



Nunatsiavut kavamanga  
Nunatsiavut Government

**SECOND ASSEMBLY**

**OF**

**NUNATSIAVUT**

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**FALL SESSION 8th Session 3rd SITTING**

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**kAVAMALIGIJET**  
**KAUJITITSIUTINGA**

# PARLIAMENTARY

## REPORT

**January 22-23, 2013**

**Speaker: Patricia Ford**

**In Attendance:**

**Speaker of the Nunatsiavut Assembly, Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency, Honorable Patricia Ford**

**President of Nunatsiavut, Honorable Sarah Leo**

**First Minister of Nunatsiavut Affairs, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Ordinary Member for Rigolet, Honorable Darryl Shiwak**

**Minister of Finance, Human Resources, and Information Technology, Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency, Honorable Daniel Pottle**

**Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Ordinary Member for Nain, Honorable Johannes Lampe**

**Minister of Health and Social Development, Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, Honorable Patricia Kemuksigak**

**Minister of Education and Economic Development, Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, Honorable Gary Mitchell**

**Ordinary Member for Makkovik, Deputy Speaker, Denise Lane**

**Ordinary Member for Postville, Glen Sheppard**

**Ordinary Member for Nain, William Barbour**

**Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Honorable Susan Nochasak**

**Chair Person for the NunaKatiget Community Corporation, Malcolm Winters**

**Chair Person for the Sivunivut Community Corporation, Edward Tuttauq**

**AngajukKâk for Nain, Anthony Andersen**

**AngajukKâk for Postville, Diane Gear**

**AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque**

**AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Wayne Piercy**

**AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey**

**Deputy Minister of Finance and Human Resources, Information Technology, Rexanne Crawford**

**Deputy Minister of the Nunatsiavut Secretariat, Secretary to the Executive Council, Isabella Pain**

**Deputy Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Dave Lough**

**Director of Legal Services, Loretta Michelin**

**Acting Director of Communications, Bert Pomeroy**

**Deputy Minister of Nunatsiavut Affairs, Toby Andersen**

**Clerk of the Assembly, Mary Sillett**

**Absent:**

**Deputy Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Carl McLean**

**Deputy Minister of Education and Economic Development, Tim McNeill**

**Deputy Minister of Health and Social Development, Michelle Kinney**

**The Nunatsiavut Assembly proceedings**

**were recorded in Inuktitut and English.**

**January 22-23, 2013**

**Assembly commenced at 9:00 a.m. on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013**

**MADAM SPEAKER:**Ullâkut Illonasi. I would like to call to order, the eighth session of the second Nunatsiavut Assembly. This is the spring session and is the third sitting. I will ask Marjorie Flowers to say the opening prayer.

**MS. FLOWERS:** Creator God, we thank you for this day and all that we have. We thank you for the gathering of this Assembly meeting and as we come into your

presence, we just ask that you will bless each Assembly member here. We ask that you will give them wisdom, strength and guidance in the decisions that they have to make. Clear their minds and give them good focus on the work that they need to do this week. We ask that you will be with their families near and far wherever they may be. We thank you for the good weather and that they got in on this day. And we just ask, Lord, that you will protect those who are feeling sad and feel like they have nowhere to turn. Help these members make good decisions. Help them to look out for their people and to remember that they are working for the people for the betterment of our communities and this government. We ask that you will bless these people who are in the galleries and in our communities. Guide and strengthen each one. Amen.

**ASSEMBLY:** Amen.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Amen. Thank you, Marjorie. Down to item two on our Orders of the Day, for the information of the Assembly, the pages are Hilda Pijogge and Nancy Rose. The interpreter/translators are Rita Andersen and Wilson Jararuse. Robert Ford is the IT staff helping out for this Assembly. Also we would like to recognize the OkâlaKatiget staff, Simone Kohlmeister and Johansi Tuglavina. I'd like to recognize those in our gallery today, and I'd like to recognize Randy Edmunds, the MHA for Torngat Mountains District. I'd like to thank you both for your interest in our Assembly and welcome. If there are any questions around travel and logistics, please see Hilda Hunter. Is there any member wishing to recognize visitors in the gallery today? We'll go down to item number three on our "Minister

Statements." Are there any Minister Statements today? I'd like, first of all I'd like to recognize the Honourable President, Sarah Leo, you have a Minister's Statement?

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. Before we proceed I'd just like to also acknowledge the presence of our MHA, Mr. Randy Edmunds. Thank you for joining us. Madame Speaker, the Nunatsiavut Government has a vision for the future, one that will ensure that we Labrador Inuit are self-sufficient, where communities are healthy and sustainable, where culture and traditions are part of our everyday life. As a government, Madame Speaker, we are charged with making tough decisions to ensure the interests of Labrador Inuit are protected. That includes making recommendations with respect to harvesting and wildlife management. The Nunatsiavut Government firmly believes that drastic measures must be taken now in order to protect the George River caribou. We, as Labrador Inuit, have always been conservation-minded, Madame Speaker, and have always had a deep sense of appreciation for the land and the food that it provides for us. If we were sure that we want to maintain the stability and preserve the George River Caribou Herd, we have to be willing to make big sacrifices. The number of the animals in the herd has significantly declined in recent years, and current data shows that it's still continuing to decline and that any harvesting at this time will be most detrimental to its sustainability. Given the latest information, the Nunatsiavut Government has called upon the government of Newfoundland and Labrador to immediately restrict non-Aboriginal

harvesting from the George River Caribou Herd. As well, we have asked our people, the Labrador Inuit, to suspend harvesting for two years. We have also called on both the governments of Quebec and Newfoundland and Labrador to expedite the establishment of a George River Herd Management Board, or plan, and that financial resources are set aside for increased research to gain a better understanding of what's happening to the caribou. Madame Speaker, last week First Minister Shiwak and myself, in his capacity as Minister of Lands and Resources, along with our respective Deputy Ministers, Isabella Pain and Carl McLean as well as the Director of Renewable Resources, Rebecca Willcott travelled to Kuujuaq to participate in an emergency Aboriginal caribou summit, specifically, on the George River Caribou Herd. It was a very historic event as it marked the first time that the Inuit of Nunavik, Nunatsiavut, the members of NunaKatiget, the Innu nation, the six Quebec Innu nations, the Naskapi Innu and the Cree have gathered together in an effort to try and find ways to protect the George River herd, as well as was the first time that these nations and ourselves as Inuit had gotten together around any table to discuss something so important. So that, alone, was a historical event. One of the things was we all recognized the need for a sincere and open dialogue to discuss the steep decline of the herd and the need to consider harvesting measures to ensure the sustainability of this critical food source for generations to come. After we got to Kuujuaq it was apparent that not all of the groups had an understanding of the latest status of the George River Caribou Herd, but during the meeting the participants were provided with the most up-to-date data that we had with regards to the

population, and this shows that the herd has since declined to 22,000 animals. The most recent fall census, Madame Speaker, has shown that the calf ratio is at five per cent, which is very, very low. And the percentage of large males is at two per cent. Certainly a decrease from last year, and the population is still expected to decline. Madame Speaker, unfortunately, we were unable to convince the Labrador Innu and the Quebec Innu to recommend their people to cease harvesting at the time, however, they did agree to go back to their people for further discussion given the information they had received at the summit. We have all agreed to meet again in early April. We haven't decided where yet and hopefully come to further consensus on harvesting of the George River herd. I should note that the Cree and Makivik and Nunavik have not harvested from the George River herd and for a number of years now, and the reason for that was the caribou did not migrate into their respective areas. Makivik or Nunavik went even further that they are going back to their people and they're going to be asking their people for the mandate to ban the hunting of the George River caribou as well for two years, and that was overwhelming support. Many of you were aware **NunatuKavut** have already taken that stand and asked their members not to harvest for two years. Madame Speaker, even though we were unsuccessful in convincing all of the other groups to stop harvesting, it was clear that they are seriously concerned about the decline of the herd and are willing to consider strict measures. Unfortunately, these decisions will not be made aware to us until the meeting in April. As I indicated in my opening remarks, Madame Speaker, the George River caribou are

disappearing and as stakeholders and Aboriginal leaders we must work together to find ways to ensure that the herd recovers at a point where harvest can be sustainable. I remain hopeful, Madame Speaker, that we can all come together to find a common approach to protecting the George River caribou. I just want to point out something that was said. One of the other leaders from the Innu Nation, the Labrador Innu Nation, actually said it quite well. And I certainly can't quote exactly what he said. But he basically said he did not want to be a leader in a position that was responsible for the decline or the extinction of the George River Caribou Herd, and I think that's where, after our discussion here in December, I think that's where we all stand as an Assembly, as Inuit and as protectors of the caribou herd. And I think we must maintain that. Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable President. I'd now like to recognize the Honourable Minister of Finance, Dan Pottle.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. I'd like to report to the Assembly that since 2005, the Nunatsiavut Government has received approximately 42.2 million dollars in mining taxes related to the Voisey's Bay Project. There is a formula, Madame Speaker, in the *Provincial Act* that is used to calculate the total mining taxes payable. The government of Newfoundland and Labrador collects these taxes and the Nunatsiavut Government is entitled to receive five per cent as per Section 7.5.1 of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claim Agreement*. On November 29th, 2012, Madame Speaker, the Deputy Minister, Rexanne Crawford, who is a

Controller for the Nunatsiavut Government, met with representatives from the Provincial Department of Finance and Inter-governmental and Aboriginal Affairs, along with a representative from the Innu Nation. The topic of discussion was projected mining royalties from the Vale Inco related to the Voisey's Bay mine. Madame Speaker, the province informed the Controller that due to the commissioning of Long Harbour which is expected to begin in July, 2013 there will be a significant reduction in the annual mining royalties received by the Nunatsiavut Government. At a very high level, there will be an increase in the allowable expenses for depreciation of the capital assets in Long Harbour, and a new deduction called "the processing and smelting allowance", both of which will reduce the revenue subject to taxation by the Province. For specifics on the calculation, Madame Speaker, of the mining and mineral rights taxes, and how the facility in Long Harbour impacts it, please contact the Controller or me as Minister. As a result of this discussion, Madame Speaker, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is projecting minimal or no taxes payable for at least the next three fiscal years which means that the Nunatsiavut Government and the Innu Nation will receive five per cent of this nominal amount for the next three years. Madame Speaker, the Nunatsiavut Government does not agree with the position of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. Under the *Labrador Inuit Land Claim Agreement* the process for any disagreements is a meeting with the Subsurface Resource Revenue Sharing Committee, a committee that is to be established under the *Land Claim Agreement*, and if the disagreement cannot be resolved at this committee, it will be

referred to dispute resolution under Chapter 21 of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claim Agreement*. I will continue, Madame Speaker, with further updates from my department as we sit tomorrow. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize the Minister of Health, the Honourable Patricia Kemuksigak.

**MS KEMUKSIGAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. I will today give an update on the Department of Health and Social Development. Tomorrow will be on the Status of Women and the AnânuKatiget Tumingit. Cultures healing sessions were held in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, North West River, Nain, Postville and Makkovik in November and December. Two-day sessions were held in Makkovik and Postville with excellent turnout. Peter Irniq also visited schools in Nain, Makkovik, Postville, and it was very well received. In Happy Valley-Goose Bay and Northwest River evening events were held with a presentation by Peter Irniq and musical entertainment. Over the next few months three two-day workshops will be held in Nunatsiavut facilitated by Dr. Joe Solanto and Trauma and Addictions Team. We are piloting a new focus on treatment and targeting three specific groups of clients. In Rigolet from January 22nd till March the 1st, we are focusing on individuals currently strong in their sobriety who want to go further in healing. In Hopedale from February the 18th to March the 1st, we are partnering with Child, Youth and Family Services to provide treatment for parents involved with Child Welfare. The final project is scheduled for Nain in April and will focus on justice clients. Joe Solanto will also be facilitating a three-day Inuit Inter-generational Trauma

and Healing workshop in February for the Inuit Bachelor of Social Work students. Madame Speaker, we are very pleased that Labrador Grenfell Health recently hired a full-time psychiatrist, Dr. Mystery. He is actually in Nain this week seeing clients and meeting with the clinic and DHSD staff. He is very interested in partnering and visiting other communities as required. Labrador Grenfell Health also has a child psychiatrist, Dr. Bruce Hassack, who visits Happy Valley-Goose Bay regularly and has visited Nain and Hopedale. We have lobbied for consistent psychiatric services in our region for a long time and we are now finally seeing the benefits. We have been doing considerable work to prepare for moving forward with planning related to the Child Youth and Family Services MOU that was signed in November. We have a Foster Parents Recruitment Campaign ready to roll out, and what the pages came around with is some of our perspective posters that we'll have, and we have two different brochures that explain the benefit of foster parenting. We now have 15 participants that are in Goose Bay this week to train as trainers for the delivery of a Pride Program, and that is training for foster parents. This is an international program that Newfoundland and Labrador purchased. DHSD was able to get special permission from the company to revise it to incorporate Inuit culture and values. We have received approval from the Province to move forward and the changes are actually in the training that's taking place this week. Madame Speaker, we are currently working on a new five-year regional health plan which will be finalized by March 31st. Communities will then work on their community plans and will engage their specific communities in the plan. DHSD has received

\$64,000 to develop a model of supportive living for individual with the multiple and complex needs. The development of this model will take place over the next year and communities will be consulted during the process. And we receive funding for \$31,300 to develop residential school survivor information posters, and that's coming forward in the next few months. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable Minister. Do we have any other Minister Statements? I'd like to recognize the Honourable Minister of Education, Gary Mitchell.

**MR. MITCHELL:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. I'd like to apologize for being late here today, but I was waiting for a ride. I have a report from the Economic Development division which I'll give to you today. In regard to our funding proposal that was submitted to government agencies this past fall, it was a three-year business plan. We have not received any official feedback from most of the funding agencies at this point. A business plan has been sent to funding agencies in December highlighting a three-year proposal with a work plan clearly identified outlining clear objectives and outputs to measure and be accountable for and identifying key actions to pursue. There is no confirmation on any of these positions as of yet. Reception to the business plan seems to be positive based on the informal comments received to date. In regard to our three-year business plan that was submitted for funding agencies for Nunatsiavut communities, Deputy Minister McNeill is in St. John's this week on a trade show with the Director of Development, Francine Couture, and they will be meeting with

ACOA today to give a status on our application to ACOA. Deputy Minister McNeill, and as I mentioned, Deputy Minister McNeill and Director of Economic Development have met with Service Canada's Director to discuss service offerings in Nunatsiavut. The Economic Development Division has put forward a request for approximately \$60,000 a year from Service Canada in the business plan. The meeting was upbeat and constructive leading in a direction to meet the operational objectives for both organizations. Advanced Skills in Education, AES, has already confirmed willingness to work out a plan with the Economic Development division to provide support and advice surrounding their programs and services. The meeting is scheduled for the last week of January to discuss how both organizations can work together to build a stronger economy in Nunatsiavut. ACOA has indicated their approval will be contingent to other agencies' contributions. This means that ACOA is kind of waiting to hear what the other funding agencies will have to say about our proposal before they give their last word on it. So, hopefully, the other agencies will say yes so ACOA will come across and give us something positive. The Economic Development division will keep in touch with the potential financial agencies to finalize agreements to proceed with the three-year plan. Our Financial Challenges. The financial gap created with the extension of the ACOA funding agreement from April 1st to December has been resolved from the Economic Development division and Department of Finance and Human Resources which mean we held over the workers until December 31st but, unfortunately, they're off at this time. The Voisey's Bay IBA provided

