tennis, badminton, cross country running, and other sports. Opportunities to participate in regional, territorial and national competitions have increased and I would like to see this trend continue. There are many benefits to leading an active and healthy lifestyle.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to publicly confirm, with the blessing of my family, that I will again seek the confidence of my constituents in the upcoming general election.

Mr. Speaker, we all know that there are still many challenges ahead. However, if the next Assembly approaches these issues in the spirit of consensus and compromise, we can continue to make a difference in this great territory.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my member's statement. Thank you.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The Member for Hudson Bay is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Mr. Rumbolt, please proceed.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, members.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to take this opportunity to say that my work in the Legislative Assembly on behalf of Sanikiluaq has been helped by the strong cooperation and friendship that I have enjoyed with many Members of this House.

Mr. Speaker, the community of Sanikiluaq is a very unique and special place. Representing the community and people of Sanikiluaq has been one of the greatest honours of my life. I thank all of my constituents for the trust they have placed in me to serve on their behalf and I look forward to serving the community in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Netsilik, Mr. Emiliano Qirngnuq.

**Member's Statement 654 – 4(3):
Reflections on Representing
Netsilik**

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good day" to the people of Kugaaruk, Taloyoak, and Nunavut, as well as my fellow MLAs.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank you and my colleagues for the support that you have given me since my election to the House in the past year.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, the people of Kugaaruk and Taloyoak chose me to represent them in the by-election that was held last year. Since that time I have very much appreciated the support that I have received.

Mr. Speaker, as you also know, the tragedy that struck Kugaaruk has demanded attention and action on the part of this House and the government. As the MLA for Netsilik, I want to thank all of the Members of this House for acting quickly to approve the necessary funding to rebuild.

Mr. Speaker, as an MLA who represents two communities, I have done my best to advocate for both Taloyoak and Kugaaruk. I believe that this is the right thing to do, and if I am fortunate enough to earn the trust of my constituents in the upcoming election, I will continue to do so.

Mr. Speaker, the only thing that I can say for certain about the future is that

there is much work ahead of all of us. I believe that we were all created as equals, and I believe that we all have an equal responsibility to work together for the betterment of our people.

Mr. Speaker, my family are in my prayers at all times, and I want to finish today by thanking them with all my heart. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 655 – 4(3):
Reflections on Representing
Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu**

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) Good day.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, in every human being's life, there are days that forever stay in one's memory:

- The day you got married;
- The day your children were born; and
- The day that you took on the most important responsibility of your life.

Mr. Speaker, four years ago I rose in this House to express my gratitude to the people of beautiful Iqaluit-Niaqunnguu for having entrusted me with the responsibility of representing them during our term of office. I am amazed at how time flies. It seems like the swearing-in ceremony only happened yesterday.

Mr. Speaker, over the past four years I have worked hard to fulfill the expectations that were placed on me, and you may have noted, some ministers more than others, that I am not afraid to speak out on issues that are of concern to my constituency, the city, and the territory as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, I have always believed that we must not be afraid to speak honestly and sometimes forcefully regardless of how difficult or uncomfortable the issue might be. That belief has been the foundation of my work here in this Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, we all have distinct roles and responsibilities to fulfill.

As Speaker, you have presided over our deliberations during the Assembly with fairness and dignity. You have even given us a bit of humour on those days when you accidentally promoted some of us on this side of the House as minister.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, our ministers have the responsibility of looking beyond the boundaries of their own constituencies and working for the betterment of the territory as a whole.

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu is seeking unanimous consent to conclude her statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Ms. Angnakak, please proceed.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, my colleagues.

I know that it is not easy being on that side of the House. There are a lot of expectations placed on ministers from the public and from us, the regular MLAs, sometimes even to be miracle workers who will solve the complex issues that we often raise in the House on behalf of our constituents. Thank you for having patience with me.

Mr. Speaker, the members on this side of the House have the responsibility of holding the government to account for its decisions and actions. Collectively we the regular members are the voice of those Nunavummiut who are asking questions and wanting to know what our government is doing with regard to programs and services that it provides to Nunavummiut and how it proposes to achieve success.

Mr. Speaker, earlier in our term we held important televised hearings in this Chamber on the issue of air service in the north. These hearings raised public awareness and understanding of the complex issues facing Nunavut in this area, as well as putting pressure on the airlines to address the concerns that we raised with them.

We held those hearings as a Full Caucus, which allowed both regular MLAs and ministers to ask questions of the invited witnesses from the major airlines. Our ability to undertake such work together is a unique strength of our non-partisan system of government and I hope that the next Legislative Assembly will undertake more work of this nature.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, many Nunavummiut, including members of the Iqaluit Sailivik Society, have been working tirelessly to improve the quality of care that we must provide to our elders and seniors.

Although the Sailivik Society has made some progress in terms of getting a business plan developed for a long-term care facility in Iqaluit, our journey down this road is only beginning. I was anticipating to be much further ahead with this project than where we are today. However, I am hopeful that the next government will take elder care and the need for elder care in all communities much more seriously than in the past and address this need as a priority.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Sailivik Society for all that they do in this area.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavummiut across the territory will be making important decisions about our future in the weeks ahead. I am confident that many good women and men will be putting their names forward in the coming election.

At this time I would like to publicly confirm that I will be asking the people of Iqaluit-Niaqunnguut to again place their trust and confidence in me. I am looking forward to healthy debates and discussions in the weeks ahead.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to also reflect on how important our families are when it comes to successfully fulfilling our roles as Members of the Legislative Assembly.

It is so important, as other members have expressed today, to have our families and loved ones at our side, especially when the pressure is on to find solutions to complex issues that we raise in the House or address on a daily basis when working with our constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I have been able to do my job as an MLA because of the support and guidance that I have received from my husband, Archie, who is here with us today. I would like to thank him very much from my heart for always being at my side. I would also like to thank my children and grandchildren. They keep me grounded. I want to publicly thank them all for the stability they have provided me to do my job.

I would also like to thank my mother and father, Margaret and Michael Gardener, who have always been at my side, as well as my sisters and my extended family members who live in Iqaluit and Pangnirtung, who have all been there for me when I needed them.

Mr. Speaker, my job has been made easier by the excellent work of my Constituency Assistant, Kailey Arreak, who is also here in the House today, and I want to thank Kailey for being so diligent in her work.

Mr. Speaker, my list of people to thank continues. I want to recognize and thank our staff on the third floor. In particular I would like to say how I have appreciated the help of Alex, Siobhan, and Karen. You have guided me and have allowed me to grow in my position as an MLA over the last four years through opportunities to debate issues through the writing of questions that I wanted to ask, of which you challenged me to think

them through better, and through our general conversations about some of the difficult issues that Nunavummiut face on a daily basis. Thank you for sharing your wisdom and your knowledge with me.

Mr. Speaker, my list of people to thank is still not over. I want to take this time to thank John Quirke, the Clerk of this Legislative Assembly. John, your guidance through our sittings has been greatly appreciated. Your experience and knowledge is fundamental to the success of the past, the present, and hopefully future assemblies. Thank you for your dedication. I would like to take this time to congratulate you once again for your 45 years of service in the government.

Mr. Speaker, I want to also recognize and thank Stephen Innuksuk for providing us with his support and guidance in the House during our sittings, during our Committee of the Whole meetings, and especially during our in-camera deliberations on proposed legislation. Thank you very much, Stephen. Your help has been greatly appreciated.

Last but certainly not least, I want to thank our support staff on the first and third floors, our bookkeepers, our travel and budget administrators, staff that look after our computers; I always have computer problems. It's really good that I can go to somebody and say "help me," staff that maintain the building that we sit in here today, staff that make sure that we have everything we need to do our jobs, but often they're in the background.

Of course to our interpreters, thank you for keeping up with me when I forget

that there are interpreters and I start rambling on as fast as I could go to get my question in as fast as I can. Thank you for having the patience with me, and I really appreciate the support and the work that you do.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone seeking re-election the very best of luck. To those seeking election for the first time, I hope that you will enjoy your time finding out about the issues that your potential constituents face.

It is a time where you will learn a lot about how people are feeling in your community and your constituency, and you will gain a greater appreciation of the fact that there are no easy answers to the problems we face in Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, despite the difficulties that we face, I truly believe that through teamwork and working together, we can do and accomplish great things. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 656 – 4(3):
Reflections on Representing
Quttiktuq**

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can hardly stand up.

Good day, Nunavummiut who are watching the proceedings. For the visitors in the gallery, welcome, as well as to our Premier, ministers, and my fellow members first of all.

I want to start with a preamble about the campaign that got me elected, albeit I won't be forthcoming about my many abilities. Tony Akoak, my *ningauk*, spoke about government operations. I had no idea of how the government operated, as I am just a long-time hunter. Hunting was my only life and had no idea of how government operated.

During the Fourth Assembly I wish to atone of my personal battle that took place. Mr. Speaker, I was feeling depressed and an idea popped into my head for the first time that I had to take this opportunity to become a candidate. I stopped that idea, as I felt inadequate for the role. Within the same time frame, over several days of that week, the idea kept returning. Whenever the idea popped into my head, I would dismiss it by thinking of my inadequacies.

I loathe wearing formal dress for any occasion and I didn't have anything prepared, so I could not accept that idea. When the election writ was issued, a person approached me saying that I had to put my name on the list for election. This was the first sign that people felt strongly and it pushed me to put my name forward. I finally voiced my desire to run for the first time publicly. Mr. Speaker, with that being the case, I want to clarify that it is possible to be unilingual and a representative for a riding.

When I finally sat here for the first time, being a shy person, I was very self-aware and suffered stage fright in thinking I would have to sit here, with everyone watching me on television while I tried to speak. It felt overwhelming to do so. However, in retrospect I would point out that anyone

can overcome stage fright in a public role.

I wish to clarify that it was due to my passionate feelings about this issue. While sitting here, the idea came into my head that I had to publicly make a stance by walking out in protest and I did this during an actual sitting.

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The Member for Quttiktuq is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Mr. Shooyook, please proceed.

Mr. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my fellow members.

As I was saying, I walked out in protest. That was my first challenging time as an MLA. I was extremely passionate about the need to protect Inuit beliefs. As an example, I recalled the first retreat where I spoke about traditional Inuit beliefs and cultural skills where I said that would be my priority. I recall a member telling me that it would only cost more funding requirements if I pushed for this ideal.

As a Canadian citizen, I was told that I was trying to destroy the Canadian Constitution by fighting for this ideal, but I had no fears about pushing for change, even in that light. My objective was solely to voice Inuit beliefs, skills, abilities, and all relevant traditional practices that could help resolve that. This was the case and I committed to fighting for that over these last four years that I have experienced this at every meeting, where I pushed for

acknowledgement and recognition of Inuit capabilities. I have fought every inch of the way.

Now, I am not saying I am more capable than others for I am severely less capable than my colleagues due to my ignorance about government operations, but even with this limitation I reminisced about our past traditions when we were just Inuit. In living up to this age, I have seen tremendous changes, some of which are beneficial while others are regrettable, mostly as a result of Nunavut getting its own government. Nonetheless, there remains in the middle an unfortunate matter that I felt needed to be pushed out and improved so that it incorporated Nunavut Inuit beliefs. It is a critical matter now which requires implementation today.

This is what made me resilient in fighting for these changes here in Nunavut: not just my constituents but many other Inuit such as the many elders from Pangnirtung encouraged me to continue. They said, “Shooyook, I am proud of you. Please carry on with your work.” People from Cape Dorset, Clyde River, Igloolik, the High Arctic communities of Grise Fiord and Resolute Bay, Kimmirut, and every community in the Qikiqtani region expressed their support to continue the fight to do so.

Mr. Speaker, many people wish the same thing as I do about Inuit beliefs. For that reason I have been zealously working on realizing this on their behalf, not just because of my own capabilities. Nonetheless, with that being the case, I am regretful that I wasn't able to properly deliver this fight that I stated would be my objective. Whenever I have

conducted my work in any role, I try to complete the objectives to ensure that the job is done. I was unable to realize that and I am apologetic for my failure to do so to my constituents as this never did come to fruition, which is completely regrettable.

There is still much to be thankful for. The first colleague I wish to thank, as I fought to incorporate Inuit beliefs, is a minister of this government. I will thank Minister Keith Peterson publicly, as he set money aside specifically for *Inuit Qaujimanituqangit* principles to be used within the Corrections Division, specifically for our Inuit healers. He increased the funding for this service provision. This has had a tangible effect for the Inuit inmates who are at BCC, based on my work to incorporate Inuit practices.

Mr. Speaker, I ended up going in the middle of the year to tour all of the facilities. Many inmates expressed their pride for this change, as well as those at Makigiarvik who noticed the changes and felt less conflicted due to healing according to Inuit culture. Mr. Speaker, this is proof of Inuit capabilities that can help resolve life challenges based on traditional knowledge related to social counselling.

Mr. Speaker, along with my colleagues here on the last sitting day of this House, ministers, I can now lend my support here on incorporating Inuit beliefs so that you may move forward to implement it. It is critical at this stage. With that being the case, I extend my thanks to all the ministers for their support on this matter. My gratitude extends all the way to the bottom of my

heart, as I lack the capabilities to do this without support.

