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Official Report

**DAY 10**

**Friday, March 16, 2018**

**Pages 557 – 602**

**Iqaluit**

**Speaker: The Honourable Joe Enook, M.L.A.**

## Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

### *Speaker*

**Hon. Joe Enook**  
(Tununiq)

**Hon. David Akeegok**  
(Quttiktuq)

*Minister of Finance, Chair of the Financial Management Board; Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission*

**Tony Akoak**  
(Gjoa Haven)

*Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole*

**Hon. Pat Angnakak**  
(Iqaluit-Niaqunngu)

*Minister of Health; Minister responsible for Seniors' Advocate; Minister responsible for Suicide Prevention*

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak**  
(Cambridge Bay)

*Minister of Justice; Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation; Minister responsible for the Status of Women; Minister responsible for Labour*

**George Hickes**  
(Iqaluit-Tasiluk)

**Hon. David Joanasie**  
(South Baffin)

*Minister of Culture and Heritage; Minister of Education; Minister of Languages; Minister responsible for Nunavut Arctic College*

**Joelie Kaernerck**  
(Amittuq)

**Mila Kamingoak**  
(Kugluktuk)

**Pauloosie Keyootak**  
(Uqqummiut)

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak**  
(Rankin Inlet South)  
*Minister of Community and Government Services; Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation*

**Adam Lightstone**  
(Iqaluit-Manirajak)

**John Main**  
(Arviat North-Whale Cove)

**Simeon Mikkungwak**  
(Baker Lake)  
*Deputy Speaker and Chair of the Committee of the Whole*

**Margaret Nakashuk**  
(Pangnirtung)

**Patterk Netser**  
(Aivilik)

**Emiliano Qirngnuq**  
(Netsilik)

**Hon. Paul Quassa**  
(Aggu)

*Premier; Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs; Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs; Minister responsible for the Utility Rates Review Council*

**Allan Rumbolt**  
(Hudson Bay)

*Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole*

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq**  
(Arviat South)

*Deputy Premier; Minister of Family Services; Minister responsible for Homelessness; Minister responsible for Immigration*

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik**  
(Iqaluit-Sinaa)

*Government House Leader; Minister of Economic Development and Transportation; Minister of Energy; Minister of Environment*

**Cathy Towtongie**  
(Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet)

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Clerk

John Quirke

Clerk Assistant

Stephen Innuksuk

Law Clerk

Michael Chandler

Sergeant-at-Arms

Charlie Audlakiak

Hansard Production

Innirvik Support Services

*Box 1200*

*Iqaluit, Nunavut, X0A 0H0*

*Tel (867) 975-5000 Fax (867) 975-5190 Toll-Free (877) 334-7266*

*Website: [www.assembly.nu.ca](http://www.assembly.nu.ca)*

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**Iqaluit, Nunavut  
Friday, March 16, 2018**

**Members Present:**

Hon. David Akeeagok, Mr. Tony Akoak, Hon. Pat Angnakak, Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak, Hon. Joe Enook, Mr. George Hickes, Hon. David Joanase, Mr. Joeline Kaernerck, Ms. Mila Kamingoak, Mr. Pauloosie Keyootak, Hon. Lorne Kusugak, Mr. Adam Lightstone, Mr. John Main, Mr. Simeon Mikkungwak, Ms. Margaret Nakashuk, Mr. Patterk Netser, Mr. Emiliano Qirngnuq, Hon. Paul Quassa, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Hon. Joe Savikataaq, Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik, Ms. Cathy Towtongie.

>>*House commenced at 9:02*

**Item 1: Opening Prayer**

**Speaker** (Hon. Joe Enook)

(interpretation): Mr. Qirngnuq, can you say the opening prayer, please.

>>*Prayer*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Good morning, Premier and members. Good morning, Nunavummiut who are listening to the radio broadcast and watching the televised proceedings. Welcome to your Legislative Assembly.

Going to the orders of the day. Item 2. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, Minister Quassa.

**Item 2: Ministers' Statements**

**Minister's Statement 040 – 5(1):  
Government Liaison Officer  
Training**

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, my colleagues, fellow residents of Igloolik, Nunavummiut, and the viewing audience.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to update my colleagues on our Government Liaison Officer (GLO) program. I am pleased to report that there are now bilingual GLOs in all 25 communities.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, government liaison officers serve our communities in a number of important ways, including distributing information about Government of Nunavut programs and services, coordinating between government agencies and departments, and providing vital information to Nunavummiut.

(interpretation) GLOs also provide some valuable services within their community. They have been provided the necessary training by Canada Revenue Agency/Service Canada to assist Nunavummiut file their basic tax returns, which in turn can ensure Nunavummiut access the federal and territorial benefits they so deserve.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the government liaison officers' duties are modified to meet the needs of each community in consultation with the community and government departments.

The Government of Nunavut brings all GLOs together every year to receive common training and provide a forum to share best practices, address concerns, and gather important information.

A workshop in late February focused on

vital statistics, income support programs, the Office of the Representative for Children and Youth, and Canada Revenue Agency/Service Canada volunteer tax return initiatives.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, our GLOs work tirelessly to provide Nunavummiut with a single point of contact in their community for government information and provide services in the Inuktitut language. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our GLOs for their hard work and commitment to helping Nunavummiut access their government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister responsible for the Qulliq Energy Corporation, Minister Ehaloak.

**Minister's Statement 041 – 5(1):  
Approval for the Kugluktuk  
Power Plant**

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize as I will be speaking in English.

(interpretation ends) I would like to say "good morning" to Nunavummiut and especially my constituents in Cambridge Bay.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I stand before you today to announce the approval of the Qulliq Energy Corporation's major project permit for a new power plant in Kugluktuk. While the existing power plant has delivered safe and reliable electricity to the community for nearly 50 years, it is now at the end of its service life and must be

replaced. The replacement power plant will be constructed with provisions to allow the connection of alternative energy projects, enabling the move away from diesel.

In 2017 the corporation applied to the Minister responsible for the QEC for approval of the major project permit. The application process is in place to ensure that the QEC is fiscally responsible to customers and to ensure that the planned Kugluktuk power plant meets current and future community energy needs. The project is expected to begin in 2019 and is anticipated to be completed by 2021.

The Kugluktuk power plant will be built with newer fuel-efficient generator sets that will reduce emissions and noise pollution. The QEC is guided by *Avatittinnik Kamatsiarniq* when replacing critical infrastructure and respects and cares for the land, animals, and environment.

Along with the Kugluktuk project, the QEC is working toward the replacement of 12 more power plants that are currently operating beyond their lifespan. Construction is currently underway for new power plants in Cape Dorset and Grise Fiord. Since 2014 the QEC has completed power plant replacements in the communities of Taloyoak, Qikiqtarjuaq, and Pangnirtung.

Major projects such as the Kugluktuk power plant rebuild ensure that the QEC can deliver safe and reliable power to all communities across the territory. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause



**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Culture and Heritage, Minister Joanasia.

**Minister's Statement 042 – 5(1): Inuit Art Centre Guest Curatorial Team**

**Hon. David Joanasia** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, my colleagues and Nunavummiut.

Mr. Speaker, on February 8, 2018 the Winnipeg Art Gallery (WAG) has announced an all-Inuit guest curatorial team to curate the opening exhibition at the future Inuit Art Centre in Winnipeg. The GN has been invited to participate in this momentous occasion.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the lead curator of this all-Inuit curatorial team is Dr. Heather Igloliorte from Nunatsiavut, who is a professor at Concordia University. The other guest curators are Asinnajaq Weetaluktuk from Nunavik, Jade Nasogaluak Carpenter from the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, and our very own GN Curator of Inuit Art, Krista Ulujuk Zawadski. The four guest curators represent all four regions of Inuit Nunangat.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, the Winnipeg Art Gallery is pleased to announce the guest curatorial team to ensure the project is led by Inuit voices, perspectives, language, and culture.

(interpretation ends) Since 2015 the GN Fine Art Collection has been housed at the Winnipeg Art Gallery under an MOU between the GN and WAG. WAG is planning the development of a 3,700 square metre building adjacent to WAG to house their massive Inuit art collection. It is the largest public

collection of Inuit art in the world, with over 13,000 pieces.

(interpretation) Mr. Speaker, 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 the Housing Corporation, Minister Quassa... Minister Kusugak.

**Minister's Statement 043 – 5(1): GN Staff Condo Program**

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Minister Quassa Kusugak, you said my name properly.

Good morning. Mr. Speaker, I am happy that it's Friday. Let's have a good day.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, the Nunavut Housing Corporation has the objective to deliver affordable housing options to Nunavummiut. With that priority in mind, I am pleased to announce to my colleagues that the NHC is offering 60 condominium units for direct sale to Government of Nunavut employees in Iqaluit through the GN Staff Condo program.

This program aims to support the long-term retention of current GN employees by providing them with an opportunity for affordable homeownership in Nunavut while at the same time decreasing dependence on subsidized staff housing.

Under this program and in support of

Article 23 of the Nunavut Agreement and GN Inuit employment goals, priority is given to Inuit employees applying to purchase a condo unit.

The NHC will provide significant support to make this program a success by doing a number of things, including facilitating the establishment of condominium corporations. The NHC will prepare all purchase and sale agreements to ensure compliance with the *Nunavut Condominium Act*.

Clients of the program may also apply for assistance under the Nunavut Downpayment Assistance Program, another ongoing NHC program that aims to make homeownership affordable.

Mr. Speaker, the NHC recently hosted a public information night to introduce this program, which over 120 people attended. The program has been very well received to date.

GN employees who reside in Iqaluit can go to [nunavuthousing.ca](http://nunavuthousing.ca) to download an application form, which includes program eligibility information.

I look forward to reporting back to this House on the positive impacts of this program in the coming weeks or months. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Environment, Minister Sheutiapik.

**Minister's Statement 044 – 5(1):  
Environmental Stewardship Book  
Launch**

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik**

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, my colleagues and Nunavummiut.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, my department recently launched two books on environmental stewardship with the Department of Education, *We Take Care of the Environment* and *My First Hunt*.

Mr. Speaker, these books are part of the *Ikpigittiarlugik Nuna Imarlu (Respecting the Land and Sea)* reading series, a unique, Nunavut-developed educational series that integrates environmental stewardship, hunting practices, and knowledge of Nunavut's land and sea into culturally appropriate children's books. Mr. Speaker, the books are available in Inuktitut and English and are supported by in-classroom activities and teacher resources.

Mr. Speaker, my department recognizes the vital importance of early educational opportunities and the children's books we launched will enable students to learn about environment stewardship as they mature into adulthood. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Before I proceed, my colleagues and visitors in the gallery, I would like to remind you to put your cellphones on mute or turn them off.

