



**Nunatsiavut kavamanga
Nunatsiavut Government**

THIRD ASSEMBLY

OF

NUNATSIAVUT

**5th SESSION OF THE THIRD NUNATSIAVUT ASSEMBLY
FIRST and SECOND SITTING March 3rd and 4th, 2015**

**kAVAMALIGIJET
KAUJITITSIUTINGA
PARLIAMENTARY REPORT**

In Attendance:

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

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

President of Nunatsiavut, Honorable Sarah Leo

First Minister of Nunatsiavut Affairs, 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 Hopedale, James Tuttauq

AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Jack Shiwak

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 Nunatsiavut Affairs, Toby Andersen

Deputy Minister of Education and Economic Development, Tim McNeill

Clerk of the Assembly, Mary Sillett

Absent:

AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque

Director of Communications, Bert Pomeroy

Deputy Minister of Health and Social Development, Michelle Kinney

Deputy Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Dave Lough

Deputy Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Carl McLean

Director of Legal Services, Loretta Michelin

The Nunatsiavut Assembly proceedings

were recorded in Inuktitut and English.

March 3 & 4, 2015

Assembly commenced at 9:00 a.m. on March 3, 2015

MR. SPEAKER: Item one, "Prayer." Ullâkut Illonasi. I'd like to call to order the Spring Session for the 5th Session of the Third Nunatsiavut Assembly and ask Wilson Jararuse to say the opening prayer.

MR. JARARUSE: *(Speaks in Inuttitut.)*

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

PRESIDENT LEO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I now want to welcome you all here today. First off, since we were last here as an Assembly we lost three of our

respected elders. And I'd just quickly like to pay a little tribute to them today. Boas Jararuse, and you'll see his picture on the wall, was a former Vice President of LIA. He lived in Makkovik, formerly of Hebron. Was a true community builder and leader. He relocated to Makkovik in 1959. He was involved in many community events, gave freely of his time to help others. Served as a board member of the LIA during the 70's and 80's and, like I said, he was a former Vice-President of the LIA. Boas passed away in December. Mary Dicker of Nain was a founding member of the Nain Women's Group, a very active member of our church and a very beautiful member of our church choir for many years. She was a true leader who valued community and family life and who strived to maintain Inuit language and culture. I want to acknowledge her son, AngajukKâk Joe Dicker of Nain, and say to you, sir, that your mother was a remarkable woman who we will all fondly remember. And I know another one of Mary's children is Mary Adelaide. Mary Adelaide was our recipient of Inuit Woman of the Year and I was honoured to have presented her with that just recently, and her mother was there, and it was good that her mother was there to see her receive that award.

Finally, Silpa Edmunds. Silpa was born in Hopedale on March 31st, 1932. She attended residential school in Makkovik and worked with the Moravian Mission in Hopedale. She was married to Tom Edmunds of Postville and she was the mother of 14 children. One of them is our Clerk of the Assembly, Mary Sillett. Silpa was a passionate advocate of *Inutittut* Inuit politics, social rights and women's issues. She had travelled

all across Canada advocating for the betterment of Inuit and was involved in LIA, the OkâlaKatiget Society, ITK, Torngâsok, Pauktuutit and TRHA, Torngat Regional Housing Association. She certainly was a very strong woman and certainly very strong in advocating for Inuit rights. And my condolences again to Mary. I would like for all Members to bow their heads for a moment in silence to show respect for these remarkable people that we have lost.

[Moment of silence]

PRESIDENT LEO:

Thank you. To continue on I'd like to start off by saying how nice it is to see two young, I guess, pages in training, we would call them, Amber Saksiagak of Nain and Julia Pijogge of Nain. And I want to thank the office of the speaker or the speaker for coming up with this initiative to introduce our Assembly to these young people so that they can see what's happening with their own government and get a feel of how things work, and thank you for doing that and welcome Amber and Julia. And to the other page that I'm sure is going to train them very well. Since being established in December, 2005, the Nunatsiavut Government has overcome many challenges and will continue to face many more as we continue on with our implementation of self-government. While planning is no easy job, Mr. Speaker, I believe we're certainly on the right track. We have to continue to find ways to revive and strengthen our culture and language. We have it. It's here, but we need to strengthen it more. We have to continue to find ways to revive and strengthen our