When *Inuit Qaujimanituqangit* initiatives are started and implemented in the Legislative Assembly and when my name is mentioned as being the force behind the changes, this lightens my mood as it shows how my commitment can make changes and it encourages me to continue. I gain more capability to speak due to my colleagues' pride in my verbosity.

Further, I wish to thank all of my colleagues immensely for their undying support and in particular our youngest colleague, who always sits on my left and closest to me. He has provided a lot of support and has also been passionate about fighting for suicide prevention. I am very proud of his dedication. I am proud of all of you, in particular Joe Enook. He has been especially supportive of my work and I personally thank him for that. I also thank the MLA for Kugaaruk, but I am grateful to all my colleagues. Even if I don't mention every name, I extend my thanks to you all.

Nevertheless, with this being my last chance to speak, I haven't completed my objective nor the work entailed to realize it. Furthermore, I am extremely grateful to my children and my wife, as they expressed their thoughts. They said, "Father, I want you to continue and I am proud of your work. You are an elder, yet you are adamant about this issue and you can voice your thoughts clearly."

During the last sitting when I was here, my wife told me, "Please run again and I encourage you to run." With that encouragement, I was refreshed enough

to run again, even if I won't be re-elected. I will submit my name for candidacy as many people have asked me to continue my work. As I am not finished in my work, I will be running again for my riding. For the information of all the Nunavummiut who have lent their support, I will try again.

I thank all of you as an Inuk elder. I have not given up and I am still physically capable of continuing the work. I thank our Speaker for his support, including John and Stephen, and in particular our interpreters in this process. It is due to their skill that my words are understandable with the same passion I imply. I thank you all. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 657 – 4(3):
Reflections on Representing South
Baffin**

Mr. Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I might as well get it out of the way. I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Laughter*

Speaker: The member is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? (interpretation) There are none. Mr. Joanasié, please proceed.

An Hon. Member: Whadda!

>> *Laughter*

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, my fellow members and visitors in the gallery.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the last sitting of the Fourth Assembly to pay homage to the people of South Baffin, Kinngarmiut and Kimmirummiut.

Mr. Speaker, it has been an honour and privilege for me to serve the communities of Cape Dorset and Kimmirut these past four years. I must admit that I have encountered both personal and professional challenges throughout the years. The job of an MLA is very demanding and rightfully so.

Mr. Speaker, when I was elected to this position four years ago, I vowed to focus my work on improving programs and support for young children and families, Inuit language and culture, Nunavut's education system, and the integrity of our communities. There is much work to be done in these areas and I hope to once again earn the confidence of Cape Dorset and Kimmirut to revisit these issues in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have had the opportunity to emphasize the need for improvements in Nunavut's patient relations, to increase the numbers of health care service providers in our communities, and to provide health services in all of Nunavut's official languages.

Mr. Speaker, the ability to work in our language and receive services in our language is essential to its survival and

revitalization. On a number of occasions I rose in this House to petition for more programs and policies that focused on strengthening the use of the Inuit language throughout the government. I felt that the government needed to support it.

Just yesterday the government announced its new *Inuit Language Incentive Policy* and program. Mr. Speaker, this is one of many steps that will bring us closer to fulfilling the obligations that have been set out in the *Inuit Language Protection Act*.

During my tenure I also pushed for changes to the territory's current education standards and the development of more early childhood education programs and facilities. Mr. Speaker, across Nunavut there is much work to be done to ensure that we are delivering the best education to our children.

Unfortunately in 2015 Cape Dorset experienced the tragic loss of their school. Though the community and governments have worked hard to serve our students in its absence, we still feel this loss.

I would like to take this time once again to commend the residents of Cape Dorset, teachers, the departments of Education and Community and Government Services, and all others whose hard work minimizes the effect that this loss will have on our students' success.

Mr. Speaker, there is a long way to go in ensuring that our communities have the necessary infrastructure to deliver vital services.

Mr. Speaker, since my very first day as a Member of the Legislative Assembly, I have been pressing the government to begin construction on a new power plant for Cape Dorset to permit more construction and growth in the community. While the construction of Cape Dorset's new power plant did not commence as quickly as I had hoped, I am looking forward to the completion of that project in the coming years.

Mr. Speaker, since I became an MLA, I have been pressing the government to relocate Kimmirut's airport. At that time I was informed that the government would consider conducting feasibility studies for this project.

Mr. Speaker, I am excited to say that just last week the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation announced that her department submitted the Kimmirut Airport relocation project to be considered for funding under the Government of Canada's National Trade Corridors Fund. Mr. Speaker, that's progress.

Mr. Speaker, it has been rewarding to work through all of these issues with my colleagues in this House. It has also been an honour to work through these issues with the mayors and municipal councillors, district education authorities, local housing organizations, hunters and trappers associations, and elders and youth groups of both communities. I hope to have the opportunity to continue my work with them, as well as the constituents of Cape Dorset and Kimmirut.

Mr. Speaker, with that being said, I intend on seeking re-election in the upcoming territorial election and wish

all candidates the best in their campaigns in the coming weeks.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, (interpretation ends) I also want to say that as an MLA, we're in the business of asking questions as regular MLAs, but I want to impart some questions for Nunavummiut to ask themselves in their own minds. How is Nunavut working for you or how are you working for Nunavut? Keep asking questions like us regular MLAs. Some of us as regular MLAs have our own questions of "Why is the minister rambling on a response when he could have gone straight to his pointed answer?"

(interpretation) Although I was the youngest MLA, I want to say that it felt good having been recognized by the MLAs, especially our elder right beside me, Mr. Shooyook, the Member for Quttiktuq.

We always remember that day when Mr. Shooyook walked out because he wasn't getting the answers from the minister that he was expecting on *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*. I really remember that day. It was a very important event and I'm thankful for it.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, (interpretation) those of us who are younger than most people, let us strive for things that we want. Let us teach ourselves and help ourselves progress, and it will help us.

Mr. Speaker, finally I would just like to thank my fellow MLAs and the ministers, and the South Baffin constituency assistants who have helped me in the last four years; the late Qutaiqu Kootoo, Wakta Joanasi,

Ikkummak Ivvaluajuk, Barbara Sagiaktuk, and Jeanina Barrieau.

I would like to thank my friends who have supported me. My entire family, my mother, older brothers, my younger brother, and my sisters have all supported me.

Mr. Enook said it very well: our spouses, our wives or husbands, are our foundation as MLAs. I would really like to thank my wife, Emily and our children. I love you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 658 – 4(3):
Reflections on Representing
Rankin Inlet South**

Mr. Alexander Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good day to the residents of Rankin Inlet, Nunavummiut, and fellow MLAs.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the residents of Rankin Inlet South for supporting me in my role as their Member of the Fourth Legislative Assembly of Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to thank my wife and children for being there for me even though I had to be here in this place for long periods of time and away from home.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues will be aware, I have pushed

very hard on a number of issues throughout my term. In fact my very first question in this House was to ask about a 24-hour care facility in Rankin Inlet.

As I mentioned the other day, I have made over 10 statements and asked over 20 questions on this issue throughout my term. I strongly believe that providing long-term care for our elders in their home communities must become a higher priority for our next government.

Mr. Speaker, throughout my term I have advocated for improved services in the areas of dental services and support for our youth. I have been very proud to stand in this place to congratulate Rankin Inlet athletes on their many successes in regional, territorial and national competitions.

Mr. Speaker, I have been pleased to support enhancements of Nunavut's Income Assistance Program and it has been very good to see Rankin Inlet residents move on into apprenticeship and training programs, especially as the mining industry is opening up more opportunities in our region.

Mr. Speaker, I am seeking unanimous consent to complete my statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The Member for Rankin Inlet South is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Mr. Alexander Sammurtok, please proceed.

Mr. Sammurtok: *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) I also thank my colleagues.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, while I am looking forward to progress on the new arena, the community of Rankin Inlet continues to face numerous infrastructure needs, especially with the lack of housing in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to continue my work on these issues and others. Therefore I wish to advise my constituents that I will be putting my name forward to run as a candidate in the upcoming election for the Fifth Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. There is still a lot of work to do.(interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak.

**Member's Statement 659 – 4(3):
Reflections on Representing
Uqqummiut**

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, rise today to express my gratitude and to voice my pride.

Mr. Speaker, prior to commencing my statement, I wish to voice my pride and to share in congratulating our youth in particular, who are ardent hunters and spend time on the land and not just in the communities. We have to voice our pride in youth who practise our traditional hunting activities and to express our pride in their continuing improvements in both hunting and food preparations.

Mr. Speaker, I want to extend congratulations firstly as a preamble.

Last year when my son who my colleagues saw proved his capability, he harvested his first walrus all by himself while boating in the summer. I was attending the session here.

Mr. Speaker, what I want to speak to here is that yesterday in our community the narwhal seasonal migration passed through. Qikiqtarjuaq has an annual migration when narwhals migrate south in the fall. Apparently yesterday my son was boating by himself when he harvested his first narwhal. He harpooned it himself and landed it. I want to share my pride in his continuing accomplishments firstly prior to my statement.

>>Applause

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my appreciation today to everyone in having sat here for the last three years, albeit the three years flashed by so quickly.

Mr. Speaker, I wasn't of the mind at that time of becoming one of the MLAs in this Legislative Assembly. Nonetheless, many of you know that I was involved in the Nunavut land claims negotiations. From the beginning of the AIP to the fruition of the agreement, I was involved and I thoroughly enjoyed this process. From that time after completion of the agreement, the next step was the work towards the Government of Nunavut as the first elections were held.

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The Member for Uqqummiut is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his

statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Mr. Keyootak, please proceed.

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my fellow members.

Mr. Speaker, the first thing I want to explain is the fact that Qikiqtarjuaq isn't really a traditional area, but it became one of the communities when government came. Ever since the GNWT days we have had an MLA representing us, but there was never a representative from the actual community. Over the past three years we had our first MLA originating from Qikiqtarjuaq. This is a source of pride and I am extremely grateful to my constituents who voted me in, both in Qikiqtarjuaq and Clyde River.

Mr. Speaker, shortly after I was elected in a by-election, I was told by my constituents that many people like us aren't interested in running for office, as they have other avenues that interest them. Many people have no interest in any type of political office nor are they even interested in running for office. Further, many have no desire or interest neither in politics nor in listening to the televised proceedings.

However, I was informed at the time when I was recently elected after I had meetings here, many constituents didn't like to watch me "pretending to meet," but they would become antsy waiting for the televised meetings of the Legislative Assembly as it garnered a lot of interest. This was something that I felt internally.

Mr. Speaker, we have to ensure we keep our constituents completely informed about events. I especially wish to

express my gratitude to the people of Clyde River, who are very hospitable and welcome me to their community on my constituency visits.

Mr. Speaker, I have maintained in my statements from the first day I was elected that I brought forward to my two constituency communities that both of the communities wouldn't be a higher priority than the other. I would treat them both as a singular constituency and represent them fully in the House. This has benefited me greatly. Even though I represent two communities, I have tried to treat them equally and I have maintained that to date.

Mr. Speaker, as one of the MLAs here I also tried to ensure I worked with each community government that is one of our priorities, as I have tried to work hand in hand with the hamlets by pushing for their needs. Further, any concerns the local governments want voiced is something I have tried hard to do. Board governance and fulfilling that role is something I have continued to work on ever since I became an adult, and it has become my career more or less as I have never held a job.

From the time we completed the agreement and worked towards the creation of Nunavut, many know that Inuit involved in the land claim didn't want a land claim separate from the political development. Inuit were adamant that the land claim was hand in hand with political development and wanted a government to represent the people. However, at that point in time I had neither inkling nor a thought that when Nunavut got its own government, I would become party as an elected representative. When we completed the

land claims process and it was implemented as an agreement, I didn't think I would be a part of the Nunavut government.

However, when a by-election writ came down, many people in our community approached me to consider running for the MLA seat. In particular my children were urging me to consider by asking me to run, and my wife joined our children in trying to convince me to run. Sometimes one needs encouragement to be able to stand and put one's name forward, especially by our loved ones. Without encouragement from family and without their support, many MLAs wouldn't be here. This can strengthen your resolve when you hear encouragement.

Mr. Speaker, like others here I have held a discussion with my family, especially my children and daughters, about the choices I would have to make when elections came about for our riding. I took quite a while to ponder my choices, but all of my children were promoting the idea of continuing to act as a representative by encouraging me to run. To date I have now agreed to place my name due to this encouragement from my family, so I agreed to put my name forward in the next general election.

We all know much work is still required within Nunavut and many of the things we have debated over the past few years led me to enjoy some accomplishments, especially in drafting bills for review. We have many duties in our role and some are very daunting and complex while others are easier to conduct. This principle applies to most representation work.

Mr. Speaker, many issues requiring our working together are still out there and in particular our smaller, non-decentralized communities have to be kept in mind when contemplating development within the territory. All efforts should be to ensure development occurs in their areas as well within Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, further, I want to speak to this issue. Our constituents really want to listen into these proceedings and some people in the communities, not all of them, wish to hear audio while some want to watch the televised proceedings to see what is developing. Nonetheless, some communities face technical difficulties when tuning into that channel.

