



Nunatsiavut kavamanga  
Nunatsiavut Government

**THIRD ASSEMBLY**

**OF**

**NUNATSIAVUT**

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**FALL SESSION 4th SESSION 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> – SITTING NOVEMBER 18-19, 2014**

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**kAVAMALIGIJET**

**KAUJITITSIUTINGA**

**PARLIAMENTARY REPORT**

**In Attendance:**

**Speaker of the Nunatsiavut Assembly, Ordinary Member for Nain, Honorable Sean Lyall**

**President of Nunatsiavut, Honorable Sarah Leo**

**First Minister of Nunatsiavut Affairs, Ordinary Member for Makkovik, Honorable Kate Mitchell**

**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 Richard Pamak**

**Minister of Health and Social Development, Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Honorable Gregory Flowers**

**Minister of Education and Economic Development, Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, Honorable Patricia Kemuksigak**

**Ordinary Member for Postville, Tyler Edmunds**

**Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, Roy Blake**

**AngajukKâk for Nain, Julius Dicker**

**AngajukKâk for Postville, Diane Gear**

**AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque**

**AngajukKâk for Hopedale, James Tuttauq**

**Chair Person for the NunaKâtiget Inuit Community Corporation, Gary Mitchell**

**Chair Person for the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation, Trudy Mesher-Barkman**

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

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

**Director of Legal Services, Loretta Michelin**

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

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

**Clerk of the Assembly, Mary Sillett**

**Absent:**

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

**Director of Communications, Bert Pomeroy**

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

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

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

**AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Jack Shiwak**

**The Nunatsiavut Assembly proceedings**

**were recorded in Inuktitut and English.**

**November 18-19, 2014**

**Assembly commenced at 9:00 a.m. on November 18, 2014**

**Date:** **November 18, 2014 Day 1**

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nunatsiavut Assembly, and ask Wilson Jararuse to say the opening prayer.

**MR. JARARUSE:** [Prayer off record]

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Wilson. Before under the *Orders of the Day*, before we move to Item two, I would like to call the Assembly, if I could say a few words in honour of Labrador Inuit who served with the Canadian Armed Forces. Is that okay with the Assembly?

**ASSEMBLY:**

Aye.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Are there any nays? Nakummek. You know, some say there's no greater calling than answering the call to public office. What about the call to serve your nation and serve in our nation's military? It is my honour as Speaker of Nunatsiavut Assembly to recognize Labrador Inuit who have served in the military. This year is the hundredth anniversary of the First World War, and November is the month we stop to remember those who served in our country's military. As Winston Churchill said, "Never has so much been owed by so many to so few." Here I'd like to call out the names of people, Labrador Inuit, who have served in various forms and functions in our nation's military. Please bear with me. We're still formulating a comprehensive list of Labrador Inuit, and on a side note, if you do know of more, please forward those to Deputy Minister Lough. Here are some Labrador Inuit that have served and we'd like to recognize. Reginald Willard Blake, Northwest River, Happy Valley, Goose Bay. His father, Reginald, also served in the United States Air Force as a civilian. Rosie Lyall from Nain, Maria Lyall from Nain, David Harris Jr. from Nain, Victor Peter Lyall, Happy Valley, Goose Bay, Sabina Hunter, Happy Valley, Goose Bay, Amos Winters, Hopedale, Tama Jararuse, Makkovik, Sabina Flowers, Nain, Sarah Leo, Nain. Veterans: Joseph Michelin, Hamilton Inlet, John Shiwak, Rigolet, Thomas Flowers, Hopedale, Jonathan Ningajak, Saimat Flagg, Nain, Abia (Millie) Millik, Nuntak, Frederick Frieda, Hopedale, Douglas White, Nain, Levi Pottle, Rigolet, Barry Pottle, Rigolet, Greg Pottle, Rigolet, William J. Winters,

Manuel Party, Cartwright, Jordan Goudie, Oscar Michelin, Henry Groves, Grove's Point, Dan Groves, Grove's Point, Lee Stockton White, Northwest River, Sheshatshiu, Mary White, Nain, Philip Igloliorte, Nain, Henry Gear, Postville, and some that have served. Cyril Lane, Postville, Barry Sheppard, Postville, Jeffrey Pilgrim, Postville, Lyla Sheppard, Postville, Richard Gear, Postville, Amos Maggo, Nain, Elias Jerry Tuglavina, Nain, Mark Allan Hancock. And currently serving Cheryl Hope, Leon Sam Metcalfe. Remembrance Day is Memorial Day observed since the end of the First World War to remember their members of the Armed Forces who have died in the line of duty. We pause for a moment of silence to honour our own and all who have served so we can live in peace. Please stand for a moment of silence. Nakummek.

**ASSEMBLY:** [APPLAUSE]

**MR. SPEAKER:** Item two, "Opening Address by the President." I will now call upon the President of Nunatsiavut to do the Opening Address.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I thank you for your acknowledgement and recognition of our veterans. I think it was very moving, and I'm quite honoured to be amongst the many that have served our country. Welcome, everyone, back to the Assembly, and I look forward to a wonderful two days. I'm going to start off with caribou, obviously. Caribou is a big thing right now. Right now in Nain for those who aren't familiar, there are quite a few George River Caribou in the Nain area. I had recently sent an email out to the Assembly Members and asking them to consult with our beneficiaries with regard to caribou, their

knowledge of the caribou and their thoughts on, not only the approach we, as Labrador Inuit, have taken with regards to conservation of the caribou, as well as other factors regarding caribou. And I hope you all had very good consultations with the people who it's so important to. Recently, as well, in the week of October 20th I had the opportunity to attend the Ungava Peninsula Caribou Aboriginal Round Table, the UPCART. It was our fifth such meeting. We held it in Shetshatshui and it was again, it's always good to get together with the other Aboriginal leaders who have the same interests as we do in caribou and the conservation of caribou. Unfortunately, our meeting was cut short due to an incident in Shetshatshui at the time. But the commitment is still there amongst all of us as Aboriginal leaders to ensure that caribou are around for future generations. We are still working on the management plan, and we're hoping to get that finalized and off to the provinces sooner than later. And as you all know, Mr. Speaker, as you know, Mr. Speaker, in an effort to highlight the importance of promoting and preserving our very unique important Labrador Inuit culture, and to raise awareness of the cultural centre, following the ground breaking ceremony in Nain, the first week of September we held another event launching Illusuak in St. John's, the 16th of October. We were honoured to have the Lieutenant Governor, Frank Fagan, and his wife, Patricia Fagan, as well as beneficiaries from the St. John's area, various dignitaries, federal and provincial politicians, the Executive Council, as well as members of the arts and culture community of St. John's and

business and corporate leaders. We had probably a hundred and fifty people there. It was a great event. I think it was made much more successful thanks to the drum dancing and throat performances of the drum dancing group in St. John's, Solomon Semigak, Sophie Angnatok. The young boy, Clarence Anderson, and Tama, our own constituency officer in St. John's. They did an amazing job of entertaining the crowd, but even more importantly showcasing the drumming and the throat singing that they were very capable of doing. I think the other members that spoke about the cultural centre, Mr. Johannes Lampe, Caitlyn Baikie, also gave, added a lot to the evening, but it was a very well-received evening and I think everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. Obviously, one of not only in promoting the Labrador Inuit culture and highlighting Illusuak, part of the reason for the launch in St. John's was eventually we will be starting an endowment fund for the operations of Illusuak, and this was to get people interested so that they knew this was coming up and the interest was certainly there. Again, you know, Illusuak is such an important tool in helping us preserve and certainly promote our culture. And while the centre will be in Nain, it's always talked about that while it's just going to be a building in Nain; it's not just going to be a building in Nain. It's going to be a showcase for us, who we are as Labrador Inuit, and we're going to have the ability to take parts of the display from Illusuak to our beneficiaries wherever they may live, and I think that's a very exciting thing that we have to look forward to. Just recently on the weekend, the Creative Arts Festival Committee has engaged a consultant

to look at the future of the Creative Arts Festival. For those that aren't familiar, the Creative Arts Festival is for high school students, and it gives them the ability to perform originally-written pieces by themselves as well as learn different other types of art. They bring in various artists. So one of the discussions we had was the Creative Arts Festival and how it is right now. And, Mr. Speaker, with the theatre that's going in Illusuak, the talk of bringing the Creative Arts Festival to Nunatsiavut, either to one of our bigger communities that can hold such a large contingent like Nain or like Hopedale and have local artists be promoted, a part of the Creative Arts Festival, I think that's pretty exciting. Recently, I think in the last Assembly we had mentioned that there would be moose harvested for beneficiaries, again from Gros Morne. And I'm sure the Minister of Lands and Resources will have more to say about this, but I just want to congratulate the hunters that went down. They were able to get 47 moose, 47 large moose. There was a lot of meat come out of that. I believe right now the meat is being-, I'm not sure if it's done yet. I'll leave that up to the Minister, but it will be coming into our communities and hats off to the four hunters that went down and harvested the meat. That will fill the void for caribou on our tables. On the 6th of November I had the opportunity to meet with Premier Davis. I've been making it a point when there's been a new Premier in, and this is my third one in my short term that I've had the opportunity to meet with. It was more of, again, an introduction to talk about some of the concerns coming from Nunatsiavut and some of the programs that we've been working on. The



Premier was joined by the Minister of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs Minister Keith Russell, as well as Keith Hutchings, who is the Minister of Municipal and Inter-governmental Affairs. We had certainly a good hour to discuss certain things. Illusuak, of course, was one of the things. One of the previous Premiers had committed to financially supporting Illusuak. It was mentioned in the Northern Strategic Plan. The provincial government so far has fell short of living up to their full commitment, so I wanted to highlight that to the current Premier. We had some discussion on how they could possibly come up with the funding and we're hoping that maybe in the budget, their budget coming up in the spring, we may actually see a commitment from the Premier or from the Government of Newfoundland on that cultural centre in their province, more specifically, the Labrador Inuit Cultural Centre. We talked about the Land Use Plan. Again, no commitment from the province on that one. There was some discussion, obviously, on transportation services. The RFP's have been put into the province for the new ferry service. We're still waiting to hear on that. The province had indicated that it would be September when we might be hearing something. Obviously there is a delay. Part of the RFP for the ferry service is obviously the infrastructure in the communities is a big part of that. We're going to be bringing in new boats that are going to be handling freight, vehicles, and passengers all at the same time, and we're all familiar with what our wharves are like. There's not enough room. They're very congested, and some of them are just, the ports just don't have the capacity for certain sized ships. So

that's a big issue for us. So we wanted to highlight that with the province. We discussed housing. More specifically, the project that we have this year in partnership with the province with regards to their committing 350,000 and the Nunatsiavut Government committing 350,000 for repairs in Nunatsiavut. More specifically, Nain and Hopedale. When we had the initial discussion with the province, once they committed their funding for the repairs, they had indicated that their money should be, or will be used, more specifically, again, for Nain and Hopedale because they, like us, who are partners in the Housing Needs Assessment see that's where the need is right now. That's where we need to concentrate the money on. Seven hundred thousand dollars goes a long way with regards to repairs, but if you start breaking it up into small pots, then you're looking at nothing. While we were discussing that, this year's repair project, when it was initially announced there was some indication that it would be an annual thing. I mentioned to the Premier that that is something we are looking forward to and we would commit to making it an ongoing program. I also discussed the George River Caribou ban with the Premier. Mr. Speaker, as some Assembly Members may not be aware, the previous Assembly had met and talked about the ban, and we had asked the province not to put in a full ban but leave it as an Aboriginal hunt only. Obviously, they did not do that and they went ahead with the full ban and that's what we have to live with. But the Premier did say they remained committed to enforcing that ban, and we hope that they will live up to that. Conservation of the George

River Caribou is certainly very important to all of us. We ended off the meeting, or I ended off the meeting with the discussion on a cabinet-to-cabinet meeting. We have had the Nunatsiavut Government, the Provincial Government; have had two cabinet-to-cabinet meetings, face-to-face meetings. So I had indicated that we would certainly be willing to host the Provincial Cabinet in Nunatsiavut. Our previous meetings had been held in St. John's, and we would be open to certainly having that because I think it's important that our two governments who have so much invested in Nunatsiavut sit down as Ministers and talk about where we are and what we're doing. There was no commitment from the Premier on such a meeting, but after the meeting certainly Mr. Hutchings had indicated it would be good to have some of the Ministers come up. I also had the opportunity to meet with Chief Anastasia Qupee, the Grand Chief of the Innu Nation. It was a very informal meeting, more, again, as an introduction. As Aboriginal leaders within North Labrador, we certainly have, you know, to be able to sit down and have a chat, and we did that. Got to know each other a little bit and got to know each other a little bit more at the UPCART, and I look forward to working with Chief Qupee in a role as Grand Chief of the Innu Nation. And I want to thank you again for all being here, and thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, Madam President. Item three, "Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery." I wish to inform the Assembly that Deputy Speaker Patricia Ford and AngajukKâk Jack Shiwak have been excused from attending this sitting. For the information of the Assembly the pages are Tabea Onalik

and Colin Hunter. The interpreter/translators are Rita Andersen, Augusta Irving and Wilson Jararuse. Chess Evans is the IT staff helping out for this Assembly. As well, we'd like to recognize the OKâlaKatiget staff, Sarah Abel, and Johansi Tuglavina. If there are any questions around travel and logistics, please contact Hilda Hunter. I would like to welcome those in the gallery today and thank them for their interest in Nunatsiavut Assembly. Any member wishing to recognize visitors in the public gallery today? Item four, "Minister Statements." Are there any minister statements? I recognize Honourable Kate Mitchell, First Mitchell.

**MS MITCHELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Okay, first of all, I would like to update the Assembly on the meeting that we had with Keith Russell, Minister for Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs. We met with Keith Russell on the 28th of October, and it was a very positive meeting. Some of the things that Keith committed to taking to the Provincial Cabinet table on our behalf were funding for Illusuak, and hopefully he could help us out some way on housing. We also spoke about wood, and at that time Minister Russell mentioned that he was trying to get some wood for Upper Lake Melville as well, but the problem was getting the wood from where it was located to the dock. I don't think we, here, got anything completed on that because we didn't get anything back from him. Okay, in regard to implementation, the Implementation Committee met twice by conference to discuss the board's 2015-16 work plan and budgets and have responded seeking some further information. We expect to be able to prove the budgets at the next meeting early in February. The

implementation renewal negotiators held a conference on November the 13th. Nunatsiavut Government is preparing a proposal for the next 10 years implementation plan renewal negotiation. This proposal is being developed in consultation with our Department of Lands and Natural Resources and the Board Chairs. We hope to have this plan completed and submitted to Canada and Newfoundland by December the 1st.

Before we can table the plan, we need to get a mandate from the Nunatsiavut Executive Council to negotiate based on the proposed plan. The first negotiation session is scheduled for February the 11th, 2015. A membership workshop was held in Goose Bay the week of October the 20th. This workshop was facilitated by Veryan Haysom and Loretta Michelin. The workshop was attended by the Membership Committees and Inuit Membership Appeals Board. Our legal counsel member, Mark Gillette, attended as well. This workshop was a success and an opportunity for committee members to share issues. Many issues facing the committees were discussed and resolutions recommended.

Recommendations will be submitted to my department. Housing. The consultants for the Attic Retrofit Housing Repair Program is FGMDA. The Executive Council made a decision based on the needs assessment that the greatest housing needs were in Nain and Hopedale, and the funding that we had that was committed by Minister O'Brien was also earmarked for Nain and Hopedale. Assessments were done on 22 homes. There were some homes that were assessed but were outside the scope of the work. Because of the condition of the home, they needed structural

repair, or the homes had to be replaced. In reviewing the cost of repairs and the materials required, it was decided that we would do the Attic Retrofit Program which would mean blowing in insulation in all the 22 homes and do interior repairs to 3 houses in Hopedale and 2 in Nain. The list is completed and the materials have been ordered and were delivered to the dock for shipment on November the 13th. FGMDA is now issuing the tender for the work, and the contract for the work will be awarded in December and the work completed by March 31st, 2015. We will be lobbying NLAC for funding for another program next year that we hope will expand into our other communities. The Nunatsiavut Housing Strategy. A draft framework on housing strategy has been developed by the Inter-departmental Housing Working Group, and has been submitted to the NAC for a review during the next scheduled meeting, December the 9th and 10th. Illusuak. Phase I of the project has been completed, and materials are now being shipped to Nain for an early start on Phase II in the spring of 2015. Phase I is the site work, access road and pile driving for the foundation. We are continuing to lobby for additional funding required to complete the project and are hoping that the province will make a financial commitment. Transportation. A meeting was held on October 28th with all marine shipping stakeholders to discuss the remainder of the shipping season and set shipping deadlines for guaranteed freight delivery. There was a commitment from both the province and Nunatsiavut Marine that subject to ice conditions the Astron and Northern Ranger will continue to operate until all freight has

been delivered to Nunatsiavut. We are continuing to discuss with the province the issue of a new ferry for Nunatsiavut and to ensure that the necessary infrastructure is in place to accommodate the new vessels. The province still maintains that the new vessel will be in operation in 2016. That was confirmed by Minister Russell, and both the Northern Ranger and the Astron will undergo extensive refit this winter to ensure they're operational until 2016 and, if necessary, beyond that date. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, Honourable Kate Mitchell, First Minister. I recognize Honourable Darryl Shiwak, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources.

**MR. SHIWAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'll first give an update on the fishery file. The in shore SFA 4 and 5 Shrimp Fishery is now over. It has been a very successful season with designate landing all the SFA 4 shrimp allocation, 300 metric tons and 93 percent of the 1,043 metric ton allocation in SFA 5. The turbot's fishery has also ended for the season with four designates having participated in both the competitive as well as the communal turbot fishery. Due to unforeseen circumstances on the processing side, as well as weather delays, our total allocation of 69,000 pounds was landed in competitive fishery, and 278,000 representing 66.9 percent of the communal allocations landed. NG is actively working with stakeholders to hopefully address these issues for the next fishing season. The second year of a salmonid tagging program was conducted in Rigolet. A total of 65 salmon and 19 trout were tagged and released. Four salmon tagged recaptures were recorded all in the Upper Lake

Melville area. While the data is limited, it is consistent in that all recaptures occurring again in Upper Lake Melville. Mr. Speaker, the English River Counting Fence Project completed its season on October 9th this year. One hundred and ninety large, 839 small were recorded, as salmon, were recorded, for a total of 1029 salmon altogether. Arctic char from brook trout numbers were consistent with the previous year of 1670. The 2014 indications from English River are encouraging with salmon numbers decreasing over the previous year. We found that water levels and temperatures were favourable to returning salmonid this year compared to levels last year. Wildlife. Mr. Speaker, our moose hunt in Nunatsiavut is presently underway. As you know, we have a total allowable harvest of 35 moose. NG has distributed four licenses to each of the five communities and three to Upper Lake Melville. The remaining licenses remain available for community social programs as a priority, such as Community Freezers. Of the 35 moose licenses 4 have been filled yet today; 2 in Hopedale, 1 in Nain and 1 in Rigolet. During the week of October 27th, 2014, with the assistance of Parks Canada, staff of Renewable Resources Department, along with hard local hunters, as President Leo had stated earlier in your statement, successfully harvested 47 moose from the Gross Morne for the Community Freezer Programs in Nunatsiavut and Upper Lake Melville. That is an estimated total of 19,500 pounds of meat. The Moose Harvesting Program was first established last year as a means to provide an alternative source of country food to beneficiaries following the ban on the caribou harvesting



in Labrador. The moose is currently being butchered and packaged in Hawke's Bay and expected to be ready for shipping to Goose Bay by November 21st of this month. And once the moose arrive by road to Goose Bay, NG will begin to distribute to the communities shortly thereafter. Mr. Speaker, as President Leo stated as well, we continue to be concerned with the continued decline of George River Caribou and lower numbers in the Torngat Mountains Caribou Herd. I trust the Assembly Members have productive discussion in their communities with their constituents over the last couple weeks, and I look forward to the discussion we'll have later on today. Non-renewable Resources Division. Mr. Speaker, winter has arrived, and exploration companies have closed camp and headed home. Although the number of exploration projects was smaller as compared to previous years, feedback from companies has indicated that their programs were successful and to expect greater activity next summer. Aurora Energy's Michelin Project remains our flagship exploration project. After meeting with Aurora last week they have indicated to us that while Michelin remains a priority destination for exploration that the devalued price of uranium has forced them to skip the upcoming winter season. The company remains committed to opening camp in the summer of 2015, and expect that the market on uranium will strengthen over the course of the next two years with expanding nuclear demand in Asia. All of this to say, Mr. Speaker, that this might be the hardest of times for Aurora, but it appears that the worse has passed. In the meantime our government has taken a

proactive approach to understanding and promoting our mineral potential. Earlier this month I had a chance to speak at the Canadian Institute of Mining Mineral Resources Review in St. John's. We took a new approach to the presentation this year showcasing our potential as a mineral destination through positive examples, like Voisey's Bay, and the regional impact of the project on business and employment. At the same time the division has begun conversations with the province related to exact mineral lands and how they will be administered once lifted after the finalization of the Land Use Plan. EMLs or Exact Mineral Lands hold some of the region's largest mineral deposits, and most of which are located in our Labrador Inuit lands. The Non-renewable Resources Division oversaw the dismantling and the remediation of Mega Uranium Camps at Mustang Lake and Lake Michael. The reclamation of these sites is a clear indication of the success of our exploration standards had in making the companies more accountable for the camps after exploration is complete. Finalizing Quarry Standards. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to report that the quarry standards are now ready for consultation with our Inuit Community Governments and a quarry ministry in Nunatsiavut. Since 2010 we have been in negotiation with the province on these standards, and they are similar to the exploration standards in regards to mitigating environmental impacts, strict compliance measures where our sites are operated and maintained. In addition, they feature a unique section that promotes sustainable development practises by minimizing footprint of quarries on communities and their geography, as

well as controlling dust levels. The plan will seek feedback from the Inuit Community Governments and the quarry operators over the course of the next few months, and to have standards institutionalized in time for the 2015 quarry season. Other projects, Mr. Speaker, the Non-renewable Resources Division would also like to update you on two other projects. The Voisey's Bay Social Economic Study has nearly completed the data gathering portion of the project. To date, over 80 interviews have been conducted across 5 communities and Upper Lake Melville with current, past workers and as well as family members. Researchers from the University of Trent have agreed to do the analysis of the data under the supervision and co-ordination of the Non-renewable Resources Division. The plan is to have an internal report prepared by March 2015. The division is also partnering with Environment Canada and Inuit Pathways to offer marine and bird identification training, which took place in Goose Bay from November 13th to the 14th. In total seven participants from Nunatsiavut attended the training thanks to the funding from Environment Canada and Inuit Pathways. The aim is that this training may eventually led to employment in the offshore environment. The Lands Division. Mr. Speaker, our GIS specialist is involved in several important initiatives. He has been providing ongoing support to NG departments and filling the GIS duties. The GIS specialist is currently enrolled in a six-week technical training program called, "Going Places with Spatial Analysis." Some other initiatives include commitment to support the traditions and transitions among Labrador Inuit Research

Project. This is a joint venture between Memorial University and Nunatsiavut Government to research both long established traditions of the Labrador Inuit and areas of transition. The GIS specialist help with Google Map Up in the local high school. This map up was a joint venture with Google to use their online mapping platform Google map maker to enhance features in Google Maps through community of Rigolet. An application was submitted to Google to have Google Streetview Program visit each of the Nunatsiavut communities. Mr. Speaker, there are eight new land use applications submitted since the last report, all for cabins. Since the beginning of 2014 there has been 37 new applications submitted, mostly for cabins, while the rest range in from mineral exploration to archaeology. Several applications are in various stage of processing while six applications were approved during that time. Traditional 10-year certificates of title continue to be processed, approximately two thirds to date. The remainder require schedules from the GIS specialist continues to work on. Mr. Speaker, the land use planning process is stalled. We continue to wait for the province to provide us with details on their preferred version of the land use plan. The latest information from them is that information is soon forthcoming. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, Honourable Darryl Shiwak. I recognize Honourable Dan Pottle, Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology.

**MR. POTTLE:**

Nakummek UKâtitik. Mr. Speaker, as everyone is aware, the Nunatsiavut Government is beginning its budgetary process. All our departments have begun internal discussions on their departmental priorities, along with the budgetary requirements for achieving those goals. Under the Labrador Inuit Land Claim Agreement, Mr. Speaker, the Nunatsiavut Government's own source revenue capacity impacts the funding received through the Fiscal Financing Agreement. The federal OSR inclusion amount is phased in over a 20-year period based on the federal inclusion factor and our own source revenue capacity. Mr. Speaker, the first payment remitted in 2010-2011 was \$58,000 and has grown to approximately \$600,000 for the 2015-16 fiscal year. Mr. Speaker, we are pleased to announce that we have finally filled the position of Director of Human Resources. Jim Lyall started this position on October 14th and he can be reached by calling the office in Nain. We would like to welcome Jim Lyall back to the Nunatsiavut Government. Nakummek UKâtitik.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, Honourable Dan Pottle. I recognize Honourable Patricia Kemuksigak, Minister of Education and Economic Development.

**MR. KEMUKSIGAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Christine Nochasak has been hired by the English school board as Inuk Program Specialist, and she's situated in Nain the Jens Haven School. The curriculum centre is now moved to the Jens Haven School, and renovations are almost complete on the space and the material that from Goose Bay will be arriving shortly. On October 21st I had the privilege of attending the Pan Labrador Newfoundland Youth Choir concert at the Lawrence O'Brien Centre in

Happy Valley, Goose Bay. There were students from most communities in Nunatsiavut and choirs from Happy Valley, Northwest River and the island. The Nunatsiavut students were spectacular. They sang in *Inuttitut* and throat sang. They did us all proud. PSSSP Update. The Post-secondary Student Support Program continues to assist students to gain access to and enjoy a post-secondary education. Since the beginning of the term we have seen seven students discontinue their studies, mostly for personal reasons. We have continued to fill vacant seats with late applicants where possible. We are now processing applications for the winter semester intake. Mr. Speaker, the Inuit Bachelor of Education Program got off the ground in September with 12 students registered full-time and 6 registered part-time fulfilling the entrance requirements for the Bachelor of Education Program through the college of the North Atlantic. One full-time student discontinued in October for personal reasons. A new recruitment campaign is underway to see if we can get more interest in the program. Notices and brochures are being circulated within the communities on the Internet via email groups and Facebook, as well as on the radio and in newsletters. Our aim is to increase the number of students to approximately 22. A cultural consultant has been hired to work with the Inuit Bachelor of Education Program. Ola Andersen will begin her term of employment on November the 24th, and she will be located at the College of the North Atlantic campus. Mr. Speaker, graduation books. The PSSP Program has excess graduation books from 1987 to '97 and 1997 to 2007, which has been shipped to

each Nunatsiavut office for distribution to graduates featured in the books. Anyone wishing to have a copy of this book should contact their CLO in their community or by calling the PSSSP office in St. John's. In October a meeting between the Minister, Deputy Minister and PSSSP staff was held in St. John's. Mr. Speaker, I'd now like to do an update on Inuit Pathways. We have some very good news that we just received yesterday. The Assets Program, which is what funds Inuit Pathways, has been extended until March 31st, 2016. It was due to end on March 31st, 2015, so we have another year extension. So that's very positive, and we're hoping that it will continue. Inuit Pathways continues to sponsor clients in skills development and work experience. The numbers are on target for the budget, which is a combination of assets funding and Nunatsiavut Government allocations. Staff recently completed the mid-year dialogue with Service Canada staff as per agreement requirements. This exercise includes a review of the 2013-14 Annual Plan and monitor of the 2014-15 Annual Operation Plan. This is to ensure we are on schedule to meet targets and a review to confirm meeting the perimeters of the Strategic Business Plan. Assets staff attended the Inuit Human Resource Development Technical Committee meeting in Ottawa. This is a technical committee comprised of ITK and all Inuit asset agreement holders. This is an opportunity to review yearly progress, exchange ideas and best practises in serving the clientele. A main component is the opportunity to meet with Employment and Social Development Canada staff at the Director General level. That's where we receive our funding.