culture and language. We have to continue to find ways to ensure we have a well-educated population, to increase employment for our people, improve our social structures and adequate housing. We need to develop the necessary business infrastructure to ensure long-term economic growth and we have to build and maintain the financial capacity to create and maintain social stability. We have to continue and revive our very strong value of self-reliance. Our long-term goals and objectives will only be realized, however, if we remain focused in finding ways to strike a balance between protecting our environment and creating a climate that fosters stable, economic and social growth for our people and our communities. The *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement* is a *Constitutionally*-protected document. It clearly defines our relationship with both the federal and provincial governments. It provides certainty over the jurisdiction of our lands, allowing us to create a stable and welcoming environment in which opportunities for our people and our communities can flourish. As you're aware, Mr. Speaker, the government of Newfoundland and Labrador and Vale recently amended the *Voisey's Bay Development Agreement*. Through this, a sixth amendment to the *Agreement*, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador will permit Vale to export additional nickel concentrate outside of the province in order to allow the company more time to get Long Harbour on stream. Vale will provide an estimated 200 million in revenue for exchange for the amendment and will contribute 30 million to community development initiatives. We're still trying to find out all

the specifics of these agreements, or these amendments, because the Government of Newfoundland, at this point has not provided us with a full copy of the *Agreement*. We have seen a crossed out or redacted version of the *Agreement* and we're continuing to look for that.

However, we understand through media reports that the amendment ensures the Voisey's Bay mine remains in operation maintaining well-paying jobs for many of our people. While that is a good thing, Mr. Speaker, we were surprised and disturbed we were not consulted prior to the announcement. In our opinion, that is a clear violation of our *Land Claims Agreement*. In fact, in our *Land Claims Agreement* there's a complete chapter devoted solely to the Voisey Bay Project. With respect to this particular amendment, Mr. Speaker, Section 8.6.2 of the *Land Claims Agreement* states that Canada and the Province shall consult the Nunatsiavut Government prior to deciding an application for a permit or issuing an order pertaining to the Voisey's Bay Project or to any other work or activity in the Voisey's Bay area, attaching a condition or making an amendment to a permit or order pertaining to the Voisey's Bay Project or to any other work or activity in the Voisey's Bay area. As per our *Land Claims Agreement*, the definition of consult says to the person being consulted notice of a matter to be decided in sufficient form and detail to allow that person to prepare its views on that matter or (b) a reasonable amount of time in which the person being consulted may prepare its views on the matter in an opportunity to present its views to the person obliged to consult and (c) full and fair consideration by the person obliged

to consult of any views presented. Despite comments made by the Premier and Provincial Ministers, Mr. Speaker, we were not properly consulted. And as a government we cannot simply ignore this violation of our *Agreement*. I just want to note that this isn't the only instance where the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador has refused to honour the *Land Claims Agreement*. But I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, and the other members of the Assembly, we will not let this go. The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador has to be held accountable. It has to honour our *Land Claims Agreement*. It has to understand that it is not just a guideline, and it has to respect our government and our people. During the past several months, Mr. Speaker, we have raised awareness of the need to revitalize, enhance, protect and preserve our culture and our identity by moving forward with the construction of Illusuak Cultural Centre. You know we are moving full ahead with this project. Construction will begin again in Nain as soon as the conditions allow. And even though we have yet to identify all of the necessary funding to complete it, we're moving ahead. We remain confident that through partnerships with both the federal and eventual the provincial government, we will reach our goals. As well, we plan on taking a very aggressive campaign to establish an endowment fund and/or a capital fundraising campaign that will sustain Illusuak well into the future. We still have to work through a lot of the challenges in coming up with the type of fund that we will create, but we are certainly making progress. 2015 marks the 10th anniversary of the signing of our *Land Claims*

Agreement. We are planning celebrations to mark this significant milestone in our history. We are still in the preliminary planning stages. Each of the communities will be involved, the CLO's from the communities, and will certainly have more updates as the planning progresses. But most definitely December the 1st will be a celebration for Nunatsiavummiut. Last week I was part of an IT delegation that joined families, leaders, premiers, provincial and territorial ministers and representatives and ministers from the Government of Canada. We were in Ottawa at a round-table discussion talking about murdered and missing Aboriginal women. I want to note that both Miriam and Clayton were there, as well as their daughter, Delilah. Sorry, Miriam and Clayton Saunders, as well as their daughter, Delilah. They also attended this event and I got to speak to them and it was amazing the strength that comes from both Miriam and Clayton. Delegates committed to ongoing dialogue and co-ordinated action in priority areas. These included prevention and awareness, community safety, policing measures and justice responses. Specific outcomes, more importantly, was the commitment to gather again in 2016 to assess our progress. One of the statements that really struck out from one of the speakers at the round table was we keep saying missing and murdered Aboriginal women, and she was quite taken by the term "missing". She said your glasses go missing, your keys go missing. People don't go missing. These women were stolen from their families, and I thought that was a pretty strong statement. The priorities that came out of the round table included