People really want to listen in and in particular people in Qikiqtarjuaq want to watch our sessions, but it took almost an entire year to fix the television channel broadcasting the sessions. It has been over a year that they have been deprived of the televised proceedings. Our communication linkages should be improved throughout Nunavut. Many people wishing to either watch or listen to the proceedings really miss the chance to watch when it isn't available.

My message to the communications technicians is that there is an audience for the televised proceedings or perhaps even an audio feed available via CBC. There needs to be better monitoring of our communication linkages. Some communities wish to watch different shows or to listen in, but they aren't able to watch. For the representatives who may get elected, that should be a priority to ensure that the interested people

wishing to watch the proceedings at least have that option.

Today many of our constituents are primarily still unilingual Inuit and when they watch an Inuktitut broadcast, they take great pride in watching television in their own language. However, when technical difficulties create breakdowns, depriving them of that opportunity, it causes consternation amongst many of our unilingual Inuit and our elders in particular, who like to watch televised proceedings and not just listen to the radio clippings. The television linkages to many of our communities require modernizing, as some communities have had to wait long periods before they can have the opportunity to watch the proceedings. It will have to be a priority.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity lastly to extend my appreciation to my family for encouraging me to run again. They have committed to this request and I have received the full support of my family to put my name forward again. I believe firmly that family encouragement is crucial, both our children's and spouses' encouragement, as it shows that they are proud of our abilities to represent others. I wanted to speak to that.

When Nunavut was created, Inuit had many expectations about improvements in many areas that would assist them to realize their needs throughout Nunavut. Prior to the creation of our Nunavut government, I recall we were asked to decide what kind of government Nunavut would have. Personally I had a different idea and voted differently based on my perceptions.

We had a choice between a public government serving all residents of the territory or if it would be an aboriginal government representing only Inuit. This plebiscite was held to determine the government model we would follow. It was held by the TFN, which was the land claims body. I wasn't personally onside with that plebiscite with solely a public government that was a part of Confederation.

I wanted to have an experiment within the Nunavut government to see if an Inuit-only government was more amenable for our territory. Perhaps many of our residents would be more satisfied with this government if we had proceeded with an Inuit style government firstly. Nonetheless, the decision was made by the majority to have a public government within Confederation.

At the very least I am happy that Inuit have an opportunity to be elected to this government as MLAs. Many of us Inuit never imagined that we would end up here in the Legislative Assembly, but since we are now part of this government, it is very prideful for our people to see that Inuit can be part of government. This is the good part of the process here.

Mr. Speaker, I will be running again in the next general election. I would like to thank my colleagues for giving me their support. For the past three years it has been a learning experience on what it's like to be a Member of the Legislative Assembly. I listen to the proceedings on the radio, participate in the call-in shows, and listen to the concerns of our constituents. We have to look at the needs and concerns of our constituents.

I'm not sure how many people will be running.

I would like to thank my colleagues, the ministers, the interpreters, our Speaker, and the regular members who give me all the support I need. I thank you all. That is what I wanted to state. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 660 – 4(3):
Reflections on Representing
Iqaluit-Sinaa**

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) *Merci Monsieur le Président.* (interpretation) I, too, would like to thank you for being willing to learn even from your own mistakes during our sessions.

I am not a new Member of the Legislative Assembly. I continually appreciate my constituents from Iqaluit-Sinaa who have given good advice and who also inform me of the issues and concerns they want me to speak about in the House. If it wasn't for my constituents supporting me, I wouldn't be here.

I thank all of my fellow MLAs. By helping one another on various issues, we are able to move ahead and get things done. No matter where I sit as a member, you have all been very supportive with all the business that we have to do and actually make them look easy.

I do want to say that Members of the Legislative Assembly who are on the first floor, as an Inuk, I have enjoyed this very much because we negotiate and build strength through agreement. I thank each and every one of you during this session for showing the government that we are very concerned about our language as Inuit. If the bill is going to erode our language, then we will stop it.

The proposed legislation to the *Corrections Act* does not sufficiently incorporate *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* principles and we said no to that. We are hearing from the public that the government has to start listening to our concerns as Inuit. Our concerns have to be incorporated and implemented. If we do that, it would become the foundation that gives us strength.

Mr. Speaker, I would like unanimous consent to conclude my statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The Member for Iqaluit-Sinaa is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Mr. Okalik, please proceed.

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

We are nearing the end of our term and that is the only thing that is regrettable. We have been energized by our people and we will be more sensitive to their issues. As our term of office is ending, our track record will be scrutinized closely.

I am very pleased that I'm able to visit the other communities in Nunavut. People interested in running would share

their thoughts and the importance of being more accountable to voters and to reflect their concerns. I am very pleased and happy to hear those issues. I'm encouraging all Nunavummiut, letting them know representing voters is a serious responsibility. That is why we have to work together if we're going to resolve the issues we will face in the future.

Although I don't know what the future holds, it's evident that Nunavummiut will expect more. It will be easier for Nunavummiut. I, too, will be running again in the next election even though I don't know what the outcome will be. That will be determined by our fellow Nunavummiut. I wish you all the best.

Lastly I would like to thank all of my family, my brothers and sisters, who have been providing support to me and for letting me be here. I wouldn't be here if I didn't get their support. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) *Merci beaucoup*.

>> *Applause*

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

**Member's Statement 661 – 4(3):
Reflections on Representing Arviat**

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would like to thank the residents of Arviat. I remain thankful to them for electing me in 2013. They believed in my ability to represent the community of Arviat. It will be four years we have been here. It went by very quickly. It

seems like just yesterday that we were sworn in. It has been four years now.

Also during my campaign in Arviat, I told them that I'll be the voice of Arviat. I worked very hard to be the voice of Arviat residents as a regular member of the Legislative Assembly. When I moved across the seats as a member of the cabinet, I supported the residents of Arviat. They are very pleased with the work that I'm doing.

I would like to say to those residents of Arviat who speak to me that I listen to them and try to follow through with their wishes. I am their servant and representative after all. Ministers have an obligation to listen to all Nunavummiut. I also treat the people of Arviat the same. I want to support each and every one of them equally.

I would also like to thank the Members of the Legislative Assembly. As a regular member I worked very closely with you. Even after I moved to this side, I'm able to work closely with the regular members. It's only through cooperation and working together that we can succeed. I thank you very much for the good questions, and we have provided responses to your questions. Those four years have been very fast.

Even though today is the very last day, this government will be dissolved at the end of this session and a general election will take place on October 30.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The Member for Arviat South is seeking

unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Mr. Savikataaq, please proceed.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleagues for their consent.

I will speak in English. (interpretation ends) I would like to thank everyone in Arviat for putting their trust in me and electing me back in 2013. I have done my best to serve the Arviarmiut. I do my best for the betterment of Arviat and Arviarmiut.

I thank everyone here for working with me and working with us. It is only through working together that we can go forward.

I would also like to thank my constituency worker, Nick Arnalukjuak. (interpretation) Nick Arnalukjuak Tulugarjuaq, I thank you very much for your hard work. Even though this is our last session this day, I know that you will be working this week.

(interpretation ends) Since this is our last question period that's it for here, I can give out a few secrets here to you guys now.

>> *Laughter*

Some of my colleagues ask me, "How do you stay calm? You seem to take the pressure. Question after question in Committee of the Whole, you just keep answering them." I'll tell you the secret.

Most weekends and in the evenings we have four grandkids in the house aged 2, 4, 4, and 5. They have very little reasoning ability and they're never ever

satisfied with the answer you give them. When I'm here, it's a lot easier. I can reason with you.

>> *Laughter*

Most of the time you're happy with my answers. For the next government I think that's a pretty good training ground. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Member's Statement 662 – 4(3): Solar Energy Expansion in Kugluktuk

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) Good afternoon, colleagues, (interpretation ends) people in the gallery, Nunavummiut, and Kuglukturmiut.

A little change of pace here, earlier this summer through the good work of the Hamlet of Kugluktuk and its council, we hosted a visit with representatives of NRStor. Mr. Ron MacDonald and his team from NRStor accepted our invitation to come to Kugluktuk and assess the sustainability and suitability of our solar energy panel expansion. NRStor is a multi-faceted company that is heavily invested in the renewable energy sector.

Mr. Speaker, NRStor representatives met with the hamlet council and staff, as well as viewed and visited several locations and buildings in the community for solar potential. Their assessment of the potential of Kugluktuk moving toward renewable energy options like solar is

seemingly viable and very positive. Solar energy is passive energy and can be used in concert with other electrical energy generation like diesel. Mr. Speaker, of course all we use in the north is diesel.

Mr. Speaker, the opportunity for Kugluktuk to be on the cutting edge of this technology should help lower our electrical cost and assist in the elimination of greenhouse gases. Plans are now underway to enhance solar electrical generation capacity in our community of Kugluktuk.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the hamlet and the council, the mayor, the staff of Kugluktuk, the hamlet council, and the people of Kugluktuk for their proactive work in seeking solutions to these types of issues locally within our community.

Mr. Speaker, since this is our last day of session for this term I want to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for always being there and running good debates within this House.

Most of all, I want to thank all of you, all the MLAs that worked hard. The public doesn't necessarily see all the hard work that's done in standing committees, Committee of the Whole, preparing for the Committee of the Whole, and all this hard work that most of the public does not see.

Again, at times we don't see eye to eye, but for the most part the name of the game is to make sure that we do the best thing for Nunavummiut. I thank all the members for being open and working hard to make sure that we do the best we

can.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank all the officials that do the hard work. I wish everybody, I wish all the MLAs that are running for the next election all the best and safe campaigning.

Again, we still have to tell our young people education is the key for success in life. There's nothing wrong with succeeding in both traditional life and the modern way of life. They can succeed in both. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

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

**Member's Statement 663 – 4(3):
Reflections on Representing
Igloolik**

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will try not to speak at length. Nonetheless, let me start off with voicing my gratitude to the people of Igloolik. Actually the ridings in which we were elected now have names that seem to have no bearing on our communities.

For example, I am in the riding of Aggu and maintain that I am from the Aggu region, though that is not entirely truthful since the place name is actually on Baffin Island and it is nowhere close to the island of Igloolik. It is a misnomer in mentioning the riding of Aggu. It isn't truthful since Aggu is not situated on our island but rather on Baffin Island. Nonetheless, the name was chosen

previously in a plebiscite to name our riding and I have agreed to the name.

As for the communities, wherever they are situated in the territory and how they are named, they aren't the actual proper place name. To use the name Igloolik, Igloolik proper is the point below the existing community. The actual placement of the community lies in the traditional place that was called "pocket bay." It was originally called Ikpiarjuk.

However, I believe we all know that the community of Igloolik now has a population of over 2,000 residents. Actually within the Baffin region, aside from Iqaluit, Igloolik is the second largest community now. As it stands today, our tiny island of Igloolik hosts over 2,000 residents today. I am proud of our community situated on this small island.

Igloolik has long been said to be the most traditional community retaining the Inuit culture and language, and in showcasing it to the world, both in showing Inuit culture as well as our language. As a matter of fact today Igloolik now uses various forms of media to showcase films and has Inuit filmmakers who create feature films strictly in Inuktitut, both as videographers and as filmmakers, with feature films showing our traditional Inuit language and culture that are seen internationally. I am very proud of this fact.

Dating back to the 1970s, the government started to introduce television in the Arctic and the adjacent communities began receiving TV broadcasting. Igloolik was the only community that rejected the television

technology.

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

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The Member for Aggu 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. I also thank my colleagues.

As I was saying, with Igloolik being situated on a small island, our culture and language has been strongly protected and it is quite prominent as our main strength as a community. This is one of our greatest strengths. We must ensure we portray the strength we have gained from our ancestors and our history, and showcase our strength by being proud of our cultural identity and where our future direction lies. These are the types of things we must strongly portray.

Our forefathers and ancestors were strong and resilient, and today Inuit will continue to be strong and move forward. That is usually how this sage advice is spoken about, that it is solely due to the abilities of our ancestors' resiliency that many of us can stand here today. Let us be thankful for their legacy and let us take pride in our cultural identity, especially as MLAs preparing for the future. We want to make decisions for the betterment of our territory so that we may have a strong future and that our descendants can inherit this strength. This is why we try to resolve these challenges as MLAs.

Even after we are gone, as Inuit we can make our strength carry on. That's what we have been told to do. This is what we need to do as MLAs. We remember that before Nunavut was created, we welcomed everybody. When Nunavut was created, we were open as our ancestors were. When outside people started coming in, our ancestors helped and welcomed them. Even today we need to do that. Everyone here in Nunavut, let us welcome everyone to Nunavut.

I would like to thank the people of Igloolik. We can keep our beliefs. As my colleagues have been saying, there's still a lot of work to do. I would like to thank my family. Some of my children are in Igloolik and some are here. However, I would like to thank my fellow residents of Igloolik for allowing me to stay here for four years. The four years went by very fast. I thank my fellow residents.