They presented concerns and received an update from the department. This is valuable even more this year as they were operating on the final year of the assets strategy, and they were eager to find out the plans, but we had just found out that is extended for another year. So that's positive. Mr. Speaker, in addition to this, Inuit Pathway staff also received the surprise invitation to meet with the Director General of the Aboriginal Program Operations Directorate and his team at the ESDC Office. This is an unprecedented request for an asset holder to meet with them one-on-one. Inuit Pathways staff, along with a representative from ITK, was joined by Deputy Minister McNeill via phone. This was an excellent opportunity to give feedback and what we saw is good and bad points of assets and where we'd like to see changes past 2015. There was also an opportunity to provide some context for Ottawa had quarter staff on how asset works for people in the north and a brief introduction to Nunatsiavut Government. Mr. Speaker, due to the success in meeting targets and budgetary management, Nunatsiavut Government assets, as administered by Inuit Pathways, has been put forward to Ottawa as a model assets program. This was further confirmation of the valuable work that has been possible during the five year asset strategy. Inuit Pathways is continuing discussions with companies and organizations to promote partnerships and potential employment opportunities. The partnership manager will be attending the Northern Exposure 2015 Event to promote partnerships. Preliminary planning is also underway with all other Inuit asset holders co-ordinated by ITK to have an asset-centred



event in the 2016 Northern Lights Festival in Ottawa. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, Honourable Patricia Kemuksigak. I recognize Honourable Richard Pamak, Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

**MR. PAMAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, everyone. I'm pleased to inform, Mr. Speaker, and Members of the Assembly that in September Francis Murphy was appointed as our new manager of language programs. Francis has worked with us before on language and brings a strong organizational experience and skills to our language team. I'd just like to add, too, Mr. Speaker, that with the addition of our former Minister, Johannes Lampe, and former Minister William Barbour, that our language team is at full complement staff with the exception of a program co-ordinator which is being advertised for the-, under the Labrador *Inuttitut* Training Program. In October we hosted Jeela Pallaq-Cloutier. Jeela is a national Inuit language co-ordinator for ITK. The Atausiq Inuktut Titirausiq Task Force was started in 2012 to look at *Inuttitut* language writing system standardization. There is a general understanding and acceptance that Roman Lithography would be able to unite Inuit better than just to say using syllabics. Jeela travelled to Nain, to Hopedale, Makkovik, to meet with language groups and understand Labrador Inuit concerns and standardization. Christine Nochasak and Sophie Tuglavina sit on a National Language Committee. We will be working with Jeela and ITK on major national language conference in 2015. In November our LITP program, Labrador *Inuttitut* Training

Program staff met in Nain to work on the final modules for the new curriculum. The team with our consultant, Elizabeth Gatbonton, from Concordia University are working closely with the Isumatat Committee, which does the final edits and proofing on all material. In the next month we'll be completing all 41 modules, and we will be working on training for program delivery by mid-2015. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to add as a follow-up to President Leo and also Minister Mitchell, in our ground-breaking ceremony at the cultural centre site in Nain, September 3rd, and as a part of our communication plan to build awareness of our construction and exhibit plans on the event was held in St. John's. On October 16th the Nunatsiavut Executive Council hosted the information session at the GEO Centre and an educational program at the rooms. At the GEO Centre the Lieutenant Governor and over 100 senior and government and business leaders were given a presentation followed by a reception. At this time I would like to thank both NG and the beneficiaries who participated in the event and helped deliver a high quality and informative evening. I would also like to thank the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies who provided financial support for this event. We need to continue working on ensuring we maintain a high profile in the capital city, especially now as we head into budget planning. We need the support of the province as a partner in our culture initiatives. Mr. Speaker, I would like to also report on the ongoing work of our Illusuak Planning Team. The task of finalizing our exhibit planning and contact development is enormous and requires the engagement of communities and the resource people to put together

the many themes and subthemes that will weave into a permanent exhibit. Malve Petersmann and Anita Kora will be working on gathering photos and stories over the next few months. We have also begun the process of partnering with all key groups to begin a programming plan which will involve outreach to all communities. The key element of the centre will be a professional theatre which will give us the opportunity to build our audio/visual collection and encourage the performing arts. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to also add that in partnership with Memorial University, a comprehensive application for cultural research funding has been submitted to the Social Science and Humanities Research Council, we call SSHRC. For the purpose of grounding our application to the SSHRC Partnership Grant Program, in the needs and interests of Nunatsiavummiut, we undertook a process of community consultations from September 23rd to October 17th visiting in each of our communities in the Land Claims Area as well as Northwest River and Happy Valley, Goose Bay. The consultations begin with a predetermination that we would develop the research project along three very broad themes: land, leadership and expressing culture. But beyond the broad themes, annihilated somewhat by the limits of expertise that researchers could bring to them, there were no preconceptions about the details of research that will be undertaken. We took as an overarching assumption that the research would need to be undertaken in a collaborative fashion to ensure that the knowledge of lived experience and the knowledge of objective inquiry would be integrated. We also entered into the

consultation committed to undertaking research that would have demonstrable benefit to Nunatsiavut beneficiaries and government. We expect to hear in May of 2015 if the application has been successful. Mr. Speaker, fall is an opportune time to conduct and do archaeological surveying. We were assisted this year by the partnership with Trevor Bell's research at Memorial University and were able to use ground penetrating radar surveying the grounds around the Moravian Mission buildings in Hopedale and in Hebron. The data collected in this ground penetrating research provides us with information on areas of interest that can be part of future archaeological digs. We're also able to do new research at Kauk, Hillsbury Island and Skull Islands. This research was supported by a drone which allows us to take pictures of the sites from multiple angles. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to add that in the next few months that our tourism staff will be visiting each of the Inuit communities to discuss opportunities to work together to improve experiences for visitors travelling in Nunatsiavut in ways that develop interpretive materials to tell our historic and contemporary stories. The Postville Tourism Heritage Plan was released to the community on September 29th. I attended the presentation in Postville and look forward to working with the community to develop new tourism initiatives. Mr. Speaker, we are also working closely with National Inuit Arts Initiative which will provide opportunity to support artists and in November, 2015, exactly a year from now we will be hosting the first ever Labrador Inuit arts exhibit and conference. The conference will provide opportunities to

showcase the variety of art made by our beneficiaries and will provide professional development and profile for emerging artists. Mr. Speaker, just to inform you that I attended the Inuit Studies Conference and which was held at Laval University in Quebec City for their Bi-Annual Inuit Studies Conference which was held on October 29th to November 1st. The conference included presentation on new research including several presentations on Nunatsiavut. Conference organizers accepted a bid by Memorial University to host the 2016 conference in St. John's, and we will work in partnership with Munn on the conference agenda and hosting. Mr. Speaker, researcher France Rivet launched a book on the story of Abraham Ulrikab and the CBC program, "The Nature of Things" filmed the story in Europe in late September with Johannes Lampe retracing the footsteps of Abraham with the author. This program will be aired in 2015 on CBC. Lastly, Mr. Speaker, Newfoundland NTV, I should say, commissioned filmmaker Garry Smyth to produce a four-part news series on Nunatsiavut for NTV News. I'm aware that three of these stories have been aired. Three of the four programs have been aired and a fourth will be later this month. Mr. Speaker, these items can be viewed on our public drive. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, Honourable Richard Pamak. At this time under Standing Orders 29(2) we have arrived at our 35-minute time limit. I would like to seek unanimous consent by the Assembly to continue with the minister statements. All in favour? Any against? Great. I recognize Honourable Greg Flowers, Minister of Health and Social Development.

**MR. FLOWERS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I guess our other Ministers were very busy and they take up a lot of time, but it's a good to put out the information to the rest of the Assembly. Mr. Speaker, I won't take up too much time, but I guess everyone knows that a new season is upon us again, and our clinics have been rolled out in Nunatsiavut communities as of the week of November 10th. Anyone still needing a vaccination is encouraged to call the public health office to schedule an appointment. All communities still have vaccines on hand for anyone who may have missed the clinic. Also, Mr. Speaker, our public health nurses attended a breastfeeding conference in Happy Valley, Goose Bay this month. The keynote speaker was Dr. Jack Newman who is known internationally for his work in educating healthcare providers to support mothers and families. He provided a two and a half day intensive breastfeeding education that the staff can take directly back to their home communities. We are continuing to work on recruiting a homecare nurse for Nain. In the interim a retired nurse has been working in on a regular basis to help the staff maintain the nursing programs. A team leader position has been filled in Postville. Barb Edmunds has been hired. So congratulations to her. Also a new day care operator in Hopedale has been hired, Franciska Mitsuk. Better known to her Hopedale people as Tabea. She has also joined our team so I'd like to welcome her also. We have a new day care operator in Postville. Her name is Janelle Gear. She does not have to have the full qualifications. Therefore, we have operated without a licence with a limited number of children. So, hopefully, we can get that

rectified and she go on to become a fully licensed operator. Our Family Resource Centre in Nain has a new commitment from the province. The centre is moving into a newly-renovated rental space from DNJ. This will happen in 2015. So that's ongoing work that'll soon be up and running again. The Aboriginal Head Start. This program funding has been approved again for three years. The agreement is from April 2014 to March 31st, 2017. The staff travelled to Fredericton on October 19th to the 21st for the Atlantic AHS Conference, as well as the staff travelled to Happy Valley, Goose Bay to observe the family centre model in action. The Language Nest in Hopedale. The Language Nest in Hopedale is having a successful year. We have six babies attending. Also in Nain we are a little bit more trying to get recruitments, but to this day we have four babies registered for the program with two more interested so, you know, be coming on stream same as Hopedale. So, Mr. Speaker, that's all I have for now. So thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, Honourable Greg Flowers. At this time I would like to recess, and we'll have a recess for 20 minutes, and we'll reconvene at 25 after 10:00. Nakummek.

*(Recess)*

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item number five, "Member Statements." Are there any member statements? I recognize Ordinary Member Dan Pottle.

**MR. POTTLE:**

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the Canadian Constituency and the Nunatsiavut Government, I would like to congratulate Gerald

Anderson of St. John's who was named as 1 of the 14 outstanding indigenous Canadians who have been selected as recipients of the 2015 Indspire Award. Gerald received the award for his work in environment and natural resources. Mr. Speaker, he has worked with the fisheries at Marine Institute of Memorial University for 27 years. His responsibility includes liaison with indigenous groups in Canada and the circumpolar regions. He has worked extensively with indigenous groups in Newfoundland and Labrador, Nunavut and Nunavik. Mr. Speaker, Gerald's work with indigenous groups primarily focuses on establishing fisheries and marine education and training programs. He has developed fisheries development training plans for Nunavut, Nunatsiavut, the Innu Nation, the Federation of Newfoundland Indians and the Labrador Métis Nation, now known as NunatuKavut. Gerald has worked closely with the Miawpukek First Nation in Conne River to develop and deliver a long-term fisheries and marine training program. The Marine Institute, Mr. Speaker, is increasing its presence across the north and strengthening partnership with indigenous communities. Gerald works to see youth gain employment in the fisheries sector and the marine transportation industry by bringing the training to those who would otherwise be unable to access the necessary education. Again, Mr. Speaker, we want to congratulate Gerald Andersen. Nakummek UKâtik.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, Ordinary Member Dan Pottle, Canadian Constituency. I recognize Ordinary Member Tyler Edmunds, Postville.



**MR. EDMUNDS:**

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize the high level of interest in the Postville Inuit Community Government councillor election. It was uplifting to realize how many individuals were determined to be involved in the decisions made by our municipal government and making positive contributions to the community. I'd like to thank those that put their names forward and congratulate the elected council members. I'm confident in their abilities and I'm sure that the next few years prove to be an exciting and challenging time for them.

Mr. Speaker, on November 2nd the Postville Running Club, also known as Aulajok tamamik held its first annual run and walk. This year we chose to offer a five-kilometre course. Club gave out racing kits which were donated by the Trappers Running Club and club T-shirts. Funding for our race and project was given by the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, and the club was extraordinarily grateful for their support. Mr. Speaker, we had 23 participants in the race ranging from the ages of 11 through 73. I'd like to thank Jim Goudie and Grant Gear for their assistance with the group throughout the year as they co-ordinated group runs and assisted in the details of our events. The HSD team in Postville also lent them an enormous amount of help. As well as the countless volunteers, the club is heavily indebted for their time and effort. Mr. Speaker, I'd also like to welcome back Pastor Canning to the community of Postville. He last led the congregation 12 years ago, and when hearing the community was without a pastor, put his name forward

and will now be conducting the church's services for at least the next year. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, Ordinary Member Tyler Edmunds, Postville. I recognize AngajukKâk Herb Jacque, Makkovik.

**MR. JACQUE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I'd just like to brief you on a couple of projects that's happening in my community. The arena is coming along well. It's going to be enclosed and winterized for this year. Our community fire hall should be completed by the end of the month, and I'd like to recognize a couple of individuals in my community. First of all, I'd like to congratulate Dion Rideout, our new principal. Our outgoing principal, Liz Evans Mitchell, I'd like to wish her a happy retirement and thank her for her 30 years of service to our community. We had a gathering for her on Saturday night, and it went very well. Also, I would like to recognize Marilyn Faulkner, who's just become our office assistant after Sheila Park left and moved away from our community. I'd like to thank her as well for her services. And I'd like to congratulate all the councillors on their election, and I look forward to working with them for the next four years. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque. I recognize Gary Mitchell, Chair of NunaKâtiget Inuit Community Corporation.

**MR. MITCHELL:**

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Ullâkut Illonasi. Since coming to the position as Chairperson on September 9th I have been keeping busy and getting myself familiar with the work that we do and the responsibilities and

administrative matters. There's always lots of interaction with beneficiaries in this position, as well as the Ordinary Members positions in Upper Lake Melville where we have a great number of beneficiaries. And questions continue to be asked by them regarding memberships, housing, housing repairs, wood from Muskrat Falls, Muskrat Falls jobs, communication/information flow, questions like when will the Nunatsiavut Government hold more meetings in the area, in Upper Lake Melville? Some of these questions I can answer, while others are beyond my capabilities and require other sources to answer them. However, I feel that each question that comes on our way needs to be answered. So please bear with me when I come looking for answers sometimes that I need information on. Since the September election we have selected a new Board of Directors for NunaKâtiget Inuit Community Corporation and have had several meetings. Our new board members are Eileen Burden, Leanne Hill, Sheila Saunders, Ruby Best, Jennifer Mitchell and Edward Mesher. They are a motivated board and have some good discussions on things in looking at new opportunities to pursue. One project that we discussed and we'd like to try is an agricultural project whereby we'll obtain a piece of land and plants some crops on it. Then get the beneficiaries who use our Community Freezer to help harvest the crops in the fall. These projects will help them get outside, good for their mental health and physical health and will help to supplement the food that they get from the Community Freezer. We feel this is something positive they can do, certainly worth a try, and hopefully we can avail of

some assistance from various sources to support this venture. Our first and foremost program, the Community Freezer Program, is operating well, although we still have to obtain some moose meat. We had obtained two licenses to harvest moose, one from the provincial government and one from Nunatsiavut Government, and expressions of interest were advertised. One license has been awarded, but no moose has been brought in to date. The second license is now being advertised to hunt moose in the Rigolet area, and the expressions of interest closed on November 28th for that one. Beneficiaries who use the Community Freezer are getting anxious for some wild meat, and are asking when it will become available. Hopefully we can also avail of some meat in the Gros Morne hunt before too long. I must add that in September there were a hundred and eight users of our Community Freezer, hundred and four in October. These numbers will probably go up to 200 users of the Community Freezer for one month when we get our meat in place. I'd like to acknowledge the \$10,000 grant that we received from the IKkajutet Board for the Community Freezer Program, and hopefully that'll be in our bank account this month as we stock up on some more food for the fall. Presently, our freezer is well-stocked with berries, including bake apples. We have lots of salt fish and corn fish, but no salmon from the hundred and fifty that we took in December. We do have some fresh frozen char purchased from Torngat Co-op for \$4.00 a pound, so it's quite costly to stock these kinds of staples in our freezer. We also have some **par** we just brought in from several hunters and they are a popular item.

With regard to the other programs which we assist with, like the Safe Boating Course, this one has been postponed now until spring as we couldn't find an instructor to do the training course this fall. As for the Firearms Acquisition Course, there was a course in early in November and then made an inquiry to try to get some of our beneficiaries on that course, but there were no seats available for the applicants as they were all taken. Another FAC course is slated for December, and beneficiaries are asked to call the college to inquire about getting seats to do the training. So this is something we'll be following up on because it's very important to our beneficiaries to get the firearms course to hunt to supplement their means. With regard to the Trappers Education Course, there's one coming up on 22nd of November in Goose Bay, and hopefully some of our beneficiaries who have had their name on the list will be available to take part. David Wolfrey will be instructing the course, and I'd like to acknowledge the support of the Lands and Natural Resources and Department of Education, Economic Development for their assistance and support to get the course done. Once completed this trappers course will enable the participants who are beneficiaries to be able to get out on the land, set a few traps which will supplement their income and keep them in touch with their culture and traditions. It's kind of sad, though, that we've got to have a piece of paper now to go out and do what you want to do what your forefathers did, but that's what it's come to, having that license to pursue trapping. On a final note, we are working with the DHSD community office staff to prepare for all

Christmas celebrations known as Nalujuk Night. This is always a fun evening and we invite anyone who's around at that time to drop into the legion and celebrate with us. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, Gary Mitchell. I recognize Joe Dicker, AngajukKâk, Nain.

**MR. DICKER:**

Thank you. UKâtik. I'm happy to report, Mr. Speaker that we are back in our office in Nain. This has been completed there in October, so we're all moved back in and back to regular business. At this time I'd like to thank the Ulapitsajet Committee for funding of our cemetery. Get the number for our cemetery and funding for materials to repair the foot bridge. And mostly the Inuit Community Government of Nain applied on its own for housing lots. And Ulapitsajet had graciously given us 30 lots which total to \$7.5 million. So thank you for that. With regards to the lumber itself it hasn't arrived in Nain yet. It's still at the dock in Goose Bay ready for shipping down to next Astron. So as soon as that arrives we will get to work right away on enclosing the new centre, especially before the winter sets in. With regard to the multiplex centre, Mr. Speaker, our consulting company, Atsanik Consulting and ASCI ATCO Company are now going to be meeting on December 1st to do a final inspection of the multipurpose centre. It was scheduled to be at the end of December, so they are ahead of schedule. And with looking at the deficiencies that might arrive at this part of this inspection, we expect to move in there at an earlier date than scheduled. So that's good news. With regards to the Charles Lake Project, that's still a bit delayed due to the fact that we are going to be using the, what we call the Old Dam as a backup for should

anything go wrong. We don't expect anything to go wrong, but we do need a backup. So we are waiting for one piece of equipment that should be arriving in Nain this week, and when that arrives we should be online to the Charles Lake water reservoir. Just a footnote to that, because of the new pressures that are going to be experienced, Mr. Speaker, by the community on the lower end, there is the issue of pressure reducing valve that needs to be put in place. Once this new equipment is put in, Mr. Speaker, our staff at NICG, Nain Inuit Community Government, will be testing houses from the Atsanik Lodge down, from one end street to the other to test the water pressure to make sure that, you know, if we are going to need pressure reducing valves in these sections of the community. And what we're going to do with the valves is going to be discussed at our next council meeting which is next week. The Fire Hall. Mr. Speaker, as we speak, is in its final stages of being painted. That should be completed as soon as the paint arrives from Goose Bay. It also is waiting for shipment, and that should only take about three, four days to do once it arrives. And then all the equipment that is stored at the new garage will be finally put back in the fire hall, and we should be ready for business there. Mr. Speaker, at this time I'd also like to thank Nunatsiavut Group of Companies for delivering the wood that they give at the gate to us this fall. First we had three trailer loads, and then the last time we had five trailer loads. All of the wood has been delivered. Thanks to volunteers and people in the community that came forward and picked up their own allotted wood that was distributed to them. And

at this time I'd like to recognize some volunteers that helped deliver the wood, the majority of the wood, I would say, just in the last two weeks, one of them being you, Mr. Speaker. And thank you for taking your time out from your work to help with that. I'd also like to recognize John Ikkusek from the Torngat Co-op who donated his time in the co-op's truck to deliver the wood. Without John, I don't think that we would have done this on a timely basis because the weather was cold and people were wanting wood. And with John, he delivered up to 100 houses. And also the other organizations, community, to be recognized are the RCMP, some of the town councillors and Pastor Andrews who helped deliver the wood. Our community enhancement program is now underway, Mr. Speaker. We just received \$17,000 from the provincial government. We are going to be able to help qualify six individuals with this \$17,000, but we are still 10 people short who are looking for their hours. So we did meet with our MHA Randy Edmunds. Mr. Speaker just today prior to coming here. No, last Friday, and he indicated that he would be going to seek some more funding. We are in need of another \$16,000 to help those other 10 individuals qualify for EI. If not, then next year these individuals would not be able to qualify them just because they would \$900 versus 420 that they need now. That's it, Mr. Speaker, from Nain. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, AngajukKâk for Nain, Joe Dicker. I recognize Jim Tuttauq, AngajukKâk, Hopedale.



**MR. TUTTAUK:**

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Approximately two weeks ago Hopedale Inuit Community Government finally had the new council sworn in. We have five members right now, and on Thursday, the 20th, we'll have an advanced poll for by bi-election for one beneficiary seat and one non-beneficiary seat. And between the first week of December and the second week of December we should have that bi-election and hopefully have the seven seats required. With the PCB Remedial Cleanup this year went really well. Hopedale Inuit Community Government was really impressed with the new contract with Senexen. There are no waste materials stored over winter this year. Everything has been shipped out. Senexen has been a very professional, excellent contractor. They've been doing this kind of remedial work for 30 years so we can always trust. We've been really impressed with their work. Approximately fifteen hundred tons of contaminated soil was removed from the area of the former base and our bio pile from three years ago that was stored down by our landfill site has been taken up and we use that to cover our landfill. Approximately 630 bags of contaminated soils were taken out in October of this year, but an additional 520 bags shipped out in November. Just recently I got back from St. John's for a meeting with the stakeholders of our PCB Contamination Committee. We discussed such options as our harbour, which has a lot of hot spots with a high concentration of PCB. We've come up with three possible scenarios on how to address the harbour. Two has to do with two different types of dredging and another option is capping. And we'll discuss this in more

detail when we get the public meeting scheduled in Hopedale here with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and Stantec, the environmental, and our group. As of this date, thanks to NGC, Hopedale has received seven containers of wood which is greatly appreciated for this community. For approximately four to six weeks now we've had a senior van on the go which kind of caught us off guard. We weren't expecting a van till about this time of year. We had ordered from Goose Bay Motors. The van is partially funded by the IGA and Hopedale Inuit Community Government, with the IGA donating approximately \$19,000, and Hopedale Inuit Community Government supplying the other \$14,000, which came to approximately \$33,000 for the van, which has seven seats in it. Right now we are struggling right now to keep that van going on a daily basis as we have to apply for funding to hire a driver. We are using our staff right now. Whoever is not busy answering the phones, I guess, is going around picking up seniors. And also we try to get to bring the people to the hospital flights and back. That's usually a tough one because the flights usually come in during dinner hours and our staff is usually off, but we try to get there. Mr. Speaker, our multipurpose building now, it's approximately 65 percent complete. All outside work has been completed. The majority of the work left now to do is the inside, like the electrical, drywall, etcetera, and we expect the target date of early May to be finished, and it looks pretty good for that. At this time, Mr. Speaker, I'd like thank you for the remarks you made on our veterans

and those who have served in World Wars. And it is something that we all should honour lest we forget. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, Jim Tuttauq, AngajukKâk for Hopedale. I recognize Ordinary Member Roy Blake, Upper Lake Melville.

**MR. BLAKE:**

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this time to say that I'm enjoying my role as Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville area. I've attended two graduation ceremonies since our last Assembly, one at the college of the North Atlantic for Concrete Frame Program. I would like to congratulate these graduates. Jerry Ford, Patrick Maggo, George Mogridge, and Kelly Okkuatsiak and wish them all the best in their future endeavours. Also the second graduation was with Academy Canada at a basic education. Brad Hurt, Brad Saunders, Lydia Tuglavina, Tabea Aggek, Wayne Best and Salome Jararuse. Now these students are ready to move on to post-secondary or trade programs, and I wish them all the best in their future studies. I have attended the funerals for the late Vilroy Hefler, Ambrose Aggek, Juliet Karen Pazzouli, and Maria Sarah Atsatata. I would like to offer my condolences and deepest sympathies to the following families: The Hefler family, Hefler-Elson, Mackey and the Dawson families, the Aggek and Obed families, the Hope and Pazzouli families. Bill Onalik and the Atsatata family. Mr. Speaker, I had the pleasure of meeting the late Regina Merkuratsuk many years ago. I would like at this time to extend my condolences and sympathies to the Merkuratsuk and the Dicker families, as well as Tony Mesher. I also want to thank Philip Earle and the staff of Air Labrador for their continued

support and assistance for these families that are dire straits to have to go to the communities for funerals. Philip Earle and his staff are to be commended. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, Roy Blake, Ordinary Member, Upper Lake Melville. I recognize Diane Gear, AngajukKâk, Postville.

**MS GEAR:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I want to give the Assembly a quick update on some of the projects that's going on in our community. First of all, the new fire hall is nearing completion with a completion date of January 31st, 2015. Our fire hydrant houses, the 10 houses that we started last spring they're nearing completion. The electrical is just about finished. Hopefully hydro will be in on November the 20th. The new water distribution system is completed, and we're also waiting on hydro to come in and hook that up for us. Hopefully that'll be up and running within the next few weeks. We had some problems with our holding tank, and that's the holding tank that's up on the hill, that's where the community gets the water from. We had a problem there on the weekend. We had freeze-ups, and that was caused by loose wire out on the pole. It wasn't bringing enough power into the building to keep the heaters going. So it caused a freeze-up and then caused the pressure in the community to drop. But, fortunately, our maintenance men were able to catch it in time and get some heaters, ordinary heaters up there and got our water back and got that out and water running into the community again. The new community centre is coming along slowly, but we got some setbacks with that now with the mechanical and the

electrical. We were hoping we was going to have that finished in December, but now it looks like March or April. Mr. Speaker, I would also like to thank the Ordinary Member for Postville, along with a few others, for organizing the running marathon in Postville. There was a good turnout and they're all looking forward to doing it again next year. Thank you very much, Tyler. I also wanted to thank everyone who put their names forward to be elected for council members. I believe there was 11 altogether. So we have a full council, and I'm looking forward to working with these people for the next four years. I also wanted to say congratulation to Sheila Priddle for being elected Deputy AngajukKâk for Postville. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, Diane Gear, AngajukKâk Postville. Item six, "Returns to Oral Questions." Are there any returns to oral questions today? Item seven, "Oral Questions." Are there any oral questions? I recognize Diane Gear, AngajukKâk Postville.

**MS GEAR:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. The PSCJ applied for a permit some time ago to get fine stone from a quarry on Postmill Lumber Road. A couple weeks ago we were told it would have to be brought to the Assembly. Can you tell me if this will be done at this Assembly? If not, when will it be brought forward? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek. I recognize Honourable Darryl Shiwak, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for the question, AngajukKâk Gear. I don't have the information with me today. I will provide it back to you tomorrow, and I certainly will get it for you. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. I recognize Joe Dicker, AngajukKâk for Nain.

**MR. DICKER:** Thank you. UKâtik. My question is directed to the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism. The Illusuak first stage is now over, or completed. But there is the issue of those piles are in the area where the skidoos going to be passing back and forth a route that has been traditionally taken by the community members. My question to you, Mr. Minister, is there going to be any barriers put up so that the individuals could travel past that area safely during the winter. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. I recognize Honourable Richard Pamak, Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

**MR. PAMAK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, AngajukKâk Dicker. Certainly we recognize the safety issues at the site. We are looking at purchasing some high visibility fencing to go around the site in the event that, you know, where this a highly travelled area by snow machine, and also that we've taken precautionary measures to bar off a certain area, as well, to avoid as much traffic onto the site. We are in the process of ordering some high visibility fencing, the orange fencing, around the surrounding footprint, and hopefully we get some of that material in as soon as possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I recognize Tyler Edmunds, Ordinary Member, Postville.

**MR. EDMUNDS:** Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. The First Minister has mentioned this morning that CA Nunatsiavut Marine and the provincial government have committed to delivering all the freights at the docks if ice conditions permit. If the ice conditions prevent this from occurring, will CIA Nunatsiavut Marine and the provincial government commit to delivery of goods through air cargo?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. I recognize Honourable Kate Mitchell, First Minister.

**MS MITCHELL:** Thank you, Ordinary Member, for your question. Yes, I, right now, as it stands right now, depending on ice conditions or weather conditions, they've committed to, you know, delivering all the freight, and we haven't discussed that. But I'm sure that if, you know, if weather conditions change as in whatever then, you know, that'll certainly be an option that we'll look at. Okay? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I recognize Roy Blake, Ordinary Member, Upper Lake Melville.

**MR. BLAKE:** Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Minister Shiwak. Earlier you stated in your Minister Statement that for the moose license there was four per community within Nunatsiavut and three for Upper Lake Melville. My question is for you, why only three for Upper Lake Melville? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. I recognize Honourable Darryl Shiwak, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources.

**MR. SHIWAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The way the allocation breaks down, with that community moose allocation is a TH of 35. It was brought to the Executive Council with recommendations how to allocate that moose. The allocation breaks down, and you're absolutely correct. There's four allocated to put into draws for the five Inuit communities, and there's three going into the draw for Upper Lake Melville. As well, we changed it up a bit this year. The extra moose, usually there's six in every community, but the extra two in every community is for social programming in the communities, and depending how the hunt goes in Nunatsiavut this year, that could change by community. As well, there's, besides the three in Upper Lake Melville, there's two more for the same purpose. And then the decision was based around this TH is for Nunatsiavut. And that's why you have seen more of an allocation within Nunatsiavut, as well. And you're probably aware of this, as well as within Upper Lake Melville, and you can participate in the provincial draw for those areas adjacent to Upper Lake Melville to hunt moose out of those provincial licenses. It's very difficult for someone from Nunatsiavut to travel to that area. It's quite expensive to do that. Those are some of the considerations that go into decision making. But primarily it's a TH of 35 for Nunatsiavut, and so we have the majority staying within Nunatsiavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Do you have a supplementary question regarding the moose hunting quota?



**MR. BLAKE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My understanding is that the third one yet is not allotted-, I could be wrong-, to anyone. Also this policy is now that if the moose are not harvested by February 25, 2015, the licence goes to the communities in Nunatsiavut. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Please proceed, Honourable Darryl Shiwak.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Could I get the Ordinary Member to repeat the first part of the question about the third? I'm not quite sure if I got that.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Please repeat the question, sir.

**MR. BLAKE:** I am under the understanding that the third one is not yet allotted to anyone, the third licence. I'm sorry. And as this policy is now that if the moose are not harvested by February 25, 2015, the licence goes to the communities within Nunatsiavut.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The question has been asked. Are you comfortable understanding the question, sir?

**MR. SHIWAK:** Yep.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Please proceed.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not quite aware if that third licence has been allotted to anybody in the Upper Lake Melville region. I certainly will check it out for you. The way it works, as I said, with those, with the extra licences on top of the three in Upper Lake Melville and the four in the communities, there was some consideration given, based on previous years' results, that those licenses could be re-allocated. And that's the best way we're going with it, and it's going to be evaluated as the year

progresses so. But I'll provide further clarification as well for that third licence for you in return to oral question. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. I recognize Gary Mitchell, Chair of the NunaKâtiget Inuit Community Corporation.

**MR. MITCHELL:**

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Education and Economic Development. I understand that your department in the past has supplied frozen char to the Community Freezers in Nunatsiavut. I understand that 13,000 pounds of char has been allotted to Community Freezers for this year. I'm just wondering if some consideration's been given to supply some fresh, frozen char for freezers in Upper Lake Melville. When we have to pay \$4.00 a pound to purchase char for the freezer it can be costly because that's one of the few staples that are healthy for the people, and we certainly like to get char in that freezer. But when you pay \$4.00 a pound, it can be costly. And I just wonder if there's some consideration given to allow us to come in on this frozen char that you contribute to the Community Freezers. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. I recognize Honourable Patricia Kemuksigak.

**MR. KEMUKSIGAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our department provided some funds to work in conjunction with Department of Lands and Natural Resources for char, and it was 10,000 pounds. I'm not familiar with how it was all distributed, but I will look into it and I'll give you an answer tomorrow in return to oral questions. Thank you for the question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Are there any more oral questions? Just give me a minute here. Thank you. I recognize Herb Jacque, AngajukKâk, Makkovik.

**MR. JACQUE:** Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the President. In the past you aware that the Makkovik Inuit Community Government applied to the Tasiujatsoak Trust for dollars for housing lots, and to my understanding we were lacking information. Can you provide something in writing of the information that we were lacking, please? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. I recognize Honourable Sarah Leo, President, Nunatsiavut.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Mr. Speaker, I don't think this is the appropriate place for me as a trustee to be answering this question. I'm sitting here as the President of Nunatsiavut. I would be more than willing to have the conversation with the AngajukKâk for Makkovik outside of this table.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. Are there any further questions? We shall proceed with item eight, "Written Questions." Are there any written questions? Item nine, "Returns to Written Questions." There are no returns to written questions today. Item 10, "Petitions." Are there any petitions? Item 11, "Responses to Petitions." There will be no responses today. Item 12, "Reports of Standing and Special Committees." Are there any reports of Standing and Special Committees? Item 13, "Tabling of Documents." I would like to recognize the Minister of Finance and Nunatsiavut Treasurer, the Honourable Dan Pottle.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek UKâtik. I would like to table the consolidated financial statements for the Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust for the year ending December 31st, 2013. Nakummek UKâtik.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek Honourable Minister. The document will be numbered as Tabled Document 01-4(3). I would like to recognize the First Minister, the Honourable Kate Mitchell.

**MS MITCHELL:** Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to table the policy document titled, "Access to the Nunatsiavut Assembly Building in Hopedale."