\$10,000 and the Financial Fiscal Agreement fund for Economic Development covered the balance as to hold over all the workers that were until December 31st. And I mentioned they're presently off work waiting for funding approval from ACOA and other funding agencies. Nunatsiavut Business Development Centre has been dealing with a number of procurement opportunities for Inuit businesses through the Nunatsiavut Government, Vale Inco, and Vale Newfoundland and Labrador Government as well as a small portion with the federal government. The business centre has registered six new businesses to the Inuit Business Registry in the last three months. As well as having these new businesses listed on the government website, our government website, private additional requests have been received and wait to be approved to be listed on the Inuit Business Registry. The number of beneficiaries contacting the Business Centre with regards to funding for start-up new businesses will expand existing businesses has been increasing. The Inuit Business Centre received five calls regarding funding sources. Currently, the Economic Development division does not have funding for new business start-ups or expansion of existing businesses. The Nunatsiavut Business Centre is helping beneficiaries to obtain funds through different organizations. The Community Economic Development Program. The Review Committee has received two new applications for the Economic Development program. The Postville Inuit Community Government has requested funds to hire a consultant to consolidate his tourism plan and come up with guidelines to implement it. The Department of Tourism filed an application to support Northern Scene

to send six to eight Inuit artists to a show case in April in Ottawa. More applications are being discussed by the CEDP Program Review Committee. There's been no new development on the procurement and banking Nunatsiavut file since the last Assembly, and hopefully we're going to be working on that file this coming winter for banking services. The Trade Mission Northern Exposure 2013 is presently taking place in St. John's sponsored by the Labrador North Chamber of Commerce. The Economic Development Division has been focused since my last report on the Assembly to finalize preparations for Nunatsiavut Inuit Trade Mission happening this week in St. John's. There was supposed to be 11 businesses going out to that Trade Mission but, unfortunately, because of weather yesterday, only two business people were able to get to St. John's today. Hopefully the rest will be there today. And the Director of Economic Development says she will share the information from updates on this Trade Mission as it comes in. Deputy Minister McNeill joined the Trade Mission delegation in St. John's, as well as the Director of Economic Development and Business Development Officer, Molly Shiwak. Debbie Shiwak is also joining the Trade Mission as a Logistics and Support Assistant. Deputy Minister McNeill will bring greetings to the Trade Mission and James Thorbourne who is already scheduled as a Northern Exposure conference guest speaker will bring attention to the Nunatsiavut Inuit Business Trade Mission as part of his presentation. A workshop on how to get the most out of the conferences and networking opportunities will be offered to the Trade Missions participants before the start of the conference. Unfortunately, this didn't happen because the

participants are not getting in until tonight. So there was supposed to be a workshop last night, they're coming this morning. The Economic Development Division next activity is the planning of an Inuit Economic Development conference. As you know, our division is planning an Inuit Economic Development summit in April, 2013. The objective of this summit is to gather the main Economic Development stakeholders, including the funding agencies, Nunatsiavut Government as well as business people and discuss what is needed to facilitate Business Development and to foster a welcoming and profitable environment business in Nunatsiavut. The Economic Development Conference will be held in April, will be the first steps towards the Economic Development Strategic Plan expected for March 2015. And, hopefully, we're going to get a lot of participants there to this Economic Development conference and I think that's going to be in Nain sometime in April. The Economic Development division in partnership with the College of North Atlantic would like to offer one or two other basic accounting courses like the one took place last fall and hopefully this will be in March. Workshops on enhancing business opportunities and how to write a business plan are also possibilities. Economic Development division will also seek partnerships with the school board to make presentations to high schools as part of the economic education courses, and with the Inuit Women Association to reach potential women entrepreneurs. And a business community needs assessment should also be done before the end of the fiscal year. That's my report from the Economic Development division. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable Minister. Are there any more Minister Statements? I'd like to recognize the Honourable Johannes Lampe, Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

**MR. LAMPE:** Nakummek Ukâttik. I would also like the Assembly to know us from the Department of Culture Recreation and Tourism, I would like to update on what we have been working on. I would like to wish each and every one of you a Happy New Year, 2013 and I would also like to start a new beginning. We will try to help the Labrador Inuit, our youth, let them know who we are as Inuit, this is the time to let them know but we now have to keep going and we have to keep trying, we have everything that belongs to us, our culture and sometimes we have to work on that, given that we are so far behind, we have to celebrate and work hard on this and we as an Assembly have to work together and hoping that we will get our Inuit together. Madame Speaker, January 22, 2005 was the year when we signed a land claim. Today, eight years later we can make another historic decision showing our commitment to the intent of the land claim. January 22, 2013, as a government with the leadership of the President and Executive Council we have \$10 million already in place. With encouragement from our First Minister, Minister Penashue has delivered major support with other opportunities or programming support in future years. Madame Speaker, it is our objective, as a department, to work closer with the two departments which we share for the common objectives. We have met with the Ministers and Deputies in the Departments of Health and Social Development and Education and

Economic Development. Regular meetings will help us all work more effectively with our communities. Tourism. The Torngat Mountains Basecamp and Research Station Basecamp have emerged as one of Canada's high profile destinations. It is now included by the Canadian Tourism Commission in the signature experience collection. I have a copy of a just-released article from Out Post magazine for you to read. In 2013 our big project is building annual waste management system and washroom facilities. The Nunatsiavut Group of Companies is our operator of the basecamp, and the project is creating over 20 jobs. On November 30, we met in Nain with Shelagh Rogers on a new initiative which would engage our beneficiaries in a cultural healing process which would include time on the land and at basecamp. Madame Speaker, on the cultural centre we have been working with our exhibit design consultants for media through Marc Belanger and our Exhibits and Visitor Experience Coordinator, Malve Petersman. In February we'll begin exhibit concept consultation in all our communities. This will be key to ensuring our storyline engages all the communities and all the key events in Labrador Inuit culture and heritage. Madame Speaker, Northern Scene at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa from April 25 to May 4 will picture artists from all the Inuit Regions of Canada. Nunatsiavut will be included. Madame Speaker, Hebron site plan, we will release a site plan for Hebron which will help us manage the heritage resources and at the same time encourage tourism visitation to the site. Hopedale Moravian Mission Complex Adaptive Reuse Study Report is completed and will be circulated in the next week. I would like to congratulate ordinary Member Susan

Nochasak and AngajukKâk, Wayne Piercy, for their leadership on this project. Their report is very professional and some clear and reasonable direction for ensuring the significant heritage resource is fully utilized. Memorandum of Understanding with the Chicago Field Museum was signed on December 14, 2012 by video conference. This Memorandum of Understanding will provide us with an opportunity to work on research, exhibits, and internships over the next few years. Madame Speaker, our language, Elsie Wolfrey. We welcome Elsie as our new Labrador Inuttitut Training Program project manager. Elsie Wolfrey is now working with Torngâsok Cultural Centre. Elsie will be working out of the Nunatsiavut Government office in Rigolet. Elsie has already established the Labrador Inuttitut Training Program Community Inuttitut Challenge 2013 contest and has convened a face-to-face strategy meeting with her team. Madame Speaker, on the Standing Committee on language, we, as a government, has to be leaders in ensuring *Inuttitut* is used by more officials more often. I am therefore asking that we re-establish our Assembly Standing Committee on language. Nakummek Ukâttik.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. We'll now move down to item number four on our Orders of the Day, for "Members Statements". Are there any Member statements? I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque.

**MR. JACQUE:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. Today I'd like to acknowledge one of our post-secondary students, Andrea Andersen, of Makkovik. In July of 2012 Andrea Andersen was accepted into the faculty of Human Kinetics and

Recreation with an 86 percent average. She is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in this field. Also in October of 2012 she was awarded a \$4,700-scholarship for Aboriginal student achievement. In November, 2012, she was awarded a Rick Moore scholarship for achievement in social work, nursery, and kinetics. This was for \$1,400. Quite an accomplishment, we all came to think, for a young student for first year or for one year. On behalf of Makkovik Innu Community Government, I'd like to congratulate Andrea and I think she deserves a big hand. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**ASSEMBLY:** (Applause)

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, AngajukKâk Jacque. Do we have any other Member statements? I'd like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Postville, Glen Sheppard.

**MR. SHEPPARD:** Thank you, Madame Speaker, and I'd also like Johannes and Ordinary Member of Culture, Tourism, Recreation, wish you all a Happy New Year. Madame Speaker, today, I stand here in the house. I don't have anything written, but that doesn't mean, Madame Speaker, that I came into this sitting without a heavy heart. I do have a heavy heart. I do have a heavy heart, I think as most people know, and a passion for the people within the communities of Nunatsiavut, Madame Speaker. As I was sitting in my office, Madame Speaker, this past day or two, Madame Speaker, I heard announcements on the OK Society Radio, Madame Speaker, for people within the communities of Nunatsiavut asking to borrow or to get firewood to tie them over for a few days then they could pay for it. Madame

Speaker, as I stand here today I think we have, as a government, I think we have a great, great responsibility for the well-being and the future of our people. In our Constitution under the preamble it state, to improve the quality of life for the Inuit of Labrador, and I stand here today, Madame Speaker, thinking about sometimes that we get tied up, Madame Speaker, in so much red tape, we kind of forget who we represent and why we represent those people, Madame Speaker. I just want to share that with you today. And this paper, Madame Speaker, that was passed out become a foster parent earlier, passed out to each one of us. Madame Speaker, when that was put in front of me it raised a question and the question was, in my own mind, why become a foster parent? What's the reasoning of becoming a foster parent? It is because of our social problems that we have in Nunatsiavut? Is it because of that we're lacking in areas to take care of our people in Nunatsiavut? That's the question I ask myself. So, Madame Speaker, I won't take too much more time, but I just wanted to share that with each and every one of you here today that we - let's not stray away from the real reason why we were elected, and that's to create a better future, to create a better lifestyle for our people in Nunatsiavut. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Mr. Sheppard. I'd now like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak.

**MS NOCHASAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. I would like to take a few minutes to speak on the AgvitukHistorical Project as well. As mentioned previously, we have begun the adoptive reuse master plan draft and it has been

completed. We are on the final stretch for the study and we're ready to move forward. The Society has a new focus for the entire site as well as a new committee. We are hoping to branch out to the community in the near future to form a new committee to ensure new ideas and success for the Society. The vision for the Mission is one where unique heritage of the site is balanced with modern needs of the community of Hopedale, and the environmental and economic case for future sustainability for the entire site. Madame Speaker, I would also like to take a few minutes to congratulate the schools and the students and the teachers on the wonderful job they did in the *Inuttitut* speak-off last week in Hopedale. They had held the speak-off in the community. The students and the teachers are proof of how important our language is in our schools. I would like to say hats off to them and a job well done. Lastly, Madame Speaker, I would like to end with a few concerns my community have pointed out. Beneficiaries are waiting for a better tomorrow. They are waiting for opportunities to make a better tomorrow. I have read or seen other Aboriginal groups move heaven and earth to try and make their lives of their people better. They ensure the majority of their work force is their own. They provide them with opportunities to educate, to train or to be leading decision makers. Madame Speaker, we provide some of these opportunities as well in our region, but is it enough? Shouldn't we, as their elected officials make every effort possible to better their lives? Of course they are responsible, but maybe they're waiting for our government, us, to give them that push, that first important push. We use the word wait far too often. To me, the word, wait, is another way of

saying no. Let's say yes. Yes to increase housing allotments, yes to new seniors buildings, yes to continuous training opportunities, yes to new student living allotments, medical care and so on. Madame Speaker, in order for our people to come out on top, our government has to be there. We need to take that risk and invest in our people and our communities. We are an Inuit government, and as Inuit, we help each other no matter how difficult. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Ms Nochasak. I'd now like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Wayne Piercy.

**MR. PIERCY:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. I'm unable to speak at the moment so I'll wait until tomorrow. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Do we have any other Member statements today? Then we will move on down to the next item on our agenda, "Returns to Oral Questions". Do we have any returns to oral questions today? No returns to oral questions. Then we'll go down to the next item on our agenda, "Oral Questions". Are there any oral questions? I'd like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Postville, Glenn Sheppard.

**MR. SHEPPARD:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question, Madame Speaker, is to the Minister Acting on Lands and Resources, and the question is in considering your meeting in Kuujjuaq last week on the George River Caribou Herd was there any consideration given to include hunters and elders who has great knowledge in our jurisdiction? Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The Honourable President.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Thank you, Madame Speaker and thank you Honourable Member Sheppard for your question. One of the reasons, the whole summit in Kuujjuaq was set up as a leaders summit to come up with some sort of, I guess, decision with regards to the caribou herd. Now we did not go to the conference or the summit in Kuujjuaq without speaking to our elders, without speaking to the hunters in some of the communities. We didn't speak to all of them, but we did not take any with us to this summit because it was designed as a leader summit only to come up with some sort of direction that we could go back to each of the respective communities with, and that's how it was designed, and that's why didn't, there are no elders or hunters or seniors came with us.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** I'd now like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey.

**MS WOLFREY:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question is to Honourable Darryl Shiwak and it's a question on housing. I'm just wondering where are the results from the housing survey available and what are the plans moving forward with recommendations that are coming out of that survey. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister of Lands.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker, and thank you to the AngajukKâk for Rigolet. That's a good question. We have the results from the housing survey. There is a meeting scheduled in early February to go over those results. So no decisions have been made and no plans have been made what to do with the results at this point. But there is a meeting scheduled between the three parties, the three governments, our government,

provincial government and the federal government, who had a part to play in this survey, and from there we'll make decisions on what we want to do with the results and where to go from here. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** I'd now like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque.

**MR. JACQUE:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. I guess I'll direct my question to the Acting Minister, Mr. Shiwak, or the President in regards to the caribou hunt. A beneficiary in my community has asked me to bring this question forward. They are saying that hunters will still hunt. There is no law in place. Nothing will be enforced. What or will any action be taken? Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Lands.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker, and the caribou, as you know, we had a discussion before Christmas, is a very sensitive issue and a very important, and like the President has said in her statement, the numbers are dropping rapidly and they will continue to drop rapidly. And our recommendation and we are asking, and at this point through our *Land Claim Agreement*, we can only ask our beneficiaries not to hunt anywhere, the George River caribou. Beneficiaries under the *Land Claims Agreement* have the right at this point to hunt those caribou, and we have no enforcement measures to bring against them. We have no laws of enforcement so we cannot enforce that on anybody at this point. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** I'd now like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak.

**MS NOCHASAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Education. I'd like to know if there are any chance that there could be a first aid or a CPR course offered in our communities. There was a post on Facebook last night looking for interest in regards of a CPR first aid course offered to community members, and in a matter of 30 minutes there were 30 people interested and would like to have that course offered in our community. I'd like to know if this can be done and, if so, when? Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister of Health.

**MS KEMUKSIGAK:** Thank you for the question of Ordinary Member Nochasak. We do have people within the Department of Health and Social Development who are trainers in first aid. So if the requests from any community wanting training for community members, it can be just forwarded to our Department. So that's no problem, and we provide the training free of charge.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Are there any more oral questions? I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Nain, Tony.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question is for the Minister, whoever is Minister responsible for caribou, I suppose. Madame Speaker, during one of our sitting in December, I'm not sure if it was in this chamber, if it was in a caucus, but during our discussions we had decided, I guess, as a committee or as an Assembly that we'd look to perhaps Northern Quebec

to soften the blow, I suppose, of asking our people not to hunt caribou, and that was with asking the government of Quebec and our leadership from Nunavik that we might harvest or have them harvest on behalf of our beneficiaries caribou from perhaps the Leaf River herd. I just wonder, Madame Speaker, if the Minister, while he was in Kuujuaq last week, if he was able to have conversation with leaders from Nunavik or perhaps even from the wildlife department of the Quebec Government. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The Honourable President.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. AngajukKâk Andersen, I did speak to Joe Tukkiapik of Makivik with regards to some sort of, whether it be harvesting, or certainly for us to get some caribou from the Leaf River herd. Obviously, the Leaf River herd, like all other caribou herds in Canada are on the decline, although not as much and not as serious as the George River herd. He had to speak to the Executive of Makivik, of course, obviously, but he is quite open to it and will probably be having that discussion within the next couple of weeks.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey.

**MS WOLFREY:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Finance. I was quite disappointed to hear you say that there's a possibility of having no royalties from the mining companies from Vale, I guess you're talking about Vale because the question I have was a question that came out of the last sessions that the local trust in my community, Iviktuk met and they went, they go over their applications, and last year they had applications

for \$200,000 worth of projects and they only get a hundred thousand dollars, so my question was going to be is there ever any discussion, or will there ever be any discussion to increase those amounts that are given to the local trust for distribution to the communities? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**The Honourable Minister of Finance.

**MR. POTTLE:** Thank you, AngajukKâk for Rigolet. If I understand your question right, there are a couple of streams with respect to the Voisey's Bay Project, one of those is through the mining tax royalties, and the other is through the *Impacts and Benefits Agreement* which and the Tasiujatsoak Trust is entrusted to protect some of those funds coming to the Trust as a result of the IBA. The Trust Deed for the Tasiujatsoak Trust sets out three forms of ways, I guess, to deal with the dollars that we receive. One is through a heritage form, one is through investments and one is through the protection of capital. To my knowledge, Charlotte, there has been no discussion, and I certainly can bring it back to the Trust when we meet next, I believe, in early April on that matter, but as it stands right now, I mean, I don't believe that there is any plans to change the amount of dollars that are contributed from the Trust into the volunteer centres by way of example, the hundred thousand dollars, which each of the community volunteer centres received from Tasiujatsoak Trust annually so, no, there's no plans at this point to change any of that. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**Supplementary. Go ahead.