As I stated, there's still a lot of work to do and I would like to carry on as a Member of the Legislative Assembly. I very much thank my colleagues. It has been a learning experience to be here. You learn a lot of things. We always hear of new ideas coming up. With that I wish my colleagues luck. Those who are running again, I wish you well.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are from the same community. Our Speaker knows that even though he's from Igloolik, the whole region near our community is called Amittuq. When he says that he's from Amittuq, he's telling the truth. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Cambridge Bay, Mr. Keith Peterson.

**Member's Statement 664 – 4(3):
Reflections on Representing
Cambridge Bay**

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have watched some of Minister Joe Savikataaq's Monday morning videos of his weekend and I think they've had a calming effect on me as well.

>>*Laughter*

Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank my family and friends in Cambridge Bay and across Nunavut for supporting me as MLA.

I thank all of my constituents for electing me three times to be their MLA. The last election results really warmed my heart. That was a tremendous outpouring of appreciation for my work over the years. It has been a real privilege for me to represent them to the best of my abilities every day. Mr. Speaker, I think all of us as MLAs should appreciate our constituents for the trust and support they have put in us.

I have learned a lot in almost 14 years as MLA and minister, all for the better. You think you have learned everything. Every day I wake up and I learn a little bit more; sometimes not all for the good, but you learn stuff. That's what we do here as MLAs and ministers.

I am very proud of all that we have accomplished and achieved as MLAs and ministers over the years working together in this House. It hasn't always been a fun time, but we managed to keep

the government moving. People are supportive of us.

As I said yesterday, I am particularly honoured that my colleagues on both sides of the House have entrusted and supported me as Minister of Finance for nine years and as Justice, Health, QEC, and Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission for various terms. I have picked up a lot of nicknames over the years as Minister of Finance. Some of them I have heard are Money Man, Grinch, Scrooge, Dr. No, and my most recent one, because a lot of us are *Game of Thrones* fans, a TV series, is Master of Coin. If anyone knows who the Master of Coin is, he is the guy that's a magician with money in the *Game of Thrones* show.

Mr. Speaker, no MLA or minister can be very effective without great support staff.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to request unanimous consent to continue my statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The Member for Cambridge Bay is seeking unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Mr. Peterson, please proceed.

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

In Cambridge Bay I thank my Constituency Assistant, Irene Amagonalok. She has been with me...I lost track...12 years. She keeps me pretty grounded in Cambridge Bay. Here in Iqaluit I thank Mike Courtney, my Executive Assistant, and Annie Akoak, my Executive Secretary. She has been

with me for nine years. Thank you to Mike and Annie upstairs.

I would also like to throw a shout-out to my former executive assistant, Nick Pashkowski. He left me two years ago. He worked very hard over the years to keep me organized and up to date on stuff every day. Imagine all the paper that comes and goes in a minister's office.

Finally I thank the good and kind people of Iqaluit for welcoming me and making Iqaluit my home away from home. It has been very much appreciated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Pangnirtung, Mr. Johnny Mike.

**Member's Statement 665 – 4(3):
Reflections on Representing
Pangnirtung**

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to speak about the Hamlet of Pangnirtung and to provide a historic background of the community.

However, I must start first with expressing my gratitude to the residents of Pangnirtung. The land around the community has been well known for many years for its scenic beauty. There was an initiative to develop a national park in our region.

Personally as a lifetime resident, it didn't seem fitting to acknowledge the scenic nature of our community. When you grow up in a place knowing the

resources and lands, the esthetic is the least of your concerns. Nonetheless, the reputation of being a beautiful, scenic place came from outside visitors. When you start to hear people speaking of its beauty, you finally notice these things. When songs were written about Pangnirtung, they spoke about the beautiful scenery.

Also because Pangnirtung has the reputation of being a scenic community, several world leaders have made trips, with various government leaders having arrived to visit Pangnirtung. There are also several famous people who visited our community, including John F. Kennedy Jr. When famous people arrived in our community, I presume it was because of its scenic reputation.

As well, when filming commenced for several famous James Bond films, it took place in the valley where the fighting scenes took place with James Bond fleeing attackers who were shooting at him. He jumped off a cliff. Some of you may have actually seen that particular sequence of scenes which was filmed in Pangnirtung. I am assuming it was due to films such as that that Pangnirtung started to gain the reputation for being a scenic community. There are several other areas that I wish to speak to related to the reputation for Pangnirtung being very scenic.

Back when I first ran for the election in our riding, my wife was actually the local reverend.

I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The Member for Pangnirtung is seeking

unanimous consent to conclude his statement. Are there any nays? There are none. Mr. Mike, please proceed.

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, my colleagues.

As I was saying, when I ran for office, my wife was working towards her resignation as the local Anglican minister. When the results came in, she made up her mind and stated she would be resigning her position in order to support my work as my wife and partner. I am immensely grateful to my wife for her steadfast support, along with my children.

When I was campaigning, I stated that if I was elected, I would run for a ministerial portfolio. I think I was too rash in that decision because of the difficulties involved with that position. When I was tasked with a ministerial portfolio, this saying kept popping into my mind to define the challenges of being a minister once I started finding out the hardship one can face, as well as needing to provide proper responses to questions. I felt that it was like being with a rabid animal; our own government (interpretation ends) a beast! (interpretation) That was my perception of this government.

I want to take this opportunity to thank my constituency assistants, Daniel Kuluguqtuq, Amie Nashalik, as well as when I became a minister, my ministerial officials. Although I can't name them all, I am grateful to them.

From the youngest resident of Pangnirtung to the eldest resident, I thank each and every one. One misses their local elders when one is used to

working with them, especially when they pass on, but that cannot be helped. I am in those shoes at this time in my role as the MLA for Pangnirtung.

I wanted to especially thank my fellow residents of Pangnirtung for being very involved in various economic development initiatives, such as fisheries, tourism, carving, and the arts such as drawings. Many of the local bodies are independently run and therefore I thank my fellow residents of Pangnirtung.

Yesterday I already expressed myself with regard to the next election, so I doubt I need to reiterate my previous statements. I thank all of my colleagues. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Manirajak, Ms. Monica Ell-Kanayuk,

**Member's Statement 666 – 4(3):
Recognizing Meeka Mike**

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm going to say something quite different.

I would like to recognize one of my constituents, the sister of the person who just spoke and my neighbour, Meeka Mike. She asked me to say that she was approved for Inuit Heritage Trust funding. She has started getting ready for her project. I have been passing by and they are repairing a boat that her father helped build.

They're going to be putting a sod house together at Qaummaarviit. It's going to be a very big one. She is going to be starting the foundation this fall. There will be many archaeologists coming in. They're looking at how the land was used in the past. I'm very proud of the fact that this work has started.

She has consulted with many elders here in Iqaluit, especially the oldest elders who will be involved this coming year. They will be taken down to Qaummaarviit and they will be looking for some bones and material for tent rafters. I very much look forward to taking a close look at it in the future. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our pride for this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

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

Item 4: Returns to Oral Questions

**Return to Oral Question 817 – 4(3):
Artefacts from the Franklin
Expedition**

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon, colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I have a return to oral question for the Gjoa Haven MLA, Mr. Tony Akoak, who asked me a question on Wednesday, September 13 in regard

to the Franklin Expedition. The question is in three parts and it goes:

Question No. 1:

“...can the minister give me a clear list of all entities that currently have permission to access the Franklin Expedition wreck sites and remove artefacts?”

Question No. 2:

“Can the minister tell us...when will these artefacts be displayed in Nunavut communities?”

Question No. 3:

“...can the minister clearly describe how Parks Canada and the Government of Nunavut are working with the Inuit Heritage Trust to ensure that each trustee has the opportunity to provide expertise and advice on all plans and events concerning the Franklin Expedition wreck sites and artefacts?”

My response, Mr. Speaker, I’m also responding in three parts:

1. Under the *Nunavut Archaeological and Palaeontological Sites Regulations* (NAPSR), Nunavut has authority over HMS Terror and as such has the authority to remove artefacts or to grant permits to other parties, such as Parks Canada, to remove artefacts.
2. Although there are limitations with access to appropriate facilities and resources within the territory to house artefacts currently, my department is exploring ways in

which artefacts can be displayed and housed within the territory.

3. Parks Canada assumed jurisdiction over the wreck of HMS Erebus under a 2015 federal Order in Council and as such it has the authority to explore the area and remove artefacts.

Parks Canada is proposing an Order in Council to add an area in Terror Bay to the previous boundary of HMS Erebus National Historic Site of Canada. The Order in Council would designate the area jointly as the Wrecks of HMS Erebus and Terror National Historic Site of Canada.

The subject ownership is of continuing discussion between the Government of Nunavut, Parks Canada, and the Inuit Heritage Trust. We are confident that the matter will be resolved to the satisfaction of all parties, and in the interim the Department of Culture and Heritage, Inuit Heritage Trust, and Parks Canada continue to work in close collaboration at all levels on the Franklin project.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Returns to Oral Questions. Premier of Nunavut, Mr. Peter Taptuna.

**Return to Oral Question 820 – 4(3):
Status of Operational Audit of
Government of Nunavut**

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a question asked by Mr. David Joanasie, Member of the Legislative Assembly for South Baffin,

No. 820 – 4(3), and the subject matter is on the status of the operational audit of the Government of Nunavut on September 13, 2017.

Mr. Speaker, the question by Mr. Joanasie:

“Information that is publicly available indicates that the consulting company that has been doing this work...received a contract valued up to \$340,000. Can the minister confirm how much this company has been paid to date? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.”

My response, Mr. Speaker:

I thank the member for the question. I can confirm that the amount paid to the consulting firm was \$334,146.31. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Returns to Oral Questions. I have no more names on my list. Moving on. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Isaac Shooyook.

Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Ms. Shooyook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to express my pride with my colleagues. From yesterday and today we have been having our last times here, and I'm finally able to recognize people.

One of my constituents, Tony Eecherk, please stand. He is a very able person from the Kivalliq who has been living many years in Arctic Bay. When he moved to Arctic Bay from the Kivalliq, he did it by boat and he made it all the

way up there, so he's a very able man. We all should be proud of him because he helps everybody in Arctic Bay a great deal, including me. He has been an important worker. He has done everything in his ability, including searches. I am very proud of him and I would like all my colleagues to be proud of him as well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Please feel welcome in the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Iqaluit-Niaqunngu, Ms. Pat Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would first like to recognize and welcome my constituents, Emilayou, Annie Nattaq, and her husband, Simon, who is working here for a while. I welcome them.

Our precious visitors are students that have come to Iqaluit from the communities to take a pre-employment training program. They're going to be learning from September until March. I will say their names. Please rise when I say your name: Crystal Ningeongan-Houston, Pitseolala Pudlat, Jordan MacMunn, Lisa-Ann Eseemailee, Caroline Nutarak, who may be not here, Judy Laisa, Pauline Kublu, Jeremie Fortier, Tai Qiatsuk, Theresa Inooya, and Iselena Natsiapik. I may have mispronounced her name. Their teacher is Darryl Andre and their coordinator, Madeline d'Argencourt, is here as well, who is Mr. Kuksuk's spouse. Please feel welcome.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Please feel welcome in the gallery. Recognition of Visitors to the Gallery. Member for Tununiq, Mr. Joe Enook.

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to recognize someone who is always here, but the staff here rarely get recognized. While I have this opportunity I would like to recognize two interpreters, Philip Paneak from Pond Inlet, who is not in the booth at the moment, and Mary Nashook, who has been an interpreter for a very long time. She is now living in Ottawa, but she knows she is from Pond Inlet. Let's welcome them. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Please feel welcome, those who work in the Legislative Assembly. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Arviat and Whale Cove, Mr. George Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I would like to recognize a couple of individuals who are here this afternoon; first, my best friend and my partner, Madeleine d'Argencourt. She was just recognized earlier.

Also here today this afternoon, it's good to see my good friend, long-time friend who now lives in Arctic Bay but like Mr. Shooyook (interpretation) stated earlier, he went by boat from the Kivalliq to Arctic Bay. I know that story and he told me about how his journey was by boat. It was a very interesting story. If you're ever sitting with him anywhere, ask him about his interesting trip. (interpretation ends) It's a very interesting story that he

can tell you about that trip to Arctic Bay. (interpretation) Leo Eecherk is here in the gallery and I would like to welcome him.

Mr. Speaker, let's all welcome those I just mentioned. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Arviat South, Mr. Joe Savikataaq.

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, would like to recognize someone that's here most of the sittings, but we don't see him much. He's originally from Arviat. Mr. Jordan Konek, who works for CBC, I would like to recognize him.

Also, in my haste earlier in my member's statement I talked about the grandkids; I forgot to mention that I will be running for re-election in Arviat.

>>Laughter

Here's my opportunity to sneak it in here for the Arviarmiut. I'm running for re-election in 2017. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Aggu, Mr. Paul Quassa.

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. They were already recognized, but I would like to

recognize Leo Eecherk, not just by Facebook this time. I used to work with his father when I was living in Rankin Inlet from 1979 to 1981. I worked with his father at the hamlet office. I am very proud of Leo. He has great abilities, as we heard from the Member for Quttiktuq. He has now lived in Arctic Bay for quite a long time now. Please feel welcome.