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable First Minister Kate Mitchell. The document will be numbered as tabled document 02-4(3). Are there any more documents to be tabled? If not, we can move on to Item 14. Item 14, "Notices of Motion." Are there any Notices of Motion? I would like to recognize President of Nunatsiavut, the Honourable Sarah Leo.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I'd like to give notice that Wednesday, November 19th, that I will move, seconded by the First Minister, the Honourable Kate Mitchell, the following motion: That Veryan Haysom, legal advisor to the Nunatsiavut Government, be invited to review the *Code of Conduct* of elected officials to the Nunatsiavut Assembly in a committee as a whole. I will be seeking unanimous consent to deal with this matter. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Are there any other notices of motions? Item 15, "Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills." There will be no notices of motions for the first reading of bills today. Item 16, "Motions." Are there any

motions today? Madam President, I understand you wish to proceed with the motion you gave to earlier.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** You have to forgive me, Mr. Speaker. We're just sort of going through the Standing Orders. I believe I have to ask for a motion to waive the 24 hours' notice.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Please stand by. Madam President, you'd like to add something?

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We're getting ourselves sorted out here on this whole procedure business. But at this time Honourable Speaker, I am seeking the unanimous consent to proceed with the motion today on the *Code of Conduct Review*.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. The President is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with her motion today. Are there any nays? There are none? Madam President, proceed.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and Honourable Members. Whereas the *Code of Conduct*, Inuit Law 2008-02 is an Inuit law that establishes a *Code of Conduct* including a *Code* of ethics and conflict of interest guidelines for elected officials of the Nunatsiavut Assembly, and whereas all of us, as elected officials, must be fully aware of their responsibilities as the leaders and how this law impacts on our responsibilities. And whereas the AngajukKâk elections were held on the 9th of September, 2014. And they have not, for the most part, had the benefit of receiving training on the impacts of the *Code of Conduct* and their responsibilities. Now,

therefore, I move by the First Minister, the Honourable Kate Mitchell, that Veryan Haysom, legal advisor to the Nunatsiavut Government, be invited to provide a review of the *Code of Conduct* to elected officials of the Nunatsiavut Assembly in a committee as a whole. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, Madam President. The motion is in order. Madam President, would you like to speak to the motion?

**PRESIDENT LEO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just briefly, when the Ordinary Members were elected in the spring, we did have a review of the *Code of Conduct* with the Ordinary Members at that time, and I had made a commitment internally that we would do it with the AngajukKâk as well because the *Code of Conduct* does apply to them. I think it's also a great opportunity, especially for the newer Ordinary Members who are new to office, now that they've had some experience as elected officials, to go over the *Code of Conduct* then and probably make a little bit more sense. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek. If no other members wishes to speak, or would like to speak, does the President wish to make final comments and close debate?

**PRESIDENT LEO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I just want to add, I hope the elected officials will take the opportunity of having Mr. Haysom at the table to ask him any questions or clarify any sections of the *Code of Conduct* that they may have. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Madam President. Well, that concludes debate. All those in favour of the motion say aye?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MR. SPEAKER:** All those opposed to the motion? The motion is carried. We are now in Committee of the Whole, and I invite the witness, Veryan Haysom, to address the Assembly.

**MR. HAYSOM:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Members of the Assembly. Congratulations to those of you who are newly-elected. I think I know most of you from previous lives or incarnations, although one of you, I don't. And for those of you whose names I've mixed up, I apologize. I think I was calling Tyler, Travis and Jimmy, Eddie. But anyway it's good to be back here. I don't have a PowerPoint presentation, but I do have the screen that I want to look at as I go through this to make sure that I'm covering what I intend to cover.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Yes, you had a question, Madam President?

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Just a quick one. I'm not sure if everyone has their copy of the *Code of Conduct*. Would it be easier if they had it, Veryan, for reference during this discussion?

**MR. HAYSOM:** Yes, Madam President. It would be easier; however, I don't think it's essential.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. On consultation with the clerk, right now, we'd like to prepare the Nunatsiavut *Code of Conduct for Elected Officials Act* and have them produced for all the Assembly Members. In the meantime

we'll break and adjourn again at 1:30, and we'll resume in Committee of the Whole, is that okay?

*(Recess)*

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Seeing how we got everybody here, we're still in Committee of the Whole, and in attendance we have Veryan Haysom, Legal Advisor to the Nunatsiavut Government. We'll proceed with giving us a presentation and review of the Nunatsiavut *Code of Conduct for Elected Officials Act*. You have the floor, Mr. Haysom. And just briefly before he starts, sorry to cut you off, seeing this is a Committee of the Whole, a somewhat informal affair, I'd like to wish Honourable Darryl Shiwak a very happy birthday. Happy Birthday. And on that note, Mr. Haysom, you have the floor.

**MR. HAYSOM:**

I note that nobody asked you to make a speech. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What I'm going to try to cover is not just the *Code of Conduct* but some of the context for the *Code of Conduct*. And I'm going to try to get to specific examples of issues that have come up and that I think are worth discussing. So if you'll bear with me I'll do a fair bit of talking, get to the examples, and then the intention would be that when we get to the examples is to see if there is discussion on the examples that I will give. They are examples based in reality. In other words, things that have really happened or are really happening. The place that I would like to start is the place where the *Code of Conduct* starts and that is with the *Labrador Inuit Constitution*. The *Labrador Inuit Constitution* starts off in Part I, or Chapter I with some founding principles, and one of the



founding principles, it's 1.1.3(n), which I think you'll find in the recitals at the beginning of the *Code of Conduct* if you want to see it there. Says in the whereas's, start of the *Code of Conduct*. And that's coming out of the *Labrador Inuit Constitution* which says in Section 1.1.3(n) that, "The *Labrador Inuit Constitution* and the Labrador Inuit political, social, cultural and economic institutions under the *Labrador Inuit Constitution* are founded on the following principles." It then lists a large number of principles. (N) says, "The understanding that the status, powers and functions granted to leaders and representatives of the Inuit of Labrador are entrusted to them for the benefit of all Inuit of Labrador in the expectation that leaders and representatives of the Inuit of Labrador will lead lives deserving of respect, be respectful and considerate of all people, give guidance, act wisely, fairly and surely in the exercise of their powers, seek balance and agreement in their decisions, avoid conflict and serve without showing favour or prejudice and without pursuing personal gain." That's a mouthful. There's a lot in it, and it's worth going through it part by part or phrase by phrase and unpacking it. So first of all what are the political, social, cultural and economic institutions under the *Labrador Inuit Constitution*? Well, we could probably find a lot of them, but the most obvious ones are the President, the Assembly, the Executive Council, the Civil Service, the Inuit Community Governments and the Inuit Community Corporations. And so this is speaking to all of you, and it's speaking to all of you in your different capacities. The one capacity you all have in common is that you are members of this Assembly. Who are

the leaders and representatives of the Inuit of Labrador? You are. You can go through your offices: President, First Minister and Ministers, AngajukKaat, Inuit Community Councillors, Members of the Executive Committees of the Inuit Community Corporations. Around this table, all of you are leaders and representatives. What are the status, powers and functions that are granted to you as leaders and representatives? Well, your positions or the offices that you hold are the main status, the main office, the main function and power that you hold. And, in fact, everything that you do as a leader and representative as a member of this Assembly, as a Councillor, as an AngajukKâk, as the Chair of an Inuit Community Corporation is a power or a function that's given to you under the *Constitution*. What does entrusted mean? These powers are entrusted to you. It means that the powers and functions and the status that you enjoy, the office that you enjoy, the positions that you enjoy involve trust and responsibility. What does that mean? What specific trust? What specific responsibility? It goes on to tell you what that trust and that responsibility is. The trust and responsibility is, is that you will use your powers and your functions for the benefit of all Inuit, not just for yourself, not for your friends and relatives, not just for your constituents, not for the business and economy of any community or any region. But for all Inuit. Operationally, in other words, when you're going about operating as leaders and as representatives, the question that you should probably ask yourselves whenever you are faced with a situation, a decision or an action that you're being asked to take is simply

this. Is what I am doing for the benefit of all Inuit? Or how can I do this so that it benefits the Inuit? That is what is being entrusted to you. That is the responsibility that you have. I think that when you look at the positive side, in other words, look at what it is that's expected of you, that's one thing. It's also helpful to look at the negative side. And the negative side is essentially this. What happens if people don't trust you? What happens if you lose the trust of the President? What happens if you lose the trust of the Executive Council? What happens if you lose the trust of your fellow members sitting around this table? And, ultimately, what happens if you lose the trust of your constituents? And I think that once you see things in those terms and the negative terms, you can start to understand that if you lose the trust of people who you are to serve, and with whom you serve, then things start to come apart. Things become difficult. Now in addition to the trust and the responsibilities that are placed in you, the *Constitution* goes on to say in 1.1., what is it? 3(n) that there are certain expectations and, as leaders, you are expected to do certain things, and there's a list. "Lead lives deserving of respect. Be respectful and considerate of all people. Give guidance. Act wisely, fairly and surely in the exercise of your powers. Seek balance and agreement in your decisions. Avoid conflict. And serve without showing favour or prejudice and without pursuing personal gain." All of those are important, but I think that the first and the last are probably the most important. The last of those has three elements. If you look at it closely, it says three things. It says you must not favour particular people over

others. What you do for one you do for all. It means that you must not treat certain Inuit or groups of Inuit in a different way because of personal characteristics that they have no control over. That's prejudice. And it also says that you cannot use your position or status for your own personal benefit. And those are expectations. So you have a principle that contains expectations in it. This is what we expect of our leaders under the *Constitution*. I pointed out that the first of those is important, and I think that the first of those is in the end the most difficult of all. It is a real, real intrusion into your personal lives. You are expected to lead lives deserving of respect. There are many questions about what does that mean? Why do you respect people? Some people are respected for their achievements. Some people are respected for what they do. And others are respected for their qualities. And I think that while this speaks to all of them, the most important of the three is qualities, personal qualities, and personal characteristics. Now that's not all that the *Constitution* has to say that leads into the *Code of Conduct*. In addition to laying out what the principles are and the expected behaviour is for all leaders, the *Constitution* goes on to say a couple of other things. One is in Section 4.3.7 of the *Constitution*, and this is not in the *Code*, says that, "A member of the Assembly can be removed from office on the grounds of unethical or immoral behaviour [and then it says] including a serious breach of any *Code of Conduct*, including the *Code of Ethics* and conflict of interest guidelines that may be established by the Assembly for its members." Now there could be a lot of debate about what is immoral or

unethical behaviour. But the *Constitution* makes it very clear that you can be thrown out of office, can be removed from office for unethical or immoral behaviour, and immoral and unethical behaviour includes a serious breach of the *Code of Conduct*. The *Constitution* also goes on to say in Section 4.3.7, sorry, in 4.22.1 that, "The Assembly must [and it uses the word must] establish a *Code of Conduct* including conflict of interest guidelines for the members of the Assembly, the Nunatsiavut Executive Council, Inuit Community Governments and Inuit Community Corporations." And that brings us then to the *Code of Conduct* proper. So just to be clear about where the *Code of Conduct* comes in, the *Code of Conduct* comes in because the *Constitution* requires you to have one. It comes in because it realizes, the *Constitution* realizes that things like acting ethically, leading lives deserving of respect, are abstract ideas, and that what people really need in life are rules, rules of behaviour so that you understand exactly what is expected of you and also consequences. What happens to you if you don't follow the rules? And the *Code of Conduct* then takes us to that next level. In taking us to that next level, the *Code of Conduct* is also very general. It's still got a level of generality. And I think that one of the most difficult things is taking all of these general principles and the general rules of behaviour that is set out in the *Constitution* and in the *Code of Conduct* and making them work in the real world. And I'm headed towards the real world. I'm going to get there, but first I want to go through the *Code of Conduct*. The *Code of Conduct* is a set of rules that outline the kind of practises that are

considered to be correct or proper practises. It puts, to a certain extent, as much as probably can be done, the question of whether or not something is proper behaviour beyond debate. There are always going to be questions of interpretation. There are always going to be grey areas. But for the most part, the basic rules are there. These are the standards of behaviour that you must live by. The *Code*, first of all, starts out with a statement of its purpose. So why are we going through all this anyway? And the purpose of the *Code* is set out as being to affirm that service in the Nunatsiavut Assembly, or the Executive Council in a community government, or in an Inuit Community Corporation, is a public trust. The purpose is to maintain confidence in the integrity and value of Inuit self-government and its officers. And you are its officers and its institutions. This Assembly is one of its institutions as is the Executive Council. If people don't think that this is an organization that operates with integrity, if people don't think that this is an institution that can be trusted, if people don't think that you are here for them, then self-government is a failure. There will be no confidence in you or in self-government or in this place. One of the purposes is to hold elected officials to standards that place the public interest ahead of private interest, and to set out rules that help you to do that. It is also intended to provide the means by which questions about the conduct of elected officials can be raised and addressed. In other words, dealt with. And it's intended to ensure that elected officials are held accountable if they violate the *Code of Conduct*. This is serious business, but it's serious

business for a noble public purpose. The first basic rule of the *Code of Conduct* is, is that when you are performing your functions and duties; you must do so in accordance with the *Constitution* and with the *Code*, as well as with your oath of office. The main rule of conduct is that every official must act with integrity. That's a fairly simple statement, but it's a loaded statement. It then goes on to explain what is loaded into the statement. Acting with integrity includes, and this is not a complete closed definition, acting with integrity includes being honest, being truthful, being trustworthy, avoiding illegal conduct, acting fairly and free from prejudice, acting without self-interest, placing loyalty to the highest moral principles above loyalty to other members of government, family, friends or constituents. Serving only the public interest of the governments in which you serve, giving full and dedicated thought in return for the pay and benefits that you receive. Never making private promises or giving special favours or privileges to anyone, and refusing favours or benefits for yourselves, your families and the circumstances that could reasonably be considered as influencing the performance of your official functions, and using and spending allowances, expense accounts and credit cards solely for the purpose for which they are granted. There's a lot in that, and we could spend a decent amount of time going through each one of those. But I want to highlight three or four. The first is (f) Acting without self-interest. Acting without self-interest means, effectively, acting always in pursuit of your duties in pursuit of your job in pursuit of your mandate. Not acting in such a way

that it advances your interests. That can be a very fine line for a politician because a politician's interests often lie in being re-elected. And if you are determined to be re-elected as a politician, you will be tempted to do things that appear to be for the benefit of others, but which you are doing in order to benefit your chance of being re-elected. In order to deal with that aspect of it, the *Code* says you must never make private promises or give special favours or privileges to anyone. And so what happens there is that you are looking at a situation very often where a constituent comes to your office looking for help. And one of the things that you do in your positions is what is often referred to as case work. Case work involves helping your constituents through the maze of government regulation or through government systems and government departments, or even through private industries, to help them get what it is that they are entitled to. And case work can take up a lot of an elected politician's life and time. That's fair game. There's nothing wrong with that. Where it becomes a problem, however, is where the elected official is in a position to do something special for the sad case or the person in need of help. Bend a rule. Provide special access or provide a special service. And at that point you have crossed a line. You're no longer acting in the public interest or for the benefit of all Inuit, nor are you acting in a way that is fair and even to all. You're acting in a way that's special and that's singled somebody else out for a benefit. And usually you're doing that in the hopes that they will think well of you when it comes to election time. So that is (f) and (j). The next one I want to take



a look at is giving full effort and dedicated thought in return for the pay and benefits that you receive. As elected leaders, and as elected representatives, ultimately, nobody is looking over your shoulder. To the extent that the system is looking over your shoulder, it's a system that you're in charge of, that you've helped create, and that you can influence because you're in a position of influence, you're in a position of power, you're in a position of authority. So it is very easy when you don't have a supervisor or a direct boss to knock off work and to head out and do something like the repairs to your engine, fixing your roof, getting your skidoo lined up for the trip that you're going to take on the weekend, and spending an afternoon doing that. This particular element of acting with integrity, of giving full effort and dedicated thought in return for the pay and benefits that you receive, is another way of saying if you're being paid by us you must be on the job for us. If you're using Inuit money as your income, then that income must be earned, and it must be earned honestly, and it must be earned in a trustworthy manner. And knocking off to go and work on your boat or on your roof or on some other personal business while you're being paid to do a job as a member, as a representative, as a minister as an AngajukKâk is just not on. That is not acting with integrity. And then the last is that acting with integrity involves using and spending allowances, expense accounts and credit cards solely for the purpose for which they are granted. That is fairly obvious, but it is also very tempting on occasion to use a credit card to use an expense account or an allowance to cover a personal item, or to

cover personal items, with the intention of doing adjustments later on and squaring things up. But really what you're doing is making use of government property for your own purposes. That's not why you've been entrusted with government property. That's not why you've been entrusted with credit cards, expense accounts and allowances. And so it is, even for a short time, even if you do remember to do the adjustments and balance the accounts, it is for that short period of time a misuse of funds. The next major rule now that you're all, or we're all acting with integrity is acting without conflict of interest.

**MS KEMUKSIGAK:**

Veryan, could I ask you a question before you go on again? In item (j) when you were talking about people looking for help and doing case work, could you give, like, an example because sometimes I find if I have an example it helps me better.

**MR. HAYSOM:**

I will be getting into that more later, Patricia. But to help you at this point, an example might be that you have a person come to your office as a senior citizen saying my next door neighbour is also a senior citizen and they're getting a monthly cheque from the government that's twice as big as mine. Am I missing something here, or is there something that you can help me with because I'm desperately short of money and I need help. And case work would involve in that case making sure that the constituent was filing a tax return, filing a tax return not necessarily because they owe taxes, but in order to make sure that they are accessing and providing the information that's necessary to access the Old Age allowance and the guaranteed income supplement and, also, the

refunds that governments, I'm not sure which ones you get in this province, but also the refunds that you get, both in relation to taxes and in relation to heating allowances and things like that. So you've got a constituent who comes in looking for help and you take up their cause. You identify what they may be entitled to. You identify what they may not be picking up on that they're entitled to. You send them in the right place to help them get what they're entitled to. You provide them with the information. Perhaps you even go with them to a government office, although that may be going a little bit beyond the call of duty. But at the point at which you then start to say all right, I'll use my constituency allowance to help you with your current food bill, you've gone beyond case work. You're now using a constituency allowance, which is an allowance that was given to you for a specific purpose, you're bending the rules and you're using it for somebody else's benefit to give them preferential treatment.

**MR. KEMUKSIGAK:** I understand.

**MR. HAYSOM:** Okay?

**MS KEMUKSIGAK:** Yes.

**MR. HAYSOM:** All right. So if acting with integrity involves all of that sort of thing, the next major rule is acting without conflict of interest. And acting without conflict of interest really is a variation on the rules that you've already looked at. If you're acting with a conflict of interest then you're acting without integrity. If you are acting in such a way as to benefit yourself,

then the chances are you're acting in a conflict of interest. But conflict of interest is a whole set of rules of its own. And so what we see in the *Code* is that elected officials must carry out their official duties without consideration of their private interests. So that's the basic rule. When you're carrying out your official functions you do not consider your own private interests. And in addition to that, you must live by the conflict of interest rules. And the conflict of interest rules are spelled out in Part III of the *Code of Conduct*, and we'll get to them. The next rule is to avoid discredit. And really this is just another side of the same coin. Elected officials must not engage in personal conduct, and this is your personal lives, that would tend to bring discredit to your offices. In other words, an ordinary member of the Assembly must not act in such a way in his or her personal life that it would tend to reflect badly on elected representatives or on the person as an elected representative as a member of this Assembly. And avoiding discredit, and this is, again, not a definition just a list of some of the things that are included includes upholding the *Constitution* and Inuit laws. And never being a party to their evasion. Avoiding political correction and refusing to participate in political practises that tend to undermine the democratic traditions of the Inuit or/and the Inuit *Constitution*. It involves obeying the zero tolerance rules that is set out in Part IV. It involves responding to constituents, other elected officials and public servants in a timely way ensuring that constituents and staff know where you are when you're on the job, and that's particularly so when you're travelling. Not when

you're travelling for yourself, obviously, but travelling on official business, and it involves promoting and supporting ethical public conduct by the leadership through example and by following the *Code of Conduct*. The next rule is the proper use of public property. Involves the public use of public property. And the rule is that elected officials must not use or allow the use of government property for purposes of patronage, private favour, personal enjoyment benefit or gain or any purpose for which it is not intended. And then it goes on to say what is included in government property and, again, this is not a complete definition but a list of things that are included. Assets, funds, money, allowances and credit cards, information, telephones and photocopiers, computers and internet and email services. I think that that list is a list that is designed to point to the things that are most easily abused, but the list could go on. For example, government offices or government assets and government property. And if you're using a government office to carry on your own business, particularly if it's an unethical or illegal business, that is wrong and wrong and wrong again. The next rule is a rule of courtesy and respect. Elected officials must treat colleagues, each other, constituents, public servants, and members of the public with the courtesy and respect that is their due. Somebody who is being abusive towards you is probably not due a lot of respect, but nonetheless they are entitled to some. In the absence of somebody being abusive towards you, your basic operating rule is to treat others with respect. No magic in that. The next basic rule is responsibility, accountability and transparency. And for elected officials

you are expected to be responsible, accountable and transparent in all your official business, particularly when you're dealing with public resources. And so, for example, if you are on a business trip that is paid for by the Nunatsiavut Government, being responsible means that you attend the business for which you have gone out. Being accountable means that you account for the money that you spend on going out on the business trip, and being transparent means that you tell people what it is that you did, what it is that you learned and why, effectively, it was for the benefit of all Inuit. In the absence of reports back on trips taken, in the absence of full accounting for the costs and expenses, and in the absence of really attending to the work, you're in breach of the rule for responsibility, accountability and transparency. Of the list that's there, one of the acts that is asked of you to be responsible, accountable and transparent is in (c) that when making decisions you make your decisions based on fair procedures, factual information, merit and the law, particularly when you're making appointments, awarding contracts or recommending individuals for awards or benefits. You're expected to answer for your official actions. And you're expected to co-operate fully if somebody questions how you have behaved. And, lastly, you are expected to inform constituents how you are spending government money and allowances received from the government, giving reasons for why you travel, how much money you spent in travel expenses and what it is spent on. And whether or not somebody asks you for that, you've got an obligation to be doing it. There's a tendency now or a tradition

starting now, started by some members of Parliament of posting their expenses online so that everybody can see them. It's a practise that's been started in Parliament by one Parliamentarian and it's been followed now by more and more. However, how you do that is up to you. How you account to your constituents for what it is that you're getting, personally, that you're personally responsible for is left up to you at this stage. I think that that brings us to Part III which is the Conflict of Interest Rules. And the Conflict of Interest Rules are highly detailed and are very complex. The basic principle is simple. And the basic way of proceeding is simple. The conflict of interest arises when a member exercises an official power or performs an official duty or function and at the same time knows that there is an opportunity to further his or her own private interest. So the first problem that is faced here is is that as how does anybody else know what you know? How does a member sitting around this table know what is in my mind, what I know? And you don't. No matter how hard you try unless, of course, you use water boarding or some other torture, no matter how hard you try, you're not going to know what is in my mind and what it is that I know. And so the great trick with conflict of interest is the trick of trust and the trick of expecting people to do the right thing. And a conflict of interest is something that you declare. It's not something that you wait for somebody else to see or to discover because, by the time they see what's going on or discover what's going, it's too late. Which brings us to the second great trick, or the second great secret with conflicts of interest. The person who has

the conflict of interest is the first one to know about it always. You know what's going on before anybody else when it comes to your own interests. That's the first trick. You're responsible. You must come clean. The second great trick about it is is that when you do come clean, you head off the problem. You say I have got a conflict. You say I want it recorded on the record that I've got a conflict. And then you remove yourself from any further participation in the action or the decision. Now there's a lot of detail as to how a conflict of interest may arise. Without getting bogged down in the rules, there are two main issues that you need to be aware of. One is that if somebody is closely related to you, or a member of your household, and they've got an interest in the power that you're exercising, the action that you're taking, or the decision to be made, then in that case you've also got a conflict of interest. You can't be in a situation where a close family or close household member will benefit from your decision or action and carry on making the decision and action without first declaring a conflict of interest. The second and more difficult side of this is where there's an apparent conflict of interest. A seeming conflict of interest. And those arise where people may see, may perceive you to have a conflict of interest although, in fact, you don't. And so if that kind of a situation arises, you have to be extremely careful. You're more likely to find out about those kinds of perceptions from somebody else rather than as a result of your own knowledge and judgment of the situation. But as soon as they arise, as soon as somebody says I think you may have a conflict of interest here, all of the



lights go on, all of the red lights. Stop and take a look. And if there's a perception that there's a problem, then you should probably treat it as being a real problem, whether or not it is, in fact. There's a saying that everything in politics is perception, or perception in politics is everything. If you're perceived to be on the take, if you're perceived to be self-interested, whether or not you are, starts to become immaterial. In politics that's taken as the real indicator. Next briefly on Part IV, which is the so-called Zero Tolerance Rule. And this is a rule that extends really into your private lives, but it is a rule that is based very strongly on wanting to avoid the perception that elected officials abuse alcohol, abuse drugs and are either under the influence of alcohol or the influence of drugs when they are carrying out their business and their functions as elected representatives and leaders. It should not require saying that that is clearly unacceptable behaviour. As unacceptable behaviour, it has been given a special status and that is it's being called zero tolerance rule. And what the zero tolerance means is is that when it comes to doing something about the problem, you will not get the same kind of extended fair consideration that you might receive in other circumstances, but it's going to involve cutting straight to the chase. So what are the other circumstances, and in order to look at that you have to look at the section dealing with implementation. And generally the way the implementation proceeds is that anyone who believes that the *Code of Conduct* may have been breached can apply to the speaker through the clerk to look into it. The speaker gets to screen the complaint and decide if it's got any real

merit to it. If it may have merit to it, or if it's just frivolous and harassment. And the speaker gets to do a screening job for all applications of breach of conduct of the *Code* except for the Zero Tolerance Rule. And in that case it's treated immediately as being serious. And all serious cases are referred to a committee of the Assembly. It's not a standing committee. It's a disciplinary committee which is an ad hoc that's convened in the case to deal with the case, which then has the power to suspend or recommend removal. And the removal is then, if recommended, something that is done by the Assembly because ultimately the Assembly, under the *Constitution*, is the body with the power to remove elected representatives from office. So that is the *Code of Conduct*. In brief, I've emphasized certain aspects.

**MR. SPEAKER:** You have a comment, Madam President?

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Yes. It sounds like you're wrapping up on this document. Can you quickly go over extra benefits and protocol gifts because I deal with protocol gifts a lot, and I'd just like to go over that for clarification.

**MR. HAYSOM:** Yes.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you.

**MR. HAYSOM:** If you go back to the basic principle that elected representatives are expected to give their full thoughts and attention to the jobs for which they are paid, then a question comes up what if somebody else is giving elected representatives benefits, gifts, awards? And why are they giving elected representatives these kinds of benefits, gifts and awards? The

what if goes to the question of loyalty. And goes to the question of where your first responsibility lies, and it also goes to a question of perception. If an elected representative receives an offer from the owner of an outfitting camp to take them and their family to spend a week at the outfitting camp hunting and fishing, that is a very real benefit, and the question is how is that perceived? And one of the dangers that you face is that that gets misunderstood and it's perceived as if you are now in the service of or beholden to or, in some way, owe something to the person who gave the benefit. And so if issues come up involving land use or allocation of resources or allocation of leases and licenses to outfitters, will you somehow have your judgment impaired? Will you have loyalties that you owe to somebody in the business? Or will you be acting in the best interests of all Inuit? As lawmakers, which is one of the primary functions, if not the primary function that you have in this Assembly, industry and private interests will always lobby you. They will always want to influence your decisions and influence the laws that you make and the regulations that you make. And influence comes in many ways. A lot of it comes in the form of well-researched, well-argued and persuasive cases that are made to you. And influence also comes by doing you favours by easing the path to certain things by making life easier for you. Not necessarily directly but, quite often, indirectly. And it is that kind of influence, the influence of providing you with personal benefits, that this rule is intended to head off. So what the rule says is "accepting extra benefits, a member must not accept a fee, payment, gift

or personal benefit except compensation authorized by the government or board that is connected directly or indirectly with the performance of his or her duties of office." So the basic rule is you can't accept any gifts or rewards. There's one exception to the basic rule, and that is you can accept payment from the government for which you work or the board for which you work. One exception. So any other gift that's given to you is a problem. But then there's a second exception. And the second exception is protocol gifts. And 3.12 says that the previous rule, the rule in 3.11, "does not apply to a non-monetary gift or personal benefit that is received as an incident of the protocol or social obligation that normally accompany the responsibilities of office." Protocol gifts are always difficult, and there are some follow-up rules on them. One is, is that if you're receiving protocol gifts you have to disclose them. And the second is, is that if they're valuable protocol gifts that are not consumables, in other words, if they're things, like sculptures or paintings, that you then hand them over if that is the will of the Assembly. And you hand them over, basically, to the government. So protocol gifts are difficult. They're a grey area, but there are two default settings. One is, is that you're transparent about them, and if you're receiving gifts, either one gift or gifts, over a period from one source worth \$250 or more, you disclose that. And the second is that if it's a thing that you have received that is of significant value, you bring that to the attention of the Assembly which then decides how you dispose of it. Protocol Gifts. Protocol gifts are things that are sometimes very simple and very obvious and that nobody

would question, which is why they're allowed. The President is meeting with the Premier of the Province. And the Premier says why don't we meet for breakfast, my treat. And the Premier pays for your President's breakfast. It's a gift. It's a benefit. Is anybody going to fuss about that? No. And, specifically, as a protocol gift it's allowed. The President or First Minister is invited to go to the north slope for an icy sea meeting and there is an exchange of gifts. The First Minister receives the gift of a carving. Do you say, no, sorry, I'm not allowed to receive a gift? No. You accept it graciously. You accept it with great pleasure, and you accept it with honour. It's a protocol gift. That's what it is. But when you come home you disclose that gift. And it's then up to the will of the assembly as to whether or not you can keep it, take it home and put it on your own wall, or whether that's a gift of sufficient significance, either because of the occasion, or because of its value, that it should go to the Inuit for whom you are answerable. It was, after all, their dime that took you there. So that's the basic rule on accepting extra benefits or accepting gifts. Now, of course, if you cannot accept a gift you can't ask for it, and that's a whole other level that we'll get into in the examples that I do intend to move on to. So that is, basically, what I wanted to say about the *Code*, but it's not exactly where I want to wrap up before going on to specific examples. Where I want to go next is this. The *Code* starts off with reference to the *Constitution* and the basic principles of the *Constitution*, and there is another principle that's hidden in the *Constitution*. It happens to be one that's near and dear to my heart. And

it's the last principle in the list, and it is basically the principle of abiding by the rule of law. And it is subsection (y). So if we were looking at the expectations of leaders, that was (n). You have to read down a way before you get to that basic expectation about the rule of law and essentially why it states that the *Labrador Inuit Constitution* and all of your institutions are based on the principle of respect for the rule of law. The *Code* is one of your laws. And it is part of the rule of law. But there's a lot more to the rule of law than that. One of the other principles of the rule of law that's not written, and that we all understand inherently in a democracy, or at least in a western democracy, is that the laws apply equally to everybody and that no one is above the law. And that is particularly important for leaders because if leaders act and behave as if they are above the law or beyond the law, then all that does is create lawlessness. It stamps illegal behaviour or disrespect for the law as being something that is okay. The leaders don't abide by the law. Why should anybody else? And you hear quite often that there's a law for one set of people, a law for the rich and a law for the poor. You hear that there's law for the leaders and another law for the people. You'll hear things like ah, there's a law for the cops and another law for the rest of us. Every single one of those is a problem in the rule of law. It suggests that there's a perception that the rule of law is not working and is not being applied. And that's an aspect of all of this that I think is important for you all to consider and to bear in mind. So part of what is expected is, is that you never appear to be acting above the law. It's not simply a question of

honouring the law and respecting it and carrying it out. It's also appearing not to be above the law. When it comes to the law there are a bundle of other Acts that you need to be aware of, not just the *Code of Conduct*. And among them probably the next most important is the *Financial Administration Act*. And I will come back to the *Financial Administration Act* with reference to the examples that we have, but the key thing about the *Financial Administration Act* is, is that that is an act that's talking about the government. There is nobody else's finances that are involved here. They are Nunatsiavut Government finances. And so it is essential that not only the leadership but, also, the staff know that Act and honour it because finances is where most of the questions of questionable behaviour or disputed behaviour finally come to rest. Money is a very easy thing to follow, and money is a very easy thing to get worked up about, and money is a very easy thing to go astray with. And so the *Financial Administration Act* is very important here. Next examples. Do you want to take a break before we go there, or do you want me just to carry on? And I'm going to expect that there's going to be a lot more discussion around the examples.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Please carry on.