**MS WOLFREY:** So in light of my question will you bring it back as a discussion to the Trustees? I mean, it's a concern in my community and I would imagine the other communities are the same. So would you bring it back as something to discuss, or can it not be discussed or?

**MR. POTTLE:** Certainly I can bring it back to the Trustees as a concern raised by you as the AngajukKâk for Rigolet and, I mean, if, I would encourage any other of the AngajukKâk from your respective communities, if you have concerns as well. I mean, please bring those forward to me as a Trustee and I'll move those concerns forward on our next meeting. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek. The AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque.

**MR. JACQUE:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Health. In regards to patients travelling for medical purposes outside their community, private accommodations remains the same, \$45; it's been there for years. And if they're put up at a hotel it'll cost double or triple. Is there any chance or could this be increased? The individual who asked me to bring this forward was a concerned beneficiary, and she said it's not much for lodging and meals. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister of Health.

**MS KEMUKSIGAK:** Thank you, AngajukKâk Jacque. We know that we haven't been able to change many of our rates for a considerable amount of time. However, we don't always have the amount of money that we received from the federal government to offset what our costs are. So we are always in a

fiscally-tight situation. However, we could possibly look into it, but I'm not sure what the outcome will be because of our tight budget. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Wayne Piercy.

**MR. PIERCY:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question is directed to the First Minister. With the state of our caribou herd, will the numbers of tags issued to each community for moose be extended, or the amount of tags be greater than what we receive now? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable First Minister.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. That's something that has not been discussed to this point, but is something that we will have to look at in the future with regards to supplementing the communities for Country Foods, but at this point it has not been discussed, but I certainly will bring it back to the department. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Do we have any more oral questions? I'd like to recognize AngajukKâk for Postville, Diane Gear.

**MS GEAR:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. This question too was also brought by a beneficiary, and it's for the First Minister. It's not so long ago a proposal went out to a new ferry service for the island for the next few years, and they want to know is there any talks of any tenders going out soon for ferry service in Labrador. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable First Minister.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker, and thank you for the question. I was informed in December by Minister Davis with the Province Transportation

Works that they would be going out with an RFP for new vessel or vessels roll on, roll off capability freight and passenger in the New Year. I met with Minister Davis two weeks ago and discussed that issue trying to get more clarification on when. They had informed us, said it's going out very soon. It's a priority for them to get that out. That would happen over three years, give them time to build a vessel, so that in 2016 that the vessel would be built and they would have a new vessel or vessels for the coast. Now how that would look would depend on what the contractor or the successful bidder on the contract would say is appropriate service for the coast. It will be designed for the north coast and how that will look, it'll all depend on what the Minister gets back in RFP's. But it is a priority for him and for the province and they will be going out very soon. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The AngajukKâk for Postville, Diane Gear.

**MS GEAR:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. But what about this year, this coming summer? Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. For this year it's status quo. They figure that we'll have the ranger. It will be the Astron, and with support from the bond for Nain and Natuashish, for freight, the bond will going into service soon. So she will be ready next summer. The ranger has been put behind schedule a little bit. They did have a certain problem with a certain part that had to be manufactured, and I believe it was manufactured wrong. But she will be ready. The Minister has assured that she will be ready for this summer's service, and that will have to stay in place until for

the next three years until the next vessel is built. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** AngajukKâk Jacque, is that a supplementary you have? Then it's permitted two questions per day. I'd like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak.

**MS NOCHASAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Finance in regards to the mining royalties as well. I'm just a bit concerned in regards of the projected mining royalty reduction that our government might be facing in the near future from the Vale royalties. From what I understand, it's a reduction of five per cent or zero. Meaning we might get zero dollars over the next three years or five per cent of those mining royalties, is that correct? And if so, where does that leave us after the three years, after the government makes up their mind? Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister of Finance.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker and Nakummek, Ordinary Member for Hopedale for your question. As per the *Land Claim Agreement*, the percentage of the royalties that we get from the Voisey's Bay Project still remains at five per cent. I can't completely answer your question because there is still some unknowns with respect to what that decrease in any royalties may be after what the province receives in royalties from the Voisey's Bay Project and how that's applied to the processing plant in Long Harbour. We have, and I gave you, this information without going into a lot of great detail because we're still working towards bringing this

forward to the provincial government. Our concerns there so it still remains to be on scene of how much of an impact that's going to be, but I can assure you that we do have reserve dollars from past mining royalties that we received as a result of the Voisey's Bay Project and will be using those reserves, if necessary, to continue to offer the programs and services that we offer at this present time over the next three to five years, and it's still quite unknown, so I can't fully again answer your questions but certainly once we have more information and we bring this issue to the Subsurface Resource Sharing Committee, when it's established by the Provincial and Nunatsiavut Government and, if necessary, through dispute resolution under Chapter 21 of the *Land Claim Agreement*. So when I have further information on that I certainly will share that information with the Assembly. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Do you have any more oral questions? The Ordinary Member for Postville.

**MR. SHEPPARD:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question is to the Acting Minister for Lands and Resources, and I think it's in relation to a question that I asked at the last sitting, and it's, the question would be would you consider waiving the waiting period for a successful hunter who killed a polar bear last year whereas there's a period previously where you had to wait two or three years and due to quotas not being filled, would you consider waiving that waiting period? Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister of Lands.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. The request that the Ordinary Member for Postville has put in, that's under review, and there will be a decision. There is a briefing note on my desk. There will be a decision made by the end of the week on that exact request. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The Ordinary Member for Makkovik, Denise Lane.

**MS LANE:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question is for First Minister Shiwak about the shipping because I've been told by a lot of my constituents that the Astron is put up for sale, so do you have anything in writing that say the Astron is going to be available this summer and, if not, is there going to be something put in place of the boat? Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable First Minister.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. We have nothing in writing saying that the Astron will be in place. As for it being up for sale, that's a question you would have to ask the company which is Labrador Marine, I believe the own the Astron. But we have nothing in writing saying that she's up for sale or she won't be available or will be available. All we've ensured from the Minister is that that's the plan for the next three years. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Are there are any more oral questions? Then we go down to the next item on our agenda, number seven, "Written Questions," are there any written questions today? Item number eight, "Returns to Written Questions," are there any returns today? Number nine, "Petitions," are there any petitions? Number 10, "Responses to Petitions," there will be

no responses to petitions today. From here I think we'll take a 20-minute break.

(Recess)

**MADAM SPEAKER:**I'd like to call the Assembly back to order, please. We are now on item number 11 on our Orders of the Day, "Reports of Standing and Special Committees," I'd like to recognize the Deputy Speaker, Denise Lane.

**MS LANE:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. On behalf of the Chair I'd like to present the report of the Standing Committee on Rules and Procedures on its recommendations to the Assembly for appointment to the Alcohol and Drug Committee. Madame Speaker, I move, seconded by the Honourable Darryl Shiwak, that the report of the Standing Committee on appointments to the Alcohol and Drug Committee be received and adopted. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**Thank you. The motion is in order. Would you like to make opening comments? Okay, would any other member like to make any comments? Deputy Speaker, would you like to close the debate.

**MS LANE:** Yes, I'd like to close debate, thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**That concludes debate. All those in favour of this report?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Opposed? The motion is carried. So this report of the Rules and Procedures Committee on the Alcohol and Drug Committee has been approved. I would like to again recognize the Deputy Speaker, Denise Lane.

**MS LANE:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. On behalf of the chair, I'd like to present the report of the Member Services Committee on its consultation with the Inuit on member salaries and benefits. Madame Speaker, I move, seconded by Member for Nain, William Barbour, that the report of the Member Services Committee on consultation be received by the Assembly. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you. The motion is in order. All those in favour?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Opposed? The motion is carried. Are there any documents to be tabled? Then we'll move down to item number 13, "Notices of Motion," there are no Notices of Motion. Number 14, "Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills," there are Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills. Number 15, there are no motions. Item number 16, "First Reading of Bills," there is no First Reading of Bills. Item number 17; "Second Reading of Bills," I'd like to recognize the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Darryl Shiwak.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. Madame Speaker, I'd like to inform the Assembly that I will be postponing second reading of Bill 2012-04 to the March 2013 sitting for second reading. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** I would like to again recognize the Honourable Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Darryl Shiwak.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Madame Speaker, I move, seconded by the Minister of Finance that Bill 2012-05, An Act to Grant the Nunatsiavut Government Certain Additional

Sums of Money for the Construction of the Torngâsok Cultural Centre be read for the second time. And I also would like to move, seconded by the Honourable Dan Pottle, Minister of Finance, Human Resources and IT that we can convene as a Committee of the Whole to review Bill 2012-05, and I would like to invite Isabella Pain, Deputy Minister of Secretariat, Rexanne Crawford, Deputy Minister of Finance, HR and IT and Dave Lough, Deputy Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism as witnesses to the Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable Minister. The Motion is in Order. The Assembly agree to go into Committee of a Whole with the witnesses?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay. So we are now in a Committee of a Whole. And I'd like to invite the witnesses to come forward. We're now in a Committee of a Whole so you can go ahead and start your comments, sir. I can chair this. I will chair the Committee of the Whole. So you can start with your comments.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Now this is, haven't been in this for a while, but from what I can recall, this is certainly quite informative as compared to the Assembly sitting. Do we need to address each other as Madame Speaker and....

**MADAM SPEAKER:** You can go ahead and it's an informal session.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Yes, I think why I asked this Assembly to convene as Committee of the Whole was I think there are certainly a lot of questions that people around this table want to have answered with regards to this Bill and with regards to the Cultural Centre and why we're asking the Assembly to approve \$2.1

million to construct the Cultural Centre, and I thought the best or the most appropriate venue to do that is in Committee of the Whole where it's less formal and that we can really get some really good discussion with regards to any concerns or questions or names of things that people want to have and that's basically it from me. I'm not done, but I want to leave everybody, if everybody wanted to ask questions on the Bill, itself, or the Cultural Centre, that's why I asked for witnesses, Rexanne, Isabella and Dave to sit in because they've been more hands on and I should have invited my Deputy Minister, Toby, sorry, Toby but they can answer any questions, I believe, that we have on the Cultural Centre and on the Bill and move from there. That's all. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Anyone can speak, ask as many questions as they'd like during this session. It says a member may speak more than once to a matter on this matter, but not until every member wishing to speak has spoken, but you can ask as many questions as you like in the Committee of the Whole. Anybody with questions on this Bill? Go ahead, Mr. Sheppard.

**MR. SHEPPARD:** Thank you, Madame Chair. Got to get used to this, I guess. I don't know who my question might be directed at, but maybe some of the people over there who had hands on the issue for some time, and I guess my question would be related to the Minister of Finance today in his statement speaking on the royalty dollars coming out of Voisey's Bay for NG, I guess my question would be want effect down the road is this going to have in NG's spending of those dollars?

**MS CRAWFORD:** I guess to answer your question without, you know, we have, as everyone's aware, when we go through our audited financial statements, we have an internally restricted fund, and on that statement that's pretty much where we've been putting the excess mining royalties every year, and it's been restricted for use as the government moves forward on its priorities on the year-to-year basis. We have gotten mining royalties in this fiscal year. We're due to get three more payments of mining royalties up to March 31st, 2013. With that amount of money plus what we had in reserve, we feel that there is adequate funding to carry us through the next five years to support government spending, to support the *TCC Act* and move forward on the priorities of the government.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Ed.

**MR. TUTTAUK:** Thank you, Madame Chair. Can you give us the figure of the excess, the reserve we have in the mining royalties?

**MR. POTTLE:** Just to add to what the Deputy Minister has said and in response to the question posed by Mr. Sheppard, as of March 31st, 2006, to March 31st, 2013, we will have received a total for mining and mineral taxes of about \$50,092,984.00. To date the amounts appropriated and spent out of the total mining and mineral taxes is \$23,008,555.46 which leaves us with a total of \$27,084,429.00 in restricted reserve funds to date.

**MS CRAWFORD:** So on our financial statements as of last year we had internally restricted funds of about 25.1 million. Part of the numbers that Minister Pottle has just given also is some of the projected dollars that we are due to get in the next three months and the appropriation of the....

**MS ANDERSEN:** Can you talk a little bit slower, sorry.

**MS CRAWFORD:** Oh, sorry. So part of - last year in our internally restricted fund we had 25.1 million. Factoring in what we had received and will receive up to March 31st, 2013 plus the expenditures up to that period, we are protecting a reserve of \$27.1 million.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Go ahead, Herb.

**MR. JACQUE:** Am I correct in saying that \$2.5 million is NG's contribution to the building, and what is the overall cost of the TCC and will we have a breakdown of the other sources of funding? Thank you.

**MS CRAWFORD:** If you look at the Appendix to the *Act*, the federal government, through Parks Canada Agency, so it's at the back of the Bill. Just to summarize we've been committed to date is Parks Canada is committing 1.94 million to the construction. Canadian Heritage, 1.2 million, ACOA, 1 million, Aboriginal Affairs, 1 million. So the total Government of Canada contribution is 5.14 million, Provincial Government is 300,000. The Nunatsiavut Government in our *Budget Act 2012* appropriated 1.6 million and the Tasiujatsoak Trust has committed 3.33 million towards this project, and the breakdown of the total costs of the construction is on the bottom there for 12.5 million.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**Go ahead, Charlotte.

**MS WOLFREY:** Ma'am, I'm just looking at that estimate for 12.5 million and looking at this beautiful building here and how much did this cost and how much was the overruns on this building because there was? This cost more than the

projected cost and where's the money going to come from if it costs more than the projected 12 million here?

**MS PAIN:**

We have built into these particular budget contingencies of \$800,000. That's for projected overruns. One of the things that we're doing, we do know that in the two previous construction projects we've had, being this building and the Nain Admin building, we've had overruns. What we are proposing to do is we will, once or if we get approval from the Assembly for this budget bill, we would go to tender, and once we have the bid put in it'll tell us how much they're expecting it to cost. We can't go for it, obviously, depending even if the bid comes in too high so we're expecting - well, if we can go out, we're hoping it'll come in under this. We've gone to a firm to give us these estimates. Their projection is that a building of that size in Nain shouldn't cost any more than the amount that we're actually projecting. So we're using expert advice to give us those numbers and we will, I guess we'll only know until we actually get tenders come in first, bids come in to complete the project. That's the first step.

**MS WOLFREY:**

Yes that's, and then, like, I mean we know from being AngajukKâk that and when you put something out on tender lately, or the last few years - since the land claims, actually, everything tripled. So when we used to pay, \$25,000 would give us one lot of land in Rigolet. Now it's two hundred and something thousand dollars for one lot of land in Rigolet, so everything's skyrocketed. But I did hear the provincial government, they might have done us a little bit of a favour because they're saying there's no money to move forward with some of their capital work stuff, so maybe

some of the people will be out of work on the island and they might not bid so much. They might want to work for us for a little less than what they've been greedy and taking all of our money lately. This really makes me mad, that stuff. That when I see the money being tripled like that, the cost of stuff being tripled, and then is blamed on the whole economy of Newfoundland and Labrador and Canada and all that. But maybe if the government do really not put out so many tenders we might get some proper estimates. Or we should even go across Canada. I think people can do it cheaper than not only looking at it all the time, looking at the contractors from Newfoundland. We should go across Canada; we might get it cheaper, but not Montreal.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**Go ahead, Gary.