Let's proceed. Ministers' Statements. Minister of Education, Minister Joanase.

**Minister's Statement 045 – 5(1):  
Guided Reading Books**

**Hon. David Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are very happy to collaborate with the Department of Environment on this important initiative.

Mr. Speaker, improving literacy outcomes among students in all of Nunavut's official languages is a priority for my department. The production of these high-quality books in Inuktitut and English enhances our literacy program and will provide our students the opportunity to learn about environmental issues that Nunavummiut face.

Mr. Speaker, furthermore, the Department of Education has introduced a strategic, phased-in, territory-wide literacy initiative called Inuktitut Titiqqiriniq. The *Ikpigittiarlugik Nuna Imarlu* reading series is a companion series to this initiative.

Mr. Speaker, with this reading series we want to make young people aware of the protection of the environment but also to improve literacy outcomes in Inuktitut for Nunavut students.

Mr. Speaker, lastly, the Minister of Environment and I are happy to distribute those books to our colleagues today so they can appreciate the quality of this series and so they can share those books with friends, family, and children of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Ministers' Statements. Moving on. Members' Statements. Member for Gjoa

Haven, Mr. Akoak.

**Item 3: Members' Statements**

**Member's Statement 085 – 5(1):  
Different Inuktitut Dialects**

**Mr. Akoak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I say "good morning" to all of you, my colleagues and the people of Gjoa Haven who are watching the proceedings. If my wife is watching, I say "good morning" to you.

I rise this morning to accentuate the differences in Inuktitut. Although Inuktitut is used for all dialects in Nunavut, in speaking my dialect, it shows different meanings, even though it is listed as one recognized official language (interpretation ends) all across Nunavut.

(interpretation) However, in speaking different dialects, the words may have different meanings to other Inuit. To use this example, when question period is open, I will direct questions to the minister requesting a facility destined for Gjoa Haven. If the minister understands this, I am referring to the facility that is to be shipped up in the summer, according to the government announcement. I also want to state with immense pleasure that the minister agreed to that facility for Gjoa Haven.

Let me use this dialectal word *tuqunnariksivutit*. For other dialects to hear the root word, if you don't understand, it may confer an ominous word. This traditional phrase, when one is thinking of living life, can be misunderstood by younger generations and could cause distress.

To further define the phrase, it stems from the Perry River area Inuit dialect and to illustrate: a young person was asked to deliver some meat to an elder and the elder who received the meat used this wording “*Koana. Tuqunnariksivutit.*” The elder used this phrase denoting his pleasure in receiving the meat. It actually means “may you live a long life,” or to have a happy life. This is the meaning as per the Perry River Inuit dialect and it is used by the older generations.

I am grateful as I have wanted to voice this difference for a long time, although Inuktitut is used for Inuktitut as one word in Nunavut, which is understandable. However, the meaning of certain words can be very different.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to finish my statement.

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

**Mr. Akoak** (interpretation): Thank you. Thank you, my colleagues.

To continue, the phrase used meant that the elder was very appreciative and happy to receive some meat. In his happiness, he used his traditional way of thanking the young person. I thank you for that opportunity to speak to this difference.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I still want the facility in Gjoa Haven. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Laughter*

>>*Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members’ Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet South, Mr. Kusugak.

**Member’s Statement 086 – 5(1):  
Rankin Inlet Participants at the  
2018 AWG**

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It’s great to hear the traditional Inuit way of speaking.

Mr. Speaker, we’re always hearing about young people going to sporting competitions in the NWT for the Arctic Winter Games. There are so many athletes and I’m very proud of all the Nunavut athletes.

>>*Applause*

I’m also very proud of the athletes from Rankin Inlet. There are 36 of them and I can sing them, but I can just read them too.

>>*Laughter*

They don’t want me to sing, so I won’t sing them; I’ll just read them.

Leo Kaludjak, hockey player, Israel Maktar, hockey player, Xzavier Kubluitok, hockey player, and Luke Kusugak, my nephew and hockey player. For curling is Jason Panikallagjuaq. Female hockey players are Charlotte Siksik, Caroline Gibbons, Jesse Qiyuk, and Maxine Ronald. Going for basketball is Amber Graham. For gymnastics are Josie Panika, Aisha Labatete, Kylie Aksalnik, Maya Hidalgo, and Lisa Kresky. Junior hockey

players are Avaala Sabourin, Scott Sigurdson, Seth Ningeongan, Karetak Clark Kusugak, and Bryce Kusugak. Referees will be Paul Shodor and Jarred Oddenhoff. Volleyball players are Kailee Karlik, Shanty Dias, Robert Kabvitok, Tanya Tugak, Mahalia Adams, and Elliott Adams. Youth ambassadors are Matthew Ford Rogers, Kimberly Tanuyak, Saskia Curley, and Linda Curley. Going for curling is Javen Komaksiutiksak. Also for hockey are Adiville Roach-Lindell and Rylie Adam Lachance. Going for basketball is Shanisa Nakoolak.

I am very proud of the athletes and the Nunavut contingent. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Kugluktuk, Ms. Kamingoak.

**Member's Statement 087 – 5(1):  
Kugluktuk Participants at the  
2018 AWG**

**Ms. Kamingoak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning to my colleagues and residents of Nunavut and Kugluktuk.

Mr. Speaker, throughout the week a number of my colleagues have been recognizing the athletes of Team Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the athletes from my community of Kugluktuk who will also be part of Team Nunavut.

As a former Arctic Winter Games athlete

myself, I share their pride and excitement as they gear up to this important event.

Mr. Speaker, Laila Demerah, Mackenzie Demerah, Kimberly Hakungak, Clayton Kadlun, and Daniel Niptanatiak will all be participating in the table tennis event. I wish them the best of luck and success, and I know they will have a grand time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Go Team Nunavut!

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Ms. Towtongie.

**Member's Statement 088 – 5(1):  
Chesterfield Inlet Participants at  
the 2018 AWG**

**Ms. Towtongie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet. I say "good morning" to them all.

Although Chesterfield Inlet is a small community, it has two athletes they are sending to the Arctic Winter Games to get golden ulus. I am very proud of them. The youth who will compete in the Inuit Games is Deon Inummiq Kuglugiak, whose parents are Romeo Kuglugiak and Kyra Tanuyak. A hockey player's parents are James and Doreen Mullins and he is Kyle Mullins. I am very proud of them. Even though Chesterfield Inlet is a small community, we are sending athletes that represent Nunavut.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud of the elder way of speaking. I have a

grandchild, Danika Pihujui Kigutikarjuk. Kigutikarjuk's mother couldn't walk and once that person was named, my grandchild who is an athlete but not for Nunavut has been told by an elder that you're going to be a real sportsman and I'm real glad that the grandchild will be involved in volleyball.

The minister talked about the Rankin Inlet athletes. I am very proud of them as well. Thank you. I hope Nunavut wins.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Iqaluit-Manirajak, Mr. Lightstone.

**Member's Statement 089 – 5(1):  
Inuksuk High School Science Fair**

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would just like to take a moment to inform everyone that today is the Inuksuk High School's science fair. The community viewing will take place from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. and I encourage all of the Members of the Assembly as well as members of the community to attend this afternoon of science fun. This is a great opportunity for us to see what the creative experiments are our young mad scientists have put together this year.

Now, on another note I would just like to recognize that today is my sister's birthday. Sula Enuaraq was my sister and she never had the opportunity to have this day mentioned in the Assembly. I would just like to take a moment. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. We send you our condolences.

Members' Statements. Member for Cambridge Bay, Ms. Ehaloak.

**Member's Statement 090 – 5(1):  
Cambridge Bay Participants at the  
2018 AWG**

**Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Today I rise to congratulate and make special mention to the Cambridge Bay Wolverine boys and girls basketball team.

During the 2018 Nunavut territorials, these boys and girls won the gold medal. Today they will be representing Nunavut in the Arctic Winter Games that are being held in Hay River. These athletes are Alysha Maksagak, Linda Howard, Danielle Omilgoitok, Deanna Taylor, Leanne Ekpakohak, Edmalene Elias, Kanen Evalik, Peter Norman Evalik, Joshua Main, and Lance Akoluk. I would like to wish them good luck. Have fun. Remember, reach for the stars.

I would also like to wish my dear little granddaughter happy third birthday today. *Koana*, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Pangnirtung, Ms. Nakashuk.

**Member's Statement 091 – 5(1):  
Recent Criminal Incidents in  
Community**

**Ms. Nakashuk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, my

colleagues and the people of Pangnirtung.

Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to express my support for the people of Pangnirtung.

There have been a number of serious criminal incidents over the past week in the community. These have included an incident of arson, which damaged one of our community's school buses; the theft of thousands of dollars from our community's fish plant, which I spoke about; and an attempt to smuggle drugs and alcohol into the community. These incidents happened over the past week.

I want to pay tribute to our community's first responders who acted quickly to contain the fire near Alookie School before it could do more damage.

I also want to pay tribute to the officers of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police who stopped illegal drugs and alcohol from entering the community.

Despite these incidents, I know that the people of Pangnirtung are strong and resilient, and I want them to know that I am standing with them today.

Mr. Speaker, with the theft of money from the fish plant and the incidents that occurred in our community, we have to take preventative measures. I pay tribute to the people of Pangnirtung and I'm standing with them today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Kaernerck.

### **Member's Statement 092 – 5(1): Activities in Hall Beach**

**Mr. Kaernerck** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That was unexpected. Good morning to my colleagues and to my fellow residents of Amittuq.

I rise this morning, but firstly to my colleague Adam, I feel for you and people in that situation cause us to feel for them.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Hall Beach HTO that conducts a lot of activities for community development purposes. Youth along with elders will be going on a hunting trip that continues our traditional lifestyle of hunting for subsistence.

There's another matter outside of this subject matter I am speaking, and I wonder if this is correct. However, I would like Hall Beach recognized, as it is a smaller community that works to develop opportunities amongst its residents. We are hospitable, although we sometimes experience stressful situations like other communities. I wanted to speak to this, as I will start to advocate for the community of Hall Beach.

As I learn the protocol required in this House for members, I want to thank my colleagues for continually teaching me and I am slowly learning the ropes. I won't give up in my efforts and I will advocate nonetheless.

**An Hon. Member:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Kaernerck** (interpretation): What I want to voice today is that in the 1980s, our community used to have jet services

and I will fight to reinstate that service. I will start to direct more questions to the Minister of Transportation as Hall Beach can benefit from other initiatives. To use this example related to healthy foods, perhaps this can be the base for looking at Hall Beach as a base for healthy foods distribution, which could provide opportunities for the community.