**MR. HAYSOM:** Okay.

**MR. SPEAKER:** And in respect to that, just we're shooting-, we'll probably break, three o'clock if we go on or before that...

**MR. HAYSOM:** Okay.

**MR. SPEAKER:** ...just for your information.

**MR. HAYSOM:** I'm expecting that we will get to three o'clock, but maybe not. We'll only get to three o'clock if there's a stunned silence. All right. Patricia asked for an example, and I think examples are essential. Have you got questions now?

**MR. SPEAKER:** You have a question, sir?

**MR. JACQUE:** Yes. Just for clarification purposes. Under the conflict of interest, if I'm having a council meeting and my brother, my sister, my niece, my nephew, my mother, my father, whoever, has a permit's request or application or a work order in, although I do not benefit, am I in conflict, or should I declare a conflict? Thank you.

**MR. HAYSOM:** I think in that case, because of the nature of the relationships, yes, that you should declare a conflict of interest. You're obviously not going to benefit directly and personally. But there's an indirect benefit, a benefit to somebody who is understandably close to you. And rather than avoid any perceptions that you're favouring your wife or favouring your father or favouring your brother, rather than getting any of those perceptions up there, you're better off to declare your conflict of interest, okay? Herb, would you like me to go on and point to, is there specific provisions, or are you all right with me just giving you that answer?

**MR. JACQUE:** I'm all right.

**MR. HAYSOM:** All right.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Any further questions? Please carry on.



**MR. HAYSOM:**

I heard somewhere, and it stuck with me, I don't know why some of these. Odd what sticks in your mind and what doesn't sometimes. But I heard someone say that no one ever learned how to be ethical or how to behave ethically from reading it in a book. And I thought about that a lot, and I've come to a point in my life where I actually think that that is absolutely true. And that's absolutely the case. Reading about this stuff as to what is ethical behaviour is so abstract, behave with integrity. But what does that really mean? And ethical conduct or right conduct to correct behaviour, I think is learned through action in the real world. It's learned when you do things. When you get out there and get involved in the grey and muddy world of actually making decisions and making things happen. And the real world is complex. It's not black and white. It's very often terribly grey. And it's those grey areas that become most difficult. And you don't really see the grey, and you really don't understand the grey or what goes into making it up until you're there. Grey is sometimes just black and white mixed together. But sometimes it's red and green mixed together. And it's very important in considering what's right and wrong behaviour to know exactly where you are with a problem and exactly how the problem comes up. And so that's why I want to try and get into examples. It's very easy to slide from thinking you're doing the right thing into actually doing the wrong thing. And, again, you won't understand that until you look at examples. In thinking about examples and coming up with examples, I came up with one for Patricia earlier on. It came off the top of my head, and it may or may not mean anything to

you. It may mean more to some of you than to others. But in doing workshops, for example, with the membership committees, one of the things after having done, I don't know how many workshops we've done, six or seven, has finally come home is, is that the examples that people learn the most from and like the best are the real life examples, the real questions and the real cases that they face. The problem, of course, with doing real examples, is that it involves real people. And so there's disclosure of personal or private information that has to be guarded against. There's also the tendency to take things very personally, which is not the intention or the purpose. And there is also the tendency to think that somebody is being singled out for, as an example, for bad behaviour or for having done something wrong. None of that is the purpose. The purpose of a real life example is to have something that is real that you can comprehend, that will really reach you, that you will really touch you, that you will really understand so that you can see how these problems work and play out in real life. So I'm going to use some real life examples, things that have come up. And these are things that have come up recently. Some of the real life examples are quick and simple. Others are more detailed. But there are three broad situations that I want to focus on. Before getting into the broad situations that I want to focus on, there's a real life experience with the *Code of Conduct* that I really want to just touch on for everybody. And it's this. In looking back over the last number of elections and looking back over the *Code of Conduct* and complaints under the *Code of Conduct*, there's a very interesting timing

thing that happens. There are always *Code of Conduct* issues that are coming up that if you group the *Code of Conduct* complaints that come up and stand them side by side with elections, most of the *Code of Conduct* complaints come up very shortly after there's a new government in place. Now I think that that's probably for a couple of reasons, but one of the reasons is that I think members, newly elected officials, don't realize just how onerous and difficult the *Code of Conduct* is and how easy it is to go astray on it because, as I've said, it intrudes into your personal lives. But I also think that on the other side of it is that you've an electorate who believes they've got a fresh new start, a fresh new slate of representatives and faces, and the second something goes wrong they (a) are horrified and (b) very determined to do something about it. And then I think that there may be some people who are just plain vindictive sore losers who think you should never have been elected in the first place and who are going to do anything to make your lives miserable. So in real life you will face *Code of Conduct* complaints and *Code of Conduct* issues that run the gamut. Some stuff is frivolous and vexatious and is hopefully thrown out. Some stuff you learn from, and other stuff is a good early warning signal that there are things going on that you maybe need to learn from and pay attention to. All right. Real life example situation number one. An Inuk dies. They die in a faraway city. The family can't afford to bring back the remains for burial, and government programs and government services just do not cover all the costs. You're an elected official and you're asked for help. After

exhausting government help and being satisfied there isn't government help, you charge the costs of returning the body to the home community to your own credit card. After that, you and other members, including a minister, then start to raise money to pay off your credit card debt. The minister then sends a memo around to staff asking for donations from staff to help the member pay off the credit card debt. The communications are sent around to staff using staff addresses and using government communications equipment. What's wrong? And what went wrong?

**MR. BLAKE:** With the information that you received about paying off credit cards, how can I put it? How do you know this to be true, to put it simpler.

**MR. HAYSOM:** Because it was the information that I was given when I was asked to give advice about it. So I take the information I was given to be accurate.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Please proceed. Do you have another question, Mr. Blake?

**MR. BLAKE:** May I ask who's giving you this information because, like, I know differently.

**MR. HAYSOM:** I get my information from the Legal Services Division of the government and from the Executive that, presumably, provides it to them.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. You'd like to add something, Madam President.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** We're still in Committee as a Whole, right? Okay. Maybe Roy, for your benefit, maybe if you would let Veryan finish first and then maybe it'll become more clear. If that's fine with you.

**MR. BLAKE:** That's fine.

**PRESIDENT LEO:**

If we could. Mr. Speaker, I don't know if that's okay. Can we let Veryan finish first, and then I think it would be probably better, in my opinion.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you for your suggestion. I'd allow that. Make your presentation, and after his presentation you can raise a few questions or points.

**MR. HAYSOM:**

Okay. I'll continue on. So that's, basically, the example problem. In a nutshell in a short paragraph covers a long period of time and a lot of aspects of what transpires. As with any question about ethical behaviour or conduct, there are two sides to a situation. And I think that on this one what happens is that you slide from one side to another, and it's very important to understand that progress from what is good and acceptable into what is questionable. This starts off as something that I think everybody will agree with. Is, essentially, the business of an elected representative and is essentially good. And that is that there's an Inuit family in need in very difficult circumstances. About that there is no doubt or no question. As we've seen from before case work is involved and that is also normal and to be expected. However, at the end of the day the case work comes up short and what is motivated as good and as well-intentioned then moves to something else. And I think that the first movement is somewhere that you all need to be aware of and about which there is probably nothing wrong as such. And what I want to do is I want to read to you just a very short extract from a book called, "What I learned About Politics." The subheading is, "Inside the Rise and Collapse of Nova Scotia's NDP Government." It's by Graham Steele, who is the Minister of Finance and who was a member of the Nova Scotia legislature

I believe for about 12 years, if not longer. And this is a fascinating book. He is speaking, really, however, to Nova Scotia. He's not speaking to an Assembly such as this without parties. And, you know, one of the things that he comes to the conclusion of is that maybe having political parties is not such a good idea. However, that's not why I want to read to you from this. He talks, first of all, about case work, and he goes on about that. I'll just read some quick extracts from what he's saying to give you the context of where he slides into next. So he says, "Many of the people calling are very needy, whether financially or emotionally or both. And they have a circuit. If they get a sympathetic ear at a constituency office, they add it to their circuit." So he's talking about case work and about his constituents and how they-, some of them start eventually to come around and come around. He talks very much about the assistants that he has and how good they become at case work. And then he goes on to say, and this is what I think is very important for you. "Other people see MLA's as automatic teller machines. If you press the right buttons money will come out. This is the MLAs' fault. Politicians don't like saying no. So when a parent or a team or a local group comes looking for money, the MLA will usually make a donation. Then because the MLA has said yes, more people will come looking for money, and the same request will be repeated the next year. The incessant requests for cash donations and MLA's desire to say yes go at least some way to explaining the crazy system of MLA expenses. The requests far exceed what is reasonable for an MLA to pay out of their own pocket. So MLA's had to find the money

for donations somewhere." And in the Nova Scotia case he then describes how they then go to public funds to find the money for the donations. So this is very much a practical, real world, politician's problem. Is that you are constantly asked for money, and you are seen as cash machines. In this province that was one of the causes for the constituency allowance expense scandal. Was this constant pressure on your MHA's to come up with money for the benefit of constituents. And eventually they started putting their hands into the constituency allowance pot and taking that money out and using it for the benefit of individual constituents or groups of constituents. So it's a very real pressure. And where the government is concerned and where the *Code of Ethics* is concerned with is how you deal with that. Now he makes it perfectly clear that MHA's can make their own donations, as can you, as do I, and as do most people who have got a middle class income. You're asked to make donations, and you do make donations, and it is your own money. And how you deal with that is your own business. As politicians, however, you face a difficulty that I don't face as a non-politician. And that is that as politicians, it's expected of you. And that as politicians, if once you do it for one, you are expected to do it for all. And then the pressure is on you. Where do you find the relief for that pressure? How do you come up with the money? And that's a real conundrum. So these things are very real pressures, and I think very understandable pressures. And the real questions starts, becomes, so where is there a problem here and how does the problem arise? Doing the case work is fine. Giving

people your own personal money, that's also fine. Fundraising. Well, fundraising is probably also fine. As you come into the Assembly, you see a sign or a notice on the door that the community is fundraising for Christmas for food parcels, for food baskets for people in need in the community. Please leave your donations here at the Assembly. It's taken care of by the Inuit Community Government, and it also says, and we can't accept cash. It's interesting. It's worth looking at. Nobody's saying that there's anything wrong with that. These things bear thinking about, and they certainly bear supporting. Fundraising is very important. So fundraising, nothing wrong with it. Using your own money as a gift to somebody, nothing wrong with it. Where does the problem start to come in? I think that the problem starts to come in where you do fundraising in your official capacity as an elected official, and it starts to come in when you do the fundraising for a specific person in a specific situation. Why does that start to become a problem? It's one thing to say that you are raising funds for a food bank where anybody can come and apply. It's another thing to say you are raising funds for a specific family or a specific situation. Ah, you'll say, but what about the person who has got real medical problems who has to travel out to a place like Montreal as the only place where they can get attention? Can I not become involved in fundraising for them? And I think that the short answer to that is yes and no. Yes, you can become involved in fundraising for them. And no, if what you are going to do is take it on as a member of the Assembly. Take it on in your private capacity and take it



on in a way that involves some kind of structure and official arrangement so that the money does not come to you, so that the money does not come to your office, and so that the fundraising goes directly to the person who is going to benefit for it, and so that there is somebody in the middle who is looking after the money and is going to account for it. And so it's how you structure your fundraising that becomes the issue, not the fact that you're fundraising. So where's there a problem? Well, the problem starts to become this. If you have put the expenses on your credit card, you have effectively made a gift. You may not have transferred any money yet. You're counting on the credit card company carrying you for 30 days or maybe even for the rest of your life. But you have made a gift to a beneficiary or a constituent, and it is now your problem. And so if you're starting to raise funding to cover off your credit card bill, you're no longer raising funding for the beneficiary or the person who was in need, you're raising funding for yourself to cover your debt and to cover your credit card obligation.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

I believe Sarah Leo has a question, but before that Joe Dicker had a question. So just in the order of preference or first come, first serve.

**MR. DICKER:**

I withdraw my question. It was answered.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

And please proceed, Sarah Leo.

**PRESIDENT LEO:**

And I don't have a question. I have a comment, and I think this is kind of where Roy was going, but I'll just get more to the point. I'm aware of the situation you're talking about, Veryan, and I just want to clarify. I think

you're going to get a few people confused because that's not how it went. That's not how it went. The request for the funds and donations was made, and that was done completely separate. Once everything went on their credit cards, there were no more requests or anything made for that individual whose credit card it was on. So I think we need to be talking about it in the right process so that people understand it. That's not how it happened. The request for funds were made by Assembly Members. Then further down the road another Assembly Member, his credit card, the funeral expenses went on that. Two completely separate instances. Once it was on the individual's credit card, there was no request from that individual to have any donations made to him to cover off the costs on his credit card. And I think we need to get that clear when we're talking about this case.

**MR. HAYSOM:**

All right. Thank you for that clarification. That definitely changes things. The principle remains, however, that if you've got a personal debt you cannot be fundraising to meet it. And the question is, is well, why, what's wrong with that? There's no direct benefit. This was all indirectly to benefit somebody else. Again, the motivation is beyond question. It's the how it's done that becomes critical and where the line is crossed. The other issue here that causes problems is the use of government resources, government communications equipment, emails, email addresses, government computers for the fundraising. The use of that equipment in the service of a particular beneficiary, or a particular group of beneficiaries, starts to become the use of government property to

single out somebody and to provide them with a unique or extraordinary benefit. And that is one of the issues that is expressly brought up in the *Code of Conduct* which asks that you not allow the use of government property for purposes of patronage or private favour. And private favour is favour that comes for the benefit of one individual and one individual with whom you have a special relationship. So there is the situation where you have crossed the line, where the intentions are good, where the purpose is good, but where implementing it has taken you the one step further where there are now questions about the legitimacy of this kind of conduct. And effectively from a public point of view, or from a government point of view, the question is should this kind of personal favour be done for one constituent or for two or for all? And if you're going to put government property to the service of raising funds for one person, are you going to put government property to the service of raising funds for all people? And once you do that you've got then real problems to answer. (A) what can you afford? And what can the government afford? What other business is being displaced? And what are the criteria? By what do you determine where the one person will get this benefit and another not? Or will it be a universal benefit for which all people will benefit? The example also, and here, again, it may be that the facts are facts that I am not fully in control of, but part of the fundraising was directed specifically at staff, at members of the civil service. And this is another aspect that raises questions. It amounts to putting staff in a very difficult situation. If you've ever been an employee

you will understand how if your superior comes to you and says, I'm looking for money for a cause, how hard it is to say no. And it happens. Your boss is selling candies or raising money for their kid's school for the team. They come to you and say, would you like to buy some tickets? Very hard to say no. Often you don't want to say no. Often it's a mere nothing. It doesn't really mean anything to you in financial terms. But at base often what is going on is, is that there's a boss/employee relationship, and you are being put under pressure by your boss. That is something that is very difficult to monitor, and I'm not sure that there is anything specifically that I can point to in the *Code of Conduct* that says don't do it. But there is, in the *Code of Conduct*, the requirement that you treat others, and it specifically refers to public servants, with the respect that is their due. And one of the degrees of respect that is due to public servants is, is that they not be put in these kinds of difficult positions. So, again, good intentions, a noble cause, but what is happening on the ground and, in fact, is crossing a line that is causing, or could cause, some real problems. I think that that's as much as I want to say about that specific example without taking it too far, but there are a number of cautions in there. And the basic caution is, is that be careful about the movement from case work to shifting a burden onto either yourself, personally, or onto the government. Be careful about allowing your constituents' problems to be shifted onto you personally. You weren't elected to pay for everybody else's problem. And think hard before taking on a personal liability. Never ever allow that to be shifted

onto the government box because that starts to become misspending of public fund or misapplication of public funds. Fundraising is an acceptable practise. There's nothing wrong with fundraising. But be very careful that the fundraising is in your personal life. That if you're heading it up, you structure it in such a way that you can be both responsible and accountable and transparent, and that none of it reflects badly on you or your government. So fundraise. Fine. Do it personally. Fine. But the basic principle of responsibility, accountability and transparency is essential. Do it responsibly. Raised directly for the person involved. Use a bank. Ask people to make payments into the bank account. Make sure that you account for the money that is raised, and make sure that it goes to the right person. Make sure that you report on it so that everybody can see what you've done.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Sarah Leo, I believe you had a comment.

**PRESIDENT LEO:**

Okay. I just have a question now just talking about fundraising and, you know, saying that's okay to fundraise. And I'm just going to use an example because this is happening in Nain. The Huskies, who are the golden champions, are going onto the provincials. Yay for them. They're doing fundraising so that they have enough money to make it for the provincials. They'll be having cold plate sales. They'll be having ticket sales. It's a small community. Now would it be against anything if, as a member of the community, I help them sell tickets?

**MR. HAYSOM:**

No, I don't think it would be, but I think you have to be very careful about it. You have to be particularly careful around your staff. You also have to

be particularly careful to make sure that nobody misunderstands that this is a Presidential function and not a personal one. And it also has to be very clear as to where the money is going, I think. And if-, as long as that is made crystal clear and somebody is clearly accounting for it and somebody is clearly reporting on it, then you should be able to maintain all of the distinctions that this is not government business. But that the people who are receiving it are independent and separate, and that they are accounting for it, not you and not the Nunatsiavut Government.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Do you have another question?

**PRESIDENT LEO:**

Actually, just a comment. I just wanted to plug the Huskies for a minute. But I know this happens in all of our communities, that there's always some sort of fundraising, and we're all members of our community. And it, you know, may not necessarily be the Huskies coming up for their thing, but we have festivals and drama festivals and everything else the kids are involved in. And it would be good for everybody to know, I think, but I was plugging our Huskies.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Mr. Dan Pottle, you have a question.

**MR. POTTLE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chair. Not a question *per se*, but just, I guess, a comment. I like Veryan's analogy, and I think since I came to this Assembly, this is now my third term. And I think Veryan's quite right that issues arising with respect to the *Code of Conduct* has historically happened very early in people's terms. And I think, I mean, you know, not only in politics, but one of the things that I've learned throughout my life and I'll apply it to

politics as well. We all learn through experiences. But before you act, ask. Check things out so that they don't get to a level where, you know, there may be a complaint coming through the *Code of Conduct* against you or another member of the Assembly. So that would be just my two cents worth and my bit of advice based on my three terms now as a politician in our government. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Greg Flowers, I believe you have a question or comment.

**MR. FLOWERS:**

Yes, just I guess to what Sarah was going kind of on there about. So it's all right for her or for me or for anyone else to raise money for something that's happening in our community as long as we don't take it into the workplace. Because earlier you said that if you feel under pressure from, say, her or myself or somebody. As long as we raise money outside our work place it should be fine?

**MR. HAYSOM:**

No. On this one for both you, Greg, and for Sarah, I think it's extremely difficult because this is really one of those grey areas. And it's probably worth spending a lot of time in the grey areas talking it through. I wouldn't want to be heard to say never sell tickets as a fundraiser in your office. I mean, I think as a black and white rule that would be unreasonable and it would be unfair. It's like the rule of saying never ever accept a gift. As soon as you say that you have to say, but protocol gifts are all right, or mere nothings are all right and a few \$5 tickets, \$1 ticket, buy five and you get it for 3. You know, that kind of stuff is really, in lawyers' terms, the kind of minimal stuff that it's not worth really taking notice of. But that having been said, small though it may be, be

very, very careful about how you approach your staff. And be very, very careful to make sure that this is not some kind of a benefit just for you or for your family. And also be very sure that what you're raising the money for is going to meet with test of responsibility and transparency and accountability so that this is a responsible organization. That they are going to account for the money, and you're going to find out how much money they received and what they spent it on. Okay. So I'm not saying that no, never sell tickets or raffle tickets to your staff. I know that that goes on all the time. But what I am saying is think about it, be careful about it, and usually if there's a large amount of money involved or a significant prize or award involved, start treading even more carefully. There's one thing for a \$5 pool on a hockey ticket. It's another thing to win a skidoo.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

I think we'll carry on with a few more questions. It seems to be going pretty good, if that's okay with-, everybody in agreement with that. All right, we'll take one last question from Greg Flowers and we'll have a break. There are a few more questions to be asked.

**MR. FLOWERS:**

Okay, Veryan. I can understand that, but let's just say, for example, school. School raises money all the time for different events, and just say that, you know, say my daughter or my son is kind of involved in something that they're raising money for and they come to me looking for a donation. Is it okay because this-, I mean, it's almost like what, I guess, what the AngajukKâk from Makkovik asked. Even though it's not benefitting me, but it's benefitting them to go to something, say, in



Happy Valley, Goose Bay or something like that, is it okay to, you know, proceed in that manner?

**MR. HAYSOM:**

Having spent time saying, look, it's worth spending time in grey areas, I want to get out of this grey area. No, look, I think that what you're doing is you're doing the right thing. I mean, you've got to push on these issues until you really understand them and then talk them through. And I think that one of the things that I will come to in terms of advice given is what Danny has said, which is, you know, if you've got any questions or doubts, ask and get help. Getting back to the schools issue. Yes, kids raise funds for the school. In terms of the responsibility, accountability and transparency, you're probably going to meet all of those tests if the money is going to the school. So now you're adding another question which is this. My kid is on the team, and the team is doing the fundraising. Does that change anything? And I don't think it does change anything as long as it's clear when you're selling the tickets amongst the people in your office that your kid is on the team, that your kid is fundraising, that you're doing this for your kid, and leaves people with any easy out so that they don't feel pressured that the big boss, the Minister, is here pressuring me. So, you know, you have to be sensitive to how you're reading your staff and how they're reacting to you. And you also have to be sensitive to the question of how much money is involved. As I say, if it's a big amount of money, be very careful. But a mere 5 bucks here and 5 bucks there for fundraising, nobody's really

going to question that. So it's very much a question of degree and how you go about doing it.

**MR. FLOWERS:** Shouldn't be no difference between 5 bucks, whether it be 5 bucks or 10,000.

**MR. HAYSOM:** Well, ask me for 5 bucks and ask me for 10,000 and you'll find out that there's a difference. But...

**MR. FLOWERS:** Well...

**MR. HAYSOM:** ...the principle, you're right.

**MR. FLOWERS:** Exactly.

**MR. HAYSOM:** You're right. The principle is there. You know, the legal saying is that the law is not concerned with *de minimis*. The negligible. The insignificant. And it may be that somebody is busted with a joint on them, but nobody's going to press charges. The principle of it is that you shouldn't have marijuana, you shouldn't be using it. It's illegal. The practical sense is that in the scale of things that's probably not going to be anything that you're going to be busted on, at least at this time. And it's discretionary. You know, in real life, as I say, you have to be very, very careful about it and use your judgment. Nobody's concerned about triviality. As long as it remains at that level you're all right. But really the principle is that no; you shouldn't be asking your staff for donations. That's the basic principle, and it's the same with the protocol gifts. No, you shouldn't be accepting gifts. What is the difference? The difference is, is that in the real social world, things do work a little bit differently.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

At this juncture I'd like to request that we all have a recess and we'll reconvene at 3:40. I'd like to call back Veryan Haysom. There are a few more questions that would like to be asked from Committee of the Whole.

*(Recess)*

**MR. SPEAKER:**

We'll now continue Committee of the Whole. A review of the Nunatsiavut *Code of Conduct for Elected Officials Act*. And, of course, I'd like to thank Veryan right now for coming to address the Assembly Committee of the Whole. I believe we left off with lengthy discussions in regards to a lot of sections of the Nunatsiavut *Code of Conduct*. And just a reminder to the Assembly Members, if you have a question or comment, please activate your microphone for the record. Nakummek. I believe Richard Pamak, you had a question.

**MR. PAMAK:**

Thank you. Certainly a good example of probably misconduct there, Veryan, no doubt, with a few minor details, I think, in my opinion. But a question I have for you is as an elected official, or even as an individual in the community, when it comes to fundraising, we can put all these protocols in place to avoid misconduct. I could have an account set up. I can have someone else administer it and, you know, we can kind of direct, you know, if there's going to be donations made to, you know, something in particular. You approach people to make donations. And they know that you're the one who is asking for the donations. And certainly as elected officials we will kind of recognize our *Code of Conduct*, but not so much as people out in the community recognizing

the *Code of Conduct*. They will probably still see me as, even though I'm doing this as, personally, outside of my business, but doing it personally in doing fundraising, but the public will still see me as Richard Pamak, the Minister of Culture, Recreation. How do you avoid that, even though you could put all these protocols in place? And when and if someone out in the community thinks that this is wrong, it's against the *Code of Conduct* as for Minister or an elected official, he, then brings the issue forward, makes it public to the government, makes it public to everyone else. And even though you have all these protocols in place, you're still affected in somewhat by even him raising that issue, even if we've got to investigate, even though they were in the right, and we got everything, all protocols in place, and to ensure that we're okay, but the damage is still done. How do you avoid that?

**MR. HAYSOM:**

I think that there's a lot in that question. How people perceive you is something that you have ultimately very little control over. Obviously you want people to perceive you as being truthful and honest and somebody who act with integrity, somebody who doesn't act in self-interest, and somebody who acts always in the Inuit interest. And that, presumably, is the kind of image that you want to have out there. If, however, people perceive you differently, you have obviously got a very difficult road to hoe in terms of your own political image and how you conduct yourself. And if you're aware of that, then you may, in certain situations, have to defend yourself, and to speak clearly about what it is that you're doing. In other words, be transparent and accountable, and

be answerable, answer for the kinds of questions that are raised about you. Whether or not that will serve to convince the person who's got these misconceptions or who's got these perceptions is another question. But that is the way, presumably, you prevent the problems by being somebody who lives by the *Code of Conduct*, and who acts by it. And you prevent the problems from taking root or gaining ground by being answerable, by being accountable, by being available and dealing directly with the kind of thing that's causing you grief, that's put out about you. Obviously it has to be truthful and factual and has to be done honourably and with respect or, at least, with the respect that's due in the circumstances. So all of that is laid out in the *Code* for you. In terms of the specific situation where you are doing the fundraising and you understand that people perceive you to be Richard Pamak, Minister of Culture, then given that you know that and given that you understand that, it should be a no brainer for you to make absolutely clear when you're engaging in these things that you're not doing it in that capacity, so that when you go to raise funds from somebody and ask them will you contribute to this cause, if you know that that's how you're perceived, you, surely should be saying, and I'm asking you in my capacity as a resident of the community, I'm not putting any pressure on you as your Ordinary Member or as a Minister. So hopefully that's of some help.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Do you have a supplementary question?

**MR. PAMAK:**

Not so much a question there, sorry, but, you know, it's a thin line of, you know, trying to help out family sometimes, and when you're perceived to

be doing things as Richard Pamak, even though you follow protocols and you're doing everything by the book, there are still people going to be out there saying, Yes, you're still Minister of Culture and Recreation. And this almost feels like sometimes to avoid someone raising the issue that you're breaching conduct, is not to do anything at all. We certainly, you know, after this session will recognize *Code of Conduct* much better than we did. But people out in the community don't understand what *Code of Conduct* is, and they'll probably raise the issue and say, I think Richard Pamak, you're in breach of *Code of Conduct* whether you're Richard Pamak or not or Richard Pamak, Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism. You know, it'll reflect on me, personally, and it'll reflect badly on Nunatsiavut Government if the people perceive you to be as the Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism. So I don't know, this is a comment, I think, that, you know, if lessons can be learned for sure, and Nain is a small community, these may not come up. I mean, people generally perceive to look at you and, say, yes, you're trying to do something good in the community. But there might be an instance out there that, you know, you might be breaching conduct. And, you know, to avoid, you know, that destruction as an individual or even as a member of government, it's almost sometimes just stay away from it. Just a comment. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Would you like to add anything to that, Mr. Haysom?

**MR. HAYSOM:**

Yes, I think that what I would like to add is is that the reason why it's essential to get involved in these questions of what is correct conduct

and what is contrary to the *Code of Conduct* is not only to keep the government whole. In other words, keep the respect for the government going and to make sure that your government is held in high regard. But it goes really to what I said when I said I want to get involved in real examples and why I think it's important to get involved in real examples. And that is is that it's fine to have the *Code of Conduct* and the *Constitution* that have these noble principles that talk in very abstract terms. And the difficulty with abstract principles is how do they actually work in real life? How do these rules actually work in real life? And in bringing them into real life, there's a clear assumption and that is is that you will not face any of these kinds of problems if you do nothing. These are all the problems, the problems of behaviour and conduct and ethics, are all problems that you will face because you are doing something. And I would hate to think that because we're exploring the *Code of Conduct* and how to behave and what is right and wrong action, which somehow you're taking this as a lesson or anybody's taking this as a lesson to do nothing. The point really is, is to come to grips with the fact that these are difficult issues, and they're difficult issues precisely because they're in the real world and you are actors in the real world.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Mr. Jim Tuttau, I believe you have a question.

**MR. TUTTAUK:**

Yes, thank you. Kind of interesting one, but I'm not sure if it's a grey area or a black area, but bingos. I knew you would look up. We sell bingo cards out of our council office between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m., which is run by our Rec department. How serious of a conflict is that, if any?

**MR. HAYSOM:**

You've asked me something that I've never thought about, not being a bingo player. Well, I think that if you are operating according to the basic principles that I've referred to a couple or three times, if not more, that you should be all right. I think, first of all, if this is a program of your recreational committee, or your recreational department, and that it's been formally set up by your council, and it's got a mandate to raise funds for community recreation purposes, then you've got transparency as to what this is all about. If it's a program that's being run by a division or a committee of the community government, then using the community government's facilities and resources for purposes of that fundraising is probably fine. The essential question is whether or not that fundraising is taken into your revenues and accounted for, and the payments out of those revenues are accounted for, and if people who are handling that money can be held accountable if anything goes wrong. And so it's really a question, and I think in this case, where you really have to have the systems in place to make sure that it is a proper program of the community government, and that it is providing services and programs that are then available to all of your residents. So I think it's probably okay.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. I believe you have a supplementary question.

**MR. TUTTAUK:**

Thank you. Yes, but I think there may be certain circumstances arises, get back to a death in a family, or some family wants to come back for a funeral, etcetera. Sometimes the department lets families have a bingo



to raise funds to help people come back. So I guess this, would this be a conflict then?