**MR. MITCHELL:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. I don't know if I'll have any more effect on my speech if I stand. I'm holding two documents. One's for the Torngâsok Cultural Centre, the others for housing prices. This is a dream. This is reality. Can we wait another year? Why can't this one have marked on can we wait another year? We are at a point where we're overlooking something very important to us, something that's brought to every Assembly, but yet there has been no movement on it. I know that the provincial government has responsibility for housing, but it's a concern of all of us as Assembly members. We're passionate about trying to help our people in Nunatsiavut and Upper Lake Melville with the housing crisis and it's getting worse. I believe in culture. I believe in arts. I grew up with it. It's very important to us. But the \$12 million building and I've got

beneficiaries talking to me in Upper Lake Melville area, why are we doing this when this housing crisis we have? Why are we putting 12 million? Why are we asking 2 more million from our budget? Everybody believes in culture and having a place where you can display your exhibits and promote the art. There's another book here, it's the business plan. The business plan for Torngâsok Cultural Centre. It's a very bold plan. There are a lot of figures in there that you've got to wonder will we ever reach those figures to get the revenues back? I'm Minister responsible for Economic Development, but I've got to look at some of these figures in that book and wonder can that actually happen to bring that much revenue into the Cultural Centre. I know I'm rambling on here now, but I just wanted to get some things off my chest while we're into the debate, and I have to look at this, what do I support? Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

**MR. SHIWAK:** In response to the initial thing with regards to the housing crisis, that's a presentation that I brought to St. John's to Minister Davis. It was the other part of the meeting. It was we were trying to ramp up our pressure on the province and we'd do the same thing for the feds. Having said that we also acknowledge the fact that we are going to be expected to spend our own money on housing. But that hasn't been budgeted for yet. It is a priority for me. It is a crisis for me but we yet have to convince the province that it is a crisis. Both of these things are important. Right now the Cultural Centre's important, number one, is that finances said that we can do it with the money we have. Number two is it is one, if you look at

quite a good investment. If you put in a quarter of the money into it at the end of the day you're going to own it. That is a good investment in most cases. Right now we have most of the majority of the funds secured. That's \$10 million. We need another \$2.1 million to go to tender and I really don't think given the climate within Labrador, within Newfoundland and Labrador, we are going to get a better time to try and get this done. But I think after this year and after the next couple years it will be impossible to construct a building like this for this amount. That is why I agreed and from the NEC to bring it to the Assembly to try and get approval, to try and get this done at this point. But the housing is something that we continue to work on and it is something that we cannot wait another year. I got that presentation done because I truly believe in it that we need to put money towards that as well.

**MR. PAIN:**

I just want to add to what Minister Shiwak said. Out of the federal government money we have here that we've been able to find for the Torngâsok Cultural Centre project, 5.1 million, that money is specific to a Cultural Centre. So if we don't take advantage of the opportunities right now with this amount of funding, we just don't have it. That money will go back to the federal government because it's through Cultural Spaces programs. It's through other funding programs that are specific to this kind of a project. So if we don't use it for this, we don't get to keep it and use it for something else. It would have to go back to the federal government.

**MS NOCHASAK:** Thank you. I just want to speak to the overall look of the building in itself. I understand that culture is important to all of us, and we want to have a signature in our region saying that this is our building; this is what we believe in. This is how much pride we have for our culture, but can't we just have a normal rectangular outside of a building that wouldn't cost so much and have the beautifulness inside the building? This is beautiful and I know we want to stand out saying this is a one of a kind and unique in Labrador alone, but at what cost? And what other programs and stuff aren't getting the attention as Gary had mentioned, aren't getting the attention? And we're extravaganzing this outside of a shell of a building. Can't we just go with a normal rectangular building and just do the inside at less of a cost?

**MR. LOUGH:** If I could respond, there's been a, there was a lot of discussion over a lot of years in terms of what the building should be and in size, in particular, and it was downsized from almost 20,000 square feet down to 12,000 square feet to make it affordable. It was also that we brought in some of the best - we searched and had an RFP and looked around for professional consultants who could really help us to find something which would have an identity to it, but which would not cost a lot extra. And they tell us that the costing of doing a building like this is not a lot different than building a box. There is some cost, but it's not extravagant. The building will in terms of the business plan around the building and that it's, it is also an opportunity because as part of the *Land Claims Agreement* and the creation of the Torngat Mountains National Park, Parks Canada was

required to provide a visitor centre, and they need to do that, and they're overdue in doing that, but they're doing it with us and that is why it's sustainable from a business perspective. The business plan that was completed in March 31st of 2011 is viewed by the funding partners. That was key for the funding partners coming on side that the building was sustainable, and there is a big problem in this province with a whole bunch of cultural assets that aren't sustainable that never did get a business plan done for them. We have built in revenue stream in terms of there will be a lease agreement. There will be craft shop. There will be a café. There will be opportunities to rent the space for meetings and conventions and special. So it - there is a business plan here that this is a building that can be sustainable and can be a real credit to us. So it's both in terms of design and downsizing it to a square footage that is realistic but still gives us something which meets our needs, and also being able to have something which is affordable, we cut it back. We cut back having - being able to store archival. That we are blessed with a lot of archival resources and they're all over the world. Labrador Inuit artefacts are in institutions from Washington to Paris to Ottawa and a significant collection in the rooms, but the decision was made in 2007 in consultation with the communities that the best way to go was not to repatriate artefacts because that would be too expensive, but to try to keep the cost down and try to build something which was affordable and which we could maintain in the long run and would not be a drain on the government and, in fact, would be an economic generator and the design will help, as you have seen the same architect as building in Fogo Island.

Fogo Island is building a reputation. People are going to Fogo Island to see the architecture and so it, it is an economic generator by having something which is a little unique but not costing us a lot extra.

**MR. MITCHELL:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. I think Dave talked about the project on Fogo Island, what's the matter with Fogo Island because my wife's from Fogo Island? But Fogo Island was built up, not by the people's money, by the people of Fogo Island. They didn't have to sacrifice anything. Fogo Island, a lot of the money in Fogo Island is built up by a business woman in conjunction with ACOA. I know ACOA's putting money into here, but I think Fogo Island's a bit different and they had a great big hotel there that nobody can afford to stay in unless you're from overseas, the Fogo Island Inn, which is recently built. I have to ask the question because Isabella mentioned about the money going back to the federal government if the project doesn't go ahead. Will the federal government wait because some of them, some of the beneficiaries I spoke to said why can't it wait another year to see if we're in a better position to do it? I'm not sure what's going to change now hearing about the mining and royalties, but will the federal government wait to see if the project's going ahead? Will they wait another year, or is there a deadline for having the project go ahead before they ask for their money back? Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MS PAIN:** I'll start with an answer to you. Maybe Rexanne will help me out here, but in relation to some of the funding it's with Parks Canada Agency. Parks Canada Agency's contribution has been waiting. They've had that money secured for a number of years and they've been waiting since the park

was established. So every year they've been telling us that there are demands on that amount of money to go to other places and they've been able to hold onto it so far because they keep saying that we're moving forward, moving forward. There is a real demand for that money to go elsewhere right now, and if we delay it I'm not sure about the Parks Canada money, if we'll be able to secure that for another year. In relation to Canadian Heritage and ACOA we do have arrangements with them. With Canadian Heritage we've agreed, we're reviewing a Contribution Agreement at the moment which says we would meet certain targets and timelines. We may be able to extend some of that, but as you can see with this particular budget we have and the sources of revenue we have, we can't afford to lose any one funding partner because it's been hard to come by any of the sources of funds that we have. So I don't know if you want to add to the....

**MS CRAWFORD:** Well, there are two things to keep in mind. One is the federal climate and as we all are aware, it's been cutbacks in the federal government system. So the very fact that we've been able to obtain the funding that we have obtained under these programs and that they have been willing to work with the Nunatsiavut Government on a timeframe because it's construction. So it does take, you know, it's not - has to be spent within one year. It does take a year or two to construct a building. It's positive on the part of the federal government, although they are in a climate of cutbacks and reductions. The second thing to keep in mind is something that Minister Shiwak had raised about the cost of construction. I know

Charlotte's hoping that the cost of construction may go down, but I know that some of the things were seen is that the cost of construction will go up with the sanctioning of Lower Churchill Project. And as they move forward with that construction a lot of companies may focus on one particular area. So if we can get ahead of that and get our project done now the I think, I think and in some of the opinion of people that I've talked to that the cost construction now would be more favourable than if we wait a year or two.

**MS NOCHASAK:** Thanks. Just going back to what you had mentioned, you said that in our reserve fund right now we have enough to last us an additional five years or up to five years from now for five years, and after that's done, what's going to happen after those five years? And if that's the case, if we're all right to use \$2.1 million for this project then we'll be all right for five years for the programming that we're doing right now in our government, can we put out there now that if we're going to do something like this with an additional 2.1 million can we put focus onto either housing or social programs to boost up the negative impact this is going to have when we say yes we're going to approve this? Can we say, we'll approve this and we'll put towards social housing or social programming as well. If we're spending for this, we're not spending for the housing and social programs.

**MS CRAWFORD:** I can speak on the money part. We do have \$25 million in reserve. We know what the message that's come from the Government of Newfoundland in regards to future mining royalties, not saying we agree with, exactly, what they're saying. Whether it lasts three years, five years,

eight years, all comes to the appropriations and through the Budget Bills as they come forward to the Assembly for debate and approval. That's where the government gets our authority to spend money is based on the approvals that come from the Assembly. And I guess just to clarify one of the points in the Minister's statement this morning about mining royalties and the impact of Long Harbour. So the way the mining royalty is calculated is every year the mining companies have to submit a return to the province. It has to be in to the province by March 31st, and 21 days afterwards we have to receive five per cent of what the tax payable to the government is. With the commissioning of Long Harbour, there are two additional deductions that are going to be allowed on their tax return. One is depreciation on the capital assets in Long Harbour. What we've been told is that the Long Harbour assets cost the company about \$4 billion. So the depreciation that can be taken on an annual basis for that is 25 per cent. So in year one, two, three and four, that's an extra billion dollars in expenses they can take. So that's kind of why we're looking at a five-year projection that just on that one particular item alone we're expecting about \$1 billion a year and I'm using round numbers because there's a part year, the year it comes in commission, it'll be a part year in year five. So looking at just that one alone, it's about five years before that impact will be smoothed through. So that's kind of why we're saying in about five years.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** First off, I have quite a bit to say because I missed the teleconference. Unfortunately our plane froze up in Kuujuaq. We were late getting back

to Nain so we didn't get in, as most of you know, till the teleconference was just about over. I think one of things, and this is and I'm glad Susan had mentioned, you know, committing money for housing, I think one of the things we need to do is we know there is a housing need within Nunatsiavut, whether it be social housing, whether it be, you know, whether we are helping people with mortgages, whether we put in seniors apartments, whether we go for a full, fledged seniors home or whatever. There, you know, and there's need for single people's houses. I mean, there are so many people in Nain that couch surf, it's not even funny. But we did do a need assessment to see exactly where we are with regards to housing within Nunatsiavut. It was done in all of the communities. And that assessment was quite in depth. It looked at what kind of housing was needed, who needed the housing and what people were willing to pay and, you know, what they were willing to live in, whether it be apartments, whether it be in single structure homes, and I'm really looking forward to the, to the outcome of that assessment because it will give us as a government an indication of where we need to focus on housing. We know there's a housing need, but where do we need to focus? You know, not only in which community but which age group which, you know, is it married people? Is it single people; is it everybody that'll give us a better indication of where we need to go with that? And it'll also like as a government right now we don't have a mandate for housing. The monies, right now Torngat Housing runs the housing programs within Nunatsiavut and NLHC has homes for rent within Nunatsiavut. But we, as a government, have no mandate. We have no policy. We have nothing

with regards to housing. We need to do that. We need to come out and we need to sit down and say what are we going to do? Are we going to take over an NLHC? Are we going to, you know, are we going to redefine Torngat Housing? Are we going to come up with a whole different authority? Are we going to start with scratch? Where are we with regards to housing? We know people need housing, but we also need to know, we just can't go and say, okay, we're going to provide housing. We need a plan. We need a program. We need policy. We need direction. We need to come up with something so that when we start providing, or if we decide we're going to start providing housing, or if in whatever we decide we're going to tackle the housing issue within Nunatsiavut, we're doing it the best way we can and we're providing the best service with regards to housing to the people within Nunatsiavut. And I really look forward to that assessment coming out and our government coming down and saying yes we can help with the housing crisis within Nunatsiavut. I mean, even take me, for example, I have, although she's not, I could say I have somebody who is completely unrelated to me, a complete stranger staying in my house because she has nowhere else to go. I had somebody call me last week because they had been sleeping on somebody's couch for the last five years because they have nowhere else to live. We all understand there's a housing need, and we understand that needs to be taken care of, but we also need to understand if we're going to be providing housing and programs within Nunatsiavut, as a responsible government we had to have a proper plan, but I really look forward to that and the First Minister, I know, has been very adamant about getting the housing issue within

Nunatsiavut looked at. And I think, and I'm going to speak quite freely about this and I'm sure I will have the support of the, not only the members of the Executive Council, but as the Assembly as a whole, that we will ensure that as hard and as much time, I believe it was, what, six or seven years put into just the final planning of the Torngâsok Centre, we will commit all of that energy into coming up with dealing with the housing issues within Nunatsiavut. I think that has to become a priority, but first we have to figure out how we're going to do it. And, you know, again, whether we're going to take over housing, whether we're going to commit to more money for Torngat. What we're going to do, we're not sure, but we have to come up with that, but I can assure you there will be the commitment made into this. While I'm talking about the time put into the Torngâsok Cultural Centre, there may have been six or seven years or since the fire put into the physical portion of the Torngâsok Cultural Centre. But the Torngâsok Culture Centre is more than just this physical building that we see in front of us. It's the centre and Rita has worked with them for years, I know. It's the centre that's helping us maintain our culture. It's the centre that's helping us to ensure that our culture isn't being lost. It's gathering the stories from the seniors, from the elders, so that we can take those stories, we can take the artefacts, and we can make sure that generations to come they have those stories, they understand where we came from as Inuit. They understand that, you know, we were a people thriving strong within this region, within this area, long before the Moravian Mission came or whatever mission came along into our respective communities. That's what the Torngâsok Cultural

Centre is. It's not just this building. And with regard, Susan, you know, it may be cheaper to get a square building, a rectangular building and say this is our cultural centre, but where's the pride? We shouldn't settle for less. We are Inuit. We need - if we're going to ensure that we're having a Cultural Centre that says this is our culture, this is who we are. We're so proud of it that we want it in the best building we can have because it is so rich and we have so much there. And I think that's how we have to start looking at this. Yes, there was a lot of effort and there's a lot of money being spent in this. The federal government is, you know, like, Isabella had mentioned. The conservatives could care less about who we are right now, but they're willing to give us, what, \$6 million for our Cultural Centre. I mean, that's saying a lot. And I think we have to start looking at where, where is our culture with regards to us? Yes, there are lots of needs within our communities and that's something we have to address, but we have to come up with a plan to address this. The plan for the Cultural Centre has been in the making since LIA days. When they started with a culture centre that was just one room with a pile of boxes everywhere. I don't know if anybody's familiar with that, but I remember walking in there as a kid. I remember working for Torngâsok as a teenager and learning what Torngâsok Culture Centre was all about. It wasn't about the office. It wasn't about the building. It was about us preserving our culture. Every day we're losing more and more of our seniors, the elders that we have that we hold so dearly with all of this information, this knowledge, of where we are and where we came from. And the longer we put off putting a place to actually showcase that, show

our kids where they came from and why they should be so proud that they're Labrador Inuit, well, we're losing so much. That's it.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Sarah.

**MS KEMUKSIGAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. I had some comments from constituents in Upper Lake Melville. But I also had some verbal conversations with people and a lot of the questions, why did the province contribute what they, you know, their share and can we wait until the province comes in with their share with some of the issues? And they also said if we're going to put money in for the Cultural Centre, we should also put it into social housing, senior's complexes for Nunatsiavut. But I wanted to read out the comments I received from people so try to bear with me.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** You have 10 minutes.