Moving on to another subject, I sure like jumping amongst subjects. With regard to our athletes representing Nunavut at the Arctic Winter Games, do the best you can. Since you are young people, you will have the stamina to compete. I give you my full support and I stand on your behalf and say, (interpretation ends) “Go Nunavut!” (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. I would like to remind the members that during Members’ Statements, you stick to one subject, but I know that when you are a new member, there are a lot of things you want to say and so I forgive you. I would like to remind you that you have to stick to one subject during Members’ Statements. It’s just a reminder and it’s not a reprimand.

Members’ Statements. Member for South Baffin, Mr. Joanasié.

**Member’s Statement 093 – 5(1):  
Participants at the 2018 AWG  
from Constituency**

**Hon. David Joanasié** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today on behalf of the people of Cape Dorset and Kimmirut. I do commend the Arctic Winter Games athletes and I am very

proud that we do have participants. I was an athlete once at the Arctic Winter Games.

I root for Team Nunavut. This is an opportunity to make friends from other territories and countries. You become a team and there are only two athletes representing my communities, but they’re able to participate. From Cape Dorset, Lilly Parr is representing the youth of Nunavut, and from Kimmirut, Leo Temela is on the volleyball team. (interpretation ends) Let’s go, Nunavut!

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members’ Statements. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

**Member’s Statement 094 – 5(1):  
Toronto Maple Leafs**

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, my colleagues and the viewing audience.

I want to take this opportunity to provide recognition to our extremely talented athletes representing us, and we ought to recognize them. I would like to first acknowledge the young athletes at the (interpretation ends) Arctic Winter Games (interpretation) originating from Whale Cove and Arviat. How talented they are. Do the best that you can.

As well, another team that I like to cheer for and which I cannot ignore, and that are one of the best teams in the NHL is the Toronto Maple Leafs.

**Some Hon. Members:** No, not even!

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Indeed, the



reason which should be obvious to all fans is that in this season, these hockey players are amongst the best players and I would like to single out these players. (interpretation ends) Mitchell Marnier, 59 points; William Nylander, 51 points; Auston Matthews, 50 points; Nazeem Kadri; and James van Riemsdyk (interpretation) are in the top categories for points, Mr. Speaker. That is why I wanted to say (interpretation ends) go Leafs go! (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Mr. Main, please be seated.

>> *Laughter*

Thank you. Members' Statements. Member for Quttiktuq, Mr. Akeegok.

**Member's Statement 095 – 5(1):  
Lancaster Sound**

**Hon. David Akeegok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In August of this year the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, the federal government, and our government have been anxiously waiting for an agreement on Tallurutiup Imanga.

When I was still crawling around, my father was surprised when ships started coming up to the High Arctic to do some drilling without informing the people from the High Arctic. There are 109 square kilometres in Lancaster Sound. There are three of us who lived up there and we will participate. It's approximately 2 percent when you look at Canada as a whole.

Again, the Inuit organizations, through

the land claims agreement, will have to negotiate for Inuit impact and benefit agreements. In January of this year the Qikiqtani Inuit Association consulted five communities and I was able to participate in Grise Fiord.

I heard about the concerns from the people in my riding and again, I look forward to see the federal and territorial governments and the Inuit organization reach an agreement about employment, tourism, and other benefits that might arise from this agreement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members' Statements. I have no more names on my list.

Before we proceed, on behalf of all Members of the Legislative Assembly and all of Nunavut, we are very proud of the young athletes who will be going to the Games. We wish you the best of luck and enjoy your trip and return home safely. We are very proud of you. Go Nunavut go!

>> *Applause*

Thank you. Going back to the orders of the day. Item 4. Returns to Oral Questions. Item 5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery. Item 6. Oral Questions. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Netser.

**Item 6: Oral Questions**

**Question 114 – 5(1): Nunavut Mining Industry**

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you,

Mr. Speaker. My questions today are for the Minister responsible for Mines.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this week we were informed that the NWT and Nunavut Chamber of Mines, which represents the interests of the mining industry, issued a press release in which the organization expressed concerns about the state of the mining industry here in Nunavut.

There are mines near Baker Lake and Rankin Inlet, and they have employees coming from Coral Harbour and Nauyasat. We support the mining companies that are operating in Nunavut because they create employment. My colleague from Rankin Inlet North indicated that there is an individual who was trained in the mines and was able to pay off her Visa. For those of us in the smaller communities, the government has forgotten us. We need full participation from all the communities in Nunavut.

I'll speak in English. (interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I recognize and respect the role of our regional Inuit associations, including the Kivalliq Inuit Association, as well as our institutions of public government, including the Nunavut Planning Commission and the Nunavut Impact Review Board.

The 2018 Nunavut Mining Symposium will take place next month, and I note that the event organizers have identified land use planning as a major topic for discussion. Is the minister aware of this event and will she take part in this important discussion? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>Applause

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for Mines, Minister Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) Yes, I'm very well aware of the mining symposium happening. It is going to be my member's statement tomorrow and I will be involved. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Netser:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I note that the minister says she is going to make a statement tomorrow.

>>Laughter

Tomorrow is Saturday and we're going to be elsewhere, so it's going to be an empty House.

>>Laughter

The current business plan of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation indicates that one of its priorities has been to "Promote an investment climate and regulatory regime that will attract responsible resource developers, including by developing guidelines to clarify expectations during socio-economic impact assessments..." Can the minister describe one or two specific actions that her department has taken recently to accomplish this goal? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik**

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we are planning, I was talking about Monday's statement.

I can state right now that this is an important issue for Nunavut. (interpretation ends) I have committed to work with the industry of mines. I met actually during Northern Lights with the Nunavut and NWT mining and I actually have told them that I want to use them as a tool to engage with the industry. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) The government's current mining strategy was originally tabled in the Legislative Assembly on March 14, 2007. Mr. Speaker, that's over a decade ago. Can the minister indicate what her department's timetable is to update the strategy? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Sheutiapik.

**Hon. Elisapee Sheutiapik**

(interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I don't have a timeline for a strategy, but I can tell you this: I am engaging the mining industry to guide me during this time without a strategy. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 115 – 5(1): Homeownership Programs**

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

The NHC's most recent annual report indicates that "In some communities, the lack of available local contractors has limited the NHC's ability to deliver its homeownership programs. Much of the work designed to be supported through NHC's homeownership programs requires specific skilled labour and the costs of flying in contractors to do renovation and repair work significantly adds to the costs. For this reason, a new clause was added to home repair and maintenance program guidelines to allow additional program funding to include travel costs of bringing a contractor in to complete the job."

Mr. Speaker, I am very glad that the NHC made this change, as there is a lack of contractors in the communities of Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq. However, I am concerned that people in our smaller communities, especially unilingual Inuktitut-speakers, are not aware of this change. Can the minister describe how the Nunavut Housing Corporation has publicized this important change to its homeownership programs? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Good morning. I thank you for asking that very good question. These are the types of information that the public

needs to be aware of that originate from the Nunavut Housing Corporation, actually from all government departments. Whether it is a policy, new guidelines, or amended documents, we have to publicize all government documentation. With that being the case, the communities will all receive the updated information as well as the changes made to existing directives or policies.

I am working with my officials at the housing corporation to review the new and amended information as it has to be disseminated through various media, such as radio announcements, public service announcements, and website information, and we would use them all. I believe there has been a long period where this information hasn't been released as changes were implemented. By using these different avenues, we will release the information and we are starting to publicize the regulations, including job opportunities and the various new funding programs available at the housing corporation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the 2015-16 fiscal year, the Nunavut Housing Corporation approved a total of 11 applications from homeowners in Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq for assistance under the Nunavut Housing Corporation's homeownership program. However, only one application was approved during the 2016-17 fiscal year.

It is my understanding that there were close to 20 applications from the two

communities. Can the minister clarify the reasons for the backlog? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank my colleague for asking that question. I'll look into it. This is the first I have heard of it. I'll look into where we stand and inform him, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Keyootak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand and recognize that the Nunavut Housing Corporation cannot just hand out money without requiring residents to go through an application process. However, the application forms can be quite complex, especially for unilingual Inuktitut speakers. Can the minister confirm that government liaison officers and local housing organization staff are able to help residents complete their application forms? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank him for his excellent questions this morning. Yes, these are part of the responsibilities of the government liaison officers, as their duties are slowly being finalized from the time the positions were created to date.

When we need to use their services, we work with them as well as the local

housing association. When their assistance is required, we collaboratively provide these services and make announcements locally. We also have to assist them when they are filling out forms. Some forms aren't that easy to complete and even people fluent in English can have a difficult time comprehending the form.

We try to utilize all existing resources wherever possible to ensure that the forms are properly filled out, legible, and understandable, as we want completed forms from our residents to provide the assistance they need. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Ms. Towntongie.

#### **Question 116 – 5(1): Options to Change Calm Air Schedule**

**Ms. Towntongie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister of Health.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this week I tabled a petition signed by many constituents from Chesterfield Inlet regarding their request for Calm Air to modify its flight schedule to better accommodate the needs of medical travel clients who have undergone surgery.

Can the minister tell this House if she was aware of this request? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health, Minister Angnakak.

**Hon. Pat Angnakak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was not quite aware of this issue, but you brought up the petition that you tabled and that was the first time I found out. I feel for the patients. Even though we're not elders, it's very tiring to be travelling all day. I am aware of it now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Towntongie** (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, some patients are in extreme pain from surgery while others are fitted with pacemakers. Thank you. However, when patients are travelling home to Chesterfield Inlet, as I made you aware, they are awoken at 4:00 a.m. to prepare for the drive to the airport. Some patients also have young children with whom they are travelling. This flight leaves in the afternoon from Rankin Inlet and the schedule as it stands today goes from Rankin Inlet to Baker Lake, which lasts for one hour. The next leg from Baker Lake to Chesterfield Inlet is another hour in addition, so it totals over two hours.

If the flight first landed in Chesterfield Inlet originating from Rankin Inlet, the flight would last only about 15 minutes. If the flight schedule was to be changed by Calm Air and management has informed us that they would be willing to substitute the legs, they would then fly to Chesterfield Inlet from Rankin Inlet, with Baker Lake being the final destination.

My question is, Calm Air wants to change the schedule, but only if the Government of Nunavut agrees to it. Can the minister clearly indicate if the

government is willing to agree to the proposed change of route on Calm Air? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Angnakak.

**Hon. Pat Angnakak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The changes to routing the aircraft are beyond our control when it comes to flights. However, what I can say is this: the medical travel office prepares most of the flight reservations and tickets. Now, they search for the best possible route to their home community.

If they find that a particular flight takes too long, they would look for a shorter route. If this flight was available, then they would look for the most suitable flight for the patient and obviously that may be a different airline. Now, if Calm Air wants to make changes to their flight scheduling and if it turns out the flight is more suitable for the patients, then most likely the travel office would take advantage of it.