I would also like to recognize our page, Makpa Otak, who is from Igloolik. Her mother is in school here. It's very good that our young people can be involved in things like (interpretation ends) cadets and junior rangers. (interpretation) I would encourage young people to take part in those. I am very proud of her. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Member for Iqaluit-Manirajak, Ms. Monica Ell-Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) First of all, I would like to recognize someone from my constituency, Terry Dobbin. He has worked for 17 years with *News/North*. He has been a resident of Iqaluit for 18 years, currently a councillor with the City of Iqaluit since 2012, and the general manager for the NWT and Nunavut Chamber of Mines. Welcome, Terry, to the gallery.

>>Applause

Some of the people have left, but I, too, would also like to recognize someone in

the gallery. (interpretation) I would also like to recognize my cousin and I am very proud that he will be moving to my riding. He will be taking additional training here. My father and his father were brothers. Welcome, Leo Eecherk. Thank you.

>>Applause

Speaker (interpretation): Welcome to the gallery. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. I have no more names on my list. Moving on. My fellow members, before we proceed to Item 6, we will now take a 15-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>House recessed at 16:15 and resumed at 16:39

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you, my fellow members and ministers, for coming back. Thank you. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for South Baffin, Mr. David Joanasie.

Item 6: Oral Questions

Question 867 – 4(3): National Trade Corridors Fund

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I go to my question, I would like to recognize my wife, Emily, who is in the gallery. Welcome.

Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

As the minister is very much aware, I have very much appreciated her support for the need to replace Kimmirut's aging

airport terminal building and relocating the airport itself.

During last Thursday's sitting of the Legislative Assembly, the minister confirmed that her department has formally submitted both of these projects to the federal government for consideration for funding under the new National Trade Corridors Fund. This is something that I have strongly supported.

Can the minister indicate when she expects the federal government to make its decisions on the application? 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 the member. The federal government has called for an (interpretation ends) expression of interest. (interpretation) We have submitted one. We have heard about the project in the Kitikmeot, but we have not had any responses to the other projects that we have applied for. It will probably be around the middle of October before we hear anything from the federal government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for her response. Mr. Speaker, during last Thursday's sitting of the Legislative Assembly, the minister

confirmed that her department has submitted seven expressions of interest to the federal government for consideration for funding under the new National Trade Corridors Fund. Can she clarify if her department ranked its submissions in order of priority and, if so, can she clarify what the order was? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for his question. To date we just made a submission in no particular order of priority. They are just (interpretation ends) expressions of interest (interpretation) submissions. I would like you to know that all submissions will be considered. I'm sure that not all of them are going to be approved. The new government will be able to keep working at it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasie (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for her response. Can the minister clarify whether or not she will have the opportunity to make a presentation to the federal government concerning our submissions under the new National Trade Corridors Fund? She indicated that they would probably be getting responses around the middle of October. Would she be able to make a presentation to the federal government before that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I did that, I would be constantly working, but we do have capable employees who would be able to do those presentations. My staff has been going down south to make their presentations, and I'm sure that they will be doing that on an ongoing basis.

To clarify it further, there is more than one project we have slated for Kimmirut. One is for the relocation of the airport and the other one is the air terminal at the present airport. We have made a couple of expressions of interest for Kimmirut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 868 – 4(3): Inconsistent Road Signs in Inuktitut

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

Our laws have to be adhered to here throughout Nunavut. People out there should be informed about the contents of the law.

Here in Iqaluit there are street signs that I look at, especially those in Inuktitut. There are three types of spellings in Inuktitut, with English and French being spelled the same way. I wonder how the by-laws will be understood properly by

Inuit who don't know English when there are three different spellings saying the same thing.

I wonder what they mean by "*anginiqpaangat*." The other one says "*kilaamita ikarramit*." It's easy to understand it in English, but it doesn't make any sense in Inuktitut. The last one which is the clearest is "*ungataanuuttailigitti*." It means not to go over this speed limit and it seems to be the most accurate. Those are the speed limits that we see out there on the road signage.

It seems like we're a bit behind even though we're trying to preserve our languages. Maybe we should standardize Inuktitut signage. I wonder if it's possible for the minister to make sure that there's correct spelling in the Inuktitut language when it comes to road signage. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Languages, Mr. George Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for that question. Mr. Speaker, we have the official languages that are recognized in Nunavut, Inuktitut and those other languages. I think he's referring to the Inuit language and that we should have properly written, standardized road signage. We are dealing with this on an ongoing basis.

Some signs are correct. We just have to make some changes. Yes, I agree that there is a need to change some of the signage. We are working on this on an ongoing basis within the Department of

Culture and Heritage. The next government will have to consider this. I can't say how we are going to deal with it since this is our last day. Those and other matters will have to be dealt with by the next government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that this is our last day, but we still have unfinished work that we must prepare for the next government. If I was a unilingual Inuktitut-speaking person, how would I understand when they use different terms for the same word? I'm asking the minister to consult with the terminologists to straighten this out. We don't want any unilingual Inuit to break the law. How are they supposed to abide by the law when they don't understand it? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Languages, Mr. George Kuksuk.

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. As I indicated earlier, there is the Inuit Language Authority and there are different entities that deal with such matters. We also have the Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Katimajit and the Inuit Language Authority that have very capable management. I have complete trust in their staff. I can tell my colleague that I believe the Inuit Language Authority will proceed with such issues.

My department is always listening to the questions that are raised in this House.

My officials are listening and I'm sure the other entities that I mentioned are also listening. I truly believe that they will deal with such matters. That's the only response I can provide at this time. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 869 – 4(3): National Trade Corridors Fund

Mr. Alexander Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) My question is for the Minister for Economic Development and Transportation.

During last Thursday's sitting of the Legislative Assembly, the minister confirmed that her department had formally submitted seven expressions of interest to the federal government for consideration under its new National Trade Corridors Fund. One of the submissions was for "marine development for Rankin Inlet."

For the benefit of people in Rankin Inlet who are watching our proceedings today, can the minister confirm what type of marine development project has been submitted? 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 the member for that question. As I indicated earlier, I

haven't looked at the details. It just says "marine development for Rankin Inlet." When we're talking about marine development, we're talking about a port for ships and for offloading materials. It can also be used for other things. It would probably cost around \$60 million to build a project of this scale. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During last Thursday's sitting of the Legislative Assembly, questions concerning the need to expand Rankin Inlet's existing airport terminal building were asked. In her response to the questions, the minister indicated that her department has been undertaking work with respect to surface rehabilitation and equipment garages at the airport.

Can she clarify if an expansion of Rankin Inlet's airport terminal building is currently being planned by her department? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. The development for the Rankin Inlet Airport consists of apron expansion, a secondary taxiway, paving of the new taxiway and apron, and significant electrical system upgrades. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During last Thursday's sitting of the Legislative Assembly, the minister confirmed that her department has formally submitted seven expressions of interest to the federal government for consideration under its new National Trade Corridors Fund, including new marine development in Rankin Inlet. Will she commit to providing a copy of this submission to the mayor and municipality council of Rankin Inlet? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, today's our last sitting day. I'm not committing to anything. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 870 – 4(3): Support for Nunavut Children and Youth in Care

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

Mr. Speaker, as we are all aware, in far too many cases Nunavut children and youth who are in need of specialized

care are sent out of the territory to receive the necessary services.

Approximately one year ago the Minister of Family Services indicated that the department had secured funding for client liaison officers and they were to provide support for clients in out-of-territory placements. Can the minister confirm that those positions have or are both filled and operational? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This project is moving on smoothly. I would also like to state for interest of the viewing audience that we need to provide support to the clients that are supported and housed outside of Nunavut in order for them to have proper support and services outside of the territory. We have requested for client liaison officers and we have identified these positions in Ottawa and Edmonton.

Our department has been trying to find or hire these client liaison officers for some time, but I haven't received an update. We still have to get office space and once we have the office space available for these positions, we will move on to hiring. I can tell the member that we have proceeded and progressed on hiring client liaison officers. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm happy to hear that that's progressing along, perhaps a little more slowly than what we want.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize that it is a difficult decision to send a child or young person away from their family or community to receive care. Recently the group home for youth in Iqaluit was reopened. Can the minister provide an update on the status of the group home, including how many clients are currently being cared for and how long they will be able to stay there? 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 asking that question. Since the facility was reopened in the spring, we have three clients living there now. The capacity is eight beds for female youth. The plans that we discussed in the past during last spring session are progressing well and the facility is prepared to repatriate clients to move back into the facility. I know that the clients that are housed outside of the territory will be able to get back to the facility in Iqaluit as long as there is still room. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm a little surprised there are only three in that facility when there's just so much need.

Mr. Speaker, I'm sure that we all agree that it is much preferable to keep our children and our youth closer to home even when they need specialized services. Can the minister provide an update on how many group homes or facilities are operating under the contract to the Government of Nunavut to provide specialized services to children and youth in Nunavut and how many are outside of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Johnny Mike (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can tell you since we started taking specialized services for female youth, I know there are many housed outside of Nunavut. I can't elaborate as to how many group homes or facilities are operating under contract. I apologize, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Uqqummiut, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak.

Question 871 – 4(3): National Trade Corridors Fund

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Mr. Speaker, during last Thursday's sitting of the Legislative Assembly, the minister confirmed that her department has formally submitted seven expressions of interest to the federal government for consideration under its new National Trade Corridors Fund. One

of the submissions was for "marine development for Qikiqtarjuaq."

For the benefit of people in Qikiqtarjuaq who are watching or listening to the proceedings today, can the minister confirm what type of marine development project has been submitted? 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 the member for his question. Yes, this project was a part of the submissions for expressions of interest to the federal government. It would cost approximately \$76 million. That's the submission we provided. I have viewed the site in Qikiqtarjuaq. It would provide support to fisheries, tourism, and development of the community. As I stated earlier when another member was asking about the expressions of interest, perhaps in October we will hear more on the development of this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister will recall, I have spoken on a number of occasions about the need for a modern port in Qikiqtarjuaq that will help to support our fishing industry. This will help to create jobs for my constituents and reduce poverty. Has the minister shared a copy of her department's submission to the federal government

with the mayor and municipal council of Qikiqtarjuaq? 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 the member. This is an expression of interest. It's not a request or application as to when they're going to move ahead. At that time we will be able to identify the design phase. Even if the submission is not approved, our officials have looked at other options to make sure that they can get additional funding through various federal programs. There are other options and once we hear back from the federal government about the submission, we will be able to make a decision. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Keyootak (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for her response to my questions. Although she responded to my last question, can the minister confirm the approximate cost of constructing a new port in Qikiqtarjuaq? 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

that question. First of all, the approximate cost is just an estimate. We can't state exactly how much it will cost. It is expected to be approximately \$76.25 million. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 872 – 4(3): Community Transportation Initiatives Program

Mr. Tom Sammurtok (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation as well.

On March 8, 2017 the minister tabled her department's 2016-17 annual report on the administration of the Community Transportation Initiatives Program. I thank her for preparing and tabling this report, as well as for her response to my colleague from Aivilik's recent written question concerning this important program.

The annual report indicates that the Municipality of Chesterfield Inlet received \$100,000 during the 2016-17 fiscal year for phase 2 of the Josephine River Project. However, the municipality had originally requested a total of \$215,000.

Can the minister confirm how much the Municipality of Chesterfield Inlet has received during the current 2017-18 fiscal year under the Community Transportation Initiatives Program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. \$376,000. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tom Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The annual report indicates that the Municipality of Rankin Inlet received \$70,000 in the 2016-17 fiscal year for local access road improvements. However, the municipality had originally requested a total of \$82,000 for this project. In addition the municipality received \$17,200 for a dock upgrade.

Can the minister confirm how much the Municipality of Rankin Inlet has received during the current 2017-18 fiscal year under the Community Transportation Initiatives Program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Rankin Inlet had three access road programs; Tent City, Swan Lead, and Dianna, for a total of all the projects for \$111,000. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Tom Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister will recall, the Legislative Assembly approved a one-time increase to the budget of the Community Transportation Initiatives Program earlier this year. The budget for the program in the current 2017-18 fiscal year is \$4 million. The budget for the program in the previous 2016-17 fiscal year was \$1.5 million. Can the minister indicate how much her department has spent to date under this program during the current 2017-18 fiscal year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. We had over \$6 million of requests for this program and we have spent \$4 million. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 873 – 4(3): Support for Small Business

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

(interpretation ends) As the minister is aware, I am a strong supporter of Baker Lake's private sector and the many small businesses and entrepreneurs in my community.

The 2017-18 main estimates of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation were approved by the Legislative Assembly earlier this year. They include \$823,000 in funding for the department's Small Business Support Program. Under this program, individuals and businesses submit applications to the department for funding.