**MS KEMUKSIGAK:** Okay. I won't be that long. It would be my personal opinion; this is from somebody, that the expenditure for this very important facility for the preservation of Inuit culture be approved. The Torngâsok Culture Centre is of great significance for the preservations of Inuit culture and language and the money would be well-spent to invest in that important facility. Another comment. Although I think it's important to show case the Inuit culture story and way of life, I think it should be used in a more appropriate way. I think it's more important that the government look at affordable, comfortable, healthy housing for its members in Nunatsiavut and in Upper Lake Melville. I understand that there are homes being built, but it's not enough. There are more and more beneficiaries moving here at Upper Lake Melville from the coast for various reasons. For example,

jobs, schooling, housing and some to be closer to the hospital or other family members. Although 2.1 million is not going to solve all the housing problems members face, but it will be a start. Mining royalties are for people, and it should be used for the people to better their lives by raising the standard of living for members in Nunatsiavut and Lake Melville area. Another comment. I am fine with Nunatsiavut paying to rebuild the Torngâsok Cultural Centre. Another one. I would like to say that myself and my husband are totally against taking our mining royalty dollars and putting it into a Cultural Centre in Nain. This should be the sole responsibility of the three levels of government and should not be being taken directly from beneficiaries. The Trust is meant for beneficiary benefit, a Cultural Centre in Nain, in my view, does not benefit all beneficiaries. \$2.5 million is a lot of money to be sunk into one community for one project. Myself and my husband could never agree to support this. Another comment. To use the \$2.1 million to finish the Torngâsok Cultural Centre, go for it. A museum for the Inuit and Inuit culture will be excellent and very important. Another comment. I understand the importance of conserving our heritage, but in light of the fact that there is a ban on hunting of the George River Caribou Herd and the high cost of living in the land claims area, I would like to see the money go towards feeding those Nunatsiavut beneficiaries who desperately need to survive. Another comment. I had no problem with Nain getting a new Torngâsok Cultural Centre, but I think that other communities, like, Rigolet, for example, are very poor and in need of some sort of economic base. I would like to see funds from the trust

funds put into better use and share with other communities including Northwest River who has very little in way of programming at the community level. Another comment. I disagree with using the money to construct a massive Cultural Centre in one community. I don't know how many of our beneficiaries will ever get to see this centre. I wonder if the money could be used to build smaller centres in each community so that all beneficiaries will have at least an opportunity to see house cultural shows and activities. Each community has their own diverse aspect of culture and having focus in each community can boost the community's efforts in tourism, can provide space for programs and activities and even meetings in communities where space is limited. Another comment. I don't think that we should spend all the money on a fancy building that only one town will benefit from. They need to focus on other more pressing issues that affect their beneficiaries in almost all communities and that are the housing shortage. I wonder how the beneficiaries would feel to watch a big fancy building being erected in Nain while in the meantime they are probably walking from house to house trying to find somewhere to sleep for the night. NG needs to focus less on infrastructure and more on its membership and their well-being first. Enough of all these fancy buildings already. Why waste that money? The government was put in place by the people for the people and now it seems that the people aren't much of the NG reps' concerns anymore. Another comment. What will be the estimated cost of maintaining this building such as aspect of staff for maintenance, cleaning as well as heat and power? I disagree with using mining royalties for the construction as

the state of unemployment and living conditions, specifically in Nain and Hopedale, could use these monies. I can see this building being more of a priority in the future as infrastructure such as an airport and new hotel is built in Nain to allow for more tourists to visit the park. These tourists will contribute to the overall viability and costs of the building. Thank you. I'm almost finished. New comment. The loss of culture things in the fire was monumental and I believe there are still some who grieve for that loss. Some will never be replaced and they were that precious. I support anything that'll preserve, promote, honour and pass on our Nunatsiavut Inuit ways because we are not the same as Nunavut or Nunavik Inuit. Another comment. Although I support the idea of a Cultural Centre, in my opinion, this is a very large expense which will be enjoyed by a very small number of beneficiaries. I realize that it is the Nunatsiavut Government mandates to build such buildings and such centres in the land claims area. But such a building in Nain is a very expensive undertaking. It will be a different scenario if the Cultural Centre was to be a revenue generating operation which would eventually pay for itself and continue to generate funds to be self-sufficient, but I cannot see this as being a reality in the small, remote community like Nain. In my opinion, \$2.1 million will be better spent in health and education fields. Thank you, Madame Speaker. That's the opinions from our constituents in Upper Lake Melville.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Did Darryl or any of the witnesses have any comments to make on what Patricia just read? Or we go to the next person, Johannes. You wanted to say something?

**MR. LAMPE:** Nakummek itsivautak. In regards to the Torngâsok Cultural Centre that we are discussing now I would like to say a few comments. Who is Labrador Inuit? Where are Labrador Inuit from? That is something that we are forgetting. We now have to be recognized by our people, we have recognition by our people, and we'll be recognized on what kind of work we have as a government, as people that is the only way we will help agencies. The funding we have from the federal government, close to 6 million dollars, if we don't use it it will go to waste and it will be no good for no other use. This is our traditional life, our language, the Labrador Inuit. The Labrador Inuit will no longer be in existence if we don't keep what we have now and we as Inuit, this is not only belonging to us, it belongs to our children, our grandchildren and future generations. We, the people here now will not be around much longer but our children will be able to tell stories on who they are and where they are from and how their parents, their grandparents, how they lived here in Nunatsiavut. That is something we have to think about. We are talking about some sort of money; we are talking about our way of life, our language, which is a lot bigger than the money we are talking about now. We are talking about people with lack of housing that is not my responsibility. We are talking about educational item that is not something we as a government should realize. We talk about the Torngâsok Cultural Centre which has been in

discussion for a long period of time, some people have a really hard time to get going, keep the Labrador Inuit in mind, they have to be recognized as Labrador Inuit; who they are, where they are from for thousands of years to come. They have been here for thousands of years. Since 1949 our traditions are being lost, in a few years' time we will lose everything that we have if we don't find something cheap and our students in university now can learn about the Inuit. Who they were, what language they used. Right here in the community of Hopedale, in the legislative building our Labrador Inuit language is growing slowly. You can see the pictures on the wall here. Those are the people that negotiated the Land Claims for us. They used the Labrador Inuit culture language to think about, not only about that that was what the Land Claims negotiations was all about because they wanted to keep out traditions and our lifestyle. Thank you Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Johannes. Wayne, would you like to speak?

**MR. PIERCY:** Thank you, Madame Chair. I know as everybody's kind of now wanting to get this done, but since I've been AngajukKâk for Hopedale, every project we done yet, we was not able to go about doing it until we went to the Joint Management Board and asked for more money to finish the project because it came in over budget. Right now all we're asking for is \$2.1 million to finish this project. If we put it off for another year or two, as all the other AngajukKaat know, \$ 2.1 million could be up over 10 or \$12 million, and until NG gets the mandate to address the housing concerns that we've got, they're doing quite a bit to help us out with the firewood

and stuff. So we're getting somewhere. So once we get this behind us, there are other issues that we should be pushing NG for in order to help our communities. But if we don't, that's the one thing we've got to understand right now, if we don't go ahead with this \$2.1 million somewhere down the road we're going to be looking for 8 to \$10 million and we're going to be taking more away from the people that need it. So if we can go ahead and push further with this \$2.1 million, we'll have this behind us and we can move on with more pressing issues and this is one very nice project that we'll have, it will be located in Nain and at the base of the Torngat Mountain National Park where people will pass through, and as most of you know we're on the way now setting things up in each community so that if and when the ranger comes back on schedule again, there's a few people that passes through to see each of our communities and putting a few dollars in our pockets, in our communities. So, like I said, if we don't go ahead now with this 2.1 million now, down the road somewhere if it's not at this table with all of us here now it's going to be with the next Assembly Members that's here, they're going to be looking for more money to take away from our people. Thank you, Madame Chair.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Wayne. Max, would you like to speak?

**MR. WINTERS:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. I am a supporter of our culture. I'm glad to hear the President and First Minister saying that they're going to address the housing issues that we have. Our most important client to us, our elders and youth, not forgetting now the ones that's in the middle either.

But to me they are the most important clients and we should take good care of them. I would also like to see a better program put in place for the firewood that's coming to the coast. I think if we started this program in early spring, that probably all the wood could be shipped during summer. Thank you very much.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Tony, would you like to speak?

**MR. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Madame Chair. Usually, I know when you see this kind of infrastructure coming to a region, it's welcomed. I think about, for instance, the Arts and Cultural Centre in Lab West. The Interpretation Centre in North West River and the Lawrence O'Brien Auditorium in Upper Lake Melville. And for me it is my community, Nain, but I disagree of many of those comments about Nain being too small to have something like this is a signature building and perhaps that's why we don't put little matchbox in each and every community, but usually in a region these kind of things are welcomed. I realize there are regional differences as well as regional jealousies. But and that should not stand in the way, especially at this table. The President spoke very well about housing, I thought, and housing has been something very close to me for a lot of years, and I must say that at this point in time, whether it's in Nunatsiavut or Upper Lake Melville, housing remains a responsibility when it comes to Inuit and other Aboriginal peoples, the responsibility of the federal government, not provincial or regional governments. Every cent that Newfoundland spends on Inuit in this province is money that comes from Canada. If we are going to take over that responsibility from Canada then we should

have some agreement with Canada that would allow us to spend some of our monies that comes from our land to be spent to advance our culture, and this is what this cultural centre will do. It would, and I agree with you, you who spoke about housing and need. I think that no one understands that need, we don't understand it any less than any other community, the Inuit Community Government of Nain. You know, but if there is, and I look forward to that day that the President spoke up, when we will have policy in place for housing programs. We have in the past and through the Trust put some money aside. But I think that, you know, if we are going to do that, if we are going to start to build houses, whether it's in Nunatsiavut or social housing in Upper Lake Melville, and I must say that I don't know if these people are going to Upper Lake Melville for better housing anymore because it doesn't exist anymore, and I agree with you there. But if we are going to take over that responsibility then it's so easy to do, and as soon as we begin to do that, the Government of Newfoundland won't say and perhaps even the Government of Canada will say, look, you already spent money last year on housing, why don't you do it again. You're getting mining royalties. It should be a fight and we should not let them off the hook easy for their responsibility to Inuit people, not only in Nunatsiavut, but across the Canada. The responsibility for housing and we see that echoed time and time again on the CBC north and from our federal organization, ITK, who support us in our stance that it is a federal responsibility. This is something that, you know, I think that it, for me it is a regional thing, and I suppose you could say, that's really easy for you to say, Uncle Tony, because it's right outside the window of your office at the

Inuit Community Government, that is true. But, you know, was part of the process before that went and we sent the cultural people up to every community and Upper Lake Melville and it was agreed that perhaps Nain was the best place for that cultural centre to go. And this is a gateway to the park, Nain is. And hopefully that, you know, that I think the business plan that we saw is fairly sound. Of course, I'm not a business man. I don't really know, but I do know that not only for Nunatsiavut, but for the Inuit Community Government of Nain, we're trying to make our community better through airports and other infrastructure and, well, you know, what kind of crisis we are up there now and since the first week of December with respect to the very poor generators we have in there and the brand new clamp that - well, it doesn't work and then power outages every other day. But we will, you know, we'll get there. This is, to me, it's like this was another part of a puzzle, and same as this was a part of a puzzle, this building that we're in. It all comes together. I don't think this is a set back to our progress towards getting better housing for our seniors or anyone else for that matter. I think that perhaps this is a plus. This will be helpful to our government, this building and getting us on the map. One thing I can do tell you is that I have hope that this can be built by 2014, when the Inuit of the world and reporters of the world and politicians from the world has a look at Nunatsiavut, at the ICC in 2014. Not only will they see a beautiful building in Nain, but they will see housing and people that need attention from its federal government as well. This is enough rambling on from me, Madame Speaker. Thank you very much, Madame Chair.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Tony, and, William, would you like to speak?

**MR. BARBOUR:** Thank you, Madame Chair. I just want to echo some comments that I've heard because I'm a supporter of the cultural centre, always have been. It's been in the work for seven, eight years now, trying to get one, even before the old one burned down. So this has been in the works a long, long time. I agree with AngajukKâk Piercy's comment that you put it off a year, another two years, well, that cost could double easily. I fully agree. And the only comment that I'm going to make is we seem to be stuck on the cost part of it. While we have to be accountable for that additional 2.1 million that we would be, but at least we'll be accountable for it. I go to the comments that both AngajukKâk and Minister Lampe made, we're stuck in this discussion about the physical part of the building, we're forgetting about the cultural part of why want this building. And I think the quicker we agree that this is the cost that we're going to spend, the quicker that people at Torngâsok, Dave Lough, and his people can start to get to work here. What do we need to do in order to get the exhibits in place, get the archives ready, that kind of work? That's the kind of work that needs to happen. And, you know, I just go back to it. Seven years ago, eight years ago, when I first heard about this, I wanted it then, my support for it has never gone away. Thank you, Madame Chair.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Ed, would you like to speak?

**MR. TUTTAUK:** Yes. Thanks, Madame Chair. I think this discussion is not about whether we're going to build a building or not. A lot of people that I talked to said sure, we need a cultural centre. We're not against building a cultural

centre. A lot of them said in light of today's economic climate with the feds and provincial governments making cutbacks, is that such a wise decision to spend? Well, we have already committed \$4.9 million, we're looking for an additional 2.1 bringing our, the Nunatsiavut Government contribution to \$7 million for a building. So in that light, that's what I'm bringing forward, those, for my constituents. Thank you.

**MS WOLFREY:** Yes, I already in the last Assembly, I think, pledged my support for the cultural centre. I'm supporting it, but the only thing that I'm worried about is when we put it on tender and when I look at this I'm really sorry, I missed the teleconference the other day, but and probably the question that I'm going to ask is answered already, and if it is, I'm really sorry, but when I'm looking at this geotechnical report, for example, and it talks about the warming waters and the rising waters and actually, these are predictions it's going to two metres or something or other, above sea level. And when you look at all the predictions about global warming, they've really underestimated is what they've done. And when I look at the location of the cultural centre and when I look at putting in a brake water, for example, the recommendation to put in a brake water was that something that's already in this estimated cost of 12 million? It's already in there, those things, is it? Okay, yes, anyway, I just, for me, I'm worried about how much the overruns are going to be and how much the, you know, how much more, I mean, I don't think we can put a value, a dollar value on our culture. It's something that we've got to preserve and keep and make sure it's there for generations to come, and I don't think we can

put a dollar value on it, but I, and I really think that we need a place to house everything and I don't, I wish it was in Rigolet, but the decision is to put it in Nain and I've got no problem with that. I just want us to make sure that we've got somewhere that won't burn down again and we'll lose everything like we did with Torngâsok, and we're only lucky that some of the stuff we've got back through them days or something or other like that. So, anyway, I'm supportive of it.

**MS CRAWFORD:** Just to respond to your concern a bit to your concern on cost overruns, it has been something that we've raised with the cost accountants as well. I think they've gone back and looked at the numbers three or four times. Each time we see it, we're like, are you sure that you counted the, you know, the fact it's going to be built in Nain. So we, in our budget there is an \$800,000 contingency. Also, when they were actually costing out the cost of the building, they've added, I don't know if it's 1.5 or a 2 per cent increase into that little, not little, but into the cost of the actual construction of the building on top of the \$800,000 contingency to put that in place in case of a cost overrun. We're hoping - our last project that we just did, the DHSD building in Nain came in under budget, and I think Toby can correct me if I'm wrong, but I don't think there were any change orders on that project so we're hoping to continue on that same trend, and manage our projects very closely so that we don't have change orders and able to manage our cost overruns that way.

**MS NOCHASAK:** I just want to say that it's not that I am against a cultural centre. I really want to have a cultural centre in our region as well. And just from those of

you that know me and had to listen to me over the last couple of years, I'm very passionate about our beneficiaries and giving them the best living, daily living lives that they can possibly have. Though we are stuck on the amount, and though the provincial and federal governments are the ones that are in charge of housing, does that mean that we should continue to wait for them to get up on their horse and start galloping and with this and continue to try and better the lives of our housing needs and for our beneficiaries? I don't think so. I think that we should take the lead as well. And I don't mean to sound like a broken record, but the housing needs, especially in Nain, and in Hopedale, are drastic and they do need help. And I understand that the provincial and federal governments are the ones that should take the lead, but obviously they are not. Up until now, it's just they're not willing to right now. And, well, speaking earlier, I just want to be able to say to the beneficiaries after this is passed, or if this is passed that yes, we are serious. Yes, we will help, and we will come up with a plan. We will come up with a mandate, or whatever it is, just to let them know that we are here, that we care about them and we want to have their future looked after, at least give them that little bit of hope or that little bit of something. Thank you, Madame Chair.