**MR. HAYSOM:**

Yes, I think that you're starting to shift into different territory there. I think that you're at far greater risk of running into the problem of providing specific privileges or benefits for one person or one family and singling them out for privilege or benefit. And I think that you have to guard against that risk. So if this program is set up as being for recreational purposes, then using it as a fundraiser for a family in need seems to me to be outside the mandate of what this program is for. And it now looks as though you're starting to use government programs or government services for purposes for which they weren't intended, and it starts to look as though you're using it for the benefit of a specific family. It would be different if you had a separate program and a separate set of arrangements for fundraising for people in need, and had a real system in place that was well-understood, that served everybody in the community in the same circumstances. Then you would be running more of a community program and less sort of an ad hoc favour to a specific individual or family. Does that help?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Gary Mitchell, I believe you have a question.

**MR. MITCHELL:**

Thank you. Yes, I did. Regarding the Section 2.4(e), it states, "Ensuring constituents and staff are informed of whereabouts of elected officials when on the job, particularly when travelling on official business." I want to ask if you're going to be away from your office for, say, a couple hours out visiting constituents or doing some other work around the

community, seeing we're fine tuning some of these clauses here, I'd like to ask is it necessary to put on auto reply or a notification on your computer that you're going to be out of the office doing this or that, because that'll run into a lot of time if you're going to indicate wherever you go or whatever you do. You're going to be out of the office, you know, each time you go out. Is an auto reply adequate if you're going to be travelling? I'll slow down a little bit, and this is just for around the, you know, in your area, around your community. If you're going to be out of the office for a couple hours, is it necessary to ensure that **constituent** staff know? If so, how do you inform them? You know, you tell your staff when you're going out, of course, I'm going to be out for a couple hours. But is it necessary to inform them every time you step out of the office, or if you're leaving the office an hour early, is it necessary to put on a notification that you're going to be out of the office and you're taking leave and all that? I have a second question after that one, if I may?

**MR. HAYSOM:**

I think, Gary, that this is one of those questions where, again, we're thoroughly in the grey area and where, perhaps, at the end of it, it's a question of degree. Where I would start in understanding 2.4(e) is that particularly when travelling on official business. And I think that being out visiting constituents or at a constituent event is not so much travelling as it is going about constituency business. The real evil, or problem or issue that's being addressed here is where you have somebody who is on official business in Ottawa and you don't know

where they are for a week and can't reach them for a week. That is kind of at one end of the scale, the kind of problem that you're trying to address. If you're going to Ottawa people should know you're going to Ottawa, and they should know how to reach you. Now, you know, 30 years ago you probably couldn't even leave a message, voicemail, on your phone. The best you could probably do would be to tell the receptionist or the person at the front desk where you were going and how to get a hold of you with a couple of phone numbers. Or even just names of hotels. With technology that we have now, as you say, it's possible to leave an auto reply saying that you're temporarily out of the office or record a message on your phone saying, you know, that you're not in today. Or you are in, but you're going here, there and another place. Is it necessary to do it if you're going out of, stepping out of the office for a couple of hours on business? Probably not. Can something urgent come up in a couple of hours? You bet. You know, use your discretion, use your judgment. Not all of your constituents need to know where you are at every minute of the day. Most of them will assume you're in your office. That's fair enough. If you're going away for an extended period of time while travelling, then leave messages or information where they can get it. So I think that if you read this as saying every time you step out of your office you have to leave a message on your voicemail and you have to put up an auto reply on your email, I don't think that that's what this is asking you to do. Again, it's a question of degree. It's a question of being reasonable and saying that there's an absolutely black and white rule

here? No. But it'll be pretty black and white if you disappeared awhile or where nobody knows why you've gone, where you've gone and can't get a hold of you, particularly, if something urgent comes up. You'll clearly be in breach of this. Will somebody hold your feet to the fire because you went out for a couple of hours to see a couple of people in the constituency? Probably not. Not unless they've got it in for you, in which case they're going to get you one way or another. You had a supplementary?

**MR. MITCHELL:**

Okay. So we're travelling on business. Is it necessary to send out a notification to everybody? I know so many elected members do send out notifications, but there are some elected members who do not, and you wonder where they are. So is an auto reply adequate, or should a notification be sent out to all Assembly Members? Like some people use just auto reply that if you send them a message a reply will come back that they're out of town. While others send out a notification that you're going to be away to all members before they leave which, I think, is a good practise. So I'm not sure which is the right thing to do, yes. I'd just like to be clear on that saying we're getting clarification on some of these things, and I don't want to get in trouble. Thank you.

**MR. HAYSOM:**

I think you've put your finger right on it and you've really provided the answer. There's good practice, there's best practice, and then there is have you done something wrong? Best practice would be to send out a notice ahead of time, particularly if you're going to be gone for a lengthy period of time. Good practice is at least to have an auto reply letting

people know that if they're trying to contact you, you're not there, and where they can get a hold of you. Doing something wrong, being out of your office for a morning, an afternoon on business without having gone through the sending of notice, auto reply thing, I don't think that that's poor practice, and it's certainly, I don't think, the kind of problem that this is driving at. Go the next step and disappear to Ottawa and make sure that nobody knows where you are, or why you're there, or what you're doing, and you're clearly in breach of the rule. So a lot of this is, you know, I can't give you guidance as to how you should practice or what you should practice, but be aware that there's a continuum here. And at one end of the continuum you're obviously in full compliance following best practices and somewhere along that scale you cross over. And if you always err on the side of good practice or best practices, you won't cross that scale, you won't cross that line.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Sarah Leo, I believe you have a question or comment.

**PRESIDENT LEO:**

Yes, again, more of a comment, I guess. And this is going back a bit to what Richard was saying about not being sure if people are perceiving you as in your official capacity or in your personal capacity. And I think just, and I'm just, Veryan, you're great, you're filling all this in, but sometimes you get a little too technical and a little too outside of reality and what's actually happening. A fact is a fact. But really, I think it's pretty simple. We're in small communities. People either know me as Sarah. They know I'm the President of Nunatsiavut. If I'm going fundraising and I say I'm here. I'm Sarah, I'm fundraising for the Huskies.

End of story. No big deal. If I send out an email from my Nunatsiavut Government which is signed Sarah Leo, President of Nunatsiavut, email looking for funds that's in complete conflict. And I think it's not a big, I don't see it as a big deal if people, when I go, if I go fundraising thinking I'm there as the President of Nunatsiavut as opposed to me being there as Sarah as the church bake sale or something. I think it's all in how you present yourself when you're doing it. If it's something you're doing on an everyday basis that you do every year that you're just another member there in the community fundraising, people will see you for that. If you send it out from your work or have a big poster up saying I'm the President and I'm looking for your money, that's a whole different story, and I think that's how it should be dealt with. Maybe I'm oversimplifying it, but that's how I see it.

**MR. HAYSOM:**

Yes, I think that you're absolutely right, that I make these things too complicated. I apologize. I would add one dynamic, one thing to what you said. And that is that when you send out an email on Nunatsiavut Government letterhead, you are quite clearly using government property and you're quite clearly saying this is in my official capacity on behalf of the government using government facilities. And that's going way, way beyond just how people perceive you in the community. That's putting out a message as to where you're coming from. I wanted to get back to where we left off at the break with questions from Greg, so that if there's anybody else who's got questions, I'd like to come back to Greg's questions at the end.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Actually, if we could, we have one question from Mr. Herb Jacque and we can return to that question. And, actually, two, sorry. And we can return, yes.

**MR. JACQUE:** Thank you. Just getting back to the issue of the gifts. We all know that our people among ourselves. If a buddy of mine comes to my house and gives me a goose, a duck, or whatever, is that considered a gift, or if I, in return, buy him gas, is that considered bartering? If not, can you give me an example of bartering? Thank you.

**MR. HAYSOM:** All right. Well, I know that the *Code* says nothing about bartering, and it doesn't put the issues in those terms. I think giving people gifts in your own private capacity and in your own private life is fine. If you want to give a gift to somebody, that is fine. And I think from our conversation earlier on, I went so far as to say that if a constituent comes to you for help in your capacity as an elected representative and you want to go so far as to pull money out of your own pocket and give it to them, there's nothing prohibiting that or preventing it. It may not be very wise. You may have started yourself down a slippery slope, and it may end up costing you a lot of money, but as long as it's clear that it's your personal money and that you're not going anywhere else for it, it's fine. You can give gifts to people. In terms of the question of somebody getting you a goose, I think that, simply, there's no problem with that either. If you go to the Conflict of Interest rules to 3.11, I believe it is, and take a look at that, it's not talking about receiving gifts in your personal life. It's talking about receiving gifts that go along with your responsibilities in office.

And so if you are receiving geese in order to influence how you behave towards somebody or carry out the responsibilities of your office, then it's questionable. If it's a buddy who's giving you a goose just because he's Herb's buddy or she's Herb's buddy, that's fine. It's not a problem. So it's really very much a question of, you know, is this a grey area because it's black and white? Is this a grey area because it's red and green? In other words, you have to look at the fine detail to see what's going on. And as long as it's your buddy giving you a goose, that's fine. As long as you're buying gas for the guy out of your own pocket, that's fine, not a problem. And, you know, I don't think any of this is intended to prevent people from sharing or to undermine Inuit traditions of sharing. This is really getting at the problem of perceiving corruption in government and influencing political decision makers and lawmakers, and that's where really this is looking to. It's not looking to make your personal lives miserable. Miserable enough given that you're elected officials.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Please proceed with your supplementary.

**MR. JACQUE:** Okay. If the Department of Recreation and the Recreation Committee is an affiliate of a council, is it conflict of interest for a councillor to sit on the Recreation Committee? Thank you.

**MR. HAYSOM:** No.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Diane Gear, I believe you have a question. Sarah Leo, I recognize you have a question.



**PRESIDENT LEO:**

Thanks. And I actually have a question, not a comment this time, and I'm hoping you'll answer me so that we can all understand it. And this is a question that I've been sort of asked in my capacity. We have elected officials who often travel. They often travel for business. They often travel for pleasure, and sometimes they mix the two together. And they've asked if because you're travelling and they'll be wherever, if they could work out of a satellite office because they're there and either they don't have leave or they're there anyways, that they could do that. And that's a hard one for me to answer because, in my opinion, quite frankly, there were certain positions that have no business to be working out of another office. Secondly, if you're somewhere travelling on-, for your personal time, whether you're on leave or you're on holidays and you get-, or you're going for a dental and you get stuck, or you know your leave has run short, that don't mean you just go into another office and start working. And I wonder if there is some way that you can clarify that.

**MR. HAYSOM:**

Sarah, can I defer that, answering that? One of the things that I want to get at, I've got another two, sort of, areas of example that I want to discuss, and I've got travel down and travel issues down as one of them. There are some things with travel that are clearly offside. There are some things with travel that are clearly onside, and then there are some things where it's the referee's call. And I think that that's sort of initially the simple answer on that, and then you have to take each of the different situations and play them out. Okay.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Are there any further questions? Diane Gear.

**MS GEAR:** This is adding onto the one Herb just asked about councillors sitting on the Recreation Committee. What about if the council pays the Recreation Committee Members a per diem? Is that a conflict?

**MR. HAYSOM:** It might be a problem. It may not be a problem. I think that with all of these situations you have to be clear about what the facts are. And so my first question would be is the council member double dipping? In other words, is the council member getting some kind of remuneration, some kind of payment, whether it's a per diem or otherwise? Because, as a council member, they're sitting on a committee. If they are, then they certainly could not get the per diem. If, on the other hand, they are on the committee but are not receiving any other payment then it would not be a conflict as long as they were receiving the same payment as anybody else on that committee. Do you follow?

**MS GEAR:** Well...

**MR. HAYSOM:** No? All right. Well, Diane, let me put it this way. One of the things that you do as members of this Assembly is that you sit on committees from time to time. Now some of those committees are made up of all members of the Assembly. And some of the committees may be made up of members of the Assembly and others. If the other people on the Assembly get a per diem, then that's because they're not receiving a salary or a benefit as an Assembly Member. But for Assembly Members, you are receiving specific benefits or payments in order to be Assembly

Members, and you may be entitled to additional payments as Assembly Members on committees. I don't know your rules. But if you're getting those payments, if you're getting payments to be on a committee because you're an Assembly member, if that's part of your salary, or if you're getting a special allowance to be on committee because you are an Assembly member, then it's wrong to get an additional payment as a per diem just because somebody else on the committee is getting a per diem. So all I'm saying is that for your question there's a lot more information that's needed before I can give you a yes or no answer. So I suppose I've got a series of questions for you. All right. Well, the first question is do members of the Inuit Community Council receive remuneration, a payment, an honorarium, some kind of money for sitting on the council? Yes or No?

**MS GEAR:**

Yes, they do, and so do the Recreation Committee members. That's why I asked was it a conflict because this councillor would be getting two remunerations or honorariums, whatever you want to call it.

**MR. HAYSOM:**

Okay. Well, then I go back to my original argument. It's a problem if they're double dipping. It's not a problem if they aren't. And by double dipping I mean getting paid twice in different ways for the same thing. Okay. That's offside.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Are there any further questions at this time? No? Mr. Haysom.

**MR. HAYSOM:**

Okay, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just going back to follow through on the conversation or the questions that were being raised by Mr. Flowers just

before we took a break. I've got to go back in my mind now and see if I can put it together. There are a couple of other examples that are, or issues that come out of that same situation. So the question, as I understood it, from Greg was if I'm doing fundraising on behalf of the school and I ask members of the staff for contributions, is that right or is it wrong, and I think that I answered that. There's another question which is that as a minister if you receive a request for funding, for example, from a school for a school program or a school team, is it okay to give them money? They are fundraising. The minister's not fundraising, but somebody is fundraising and they've come to the government looking for funds. So it's turning the problem around. It's not the minister or the member who's fundraising, it's the community that's fundraising and they've come to you. What's the correct conduct in that situation? It goes back to the constituents who arrive at your door and say we need help with funeral arrangements, but it's a different case. They're fundraising on behalf of a school. Is there a problem with that? Well, there could very well be a problem with it. In the bad old days before we learned a series of lessons around the Assembly, members would use constituency allowances, and give constituency allowances to the people who were fundraising, and the answer about that was no, you can't do that. Why not? Well, you can't do it because the constituency allowances are given to you to do constituency work with. Not for you to hand out money to beneficiaries or to constituents, and there's a difference. So the next question then is this. If people are fundraising

and they come to you and they ask you for funds, can you, in fact, help them? And the answer may be yes and it may be no. In one situation the answer is no. And in the other situation it's yes. Let's look at the yes because it's only when you understand the yes can you get to the no. If the government has a program, let's say for argument's sake, that the Department of Education and Economic Development has got a program where it provides funding for recreational activities, particularly for schools, as an educational program, and there's a certain pot of money there, and there are certain criteria that you have to meet in order to get funding from the pot. Then as a member you can send the fundraiser to the appropriate officials in the government with information about how to apply, who they have to see. And then it's up the beneficiaries or the people who are trying to raise the funds to go to the correct department to the correct officials and fill out the correct application forms and to compete with everybody else for the funds that are available for that purpose or service. So as a member you can do that. You can help them in that way. That's case work for the people who are your constituents. Fine. Nothing wrong with it. That's the yes. There is something you can do for them. The no comes if there is no such program. There is no program to do that. Now what do you do? Unfortunately, you have to say no. You don't dip into your constituency money. You don't go around to ministers looking to see if they've got any slush funds or money that they can hide or discretionary money that they can give to you. There is no program. There is no funding for that. No. If you go

further than that then you're headed down a slippery slope that can run you into trouble. It may not. You could just simply give them money out of your own personal pocket and be done with it. You're going to end up a very poor person if you carry on doing that, but that's your choice. But be very careful at that point if there's no official program. And then there's a third situation here. And the third situation is is that the person who's raising the money who's doing the fundraising comes to you, and there is a government program, but the person who's doing the fundraising is your brother-in-law. And it's your brother-in-law who shows up at your door doing the fundraising for who, for the school for the team program. And now you've got the problem of-, particularly if you're the minister who's in charge of this pot of money, you've got the problem of a perception of a conflict of interest. Why? Are you doing something to favour your brother-in-law? It's no longer a question about is there government money? Is there funding? Have you filled out the necessary application forms? Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes. You've done all of that, but you've now arrived at the conflict of interest situation which is will this look as though I'm helping my brother-in-law? You're far better to tell your brother-in-law to make sure that the application is made by somebody else in the school, somebody else on the team; somebody else who's running the program or, alternatively, you cannot make the decision. The decision has to be made by somebody else and you take yourself out of the game. So those were just three things that I wanted to talk about arising out of, or coming out of, that conversation that we

were having before the break. And that's all I think I've got to say as a result of those examples, or that example. I've got another example to come.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Haysom, would you please continue.

**MR. HAYSOM:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All right. Next example. And again I just want to make it clear that we're doing these examples, not for personal purposes. In other words, not to say hey, you've done something wrong or you're in trouble here. We're doing this because it's only by grappling with real issues in the real world that the abstract stuff that we've got here starts to make real sense and that a discussion can follow that helps to clarify just what the issues are. All right. So the situation, as I understand and this is my understanding of it. It may not be the absolute truth or the absolute facts. Is again related to a funeral, and we've got two different things happening here and I want to deal with each of them in turn. So you've got a funeral taking place in, let's say for argument's sake, Nain. And you've got members of the family who are, let's say for argument's sake, in Rigolet, and they want to get to the funeral. And they come to you and ask you for help as an elected representative. And what you do is you pick up the phone and you contact Air Lab and you say to Air Lab, this is me, the Ordinary Member for, or this is me, the Minister of, or this is me, the AngajukKâk for, or this is me, the Chair of and I would like to know if you can provide tickets to these people who are in need, who can't afford it on their own and who want to get to a family funeral in Nain. Is there a problem or is there an issue with that?

Possibly there's a problem with it. The first problem is this. Are you using your position and are you using your office to do a special favour or a special benefit for somebody that you would not do or is not available to all Inuit? And if you ask yourself that question and you come to the answer that no, this is something that I would do on behalf of all Inuit, you've got to realize that it may be something that not everybody, not all elected officials would do on behalf of all Inuit. But let's say that you're satisfied in your own mind that this is something that I can do. The next question that is really important is how you do it. And very often in this business it's not so much what you do as how you go about doing it. And if what you do is you pick up the phone and you say, this is me, a member of the Assembly, an AngajukKâk, a Minister, making the request, then what you're doing is you're making this official Assembly, official business. And you are making it clear that the Nunatsiavut Government is involved here, and that you, in your office in your capacity, are involved. And if they say, oh, okay, fine, we've got tickets for these people and they get tickets, be aware that that corporation, that company, may be looking at you as now owing them something. And it is in a way very little different taking a week for yourself in somebody's outfitting camp. The difference is that you haven't done it for yourself. You've done it for somebody else, but you've put the Nunatsiavut Government on the line because you've done it in your official position, and so there may be a tit for tat here. There may be a comeback where that company has business and is looking for something from you. If



that's the case, expect a phone call and find yourself in a difficult position. Now probably neither of those two things is wrong. Far better is to pick up the phone and say to the airline company, here's the situation. Do you have a compassionate travel policy that these people can tap into? That then leaves the company with either the uncomfortable situation where they don't have such a policy, in which case presumably they make a note to themselves and to their superiors, here's a policy we had better get, or they make it up on the fly and they say yes, okay. We don't have a policy, but we'll do this. But in that case, you have approached them on a very different basis. You have approached them looking for information about what kind of a policy they have and information about what they can do. I think that that is probably a situation which requires, in your circumstances, one step further, which is you have got a special relationship with Air Labrador. And if you pick up the phone to Air Labrador, they understand and you understand that there is a special relationship there. Are you using your position to influence their decisions? I don't know. A lot depends on who you speak to at the other end of the line. The real question is would you be prepared to do exactly the same thing to every other airline and with every other airline? Or are you just doing this because it's Lab Air and you know that you've got a relationship? So these are fine questions. And, again, you can see that you're in a grey area, but the thing that you have to be very careful about is using your office and your position with a part of the government that, although it's at arm's length, has a very

clear relationship to you, and whether you're using that for the benefit of one specific person or one specific family in a situation that's not generally available to everybody else. Probably nothing wrong with that against the *Code of Conduct* at the end of the day, but you can see how easy it is to start running close to the wind. The other part of this equation is that you, as the elected representative, would like to attend the funeral as well. And you then ask the question of Air Labrador, can I have a ticket to attend the funeral? And that is clearly offside. (A) you're using your position and (b) not only are you receiving a gift, you're asking for one. And that is clearly against the rules. So that is the second example I wanted to use, and now I throw it open to discussion that what I've tried to do with the examples is I've tried to show that there are two different situations. One is clearly against the rules, the other is not clearly against the rules, where you're doing this on behalf of the constituent, you are in a situation where it's very easy to get into grey areas and where it may become easier to cross the line. So questions/discussion.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

I recognize Roy Blake.

**MR. BLAKE:**

What about, say, a situation, a beneficiary passes away in Nain and family members are living in Upper Lake Melville, AES clients, and wanting to get to Nain. Say I make the call to Air Labrador on behalf of the family and Air Labrador says, yes, we have no problem with this because we've been doing it so much in the future and we were only glad to help. Would that be crossing the line?

**MR. HAYSOM:**

No, I don't think you've crossed the line there. If Air Labrador has a policy of doing that, and it's a well-established policy and it's something that they've done often in the past and will continue to do for anybody and everybody, I think that that's fine. Given that you've got a special relationship with Air Labrador, I would want to know what that policy is and, in fact, I would suggest that under the circumstances, every member of this Assembly should know what that policy is against the day that you receive similar requests, so that I know that you don't run constituency offices the same way that provincial governments and federal governments have their constituency offices run with staff and, you know, all kinds of assistants. But when you are doing case work on, and this is case work, on behalf of constituents you will be accessing information from a lot of different sources. So in that case you're accessing a policy of Air Labrador. You can better serve yourself and your constituents if you've got a copy of that policy on your desk or in your filing cabinet. If you know what that policy is, you know how it works, and you can tell people then to go to the airline company looking for (a), (b) and (c), but not to expect (d) because you know the policy, you should probably also have the same policy from the other airline companies, from provincial airlines, and given that people live in places like Montreal for companies like Air Canada. Air Canada used to have a very generous program in place. Today, not so much, but still you do need to know about it, and it's helpful to do that. And this is not just a question of bereavement situations. You should know what the policies are and

where to go for help on things like Old Age supplements. I bet all of you have got EI with you, but, you know, things like Old Age supplements and guaranteed income supplements, getting your tax refunds and stuff like that. Know the policies and know how to get access to that. So in that particular case if Air Labrador, or the airline company, has got that kind of policy and that kind of response, that is their government policy. That's their corporate policy, and you've learned about it and you've used it for the benefit of your constituent. That's entirely fair game. That's good case work.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Do you have a supplementary question?

**MR. BLAKE:** What about if they're doing it out of the goodness of their hearts and they don't have something in?

**MR. HAYSOM:** That, essentially, becomes their own problem. You know, the problem that I've been cautioning you about is doing this stuff out of the goodness of your own hearts, out of your pocket at your own cost. The company, whatever airline company it is, shouldn't be doing this at the cost of its shareholders. Shouldn't be doing it out of its own pocket. It should make sure that it's got a policy that controls the costs and is applied fairly across the board to all its customers. It is their business.

**MR. BLAKE:** It's not mine.

**MR. HAYSOM:** It's none of yours directly, no. No.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I recognize Sarah Leo.

**PRESIDENT LEO:**

And now I'm going to sound very cold, but factual. Actually, it is our business. The Air Labrador is run as a part of NGC through LICST and basically gets Inuit money. If you're going to be asking for somebody for a free ticket that's going to cut into their profits, ask, PAL. Like I said the cold side of me.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Any further questions? If not, Mr. Haysom.

**MR. HAYSOM:**

The third area of real life examples is probably less real life than the others. But it involves the issue of travel by elected officials. And there is a lot to be said about travel by elected officials. I think, first of all, that it's obvious that business travel is essential and is a requirement of the job for many of you. For some of you there is more travel that's required, and there's more travel that's part of the job description or part of your mandate than for others. And for some of you around this table there may never be any real travel. By real travel I mean the airplane flights that take you on one leg and the second leg and take you to hotels for two or three nights. But in principle and in general, to differing degrees travel goes with your job. I think also that although some of you made the test travel, particularly those who don't like flying, that travel or trips are seen as one of the benefits of elected office. Why? Well, you get to go to different places, you get to have good meals, you get to live in hotels and it's all paid for, government expense. And if you don't think that these trips are a real benefit or a real advantage, I can guarantee you that there are a lot of your constituents out there who certainly see them in that light. And they certainly see them in that light if they don't know

why you're going, they don't know where you're going, and they never hear a word about what you did while you were gone. But even if you are responsible and transparent and accountable for your travel, people on the street see this as a real perk of office, and it draws a lot of attention and a lot of criticism. Part of the reason why is because misuse or abuse of travel expenses and travel is easy. It's also very hard to see because it usually takes place away from where people can see you, and it is only traceable as to what's going on if somebody is looking at your travel expense claims. Travel is a significant item of government expense. I don't know what the percentage is. I don't know what the amounts are. But I'm prepared to bet that the average person on the street, if they heard what the travel budget was, all the costs of all the travel by the Nunatsiavut Government, they would be astounded at what a large sum of money it is. So this is something that is an easy target. This is a lightning rod, and this is something that people will police and be very sensitive to. Because it's hard to monitor and because it's something that takes place away from the view of the community, it really depends, for its effectiveness and its accurately working, on the integrity of the leaders or the elected representatives who are doing the travelling. And so integrity comes into play here. Now to some specific examples or some specific situations, and some of them were already referred to by Sarah, if an elected official has personal business that requires travel and they use Nunatsiavut Government funds to cover that travel, they would clearly be offside. That is using government money for

personal benefit or personal gain. Clearly offside. Presumably nobody's got any questions about that. What becomes a little more difficult is a situation where an official, an elected official, has personal business that requires travel and then finds official business to do in order to help cover that travel expense or that travel cost. To put it at its absolute crassest and simplest, and I'm not saying that this in any way happens, that this is any way a real example, that an elected official wants to go to Goose Bay from Makkovik in order to do some Christmas shopping and finds some business to do in Goose Bay that will allow them to travel to Goose Bay at government expense, do their shopping and come home. That's pretty difficult to track, and that's pretty difficult to see that in operation. You only would ever know that if you could be inside the mind of the official who does that kind of thing. But if you could get inside their, mind, or if you could find a way to discover that that's what's going on, I think everybody would not only agree that that's offside, but I think that they would agree that that's being offside of a particularly wicked kind because that's an abuse of trust, in addition to using your government position and government funds for personal benefit and personal gain. And then we take it to the next example. And the next example is probably one that comes up far more frequently, and it's this. That an elected official travels on genuine government business. There's no question about it that there is genuine government business here. And to be clear, this is not an invitation that's been received that becomes an excuse for government travel. This is genuine government

business. What's the difference? Well, as an elected official, you will receive all kinds of invitations. There is a prize ceremony that's taking place at Cabot College, or at the College of the North Atlantic as it now is, in St. John's, and you are invited to come and to witness people graduating. That's an invitation. It's an invitation that probably would go out to a number of elected officials. There may be one elected official whose business it is to be there, but I would be surprised if there were more than one. In that situation it may be part of the mandate. It may be part of the mandate of the Minister responsible for education to go, particularly if there is somebody receiving a special award at the graduation or, particularly, if the Nunatsiavut Government has endorsed or supported or donated to the program that they're graduating from. It may be that that person could go. But for anybody else to use it as a reason to go travelling, starts to become questionable, particularly if, as part of that travel, they're taking personal advantage or personal benefits. But that's not the case I'm talking about. The case that I'm really talking about is this. Is that this is genuine government business. The Minister responsible for Natural Resources has got a meeting in St. John's with the Regional Director General of DFO. This is legitimate government business. And on that business trip the elected official takes the opportunity to do personal things, to do personal business. That puts you into a different category and a different situation. And I think everybody recognizes that category and everybody recognizes that situation. It happens a lot. So what do you do about that? Well, there



may be nothing to be done about it, and there may be nothing to be said about it other than this. There's a reason why travel and trips are seen as a perk of office. There is a reason why and that is because these trips and this travel, particularly for poor people living in coastal communities, why they look like a benefit, why they look like a perk of office. So under those circumstances I think that when it comes to the *Code of Conduct*, integrity comes right to the front. Being honest about what you're doing is essential. Being truthful about what you're doing is essential. And the truth of the matter is that you're going out on genuine government business, and the truth of the matter is that you're taking advantage of that to do some personal things like shopping for your children at Christmastime. And if you're honest and up front about it, people will understand. Yes, it's a perk office and yes, you're not misusing or abusing government funding or using government funding for your own personal gain. However, I think there's more to be said about it than that. And the next example I want to give is the person who goes out and ends up having an appointment for their personal health and they're going out to a genuine meeting, but they are going to take time away from the meeting that they've gone out to attend in order to go to a personal appointment. It's a situation that I have seen on a number of occasions. It's an example, but it's an example that I've witnessed, that I've watched. There's something wrong with that. And what is wrong with it is that that is essentially setting aside your business, setting aside your official duties and responsibilities and setting aside the reason why you went out

in the first place in order to benefit yourself personally. So what do you do in that situation? I think that the short answer is is that you arrange your appointments differently. It's simple. You arrange your appointments differently. So you do not arrange for a personal appointment with the dentist, or the eye doctor, or with your banker, for the middle of a meeting that you're out on business attending. Now I understand that in the real world, it is sometimes extraordinarily difficult to get appointments, particularly with the health care system. And I understand that, in advance, it is really, really difficult to get these things on a timely basis. If you don't take this appointment on this date, you're not going to see the doctor for another three months. That's the real world and I understand that. In that situation your first obligation is to see whether or not you can change your meeting time. If you can't change your appointment time, you try to change your meeting time. And you ask people for indulgence. You ask people to accommodate you, and you ask people not to convene the meeting during the time that you reasonably expect to be at this unchangeable, very important appointment. That assumes that you've got the appointment before your government travel comes up. If the appointment comes up after the government travel, then it's the appointment that has to move. If the appointment comes up before the government travel, then it's the event that you're travelling for that has to move. And if you can't be accommodated, if they cannot change the meeting or shift the meeting around to meet your needs, you've got a prior commitment for that

particular event, you send somebody else in your place. And as soon as you send somebody else in your place, you are then travelling to your appointment on your own account, not on the government's account. So these things have got ways of working them out.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you.

**MR. HAYSOM:** I've got more to say on this, but...

**MR. SPEAKER:** More to say on this?

**MR. HAYSOM:** Yes.

**MR. SPEAKER:** As per Standing Order 5.2, notwithstanding Order 5.1, "A member may propose a motion without notice in the Assembly or in Committee of the Whole to continue sitting beyond the hour of daily adjournment for the purpose of continuing consideration of specified business item subject to the following conditions. The motion must relate to the business then being considered. The motion must be proposed prior to the scheduled time for daily adjournment, and the motion must not be subject to debate or amendment." I'd like to put to the floor, would any member like to first that?

**MR. POTTLE:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. I move, seconded by the President Sarah Leo, that the Committee of the Whole continue and finish its business as we are discussing here this afternoon and proceed beyond five o'clock. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The motion is in order. All those in favour, say aye?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Any nays? The motion is carried. We'll continue in Committee of the Whole. We are still in Committee of the Whole. Please proceed.