I personally would prefer that if I were in their shoes and I was to travel somewhere and had a choice between a longer flight and a shorter one, I would definitely choose the shorter flight, which would be more suitable for me.

The medical travel people would probably take advantage of these changes if Calm Air made those flight schedule changes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Towntongie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am well aware that the government doesn't have any control over Calm Air flight schedules. Nonetheless, I return to their stated position of Calm Air, who has made it known that with respect to the medical travel contract, if our government is willing to agree to their proposed changes, then it can be quickly implemented.

The Government of Nunavut's medical travel contract has a major impact on the exorbitant costs for Nunavummiut. Will the minister commit to considering the requested changes to the flight routes, taking into consideration the ease of travel arrangements for medical travel clients? Calm Air has already stated their position and if the government is willing to agree to the contract changes, the schedule can be readily changed.

(interpretation ends) Will the minister commit to considering the requested changes to the flight routes, taking into consideration the ease of travel arrangements for medical travel clients, and work with Calm Air to have the flight routes and schedules changed? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Angnakak.

**Hon. Pat Angnakak**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a department, we have never been approached by Calm Air. This is the first that I'm hearing of it as a minister for when you tabled it in the House. We have a contract with Calm Air that expires in August of 2019. I'm just reading my notes here. We have to work within that contract, but in saying that, we welcome Calm Air to write to

us if they want and we can certainly meet with them if that's what they want. We have to work within the contract that we have.

In the meantime I will ask my department to look at some of the difficulties or challenges that some of our patients have been having when they fly into Rankin Inlet and Chesterfield Inlet and see what we could do. Maybe we can look at not having elders fly all the way in one day, or I don't know. There might be other ways of what we can do in the meantime. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### **Question 117 – 5(1): Western Canada Lottery Act**

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation) The question I wish to direct is regarding Nunavut's youth and the recreational facilities used for hockey, volleyball, or basketball. I am thinking of our arena, as it helps with physical well-being and communal life.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, my questions are for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

Mr. Speaker, section 4 of the *Western Canada Lottery Act* provides that profits from Nunavut's lottery must be used for the purpose of "promoting sport and recreational opportunities" in Nunavut.

According to the department's 2015-16 annual report on the administration of this legislation, the balance of Nunavut's lottery account after expenses was more

than \$620,000. Mr. Speaker, can the minister indicate what specific activities were funded with that money? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The funds that are raised through the lottery that Mr. Akoak is asking about, which is a very good question, are all allocated towards expenses associated with sporting events. The funds on their own aren't allocated towards specific sports budgets, as it is put all into one fund that is applied to all sporting events. It is applied to all the various sporting events, whether it involves hockey, badminton, or any other sport played by our athletes. The funds are put into one pot, and then the funds are allocated as needed to the various sports that our youth play. The purpose is to fund our young people's participation in all sports. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Akoak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thanks to the minister for the response. Mr. Speaker, section 5 of Nunavut's *Western Canada Lottery Act* provides that the minister shall table an annual report on the operation of Nunavut's lottery.

To date these annual reports have only included audited financial statements for Nunavut's lottery account. For example, none of these annual reports include any information concerning specific activities that were funded by the profits

of Nunavut's lottery in a given fiscal year.

Mr. Speaker, can the minister clarify why the department does not include information concerning the specific activities that are funded by the profits of Nunavut's lottery in its annual reports? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think he answered himself partially. The money raised, the \$600,000, gets pooled into sports and recreation funding that we get outside from the lottery. It gets pooled into one sum and disbursed accordingly. It's very difficult to say exactly what that \$600,000 something and something cents was used only for this much in badminton. It gets pooled the funding to fund all sports and recreation activities that the lottery corporation allows that money to be spent to, Mr. Speaker. It gets audited that way and reported, as per the requirements of the Act my colleague just pointed out. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Amittuq, Mr. Kaernek.

### **Question 118 – 5(1): Assistance for Homeowners Who Own Homes**

**Mr. Kaernek** (interpretation): Mr. Speaker, I don't have a specific question, but I wanted to ask about this issue my colleague raised about homeownership programs.

I would like to first direct my question to

the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation.

I believe you had highlighted the applications that have to be completed. What I want to ask about is this: in our community of Hall Beach we have an elder, but I do not want to announce his name as deference to their age. We were brought up not to call our elders by their names.

This elder is a homeowner and she is often astounded by the lack of support as she tries to deal with her concerns. She has approached the local housing association to try to find out what programs are available. As a private homeowner, it can be very difficult to find a person who can provide this type of information. She is in that situation where she doesn't know whom to turn to.

My question I wish to ask is this: does the housing corporation provide assistance to private homeowners who are elderly and who wish to try to sell their homes? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the member for his question. Yes, we have many aging people in Nunavut who are homeowners. It seems these individuals start experiencing difficulties maintaining their private homes and they are physically no longer able to do the work themselves. Homeowners in that situation usually think of selling their homes or to return the ownership back to the corporation.



There are programs and employees available to provide assistance from the housing corporation. Further, they can request information on available programs through their local GLOs. They are also approachable for this type of information assistance or other needs they may have. If they wish to get more information or assistance, that is what these GLO positions are for, if it is related to government programs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Kaernerk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for his response. This individual approached me because she felt like giving up at times paying for her bills, especially for her electrical bill. The electrical bills are increasing and sometimes it varies every month.

What she was also confused about was related to her home heating fuel and who to approach to request assistance for that need. She wanted to know how she could get help for the maintenance of her home and stated her inability to continue being a private homeowner. That was personally disappointing to me.

I now want to ask this question, although it may be related to the issue our colleague raised in relation to the different applications. I wonder if homeowners past a certain age could be assisted without having to weave through the myriad of applications for homeowners. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On the first question, if there's anyone who would like to get support in regard to heating fuel and other services, there's a homeownership program for elders through the Department of Family Services. They are responsible for that program and services.

Even if the elders are not asking for help, we really would like to help them without them making applications. It's very confusing. Sometimes we might turn our back to the people who have made applications. I know and I live with people who are homeowners and their home needs to be maintained. They're experiencing just exactly like the way you stated and we will try to provide support through our programs and services once they ask for help.

We can look to help them through EIA. Elders and people who are listening can approach their GLOs if they have any questions or if they need assistance. The GLOs can give them the right direction. Please ask questions to your GLOs and I'm sure the reason why we're here is because we want to help. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Kaernerk** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also thank the minister for explaining those programs that can provide assistance to the person in that situation.

Yes, this person is quite aged, as she is over 80 years old. She can only get around with her walker in our community, which she uses to go to

church and to go shopping. It can be heart-wrenching to see elders in those situations wherever they are in Nunavut.

Even though that is the case, the elder really impacted me when she imparted her feelings of despair of being a homeowner and that she had reached her limit in trying to maintain her home. She kept referencing the electrical bill, as I said, which has to constantly be paid monthly and she has to submit a monthly application for assistance with her fuel bill. Here she is, surviving on her old age pension to try to pay for her groceries and various bills associated with her home.

How can we provide better assistance to our beloved elders? As elders, they don't have our abilities to conduct searches and they generally don't know who to turn to. I imagine it is very disconcerting to be in that situation. She had no choice but to ask for my assistance, as she wanted help to navigate her way. Here she is an elder whom I should be assisting. That is what I want known in this House, as it relates to our elders.

The housing corporation and local housing associations have to join forces to provide assistance to elders, without the onerous application process they force elders to navigate. There should be an identified amount between the bodies that can be provided to elders based on historical information, without constantly having to make applications for assistance. They should qualify for a monthly allowance of sorts, especially related to fuel and electrical bills.

Maybe you won't understand this, but if the elder wants to sell her house, can she sell it to the local housing authority?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for helping the elder. Elders, please go to your MLAs for help. We are here for our elders. That is what we said when we were campaigning. We all said that we support our elders. Let's support them. I support all the elders who are listening and watching. Go to government offices and ask for help. We are here for you. Come to us. If people want more information as to where they can get help, request for information from us. We don't know all the people who need help out there, but they should ask for help.

If elders who own their own homes want to sell their homes, there is a process that the housing corporation has set up. Each circumstance is different. They would have to make it available to the local community and if nobody is interested, then they can offer it to the local housing authority. There is a process. If you're an elder and you're thinking about selling your house, check with the housing corporation. We will help them. If they go to the local housing association in the community, I'm sure they can get information.

I would really like to hear about those things so that our staff can be made to help these people, not just elders but anybody who is having problems maintaining or up keeping their homes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Kugluktuk,

Ms. Kamingoak.

**Question 119 – 5(1): Income Assistance Policies**

**Ms. Kamingoak:** *Koana*, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Family Services.

Mr. Speaker, under the current policy, income assistance clients must go around to potential employers to get signatures to show that they have been looking for work. Even though this practice is supposed to demonstrate that they are looking for work, in reality there are no jobs to be had in the community.

Can the minister tell this House what consideration has been given to changing this specific policy? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**An Hon. Member:** Good question.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Family Services, Minister Savikataaq.

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm well aware of the process there as before I was an MLA, I used to have income support clients come to my office with a piece of paper and ask me if there were any jobs and I would sign. The member is right. When you have the same person come in to your office every single time and every single time you tell them there is no job, but this is part of the productive choices and we are looking at other ways that we can do this.

We just want income support clients to have a productive choice and there are

many productive choices. That is one of them, looking for employment. They can look for educational training. They can do traditional activities. I know you have to have money to do some traditional activities, but they can go out with someone. They can take care of elders or take care of their family members and they can volunteer in the community. There are many different productive choices.

The whole process about income support is supposed to help you when you are in a time of need and also help you to get to a different stage in your life where you don't have to rely on income support, where you can better yourself and give yourself an opportunity to go to the next step to provide for yourself. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Ms. Kamingoak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his response. Mr. Speaker, it is in my view that forcing people to go around asking for jobs that don't exist for them simply makes them feel embarrassed. This requirement belittles them. No wonder people are so dependent on the system. The system itself makes them feel they aren't good enough to work.

Mr. Speaker, I know that income assistance is a measure of last resort, but it is heart-wrenching to see a mother with her infant in her amauti and holding the hand of another young child and a job search in the other hand. She goes from workplace to workplace to get these signatures.

Can the minister explain what kinds of initiatives are in place to support income assistance clients to build up their confidence in their efforts to find work? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Savikataaq.

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I feel for the member. One of the productive choices is looking for employment. That is in by no means to try to belittle anybody. It's just one of the choices they make to prove that they are making productive choices. I'm fully aware that in smaller communities there are no jobs, especially in the winter, but this is just one of the productive choices that are offered.