**MR. SHEPPARD:** Yes, thank you, Madame Chair. I've heard a lot of comments and a lot of different questions. I'm sitting here and for the last while listening to it all, taking it all in and, you know, it brings to mind that yes, we're talking about these building. Yes, we're talking about \$2.1 million and, you know, the question that I have, and for those of you who missed the teleconference

on Friday, I'm wondering just what the engineers, how much can we trust those engineers? During that conference call on Friday, the engineer mentioned of the building possible could sink an inch. Who's to say that inch might not become 10 inches? And he went on to say if it sunk an inch we could put wedges or shims underneath the building and we're here talking about \$12 million. That sounds like more like putting up a stage to me, than a stage end where you would fish, to wedge something up. You know, it's a bit, I think, sort of out the door when you're looking at all the money that has been spent into the design of the building and the possibilities there, there's no guarantee that it will not sink. It's, and again it's not that I am personally against a cultural centre. No, don't get that idea. It's, I guess, where the dollars is coming from. I've heard that if it's not spent in a reasonable timeframe, that it's going to back to the federal government. A red flag popped up in front of me and I asked myself is that a scare tactic because we talk about infrastructure, big, millions of dollars and we see the people in between the infant and the senior that who really needs help, whether it's housing, whether it's social problems. Yes, we've been saying for the last two and a half years since I've been elected we're helping our people. We're doing this for them and doing that, but, you know, to me, to take a million dollars and to distribute it in our communities and say, here, take your group of people out on the land for a month or two weeks at a time and if you have to dry them out, let's dry them out this way and let them enjoy the enjoyment of the land. You know, I have to echo the sentiments that I hear from my community. I just can't sit here and ramble things off the top of my head. I have to use my

memory, jog my memory in talking about this. It's a good thing to have a beautiful building and, you know, I love it when I hear Minister Lampe speak in his own mother tongue language. You know, I just love to hear that, and I envy it big time. I wish I could do that, but unfortunately I can't so. Without rambling on there, Madame Chair, I'll quit here and I'm sure that somebody else would like to have something to say. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Herb, did you want to speak again?

**MR. JACQUE:** Yes. Thank you, Madame Speaker. I'm just wondering on operational costs, whose responsibility it's going to be? Are there funding secured already? How much will it cost on an annual basis and will all the departments hurt? Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MR. LOUGH:** From the business plan, we were very concerned about that and the government; the other funding partners were too. They asked us that question. You know, can you afford this building? You know, how much is it going to cost? So we spent several months. We hired a very good firm to give us a business plan and we are fortunate in that we have revenue streams on this building and we are also building it as green as possible to keep down the costs and we are building it as efficiently as possible so that it can be used and the space can be used effectively. We've got some office space which will generate some revenue, but it's the craft shop and we wanted to protect the exhibit space, but that also will allow us to attract events and conferences and so on. So the business plan came out and basically said that this will be sustainable within five years and that we could be comfortable that it is not going to be

burden on the government. And our funding partners needed to see that. They were just as concerned as you are that they weren't going to be asked again after we built this building to come back and for additional funds to operate it. The other quick thing that we should add is that we have took a lot of time to pull together the best team of people to give us the best advice possible. And it was very competitive, in terms of the architectural concept. We solicited bids from different architectural firms. Todd Saunders was successful. Again for the architectural and engineering work, we solicited bids and had a lot of bids and we were fortunate in getting some very competitive bidding, and we were able to get Brad Henley, Blackwood now, Stantec Architecture and with Design Management Group as engineering consultants. And with the Stantec we also got some geotechnical capacity. So we're comfortable. I mean, there are some big questions about building anywhere and there is change happening in the in climate, and there are a lot of factors and there's been a lot of discussion, a lot of people have been pulled into this and we have made adjustments. We have had to raise the building even further than we thought and take extra planning into it to make sure that it is going to be something which is stable. This pile technology is a proven technology in northern conditions and we're more comfortable that we've got the best advice possible from the business plan through to the architectural, through to the engineering and I think it's been a team approach by a lot of people over a large number of years, and including or federal partners who signed an agreement with us in 2008 to work

towards this, and they started making their commitments and to this project because they believe in it as well.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**Danny.

**MR. POTTLE:** Thank you, Madame Chair. I'm not going to take too much time, but before I say what I have to say I just wanted to add to what Dave has said about and in response to Herb's question about the operational cost. If you go to the business plan again there is one component of that business plan that looks at an endowment fund. I've asked that question of the planning committee previously of when we can expect that endowment fund to be kick-started, and the response that I had had from the planners, and I think it's still the same response that I would get if I asked the question again is we need to turn the soil first before we start that endowment fund and that is still in the planning stages and I don't think we've fallen short on that. So that endowment fund, I think, is intended, not only to support the operational and maintenance cost of the building, but to do other things that comes along with the operation of the building as well, whether that's more exhibits or whatever the plan may be in the future. I don't know what else I can say with respect to, I mean, my thoughts on the cultural centre has not changed like a lot of people who had spoken to that as well. I believe that, you know, this cultural centre is necessary. It's the hopes and dreams of many Labrador Inuit, including most people I believe are, and the majority of people around this table. I think what we have to be mindful of and we should not be, I guess, comparing apples to oranges, and I qualify what I'm saying there. I mean

is it fair to say that the cultural centre is overshadowing and taken precedence over housing or health or what have you? And I hear people talking about what has gone into communities, what has not gone into the communities, I think we had to be mindful and be thankful for what we've been able to do in six years as a government. The money that goes into our communities alone from Tasiujatsoak Trust in addition to the funds that we are able to bring down through the *Fiscal Financing Agreement*, other contribution agreements. I mean, it's astronomical. I think we have to really be mindful of that and respectful of that and appreciate, and I think people have to be helped to understand and appreciate from politicians such as ourselves that, I mean, you know, we can't meet every need. That's not realistic, but the realistic thing is the amount of dollars that we put into our communities, by way of example, \$20 million for multi-purpose or recreational complexes in our communities, the millions of dollars that the Trust put into the community governments by the Joint Management Committee for infrastructure for other capital works projects. I mean, I can go on and on but, I mean, I think important thing is here, and when I gave my report on the mining royalties, I mean, that intent was not to instil fear in anybody's mind to think that we can't meet our goals and objectives over the next few years. I just wanted to be realistic and share that information with you because I think that's our responsibility as a government as well. So I think we have no other choice but to work together moving forward on all issues, whether that's social issues such as housing or health, but we also had to be mindful of, I mean, the other things that go along with a healthy community or a healthy population.

Culture is very important. Reclamation of that culture, preservation of that culture, and I think Torngâsok Cultural Centre will be that. It is a regional centre. It is meant to serve all our communities we look at, I mean, you know, and draw comparisons to what we have in Rigolet by way of example. We have Lord Strathcona House. We have the Net Loft. We go to Makkovik. We had the White Elephant. We go to Hopedale here. We have Agvituk. We go to Postville. I think is in the plans for some sort of museum or cultural centre, and then I look at Nain. I mean, what do we have in Nain since the fire? We don't have a comparative. I mean, you know, so I think in all fairness, I mean, no, and this is a regional centre is meant to benefit all beneficiaries regardless of where you live and is meant to, I guess, instil pride in us again as a people and promote ourselves to the world and show the people who were, and that we are proud and that we can forward in spirit of, I guess, co-operation and look at, not only the cultural centre but the rest of our needs as a government over time. So, I mean, again, just to close off my support for the cultural centre hasn't changed and I'll continue to support that. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**Gary.

**MR. MITCHELL:** Nakummek, Madame Speaker. I'd just like to add a comment that I think since I've been sitting here in the Assembly last year, this is one of the better debates that I've heard. I've heard a lot of good comments, a lot of different comments about what we're talking about today, the Torngâsok Cultural Centre and costs and culture, and I think it's been a great, excellent debate. We've heard, like I said, a lot of good cross section of

opinions and not opinions so much but people's concerns or the way they felt about the culture centre and there's some good points put out like Tony, AngajukKâk for Nain, brought out yes, other centres have their places that they can go to and, you know, enjoy their atmosphere of the arts. And the Member for Hopedale brought out some good points in regard to the way she felt about, you know, other programs that need looking after. And I think through this debate which, like I said, was an excellent debate here today, and what I'm hearing through that as well because some of the concerns were the costs and some other programs being left out that we could use. And I think what I'm hearing also today is some of those programs are now going to be seriously looked at and maybe working out some of these programs in partnership with federal and provincial governments in regard to social housing and you can't forget about social housing when you talk about this kind of building. The other thing is we need a cultural centre. Nobody can't tell me how important culture is. I grew up with it. But I'm also thinking about the building, itself, the design of the building. Why couldn't it be like an old fashioned school where it's just a simple building, but you go inside and it opens this world that, you know, and our culture. Anyway, that's enough for me and Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**Patricia.

**MS KEMUKSIGAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. I'm going to be real brief this time. This is just coming from talking to people, but in my heart, like I do believe in the importance of a cultural centre. I'd like for us to make a commitment in

the future to look at some of the issues that we've been talking about, like social housing, the seniors complex for Nain and Hopedale, help with wood and the issues with wood, Economic Development, help with social issues and options to help with food security with the decline of the George River Caribou so, you know, if we're going to commit to building the cultural centre I think we should also commit to helping with the social and community problems our beneficiaries experience on a day-to-day basis because I know culture's important, but if people are hungry or cold and I've heard about the people being really cold this winter with lack of wood. So, I mean, they're not even going to be able to go see the cultural centre if they're hungry and cold and overcrowded and living in violent situations. So I think we need that balance. I do think that culture is important and the cultural centre is important, but we can't forget about the other things. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:**Has everyone who wanted to speak, spoken? Ed.

**MR. TUTTAUK:** I guess it goes back to and thank you, Madame Chair. I think it goes back to the intent of the Bill. The Bill is intended to appropriate \$2.1 million from mining royalties. Do we have another option? Can we decide using the mining royalties for that?

**MS CRAWFORD:** No, I think that it's the mining royalties we have in reserve. The other money that we get on an annual basis, we have appropriated through the *Budget Act, 2012* and we've explored many options over the last year and a half, two years. We've had many internal discussions about where the best place and best source of money is. We've lobbied the provincial

government to come more on side. We've gone to federal government agencies to get more money and, you know, this is the best option for us.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Now has everyone spoken that has wanted to speak? Johannes.

**MR. LAMPE:** Nakummek Itsivautak. Just a couple of comments on the design. We were fortunate enough to have an architect to cover it with a concept and a design which is the design of a Sod House. And a Sod House has kept Inuit alive for thousands of years, especially where you had to wait for the winter and a good snow to build a snow house, and you had to get seal skins or caribou skins to build a skin tent and the concept or the term of a Sod House in *Inuttitut* is Illusuak. And when I travel to hunt, to fish or gather, I go to places that have that term in terms of like a house harbour, the Illusuaktalik and another one is Illusuaktalialuk and another one is Illusuaktaget. And so the design is very significant to Labrador Inuit. And the term, Torngâsok, in itself means a good spiritual being. And, Torngâsok, was a leader among Inuit who treated everyone equally and made sure that everyone was safe, you know, fed, kept warm, and did what they had to do to survive and to practice their culture and their language, and to learn about everything else about being Inuit, whether it was up in the country using Inukshuit as landmarks to guide you to where you wanted to go or where it was not safe to go. And so this Torngâsok Cultural Centre will have many aspects of use to, not only us but, to our children and our grandchildren and in the future, and so as Minister of Culture, I hope that you will consider the passing of a vote of this 2.1 million for the cultural centre. Nakummek Itsivautak.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek. I do realize everyone has had a chance to speak now in a Committee of a Whole. Since everyone has spoken, can we have agreement to go back into Assembly?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** We are now back in Assembly and I think this is a good time to adjourn for the day and we'll meet back here tomorrow morning at nine o'clock.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Ullâkut Ilonasi. I'd would like to call to order, the eighth session of the second Nunatsiavut Assembly. This is the spring session and it is the fourth sitting. I'd again like to welcome Randy Edmunds, MHA Torngat Mountains District in the gallery today. Thank you, Randy, for your interest. Welcome. For the information on the Assembly, the hotel check-out today is at 12:00 noon. If there are any questions on hotel, travel and logistics, please see Hilda Hunter. We'll go down to our Orders of the Day, number two, on "Minister Statements". I'd just like to remind you that the time allotted for Minister Statements shall not exceed 35 minutes. So do we have any Minister Statements? Okay, I'd like to recognize the Honourable Darryl Shiwak.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. I have a few updates and number one is transportation. The province will issue an RFP, as I suggested, for design in construction of a roll on, roll off freight passenger vessel for service in Nunatsiavut. The expectation of the vessel will be not available for three to four years. In the interim the Northern Ranger and Astron will continue to provide the passenger freight service and will be supported by the Sir

Robert Bond, if necessary. The Northern Ranger, we have been assured, will be available for service in 2013. On the Nain airstrip the weather study will continue for another year to collect the information that will determine the better of two sites identified in the feasibility study.

Preliminary discussions between Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador had begun regarding a *Cost Shared Funding Agreement*. These discussions will continue into 2013.

Housing. The Nunatsiavut Government made a presentation identifying the housing needs in Nunatsiavut to the province as being a crisis situation, and asked the Newfoundland Government for the 2013-2014, include housing, funding for Inuit in Nunatsiavut. We did table and speak to two funding proposals to the Minister to consider for the 2013-2014 Budgets. One proposal was for Inuit housing, the second was for Inuit senior housing complexes in Nain and Hopedale, which we would do a partnership agreement with.

Minister Davis listened and asked questions, but gave no commitment at this time. I also met with Minister Hedderson, McGraw, and Minister Collins on Hopedale PCB clean-up. NG expressed deep disappointment and deep concern with the PCB's left from Hopedale and the progress on which this clean-up is taking place, and looked for commitment from the province on getting this done. Also on the issue on the contaminants not being stored and contained, I'd ask the PCB's be removed as soon as possible. Minister Hedderson listened explaining that he planned expected clean-up to be completed and that all PCB's removed from Hopedale last summer, but had problems with the contract, therefore, some of the PCB's are still in Hopedale, but had the assurance that

they're dealing with the contractor to fix those issues. He had also committed that officials will be in Hopedale in early spring as soon as the thawing begins to look at the state of the storage of the PCB's up there and we'll go from there. But as far as committing, the government is committed to cleaning this up, but they have to budget year to year to do so. Hedderson committed that the contractor will be back to Hopedale early in the spring to ensure the banks are securely contained and they will be shipped out to Hopedale next summer. On the George River Caribou Herd all three Ministers commended the Nunatsiavut Government on the position taken as the Inuit of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claim* not to hunt the George River caribou herd. They are meeting with the Innu on the George River caribou as well, and they have yet to impose measures on the herd. I also met with Minister Jerome Kennedy on the Lower Churchill Project. The meeting with Minister Kennedy focused on three main areas. Our research and monitoring project within Lake Melville, asking for them to participate in that project, but stating that we want to lead the project. We also brought the issue of moving forward with the engagement on short term, medium term and long term issues are now issues surrounding the Lower Churchill issues from government to government, not from government to stakeholder. And we also advised the Minister that if adverse effects are determined in the future then we will be coming back to the government to look for compensation. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize the

Honourable Minister of Finance, Dan Pottle.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Madame Speaker. Continuing with an update from the Division of Finance from yesterday, the Inuit Community Government audits, we want to ensure the Assembly that the Inuit Community Government audits had been and are of utmost importance to the Nunatsiavut Government. We have been committed to ensuring the completion of these audits and working with both the Inuit Community Governments and the auditors to do so. Firstly, Madame Speaker, we had our assistant Controller, Lena Blake, dedicated to assisting the town managers in completing the outstanding items required since September, 2012. She has worked very closely with each town manager to clear each item and has been in discussions with the auditors to ensure we understand what the requests are. Madame Speaker, we have all the outstanding lists for each community government and have been diligently monitoring them to see what items remain, what items are cleared, and how we can assist. Secondly, Madame Speaker, my Deputy Minister and I have had multiple meetings with the auditors to discuss the Inuit Community Government audits, even as recent as September 9th and expressed the importance of their finalization. The Controller has had many calls and correspondence via email monitoring the status of their audits. We also arranged a meeting with the auditors in September, 2012 and we have had open and candid discussions on the audits. The Controller and I met with Deloitte approximately two weeks ago to again

further discuss the outstanding audit issues. For the information of each of the AngajukKâk, we've had a further update from Deloitte yesterday and because of, I guess, confidentiality purposes with respect to each of the Inuit Community Governments, because you're self-governing, in your own right, we would be more than happy to share those updates with you. So please speak to myself or the Deputy Minister. The Division of Human Resources, Madame Speaker, some people may be aware that recently a job advertisement was published for a position with the provincial government in Nunatsiavut. The ad indicated that a qualified beneficiary would receive this position over a union member. Our department received calls on this competition questioning whether or not this was valid. In fact, Madame Speaker, under the *Land Claims Agreement*, Section 7.9.5, qualified beneficiaries who apply on an employment opportunity, whether that's an internal or external competition that exists within Labrador Inuit Lands or an Inuit community with respect to the Newfoundland Public Service shall be awarded this position on a representative basis that reflects of ratio of Inuit ordinarily resident in Labrador Inuit Lands and the Inuit communities to the total number of residents ordinarily resident in Labrador Inuit Lands and the Inuit communities. In the event that no qualified Inuk applies for these positions, the position will be awarded to a non-beneficiary. It's important to note, Madame Speaker that this does not apply currently to the Labrador School Board or the Labrador Regional Grenfell Health Authority. If anyone requires further details, Madame Speaker, please

contact one of our Human Resources managers, Kim Saunders, or Krista Parsons in our Nain office. Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize the Honourable Minister of Health, Patricia Kemuksigak.