**MR. HAYSOM:** I think, Mr. Speaker, that there's a question there, do you want me to take the question first before continuing?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Yes. I believe Mr. Gregory Flowers has a question.

**MR. FLOWERS:** Thank you. I don't know if I should call you Mr. Speaker now we're in for it. We're not official here. But, anyway, I think you're putting a lot of grey areas in everybody's mind now by talking about that one. I mean, if you've got an appointment in St. John's, for example, I mean, and a lot of us, or a lot of people don't like to travel anyway, and if they had to go all the way out there and ask for an appointment or something, and you know you can kill two birds with one stone, kind of thing, why the hell don't you do it? It's too grey for me. On other side, you've got an appointment that started from, say, whatever, six months you have on certain appointments that you have to go to. And then while you're out there, you're talking with your Deputy Minister, or what have you, and there's a meeting kind of around that time but you're going out on health reasons. So you say sure, let's do all this one time. There it's being covered one way or the other. It's not being covered by Nunatsiavut. It's covered by non-insured health benefits, which is another, another area, so I'll come up. And instead of you just getting back and then you say, because I was out for this, now I can't do this business and I had to come right back here Monday. That's the Friday you get back, and Monday you have to go out on government issues. My personal feeling is if you would

do it the other way and get it done and get it over with, it would be much simpler. And I can't see that as having a conflict. It's just going out doing business and doing your appointment. Unless there's something specific that, you made, it's too grey for me.

**MR. HAYSOM:**

Okay. Well, I do want to keep in the grey, and if it's too grey, we do have to sort it out. Now I think you gave other examples. So you raised other grey areas that I do intend to get to. I think that you make a very valid point about I'm going out for meetings on Friday, and I've got meetings on Monday. Do I have to travel all the way back and all the way out again? Well, you probably don't have time anyway if you live particularly in one of the Inuit communities. But if you have got personal business and official business, you do have to keep them separate. And any use of official money, as an official, has to be used for official government purposes. And any use of government money for you, personally, is a problem. Now it may very well be that you, personally, are going to have your expenses paid by the non-insured health benefits in that particular example. And that maybe you are saving non-insured health benefits some money because you're not having to travel out on their tab, but nonetheless the non-insured health benefits money has to go to non-insured health benefits bill. And the elected officials travel money has to go to the elected officials travel business, which means that you have to be able to keep track of what belongs where in your expenses. And that is full accountability and that's full transparency. As soon as you mix those two things up, even though it ultimately comes out of the

Nunatsiavut Government's funds, you're starting to mix things up in a way that becomes dangerous. Why? Well, non-insured health benefits may be the perfect example for getting into the grey. But if somebody goes out on non-insured health benefits to St. John's, I'm fairly sure that they don't end up staying in one of the top end hotels. And I'm fairly sure that they don't end up with the same kind of meal allowance as, for example, a Minister would have. So that's why it's important to draw the distinction because any other beneficiary who went out on non-insured health benefits, who had no official business to do at all, would be in a very different situation.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Sarah Leo. I recognize Sarah Leo.

**PRESIDENT LEO:**

And I don't know, maybe I'm misunderstanding something, but I think Veryan's point, in my opinion, was pretty clear. Basically, we travel on business. You're either going to a meeting or you're accepting an invitation because you feel that's the best use of Inuit money to accept that invitation. I'm one of those, like Veryan said, you get a million invitations a day. You have to really prioritize because, otherwise, you would never be gone. There are instances when you have a meeting set up. I'll give my example. Examples work easier. Last summer we went to ICC. As a board member of ITK and ICC, I'm expected to be at the ICC General Assembly, which was in Nunavik last year. Once I found out what the dates were and I knew we were going, we looked at the route. The route went through Edmonton. My daughter lives in Edmonton. So I said, okay, well, you know what? I'm going to take a week while I'm

passing through and visit my daughter. When I came back, I made sure all of my claims from the time that-, because I was travelling with a group, whatever their claim was in that route was, mine was the same. But that week I was not on personal business. That's a totally different thing. I didn't accept the invitation to ICC because I knew I was going to stop in Edmonton. Once I realized we were going through Edmonton to get to Nunavik, I took advantage of it to take that week off and spend with my daughter. If you have an appointment in Goose Bay and you realize you're going to set up-, or St. John's, or Timbuktu, or whatever, you're going to set up appointments. You have an appointment, a medical appointment to go. You realize there is some business that you can do there. You set up meetings. I think that's where it may start to get a little grey, but Veryan mentioned you don't set up your appointment around your meetings. You keep them quite separately, and I don't understand where you're seeing the grey area because it's quite simple. You're going out for meetings. They have to be meetings that are there because that's the best use of Inuit money to be at that meeting. Simple as that. That's the main question. You're setting up this meeting, be it, whoever. Is that the best use of Inuit money, and do I have to be at that meeting? At the same time you have an appointment with a doctor. Okay? Okay, you go do your doctor thing. You go off to your appointment because you deemed, as a Minister who is responsible, that is good use of Inuit money. Fair game. Done. You would have been going out there anyway, whatnot. But you keep them separately. You

don't find an excuse to go to a meeting because you have an appointment with Dr. Scrivens in Goose Bay, say, whenever, you know? You don't go and look for some, I don't know, performance by the Creative Arts Festival, or some meeting at the Labrador North Chamber of Commerce, or whoever, around that time to say you're attending so that you can get it covered by government business. I don't know if that answers your grey area or not, but that's, I think, Veryan, without taking it away from you, that's personal experience explanation.

**MR. FLOWERS:**

I don't think it is. Like, what I was kind of, I guess, referring to, and I didn't-, it's not experience that I had yet, but what I'm trying to say is that let's just say, for example, I got an appointment in St. John's, non-insured, this is the date I had to be there. If you had to travel, you know, getting to an appointment here, like, it takes you roughly three days in and out, or probably longer. And let's just say that, you know, your Deputy Minister calls, or before you even knew you were going, your Deputy Minister-, or you've talking about, geez, this is roughly around the same time we would have to go out there anyway for a meeting, right? And then you say, gee, why don't we, you know, why don't we try to do all this at one time instead of, you know, flying out on, like, you'd be flying back here on a Friday, and then Monday we have to go again. But try to arrange it so that, you know, you're out there anyway. Why don't we try to have our meeting around the same time out there so that you don't have to fly back and then turn around Monday and fly back out again?



That's kind of where I was going. I don't know if you understand what I'm trying to say.

**MR. HAYSOM:**

Yes, I do understand and, you know, my response to that is that as long as you keep the two tracks that you're on separate, and account for them separately and correctly, that's fine. There is an efficiency to be gained here. There's no question about it that there's a real efficiency to be gained. There's efficiency for you, and there's efficiency for non-insured health benefits. Or, if not for them, for the ministerial business that you're travelling on. And as long as you're gaining those efficiencies and accounting for them properly, then you're in the clear. I would go one step further on that, though. I would say yes, finding efficiencies like that and finding cost saving measures like that is good. But clear it with somebody before you do it. It goes back to those principles of transparency, responsibility and accountability. And you're going to get all of those three things if before you start that trip, you get a hold of Sarah, or you get a hold of Kate, or you get a hold of the Minister of Finance, or even if you get a hold of the Deputy Minister of Finance and say, here's what's happening and explain the situation. I've got health travel that takes me to St. John's for Thursday. I could come back to Hopedale on Friday, but I can also arrange a meeting with DFO. I can't get it on the Friday. I can get it on the Monday. It's a meeting that we must have. I'd like to organize it so that I spend the weekend and instead of spending that airfare, instead of going to all the grief and the time and the trouble, can I put that spending of the weekend on the ministerial

travel budget for my accommodations for that weekend on the ministerial travel budget instead of buying new airfare? And I'm prepared to bet that as long as you're clear about it, and as long as you explain the situation, and as long as there are cost savings to be had, you will get okay.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** I'm kind of squirming here, Veryan.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Excuse me; I believe Richard Pamak has a question.

**MR. PAMAK:** Thank you. I guess the two scenarios that you pointed out as examples of not good, I guess, conduct on travel, I agree. In this short period I've been here, I have travelled out on official business and then decided to take maybe a couple days of personal time and then return home. And it's similar to what Sarah just pointed out. She travelled on official business, decided to stay with family and travelled home. You know, you don't claim for the time that you're on personal time and that's great, but is that considered abuse? It's one thing to go and travel five days to St. John's, and in between there to shop, and then people see you as travelling those five days and taking all the time you're out there to shop. But if you take time to travel on official business, and then take time off on personal time and then travel back again, is that abuse? I mean, I've done it and Sarah just outlined she's done it and I know of others here that have practised it in the past. That's the first question.

**MR. HAYSOM:** I don't think that it's abuse as long as it's done that way, and it's done properly that way. Again, I would say that if, in advance of doing it, there

is proper notice given, and if this is discussed, and it's clear in advance what you're doing, and that is what you do then no, that's not abuse. Nor is it abuse if the time that you take to do your personal business is taken as health care time, your health leave, your sickness leave or your annual leave. Eventually I think that Ministers will find that they travel far more than they get sick leave and annual leave, at which point it all comes to an end. At that point there is no more room for that kind of use of travel. But the principles remain absolutely the same. If you are on government business, legitimate government business, this is genuine government business, not just simply accepting invitations in order to get somewhere. And if the difference in time and the difference in expense is separated out and properly accounted for, then you're not going to do something wrong. The difficulty is when you take shopping and you're doing it in a business afternoon as opposed to doing it after hours. Oh, yes, but this store is not open except during business hours. Well, you know, that's personal expense, and that's personal time, and that's an appointment around which everything else has to be organized. If you're not a meeting for personal reasons, that is an abuse of government property, particularly if you don't separate it out. Okay, sorry, Sarah's still squirming.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. I believe Sarah Leo has something to add.

**PRESIDENT LEO:**

Yes. Veryan, I have to really disagree with what you suggested to Greg with regards to mixing-, not mixing medical travel and business travel. I would look at it somebody goes out for a medical. They have a medical

appointment on Thursday, they could have come home Friday. But they have a meeting on Monday, so they might as well stay out there. My opinion is, and this is how I think it should be, that-, and maybe the Minister of Finance can fill in, his business claim would start as if he weren't there, out there on medical travel and he was actually leaving his community because it's up to him-, his choice to stay there for that. That's my opinion. I think if I go to St. John's-, I'm in St. John's, I have an appointment on Thursday, I can get home on Friday, no problem. That's not a big deal. I can leave again on Sunday to make my appointment on Monday. I don't think it should be our government that's paying for me to stay in St. John's for the weekend because I don't want to fly back or go back, or because my appointment was on the Thursday prior to the Monday meeting. I could have maybe changed one or the other, or cancelled one or the other. But it's my choice to be in St. John's on that Thursday for that appointment. That's how I see it.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

You'd like to respond, sir?

**MR. HAYSOM:**

Yes. I appreciate exactly what you're saying, and I think that in that situation it is probably correct. However, if the situation is such that travelling from St. John's back to your home community, and travelling then from your home community back to St. John's, is not possible or, alternatively, is possible but increases the government's expenses, then you have got an opportunity to save money. The issue about saving the money is to get clearance for it ahead of time. And, as I suggested to Greg, I think that you are far better clearing that ahead of doing it

because if it's clear that you're saving the government money, you will get a yes, unless there were other issues at play. If it is clear that you're taking advantage of the system and are simply deriving income and benefits that are not for the benefit of the government, you will get the answer no, you're taking advantage.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Yes, you may.

**PRESIDENT LEO:**

So how do you account for the Friday? Do you go into the office in St. John's and work? Do you take it as leave? Do you take it as sick leave? If you take it as leave, then the government can't be paying your expenses. So do you go into the office and work? So what business do you have to do in the government office in St. John's? That's where it becomes grey as well.

**MR. HAYSOM:**

Yes, those are all valid questions, and those are all issues that have to be addressed. If the person is just simply hanging out in St. John's for a Friday, then clearly that's personal time. And that then becomes a contribution from that person to help everybody save costs. The alternative is is that that person says no, I'm not going to take this as annual leave. I'm not going to take this as sick leave, nor am I going to pay the personal costs associated with it. Then they're free to travel home. But the point at all times is to be able to separate out the business from the personal. Let's just say forget about whether or not there's money saving available to the Nunatsiavut Government and just simply say that you've got a government appointment on the Thursday, and you've got a personal appointment on the Friday, and you stay over

for the personal appointment. It's not non-insured health benefits. It's purely personal. Then for the Friday you are off all government expenses, and you are off, either on sick leave or on annual leave, and then you fly home on the Saturday. And I think that that's very easy in that situation to separate the one from the other.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Dan Pottle, you had something to add?

**MR. POTTLE:** I guess either way you look at it you're incurring government expenses, and with Veryan's scenario I think you're encouraging that. I mean if you're staying, or if you have an appointment on Thursday, you ought not to go home on Friday because you have business on Friday. You still had to be covered for Friday, Saturday and Sunday regardless, so you're still costing the government money. So if there's no reason for you to be there on that Friday then, in my opinion, you should be home.

**MR. HAYSOM:** Yes, I don't want to be misunderstood as encouraging people to waste government money. My point was simply that there may be money to be saved and, if that's the case, then it's in everybody's interest to save the money. But if it appears that there is no money to be saved, or you can't figure out whether or not there is, then quite clearly you have to separate them out.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I recognize Jim Tuttauk.

**MR. TUTTAUK:** Thank you. Hypothetically speaking, say I go to St. John's and, say, go down Thursday, come back on a Monday, I'm out there so I say, hey, I'm going to call Vogue Optical up, get my eyes checked out because we all

know that it's next to impossible to get up on the hospital flight to be going for your holidays because the first thing Scrivens will say is, are you coming on the hospital flight? And you say, yes. No, sorry, we can't take your booking because you might get bumped off. Okay, anyway, carry on. What's the harm in me going to my-, say I've got three days of meetings. What's the harm of me going to my meetings from, say, eight o'clock till four o'clock in the evening, then getting off and going to Vogue Optical at seven o'clock in the evening?

**PRESIDENT LEO:**

There's nothing.

**MR. TUTTAUK:**

Okay, then its fine then. That solves that, I guess.

**MR. HAYSOM:**

I think that in that case there is no problem, as Sarah has just said. But be very careful that when you go to your Vogue Optical meeting and you take a taxi to the Vogue Optical meeting, and you take a taxi then from the Vogue Optical meeting back to your hotel, that that doesn't appear as a business expense. Be very careful because that's what I mean by you've got to separate the personal from the business. And it means keeping track of your time, what you're doing, and the expenses associated with it in such a way that you cannot be seen to be abusing your position. Because don't forget that your next door neighbour who needs vision care from Vogue Optical is not going to get their Vogue Optical that easily and that way. So you do have to be very careful about it. So there's nothing wrong with that. I'm just taking it the one set of circumstances further.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Richard Pamak. I recognize you had a second supplementary question.

**MR. PAMAK:**

Yes, thank you. I think you touched on it a little bit earlier. I just want to get some clarification. Again, I'm a good example of it. And right now I do have a, you know, a request for approval to travel, and right on those dates I have an appointment with the doctor. And I knew that the appointment, you know, was set on this date, but travel came afterwards. So figured you'd kill two birds with one stone. You get your business done, and then you take 15, 20 minutes or a half an hour for your appointment. You said maybe re-schedule your hours of travel, business around that appointment as a way of getting around it, or which is, you know, if you do that, then I would have to come back, re-schedule, travel out on non-insured health benefits, which eventually will cost more money to government over all. Certainly if you plan ahead and re-schedule your time, you're okay with that. But to, Yes, I just, you know, I'm a good example. I do have, like, I think I have a question with Kate now, and it just says I want to travel for business on this time. I put in highlights, "I have an appointment at 1:40." Is that abuse? Is that, you know? Unless I go out and maybe re-schedule the times to conduct my business. Just for clarification. I just, you know, I think you mentioned something along those lines.

**MR. HAYSOM:**

I'm learning slowly. I think that I've covered this, and that it's pretty clear. This is not a question of what came first, the chicken or the egg? One of them came first. You either had business travel or you had an appointment. And if you're going up for the business travel, and you can



make an appointment to fit in with it, then the appointment must not interfere with the business. If you've got an appointment that's a non-business appointment, and you're going out for that, then that's why you're going out. If you subsequently get a business reason for attending the meeting, then you have to be able to say to whoever it is that you're doing the business with, I've got a prior appointment which is what you would say. I'm sorry; I've got a prior appointment. Can we schedule the business for a different time? That's what you say. You don't leave the meeting. The alternative is to say, if we can't schedule the business for a different time, can you accommodate me? During these hours I have to be at this prior appointment. I can meet around that time, but I cannot meet at that time. And when you're at your appointment, you have to account for it separately. It's time off, one way or another. It's another set of expenses. It's not official meeting business expense. It has to be accounted for. But organize your life, you know? Don't just sort of play, ? I understand opportunism. In a game of hockey being an opportunist is a great asset.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Excuse me, sir. Could you please proceed with your presentation?

**MR. HAYSOM:**

We'll stop talking about hockey. All right. Further examples, because there are further examples and, again, the President referred indirectly to one of them. And it's a whole set of issues around travel, but it's a set of issues of a different kind. And it goes to the use of offices. What can happen is that a person has got personal business, or a combination of personal business and official business, out of the community where they

are normally at work. They go to another community where the Nunatsiavut Government has got offices. So you are normally at work in St. John's. You are going to do business and personal business in Nain. What's the personal business? Well, let's just say for argument sake, it's the fall, and you're going on a goose hunt. When you're in Nain, you can continue to work after your official business is over if you can sit at an office in Nain, get access to computers and to government programs or government services such as the internet, government telephones so that you can maintain contact with your office back in St. John's. And you're now going to wait through a day working out of your office or out of the government's offices in Nain until you can start your goose hunt on Saturday when your buddy is also off work and the two of you can go on. Is there something wrong with that? I think, quite clearly, that you cannot make a hard and fast rule about whether or not there's something wrong with that, but I think you can see how there could very easily be something wrong with that. What you may be doing is you may be holding a place in a government office and pretending to have work to do just as a way of keeping yourself in Nain so that you can go on a goose hunt. You don't really have any business in your capacity as Minister of Finance that requires you to be in Nain. You're just simply doing your job now out of Nain, and the reason that you're simply doing your job out of Nain is because you've got something personal that you want to do on the weekend and you're holding the place. I think that that is very much offside. That is very little different, in fact, to wanting to travel and

finding the meeting to go to so that you can shift the expense from yourself to the government. It's not...

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Unfortunately, sir, I'd like to thank you. I'm sorry to cut you off at that particular juncture. We have other business to attend to. I'd like to give you a few more minutes. Well, you can finish that particular part of your presentation, if you will. Thank you.

**MR. HAYSOM:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will try to finish that up very quickly. It is the last aspect of this travel that I wanted to touch on. I think that what has to happen in those circumstances is, simply, you have to be clear and honest about what it is that's going on. And so for the example that I gave, if you are spending time killing time pretending or appearing to be on government business when really you do not have that business, and really what you're doing is using the government as an excuse so that you can stay on for personal benefit or personal enjoyment, it's an abuse. It's very hard to discover. It's very hard to see, but it is an abuse. The way around that kind of situation is, again, to be clear; when your meeting in Nain ends you're off the government payroll. You are off the government expense tab, and you are on your own time until your goose hunt is over. And if that includes the dead time on the Friday, it includes the dead time on the Friday. Going into the office and pretending to work, or even doing some real work when that's not really your base of operations, it causes problems.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Haysom. Thank you for your presentation. Very quickly, and I can't stress that enough, is there any closing comments before we go back into Assembly? I recognize Dan Pottle.

**MR. POTTLE:** I was going to raise a point of order, but I don't think it's necessary where you gave me the recognition to speak. My motion was to extend the sitting of the Assembly so Mr. Haysom could finish his presentation and not be rushed through that, and that's what I saw happening with your order to direct him to finish his presentation. Nakummek, Mr. Chair.

**MR. SPEAKER:** It is my understanding you have more to present, Mr. Haysom.

**MR. HAYSOM:** Mr. Speaker, I had one or two additional points that I thought were important to cover. Other than that, I would just be summarizing what I've said on the *Code of Conduct*. I suggest that if the Assembly can find time for me to come back at a later point in Committee of the Whole that, you know, it may accommodate everybody, but it's just a suggestion. If I don't get onto it I was going to refer specifically to the *Financial Administration Act* and some provisions in that. I'm in your hands as to whether you want to come back for that.

**MR. SPEAKER:** You had something to add, Mr. Dan Pottle?

**MR. POTTLE:** On that I would suggest that we finish our session today and reconvene as a Committee of the Whole first thing in the morning.

**MR. SPEAKER:** In respect to that, we have to follow the *Orders of the Day* and we have to give notice to motion.

**MR. POTTLE:** I'm not sure I understand, but are you asking me to make a motion?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Yes. Under notices of motions on day two in respect to *Orders of the Day*.

**MR. POTTLE:** But I thought it was-, I'm just going to-, might as well finish my train of thought. I thought the Speaker had the authority to ask that we discontinue business for the day and reconvene again as a Committee of the Whole in the morning. Thank you. That is correct, sir. We shall reconvene Committee of the Whole tomorrow and ask that Mr. Veryan Haysom, if he so obliges, that would be okay with him.

**MR. HAYSOM:** I'm in your hands. Yes, that's fine.

**MR. SPEAKER:** This is out of respect for the interpreter/translators, and we cannot proceed any further under Inuit law without translation services provided. So very quickly we shall finish off. Very quickly, thank you, Mr. Haysom. We are now back in Assembly. Item 17, "First Reading of Bills." There are no first reading of bills today. Item 18, "Second Reading of Bills." There are no second reading of bills today. Item 19, "Assent to Bills." There are no assent to bills today. Item 20, "Adjournment." The Assembly is now adjourned until 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning, Wednesday, November 19th, 2014. For the information of the Assembly, there will be a caribou consultation at the Amaguk Inn at 7:30.

**Date:** November 19, 2014 Day 2

**MR. SPEAKER:** Ullâkut Illonasi. I would like to ask Wilson Jararuse to say opening prayer.

**MR. JARARUSE:** [Prayer off record]

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Wilson. We adjourned yesterday on the understanding we would reconvene as Committee of the Whole to conclude Code of Conduct presentation by witness, Veryan Haysom. In respect to the Standing Order Section 23(3) which is Business of the Assembly and Section 3 says, "Except as provided in Standing Order 23(1) and (2) the daily order of business in the Assembly shall be," and it goes on to list your daily order of business in the Assembly. What I'd like to do with unanimous consent of the Assembly is under Section 16 of the Standing Orders waiver of Standing Orders 16(1), "The Assembly may waive any Standing Order procedure, practise, custom or precedent sent by unanimous consent." So I call upon the Assembly to waive Standing Order 23(3) and then return to Assembly after Committee of the Whole. All those in favour say aye.

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Any nays? Motion is carried. I now call-, thank you, and we are now in Committee of the Whole. And we invite witness Veryan Haysom to address the Assembly. Thank you.

**MR. HAYSOM:** Good morning, and thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have very much left that I want to cover, but yesterday after we closed as a result of some

questions and comments that were put to me, I thought that there was one follow-up issue that I would like to just touch on in response to concerns expressed by Richard. As you will recall Richard asked the question, you know, what happens if somebody has got questions about my conduct and believes that I'm in breach of the Code of Conduct? And I think that I gave a highly political answer to that question, but there is also a procedural answer that relates to the Code of Conduct, and I just want to go through that very quickly. If a beneficiary has a belief or a complaint that a member of the Assembly or any elected official has breached the Code of Conduct, they've got a right to lay the complaint or to ask for an investigation from the Speaker that's done through the Office of the Clerk. They have to identify what provisions of the Code of Conduct they think that the elected official has breached. Once that letter of complaint identifying the section of the Code and the conduct complained of is received by the Clerk, a copy goes to the member who is involved, and the member gets an opportunity to respond. The response goes then to the Speaker, and the Speaker does what I think I referred to yesterday as essentially a screening or a preliminary decision. And at that point the Speaker can, based on the letter of complaint and the letter of response from the elected official, can decide that the matter is trivial or of no significance. Or that it is a matter that might be subject to mediation. Or that it warrants further investigation and it's sufficiently serious that it needs to be looked into. If the Speaker determines that it is merely

trivial, the Speaker will then dispense with it, dispose of it at that point, essentially reject the complaint out of hand. If the Speaker thinks that it is something that mediation can settle, then the Speaker pursues that and sees if an arrangement can be or an understanding can be arrived at between the beneficiary who's got the complaint and the member or the elected official. In the event that the Speaker decides that further investigation is necessary, that it is serious enough to warrant it, then the Speaker will convene an ad hoc committee, disciplinary committee, that will then look into the affair in greater detail, will again speak to the complainant and the member and any other witnesses that may be necessary. That investigation is essentially carried out by the disciplinary committee and the principle should be to allow that committee to get on with its work and not to interfere with it or to try and influence their decision. In the final analysis they will make recommendations and/or a decision depending on the circumstances. If the decision is to discipline but not to ask for the removal of the elected official, then that is the decision that sticks and the decision is published. If the disciplinary committee decides that removal should be considered, then it comes back to the Assembly, and the Assembly is the body that has got the power to make a decision on removal, on a recommendation to remove from office. So that's effectively the procedure for dealing with a complaint. And hopefully that provides you with something other than a political answer to the problem. The final thing that I just wanted to touch on for everybody is this. That-,



and really I suppose what I'm doing is giving you just a wrap up caution, by way of wrapping up, just a caution. And it's this. As we've seen the purpose of the Code of Conduct is, or one of its purposes is, to maintain confidence in the integrity of Inuit self-government and the confidence in the value of Inuit self-government. And the arrangements for doing that are much larger and much wider than just the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct covers a large part of the territory of helping to maintain confidence by ensuring that, as much as possible, people behave in a way that instils confidence and respect and belief in the value of what self-government is about. But there's more to it than that. And there are other provisions and other laws that are designed as part of their purpose to give people confidence in the integrity of self-government, and that self-government is a valuable and important part of how Inuit go about leading their lives. As elected representatives, as elected officials, you are expected to know and respect other Inuit laws. And I think it's particularly important that you understand that there are other laws that deal with this issue of promoting confidence in self-government. For example, just one provision that came up recently after the recent round of elections, and it's a provision that actually led to the resignation of people who had been elected to office, is Section 6.4.4 of the Constitution which says that, "Members of the Nunatsiavut Civil Service may not serve as an elected member of the Nunatsiavut Assembly, an Inuit Community Government or an Inuit Government Corporation, and Inuit

Government Corporations includes the ICC's. And so people weren't aware of that provision of the Constitution with the unfortunate result that an employee of the Nunatsiavut Government was elected to the Executive Committee of an Inuit Community Corporation and the result of that was that they had to resign. The important issue there, really, is that that's a provision that's in the Constitution that is designed to make sure that people are not in a conflict situation and that the different functions of the different institutions of government are kept clear and separate and distinct where they have to be. And it's a provision that's there that's designed to promote confidence in the integrity of self-government. So I'm cautioning that there are things like that, provisions like that, that are out there. And it can be quite complicated and you can't be expected to know every last section or every last provision of every last law. If you've got doubts and got questions there is the Legal Services division, and I recommend that you consult and look for advice. The other Inuit law that I think is very important in maintaining confidence in and respect for the integrity of self-government is the Financial Administration Act.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Pottle, you have a question?

**MR. POTTLE:**

Yes, just a question for you, Veryan. I'm wondering before you get into the Financial Administration Act if you could step back a little bit and talk about, how can I say, the Executive Council because the process is somewhat different in the Executive Council for possibly removing members of the Executive Council in a sort of disciplinary action, I

suppose, from the Executive Council perspective outside of the Code of Conduct. I'm wondering if you would be prepared to speak on that for a little bit.

**MR. HAYSOM:**

Yes, I will. I'm going to do this from memory without a copy of the Constitution in front of me, which may be a bit dangerous. So if you think I'm going offside on this, wave your hands, ask questions. As those of you who were here in the spring know, the members of the Executive Council are members of the Executive Council as a result of having been nominated to the Executive Council by the First Minister and having been approved by the Assembly and appointed by the President. So there is a system in place where all members of the Executive Council are there because they have the confidence of the Assembly, and because they have the confidence of the First Minister and because they have the confidence of the President. There's a system of checks and balances there where constitutionally everybody has to work together in order to maximize confidence in the Executive Council and the members of the Executive Council. That having been said, once a person is a member of the Executive Council, they must maintain the confidence of both the First Minister and the President and, ultimately, also the confidence of the Assembly. In the first instance, if a Minister is not performing, or if there are questions about a Minister's performance and, essentially, their functioning as a Minister, their capacity and capability to function as a Minister, their integrity and their ethics as a Minister, or the use of substances,

substance abuse interfering with their performance as a minister, then the First Minister can effectively remove them with the approval of the President. So a Minister must maintain the confidence of both the President and the First Minister in order to remain on the Executive Committee. And a minister can be removed from the Executive Committee. In that case new appointments to the Executive Committee, if any are made, must then be confirmed and have the confidence of the Assembly. Often the practise in the past with the Executive Council has been that when somebody has been removed from office, and I think it's happened once, only once that I can remember, the vacancy that resulted from that was not filled, but one of the other members of the Executive Council was asked to double up and fill the dismissed member's portfolio. So that, in broad outline, is, I think what you were looking for, Danny. Yes? I don't want to say a lot about the Financial Administration Act. I don't think it's necessary in any way to get into the details and the finer points of the Financial Administration Act. What I want to do is I want to say three, perhaps four, things that I think you need to know about. The first is is that if you consider what is important in Inuit self-government for any length of time, I would imagine that no matter who you are and no matter what your philosophy and no matter what your views, you would end up with the question of money and finances, if not in your top three issues in importance, in your top five. So one of you may want to put language and culture as the first and most important issue in self-

government. Another may want to put food security, harvesting and the traditional way of life as your most important. But by the time you'd thought about it for a while, money and financial administration would be right up there. And when it comes to money and financial administration, a fair amount of black letter stuff has been done and created. The first place that you find fairly detailed financial administration arrangements is in the Constitution. And it's a fairly detailed set of financial administration arrangements for a Constitution. Constitutions don't usually go into that kind of detail when it comes to financial administration. And there's a risk that people get glazed over by the amount of detail that's there and miss the crucial points. One of the crucial points is that there has to be an annual budget, as you all know. What is not as obvious is that one of the absolutely crucial functions of this Assembly is to approve the budget. There is very little that happens in the way of government without a budget, and so one of the main ways of controlling and directing where the government is going is by controlling and directing the budget. For that reason, the budget only gets into the house, only gets into the Assembly via the government and via specifically either the First Minister or the Minister of Finance. No other member of the Assembly can introduce a money bill, a bill that calls for the spending of money, into the Assembly. But nobody can spend any money without the approval of the Assembly. So it's a check and balance system again, and one of the most important functions for the Assembly each year is the approval of the budget.