prevention and awareness, including raising public awareness and at changing attitudes that devalue Indigenous women and girls and the contribution of Indigenous people as an educational tool for violence prevention, reducing the marginalization of Indigenous women and girls by improving socio-economic development and outcomes, improving prevention and responses of violence within intimate relationships in families. Another point was community safety that included supporting Indigenous communities, organizations and individuals to develop safe initiatives that respond to their unique cultural, traditional, socio-economic needs and realities engaging communities, governments, organizations and institutions in supporting prevention, action and intervention when violence has occurred, supporting and addressing safety and healing of all individuals, families and communities. And, finally, policing measures and justice responses, improving the relationship between justice sector professionals including police and Indigenous people and strengthening community-based policing in our Indigenous communities. As well, identifying strategies within the justice system to protect and assist Indigenous women and girls who are a victim of violence. This is just the beginning. There was a lot of discussion on an inquiry. There was no commitment from the federal government to conduct an inquiry, but as you're all aware, we have called for an inquiry. We need to know what's happening to our women and girls. Finally, as we head into another fiscal year, I want to thank the members of the Assembly, members of our public servant, for all the tremendous work

they have done during the past year in keeping our financial house in order. As a government we should be proud of our record of openness, transparency and fiscal responsibility. And, finally, on one last note when I was acknowledging the elders that we had passed, I forgot Mr. Tyler Edmunds was the grandson of Silpa as well, and I just want to acknowledge that, and I'm sure she was very, very proud of you, Tyler. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Nakummek, Madam President. Item three, "Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery." I want to welcome back the Assembly as this is the first session of the New Year. Please be advised that Herb Jacque, AngajukKâk for Makkovik, has been properly excused from attending these Assembly sittings. For the information of the Assembly, the pages are Amber Saksiagak and Julia Pijogge from Nain. Welcome to the Assembly. Encouraging knowing that young Inuit are taking a great interest in Inuit government. Also recognition to Tabea Onalik, the page from Hopedale, and she will be here to provide support for their new pages. Also, just for the information of the Assembly, other Inuit communities and the Canadian Constituency will have the opportunity for the Pilot Page program as well. The interpreter translators are Rita Andersen, Augusta Irving and Wilson Jararuse. Andrew Hamel is the IT staff helping out for this Assembly. As well, we would like to recognize the OkâlaKatiget staff, Simone Kolmeister and Johansi Tuglavina. If there are any questions around travel and logistics, please see Hilda Hunter. Just for the information, the schedule for outside sessions during this sitting is as

follows: *Inuttitut* training will take place after the formal Assembly today and the Illusuak presentation will take place at 7:00 p.m. Both events will take place in the courtroom. I would like to welcome those in the gallery today and thank them for their interest in Nunatsiavut Assembly. Also, as you will notice, there is DVD's presented for you in front of you. Each member has been given a copy of the OkâlaKatiget video which are highlights from the 2013-2014 Assembly sittings. Any member wishing to recognize visitors in the public gallery today? Item four, "Member Statements." Are there any member statements? Correction, item four, "Minister Statements". Are there any minister statements? I recognize Richard Pamak, Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

MR. PAMAK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This being the first sitting of 2015, I'd like to take the time for reflection on the past and an opportunity to look at what we want to accomplish in the year ahead. We, as a department, are thankful for the commitment made by this government in the past year to culture. Our success in settling a land claims in 2005 was based on the recognition that a distinct Aboriginal culture existed in Northern Labrador. Our leaders worked hard to achieve what we enjoy today and what we are challenged to demonstrate leadership in preserving, protecting and celebrating Labrador Inuit culture. The decision to proceed with construction of the rebranding of the culture centre in 2014 demonstrated the leadership of this government and the values we place on culture. We thank all you for that support. Excuse me, Mr. Speaker,

may I be permitted to sit? I'm getting a cramp in my neck and continue on later?