**MS KEMUKSIGAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. This morning I would like to speak on, give an update on women's programs. The first one will be AnânauKatiget Tumingit Regional Inuit Women's Association and this is an update to the Assembly. Madame Speaker, AT is moving forward positively. First of all, we are grateful for Nunatsiavut Government for all their support besides the operating funds we received from the Tasiujatsoak Trust. Without Nunatsiavut Government supports, we would not be as far as we are today. On-going Projects. Status of Women Canada. This three-year project is moving forward focusing on creating and implementing community plans to achieve greater economic security for Inuit women in Nain and Hopedale. We are making a significant community development effort. Joanna Tuglavina is the project co-ordinator, and she's here, actually, this week, travelling between the two communities making significant engagement with women and community partners. We hope this project will be a platform to build the presence of the Association into the future. Madame Speaker, New Horizons for Seniors Peer Support Project. Our goal was to develop a network of seniors in Inuit communities to serve as peer resource persons to other seniors in their communities and support Inuit seniors to share their knowledge base and expertise to become a major strength in the communities. Some training

took place in Rigolet on November 19th through the 22nd. Madame Speaker, Job Creation Partnerships. This project was funded just last week, January 15th, 2013, to fund five positions, one in each of the five Nunatsiavut communities. The women will be involved in meaningful work experience and skill enhancement in the areas of community-based research needs assessments, asset mapping, public consultation processes, community development processes and gender-based analysis. We are looking forward to a greater engagement of the Inuit women and all the aspects of community leadership, engagement consultation and decision making. Aboriginal Violence Prevention Grant. The Aboriginal Women's Violence Prevention Grant was announced on December 18th. AT received a grant to facilitate a community-based violence awareness workshop covering topics such as bullying, dating violence, violence against women and abuse against older people in the Nunatsiavut communities, Happy Valley, Goose Bay and Northwest River. These workshops will be facilitated by Inuit women, themselves, in each community. We won't be bringing in outside facilitators for those workshops. The Inuit women will run these, themselves, in each community. This is a big task, but the women are up for it. This project will go into Phase II and Phase III. AT and the Women's Policy Office are moving forward with talks regarding poor funding and to be included as a provincial partner under the Violence Prevention Initiative. AT has been making considerable strives to further enhance women and the issues effecting women in the last year or so. My next update is on the Status of Women Office. Madame Speaker, the Status of Women Office continues

to move forward with the planning of the Inuit Women's Conference. The dates of the conference is February 25th, 26th and 27th. The theme is Advancing Inuit Women Empowering Choices, Energize, Inspire and Support, and there is a steering committee that's working on the conference. There will be 36 delegates with presentations from women in various roles from finance, mental health and a leadership panel. There are also nominations for woman of the year, and it will be voted on at the conference and everybody was sent the nomination form through Tracy Evans, our Co-ordinator, and you were also sent the application for the seats. The court monitoring project is taking longer than expected to start. The court monitoring steering committee for Nain and Hopedale are currently seeking court monitors. When there are court monitors in place, then they will be trained by the Victim Service Worker in Nain and can begin their work in monitoring the court circuits on cases of violence against women and children. Last week some of us had the wonderful opportunity to go to the Ovarions Honouring Women and Women in Leadership forum in St. John's, and I want to say I was very proud that some of our Inuit women were honoured in the slideshow that they had playing. Beatrice Hope, Ruth Flowers, our President, Sarah Leo, Fran Williams, and Charlotte Wolfrey. So it was really nice to see that we had a presence there and our women were honoured for their work in the communities which we serve. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize the Minister for Education, the Honourable Gary Mitchell.

**MR. MITCHELL:** Nakummek, Madame Speaker. I have a few notes this morning from the Education Department on education issues. Inuit Pathways continues to fund students in various trades-related fields. Aboriginal Bridging Program and Economic Upgrading. Work experience opportunities are continuing with a number of clients, but a few more are in the process of starting during the winter. Inuit Pathways staff has participated in information sessions with Nalcor on the use of the Muskrat Falls website. Staff is available to help our beneficiaries submit their information to the site as part of a job search process for work at Muskrat Falls Project. Staff is in the process of developing their annual operating plan expenditure plan as required by the federal government for February 1st. This is an annual process, but the guidelines and submission requirements have changed which will require more time for staff to complete and be accepted for the upcoming fiscal year. Staff are also preparing for the quarterly monitoring business with Service Canada staff. Service Canada will be in Makkovik for a week in February as a routine monitor to review client and file management and file management processes. Staff continues to administer the assets agreement to ensure our requirements are met for the fiscal year ended. With regard to LAMP funding I've been told that this is nearing completion and hopefully before too long we'll get an answer on LAMP funding that's coming through from the federal government. The same people for jobs at Muskrat Falls. That's what the money is geared towards, for training for programs for jobs at Muskrat Falls. And the \$6.6 million going to be coming through for that program. There will be more information coming out to everybody

then when that comes through. I met with Lucy Brennan and the PSSSP staff in St. John's January 8th and 9th and we sat down for two days and talked about the PSSSP program and other educational issues. We didn't come to a conclusion, or I can't announce today that there will be a living allowance rate change as my honour colleague, AngajukKâk for Nain, was going to ask, I'm sure. But hopefully we're going to have it on the agenda for the next executive council meeting for the rate change for living allowance rates for PSSSP program students, and hopefully be in place in September. But we have to go through the NEC process and get their approval before we make any rate change. We also discussed the Office Administration Program that's been suspended for a few years because there was a number of student that had gone through the program and I guess didn't run into much success in getting jobs from the Office Administration Program that was administered by the college. We've now lifted a ban for Office Administration Program and this will open up for students again to go into that program if they choose to do so. With increased development in the area, I'm sure there's going to be more jobs coming open for office administration work. For the Inuit bachelor of social work program students, we now have 18 students in place, in their placements until April, and they'll be graduating in June. So we'll have 18 social workers that will be going, hopefully a lot of jobs in Nunatsiavut is going to open up so we can put these people to work in Nunatsiavut. One question I had on assisting with grad money for schools in Nunatsiavut, there was a request come in see if we would assist with grad money for the June grads for the schools. We've come to a decision that we will

grant each school in Nunatsiavut communities \$300 to go toward their grads this coming June, high school grads. And that is my report for the day from the education part of it. Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. Do we have any more Minister Statements today? I'd like to recognize the Honourable Minister of Culture, Johannes Lampe.

: Nakummek UKâtik. Madame Speaker, for allowing us to adjourn to Committee of the Whole yesterday and to listen and to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to have their questions answered and we had a chance to make sure we shared all the details of the project. It's been a long journey and a lot of people, people before us that worked on the cultural centre. We who sit here will have the opportunity as leaders to make it happen, but this will be primarily for those who come after us, our youth. This project will be for our future generations. The Torngâsok Cultural Centre, who can be proud of who they are and build on our culture and heritage as Labrador Inuit. Yesterday we talked about having money in place and getting the extra money needed will allow us to proceed. We have also heard a strong message that we must address issues such as housing, social and economic needs of our beneficiaries. As Labrador Inuit, we have always had to work hard to survive, and we now have an ability with self-government to make decisions which will ensure we survive as a culture and as healthy communities. We have to ensure our values as Inuit and our skills as a distinct culture survive. Today I will ask for your support on the money bill which will allow us to

ensure our children and grandchildren know who they are and are proud Labrador Inuit. Nakummek UKâtik.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. Do we have any other Ministers statements today? Then we'll move down to, do you have another Minister statement? No. Then we'll move down to the next item on our agenda, which is "Member Statements". Each member can make one statement for no longer than five minutes as limited to one statement per day per member. So do we have any member statements? I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Wayne Piercy.

**MR. PIERCY:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. As everybody's well aware, 27th of December, we lost another senior. Sorry for the way I'm putting myself off again, and as everybody knew him, we called him Uncle Dick. For the longest time he was our next door neighbour. Throughout Hopedale and along the coast he has had many students. Condolences go out to his family and many friends and a lot of students within Hopedale and Nain. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, AngajukKâk from Hopedale. I'd now like to recognize to the AngajukKâk from Postville, Diane Gear.

**MS GEAR:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. I'd like to say thank you to the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies for providing funding to the Postville Inuit Community Government to get wood for our seniors. We hired on three workers for two weeks, well, actually, they'll be finished today, and we were able to get a couple loads of wood to each senior so far. Although he lives in a community where there's lots of wood around, the seniors do find it hard

to get out, and especially in the weather we've had these last few weeks, they do find it hard to get out and get their wood so this has really helped them. And we also wanted to say thank you as well, you know, for providing work to at least three more people to help them qualify for EI. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, AngajukKâk Gear. Do we have any other Member Statements? Then we'll move down to the next item on our list, "Returns to Oral Questions," do we have any returns to oral questions today? None. We'll move down to item number five, "Oral Questions". Each member is allowed two questions per day. A member is allowed the initial question and two supplementary questions. The question is to be directed to a specific member and must be concise and clear. Oral Questions. I'd like to recognize to the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque.

**MR. JACQUE:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Finance and it's regarding the auditors. The Makkovik Inuit Community Government is very disappointed in what the cost of the auditor for the past year. It cost us, like, \$25,000 as in comparison of \$17,000 from our previous auditors, and we're wondering if anything can be done about this. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Finance.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Madame Speaker, and thank you to the AngajukKâk for Makkovik for your question. As we had shared with each of the Inuit Community Governments and the Inuit Community Corporations, the cost

of the audit has increased this year because of moving from previous auditors to the new auditors, Deloitte & Touche. There were many outstanding issues that the auditors had to deal with and they've had to come back to the Inuit Community Governments quite often to clarify some of the outstanding issues with respect to that audit. We expect, Madame Speaker, that these issues will be resolved this year and that the community governments and the community corporations will not be burdened with an additional audit expense in future years moving forward, Madame Speaker. At this point in time I certainly will take the question under advisement from the AngajukKâk from Makkovik or consult with my department to see if there are any dollars that we can use to help offset this expense, and I'm not going to commit to say that there will be, but I will commit to follow up with our Department of Finance to address the matter further. Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey.

**MS WOLFREY:** Nakummek, Madame Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Education. In your statement I heard you talk about training for Muskrat Falls, money for training from Muskrat Falls. I assume that that's coming from another government but, and the question I want to ask is about the training that you said that office admin training is now opened up again, and we weren't offering that and now it's opened up again. I know people who are hired already from Muskrat Falls Project for office admin so I think it's a little too late. And I'm just wondering do you, and with the

training dollars do you know if people are going to get training, will they get jobs? You know, will there be jobs for them to actually fill, because after the building of the dam there's only going to be, we're hearing 14 or 15 or something jobs in the whole operation. So if they go in now and do some kind of a course and it takes them two years, then the jobs are already filled, like I don't know where the thinking was coming from, but do you think that if we have people going to training now that there might be jobs for them, or will it be a waste of our money? Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, AngajukKâk Wolfrey. The Honourable Minister of Education.

**MR. MITCHELL:** Nakummek, Madame Speaker, and thank you for your question, AngajukKâk from Rigolet. I'm not sure why, well, like I said in my statement, the program was suspended because I guess there was a number of students on the market that had finished the program, so the PSSSP program didn't fund that program anymore. We brought the business administration program back in so that it can be funded by the PSSSP program. It's nothing to do with Muskrat Falls. I just mentioned that that's probably going to be some opportunities that's going to be open with Muskrat Falls coming on stream, but the business administration program has always been there, but we just didn't fund it, and I guess, like I said, with new opportunities open, they decided and a number of years since we had the program being funded by PSSSP funding, we decided to open up. I can't demonstrate any more than that. I'm not sure if it's going to be a waste of money to fund more for students for that program, and the people are qualified to go to work now, well, that's up to them, if they

want to go to work at Muskrat Falls. But we decided to open up the program again and they'll be I'm sure there have been jobs other than Muskrat Falls where people are going into business administration kind of work anyway. Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. Did you have a supplementary?

**MS WOLFREY:** No.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay. I'd now like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Nain, William Barbour.

**MR. BARBOUR:** Thank you UKâlatik. My question is to the First Minister. As Minister for Infrastructure, just two days ago I received a phone call from a beneficiary in Nain regarding housing. I know we don't deal with housing, but I also know that this particular beneficiary has been talking to our MHA for Torngat Mountains District, and the issue is this. And the question to the Minister is this. In Nain there are criteria which in Torngat Housing Association, there are a fair number of people, I believe, in Nain and in Hopedale, I think, who are just over the threshold of 35,000 income household and therefore cannot qualify under Torngat housing criteria. And even having said that, the banks will not look at them to look at a mortgage because the income level that they're at, because they just could not afford a mortgage. So, in reality, we have a number of beneficiaries who are stuck between a rock and a hard place in trying to find a place to find a home. Now the question to the Minister is this. Would the Minister agree or commit to trying to get a meeting with Torngat

Regional Housing Association Board to discuss the possibility of lifting that threshold of \$35,000? Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Barbour. The Honourable First Minister.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker and thank you to the Ordinary Member for Nain, William Barbour. Now that's an issue that we've identified before and I think the President identified it yesterday in her statement as well, we were talking about the Bill. It's an issue and we'll have it dealt with. It sort of falls out of what Torngat does, but it's something that I'm going to have to bring within my department to review, and we do meet with Torngat, the Board of Torngat. So something we're going to have to identify and appropriately bring to Torngat and see if that's the place to bring it, or if there's something that we need to do internally as a government to fix the issue or move ahead with a certain whatever we're going to. But to today commit to bringing that to Torngat, I can't do that today, but I will commit to looking at it internally and seeing the best route to go with that because it is an issue, and I agree that we will have to look at it because there's people who cannot get mortgages, but cannot get a Torngat house as well. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. Right now I'd like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak.

**MS NOCHASAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question this morning is to the Minister of Education, Economic Development. In your statement yesterday you briefly discussed the banking issue that I've brought to the Assembly numerous times. I mentioned it through email numerous times and from

your update yesterday you had mentioned that it's something that you hadn't had a chance to look at thoroughly enough yet and that you will look at it further down the line. I've had that answer given back to me now for the last number of sittings. I just want to know what it is I need to do to make you understand how important it is to have a banking facility or satellite banking or some sort of solution for the community of Hopedale. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Ms. Nochasak. I'd like to recognize the Honourable Minister of Education.