The member asked what we're doing so that people don't always depend on income support. We initiated a program, I believe, about a year ago. It's called the G.R.E.A.T. program where income support clients go to get their training with Arctic College. We work with Arctic College. I think it's a 12-week program where they go there and they get their basic skills to be able to go to the next step.

We will do whatever we can. We work with the clients. Our goal is not to make anyone feel belittled. Our goal is to help people in their time of need. I'm sorry that the mother felt belittled and I apologize to her, but our role is to help people in their time of need. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

### **Question 120 – 5(1): Need for Health Professionals in Nunavut**

**Mr. Qirngnuq** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Firstly, to define the meaning, when we are not feeling well, we can feel it ourselves and no other person can feel it like we do. This is just to ensure we are understood, which is why we speak to health professionals when feeling ill.

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

Mr. Speaker, there is no question that Nunavummiut want to be healthy in today's world. Life is not the same as it was 60 years ago. There seem to be more challenges to our health and we need more medical attention.

Mr. Speaker, Nunavut needs more health professionals. At times people call in sick to the health centre and they are told to check in the next day or to wait until there is an appointment available.

Can the minister tell this House what she is doing to increase the number of health professionals in our health centres and help meet the needs for medical attention? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Health, Minister Angnakak.

**Hon. Pat Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the member for that question. I think we all know that the hiring of staff to carry out our health care delivery services in Nunavut has been a challenge. It's not just here in Nunavut; it's across Canada.

We do everything we can to try to attract staff, nurses, and doctors to come to Nunavut. We offer financial incentives. We try to offer it as an experience to try to get the interest of nurses or doctors in the south to come up north. We are flexible with work schedules. For example, we have some nurses that are here for part time or they only want to be here for a certain amount of time and doctors too, and we try to be flexible to that.

We recognize that we need more nurses and more doctors to come to Nunavut. We are doing what we can and we're using all the resources that we have to do so. I acknowledge that there are some health care centres that don't have enough nurses and we put a lot of strain on those that are there. I acknowledge that and I'm so thankful for those who don't give up and continue to carry on the heavy loads that they do.

I know that some health care centres even operate under emergency situations. What you referenced is familiar to me where somebody may call and say that they want to see a nurse, but they are told to make another appointment on another day because their workload that day is just too much, so they can't take on any more appointments. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Qirngnuq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Community residents respect and understand that our health professionals work very hard on their behalf.

Can the minister clarify what is being

done to make sure that when people call in sick, they can be seen as soon as possible? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Angnakak.

**Hon. Pat Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I answered that question, but once again, I have every faith in our system, in our nurses that they wouldn't leave anybody just hanging. If you phoned and you said it was an emergency or if you provided your details as to why you need to see a nurse right away and the nurse felt, "You know what? We need to see you right away," I know that's what would happen, but if they assessed you based upon what you said, that maybe you could wait until tomorrow, then that's what would happen. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Qirngnuq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for the response. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that health professionals are in demand all over Canada.

Can the minister describe what plans are in place to train Nunavummiut to become medical practitioners like doctors and nurses? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Angnakak.

**Hon. Pat Angnakak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think we recently had a really good role model, Donna May, who is the

heart surgeon. It's just wonderful to see somebody from Chesterfield Inlet, the family of Chesterfield Inlet, and what a wonderful role model. We need to talk more about her in the schools. We need to inspire our children who are in schools to take those kinds of courses that could lead them to those kinds of fields.

This is a long-term goal. We can't all of a sudden have Inuit nurses overnight. It takes time for people to go through school. We need to encourage our children to stay in school, to take the proper courses, and in the short term we are supporting the nursing students that currently are in Arctic College through the Nursing Program. We support them through bursaries. We provide a one-year mentorship program once they come out of the college so that we can give them some experience to work on when they do go out into the health care centres.

This is always on our radar. We work with Nunavut Arctic College to start looking at more of the health fields to see how we can support more Inuit to go into those kinds of fields. We acknowledge that there's always more to do, always more improvements to be done, but I think we are doing what we can with what we have right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Question 121 – 5(1): Jobs for Income Assistance Clients**

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We only get an hour for question period

and it seems the ministers are taking a little too long with their answers. It would be appreciated if they could shorten them up a bit so we could all get our questions in today.

Mr. Speaker, my questions are directed to the Minister of Family Services.

Mr. Speaker, my colleague addressed the practice of sending income support clients around the community to collect signatures showing that they have been looking for work. In smaller communities like Sanikiluaq and, I imagine, in Kugluktuk there just aren't enough available jobs. This practice is causing unnecessary hardships on some income support clients who do not have transportation.

Can the minister tell this House how many signatures are required and how his department monitors what jobs are actually available in each community before asking income assistance clients to go out and look for them? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Family Services, Minister Savikataaq.

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have a copy of the form here, so I don't know exactly how many names are required, but just from memory when clients used to come to me looking for jobs, I believe it was half a page or maybe 10 signatures. I'm only guessing, but somewhere around that.

I'm aware that there are very few jobs in small communities, but as I stated earlier, this is just one of the productive choices. It may be one that clients have

chosen to use. In my binder here we have eight different categories of productive choices they can make. I would talk a little bit longer, but the member says that we have been talking too long, so I'll stop right there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Laughter*

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

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the minister cutting himself off.

I would appreciate it if the minister could look into this issue of the signatures. Even 10 signatures in a community where there are very few jobs are totally unnecessary for our clients, and I would appreciate it if he could look into that.

Mr. Speaker, I do recognize that the Income Assistance Division has done a lot of work in productive choices, as the minister stated, to get ready for employment programs, to provide more support for income assistance clients who are trying to work towards employment. Can the minister describe how effective these initiatives have been in supporting income assistance clients in smaller communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Savikataaq.

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure. The word "effective" is very broad and interpretative, but in terms of if you... There are many ways of judging. If you

judge it by the number of seats available that go into the G.R.E.A.T. program, it has been very successful in terms of the number of seats available filled and the number of clients that finish the G.R.E.A.T. program.

If you measure in terms of how many actually got jobs, then that's a bit harder because if the jobs aren't there, then it's harder to get these people employed. It's one step. We work with the CEDOs and most of the CEDOs are in the same office as the income assistance workers, so we work with them to try to help the clients.

As part of the G.R.E.A.T. program, they get, I believe, two weeks on-the-job training. It just gives them a bit of a taste of what it is to work, how it feels to work, and what work is like because some of these clients may not have worked before and we want to get them a taste to work.

I realize that in small communities when there are no jobs, there are no jobs, but this is just to help them to go to the next step because maybe there will a job at some point and then they would have a better chance of getting that job. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's the issue in our smaller communities. Mr. Speaker, there are just no jobs available.

Moving on, one way to address this issue of income assistance clients looking for jobs is to focus on creating more jobs. Can the minister clearly describe how

his department works with his counterparts in Economic Development and Transportation to support job creation, business development, and any other initiatives to create employment opportunities for income assistance clients in Nunavut's smaller communities? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Savikataaq.

**Hon. Joe Savikataaq:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Family Services is not there so much as to create jobs, but we will talk and work with other departments.

Our role, working with Education and with Arctic College, is try to make people who are in income support employable, give them the skills they need or let them know what the skills they have. They may have skills there that someone who is looking for employees that doesn't know this person has the skill. We work with the clients too and we say, "What skills do you have?" Some clients think they don't have any skills, then you talk to them and they tell you what they can do. You say, "Well, you do have some skills."

We help them make resumés and we try to make them more employable. We're not in the employment business, but we are there to assist income assistance workers and others even not on income assistance through the EDOs to try to make people employable. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Oral Questions. Member for Arviat North-Whale Cove, Mr. Main.

### **Question 122 – 5(1): Inuit Labour Content Requirements for Government Contracts**

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question this morning is for the Minister of Community and Government Services.

(interpretation ends) Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the minister for his very informative response yesterday. He mentioned the NNI Policy among other things. I would like to follow up on that. In fact last night I found some of the information that I was requesting here in the House.

In the government's contract activity report tabled in the House March 13, 2017, CGS, in the compiled report, indicates that the average percentage required for Inuit labour on construction contracts for major works was 29 percent.

Mr. Speaker, I'm holding here a recent tender for the Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre. The Inuit labour requirement for this project is 20 percent.

Mr. Speaker, unless I'm wrong on my math here, it seems that this major construction project is under the Nunavut average. Can the minister please tell me why? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for the question. I'm glad that the average is higher than the



minimum requirement that we put out there. It shows that it's working.

This requirement that you're asking about is a minimum requirement, not maximum. You will probably find by the end of the time this contract is done, it will be higher than the 20 percent required and that's why we're hitting the 29 percent. I would like to see it go to 30, 40, 50, or 60 percent higher, but these requirements that are worked in there are the absolute minimum requirements, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Your first supplementary, Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Maybe I'll clarify my question here. The average required in the contracts across Nunavut was 29 percent in 2015-16. The government's own report says that contractors on average are able to exceed the minimum requirements, which is great, Mr. Speaker. I would love to see more Inuit and Nunavummiut workers employed in our major construction projects.

The average achieved was 37 percent. This seems to tell me that we may be setting the Inuit labour requirements a bit too low. Again I'll reiterate: why was the Qikiqtani Correctional Healing Centre tender labour requirement for this project set at 20 percent? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our department, with our client departments, tries to set the highest requirement as possible or the minimum

requirement as possible.

As I explained to my colleague yesterday during his line of questioning, there are many factors that are built into this. Are there other existing projects happening in the community that are accessing the same workforce, the same labour force, and the same technical groups and stuff like that?

There are many factors that are put into coming up with a minimum requirement for any contract at any given time. It takes into account the skills that are required for that job. It takes into account the labour force available, skilled labour force and non-skilled labour force. It also takes into account how many projects are happening in the community while this project is happening.

You take those into account and you take a look at how many Inuit are going to be available for that particular project and you come up with a minimum requirement. 20 percent is the minimum requirement in this case after weighing all those values on this particular contract, Mr. Speaker. I look forward to the contractors coming out and having a larger impact than the minimum 20 percent. I hope they come out with 30 or 40 percent, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

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

**Mr. Main:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the minister for his response. I think we're all on the same page in terms of what we would like to see here, but I have to say that I'm a bit concerned that we're not putting the bar high enough. These contractors have shown across

Nunavut that they're able to exceed the minimum requirements.

Maybe my suggestion would be we should be setting the bar a bit higher. Without getting into too much more detail, I'll note that across Nunavut in the three-year period, the amount of penalties collected went down and the amount of bonuses went up. In 2015-16 a million dollars in bonuses was paid out and that is for exceeding the Inuit labour requirements set out in contracts.