Once the budget is approved, the basic operating rule is that no payment can be made out of government funds unless the payment is authorized under an Inuit law. And the main law authorizing payments, authorizing expenditures is the budget. The second basic rule about this is that money that's paid out of government funds can only be paid out of government funds for the purpose that they were intended for. And so when the Assembly is approving the budget, it's approving the spending of money for a purpose, for a specific purpose. When the government is taking that money out, the government can only use that money for the purpose for which it was appropriated, for the approved purpose. This becomes crucial for the conduct of ministers because any minister who effectively is spending money on an item that has not been approved in the budget is a minister who is spending money in a way that is not authorized under the Constitution and is not authorized under the Financial Administration Act. To put this at a personal level, if what you're doing on a travel expense claim is you are claiming expenses that have been incurred for personal use, or personal purposes, then you are misappropriating funds. You're using the funds that have been appropriated for legitimate government travel and business for a purpose that was not intended and was not authorized, and that is a misappropriation of funds. So what I'm doing here is I'm bringing this around full circle to say that the Financial Administration Act creates arrangements designed to create confidence in government, and these arrangements dove tail with and fit into the scheme of the

Code of Conduct and the kind of conduct that's expected of ministers. The Financial Administration Act repeats those kinds of provisions, and it also goes one step further. What will happen often in the budget is that you will get a fairly generalized appropriation. What do I mean by that? Well, you may have an appropriation of, say, \$500,000 for youth recreation for a given department. That's a very generalized appropriation. From there the Executive Council has got the power to control or limit expenditures under any appropriation so that the Executive Council can take that specific \$500,000 for youth expenditures for youth recreation, and they can control and limit how that is appropriated, and they can set conditions on that. So I just want to flag you that in your case work and in understanding how government programs work, you not only have to look at the budget, but you also have to be aware of what the Executive Council may or may not have established as rules to govern these kinds of spending. And it goes further than that, and it gives the Executive Council the power to establish amounts or allowances to be paid out of an appropriation in respect of out-of-pocket travelling and other expenses incurred by a person in the discharge of their duties so that the whole question of travel allowances and what is permitted is something that's controlled in the final analysis in detail by the Executive Council. I think, ladies and gentlemen, that that is what I wanted to cover. My concluding comment is essentially this. We've spent a lot of time in grey areas. I know that people don't like grey areas. It's just so much

simpler to have a black and white rule. Yes, you can do this. No, you can't. Human affairs, however, are awfully muddy and awfully complex. And it turns out quite often that the difficult issues-, that the easy issues are black and white and the difficult issues involve grey areas. For those issues there are two things to remember. One is that somebody's got the hammer. So somebody has got the power, ultimately, to make the decision. It's usually the President or the First Minister, the Minister of Finance or the Controller. But there is a hammer always. Before you get to the hammer, before you're faced with having to deal with that kind of a decision, I recommend you take advice, I recommend that you consult, and I recommend that you follow the guidance that you're given when you take advice and in the consultation processes. Otherwise there is always a hammer. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Pottle, I believe you had a question or comment.

**MR. POTTLE:**

Just a comment, Mr. Chair, in relation to what Veryan spoke with respect to the Financial Administration Act. For the information of the Assembly, Mary will recall during my term as speaker we worked with Blue Drop Performance Learning out of St. John's who developed an electronic learning program for the Financial Administration Act. It's been some time since I myself have used that. So I will have some discussions with the Speaker because I am the current administrator of that so there may be some changes necessary from Blue Drop Performance's perspective in where they have parked this learning



program in what they call Course Park. So I'll have some discussions with the Speaker on how the Speaker would become the administrator of that. Then we add people to that electronic learning program, and you can then on in this Course Park site, download the electronic learning program for the Financial Administration Act. It's a great learning tool. It has the capacity to test your knowledge as you go through. It's taken the Financial Administration Act in its entirety and broken it down section by section by section of the Financial Administration Act. So I think there are 10 or 11 parts to it. So after you go through Part I by way of example, you test your knowledge on that. Then you go through the second, third, fourth and so on parts of that, but you can go back and forth, and you can use that program as often as you want. So I think that'll be quite useful for members of the Assembly. So I'll have some discussions with you, Mr. Chair, on that. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Mr. Pottle, and I look forward to hearing more information on this particular program. Are there any other questions, concerns directed toward the witness, Mr. Veryan Haysom? At this time I would like to thank Mr. Haysom for travelling to Hopedale to address the Assembly in Committee of the Whole. I believe it was a very informative and beneficial presentation. As you stated yesterday some of us are new and there is this learning curve. I think it will help guide Assembly Members in administrating your office. Mr. Flowers, I believe you have a question or comment.

**MR. FLOWERS:**

Yes, sorry about that, Mr. Speaker. Just one thing that I would like a little bit of, I guess, clarification or understanding a little about is that I know that in the past, I know now that for approval or for any signed off of your travel claims or anything, it all has to go to the First Minister. At one time it didn't have to go there. So I'm wondering is that a new thing for us to have to do, and is this going to be forever and a day, or is it someday it's going to go back to you can sign off in different ways because it has changed. And it has changed and I-, you know, sometimes, you know, that I think that the First Minister might take a long time in approving things just because she might be travelling or she might be gone somewhere or something like that. Is that is-, as this is a necessary thing, or is it just something that, you know, I'm not understanding enough on? So I'd like to have some clarification on it, please.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

You'd like to answer the question?

**MR. HAYSOM:**

I can't answer to that. That's a matter of internal practice. I think you have to speak to the First Minister and the Executive Council about what that arrangement is.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

I recognize Mr. Dan Pottle.

**MR. POTTLE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chair. This practice has been in place for quite some time, and I think it was always the expectation, but it wasn't a well-known understanding that the First Minister signs off on travel claims and that sort of thing. Certainly, if the First Minister is not available,

there is a default for that. Either the President or the Minister of Finance can sign off on that as well, as long as we let the First Minister know that we've done that in her absence. And that the travel and the request for travel and approval for that has gone through the First Minister before you submit those claims for her approval. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, sir. Would you like to add anything, that's in respect to Ministers and the Executive Council, would you like to add anything in respect to Ordinary Members and/or AngajukKâk or Chairpersons?

**MR. POTTLE:**

Outside of the Executive Council, the travel claims and any associated claims should go directly through Division of Finance in Nain through Dottie Ford, and Dottie will do and take up responsibility. Again, I mean, you know, you submit that and Dottie does the final approval on that. And if she needs to consult with the comptroller, then she will do that as well. If it's Assembly business and anything related to the Assembly, the Speaker will sign off and approve that. Outside of that, for anything that's not related to Assembly business, if it's related to your constituency work or work related to your respective ICG or your Inuit Community Corporation then it should go directly through Division of Finance through Dottie.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, sir, for that clarification. Are there any other questions? I recognize Patricia Kemuksigak.

**MR. KEMUKSIGAK:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. In your last comment, Veryan, you said to take advice and consult if you have questions. Who do we get advice and consultation from? I've got a two-part question, actually.

**MR. HAYSOM:** I think that the answer depends on where you are and who you are. So as a member of the Executive Council, the first place you would look to for advice would be to presumably the President and the First Minister and the Minister of Finance. As a Member of the Assembly, the first place you would look would be to the Speaker. As a member of an Inuit Community Government, the first place that you would look would be either to the AngajukKâk, if you are a councillor. Or in the case of the AngajukKâk, you would look to the same place as a Minister would look, to the Department of Finance probably first, the Minister of Finance or the Department, and the same would go for the Inuit Community Corporations. You would look first to the Minister of Finance or the Department of Finance. So I think that that's the logical order of things, and if in that consultation there's a need to refer to the Legal Services division then that will become obvious and an opinion or advice could be obtained from Loretta or Mark.

**MR. KEMUKSIGAK:** My second part of the question, if there was an error or a breach in the Code of Conduct, who would discipline the Assembly Member?

**MR. HAYSOM:** Assuming that it goes to a discipline committee, the discipline committee would come up with the disciplinary measures to be taken, and those could range from a reprimand at one extreme through to a recommendation for removal from office at the other extreme. And a

recommendation of removal from office could only be acted on by the Assembly. So, depending on the nature of the offence, it's either your peers who will pass judgment as a whole, or a committee of your peers who will just pass judgment on you and determine what the, for want of a better word, the remedy is.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

If there are no further questions? Again, thank you, Mr. Haysom. We shall dissolve Committee of the Whole and enter into Assembly. Item two, "Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery." Any member wishing to recognize visitors in the public gallery today? I would like to welcome those in the gallery today and thank them for their interest in the Assembly. Item three, "Minister Statements." Are there any minister statements? I recognize Honourable Richard Pamak, Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

**MR. PAMAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In one of our previous Assembly sittings I informed the Assembly that Silpa Saurak was accepted to attend Nunavut Sivuniksavut, Nunavut Sivuniksavut is a unique eight-month college program based in Ottawa. It's for youth who want to prepare for educational training and career opportunities that are being created by Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. Today I am pleased to inform you that we have another who has attended. Her name is Eva Obed, and has also been accepted into the program. So I wish both Silpa and Eva all the best in the program. Mr. Speaker, I'd also like to take this time to acknowledge one of our Assembly Members here today. I am pleased to inform that Ordinary Member for Postville, Tyler Edmunds,

recently claimed third in the annual trappers marathon held in early October in Happy Valley, Goose Bay. I understand he also finished fourth in last year's marathon and fourth in a half marathon back in 2008. Tyler also spearheads the running club for Postville with support from Jim Goudie and Grant Gear. First of all congratulations to Tyler on placing in the marathon and his commitment to attend this recreation sport in Postville. Now I'm glad that I didn't run next to him because I'm sure that if he looked behind, Yes, I would have been eating his dust. So thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, Honourable Richard Pamak. I recognize Honourable Patricia Kemuksigak, Minister of Education and Economic Development.

**MR. KEMUKSIGAK:**

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Today I'd like to present on the Economic Development Division of the Department of Education and Economic Development. Mr. Speaker, John Lampe was hired by the Economic Development Division as procurement specialist. He started on October 6th and he'll be working until March 31st, 2015. Dana Pamak was hired as Economic Development administrative assistant and she, too, will be working until March 31st, 2015. Service Canada. The Nain Virtual Service Pilot Project is back on track, although the start-up was postponed. Rutie Dicker and Boas Bennett were recommended to become citizen service agents for Service Canada for this project. Both Rutie and Boas, he will be the back-up, will be trained and undergo a federal government security clearance process. There are still delays generated by the technological challenges in Nain. IT is working with

Service Canada to try to solve these issues, but as people know in Nain, the bandwidth is very bad. Service Canada's ADM, Sarah Filbee and two other key department officials, went to Nain in early October to evaluate the location of the Nain Virtual Service Project and also heard from other Nunatsiavut communities on the challenges the communities face in accessing federal government services such as EI, SIN numbers, Old Age Security, etcetera. The delegation met with Nunatsiavut Government's leaders and representatives from the Nain Inuit Community Government. They talked with AnânauKatiget Tumingit, got together with Jens Haven Student Council. Through the visit the Service Canada representatives got a better understanding of the challenges we face in accessing Service Canada Programs and Services with language barriers, internet access and other issues, and they are committed to try to help the region to access the badly-needed federal service programs. Mr. Speaker, the Economic Development division, as well as I, attended the Newfoundland and Labrador Forum 2014. Panel presentations and questions and answers were introduced on topics such as demographics and labour market, culture and heritage, governance and public policy, environment and natural resources and rural development. Mr. Speaker, the Economic Development division is currently updating the content of the Inuit Business Registry validating contact information with each registered Inuit business. A consultant will be hired to review and improve the current Inuit Business Registry. The consultant will also be asked to

create a useful database to record all existing Inuit business in Nunatsiavut in the province and in Canada. The database will help in the management and follow-up of business opportunity for Inuit businesses. A meeting was held with Raytheon in October, the new company who oversee the north warning system. The meeting centred around employment and business opportunities with the new company. They have targets to fill with both employment and Inuit business. We are working with them to develop an Inuit Business Registry numbering system which is needed for them to be able to access Inuit businesses. Mr. Speaker, Business Development Committee. The Economic Development division is involved in discussions with Vale to look at new business development opportunities offered by Voisey Bay Project if they go underground. An update on the status of the underground mining development which presented to the business development committee meeting. The presentation included general categories of potential business opportunities. Vale also proposed holding other information sessions with the Inuit and Innu businesses in the near future, hopefully before Christmas. We need to work closely with Inuit businesses to assist them in getting ready for Voisey's Bay going underground because that's a huge opportunity. Application for the Inuit Business Registry were reviewed by the committee. The division is also taking part in discussions with a potential business owner interested in taking over the gas station in Rigolet. Mr. Speaker, Community Economic



Development Program, or CEDP. The CEDP Program Review Committee has received and reviewed a number of projects since September. Since 2014 Nain received a hundred and two thousand eight hundred and four-five, Hopedale, 9,959 and Rigolet, 69,490. The program has not received applications from Makkovik or Postville so far this year. A number of other projects are under consideration for the CEDP Program. Our division has made a contribution to Torngat Fisheries for the char fishery of a hundred and fifty thousand. This produced 43,000 pounds of char for sale and 13,000 pounds of char for our Community Freezers. We also provided funds to Torngat to conduct a char feasibility study on harvesting, processing and marketing of wild char. We made a contribution to the Gros Morne moose hunt for the Community Freezers of 50,000. The Economic Development division has also committed in kind and financial contributions up to \$30,000 per year for 3 years to contribute to the salary of the Inuit Research Assistant based in Nain. Mr. Speaker, AnânauKatiget Tumingit Regional Inuit Women's Association in partnership with the Economic Development division and Women In Resource Development submitted a proposal to Status of Women Canada entitled, "Advancing Inuit Women in the Labrador Mining Industry." The Economic Development division is in touch with the Director of Tourism on how to work with the stakeholders in Rigolet to prepare for the Mealy Mountain National Park. Mr. Speaker, I will touch on some upcoming activities on the division. A community tour is planned for late 2014 to present the

results of the summit and discuss Economic Development priorities in Nunatsiavut. The presentation is currently being reviewed by the Economic Development team. The Economic Development division is exploring the possibility of holding proposal writing workshops in all five of the Inuit communities during the winter of 2014-15. Some members of the Economic Development team will attend the Northern Exposure Conference and Tradeshow in St. John's in January to network and promote Inuit business. The division will have a booth at the tradeshow. In regard to Muskrat Falls jobs, we continue to advocate for our beneficiaries to get jobs at Muskrat. Although we do not have an IBA, the province has made a commitment to hire Labradoreans. We are waiting for information from Nalcor to find out the number of people who were trained by LAMP who received positions within Muskrat. Presently the numbers of the workforce in Muskrat for Inuit is very low. It is only 3.5 percent of the workforce. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Oh, and I wanted to say, and that's unacceptable. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek Honourable Patricia Kemuksigak. I'd like to recognize Honourable Darryl Shiwak, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Lower Churchill Lake Melville Project. The Provincial and Federal Judicial Reviews related to the Lower Churchill Project took place in September and October, respectively. We invested a lot of time and preparation for the reviews. In both cases the judge has reserved their decision, but we are hopeful

to receive the decisions on both matters sometimes within the first three months of the New Year. This fall we completed a week long field sampling program in Lake Melville focused on sediment and dynamics related to our organic carbon flux and mercury in partnership with the University of Manitoba and Memorial University. In partnership with Dr. Sunderland at Harvard University, we also completed the final phase of dietary surveys and hair sampling related to mercury exposure in modeling in Upper Lake Melville communities and Rigolet. Mr. Speaker, the study is examining the link between the amount and the types of fish and seal that are eaten by Inuit in Lake Melville and the levels of mercury they are exposed to. It is part of an ongoing Research and Monitoring Program developed with the university partners to better understand the potential downstream effects of the Lower Churchill Project and Inuit community health and well-being. We began the Dietary Survey and Hair Sampling Program in March 2014. Over thirteen hundred Inuit and their families in Rigolet, Northwest River, Happy Valley, Goose Bay and Mud Lake took part in the survey and over 500 gave hair samples. Twenty-six Inuit research assistants were hired to carry out the surveys and hair sampling. We are now in the analysis phase and expect to visit communities to provide updates on the results by the spring. I would once again like to acknowledge and to thank the Inuit in Upper Lake Melville and Rigolet who have participated in our dietary survey work related to the Baseline Mercury Human Health Risk Assessment. This important work will help us better understand the

direct link between Inuit health and the existing and potential future biophysical environment in Lake Melville. The Sustainable Communities Initiative, Mr. Speaker, we continue to work hard on this initiative. Importantly, our departments have been instrumental in driving some programs forward, and we are grateful for the cross-departmental collaboration. We have gone through the entire process for a new sustainable Nunatsiavut adapted multi-unit building. Two side-by-side lots have been procured in Nain through this development by Nunatsiavut Affairs. Geotechnical work in Nain has been ongoing, and is being completed in the side-by-side lots this week and will inform site-specific foundation design. The Sustainable Communities Initiative also partnered with multiple organizations including the Department of Health and Social Development to conduct food security research in Nain and Hopedale. The same food security research is being conducted in Makkovik beginning this week and, depending on progress, beginning in Postville during the week of November 24th. The final phase of research in Makkovik and Postville will provide community-specific results that should be publically available by Christmas. It will give us facts and knowledge upon which to build programs and policy to deal with the acute needs related to and the root causes of food security. In partnership with Minister Kemuksigak's Department of Education and Economic Development, and with partnering with Torngat Fish Producers Co-op we are continuing to distribute char that was fished for Community Freezers and DHSD

Programs in all communities along the coast. We are managing shipment of all char from Nain Community Freezer and the walk-in freezer operated by the Hopedale Inuit Community Government. All this is instrumental for the logistics of the program. We have exchanged char for cod with NunatuKavut, and the first shipment of fifteen hundred pounds of cod has already been distributed to all Inuit communities. There will also be future shipments of cod. We continue to be excited about this program. Improving food security and providing nutritious calories while creating fishing and employment opportunities is a win-win situation. On a side note related to a question asked by Minister Mitchell, but Mr. Mitchell, yesterday in the Assembly, I will address this issue in a response to an oral question that you asked related to Upper Lake Melville and getting some char later on this morning. Hopedale. We are also working with the Hopedale Inuit Community Government to try and press the province to efficiently spend the next \$6 million towards the remediation of Hopedale. Last week the stakeholders travelled to St. John's for a stakeholder meeting. The terrestrial cleanup is progressing well, and the work on the land in the community has been completed for this year. We are currently in the process of working to try to find the best path forward for the contamination of Hopedale Harbour. We have also requested that the province host a community meeting in Hopedale with at least one Minister present. Ideally, both the Minister of Environment and Conservation and the Minister of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs,

should be here. We request that this happen as soon as possible. The Impact and Benefit Agreement, Mr. Speaker, with the Voisey's Bay Project and the Torngat Mountains National Park. A meeting took place on September 19th, 2014. During this meeting we received an update on the shutdown periods contract to hiring pre-employment drug and alcohol testing recruitment and retention, and we also had an update on FEL 3. The Voisey's Bay mine was shut down for a total of 37 days since January, and the shutdown's occurred over three different time periods. These were planned shutdowns. They needed to ensure their production volume was in line with the export restrictions that the province had placed on the company. It is also anticipated there will be a few days of shut down in December. Vale informed us that they would be implementing a pre-employment Drug and Alcohol Testing Program. This is a standard in many mining operations and other industry projects. They informed us this would be implemented by the end of September and would be a part of the pre-employment medical. Presently 44 percent of the permanent workforce in Voisey's Bay are Inuit. Vale had lost seven or eight experienced mill operators over the last few months. They are undertaking job readiness training program in the Milling 101 to hope to get more Inuit and Inuit-trained to fill these positions on a long-term basis. Vale will be focusing on trying to get young people interested in going onto post-secondary education to build their skills so they can eventually fill skilled trades and managerial positions. Vale is now wrapping up design of the FEL 3 study for

underground mining, something that the Assembly had a presentation on when we arrived the other day. The Harvesting Compensation Committee held one hearing on October 10th, 2014. It was the only hearing since 2012. The Harvesting Compensation Committee is currently comprised of Ron Wood, Chairperson and Henry Lyall. The committee is interested in recruiting a third member to the committee. Mr. Speaker, for the Torngat Mountains National Park IBA, there has not been any formal meeting since August. The next face-to-face meeting is scheduled for Nain from February 19th to the 20th, 2015. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, Honourable Darryl Shiwak, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. I would like to recognize Honourable Kate Mitchell, First Minister. My apologies. I recognize Honourable Dan Pottle, Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology.

**MR. POTTLE:**

Nakummek UKâtik. Mr. Speaker, work has been progressing on expanding the features and functionality of the intranet. The Department of Land and Natural Resources, Nunatsiavut Affairs and the Nunatsiavut Secretariat are now online. In concert with the new departmental additions, the core technology on which the intranet is built has been upgraded. It has allowed us to offer a fresher look and feel to the site and streamline the navigation across the whole intranet. Mr. Speaker, it is our goal to have the Departments of Culture, Recreation and Tourism and Education and Economic Development online before the end of this fiscal year. Further, the IT division will be

launching a promotional campaign to all end users that will increase the understanding of the intranet. Currently we are offering share point Wednesdays with Janice Vardy to address any questions our employees or elected officials may have on the intranet. We invite, Mr. Speaker, all to attend these sessions. Mr. Speaker, over this fiscal year the IT division has replaced nearly all of Nunatsiavut Government servers. While not a visible change for our end users, the new servers offer a more and effective and efficient means of connecting our offices and managing our IT infrastructure. As well, we have secured from Alliant a dedicated network connection between our administrative office in Nain and one of our offices in Happy Valley, Goose Bay. Mr. Speaker, while this new connection does not completely alleviate the bandwidth issues for Nain, it allows our finance and membership staff to connect to the resources they need to function properly. We are continuing to investigate practical and fiscally responsible alternatives to the current service. Nakummek UKâtik.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Dan Pottle. I recognize Honourable Greg Flowers, Minister of Health and Social Development.

**MR. FLOWERS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a few more updates from my department, Mr. Speaker. Planning Circle for Department of Health and Social Development continue to meet quarterly. The last meeting was in October. The intent of the committee is to ensure that all practises are in place to promote and support the best interests of Inuit children, youth and families. On October 15th we had a foster family



recruitment campaign in Happy Valley. We have and are reviewing the case plan for all children in Roddickton area and increasing visitors back to their home communities. The Trauma and Addiction Team just completed a two-week program in Rigolet. They are currently in St. John's doing a two-day workshop for 35 provincial government staff of three departments; AES Health and CYFS. They will then be doing a two-day training for 50 staff of the Whitbourne, yes, and that. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. Are there any other minister statements? At this time I would like to call a recess and we shall reconvene in 20 minutes time, 25 after 10:00. Nakummek.

(Recess)

**MR. SPEAKER:** Item four, "Member Statements." Are there any member statements? I recognize Richard Pamak, Ordinary Member for Nain.

**MR. PAMAK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We had a visit from Richard Riley, the United State Consulate General, visit our town and certainly was warmly welcomed by Ordinary Member Sean Lyall and members of the Nain staff, Deputy AngajukKâk, Beni Andersen, on behalf of the Community Council of Nain. We also had a visit from Minister Kemuksigak, I mentioned earlier that from Sarah Filbee, Service Canada's Assistant Deputy Minister. She visited Nain on October 8th. The Economic Development division has put a pilot program project in place in partnership with Service Canada to offer government service to our

Nain residents. Again a warm welcome extended by Nain staff and Minister Kemuksigak. Housing Issues. As Ordinary Member, I continue to deal with housing issues for community on a weekly basis. As you may know that Nain and Hopedale is facing and is in the housing crisis situation. Mr. Speaker, just to give you and other members of the Assembly here some of the issues that I dealt with and continue to deal with within housing are like a gentleman living in an abandoned car for 75 days. Twenty-six of these days were during the winter months of last winter. Two gentlemen living in a tent with no place to go. A senior couch surfing from house to house. Single men finding any place to stay for the night. One I found sleeping in my own personal truck. A couple with a child evicted from their place to stay which was a 10-by-12 shed with no running water or sewer services looking to relocate to Upper Lake Melville in search of adequate housing. A family of 3 living in a 12-by-14 shed, again, with no water and sewer services. Mr. Speaker, these are some of the issues that I've been faced with, and I'm sure that there is much more. The current housing program offered by Torngat Regional Housing Association, Newfoundland Labrador Housing Corporation, NNG's Housing Repairs, is making a difference. Mr. Speaker, also I want to take this time to inform the Assembly of new positions that we have within the Nain Office. Rutie Dicker transitioned from Secretary/Reception to Community Liaison Officer and began her position on Monday, October 6th. She's full-time, permanent under Nunatsiavut Secretariat. Rudy was our Secretary/Receptionist for 19

years. Sarah Karpik is a new Community Outreach Manager in the Lands and Natural Resources Division and is full-time temporary. She will be with us for three years. She began her position on Monday, September 29th. Francis Murphy is a new full-time language program co-ordinator under Culture, Recreation Tourism division and she began on Monday, October 6th, 2014. Dana Pamak is a new full-time temporary. She's appointed until March under the Economic Development Assistant under Education and Economic Development division and began her position Monday, October 6th. As Minister Kemuksigak also mentioned, John Lampe is the new full-time temporary appointed until March, Procurement Specialist under the Education, Economic Development division and began her position October 6th. Christina Goldhar transitioned from Environmental Protection Analyst to new full-time permanent position, Director of Policy under the Nunatsiavut Secretary on August 4th. Just wanted to mention too, as well, that we have a number of staff that did leave us. Tony White left her position as Language Program Co-ordinator on August 29th after being with us for eight years. Joe Dicker seized his position as Community Liaison Officer. He joins us today in this Assembly as the AngajukKâk for Nain, after being positioned for seven years. Josh Pamak ceased his position as Procurement Specialist and heads to Nova Scotia to complete post-secondary studies on August 8th after being with the position for one year. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this time to send along condolences to the Aggek and Obed family in

the recent passing of Ambrose Aggek. Also, I'd like to send along condolences to Merkuratsuk, Dicker family and also Tony Mesher and his family for the recent passing of Regina Merkuratsuk. Always a difficult time for family and the community as a whole when a loved one is lost to suicide and takes the whole community to help them in the healing process. Great to see individuals from the community volunteer their time in community groups working together when families are in need. In saying this, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to acknowledge Nain Care, a non-profit organization group of dedicated women who continue to fund for their community and assist in time when families most need it. Condolences also going out to family of the late Bob Voisey who recently passed away in Happy Valley, Goose Bay. Bob passed away at the senior's home and was laid to rest back home in Nain. I had great admiration for and respect for Bob and, as well, many others in the community. A quiet man that always helped anyone wherever he can and when he can. In closing, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate both the boys and girls volleyball team from Nain who placed first in the regional volleyball championships in Labrador City this past weekend, and they will be travelling to compete in the provincial volleyball championships to be held on November 29th in Arnold's Cove, Newfoundland. Wishing the Nain Huskies all the best. Go, Huskies, go. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Ordinary Member for Nain, Richard Pamak. I would recognize Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency, Mr. Dan Pottle.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek UKâtik. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Canadian Constituency Office, I would like to congratulate our government on the upcoming ninth anniversary of the Nunatsiavut Government and the coming into effect of the Labrador Inuit Land Claim Agreement. Mr. Speaker, it is hard to believe that we are fast approaching the ninth anniversary of the formation of our government on December 1st. I would like to say Nakummek to all our former leaders, our current leaders, the Nunatsiavut Government civil servants and beneficiaries to the Labrador Inuit Land Claim Agreement who work so tirelessly to ensure that our government runs in the effective and efficient manner that it does. Mr. Speaker, on November 29th the Canadian Constituency Office will host a gathering with St. John'simuit in St. John's to celebrate the ninth anniversary of the Nunatsiavut Government. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all Labrador Inuit to reflect on the meaning of this special day and to give thanks to Kakkeviak, our creator, for guiding and protecting all of us. Mr. Speaker, I would also like to say Nakummek to the Royal Canadian Legion Command Office for supporting the Nunatsiavut Government's participation in the Remembrance Day ceremonies in St. John's. Mr. Speaker, it was an honour to lay the wreath on behalf of the Nunatsiavut Government in

recognition of Labrador Inuit veterans for their past and current service to our great country. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek. I recognize Chair of the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation, Trudy Mesher-Barkman.

**MS MESHER-BARTON:**

Good morning, Mr. Speaker. I'd just like to say that Sivunivut had our HEM on October 1st where we elected our board. So we had a full board, but due to a conflict of interest because two of them were employees of the government, we had to have another election on November 12th. We had a meeting and we elected two more members. So we do have a full board now. Also we hired a halftime program co-ordinator to take care of the freezer and to hopefully find some ways that we can get some money so that we can do more programs in our community. We do have a lot of interest. I got quite a few emails with good ideas of what people would like to see happening, classes that they can attend, courses that they can take sort of thing. And hopefully we'll be able to get started on that in the very near future. I put out a call for interest for somebody to get a moose licence and get a moose for us, but we have not had any response yet, and I believe that the time of the year is not right for them to go out and about to get the moose. Hopefully that'll change soon and we can all go snowmobiling. And the only other thing that I'd like to say is that we'd like to extend congratulations to a young girl from our community. She's not a beneficiary, but she's, you know, well-liked and she lived in Nain. She's just a wonderful little girl. She won the Miss Achievement

Newfoundland and Labrador and we're all very proud of her, and then I just wanted to congratulate her on behalf of the north shore beneficiaries. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek. I recognize Gary Mitchell, Chair of the NunaKâtiget Inuit Community Corporation.

**MR. MITCHELL:**

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. First I'd just like to, I, too, would like to acknowledge Tyler in his great accomplishment in the Trapline Marathon coming third, and I'd like to acknowledge all the beneficiaries in the Trapline Marathon. This follows a great event, and it's great that our people are taking part in this event and showing what they can do when they feel determined, that they can do something like that. And it's healthy for them and it sets off an example for other ones coming behind that this is something, you know, good for your health and good for a profile for us that we've got determination here, that we can do what other people can do. Also last night's meeting, I think, was very productive, the caribou consultations. And I think we're moving together as a body and a lot of good comments coming out. I'd like to commend President Leo for her role and her staff for taking the lead in moving this forward, this very important issue that's dear to all of us and very important to all of us. I don't have a prepared statement, but I'd just like to make a few comments on communication and information flow. I've been checking the Nunatsiavut website. We have a beautiful new website, but what I'm finding is there's not a lot of updated information on there, and I think the last newsletter, if I

stand to be corrected, was last spring, this past spring. And I think we should do a little better than that and have more-, usually it says more updates on what's happening. There were two events this fall that I found out about in a roundabout way that they were happening. One was I was watching the news one night and the Illusuk presentation was being done in St. John's. It was news to me, so I would like to have been informed. I think Assembly Members should have been informed that this was going ahead, a major presentation like that. The other one I found on the home page. AtuKatigevik. There was a comment on there that we wish success to our hunters in Gros Morne. I wasn't aware that the hunt had gone ahead. I knew that we were going to be going there, but didn't know we had the approval. So it would have been good for the Assembly Members to know beforehand that everything was approved and the hunters had gone out. You know, and these are things we'd like to know so we can pass it on to our beneficiaries when we're asked what's happening, and there's always a question what's happening in Nunatsiavut Government these days. And we'd like to be up to date and pass it along to them. It's important for us to know this information so we can relay information to the beneficiaries when they ask what's happening. It's important to be kept in the loop on this, and having said that, the President's blog on the website has been informative. I found some things the other day, I was looking through, and your information that you have there, it brought some things up to date, but I think we need to update our



newsletters a little bit more frequently so we're all kept in the loop. Emails, I think, need to be followed up on a little bit more in the Code of Conduct. And I don't think anybody's going to be taken to task on this, but the Code of Conduct says, "responding to constituents, elected officials and public service in a timely manner." Now I'm not directing this at any one, but I think there's emails that have gone out and no follow-up done. And I think it's very important that we follow-up to each other, keep in the loop to each other on communication and emails. Communication's a very big thing and we thrive on that. When Dr. Tom Gordon was in Goose Bay this fall he was doing a workshop or information session on transitions and traditions. So I attended a workshop. It was very poorly attended, and we talked about some of the problems with information flow or knowing about what's happening in the community. So Dr. Gordon came to my office the next morning, we talked about some things, and communication was one thing we talked about. And one thing we came to a common ground on was maybe we having our own radio station in Happy Valley, Goose Bay or Upper Lake Melville. And this was brought to my attention, too, by a couple board members from our board that maybe having our own local radio station in Upper Lake Melville would help us to get information out to our people. It would also help to create, you know, keep our cultural things alive by having people come in and talk about our culture and traditions or things like caribou consultations just because every community has their own radio station. We have access

to OKâlaKatiget Radio. We have CBC and Big Land. But having our own radio station run by our own selves with our own news, our own information, I think would be a great asset in the area to keep us informed on things and, you know, keep us up to date on things and keep us in the loop and keep us strong as a government to provide information to all our beneficiaries. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek. I recognize AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Jim Tuttau.