MR. SPEAKER: Please do.

MR. PAMAK: Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Would you like to request a recess, sir?

MR. PAMAK: Yes, just for a couple minutes. Someone else can go ahead, if you want to. No? Okay, I'll go on.

MR. SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes First Minister, Kate Mitchell.

MS MITCHELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Okay, I have some updates here from our department. The first I'll start off with the implementation. The Implementation Committee...

MR. SPEAKER: My apologies. I'd like to request a recess.

MS MITCHELL: Thank you.

(Recess)

MR. SPEAKER: Item four, "Minister Statements". I recognize Honourable Richard Pamak, Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

MR. PAMAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and my apologies to the Assembly for what just happened. Thank you. In December we appointed an Exhibit Advisory Committee for the exhibit for the new cultural centre to ensure that we are connected to the community. That committee met in Nain January 14th to the 16th. Committee members includes Catharyn Anderson who is from Canada at Large, Sarah Townley for Upper Lake Melville, Derrick

Pottle from Rigolet, Annie Evans from Makkovik, our own Tyler Edmunds, Ordinary Member for Postville, Doris Flowers from Hopedale, Beverly Hunter, Gus Semigak also from Hopedale, Dorothy Angnatok, Johannes Lampe and Fran Williams from Nain. This team of advisors will play a critical role in the next year as we work on the content for the exhibits and make final decision on fabrication. One of the key messages that is being reinforced is that *Inuttitut* must play a key role in telling the story and in operations of Illusuak. The committee has also asked key questions on the site, the design and the operations. Building our capacity in the arts and crafts is also making significant progress with key workshops and community craft organization support. Workshops in carving, jewellery, and art, photography are planned in partnership with Torngat Arts and Crafts and the Mobilizing Inuit Culture and Heritage project. Last week the first of workshops on carving was held by Billy Gauthier as a facilitator in Nain. The Northern Exposure event in St. John's also included a collaborative project with our artists and Nunavut arts and crafts on sealskin crafts. The event provided opportunities for other meetings and with support agencies. Our work on literate dialect continues. Our work continues on the Labrador *Inuttitut* Training Program and establishing language policies are key priorities. The LITP, the Labrador *Inuttitut* Training Program, is in the final stages of development, and we are preparing a presentation on the program with opportunities for program delivery. I am pleased to report that the 2014 report from our archaeology office has been filed with the province and

will be tabled at the next sitting of this Assembly. Preserving and protecting our heritage resources is an important mandate of our department, and this office is making significant progress in new research on a number of key sites. We also have work in partnership with Parks Canada to have the Kitjigattalik Ramah Chert Quarry recognized as our new national historic site. This is very significant recognition of a historic significance church has played over an extended period from 5,000 to 600 years ago. Mr. Speaker, in partnership with Torngat Recreation Commission, we are developing a new recreation strategy for Nunatsiavut. The strategy will look at roles and responsibilities, priorities and ways to ensure that traditional Inuit games are supported as well as provincial sport and community-based activities. The report will be completed by March 2015. Mr. Speaker, in collaboration with all Nunatsiavut Government departments and the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies, we are working on the new plan for improved operations of the Torngat Mountains Base Camp and research station. The Torngat Mountains National Park continues to be recognized as one of Canada's iconic tourism destinations. It has been chosen for 2015 as number 7 in the top 20 travel destinations in Canada for 2015. Our Tourism Division will also be working closely with all Inuit Community Governments to help build new visitor experiences in each community and help our hospitality industry upward to grow their businesses. In closing, Mr. Speaker, our tourism plan is now part of the provincial and all Labrador

initiative which will see new opportunities of support from ACOA and provincial tourism. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

MR. POTTLE:

Nakummek UKâtik. Mr. Speaker, our department continues to work on various pieces of legislation for the upcoming sittings of the Nunatsiavut Assembly such as the *Torngat Fisheries Producers Co-operative Guarantees Act 2015* and amendments to the *Nunatsiavut Civil Service Act*. With each piece of legislation, Mr. Speaker, there is a significant amount of analysis completed prior to it being presented to the Assembly for its consideration. We continue, Mr. Speaker, to provide assistance to all departments as they develop and deliver their programs and services to beneficiaries. We are currently involved in the negotiation of the renewal of the Implementation Plan and also in the review of the *Fiscal Financing Agreement* and, as well, our Group Insurance Policy. Mr. Speaker, there has been a recent amendment to the Nunatsiavut Civil Service Policy adding the definition of Hard to Recruit. Hard to recruit is now defined as positions in which repeated recruitment efforts have been unsuccessful in attracting qualified candidates and have met the following conditions: 1) Job completions have been open to all applicants within the previous 18-month period and 2) The majority of recruitments resulted in fewer than five eligible and available applicants over the 18-month period. Nakummek UKâtik.