My final question for the minister is: yes or no, will he commit to taking immediate measures along with his partner departments taking immediate measures to increase the percentage of Inuit labour required under major construction contracts? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>> *Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Minister Kusugak.

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank my colleague for the question. Our department, with our client departments, is always striving to achieve goals and improve where we can and looking and setting those increases is one of them, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Members, please note that the time for question period has expired. We will proceed with the orders of the day. Item 7. Written Questions. Item 8. Returns to Written Questions. Item 9. Replies to Opening Address. Item 10. Petitions. Item 11. Responses to Petitions. Item 12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters.

Item 13. Tabling of Documents. Member for Aivilik, Mr. Netser.

### **Item 13: Tabling of Documents**

#### **Tabled Document 024 – 5(1): Photograph of Classroom at Sakku School**

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (interpretation ends) I have spoken a number of times in this House about the severe mould problems at Sakku School (interpretation) in Coral Harbour.

Mr. Speaker, our local school, Sakku School, was built atop an old swimming spot which was a small lake and this lake has always had a creek that keeps running. Due to the fact it keeps running even in the winter as well as summer, the air inside reeks of mould, causing issues as well as the aging of the school.

The little lake we used to go swimming when I was a child was called Uquutalik by locals. The area adjacent to the school becomes waterlogged in the springtime and this lake continues to drain even in the winter. The road becomes quite icy as a result.

I would like to table some photographs showing some of the classrooms and the kind of HVAC equipment installed in the room to filter out the mouldy smell that emanates into the room. This equipment was installed by the government, and I want these photographs viewed by my colleagues, which is why I am tabling these photographs today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you.

Tabling of Documents. Member for Rankin Inlet North-Chesterfield Inlet, Ms. Towtongie.

**Tabled Document 025 – 5(1): Excerpt from Government of Nunavut’s Proposal for the Regulation of Cannabis in Nunavut**

**Ms. Towtongie** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table an excerpt from the government, Nunavut’s official public consultation concerning the legalization of cannabis in Nunavut. Mr. Speaker, this excerpt highlights the housing-related issues that I noted in my oral question yesterday. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all members to review this document with care. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. Tabling of Documents. Minister of Community and Government Services, Minister Kusugak.

**Tabled Document 026 – 5(1): FPT Ministers and Deputy Ministers Responsible for Infrastructure Meeting, September 20 to 21, 2017**

**Tabled Document 027 – 5(1): NHC’s 2018-2019 Proposed Construction Report**

**Tabled Document 028 – 5(1): NHC’s Allocation System Backgrounder, January 2018**

**Hon. Lorne Kusugak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have the privilege of tabling three documents.

The first document is the federal-provincial-territorial ministers and deputy ministers responsible for

infrastructure meeting in Ottawa. I would like to table that document.

Under the Nunavut Housing Corporation, I am tabling the Nunavut Housing Corporation’s 2018-19 Proposed Construction Report, which has been shared with members in January of this year.

My friend from the Hudson Bay will be glad to hear that I am tabling the Nunavut Housing Corporation’s Allocation System Backgrounder. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) I’m sure your friend from Hudson Bay is very happy.

>>*Laughter*

(interpretation) Tabling of Documents. There are no more. Let us proceed. Item 14. Notices of Motions. Item 15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills. Item 16. Motions. Item 17. First Reading of Bills. Item 18. Second Reading of Bills. Item 19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters. Bills 1, 2, 3, and 4 with Mr. Mikkungwak in the Chair.

Before we proceed to the Committee of the Whole, we will take a 15-minute break.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House recessed at 10:53 and Committee resumed at 11:08*

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

**Chairman** (Mr. Mikkungwak): Good morning. (interpretation) Good morning, Nunavummiut.

I would like to call the committee meeting to order. (interpretation ends) In Committee of the Whole we have the following items to deal with: Bills 1, 2, 3, and 4. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good morning. Mr. Chairman, we wish to continue with Bill 1 and commence with the review of the capital appropriation for the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs, followed by the Legislative Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Are we in agreement that we first deal the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs? Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Bill 01 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,  
No. 2, 2018-2019 – Executive and  
Intergovernmental Affairs –  
Consideration in Committee**

**Chairman:** Thank you. I would now like to ask Minister Quassa: do you have officials that you would like to appear before the committee?

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Yes.

**Chairman:** Does the committee agree to let the minister and his officials go to the witness table?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

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

For the record, Minister Quassa, please introduce your officials.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my left and your right is our (interpretation ends) Deputy Minister, (interpretation) Kathy Okpik, and to my right and your left is Les Hickey, (interpretation ends) Corporate Services Director. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Yesterday we completed the opening comments. General comments? (interpretation ends) On page B-3. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Directorate. Total Capital Expenditures. \$250,000. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the substantiation sheet for the \$250,000 in minor renovations it speaks to that part of it is to create office space for two senior positions, of which one position has been relocated from the Ottawa office. What kind of impact does this have on the office requirements of the Ottawa office? With moving that position up here, are they over-housed? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank my colleague for that question. Firstly, this applies to a (interpretation ends) senior position (interpretation) and this

position is situated in Iqaluit already. As well, the details outlining this position are included in the opening comments we provided. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that. My question is: by moving this position to Iqaluit, has it created too much of office space in the Ottawa office for the amount of staff that's there? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Minister Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize if I misunderstood the question. No, it has no impact on the office in Ottawa. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is the office space in Ottawa Government of Nunavut-owned office space or is that leased and, if so, how many staff is currently located in that office? If I can also add on, how many offices are currently in that office space? Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Premier Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Currently the office space in Ottawa... . Let me first start by stating that we are only leasing the space and we don't own the office space.

Currently at the office there are two positions: the (interpretation ends) executive service officer and aboriginal affairs advisor. (interpretation) They comprise these two positions. The third listed position is the (interpretation ends) community corrections officer. (interpretation) I was just recently in Ottawa where I met the three people working at that office.

As well, although he didn't ask about this issue, to ensure the member is aware of this information, the (interpretation ends) lease (interpretation) ends on March 31, 2019. That's our current situation. I hope I responded properly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know Nunavut bureaucrats do travel down to Ottawa and utilize the office space. One of the questions asked is how many offices were located in there, but if the lease is coming up in the next year, is the government looking at renewing the existing lease or finding a smaller or larger space than they're currently leasing right now? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Premier Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I said, the present lease expires at the end of March of 2019. My department will be working with CGS and an RFP to secure alternate office space for the beginning of April 2019. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Directorate. Total Capital Expenditures. \$250,000. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main:** Thank you, *Iksivautaaq*. (interpretation) I have only one question this morning. It states here in the substantiation sheets that... I'll speak in English as it's written in English.

(interpretation ends) On page 3 of 5 it mentions under project impact it says, "improving wellness by the introduction of ergonomic furniture." I wonder if the minister could provide us with more detail on that and in particular I'm interested to hear if this type of furniture is available to all GN employees outside of the department. I just want to make sure that it's in line with what's available to other employees in other departments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Premier Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also thank you for asking about that. As an example, this office is quite small. The reality is that in this case, if you compare our offices here, if there are no (interpretation ends) walls, then dividers (interpretation) are used to delineate our offices.

If you look at the space behind you, there is a cloth divider and that office had these types of cloth dividers. One of our employees is (interpretation ends) allergic to dust (interpretation) as the cloth dividers pick up the dust. That person had an allergy to dust. It's for that reason that the dividers were the

only thing that we had to change.

We have what's called CORCAN furniture. (interpretation ends) Let me just switch over to English. The office presently has CORCAN furniture that's quite old and we need to be diligent and to look at employees who have extreme sensitivities. Certainly, again, safety always comes first for our employees. Safety and health of our employees are very important. That's a mitigation that we did for our EIA office here in Iqaluit. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Directorate. Total Capital Expenditures. \$250,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Go to page B-2. Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs. Total Capital Expenditures. \$250,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Do members agree that we have concluded the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. (interpretation) Premier, you can now make your closing remarks. Mr. Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank my officials by starting with my Deputy Minister, Kathy, as well as Les

Hickey for preparing the documentation and for their empathy towards our staff. I extend our gratitude to them, along with all the staff working at the Department of EIA. I reiterate my thanks to our staff.

I also thank my colleagues, as it is better to know how departments operate in order to run a good government. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

**Bill 01 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2018-2019 – Legislative Assembly – Consideration in Committee**

Moving on. We will now start the review of the Office of the Legislative Assembly. Welcome, Mr. Speaker. Speaker Mr. Enook, would you like your officials to go to the witness table? Mr. Enook.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Yes. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Do members agree to bring the officials in?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the officials in.

Thank you very much. Mr. Speaker, for the record, please introduce your officials.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before we start, I heard

someone say no to bring the officials in. During question period, I'll be running the proceedings.

>>*Laughter*

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To my right is the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Quirke, and to my left is the Director of Corporate Services, Mr. Rose. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you. Welcome, officials, for coming to the Legislative Assembly. Please proceed, Mr. Speaker, with your opening comments. Mr. Enook.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to appear before you and members today to present the proposed 2018-19 Capital Estimates of the Office of the Legislative Assembly.

As members will note, the proposed 2018-19 capital budget for the Office of the Legislative Assembly is a very modest \$155,000.

Our priority areas for the coming fiscal year include office equipment replacement and information technology enhancements. I would like to take this opportunity to note that our five-year capital plan includes a number of upgrades to the audiovisual systems, which support the production of *Hansard* and enable Nunavummiut to view our sittings and televised committee hearings.

Mr. Chairman, (interpretation ends) this institution is committed to accessibility. Recent enhancements in this area have included improvements to the front

entrance of the Legislative Assembly, as well as ensuring that the three public washrooms on the first floor of our building, one of which has been designated as gender-neutral, are now wheelchair accessible and have been equipped with change tables for infants and babies.

(interpretation) Mr. Chairman, that concludes opening comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Go to page A-3. General comments? (interpretation ends) Office of the Legislative Assembly. Assembly Operations. Total Capital Expenditures. \$140,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Flip onto page A-5. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Independent Officers of the Legislative Assembly. Total Capital Expenditures. \$15,000. Agreed? Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have more of a general comment if I may be allowed to go back and make a general comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Please proceed, Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to make a comment that I would once again like to applaud the Legislative Assembly for providing us a true representation of their five-year capital plan, as they are the only department that has provided substantiation of future projects that don't actually include a budget in 2018-

19 but have future requests going forward.

I just believe that this is very helpful with us seeing the future year requests, and I think it would be great if other departments would provide the courtesy of doing the same. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Office of the Legislative Assembly. Independent Officers of the Legislative Assembly. Total Capital Expenditures. \$15,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Go to page A-2. Office of the Legislative Assembly. Total Capital Expenditures. \$155,000. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Do members agree that we have concluded the Office of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut? Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. (interpretation) You can now make closing remarks, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Enook.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you, members and also thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much.