**MR. MITCHELL:** Nakummek, Madame Speaker. Thank you for your question, Member for Hopedale. As I mentioned, I don't have any information on the banking facilities. Our Director of Development, Francine Couture was supposed to move to Nain in October. For different reasons she's still in St. John's and hopefully she'll be going to Nain at the end of January, after the trade show and beginning her work in the location where she was hired to work. Francine's going to be taking on the responsibility of checking out information on banking and talking with various stakeholders on the prospects of banking in Nunatsiavut, and hopefully when the economic development summit comes to Nain in April, we can bring together stakeholders at that conference that can give us some answer and hopefully some assistance with improving bank facilities or putting bank facilities in Nunatsiavut. So that's one file that I will see to it that should be going to be working on, hopefully get some concrete answers that we can go with and work with. Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Nain, Tony Andersen.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. Madame Speaker, when we were here in December we met in caucus, I guess, first of all to talk about caribou and we left here with the position and the President and the Minister they both spoke very well publically on the CBC and other media outlets that there was a request made of beneficiaries for a zero harvest of George River Caribou Herd, and I have to say, Madame Speaker, that I wonder just how seriously that request or that ask of beneficiaries has been accepted. If you look at Facebook and see that we are seeing that people are saying we're going to continue to harvest and even and that led to believe that members of this Assembly will harvest caribou, George River caribou, and how silly is that when this house, unanimously voted for, asked for a zero harvest and then to turn around harvest, if that's the case. My question to the Minister is, is the Minister and his department prepared to go to each and every community to meet publicly in public forum to meet with beneficiaries and to express to them how seriously the situation is and how serious that request was made by this chamber, for zero harvest of George River Caribou Herd? Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, AngajukKâk for Nain. The Honourable Minister of Lands.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. Yes, I do remember that conversation when we had that, sort of caucus, and how we all agreed this is the direction that we're going to go. It is very serious. The latest numbers are

22,000 are the last caribou. If you go the way it goes and if the hunting continues, we could be looking at 17 to 15,000 by the end of 2013 and in a few years we'll be looking less than 10,000 caribou. So it's very serious and it's a serious message that we want to bring to the communities, and as a department, we will be doing whatever it takes, but I think first and foremost, and I think it is, and you reference people around this table maybe wanting to go hunting, but I think first and foremost it is the responsibility of everybody around this table to bring that message to the community as well and to say this is a very serious situation and that we need to stop hunting. Again, we can only ask you to stop hunting. But we need you to stop hunting because we're trying to save this caribou herd. And I ask that everybody around the table join our government as you agreed to in December and bring that message to your community as well. And as a department we will be supporting that and we will be looking at the best way to do that, but I think we need to agree in some way, if we're going to do public consultations to do it together and as community leaders to bring that message ourselves. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Supplementary.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** I suppose it's a supplementary, Madame Speaker. The Minister did not answer my question. I asked is the Minister prepared, with officials from his department, to travel to each and every community to express in public forum how serious this was, and how serious the situation with the

George River caribou is. And I did not hear a simple yes or no would be fine from the Minister.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister of Lands.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. We are prepared to go into the communities, but we want to do it with the people around this table. We want to bring that information because we had that information on the latest numbers and the rapid decline that it is; we are prepared to do that. We are looking at the best way to do that, but we wanted to do it with you, not just as a government, as a department coming and saying this is the numbers. I think people need to see that our leaders are standing with us from the community, but we are looking at the best way to do that, and we will be asking each and every one of you to stand with us when we deliver that message. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable Minister. I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey. If you wanted to answer that question, then go ahead.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. I just wanted to speak to the AngajukKâk from Nain's question and I think it's very valid, and I think one of things, although the Minister of Lands had answered it quite appropriately, I just sort of wanted to add to it. When we made that decision, we made that not as a decision from Lands and Resources, not as the Executive Council, but as Assembly Members, as leaders within the Nunatsiavut in asking our beneficiaries. That's why we brought it to that forum, and I agree, we need to get into the communities, we need to talk to our

beneficiaries about the request that we had made to our people, and I understand and I support the fact that Lands and Resources maybe needs to go into each community, even myself maybe needs to go into the community, but we're not the ones that should be holding the meeting. If we go into Nain, or if we go into Hopedale, or if we go into Makkovik, I think our beneficiaries need to understand that we made this as a decision as a whole and that we're all supporting this. Now I hope that there's nobody around this table that's intending on caribou hunting. We stood together in that caucus room and we made that decision as leaders in our communities, not as Minister of Land, not as President, not as AngajukKâk for Nain. We made it collectively, and I think we have to support each other collectively, and if it means, you know, the Lands and Resource department and myself go into each of the communities and take that stand with the community members, with the Ordinary Member, the AngajukKâk, the Community Chair from the areas we represent, stand up and make that statement. We listen to our beneficiaries. I'm sure they have a lot to say. There's been a lot of chatter about it being on Facebook, being on the phone, be it on roads about why did our government ask us to do this whether they support it or not, and I think we owe it to our beneficiaries to come out and say this is how we came up with it. We sat together. We realized the state of the herd, and maybe they need to hear the numbers again of what our herd is and maybe they need to hear that from the Director of Renewable Resources or Non-Renewable, whatever her title is, sorry, you know, to hear it from the officials with the numbers, where they are. But they also need to hear that

we, as leaders within our communities, made this decision collectively.

Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable President. I'd now like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey.

**MS WOLFREY:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Finance and it's with regards to training for our Inuit Community Government members. I can't remember when it was, but it must have been, not last fall, but the fall before last or last winter, we had a training session with Veryan Haysom, as AngajukKâk, and I think town managers were there at the training session after a joint management committee. And we had asked that that same training be given to our councillors that Veryan would come to the communities and deliver that training to our councillors, and I'm wondering when that is going to happen. And our council is wondering when that's going to happen. They bring it up every meeting, so I'd figure I'd bring it back here to try and find out where that was on the agenda. Where is the training for our councillors because pretty soon it'll be another election time and we'll have all new councillors again? But they need to understand where the dynamics of having this land claim and how it affects the Inuit Community Governments and what we're supposed to be doing. Because I think that the information that we got from Veryan was certainly different than what was happening in a lot of our communities, and I think our councils needs to hear the information that Veryan gave to us. So I'm wondering when that training's going to happen. Nakummek.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Who is that question directed to? Okay, the Honourable Minister of Finance.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Madame Speaker. Again, not to commit to the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, on that training I certainly will discuss the matter with the Department of Nunatsiavut Affairs who's responsible for legal matters with respect to the Nunatsiavut Government. I certainly will have that discussion with the respective Minister, hopefully before we leave Hopedale today. But one of the things that I would encourage is of the Inuit Community Governments as well; in particular, the AngajukKaat to do is to share that training with your community councillors. I mean, I'm sure you have had an opportunity to learn and understand through the training that was provided by Mr. Haysom regarding, I guess, the operation and rules and responsibilities of the community governments. So I think its incumbent upon you, as leaders, to share that information and to help your community governments understand your role and responsibility as well. So I certainly again, to reiterate my answer, will have that discussion before we leave here today with the Honourable Minister of Nunatsiavut Affairs. Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Postville, Glen Sheppard.

**MR. SHEPPARD:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. I guess I'll have to say a few little words before I ask my question, and my question is directed to the Acting Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. We heard a lot around the table, Madame Speaker, this morning about the protection of wildlife,

more or less, animals. My question for the Minister Acting for Lands and Natural Resources would be in relation to a project that's, as well known around the table, for those who don't know, it started on a small scale right now to make an air strip in on a lake near Michelin, in relation to the uranium project. I guess we're all concerned, Makkovik, Postville, the neighbouring communities about if this project ever gets the green light for development. And to be a proactive government, I think right now would be an ideal time to talk about and to discuss additional dollars for research within those immediate areas, whether it's Big Brook south of Makkovik, or whether it's the head waters of Kaipokak Bay, that's a concern about our fish, and we all eat fish. So my question for the Minister would be is there any discussions on-going or plan to take place in your department on additional research money for this purpose. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The Honourable First Minister.

**MR SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker, and without giving the Ordinary Member for Postville the wrong answer, it's something I'll have to talk to the department about. But something that we have not budgeted for yet, but it's certainly something that we can discuss because with everything within Nunatsiavut, the environment and our wildlife and is the cornerstone of who we are, and we want to ensure that it's all protected and that we know from baseline data that we know where we're going. But it's something I have to talk to the department about and get back to the member. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable Minister. I'd like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak.

**MS NOCHASAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question is for the First Minister, Minister Shiwak. I'd like to know of what the new developments are with the transitional committee, if any, and who still sits on that committee.  
Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable First Minister.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. Can I get a bit of a clarification there? Is the Member talking about the transitional committee moving into the communities, moving staff into the communities?

**MS NOCHASAK:** I was told that's the new name.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Pardon me?

**MS NOCHASAK:** Sorry, I'll clarify. I was told yesterday that was the new name for the relocation committee. It's now called the Transitional Committee. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. I'll have to get an update on that and get back to the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, but I will get back to you, whether written or orally, but I will get back to you. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Wayne Piercy.

**MR. PIERCY:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question is directed toward the Minister of Finance. With all the work that's ongoing now within each of our communities, are we going to set a target of beneficiaries that are

going to be hired on within the capital works projects and other projects related to the spending of Nunatsiavut dollars within our region? Thank you.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Madame Speaker, and thank you, Mr. Piercy, for your question. I believe your question may be related, and correct me if I'm wrong, regarding the procurement of services related to capital works projects in our communities. We've had this discussion on many occasions and we certainly encourage each of the Inuit Community Governments when you're going to tender to have a look at the *Procurement Act* and have some consultations with our department regarding the tendering process and to look at ways that we can or you, as a community government, can integrate your desire to have more local hires working on community government projects respecting capital works. So, I mean, and I think that can be achievable. As we had discussed before, it's a matter, I think, of refining a little bit your tendering processes and make sure that those details are put in that tender document when it goes out to tender. So certainly I will follow up a little bit more on that, Mr. Piercy, and get back to you, if not before we leave Hopedale today, but certainly by time the Joint Management Committee meets in two weeks in Makkovik. Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. Are there any more questions, supplementary Wayne Piercy?

**MR. PIERCY:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. What I was trying to say is like where we got the new building and stuff that's going on now; we're looking at to go

into Nain. As you know, as we all see it, the percentage of contractors take in a huge number of their own workers. So with the projects that NG has, I wasn't trying to say the Inuit Community Governments because we're trying to deal with that on our own, but with NG, I was wondering if there's going to be a target or a set number of workers or beneficiaries, I should say, being looked at for the work that's up and coming for under NG. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister of Finance.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Madame Speaker, and thank you again, Mr. Piercy, for your supplemental question. I, like, you and the other leaders of the Inuit Community Governments, am concerned about that matter as well, and we will certainly take that under advisement and if and when there is a tender, for, I believe, the building that you're referring to in Nain, Torngâsok Cultural Centre, we will certainly work within our department and the relevant departments for infrastructure. The Department of Nunatsiavut Affairs, to ensure that there, as per the *Procurement Act*, that, I mean, you know, there are requests in that tendering processes for contractors who may apply on any tendering to ensure Inuit content and qualified beneficiaries for those employment opportunities if and when they arise. Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. Do we have any more questions, oral questions? Herb, did you have another question? Okay, I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque.

**MR. JACQUE:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Education. In your statement you indicated that there would be \$300 available for grant this upcoming June. I'm just wondering what the process was, or is, just for clarification purposes and information that I can take back, what the process is, is there a deadline and how can we apply? Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, AngajukKâk Jacque. The Honourable Minister of Education.

**MR. MITCHELL:** Nakummek, Madame Speaker. Did you ask about the grad money, I think we come to a consensus - when I talked with the Deputy Minister and school board we come to a consensus that we would grant each school \$300. I think that was just an outright grant. I don't think the school would have to apply for it, but we'd distribute it to each school, if the, I guess if the requests come in, just to request that you would like assistance with some funding for your grad, and I think that was all that needed to be done is send in your request for requesting some financial assistance, for the grad, we set aside \$300 for each school, if they do so request it. Nakummek, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. Do we have any more questions?

Then at this point we'll take a 20-minute break.

(Recess)

**MADAM SPEAKER:** We are back in Assembly and we're going to continue on down through our Orders of the Day. We are now on, "Written Questions," are there any written questions? Next item, "Returns to Written Questions," any returns to written questions? "Petitions," any petitions? "Response to Petitions"?

None, today. "Reports of Standing and Special Committees," any reports? I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Nain, Tony Andersen.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. I just wanted to share with the Assembly a brief update on our committee or the Special Committee to address the report from the NEO on the last election. I'd just like to, Madame Speaker, let the Assembly know that we are making wonderful progress, I think, in that we've established a more concrete agenda to move forward and that we do have, with your co-operation, Madame Speaker, a number of witnesses that we wished to call to our next meeting, and that we will bring in the report on time as asked by the Assembly during the spring session. I must say that it is hard when you try to piggy back, Madame Speaker, try to piggy back committee meetings on Assembly, or other meetings, and our committee has decided not to do that, and that it's not a waste of money to have a committee meeting without piggy backing at something. It's when you accomplish, and a lot of times during Assemblies committee members are tired from the Assembly sitting during the day to meet at night, and we have found that it perhaps is wasting our time more than anything. We had committee members sitting here all day yesterday. So we've decided to have committee meetings when committee members are available and not try to fit it in. It's important work and the Assembly needs that report done in a fair timeline. I must say that for our committee, at least, it's been a little bit difficult in trying to figure out, you know, how to do what is our responsibility as a committee, know how it works, how committees work. And thank you very

much and your staff, Madame Speaker, for helping. For two meetings now we have not had a recorder, and you know, we certainly will be asking for more help in making sure that our committee, and for the benefit of other committees, that they receive the support they should have. So like I said, Madame Speaker, we're making wonderful progress and we will bring that report in on time. That's just a short update from our committee. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, AngajukKâk, Tony. Okay, we're down to, "Notices of Motion," we have no Notices of Motion today. "Notice of Motion for First Reading of Bills," there are no notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills. Fourteen, "Motions," there are no Motions. Fifteen, "First Reading of Bills," there are no First Reading of Bills. "Second Reading of Bills." The purpose of the second reading is to review the Bills clause by clause and to focus on the details. I'd like to recognize the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Darryl Shiwak.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madame Speaker. I stand before the Assembly today with Bill 2012-05, An Act to Grant the Nunatsiavut Government certain Additional Sums of Money for the Construction of Torngâsok Cultural Centre. I think the within the Committee of the Whole that we had in yesterday's sitting we heard a number of different views on the matter, and people spoke very passionately. Some was very emotionally on it and I don't think any of it was put above anything else. I think all views expressed yesterday are just as important as any other. I think all the issues raised are just as important as any other, and with those issues I think we have to work

together to try to solve the issues that are faced this government with whether it's housing, social development, economic development, and in the very near future, try to address those needs as well. But today I am putting this Bill to the Assembly for second reading, and I think having finance that it is feasible to do it, that we have the majority of the money in place to do it. And that we will probably not get a better chance to get it done, financially, or in the climate that we exist in within Labrador and Newfoundland and Labrador, and within Nunatsiavut with regards to labour forces. I think that we need to try to get this done right now. It is a very good project, and having said that, Madame Speaker, I move, seconded by the Minister of Finance that Bill 2012-05, An Act to Grant the Nunatsiavut Government Certain Additional Sums of Money for the construction Torngâsok Cultural Centre be read for the second time. Thank you, Madame Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The motion is in order. The procedure for second reading debate on the Bill will be any general comments on the Bill, and once that is concluded, we'll proceed with Schedule A on page four of the Bill, then clause-by-clause review of the Bill. So did anyone have any general comments on the Bill? Then we'll move into clause-by-clause. We'll start with A, the Schedule on page four. Agreed?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Then we'll go back to page two down to Short Title, where it starts, "This Act may be cited as a *Torngâsok Cultural Centre Act*, agreed on that clause," all agreed?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Number two, Interpretation, agreed?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Number three, Supplementary Appropriation, agreed?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Number four, Consolidation of Budget and a Supplementary Budget,  
agreed?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Appropriation, agreed?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Authorized Expenditures, agreed?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Commencement Five, agreed?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** That concludes the clause-by-clause review of the Bill. Does the  
Minister wish to conclude the debate?

**MR. SHIWAK:** Yes, Madame Speaker, I wish to conclude debate.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you. That concludes debate. All those in favour of a second  
reading of Bill 2012-05, all those in favour?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Opposed? Okay, now I have to have a head count by hand. If you could raise your hands for all agreed, please. Twelve. All those opposed? Four. The motion is carried. Accordingly, Bill 2012-05, An Act to Grant the Nunatsiavut Government certain additional Sums of Money for the construction for Torngâsok Cultural Centre has had second reading. We'll move down to the next item on the orders of the day, "Assent to Bills". Madame President, the Assembly has given second reading to Bill 2012-05 and wish to present it for assent.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Madame Speaker and members, as President of Nunatsiavut, I wish to assent to Bill 2012-05, An Act to Grant the Nunatsiavut Government certain Additional Sums of Money for the construction of the Torngâsok Cultural Centre, and hereby sign it into law.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Madame President. That concludes this sitting of the Assembly. The next sitting of the Assembly will begin on March 11, 2013. We're now adjourned.