MR. SPEAKER:

Nakummek. Before we move to our next minister statement I would like to recognize in the gallery today our member of House of Assembly, Mr. Randy Edmunds. Thank you for your interest in Nunatsiavut Assembly. I recognize Honourable Darryl Shiwak, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources.

MR. SHIWAK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to table my quarterly report to the Assembly of the department's activities over the last number of months. Mr. Speaker, from the Renewable Resource Division, this year the Northern Shrimp Advisory Committee, NSAC for short, is scheduled to meet in Montreal on March 4th to discuss the 2015 scientific assessment of the Northern shrimp stock. The Nunatsiavut Government is a participating member in NSAC and also participated in a Zonal Assessment Process, ZAP, on February 17th to the 19th. The NSAC committee makes recommendations to the federal Minister on the total allowable catch for shrimp in the various shrimp fishing areas. The annual snow crab Regional Assessment Process, or RAP, meeting took place on February 24th to the 26th. The RAP is where DFO science provided information on the latest scientific assessment of snow crab in Newfoundland and Labrador fishing areas. In the RAP the post-season trawl and pot surveys were discussed. The meeting was held in St. John's and Nunatsiavut Government participated. We anticipate the total allowable catch of the area to HJN will be recommended to the Minister within a couple of weeks. The NG communal Greenland Halibut allocation is established at a hundred and ninety-three metric tonnes for

2015. This is up from a hundred and eighty-nine metric tonnes in the previous year. Mr. Speaker, our department recently put out a call for proposals to secure a consultant to research and provide options for proposals for issuing a multi-year designation in our commercial fishery and the research option to utilize our commercial fishery fund to advance the fishery in Nunatsiavut. Five proposals were received last week. We elected Tri Nav Consulting as the successful proposal. Wildlife, Mr. Speaker. Labrador Inuit harvest moose under a TAH, Total Allowable Harvest, established by the provincial government. Thirty-five moose were available to harvest in LISA for the 2014-2015 season which opened on September 15th and will run until mid-April. To date 16 animals have been harvested; four in Nain, two here in Hopedale, three in Postville, three in Makkovik , two in Rigolet and four in Upper Lake Melville. The Nunatsiavut Government has received 12 polar bear licenses for the 2015 hunting season which opened on February 2nd, and will run until June 30th or until all the animals are taken, whichever comes first. With the current temperatures being what they are, it is great for making ice. So we anticipate another successful hunting season this year. To date Nain has filled its three licenses, Hopedale has filled its three licenses, Rigolet has filled one of its and the other communities are actively hunting. So 7 of the 12 licenses are filled to date. In early December of 2014 our wildlife management travelled to Nunavik to participate in a Torngat Mountain Caribou discussion. The Nunavik delegations were not at a position to make a recommendation at that time in regard to measures

restricting access to Torngat caribou. We have reached out to Makivik to schedule a meeting to discuss this important issue. Mr. Speaker, it was reported at the last Assembly sitting we were successful in harvesting 47 moose from the Gros Morne National Park. We began distributing this packaged moose meat to communities in early December. I have heard that this meat was well received by the communities. Non-renewable Resource Division. This time of year provides our government with the opportunity to attend and promote Nunatsiavut as a mineral resource destination. With no winter exploration programs happening within our region this season, engaging with industry has become even more vital. Our department is busy attending conferences and trade shows in order to broaden our company contacts, industry knowledge, and to spread the word about the many and varied opportunities within Nunatsiavut. Mr. Speaker, I feel the best way to showcase Nunatsiavut at these forums, is to highlight how Labrador Inuit have become a central part of active mining projects. Our strong employment numbers at Voisey's Bay, the success of our IBA, and the extent of which our beneficiaries are involved with exploration projects like the Michelin Project, Michelin Lake provide excellent examples of Nunatsiavut as a reliable and promising mining destination. I had the pleasure to attend and present at the 2014 Mineral Resources Review in St. John's in November. I was invited to do a keynote address at Northern Exposure in late January. The presentations focus on the work we are doing as a government to prepare and plan for development as well as highlight successful mining projects that are