We are almost halfway through the 2017-18 fiscal year. Can the minister indicate approximately how much funding her department has awarded to date in the current fiscal [year] under its Small Business Support Program? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. I don't have the figures in front of me, but in terms of supporting the mining sector and the local aspirations of his community for wanting to create businesses that are offered or grow from the mining sector, I would suggest that his community members' initial start would be to the hamlet's community economic development officer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for her response. The version of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation's *Small Business Support*

Program Policy that is publicly accessible on the government's website indicates that the policy expired in March of 2011, over half a decade ago. When will an updated Small Business Support Program Policy be finalized and made public? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, there have been a lot of policies that were expiring this year. A lot of them were dealt with. Unfortunately we could not do all of them, and that will have to be done in the next government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand and recognize that there are a number of territorial and federal entities that provide funding for business development in the north, including the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation. I have been told by many constituents that they would welcome the opportunity to attend workshops and other training related to starting and operating small businesses. Can the minister indicate how often her department organizes such workshops in communities such as beautiful Baker Lake? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Economic Development and

Transportation, Ms. Monica Ell-Kanayuk.

Hon. Monica Ell-Kanayuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. Mr. Speaker, I don't have the figures in front of me, but there are several funding streams for those that are interested in creating businesses and start-ups for businesses and others. We fund the hamlets on economic development, as an economic development officer. There are also programs under the Small Business Support Program and the Strategic Investments Program under Economic Development and Transportation.

As you mentioned, the Nunavut Business Credit Corporation and regional Community Futures organizations also can provide loans and business start-ups and expansions. I would urge those that are interested in learning more about these to talk to their hamlet economic development officer. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Netsilik, Mr. Emiliano Qirngnuq.

Question 874 – 4(3): Mould Remediation in Public Housing Units

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation. I would like clarification.

Many housing units in Nunavut are overcrowded and many houses in Nunavut suffer from the presence of

mould in the units. This can contribute to a number of health problems for people.

In the summer of 2016 the housing corporation issued a request for proposals for mould remediation and assessment in housing units across the territory. The request for proposals identified a total of over 240 units requiring work, including 6 units in Kugaaruk and 9 units in Taloyoak.

Can the minister update me today on what work has been done to address the mould situation in housing units in Kugaaruk over the past year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for that question about (interpretation ends) mould. (interpretation) Mr. Speaker, at the beginning of 2017 there were assessments done on which units in which communities had mould problems. At the beginning of 2017 there were 22 communities where units that had mould problems were assessed. There were a total of 22 communities. There were 271 units in 22 communities that were assessed for mould problems.

I can inform my colleague that the community that he represents in Kugaaruk, there were four units needed to be worked on by contractors. They needed (interpretation ends) special equipment. (interpretation) They needed specialized contractors because the local

housing organizations don't have that specialized equipment.

Mr. Speaker, I can inform him that there were four units in Kugaaruk that needed mould remediation. It seems to only be the case in Kugaaruk of the communities that he represents. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for indicating how many units are affected in Kugaaruk.

Can the minister update me today on what work has been done to address the mould situation in housing units in Taloyoak over the past year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. With respect to the member's question on his second community of Taloyoak, I don't have the information on what work has been done in that community. It should have been included in the 271 units within Nunavut that were assessed.

Mr. Speaker, I will have my staff within the housing corporation look into it on his question. My officials at the housing corporation are listening and watching, and they will provide the information to the local housing organization after today. I want him to expect the answer.

I'll have my staff work on this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Qirngnuq (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the minister's update. My last question to the minister is: can the minister indicate approximately how many public housing units across Nunavut still require major work to address the problem of mould? If the minister has the information, he could probably answer that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. George Kuksuk (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. If I understood him, the number of units that need mould remediation or where the work has been completed, if I say it in English, (interpretation ends) the number of units to be remediated, (interpretation) there would be six communities: Baker Lake, Cambridge Bay, Gjoa Haven, Igloolik, Sanikiluaq, and Kugaaruk.

Looking at those communities added together... My math is slow, Mr. Speaker. Unfortunately I can't quote how many units. It seems like there are 35 units that need mould remediation or where the units were remediated for mould. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 875 – 4(3): Teacher Vacancies

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Education.

Mr. Speaker, the new school year has now started in almost every community across Nunavut. Some communities face challenges with space and enrollment while others face challenges with a lack of teachers.

Can the minister provide an update on how many teacher positions for the 2017-18 school year are currently vacant? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for requesting that information. To date, of the numbers that I have with me, there are 54 vacant teacher positions in all of Nunavut that we need to fill. The majority of them are in the Baffin region. There are 796 teaching positions right now for all of Nunavut. As I stated, we are still short 54 teacher positions across Nunavut that we will need to fill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasié (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the minister. Mr. Speaker, I have been informed by one of my constituents that their child is not able to start school yet because there is no teacher for their class. Can the minister clarify what steps

are taken to ensure that students receive the required number of school days in situations where school classes are postponed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the community of Kimmirut that he represents, as of September 15, two teaching positions remained vacant at the Qaqqalik School. They're awaiting another teacher's (interpretation ends) criminal records check. (interpretation) There is another teacher being interviewed who would eventually go to the Qaqqalik School.

Whenever we have a shortage of teachers, sometimes two classrooms are combined into one. It's called (interpretation ends) temporarily combining classes. (interpretation) Sometimes we look for support workers who are not teachers, called (interpretation ends) substitute teachers (interpretation) in English. Sometimes student support teachers are put in temporarily as teachers while we're looking for full-time teachers. That's what we do in Nunavut such as his community of Kimmirut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Joanasié: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the minister clarify what steps are taken to ensure that students receive the required number of school days in situations where school classes are postponed? There's an instance he explained at the Qaqqalik School in

Kimmirut where they haven't been able to fill some positions. How do they address the number of days that students have not been participating in school? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Paul Quassa: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) It's true that there are a number of school days that students are required to be in the classroom and we try to follow that. As I stated earlier, if we have a lack of teachers, what we normally do is we look at putting in substitute teachers... .

We're on our last day, so I think I'm on my last voice.

(interpretation ends) As I said earlier, I think the solution to this issue, of course, is we do combine classes temporarily, meaning that we use a teacher that, if another class has no teacher, we combine that to another class to ensure that we are following the *Education Act* as required as to how many days students are supposed to be in school. We do hire substitute teachers. We reassign student support teachers to cover classes.

At this time, as I said earlier, we are delaying the start of the kindergarten until staffing increases. As I was saying earlier, we have one position that has been successfully filled, but we are waiting for a criminal record/vulnerable sector check, which is a requirement. We have one position in the interview stage of the competition. At times some of the issues that we have to deal with, of course, are staff housing and sometimes

we have to wait for availability of staff housing.

Again, I just want to reassure the member that we do comply with the *Education Act* of the required hours of our students to be in school. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Question 876 – 4(3): Property Damage Caused by Wildlife

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Environment.

Two years ago I asked questions to the previous Minister of Environment regarding hunter cabins outside of Baker Lake that are used. It is early fall and winter is coming up. It has been two years since I asked those questions.

Apparently those cabins were able to be put in once they make proposals. Can the minister tell me if this work has been done? Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member is asking if I understood his question correctly. He is asking if any cabins can be fixed up outside Baker Lake. Anybody can fix up their cabins out at any settlement. If the member is asking about fixing them up under the wildlife damage prevention

compensation, then yes, there is a process and applications for people to apply for that fund to get their cabins more wildlife damage-proof. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak (interpretation): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'll try to make my question clearer. The cabins that need work are cabins that are used by any and all hunters. Some time ago the Baker Lake HTO submitted a proposal to fix up and renovate a number of cabins outside of Baker Lake. We know that not just Baker Lake people use them. A number of Kivalliq communities near Baker Lake use them as well. They really need to be renovated.

Mr. Speaker, I'm asking the Minister of Environment if the Baker Lake HTO's proposal was handled properly and if they had money made available to them. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm having a hard time answering the member's questions because these are questions that he had asked two years ago. Not to pass the buck, but I didn't have the portfolio two years ago and I don't have the questions in front of me.

If the member could be more clear under what program his HTO had applied, then I would have a better chance of

answering his question. They could have applied under the CHAP program or the Wildlife Damage Prevention Program or other programs. I'm sorry, but I can't answer that question because I don't know what program his HTO applied under. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Maybe the minister will understand, as it is my last question and the last session of the day of this legislature.

The Baker Lake HTO had submitted a proposal to the minister of the day two years ago to get a number of cabins out in the wilderness that are used by various hunters, whether it be Baker Lake hunters or hunters from the Kivalliq region that hunt wildlife. There were a number of cabins that were damaged by wildlife. The Baker Lake HTO at the time submitted a proposal and to date has never received a response if the proposal was going to be funded or if they are going to be receiving a reassured confirmation that the proposal is going to be addressed.

My question is: seeing that these cabins are not privately owned, but they were made long ago for public use out in the wilderness, which have now been damaged by wildlife... . The Baker Lake HTO submitted a proposal to repair these damages and to renovate these cabins to replace the doors and broken windows. Has that proposal been replied to and appropriate funds reassured to the Baker Lake HTO? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the Baker Lake HTO had submitted a proposal under the wildlife damage compensation, then they should have been notified whether it was accepted or rejected. We will look into that, but this was two years ago. This is a yearly fund. If it is wildlife damage, then they can resubmit their application if they have not heard.

When anyone submits an application to the Department of Environment for any programs, these people or organizations deserve to hear back from the department. I know what it feels like to just wait and wait and wait. If they had not heard back, I'm sorry for the Baker Lake HTO.

From the member's statement, it's still not clear under which program they did apply. If it's wildlife damage compensation and they didn't hear from two years ago, then resubmit the application and just explain all that and it will be looked into. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. The time for question period has expired. Moving on. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Petitions. (interpretation ends) Item 10. Responses to Petitions. Item 11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Chairman of the Standing Committee on Legislation, Mr. Tom Sammurtok.

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

Committee Report 035 – 4(3): An Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act

Mr. Tom Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that Bill 48, *An Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, has been reviewed by the Standing Committee on Legislation and that the bill, as amended and reprinted, is ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to waive Rule 68(6) and have Bill 48 immediately moved into Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) The chairman is requesting unanimous consent to waive Rule 68(6) and have Bill 48 immediately moved into Committee of the Whole. Are there any nays? There are none and Bill 48 is now before the Committee of the Whole.

Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters. Chairman of the Standing Committee on Legislation, Mr. Tom Sammurtok.

Committee Report 036 – 4(3): Corrections Act

Mr. Tom Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report that the Standing Committee on Legislation has reviewed Bill 40, the proposed new *Corrections Act*.

Mr. Speaker, at this time the standing committee is not prepared to formally report the bill back to the House as being ready for consideration in the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker, the standing committee has been considering the bill and has been exchanging correspondence with the Minister of Justice on this.

Mr. Speaker, today is the last day of the current Legislative Assembly.

There are a number of provisions in Bill 40 that require further consideration.

This Assembly has simply run out of time.

The standing committee is of the view that the following areas need to be given more consideration:

1. The importance of introducing a more balanced disciplinary hearing process for inmates within Nunavut's corrections system;
2. The importance of carefully considering the specific powers that will be provided to the proposed new investigations officer position; and
3. The importance of applying Inuit societal values in a more substantive way throughout the legislation, such as explicitly requiring all correctional centres to actively offer traditional counselling to all inmates.

I want to be clear that the standing committee does not believe that the next government and Assembly need to start from scratch. Good progress has been accomplished to date.

However, this legislation will have a profound effect on the success of our corrections system, the lives of inmates, and the well-being of our communities. For that reason it is essential that we get it right.

Mr. Speaker, the standing committee encourages the next government and Assembly to revisit this initiative early in its term, with the goal of resolving the issues that I have just noted today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. The report has been received. Mr. George Hickes.

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like unanimous consent to return to Item 5 on the order paper, please.

Speaker (interpretation): The Member for Iqaluit-Tasiluk is seeking unanimous consent to return to Item 5, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Are there any nays? (interpretation ends) There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Hickes.

Revert to Item 5: Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery

Hon. George Hickes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, members, for allowing this.

I would like to take this time to recognize Adam Vaughan, MP for Spadina-Fort York, also the Parliamentary Secretary for the Housing and Municipal Affairs Minister, Minister Jean-Yves Duclos. I would also like to thank, I'm assuming, your staff with you, Shannon Zimmerman and Lucy Falistine. Hopefully I have pronounced

that right. Welcome to Nunavut's Legislative Assembly. Thank you.

>>*Applause*

Speaker: Welcome to the gallery. (interpretation) Going back to the orders of the day. Item 12. Tabling of Documents. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. George Kuksuk.

Item 12: Tabling of Documents

Tabled Document 372 – 4(3): Nunavut Housing Corporation 2016-2017 Annual Report

Hon. George Kuksuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table today the 2016-17 *Annual Report for the Nunavut Housing Corporation*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. The Hon. Minister of Community and Government Services, Hon. Joe Savikataaq.

Tabled Document 373 – 4(3): NEBS Pension Plan Annual Report 2016

Hon. Joe Savikataaq: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I am tabling the Northern Employee Benefits Services (NEBS) Pension Plan Annual Report for the year ending December 31, 2016. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Tabled Document 374 – 4(3): Nunavut Liquor Licensing Board Annual Report 2016-2017

Tabled Document 375 – 4(3): Public Service Annual Report 2016-2017

Tabled Document 376 – 4(3): 2016-2017 Annual Report of the Nunavut Liquor Commission

Hon. Keith Peterson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Master of Coin, I have three items to table today...