>> *Laughter*



Sergeant-at-Arms, please escort the officials out.

**Bill 01 – Appropriation (Capital) Act,  
No. 2, 2018-2019 – Consideration  
in Committee**

(interpretation ends) We will now proceed to the clause-by-clause review of Bill 1. Go to Bill 1 in your legislation binders.

Before we proceed to the clause-by-clause, I believe Mr. Hickes wants to make a comment. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before we move on to the clause-by-clause consideration of this bill, I want to make some general comments.

As the minister and his officials will recall, concerns have been raised in recent days about the government's procurement and tendering processes in relation to this capital budget.

As I pointed out the other day, it appears that some departments have already issued and awarded tenders for a number of items of capital equipment before the Legislative Assembly has actually approved the capital estimates and the bill that is before us today.

Mr. Chairman, I recognize that these capital estimates are being considered during the winter sitting immediately preceding the start of the new fiscal year rather than during the fall sitting of the preceding calendar year as a consequence of our territory's four-year electoral cycle.

I also recognize the difference between multi-year construction projects that

span a number of different fiscal years and expenditures which only take place during one fiscal year such as equipment acquisitions.

However, I again emphasize the importance of ensuring that the information which the government publishes as part of its procurement and tendering activities clearly and explicitly recognize that such expenditures are ultimately contingent on receiving formal Legislative Assembly approval.

Mr. Chairman, as someone who once spent his working days on the FreeBalance system, I'm a little mystified as to how the departments have been able to apparently go ahead and spend money for the next fiscal year before it has been appropriated.

Mr. Chairman, the other day I was asking questions of this nature to the Minister of Finance, asking for a commitment that a review on all purchasing be made to make sure that no other uncommitted dollars have been spent to date. I would like to ask the minister right now if that information is available. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends)  
Minister of Finance, Minister Akeeagok.

**Hon. David Akeeagok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With respect to the question, we have to review every last file, and that is evident. Currently, regarding the particulars the member raised, I don't have that level of detail with me.

Nonetheless, I have queried my officials and they are preparing the paperwork

outlining how funds can be allocated towards procurement of the infrastructure we have chosen and whether the process was followed. This has been accomplished using various methods. However, everything falls under the realm of the *Financial Administration Act* and the associated policies have given permission to undertake that through the different planning processes.

With respect to the details, I am trying to review them now. However, what I note immediately is that these expenditures have followed the planning processes that are outlined in the policies. Some of the ministers provided reports that they were borrowing funds for that purpose. This includes future borrowing of funds specific to capital items. When this statement of borrowing funds is stated, it is from approved appropriations and they have to report back to the members whose constituency would be impacted. Some of the reports were written that they would borrow in the interim while the legislators are reviewing the approval of the capital items.

I tried to review them as there were questions posed about them. If there was money that was spent that was not supposed to be spent, I will report that back to you, but from what I have reviewed, some departments have been doing it in a way where they have purchased vehicles right away in order to make it to the sealift because sealift closes in a month or so. The capital items that we call have already been planned to make sure that they can be ordered right away following the election year.

It has been a learning curve and I am

glad that my colleague has been raising questions about this because we need to be open out there. We have no choice but to do these things sometimes in order to make sure the government continues to run. So that we will know as new MLAs, planning takes a very long time and we are reviewing what you considered last month in standing committee. The cabinet reviewed the same things. That's normal procedure.

When elections happen, sometimes the way the government runs is that we need to approve things right away. Yes, we have learned from this and the previous legislature had some really good thoughts. They wanted to divide the capital. There was the first part of capital proposals and then there was the second part of capital proposals. We're thinking that maybe we should start doing this with the purchase of vehicles and use it in the five-year capital plan. After this we will be going back to the normal way of reviewing capital proposals in the winter sitting.

I will do a proper review of the vehicles that were purchased right away before the capital was approved. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also would note that other members have brought to my attention that there have been suspicions of this type of activity in non-election years as well.

I do have a final question for the minister if the Chairman will indulge me. I would ask him that any items identified that were expended out of

surplus 2017-18 fiscal year where vehicles and mobile equipment were budgeted and projected to be acquired in the 2018-19 fiscal year, that those amounts of the reductions be determined and that the minister come back with a Supplementary Appropriation Act reducing the 2018-19 capital appropriation of any department, Crown agency, or territorial corporation that acquired those vehicles. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Minister of Finance, Minister Akeeagok.

**Hon. David Akeeagok** (interpretation): Thank you. (interpretation ends) For us new members, we should be aware of our processes when it comes to financial. There are supplementary appropriations that this government brings from time to time and there are usually capital appropriation carryovers that would come this spring. If there are any funds that have already been spent and that were targeted towards this, and if it did not go and get spent for that, then yes, through the supplementary appropriations we have to be financially prudent now.

We know our financial reality here. If there are funds that our department still needs, we need to bring it back and we need to be looking at our finances. That's something that we will definitely do, but we do have avenues through our supplementary appropriations, whether it's capital or O&M, that if there are unused dollars, it will be reported on. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you

very much. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to clarify for the record that the minister has agreed with the information that he is committed to providing to the Legislative Assembly on each vehicle and every piece of mobile equipment that was purchased in the 2017-18 fiscal year that is on the list to be purchased in the 2018-19 capital budget that we have yet to approve will be returned in an appropriation back to this Legislative Assembly to the penny, Mr. Chairman. I would like to confirm that. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Minister of Finance, Mr. Akeeagok.

**Hon. David Akeeagok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) We are talking about the small capital budget here and within that there are some avenues that the departments can take on those for that.

What I am committed to doing is that if there are any unspent dollars that were geared towards this vehicle or any future purchases that were bought, if they are not in that and they were clearly dedicated and they weren't spent, then we have that through our supplementary appropriations, the avenue to bringing it back. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the minister's recollection, when was the last time an appropriation of that

nature was brought to this House? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Minister of Finance, Mr. Akeegok.

**Hon. David Akeegok:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What appropriation was brought back to the House? (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Basically a reverse appropriation, returning money to the Legislative Assembly of unspent capital dollars through this different variety of small capital budgets that departments apply for. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Minister of Finance, Mr. Akeegok.

**Hon. David Akeegok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (interpretation ends) I'm looking to the Clerk because this is my first appropriation that I have been involved as an elected official. I'm looking past cabinet ministers and now ministers and along with the Clerk. I believe it's zero. (interpretation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Hickes.

**Committee Motion 002 – 5(1):  
Introduction of Supplementary  
Appropriation (Capital) Act**

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

That's my point. I know this avenue is available to the government to return surplus unused expenditures. They have clearly shown that they're able to use surplus from previous years to purchase equipment from an unapproved item list that they're looking at applying for budget dollars for the next fiscal year to purchase items. This has been happening for years from my understanding from some of my colleagues, yet there has never been a return of those dollars.

At this time I would like to move a motion. I move that this committee recommends that the Minister of Finance introduce a Supplementary Appropriation Act during the spring 2018 sitting of the Legislative Assembly that reduces the 2018-19 capital appropriation of any department, Crown agency, or territorial corporation that acquires vehicles or mobile equipment during the 2017-18 fiscal year when the vehicles or mobile equipment were budgeted and projected to be acquired during the 2018-19 fiscal year, and that the amounts of the reductions be determined based on the entities' actual expenditures in each case. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Please provide a copy of the motion to the table.

Thank you. As the motion is not translated [from] English, we will take a short break to have it translated. Thank you.

*>> Committee recessed at 11:46 and resumed at 11:58*

**Chairman:** I call the committee meeting

to order. Mr. Rumbolt.

**Committee Motion 003 – 5(1): Motion to Conclude Bill**

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Pursuant to Rule 45(2)(a), I move that we continue to sit beyond our noon adjournment time so that we can conclude with the review of Bill 1. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. The motion is in order and is not subject to debate. All those in favour. Opposed. The motion is carried and we will continue with the review of Bill 1.

Order. The motion is in order. Before we proceed with debate on the motion, I have a few comments to make as to procedures.

Every member has the right to speak once to the motion for a total time of 20 minutes.

The mover of the motion speaks first.

The mover of the motion has the right to the last reply, which closes the debate.

To the motion. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the discussions over the last few days on this topic have culminated in this having to come forward. Like I had mentioned earlier, there have been some suspicions raised to me from my colleagues over the last few days that this is not just a one-time occurrence during election year cycles.

When we sit down as a committee and we approve budgets, there are lists of

capital and small capital items that are on that list that we question each department on, on the validity of those purchases. One of the responses we've got during this proceeding, if departments are taking surpluses from other areas to get a head start on their next year's unapproved budget, then they don't need those items because they have just purchased them already with surplus items.

The intent of this, as the Premier has said numerous times, transparency of this government is going to be different than previous governments. I think this is a step in the right direction. I'll end my comment there. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you. To the motion. Ms. Towtongie.

**Ms. Towtongie (interpretation):** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have to be very careful about what we are approving. We can't just approve everything that's requested by the government. The Premier has indicated that he wants to be accountable.

Spending surpluses and spending money without prior approval is not the procedure. We have to follow the *Financial Administration Act*. With the previous actions by the previous government, we have to be fiscally responsible and be accountable to the people out there and use public money prudently.

With the public money, I don't think this is the first incident. The government has been doing that for a very long time and I will support the motion that's on the floor because we have to be accountable

to the people out there who elected us to represent them. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Main.

**Mr. Main** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a brief comment to make, Mr. Chairman. I support the motion because we have to manage our monies wisely, which is obvious, Mr. Chairman. I personally have looked at the departments and there is a lot of discretion for the small capital projects. The small capital funds have been increasing steadily over the past years. Looking at the management, it seems like it's a discretionary fund.

As Members of the Legislative Assembly, we have the responsibility to make sure that the monies appropriated are used for what they're identified for. The government didn't do this intentionally and we have to work together in the upcoming years. It's unintentional, but it's to improve the money management of the government. That is my comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Lightstone.

**Mr. Lightstone**: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to mention that I fully support the motion. One of the main principles behind the *Financial Administration Act* is of course to protect public funds but also to ensure that government does not incur an expense that it does not have an appropriation for, which is why I was shocked when we learned here in the Assembly that several departments have in fact incurred

expenses for projects which had not previously been appropriated, which is why I believe that we need to work towards increasing financial transparency. Hopefully we will be able to achieve that over the term of this Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Mr. Netser.

**Mr. Netser** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Department of Health had expended monies already for vehicles because they have to meet the deadline for sealift. It's not too late; more than one ship comes in bringing in cargo. We have to be fiscally responsible and the government should not be appropriating monies that haven't been approved yet. I will support the motion. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) Minister of Finance, Minister Akeegok.