ongoing in Nunatsiavut. The keynote I gave also used the example of Muskrat Falls to point out how a lack of accommodation of our concerns from Ministry can lead to major issues for industry as a project progresses. On Monday of this week my Deputy Minister made a similar presentation at an Aboriginal session at the Prospectors and Developers Association Conference, PDAC, in Toronto. We have also had some similar requests to do presentations within the offshore seismic industry. In January the Non-renewable Resource Division made a virtual presentation to the Nunavut Oil and Gas Summit in order to share our experiences and concerns with offshore oil and gas industry in our waters. The presentation provided an overview of ocean management within Nunatsiavut, the regulatory systems, the environmental impact to be seen from seismic activity, especially as they relate to our fishery. These concerns were also voiced with the provincial regulator, the Canada-Newfoundland Offshore Petroleum Board at a one-on-one meeting we had with them in November. Our government has become increasingly active in this file. In order to better understand the offshore industry, many of our staff of Department of Lands and Natural Resources as well as Education and Economic Development participated in a one-day workshop to focus on how Nunatsiavut Government might access funding and training opportunities, as well as potential business partnerships within that industry. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

MS KEMUKSIGAK:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Post-secondary Student Support Program update. Registration is completed for the winter 2015 semester. We had 25 students not returning to the winter semester. Eight because they graduated and 17 discontinued for a variety of reasons, and we had three go from full-time to part-time. We have also picked up any new late applicants who are eligible for the winter 2015 semester. We currently have a hundred and twenty-four full-time and thirty-six part-time students registered for the winter semester. Mr. Speaker, the Inuit Bachelor of Education group is back to school with two students less for this term. Two students have been discontinued for academic reason. A second recruitment campaign during the fall semester for the IBED program was unsuccessful in gaining additional students for the program. We currently have 15 students registered at the College of the North Atlantic for the IBED preparatory year and two other students doing courses through MUN to meet eligibility for the program. Ola Andersen started work with the IBED program on November the 24th. She will serve in the position of Cultural Consultant/Counsellor position for the duration of the program. PSSP staff assisted with the Northern Exposure Conference and Tradeshow in January in St. John's. Mr. Speaker, Education. The NAPE teachers, the teachers that we fund through our contribution agreement with the school board, the teachers that have a TEPL diploma, sorry, finally received their diploma incentive bonus on December 2014. I would like to thank all the people who made this happen as it was a long time coming. The principals are in Nain now for a

workshop on the Inuit Studies course for the schools. Mr. Speaker, LITP is working on a plan for renewal for the next fiscal year. It was slated to end March 31st, but the government has extended for one year. This coming year will focus on finding the people who had already trained get employment, resume writing, short-term training needed to get to Muskrat Falls such as safety training. Deputy Minister McNeill and I met with Nalcor representatives about ways to get more of our Nunatsiavut beneficiaries working at Muskrat Falls. We are looking at things such as possibly getting their orientation and medicals completed in the communities which would assist in getting the people to work. For example, now there is a job that come out that has to be filled in 72 hours. Someone from Nunatsiavut would not make the deadline due to having to go to Goose Bay for their medical and orientation. So if this is in place, then it would remove some of the barriers for employment. Deputy Minister McNeill is working with the other Labrador Aboriginal groups on a proposal for training funds for Voisey's Bay going underground. On March 26th and 27th the third annual Canadian Symposium on Indigenous Teacher Education will take place in North West River. This is hosted by MUN and some of our *Inuttitut* teachers will be attending. Jodie Lane and Tim McNeill will also be speaking at the conference. Mr. Speaker, on February 13th, 2015 one year to the day that Loretta Saunders went missing there was a vigil in memory of Loretta Saunders in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. Most of her family and friends attended. As we know Loretta was attending St. Mary's