>>*Laughter*

...for the Keeper of the Scrolls on the third floor to check off as received on schedule.

>>*Laughter*

The first is the 2016-17 *Annual Report of the Nunavut Liquor Licensing Board*.

The second is the *Public Service Annual Report 2016-17*.

The third is the 2016-17 *Annual Report of the Nunavut Liquor Commission*. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Tabling of Documents. The Hon. Minister of Education, Hon. Paul Quassa.

Tabled Document 377 – 4(3): Council of Ministers of Education Canada Meeting, July 19 to 20, 2017

Hon. Paul Quassa (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table the 106th Council of Ministers of Education Canada meeting held in

Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, July 19 to 20, 2017. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Tabled Document 378 – 4(3): Report on the Payment of Indemnities, Allowances, Benefits, and Expenses to the Fourth Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

Tabled Document 379 – 4(3): 2016-2017 Annual Report on Contracting Activities of the Office of the Legislative Assembly and the Offices of Independent Officers of the Legislative Assembly

Tabled Document 380 – 4(3): 2016-2017 Report on Members' Absences from Sittings of the House and Meetings of Committees and Caucuses for the Period April 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017

Tabled Document 381 – 4(3): Speaker's List of Outstanding Statutory Tabling Requirements

Thank you, members. I have four documents to table today.

The first item is the 2016-17 Annual Report on the Payment of Indemnities, Allowances, Benefits, and Expenses to the Members of the Fourth Legislative Assembly.

The second item is the 2016-17 Annual Report on the Contracting Activities of the Office of the Legislative Assembly

and the Offices of the Independent Officers of the Legislative Assembly.

The third is the Report on Members' Absences from Sittings of the House and Meetings of the Committees and Caucuses for the Period April 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017.

The fourth and final item is a list of outstanding statutory tabling requirements. (interpretation) Thank you.

(interpretation ends) Item 13. Notices of Motions. Item 14. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 15. Motions. Item 16. First Reading of Bills. Item 17. Second Reading of Bills. Item 18. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 27 and 48 with Mr. Enook in the Chair.

In accordance with Motion 54 – 4(3), the committee will stay in session until it reports itself out.

Before we proceed to the Committee of the Whole, we will take a 10-minute break.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>> *House recessed at 17:54 and Committee resumed at 18:06*

Item 18: Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

Chairman (Mr. Enook)(interpretation): Good evening, my fellow members. I would now like to call the committee meeting to order.

Nunavummiut who are watching the televised proceedings and listening to the radio broadcast, welcome to your House.

In Committee of the Whole we have the following items to deal with: Bills 27 and 48. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good evening. Mr. Chairman, my final wish for this committee will be to go clause by clause with the review of Bill 48. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Are we in agreement that we deal with Bill 48?

Some Members: Agreed.

Bill 48 – An Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act – Consideration in Committee

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Premier Taptuna, (interpretation) before you make your opening comments, do you have officials that you would like to bring to the witness table?

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Yes. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Premier Taptuna (interpretation) would like to have officials with him at the witness table. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

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

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my right is Deputy Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs Chris D'Arcy and on my left is Jessica Young, Manager of Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Office. Also, Mr. Chairman, in the gallery I have Erin George, Legislative Counsel. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, (interpretation ends) Premier. (interpretation) Mr. D'Arcy and Ms. Young, welcome to the House. As we begin the review of Bill 48, (interpretation ends) Premier Taptuna, (interpretation) let me give you the opportunity to make your opening comments. (interpretation ends) Premier Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to appear before the Committee of the Whole to answer any questions that you may have on Bill 48, *An Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Nunavut's *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* was last amended in 2012 to increase the strength of the privacy provisions, provide the Information and Privacy Commissioner with stronger oversight, and place

stricter requirements on the government as it relates to the collection, use, and disclosure of personal information.

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

The current amendment will achieve the following:

- Ensure the confidentiality of individuals placing requests for information with the government.
- Protect the confidentiality and privacy of records related to coroners investigations during an active investigation.
- Provide the appropriate legislative framework to include municipalities under the Act.
- Allow the government the ability to proactively disclose salary information of employees paid by public funds.
- Make the review of risks to personal privacy related to any program run by the government mandatory for public bodies.
- Provide clarification of key terms in the Act, including “cabinet confidence” and “a consistent purpose.”

- Provide appropriate protections for personal information related to human resources for the government.
- Provide the commissioner with discretion to extend the time allowable to an applicant to request a review.
- Ensure adequate protection of privileged information held by the Government of Nunavut.

Mr. Chairman, after receiving recommendations and comments from the Information and Privacy Commissioner as well as this committee, we have agreed to the following friendly amendments:

- Allow the commissioner discretion to extend the time period allowable for an applicant under the Act to request a review.
- Make records pertaining to an active coroner’s investigation subject to the Act under a mandatory exemption.
- Remove exceptions to disclosure regarding human resource information.
- Ensure the review and determination of parliamentary privilege is maintained by the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Chairman, my department has engaged in consultations with all public bodies through the ATIPP Coordinators Committee with the Department of Justice’s Legislation Division, with Tuttarviit, municipalities, and with the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut. Input provided by all the

consulted groups was given serious consideration and helped to develop Bill 48.

I am confident these amendments will address many of the concerns noted by the Information and Privacy Commissioner and by the Standing Committee on Legislation.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to have this opportunity to answer any questions you may have regarding this bill. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, (interpretation ends) Premier. (interpretation) Does the chair of the standing committee have opening comments on Bill 48? Mr. Tom Sammurtok.

Mr. Tom Sammurtok: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislation, I am pleased to make some brief opening comments as the Committee of the Whole begins its consideration of Bill 48, *An Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Bill 48 contains a number of provisions which the minister described in his opening comments.

As members will recall, a significant number of televised standing committee hearings have been held in recent years in this Chamber on the annual reports of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut. An ongoing issue has been the application of access to information and protection of privacy legislation to Nunavut's municipal governments.

Although Nunavummiut have statutorily prescribed rights under federal legislation and territorial legislation concerning access to information and protection of privacy in relation to institutions of the federal government and institutions of the territorial government, there has been no legislative framework in place concerning access to information and protection of privacy with respect to the municipal level of government in Nunavut.

In May of this year the government's response to the standing committee report on its televised hearing on the 2015-16 *Annual Report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner* was tabled in the Legislative Assembly. The response included a detailed chronology of the consultations that have been taking place over the past half-decade on this issue.

Bill 48 provides for municipal governments in the territory to be designated as public bodies through the regulations made under the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

The standing committee has emphasized the importance of ensuring that this process is undertaken over time in a consultative manner that takes into account administrative capacity at the municipal level. The standing committee supports initiatives to provide training and other resources to municipal governments to help enable them to fulfill their responsibilities. The standing committee also recommends that the government draft the relevant regulations in a manner that addresses concerns regarding the practicability of

responding to requests for records created prior to an effective commencement date.

Bill 48 also addresses the issue of salary disclosure for employees of the territorial government. This is consistent with established practices in other Canadian jurisdictions.

Bill 48 also addresses the issue of privacy impact assessments. The requirement to prepare privacy impact assessments in the design of government programs and services is a welcome initiative. The standing committee emphasizes the importance of including detailed information in the government's annual report on the administration of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* concerning privacy impact assessments undertaken during a given fiscal year.

During the minister's recent appearance before the standing committee, a total of eight motions were passed to amend the bill. A number of these were made in response to concerns and recommendations submitted by the Information and Privacy Commissioner concerning such matters as her ability to exercise discretion in granting extensions in relation to certain time limits prescribed in the legislation.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments. The standing committee recommends the passage of Bill 48, as amended and reprinted, to all members. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Sammurtok. General comments to the opening statements. Mr. Okalik.

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank everyone who is present here. (interpretation ends) Not long ago the chairman of our committee received a letter from NAM expressing concern about this particular bill and the lack of consultation that was offered to them as to how this Act will apply to the municipalities.

Can the minister before us explain how it plans to implement this bill as it applies to municipalities in our territory? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation) Thank you. (interpretation ends) Premier Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the question from the committee member. Mr. Chairman, if I can, I'll have Deputy Minister D'Arcy to respond to that in detail. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. D'Arcy.

Mr. D'Arcy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm afraid I have lost my place for a second here. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm here now.

Firstly, as the committee knows and as this House knows, we have been talking to municipalities since 2011 with respect to how municipalities may treat access to information and protection of privacy.

Over the years, in one way, shape, or form, we have spoken to NAM (Nunavut Association of Municipalities), Nunavut Association of Municipal Administrators. We have travelled to communities to assist them to go ahead and do that between then and now all to

no avail. In fact the current correspondence with respect to our lack of consultation, if you like, we had reached out to NAM and NAMA not too long ago, but we didn't actually get a response from them.

Not to say that we're concerned about that, but we certainly have been trying for the past several years to engage with municipalities. Now we are. One of the important things that we're going to do is clarify the roles and responsibilities between ourselves and themselves and the Department of Community and Government Services. Their role would include providing support to municipal corporations.

Ourselves, Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, we're the subject matter experts, so we will assist in the development and delivery of training programs, similar to the way that we offer them to the public bodies that are subject to ATIPP. As well, we are going to continue to discuss and support, along with Community and Government Services, the Municipal Training Organization and to see how we would be able to bring them into the fold to assist in the training.

With respect to the path forward, we're talking to NAM and NAMA about meeting with them during their annual meeting November 28 to December 3. That is going to be used to chart this path forward. We're suggesting that we would be able to move this forward in three different phases. The first phase would be to address privacy, the second phase to address access to non-electronic records, and then, as the committee has been concerned about it as have we,

steps to address access to electronic records.

Each phase will involve the development of implementation, compliance deadlines based on the specific needs of the municipalities, and the development of a formal curriculum for both the Department of Executive and the Municipal Training Organization to deliver.

I will try to slow down, Mr. Chairman. I apologize to the interpreters.

Once that work is done, municipalities will be prepared administratively for meaningful compliance under the legislation. We obviously don't want to bring something into force that municipalities aren't going to be able to work through. Along with that the department of the executive commits to provide updates on the status of the work with the municipalities and other affected groups. That's likely going to be through the annual reports on the administration of the Act.

Finally or perhaps not exactly finally, we are concerned about records management and, as the committee has mentioned, how we're going to handle that especially for older records. We will again continue to work with the municipalities to encourage everyone to respond to requests according to the spirit and intent of the legislation and providing historical information where it's readily accessible. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Okalik (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) Are we assured that the government will not implement those sections as they relate to municipalities until they're able to do their part and implement this legislation effectively for their respective communities? Are we sure that that will not occur until they're ready and able? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Premier Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again I thank the committee member for that question. Absolutely, yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Questions or comments? Ms. Angnakak.

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Welcome to the witnesses. Bill 48 proposes to amend the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* by adding a new section concerning the subject of employee relations in the government. The Information and Privacy Commissioner's submission on Bill 48 opposed this amendment. You have provided a motion to the standing committee that would modify the proposed amendment by removing one provision.

The question is: can you describe some of the specific problems and situations that have occurred in the area of employee relations which resulted in the government proposing this amendment to the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Premier Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If I can have the deputy minister respond to that question in detail. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. D'Arcy.

Mr. D'Arcy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the committee knows, we're not going to be able to specifically discuss individual cases with respect to employee relations.

However, it can be difficult to perform an investigation if a person isn't able to speak frankly and candidly to a person who is undertaking an investigation, an employee relations consultant or a staff member. It can be difficult if people are feeling that there could be some kind of reprisal against them. It's quite important, we believe, to be able to get to the bottom of things to protect the individual and to also protect the government.

I certainly have personal knowledge of a case where an employee may have suggested that they would seek reprisals if somebody spoke against them. I also have personal knowledge and the committee may remember that the Information and Privacy Commissioner was not particularly happy with me in particular when we refused to disclose an investigation that was ongoing because we believed and we knew that if that ATIPP request were granted, it would certainly not bode well for the government itself. I can't speak about any more specifics than that, but it was quite a difficulty.

We continue to believe that with the exclusion of the one section... . Sorry, Mr. Chairman, I may not have it right. In 22(b)(2) we're deleting, but also in clause 14, I believe, we're deleting one, as well 25.1(c). We believe with those exclusions, both the employees are protected, the government is protected, and we would be able to continue along properly.

Now, there are provisions in legislation in other jurisdictions that also allow governments to withhold information that can be deemed to be hurtful to a third party. Our intent with the amendment is to ensure that the protection of third parties and their employee relations function is explicit.

Having said all of that, there is always discussion with the union, if they're unionized employees. There's discussion with people who act as people's witnesses, if you like, if they're excluded employees. There's no intention to particularly withhold information. We just want to ensure that in the area of employee relations, we can do a thorough job for all people. I guess that's it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I thank you for your reply. Sometimes it really does feel like the employee seems to be not privy to information. For example, when a workplace investigation takes place, do the employees who are involved in the investigation have a right to information concerning the investigation after it has been concluded?