**Hon. David Akeegok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Related to that comment, I have maintained which funds are used to purchase vehicles and how the funds have been used. Further, I am open to providing the information to the House.

Our legislation, policies, and regulations have to be adhered to and purchasing vehicles is only possible by following the rules. Employees can't just go shopping for any item by signing the form, as we have checks and balances. They have to look at their operational budgets to find budget items that apply towards vehicles or vehicle maintenance funds that they can use. It has to be part of their operational budgets. With that

being the procedure, we were informed that a department had borrowed from different budget items to purchase the vehicle or have ordered the vehicle in the interim.

I want to have every opportunity as well as to be transparent. This government wants to be transparent, especially when it comes to expenditures. However, if we are advised by this House to draft new legislation and that certain funds must be excised, I don't think some budget items need to be removed. Further, I thank our colleagues for having this discretionary funding if the appropriation is approved as this will allow us to operate until the spring.

Nonetheless, I want to clearly outline that with respect to vehicles and mobile equipment capital purchases, it has been several years where capital items were listed separately and required to be reported on. As an example, any funds over \$250,000, including capital items, would be put together into a single appropriation. Until such time that funding is approved, none of the funds can be used. That is how the current process is followed. Any expenditure under this amount is put under (interpretation ends) small capital (interpretation) by the departments.

I forget how years have passed, perhaps over four years where MLAs have wanted details on the particulars of the every annual sealift order. This querying is a good usage of our roles and we should be following that process. It is good to see the interest from the members, but sometimes departments have to plan quite a bit ahead in order to qualify for this program. If any type of urgent situation arises, then they would

have to amend their capital purchase listing. This is allowed in these cases.

With that being the case, when departments are requested to go back and excise specific budget line items, as I still don't know the final amounts, thusly I will not be able to support this motion to excise these budget items. That is my line of reasoning. Further, although we had a good election campaign to run in, it caused a hiccup in the financial planning cycle. Interim appropriations can't cover the entire year and that is where we are currently in this cycle.

When any emergency crops up, the government has to also fund it. This includes unexpected replacement funding that occurs from time to time that we have to deal with on an emergency basis. This occurs operationally before the appropriation approvals and this is why there is that fund. When actual sessions take place, then these emergency or unplanned expenditures are submitted through the (interpretation ends) supplementary appropriation (interpretation) for them. That is how the government will continue to operate.

For the fiscal year 2018-19 capital plans, if they are indeed there, then yes, we can remove it. This is where the opportunity is to excise particular budget line items. We will need to search ways to lower the expenses we incur. In that regard I do agree with the members, but as it relates to financial planning cycles... . Actually if they used their authority, I will be reporting on the details, including if any funding was unnecessary, which I would be able to speak to, and whether funds were used properly or not. If we didn't

see that as a government, we would have to return to report on it. That is how the process runs. This is what I wanted to say regarding this motion, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. Premier Quassa.

**Hon. Paul Quassa** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To the motion, we all know that the recent election that the Minister of Finance alluded to in his explanation...my voice is still bothersome.

The election we underwent is partly to blame, as everyone sitting in this House knows. It has caused problems in this regard due to the fact that the election created a break in the approval process. I believe that all members are aware of how this led to two separate funding approval streams in the capital estimates. This should be clearly understood by all members, as it now has broken into two streams.

Now, what we are reviewing now is the second stream. With respect to this process, I think we know and are aware that this isn't the first budget cycle affected by an election. It isn't the first time an election has caused financial planning issues, as the mover of this motion well knows. He understands the past elections have caused the same problem, but what I want to specifically voice here is this appropriation we are reviewing will not resurface for another four years. This type of planning hiccup won't occur again in the future. Let's be aware of that fact. This is something I have maintained.

We have to look at how similar events in

our historical records were approached, hence my reference to the fact that the mover has already experienced the exact same thing. We know, at least the incumbents who were re-elected, and continuing MLAs have experienced this sort of financial barrier in operations. This is the reason why I state that we will not see this type of two-pronged approach for the next four years. I want you to all know that.

We have tried to speak to this issue. Perhaps to illustrate, Nunavut can only get sealifts once a year during the summer. In order to time the shipping of the items, orders have to be placed far in advance of the sealift season, as a tangible deadline exists. Yes, Iqaluit may receive several more ships than other communities, but it is seasonal and ends at a certain time. Any orders for shipping that season must fall within these deadlines for each voyage, even as far back in the winter.

Our government operations and services we provide are dictated by the amount of resources required. At a certain point, decisions are made to order replacements or resources for the year. That is what is followed in this case. As a government, we don't want to delay our programs and services, which include any and all services we want to succeed. I wanted to put that clearly for my colleagues. I reiterate that this situation will not unfold for another four years. I don't expect you to think that this will reoccur every year.

Further, for the understanding of my colleagues, there are no intentional overages in ordering equipment, as that is not how government operations are conducted. Obviously we all know that



additionally, these government funds are (interpretation ends) public money. (interpretation) As an example, it is the Nunavut residents' money that we are spending, which is the reason why there are no intentional misappropriations. We don't do it out of spite and as a government, that sort of behaviour is unacceptable. Operating out of spite isn't used, especially as a government that has to service its people, and not the way government works. I wanted to point that out clearly. It is clear that whether it is spiteful or not, everyone will vote using their best conscience.

I want to again point out here that I doubt we will see this type of motion for the upcoming four years. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman** (interpretation): Thank you very much. (interpretation ends) To the motion. Mr. Hickes.

**Mr. Hickes:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm not sure where the Premier comes up with the word "spite." This is nothing personal.

Like Mr. Main said, this is a now-identified flaw in the procurement process. If nothing else, this discussion has highlighted the need to take a look at, as an example that was brought up of the last Assembly, bringing the capital in two stages. This is now an identified issue, but it has also been alluded to that this doesn't just happen in election years.

I also disagree with the fact that... . How do I put this appropriately? No departments will lose anything on their list. We're talking about going back over stuff that is purchased from the list that

has been provided to us to get approved out of the current year's budget. If they already have that item, no department is going to miss out on any of the items on their list. This is an exercise in place.

We're all working together to make sure that we're expending dollars in a fiscally responsible manner and that we're providing the best benefit we can to Nunavummiut with the dollars that we're provided with. There's nothing untoward. I know I'm the one speaking and moving the motion, but this is a committee motion. We have been talking about this not just today but over the last few days amongst all of us. I guess I'll leave it at that, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, I do request a recorded vote. Thank you.

**Chairman:** I wish to inform the committee that I have no more names on my list. The debate is now closed. We will now vote on the motion. A recorded vote has been requested. All those in favour, please stand. After I have mentioned your name, you may sit down.

Mr. Hickes.

Ms. Kamingoak.

Mr. Qirngnuq.

Ms. Nakashuk.

Ms. Towtongie.

Mr. Keyootak.

Ms. Sheutiapik.

Mr. Kusugak.

Ms. Ehaloak.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

(interpretation) Premier Quassa.

**Chairman:** Go to the Schedule on page 2. Schedule. Amounts Appropriated for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2019. Vote 2: Capital. Total Capital Appropriation. \$161,553,000. Agreed?

Ms. Angnakak.

Mr. Joanasie.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

Mr. Savikataaq.

Mr. Akeeagok.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Clause 4. Agreed?

Mr. Rumbolt.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

Mr. Akoak.

**Chairman:** Clause 5. Agreed?

Mr. Netser.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

Mr. Kaernerik.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Clause 6. Agreed?

Mr. Main.

Mr. Lightstone.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

(interpretation ends) Since everybody has voted, the motion is carried unanimously.

**Chairman:** Do members agree to Bill 1 as a whole?

>> *Applause*

**Some Members:** Agreed.

(interpretation) We will now proceed. (interpretation ends) Go to Bill 1 in your legislation binder.

**Chairman:** Thank you. Do members agree, pursuant to Rule 62(2), that Bill 1 can be placed on the orders of the day for third reading?

(interpretation) We can start now. Bill 1, (interpretation ends) *Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2018-2019*. Clause 1. Agreed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Thank you. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Rumbolt.

**Chairman:** Clause 2. Agreed?

**Mr. Rumbolt:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We wish to report progress at this time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**An Hon. Member:** Good member.

**Chairman:** Clause 3. Agreed?

**Chairman:** Thank you. We have a

motion on the floor to report progress and the motion is not debatable. All those in favour of the motion. All those opposed. Thank you. I will now rise to report to the Speaker. Thank you.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Going back to the orders of the day. Item 20. Report of the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Mikkungwak.

**Item 20: Report of the Committee of the Whole**

**Mr. Mikkungwak:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 1 and would like to report that Bill 1 is immediately ready for third reading and that one committee motion was adopted. And, Mr. Speaker, I move that the Report of the Committee of the Whole be agreed to. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Thank you. There is a motion on the floor. Is there a seconder? Mr. Quassa. The motion is in order. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Thank you. All those opposed. The motion is carried.

Moving on with the orders of the day. Item 21. Third Reading of Bills. Minister of Finance, Minister Akeegok.

**Item 21: Third Reading of Bills**

**Bill 01 – Appropriation (Capital) Act, No. 2, 2018-2019 – Third Reading**

**Hon. David Akeegok** (interpretation): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the Member for Rankin Inlet South, that Bill 1, *Appropriation (Capital) Act, 2018-2019*, be read for the third time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**An Hon. Member:** Question.

**Speaker** (interpretation): Question has been called. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hand. Thank you. You have unanimously voted in favour. The motion is carried and Bill 1 is now ready for assent.

Item 22. *Orders of the Day*. (interpretation ends) Mr. Clerk.

**Item 22: Orders of the Day**

**Clerk** (Mr. Quirke): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *Orders of the Day* for March 19:

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery
6. Oral Questions
7. Written Questions
8. Returns to Written Questions
9. Replies to Opening Address
10. Petitions
11. Responses to Petitions
12. Reports of Standing and Special Committees on Bills and Other Matters
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motions

15. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
  - Bill 2
  - Bill 3
  - Bill 4
20. Report of the Committee of the Whole
21. Third Reading of Bills
22. Orders of the Day

Thank you.

>>*Applause*

**Speaker:** *Qujannamiik*, Mr. Clerk.  
(interpretation) Before we proceed, as it will be the weekend, let me thank all the staff of the Legislative Assembly. Thank you to all the interpreters and our four pages. Thank you.

>>*Applause*

My colleagues, I wish you a safe weekend, including Nunavummiut.

This House stands adjourned until Monday, March 19, at 1:30 p.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms.

>>*House adjourned at 12:30*