University working on her undergraduate degree with plans to attend law school when her and her unborn baby was brutally murdered. The Nunatsiavut Government officially launched the Loretta Barbara Grace Saunders Memorial Scholarship during the vigil. Loretta's family played an important role in the scholarship content and her father will be a member on the selection committee. I would like to thank the family for their input decisions and dedication to the scholarship. The Loretta Barbara Grace Saunders Scholarship information has been sent out to all Nunatsiavut post-secondary students and also is placed on the Nunatsiavut Government website. The College of the North Atlantic and Happy Valley-Goose Bay will display the scholarship plaque at their campus. I would also like to thank Roy Blake who also played a part in the official launch. Mr. Speaker, Inuit Pathways Update. It was announced in November that the ASET strategy, which Inuit Pathways operates under, will be extended for one year. This meant a new year planning process was put in place as part of the extension application process. This extension year is not automatic for all ASET holders, but rather based on the submission of a New Year plan and an amended Strategic Business Plan. This will be thoroughly reviewed by Service Canada National staff for approval. Service Canada local in Goose Bay have also been very helpful during this process and have been working closely with Inuit Pathways staff to ensure that the submission was as detailed as possible. As Inuit Pathways ASET has a mandate of their five-year Strategic Business Plan and has a great track record on meeting

targets set for each year, both Inuit Pathways and Service Canada are confident the extension will be approved. Therefore staff will be able to continue to focus on increasing employability for beneficiaries. Marine Emergency Duties and Marine Basic First Aid courses have been scheduled for March, and tentative plans are in place to look at providing some safety training as well. This will provide safety courses to people who are working over the summer and were unable to participate in the courses organized by LATP. Mr. Speaker, one staff member of Inuit Pathways attended the Northern Exposure event in January to develop and promote partnership opportunities leading to increased employment opportunities. Staff will also be attending the Canadian Apprenticeship Forum Round Table on engaging employers in apprenticeship training to further increase knowledge of apprenticeship process. Two meetings were held with Raytheon to try to get more Nunatsiavut beneficiaries hired for the North Warning Radar Sites, and how they can avail of Inuit Pathways services such as wage subsidies for newly graduates. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Nakummek. The time allotted for minister statements has exceeded 35 minutes and I would, however, like to hear from the other two ministers. And with unanimous consent from the Assembly, I would like to extend the time allotted for minister statement. All those in favour?

ASSEMBLY:

Aye.

MR. SPEAKER:

All those opposed? I recognize Honourable Greg Flowers.

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Minister for Health and Social Development.

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you again, Mr. Speaker. I would like to begin by acknowledging that this is Social Work Week. I would like to extend my appreciation to social workers within Nunatsiavut Government, but also those who work within other agencies within our communities and region providing services and support to our people. The Family Resource Centre in Nain has a new home in a renovated building in Nain and is looking forward to supporting children and families within the community. We look forward to using the space to its full potential and hosting many activities and programs. The Trauma and Addiction Team recently completed a family program in Hopedale with 16 participants. I had the opportunity to attend a meal with the participants and their extended families as well as the closing of the program. Mr. Speaker, I'd just like to say that the participants of this program, you know, we have a lot of drug and addiction problems in our communities, and the participants really appreciated that we, you know, we had this program where they didn't have to go outside the community for help. And, you know, the people in our communities, our Inuit are resilient people, go through a lot of hard times but, yet, they really are strong people. And, you know, for us to bring programs into their communities without having to send them away they felt a lot of better and it really helped them with their family and with their problems. So, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to commend our

Trauma and Addiction Team for coming into our community and hopefully, you know, we can have this ongoing in other communities, Mr. Speaker. And I think we're already looking at Nain for the next Trauma and Addiction. We are pleased to let you know that we have a dental hygienist travelling to Nain on March 10th along with a dentist and then on to Hopedale. After the Nain trip is complete she will then be travelling to Makkovik and Postville and Rigolet in the near future. This is long overdue as we have not had a hygienist in the communities for some time and we have had difficulty filling the position. As you all are aware we have been trying to respond to the request for "Escorts for Pregnant Women" for some time and have faced challenges with Lab-Grenfell Health. I am pleased to say that we have drafted a policy which we feel is fair to pregnant women and potential escorts, and we will be sharing with Lab-Grenfell Health in the near future. A special thanks to Kim Dicker, public health nurse in Hopedale, for all her assistance in the draft of this policy. A gathering for residential school survivors was recently held in Rigolet. The highlight of the event was the unveiling of the residential school survivor banner with messages from Minister Shiwak and also AngajukKâk Jack Shiwak of Rigolet. Other activities included individuals sharing their experiences, picture taking of survivors and families, talking circles, working on family trees and crafts, etcetera. So I'd just like to say everything went well in Rigolet. That's it, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Nakummek. I recognize Honourable Kate Mitchell, First Minister.