**MR. TUTTAUK:**

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the Hopedale Inuit Community Government, at this time we'd like to thank Minister Kemuksigak's Department of Education and Economic Development for the funds of \$9,959.07 to help the cost of building a floating dock for when the tour ships comes in, and it helped to employ three persons for two weeks, and also Minister Shiwak's department for help with codfish and char. Also at this time we have, in consultation with Carla Pamak, Hopedale Inuit Community Government and our Community Freezer, has accepted approximately 60 cases of char to be shipped here to be stored for all the communities as they need south of Hopedale. And, in conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to just make the statement that Hopedale Inuit Community Government will make a better commitment to ensure that patients that have to travel to Goose Bay or St. John's will be picked up with the seniors band and that may even come in through the lunch hour and we will have someone there working through lunch hour too then. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. I recognize Mr. Herb Jacque, AngajukKâk Makkovik.

**MR. JACQUE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all I'd like to recognize and congratulate Bernard Andersen as becoming Deputy AngajukKâk for the Inuit Community of Makkovik. We wish him well. I'd also like to just inform the Assembly on a program that we are working on. Through SEEK we received \$11,000, and we're working on the program to assist our seniors for snow clearing, wood, etcetera. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. I recognize Mr. Joe Dicker, AngajukKâk, Nain.

**MR. DICKER:** Nakummek UKâtik . First, three things. The first one is correction from my gratitude yesterday when I was announcing the monies that we received from NG. I mentioned that we had received \$7.5 million for 30 new lots for Nain, and I mistakenly said Ulapitsaijet Committee when I should have been thanking the Tasiujatsoak Trust. So that correction is made and I thank the Tasiujatsoak Trust for acting quickly and responding positively to our letter of application. I'd like to congratulate at this time, Mr. Speaker, our new council. At the call for nominations we had seven seats filled by acclimation. One had to resign due to personal reasons. So we are now in the process of having a bi-election next week, next Tuesday, actually. And we had four names that were put forward. One had to withdraw her name because of disqualification due to conflict of interest, being an NG employee. But we do have three other people interested in running for the Community Government, which is encouraging for us. So next week, next Tuesday we should know who the successful candidate was.

Lastly, I'd like to recognize the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies for their, how do you say it, unselfish contribution, I guess, to erect a solid foundation for a church. I'm going to say that it is the talk of the community. People are very, very happy and elated that now they can see the church which is straight. And, like I said, it was the talk of the community. They could not wait to go back. This is something that was been looked at for many, many years, and it came to a point where it was even dangerous to put people in that when it was born. They're scared that it might topple. So through hard work and dedication of the next group, I'd like to recognize this came about through requests and negotiations, I guess, of the Nain Heritage Committee. We can consist of three people from the community, namely, Elsie Jenkins, our President Sarah Leo, who, at the time became a member of the committee not in her capacity as the President, but as a Moravian church member who was concerned about the state of the church, and concerned enough that they did form a committee to start looking at renovating the our building which is getting really run down. And the other person I'd like to recognize is Don Dicker Sr. These three people worked tirelessly for the last number of years and, at first, were successful in getting the roof painted, the building painted itself inside and out, and at the same time being able to contact engineers to come in through NGC and through other avenues to look at what could be done. And when this was presented to, I guess, NGC, they voluntarily, without question, agreed to take on the project for six weeks. Mr.

Speaker, I would be amiss if I did not mention Fran Williams, who worked also tirelessly with the Heritage Committee where she played a big part in that also. The building is now complete. The only thing that I think that needs to be worked on now is the windows, and that's another project in its own thing. But we did hold a service, a blessing of the church. So because we didn't have church for, what was it, three months, Sarah? And they did not have a Thanksgiving service that they wanted. So, first of all, the blessing of the church, new opening of the church after completion was taken place and a good number of people attended. It was quite emotional. The choir was singing, and there were some acknowledgments by the Chief Elder to the people that are mentioned and the company. And right now when you go to Nain you'll notice right away that, you know, it's-, the church is erect. It's solid. It's got a strong foundation again. I think that that starts to get the congregation back to the church. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek. I recognize Mr. Gregory Flowers, Ordinary Member, Hopedale.

**MR. FLOWERS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, you mentioned some of our veterans in Nunatsiavut who have served, and I honour them today. And there were a couple of names that came right to my mind when you read your list, and I'd just like to recognize them here today. And I'll officially do it on the sheet, but Julius Hunter, from here who has, I think, yes, as far as I know, is still serving. I think he's got over 20-something years in the army and also Lonnie Shuglo who has dedicated

most of his life to our Armed Forces. So I'd just like to mention them today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I think there may be many more that we had to look back and try to come up with to see who else has served our great nation. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. Please forward those names to Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism. I recognize Ordinary Member for Postville, Tyler Edmunds.

**MR. EDMUNDS:** Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. As I've told the Assembly in the last sitting, the youths of Postville have a program under NL Literacy which hopes to increase their knowledge of traditional activities and of the land. The project has started, Mr. Speaker, and the youth are being taught how to fill in snowshoes, Kamutik construction to create Labrador grass work, navigate on the land, set traps and some other skills that they'll require while on the land. The project has nine participants to date and will run until January. Mr. Speaker, on October 17th Ms Sophie Tremblay Morrissette, the Executive Director for Torngat Arts & Crafts, visited Postville for a public consultation. I must commend Ms Tremblay Morrissette on her trip in beginning to full the primary mandate of Torngat Arts & Crafts which emphasizes that the organization exists to serve all of Nunatsiavut. During her trip to Postville she spoke to local carvers and craftspeople in their homes, and during the public meeting she purchased nearly twenty-two hundred dollars' worth of goods. I hope, Mr. Speaker, that this trend continues and that the crafters and carvers of Postville and other communities will be able to take

advantage of this service in the future. Mr. Speaker, the Creative Arts Festival has proven to be vital in building the confidence of our youth and in showcasing their writing and performance abilities as our President has mentioned yesterday. These festivals are a chance for our youth to positively address issues and obstacles that they face growing up in Nunatsiavut. They create scenarios that explore the difficult topics of substance abuse, physical abuse and suicide. It is a stage where they can speak about these things in mostly a fictional way but open the discussion on these topics in a very real way. They also use the stage to highlight all these beauty that is uniquely our own. They recognize importance of their culture and their place, the need to be connected to the land, to their communities, and that the Labrador Inuit will forever be the Labrador Inuit regardless of what circumstances arise. With that being said, I wish all the participants in the upcoming festival the best of luck. All the broken legs that they can handle and sure, why not? Go Huskies.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek. I recognize Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, Patricia Kemuksigak.

**MR. KEMUKSIGAK:**

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Our Upper Lake Melville newsletter went out in October. Due to the increase in production, printing and postage, Roy and I may only be able to produce one newsletter this fiscal year which will be very unfortunate as the beneficiaries really appreciate information from Nunatsiavut Programs and Services and updates from the Assembly. I am disappointed that the residential school class action

lawsuit is further postponed. Some of our elders have and may pass away without hearing an apology or receiving compensation. I, too, would like to send my condolences to the Aggek/Obed family, Merkuratsuk-Dicker family, Hefler, and Hope families. Gary Mitchell and I laid a wreath at the Remembrance Day ceremony in Happy Valley, Goose Bay on behalf of Nunatsiavut Government. Housing issues and homelessness are still very huge issues with Nunatsiavut beneficiaries in Happy Valley, Goose Bay. It's difficult to know where to go for help. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek. I recognize Mr. Roy Blake, Ordinary Member, Upper Lake Melville.

**MR. BLAKE:**

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I've been working tirelessly, Mr. Speaker, with homelessness in Upper Lake Melville as this is still an issue for our beneficiaries, like Mr. Pamak's many situations in Upper Lake Melville, when you have to visit a beneficiary who's staying in a van or living in a tent. Last Saturday a beneficiary called me at quarter to eight in the morning. In Upper Lake Melville, then, there was a storm on. This young lady was walking the streets for almost 14 hours. In saying that today I really want to give thanks to Lieutenant Hawes and the Salvation Army for their continued support in homelessness. They give short-term support. They put beneficiaries, not only beneficiaries, but anybody who's homeless up in a hotel for a couple of nights. But, like I said, you know, this is short-term. We're looking for long-term solutions; I'm sure the same as Minister Pamak. I'd also like to



acknowledge the staff within Nunatsiavut Government, and this morning, Mr. Speaker, I would also like to thank the following: Gill Saunders, Debbie Shiwak, Fay Lyall, Jen Best, Bert Pomeroy, Joseph Townley, Muriel Edmunds, Theresa Hollett, the staff of DHSD and Northwest River on Kelland Drive and Corte Real Offices, Trudy Mesher-Barkman of Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation in Northwest River, Gary Mitchell of NunaKâtiget Inuit Community Corporation of Happy Valley, Goose Bay and Mud Lake, and all the Nunatsiavut Deputy Ministers and Ministers. These people and their departments make my job much easier. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek. Are there any more member statements? I recognize Ordinary Member for Makkovik, Kate Mitchell.

**MS MITCHELL:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would just like to say that, along with Herb, I would like to thank Liz Evans Mitchell for her contribution to our community. She retired after 30 years of being a teacher and the last couple of years as a principal. And also congratulations to Dion Rideout as he takes the position now as principal. And I also wanted to wish all the best to the drama team, the drama groups, who's-, I don't know if they got out or not, but yesterday they were planning on travelling to Goose Bay for the drama festival. And for Makkovik, I'd just like to, I guess, congratulate The Pantry and Wood Box Committee. Herb is a part of that. We have some really good members. Most of the names people would recognize: Todd, Jodie, Herb, Myrtle, Caroline, and they have been successful in setting up; I guess what you'd call a

food bank. And they have some frozen foods and some staples that we hope will, you know, staple food. I mean, like, flour, sugar, milk, things like that that we really hope will help people, you know, on low incomes for the winter. And, of course, I want to congratulate our Golden Huskies from Nain, a second hometown. And also I would just like to acknowledge the great showing from the people from our community for the Trapline Marathon. I think we had, I stand to be corrected, but I think we had 11 people, and so that's pretty good for a community our size. And one thing that I would also like to do is to welcome back home, I guess, Betty Jararuse. She's one of our young people who completed her Bachelor of Nursing degree, and she's now working with DHSD in Makkovik. And we were sad to see Dawn Michelin go, but I guess, you know, our loss is really a gain because she went back home. But I think it's really important that we, you know, acknowledge our young people who have went out and completed their education and are now coming back and contributing and taking care of our people. So thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek. Are there any further member statements? Item five, "Returns to Oral Questions." Yesterday on November 18th, 2014 AngajukKâk Diane Gear asked the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Darryl Shiwak, the following question: Postville Inuit Community Government applied to the Department of Lands and Natural Resources for a permit to extract fine stone from a quarry on Post Mill. A couple of weeks ago we were told that it had to

be brought before the Assembly. Will this be done at this Assembly sitting? If not, when will it be brought forward? Would the Honourable Minister Shiwak, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, like to respond?

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In response to the question from AngajukKâk Gear, the Department of Lands and Natural Resources hopes to have a resolution, not for this sitting, but for consideration of the Assembly at either the January 2014 or March 2014 session in hopes to have that ready for next year for your quarrying of that stone. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Also the Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, Roy Blake, asked the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Darryl Shiwak, the following question: I'm under the understanding that the third licence has not yet been allotted to anyone. Also, as the policy is now, if the moose are not harvested by February 25, 2015 then the licence will be issued to communities within Nunatsiavut. Does the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources have a response?

**MR. SHIWAK:** With regards to the second part of the question by the end of February, February 28th, if the licences aren't used in Upper Lake Melville, they do go onto the Reserve and do go back to the Reserve. And as the directive is written right now, that Reserve is only for communities in Nunatsiavut. So you are correct. With regards to your question, the Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville's question on the third licence for Upper Lake Melville having not been issued, all five licenses

in Upper Lake Melville are issued at this time. Both Community Freezers in Upper Lake Melville currently hold one of our moose licenses each. The other three have been drawn and are issued to beneficiaries. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Also the Chair of NunaKâtiget Community Corporation, Mr. Gary Mitchell, asked the Minister of Department of Education and Economic Development, the Honourable Patricia Kemuksigak, if there was any consideration given to the supply of some fresh frozen char for the Community Freezer in the Upper Lake Melville from your department. I understand this morning from the Honourable Darryl Shiwak's statement that the question is more the responsibility of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources. So, Mr. Mitchell, is it okay that the Honourable Darryl Shiwak, the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, responds as he stated earlier this morning? I recognize Honourable Darryl Shiwak, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources.

**MR. SHIWAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank the Chair for the question directed to the Minister yesterday. I guess a simple answer to the question is the Department of Lands and Natural Resources never got a request for that, but we are more than happy to provide that. And having said that, we have already made, we've already taken action to provide the corporation, not only your corporation, but your corporation as well with some char. We would ask the department to provide 250 pounds of char for NunaKâtiget and a hundred pounds of cod for your

corporation, as well as a hundred pounds of char for Sivunivut and 75 pounds of cod. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Item six, "Oral Questions." Are there any oral questions? I recognize AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Mr. Herb Jacque.

**MR. JACQUE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the First Minister. I've asked these questions numerous times. A lot of our beneficiaries are asking about photo ID's for travel for medical purposes, etcetera. Can you tell me what the status is on that, please? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. I recognize Honourable Kate Mitchell, First Minister, Nunatsiavut Government.

**MS MITCHELL:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, thank you for the question, AngajukKâk Jacque. And when we met with Minister Russell on the 28th of October, that was one of the issues that we had on the agenda because I guess most people are aware as of the 1st of October, works and transportation will no longer be doing photo ID's on the coast like they did. So that was one of the concerns we had. And we know that, you know, in order to have ID when you're travelling it has to be government sanctioned or government approved. It has to be a government-issued ID. And the response that we had from Minister Russell that they were well aware of it and they were working on it. So I will definitely follow-up with that because it affects all of our communities. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Is there a supplementary question? I recognize Mr. Roy Blake, Ordinary Member, Upper Lake Melville.

**MR. BLAKE:** Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to Minister Kemuksigak. You stated in your minister statement that to date there is 3.5 percent of Labrador Inuit hired in the workforce at Muskrat. You also said that this is unacceptable, and you're right, it is unacceptable. I have to ask the Minister, did you and/or your staff have any meetings to date with Nalcor concerning the hiring protocol that you and I know that they are not following? Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. I recognize Honourable Patricia Kemuksigak, Minister of Education and Economic Development.

**MR. KEMUKSIGAK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for the question, Roy. I have had some informal meetings with Nalcor and Astaldi and Vallard about hiring practises. Our Deputy Minister has had several meetings in the past with Nalcor and other contractors. They seem to tell us that the number of beneficiaries hired is higher than the numbers are reflective, but we don't actually think that's correct. Deputy Minister McNeil put in a request to Nalcor with the list of our beneficiaries that were trained with LATP, how many of them are actually hired. We haven't gotten a response back yet, and if we don't get a response back very soon, we will be issuing a press release saying that it's unacceptable. And we've put a lot of money into training people, but they're not being hired on the project. It is unacceptable, and there are rumours now that people are starting to get laid off. Nalcor hasn't really confirmed them, but we

are hearing about people getting laid off and some of them are our beneficiaries. We need to put more pressure on. So thank you for the question, and we need to put more pressure Nalcor and the provincial government. I think they should hire an employment monitor to see if they're actually following what they said they were going to do with the Muskrat Falls Project, but thank you for the question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** You have a supplementary question, sir?

**MR. BLAKE:** Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I believe about two to three weeks ago, that you had a release from Muskrat stating all the percentage of hires from Innu, Inuit, Labradorians, Newfoundlanders, and at that time when I was speaking to you said that your department was going to do a press release, and I'd like to know have you done one to date. And if not, why not?

**MR. SPEAKER:** I recognize Honourable Minister Patricia Kemuksigak.

**MR. KEMUKSIGAK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We were planning on doing the press release so we had things. We were working with our communications person and Minister McNeil. They decided they were going to wait for Nalcor to come back with however-, they had the stats on who was trained through LATP, but they didn't have the stats on who was hired. And Mr. Deputy Minister McNeil has had several conversations with Nalcor looking for it, but we haven't had it. And I stated that if we don't get it very soon that we're going to have to go out with a press release without it because it's been too long. So maybe by early next week if

we don't have something then we'll put out our press release. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Second and final supplementary question. Thank you. I recognize Mr. Joe Dicker, AngajukKâk, Nain.

**MR. DICKER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure who to direct this question to. It's regarding a statement that was made about the two housing lots side by side. I know that where housing is such an issue in Nain that these two lots will be housed, like, with duplexes or triplexes. I was wondering where-, if somebody could tell me, as AngajukKâk, so that I could pass it onto my councillors, what stage are we at with that project, Mr. Speaker?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Under Standing Orders, oral questions 32(2). "An oral question shall be concisely and clearly put and shall refer only to a matter which may reasonably be assumed to be within the present knowledge of the President or the Minister to whom it is directed," but given, Yes, we'll direct this to the First Minister, Honourable Kate Mitchell, Minister responsible for housing.

**MS MITCHELL:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Okay. Thank you, AngajukKâk Dicker, for that question. Yes, in regard to the two plots of land, those two plots of land have now been purchased. The agreements have been signed, and this will be a six two-bedroom multi-unit, and that'll be the prototype home that we'll be putting in Nain. So that land has been purchased. Thank you.



**MR. SPEAKER:** Is there a supplementary question?

**MR. DICKER:** Thank you for that, Minister. Would you be able to tell me at this time who these homes are going to be targeted to? Are they for the homeless? Are they for seniors? Are they for single mothers with a family? Mr. Speaker, thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. I recognize Honourable Kate Mitchell. We shall defer the question to the President.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, AngajukKâk. I'm just sort of filling in right now. That six-unit-, for those that aren't familiar, that six-unit is a model home that we're putting in as part of the Sustainable Communities Initiative that won the Arctic Inspiration prize last year. It's going to be a model home. As has been mentioned by the Executive Council around the Assembly, Nunatsiavut is working on a housing strategy. The determination of who will be moving into those homes has not yet been made. But from what I understand, part of the discussion is making two of those units available specifically for seniors. The other four units, we're still working on the criteria for that.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Second and final supplementary question. Any further questions? I recognize Mr. Tyler Edmunds, Ordinary Member, Postville.

**MR. EDMUNDS:** Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, immediately after the June sitting I asked the Honourable Minister of Education and Economic Development if the Post-secondary Student Support Program intended

to start a mentoring program. I asked the Minister, Mr. Speaker, if this idea has been explored since. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. I recognize Honourable Patricia Kemuksigak, Minister of Education and Economic Development.

**MR. KEMUKSIGAK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I apologize to Ordinary Member Edmunds for not responding sooner. When we had a meeting in St. John's with PSSSP staff in October we mentioned about the mentoring program and how we may be able to bring this to fruition. They're going to come up with maybe some scenarios or different plans on how it might work, but we do recognize the need for our young people who have gotten training to then be able to transition into the workforce because a lot of people won't hire young people just out of school because they say they've got no experience, but you can't get experience unless you go to work. So it's, you know, we would like to have more of our people working, especially if they've gotten the training. So we haven't come up with a firm plan yet, but they are working on maybe how different scenarios could work, but, again, I apologize for not responding sooner. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I recognize AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Mr. Herb Jacque.

**MR. JACQUE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Department of Recreation, Culture and Health, Mr. Pamak. On behalf of Torngat, what is it, Torngat Recreation in our area; on an annual basis your department issued \$60,000 for travel, for our youth. Will this

continue, and could you check the issue earlier in the year? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. I recognize Honourable Richard Pamak, Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

**MR. PAMAK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, AngajukKâk Jacque. I certainly want to recognize that we had made contributions in the past through Torngat Recreation Committee. Recently we did submit a payment of a hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars for last year. And for this year's programs we are in the process of meeting with members of John Andersen, the Chair of Torngat Recreation Commission, and also Todd Winters of Aboriginal Sport Newfoundland and Labrador within the next couple days to look at a five-year plan for recreation for all of Torngat. As part of this plan, we are looking at preparing within our department a budget which could accommodate this five-year plan. Like I said we are meeting within the next couple days just to see what we can do within next year's budget. But as for last year and this year, funds have been made available through Torngat Recreation in the amount of hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Is there a supplementary question, sir? Any further questions? I recognize Ordinary Member for Postville, Mr. Tyler Edmunds.

**MR. EDMUNDS:** Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as I've mentioned this morning, Torngat Arts & Crafts is beginning to expand its operations. And as they

do this there will be a need to tap into artists and craftspeople across other communities. Of course, the biggest obstacle here is a provision of materials so that the artists can continue to produce their works. I ask the Honourable Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Mr. Speaker, if there's a possibility of entering an agreement with Air Labrador and Torngat Arts & Crafts to distribute craft and carving materials at cost to artists throughout Nunatsiavut. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek. I recognize Honourable Richard Pamak, Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

**MR. PAMAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And, thank you, Ordinary Member Tyler. Certainly we recognize that in the arts and crafts that raw material is very important to our industry. I have indicated at previous Assembly setting looking at purchasing raw seal skin or processed seal skin so that we can distribute it through Torngat Arts & Crafts. And just recently we just purchased 2,000 pounds of serpentine from the Hopedale area, which we will be distributing to the communities. I don't have the allocation of how much is going to where, but we're making available to our craftsperson, as much as possible, raw material in order to produce arts and crafts. To address Mr. Edmunds' comment, to working with Air Labrador, certainly I can bring that forward in discussions within the department and also with Air Labrador. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Is there a supplementary question? Please proceed.

**MR. EDMUNDS:** Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. With regards to the 2,000 pounds of serpentine, is that with reference, is that for the Torngat Arts & Crafts distribution, or is that for the Mobilizing Inuit Culture Project? If you could clarify that. Or is it simply a purchase made by the Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation for distribution under their own means? Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable Richard Pamak.

**MR. PAMAK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Mr. Edmunds for clarifying that. Yes, the stone was purchased to be distributed within the communities for the purpose of our art conference that we'll be holding within the next year. And we're asking that this stone, that once the product or the stone has been purchased and artists carve their materials that it'd be supplied for the upcoming conference next year. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. I recognize Gary Mitchell, Chair of the NunaKâtiget Inuit Community Corporation.

**MR. MITCHELL:** Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure if this question can be answered by the Minister, but I'm directing it to the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. Just recently I saw an AD in the paper whereby Nalcor was doing a study on environmental monitoring something similar to the baseline study that Nunatsiavut has been involved with. Is Nalcor working with the Nunatsiavut Government on this study, or is this a

study on their own? Is this something new that Nalcor has brought into play? Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Thank you. I recognize Honourable Darryl Shiwak, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And as a government, we're only aware of the program that you're referring to and, as far as we know, the Nunatsiavut Government is not in any way involved. Like I said earlier in a statement, we conducted our own dietary and hair sampling survey. And we did that for a purpose, to be directly solely done by the Nunatsiavut Government because that's what the beneficiaries wanted and trusted that information. So short answer, no, we're not involved in this dietary study by Nalcor. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I recognize Mr. Roy Blake, Ordinary Member, Upper Lake Melville.

**MR. BLAKE:** My question is directed to the Minister of Finance, Dan Pottle. It isn't news, Mr. Speaker, that life in Nunatsiavut, Labrador is expensive, so much so that when people work in Labrador there is the expectation that they will receive an allowance to offset the cost of living. What is interesting, Mr. Speaker is that there are no special income allowances from any of the three governments for our elders. I ask the Minister of Finance, Mr. Speaker, if it is practical that perhaps, and with the help from the federal government, that we can provide additional funds on top of Old Age Security and guaranteed income supplements for our elders? Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. I recognize Honourable Dan Pottle, Minister of Finance, Human Resources, Information Technology.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek UKâtik. And Nakummek to the Ordinary Member for your question. This has never been a consideration by Nunatsiavut Government. The responsibility for federal programs to support people through OAS and like pension services from the federal government is a responsibility of the federal government. There are no plans at this point in time to look at supplementing any sort of income from the federal government by Nunatsiavut Government. If we went down that road, Mr. Speaker, the federal government-, we did at one point in time consider that question. If we did supplement any federal or provincial government program, then that subsidization that would be provided by Nunatsiavut Government if and when we do that would be clawed back by the provincial government. So it does not make any sense for Nunatsiavut Government to provide any such supplement when the federal, provincial government will claw back that making life even harder for people on fixed income such as OAS and other provincial and federal income support services. Nakummek UKâtik.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Supplementary question? No? Any further questions? Sorry, Minister.

**MR. KEMUKSIGAK:** I don't want to ask a question. I wanted to add to my answer, if that's okay.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I'm sorry. Under the Standing Orders it wouldn't be allowed. I recognize Mr. Joe Dicker, AngajukKâk, Nain.

**MR. DICKER:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's not a question. It's a point of clarification to the Minister of Finance. What does he actually mean by claw back? I don't understand that phrase. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek. I recognize Honourable Dan Pottle, Minister of Finance, Human Resources, Information Technology.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek UKâtik, and Nakummek to the AngajukKâk for Nain for your question. In simple terms, Mr. Dicker, if any subsidization was given, either through Nunatsiavut Government, or if a-, I'm not going to speak on behalf of the federal or provincial government, but, I mean, if there is any sort of subsidy provided by any level of government to any income or fixed income support that will be provided by federal government or provincial government, then the federal or provincial government would take back the portion of the money that would be provided by another level of government such as Nunatsiavut Government. By way of example, if we provided a \$500 subsidy, and I'm only using arbitrary figures and speaking hypothetically, then the federal or provincial government would reduce their payments to any recipient by that amount. Nakummek UKâtik.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Any further questions? Item seven, "Written Questions." Are there any written questions? Item eight, "Returns to Written Questions." There are no returns today. Item nine, "Petitions." Are there any petitions? Item 10, "Responses to Petitions." There will be no responses today. Item 11, "Reports on Standing and Special Committees." I do not



believe we have any reports today. Item 12, "Tabling of Documents." I wish to recognize the President, the Honourable Sarah Leo.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like at this time to table the Assembly calendar for the 2015-2016 calendar year. I believe it's been presented to the Assembly Members. Plan your year accordingly.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Sarah Leo. This document will be numbered as tabled document 03-4(3). Are there any more documents to be tabled? I wish to recognize the President, the Honourable Sarah Leo.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Thank you again, Mr. Speaker. I'd, at this time, like to table the notes very plain, very basic notes from the meeting that was held of the elected officials last night with regards to caribou just so we have a record of it in the chambers. Again it's very basic, very shorthand, but at least it captures what was said and I just want to quickly point out the outcome of that that's noted in this document. Through the elected officials discussion last night what we had come up with that we will be putting out in a release and in any consultations or discussions we have further with our beneficiaries with regards to the George River Caribou Herd, there was general consensus that we continue to support UPCART to complete a management plan with a firm timeline. Continue to lobby the province to lift the ban for the Aboriginal harvest on the George River Caribou. If the ban is not lifted by the province, they must enforce it equally across the board. We heard that a lot. We will continue to support the moratorium placed by the province on the George River Caribou Herd, understanding that it'll be up in two and a

half years and we'll look at it further then. We will work with all stakeholders to continue and increase research on the George River Caribou. As well, the final one, and we heard this from a lot of the communities, was to continue to pursue alternate food sources of country food in the absence of caribou. With regards to the Torngat Herd, there was-, the main point coming out of that was to discuss with Makkovik management measures for the Torngat Mountains Caribou Herd understanding the numbers are low, and when we have our discussions with Makkovik, to consider the possibility of a non-harvest of the Torngat Mountains Caribou. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Nakummek, Honourable Sarah Leo. This document is numbered as tabled document 04-4(3). We shall have copies made and distributed to the Assembly Members. Item 13, "Notices of Motion." Are there any notices today? Item 14, "Notices of Motions for the First Reading of Bills." There are no notices of motions for the first reading of bills today. Item 15, "Motions." I do not believe there are any motions today. Item 16, "First Reading of Bills." There are no first reading of bills today. Item 17, "Second Reading of Bills." There are no second reading of bills today. Item 18, "Assent to Bills." There are no assent to bills today. Item 19, "Adjournment." At this time I wish to thank the Ministers and the Members and the Chairpersons and the AngajukKaat for their contributions, and I give special mention to the interpreter/translators, who are Rita Andersen, August Erving, Wilson Jararuse, to the pages, Tabea Onalik and Colin Hunter, and to Ches

Evans from IT. As well, we'd like to recognize the OKâlaKatiget staff, Sarah Abel and Johansi Tuglavina, and to the Assistant Clerk, Hilda Hunter. I wish you safe travels, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. Saying that, the Assembly is now adjourned, and the next session is scheduled for the week of January 19th to the 23rd, 2015. Also, you'll be presented with the tabled document, Assembly calendar for 2015-2016. And, as Sarah mentioned, clear your calendars and make time. For the information of the Assembly, Rita Andersen will conduct Inuttitut training session for Assembly Members and staff in the caucus room at 1:30.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Sorry, how long is the training going to be? I just need to...

**MR. SPEAKER:** Approximately one hour.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Okay. Can I say something else? For the NEC, once the Inuttitut training is done, we will finish off the NEC we started on Monday night, Tuesday night, whatever day it was. Okay?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Also there will be a meeting tonight convening the Board of Directors of the Labrador Inuit Association. It will be held in the caucus room at 7:00 p.m. Honourable Sarah Leo, you'd like to add something?

**PRESIDENT LEO:** No, I was just trying to remind you to tell the Assembly Members that they are the Board of the LIA and that they're expected to be there.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Okay. I think Sarah's mentioned it there. And other information, the charter is scheduled to leave tomorrow morning. We'll have definite time for you later on in the day. And any other further questions

regarding travel, please contact Hilda Hunter. And, again, I'll see all of you at Inuttitut training and then tonight everybody at the caucus room.

**PRESIDENT LEO:**

And I just want to thank the, I guess, the staff here in Hopedale for providing OKâlaKatiget with their lovely chairs. They look much more comfortable and it was very thoughtful.