For example, I recently was involved in helping six employees who wrote letters. They signed off on the letters and they were very concerned about some things that were going on in their department. The department turned around and did its own investigation. They took the letters and they said, "Well, we're going to investigate these ourselves." After the department had done their own investigation, they came back to say that all of the six letters were wrong, that there is nothing wrong in that department, that everything was just fine.

I felt like the employees shared their information; they took that risk. They wrote a letter about somebody and they were at the point where they didn't care if they lost their employment. They just wanted change to happen, yet they weren't believed and they had no right whatsoever. They had no rights to go and say, "What was said about us? Why is the department not believing in what we stated in the letters?" That information of what the department came up with was not shared with me either, even though I had met with the minister and the deputy minister.

It seems so lopsided. The government can go investigate you and do all of that, but when you want to find out yourself, if you're an employee and you want to find out, "What was said about me?" Then all of a sudden you're not privy to that information, yet it's about you. I think in this Act it's going to be so important that you do put the same rights to your employees as the government itself wants. We need to be fair. We need to see transparency. We all need to do our best to make sure that happens. I just

ask for your comments on that. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Premier Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not privy to the detailed discussions of employee relations, but I can have Deputy Minister D'Arcy elaborate a little bit more on that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman: Mr. D'Arcy.

Mr. D'Arcy: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Two things, if I may. With respect to information relating to an ongoing investigation, we're concerned that the release of information during an investigation might compromise the ability of investigators to conduct a fair investigation. That's what I said in my last set of comments. However, once concluded, individuals still have the access to information or can request it through other bits of the legislation.

Information created or gathered for a workplace investigation, whether it actually took place or not, or information that could reasonably be expected to cause harm to the applicant, a public body or a third party, we may refuse to disclose that information. That being the case, it's still a discretionary exemption, which means that material that's protected under this exemption must meet the test of being reasonably expected to cause harm to one or more of the parties listed above. That includes the applicant himself or herself. An applicant can still request this information and it would still have to be looked at, and then I presume could go to the Integrity Commissioner as well or

the Information and Privacy Commissioner.

We disagree with the IPC's recommendation that a new provision be added to the Act to allow all information relevant to workplaces' investigation to be disclosed to both the complainant and the respondent without conducting any third party consultations. We believe that this is in direct contravention of the privacy provisions in the Act that protect the interest of third parties and has a potential to cause harm.

All of that being said, we completely understand what Ms. Angnakak is talking about and the IPC as well. We again just want to ensure fairness for all and we believe that with the amendments that have come forward with this Act, we will be able to do that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Ms. Angnakak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think what employees want too is that fairness and they want that sense of fairness that their back is covered too, and they have a concern that it's not going to be used against them.

I think that when you said that employees have the right to ask for or to ATIPP after an investigation has been concluded, I think we need to remind employees that they have that right because one of the employees has since resigned from her job. She felt that there was nowhere else to go. She couldn't do anything. She tried to bring it up.

Like I said, they're at that point where they decided, "You know what? We're going to risk it and we're going to sign these letters," but nothing really happened, so one of them has resigned. I don't know about the other ones. I haven't done a follow-up with them, but I know that one of them has resigned, a beneficiary, and it was really too bad.

We all have to improve in some ways and maybe we just need to tell your employees that you value them and that if they really do have a concern and they felt that their concern has not been addressed properly, reminders should really go out that they have other rights as well. It's just a comment. Thank you.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. Although that's just a comment, if you would like to respond, (interpretation ends) Premier Taptuna, (interpretation) I now give you the floor. (interpretation ends) Premier Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have been saying that the Minister responsible for the Department of Finance has the division of HR matters. We have been saying that. Let me assure you, I have been indicating that, that we value our employees. That's why there are other avenues that the employees in difficulty can pursue. An ethics officer and the Integrity Commissioner were also mentioned.

At the end of the day there are avenues for employees to pursue. We try our best to ensure that there's fairness all around. We've got contracts signed with the union. That's one of the avenues that they can pursue and for excluded employees, there are also other avenues that they can pursue with the support of

folks and witnesses that can be brought to a fact-finding mission. With that we try our best to make sure that there's fairness all around. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Mr. Mikkungwak: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have one question here on Bill 48, *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

As the chair of the standing committee noted, "...statutorily prescribed rights under federal legislation and territorial legislation concerning access to information and privacy in relation to institutions of the federal government and institutions of the territorial government...the municipal level of government in Nunavut." Once we pass this Bill 48, as the chair of the standing committee noted that there is no legislative framework in place currently, once the bill is passed, will there be a legislative framework in place? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) Premier Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the question from the committee member. Yes, there will be a legislative framework set up. That way we will be able to work with municipal partners. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you. I have no more names on my list. Refer to Bill 48 in your legislation binders. We will review Bill 48 clause by clause. As we review the bill clause by clause, if

you have a question or comment, please raise your hand.

I have the English copy, so I will read the English version. I believe you now have the bill in front of you. It reads, (interpretation ends) Bill 48, Reprint. (interpretation) Clause 1. Do you agree?

My apologies. Let's do it over. (interpretation ends) Bill 48, Reprint, *An Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. (interpretation) Once again. Clause 1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

Some Members: Agreed.

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

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): Clause 8. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 9. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 10. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 11. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 11.1. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 12. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 13. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 14. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 15. Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 16.
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 17.
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 18.
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 19.
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 20.
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Clause 21.
Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Now go to
page 9. (interpretation ends) Schedule A.
(interpretation) Do you agree?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you.
Does the committee agree to Bill 48 as a
whole?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you.
Members, pursuant to Rule 62(2), do
you agree that Bill 48 can immediately

be placed on the orders of the day for
third reading?

Some Members: Agreed.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you.
Minister Taptuna, we have completed
the review of the bill. If you have any
closing remarks, I give you the
opportunity to make them.
(interpretation ends) Premier Taptuna.

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr.
Chairman. I want to thank all the
committee members that put a lot of
hard work into this. It's not easy aligning
amendments to existing legislation that
we have. It is a lot of hard work and I
commend my officials for doing that
hard work with the committee and other
officials. I appreciate that very much.
Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman (interpretation): Thank you,
(interpretation ends) Premier Taptuna.
(interpretation) Sergeant-at-arms, please
escort the Premier's officials out.

Thank you, Sergeant-at-arms. What is
the wish of the committee? Mr.
Rumbolt.

Mr. Rumbolt: Thank you, Mr.
Chairman. I wish to report progress at
this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

Before I stand up, as Chairman of the
Committee of the Whole along with my
fellow chairmen, Mr. Mikkungwak and

Mr. Akoak, we would like to thank all the people who helped us here while we were chairing and our table officers, Mr. Innuksuk, Mr. Chandler, and the person who is no longer here, Nancy Tupik. Thank you. You have been a great help.

Also, to the technicians who enable you to watch us on TV, thank you for doing a good job since we started.

In addition our Inuktitut interpreters Mary Nashook, Philip Paneak, Andrew Dialla, and Blandina Tulugarjuk, and the other interpreters who have worked here, thank you.

>> *Applause*

Also, to the Inuinnaqtun interpreters, James, Allen, Attima, and the other ones who have worked here as interpreters, thank you.

>> *Applause*

All the other support staff, I'm not trying to leave anybody out, but I apologize if I did leave someone out. It's not on purpose. Sergeant-at-Arms, thank you for helping us here. To the pages that have worked here since we started, we thank all of you from the three chairmen.

I will now rise to report progress to the Speaker. Thank you.

>> *Applause*

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Item 19. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Enook.

Item 19: Report of the Committee of the Whole

Mr. Enook (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 48 and would like to report that Bill 48 is immediately ready for third reading. Also, Mr. Speaker, for the very last time in the Fourth Legislative Assembly, 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. Taptuna.

>> *Laughter*

(interpretation ends) The motion is in order. All those in favour.

(interpretation) Thank you.

(interpretation ends) Opposed. The motion is carried.

Item 20. Third Reading of Bills. The Hon. Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Hon. Premier Peter Taptuna.

Item 18: Third Reading of Bills

Bill 48 – An Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act – Third Reading

Hon. Peter Taptuna: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Aggu, that Bill 48, *An Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

An Hon. Member (interpretation): Question.

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

Item 21. *Orders of the Day*. (interpretation ends) Mr. Clerk, will you determine if the Commissioner of Nunavut is prepared to enter the Chamber to give assent to bills.

Assent to Bills

Commissioner Nellie Kusugak

(interpretation): Members of the Legislative Assembly, please be seated. Welcome. As Commissioner of Nunavut, I am proud to give assent to the following bills:

- Bill 47, *An Act to Amend the Legal Professions Act*;
- Bill 48, *An Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*;
- Bill 51, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 4, 2016-2017*;
- Bill 52, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations and Maintenance) Act, No. 2, 2017-2018*;
- Bill 53, *Supplementary Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 3, 2017-2018*;
- Bill 54, *Write-off of Assets and Debts Act, 2016-2017*;
- Bill 55, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicles Act*; and

- Bill 56, *An Act Respecting Independent Officers of the Legislative Assembly*.

In June of this year I signed proclamations concerning the dissolution of the Fourth Legislative Assembly of Nunavut and the holding of the next general election.

The Fourth Legislative Assembly shall be dissolved on September 24, 2017. The fifth general election will be held on October 30, 2017.

The date of the return of the writ shall be November 6, 2017.

At a later date I shall summon the Members of the Fifth Legislative Assembly to convene in this Chamber for their first sitting.

As you prepare to return home to your communities and families, I wish to express my appreciation to each and every one of you for your service to Nunavut during your terms of office.

I very much thank the spouses for their patience. That's the only way you can do your duties properly as an MLA. I understand it and I have gone through it.

I thank the interpreters and all of our support staff as well. Thank you, everyone.

Speaker (interpretation): Thank you. Before I close the proceedings, I wish to take this opportunity to make a statement.

Four years ago when a number of elders in Hall Beach strongly encouraged me to stand for office in the Legislative Assembly, I turned it down. I thought

deeply about their request and the elders of Igloolik, and so I asked an elder why I would be a suitable candidate to be an MLA. The response I received was, “I will see you next at the House.” That was it. Therefore I agreed to run as MLA after I had discussed it with my wife. My wife actually ordered me to do so and that’s when I agreed. Subsequently I have enjoyed my tenure as MLA.

While the public is listening to and watching the proceedings, I extend my great appreciation to the people who voted me in by placing their trust in me and for their trust in my work here as an MLA. Even though my role doesn’t allow me to express the wishes of my constituents, I can say right now to the people who voted me in from Amittuq in the communities of Hall Beach and Igloolik, I thank you for placing your trust in me at the last election.

Again, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my family and relatives for their patience and ongoing support. Today there was a very true comment made about our wives, our husbands, our partners, that we wouldn’t be here if we didn’t have their support.

My wife, Patricia Kanayuk, I truly appreciate and love you for your ongoing support. I thank my children and grandchildren for their patience and hospitality when I come back home. They do count their days when I’m going to be returning back home. I truly appreciate their patience.

I went through a difficult time when I was running for office. I wish to pay tribute to the memory of my late mother, who passed away just before I got elected. That is why I didn’t want to run

for office, but I decided to put my name forward after people expressed their confidence in me. My late mother inspired me in so many ways and urged her children to do their best. I would like to thank my mother for her support and encouragement. If it wasn’t for her, I would not be sitting here today.

I would also like to thank all of you, the Premier, the cabinet, and the regular members for your ongoing support.

It seems like only yesterday that I was carried to this Chair. I thank you all and it will always be in my heart. Thank you.

>>*Applause*

It seems like it was just yesterday, as someone stated, that we just got here. I recall vividly when I was appointed to be the Speaker. Two women tried to drag me to the Chair and since I was reluctant, they ended up carrying me and putting me into my Chair. Thank you.

>>*Laughter*

(interpretation ends) I have done my best to serve this institution in a fair and impartial manner at all times, and I have always appreciated the confidence that you have shown in me. Sitting in this Chair is a privilege. However, my duty to be impartial means that I cannot be as publicly vocal as my friends who sit to my left in this House can be.

That being said, I am also certain that the cabinet ministers who sit to my right would agree with me when I say that I have not hesitated to raise concerns on behalf of my constituents directly with the appropriate ministers at every appropriate opportunity.

(interpretation) As Speaker, I have had the privilege of visiting a number of your communities. Earlier this year I had the honour of travelling to the High Arctic with the Commissioner of Nunavut, Nellie Kusugak. I also thank Member Shooyook and Member Joe Enook for the warm welcome that they extended to us. Thank you.

(interpretation ends) As Speaker, I have also had the pleasure of hosting our Legislative Youth Parliament. Watching our future leaders at work is an inspiration, which is why I am pleased to formally say today that my decision to stand again in the upcoming election is due in large measures to the many expressions of support that I have received, mainly from the youth of Hall Beach and Igloolik.

(interpretation) I would also like to thank the people who work for the Legislative Assembly, which was mentioned earlier. I would like to thank each and every one of you for the support you have given us. I also thank our constituency assistants who work in our communities.

I would also like to thank the elders, who are very capable. I thank them very much. As the Speaker of the House, I am very proud of you.

(interpretation ends) I would like to close by again thanking the people of Amittuq and to say that I am looking forward to returning home shortly.

This House stands adjourned.

(interpretation) Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 19:07*