MS MITCHELL:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Okay. Update from our department and first of all implementation. The Implementation Committee met in Ottawa on February the 3rd, 2015 and approved the Board's 2015-2016 work plan and the budgets for final drafting and signature by the Ministers before March 31st, 2015. The Implementation Plan Renewal negotiators met on February 4th in Ottawa to discuss procedures, mandates and time frames for negotiation of the renewal of the current Implementation Plan which expires on December the 1st, 2015. The Nunatsiavut Government negotiators tabled our proposal for a 10-year plan that was approved by the Nunatsiavut Executive Council. Their response was positive and the negotiators are now working with that document as basis for the negotiation. The Membership Committees and the Inuit Membership Appeals Board continue their work on the enrolment of beneficiaries process. We continue to have problems and concerns with the number of Inuit who have turned 19 years of age but have not completed an application to be enrolled as a beneficiary. Therefore they have been removed from the Registry. The membership workshop held in Goose Bay in October 2014 tried once again to recommend a strategy to address this issue. Officials from my department are currently working to implement this and other recommendations submitted by the workshop respecting the enrolment of beneficiary process. Jim Nitsman has resigned from the Hopedale Membership Committee for health reasons and the process to replace him is now ongoing. In regard to housing, Mr. Speaker, the materials for the housing repairs and attic retrofit program

was shipped from Goose Bay last fall, but due to ice conditions the Astron did not go back to Goose Bay as planned. Therefore, our materials are still in Goose Bay. We have, however, made arrangements with Air Labrador to fly the insulation and associated material to Hopedale and Nain. We have submitted to Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation copies of invoice for the Nunatsiavut Government expenditures to date. And Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation has transferred that amount of their \$350,000 to the Nunatsiavut Government. This allows us to proceed with the attic retrofit program this winter and to do the remaining repair work next summer. We submitted a public tender for the attic retrofit work to be done this winter. We received three bids and have reviewed them and submitted our review to the Nunatsiavut Executive Council who will make their decision on a contractor this week. Work on the attic retrofit program is expected to commence as soon as the contracts are awarded and to be completed by the end of April. As part of the housing needs assessment, Mr. Speaker, we contracted EXP to do a community-wide geotechnical drilling program in Nain. This work was completed on November 20th, 2014. We expect to get the final report from EXP by the end of March. However, the report for the housing prototype and the Nunatsiavut Government staff housing lots have been submitted to our consultants in order that they may give us the recommended foundation design as soon as possible. We intend to construct those two buildings this summer. The Nunatsiavut Executive Council has approved funding

for a seminar drilling program in Hopedale this year and will consider doing Rigolet, Makkovik and Postville in 2016. I intend to schedule a meeting with the provincial Minister responsible for housing after we have started our attic retrofit program to discuss additional housing funding from the four-year Federal Housing Fund which was transferred to the province in 2014 in order to be able to do the repair work to the 20 homes which have already been assessed as part of our current housing repair program. In regard to our housing strategy, Mr. Speaker, the Departmental Working Group has completed and submitted to the Executive Council the final version of the Housing Strategy Framework. That document has been discussed and approved by the Nunatsiavut Executive Council and is now a work in progress. I also attended the Torngat Regional Housing Association Board Meeting on the 24th of February and I gave them-, I did a PowerPoint presentation and did an update on our housing strategy where we're currently at and, you know, the needs assessment and things like that was also covered in that presentation. In regard to public property, Mr. Speaker, the new office building in Rigolet has been completed and is now occupied by Nunatsiavut Government staff. We intend to construct a new staff housing complex in Nain in 2015. However, we are waiting for the final prototype housing design from the consultants, FGMDA, before we can determine the foundation and design for the building. We also intend to construct the six-unit housing prototype in Nain this summer. The Nunatsiavut Government staff housing policy was approved in December

2014 and is now in effect. The policy can be reviewed on the Nunatsiavut Government Intranet Home Page. Nunatsiavut Affairs will continue to support the maintenance of the Torngat Mountains National Base Camp in 2015. In regard to transportation, Mr. Speaker, the RFP for a new vessel to replace the Northern Ranger has been extended to March 31st, 2015. I intend to meet with the provincial Minister to discuss that issue and, specifically, the infrastructure required in our communities in order to accommodate a new vessel. I want to discuss the 2015 marine service to be provided in 2015 and a progress report on the proposed new air strip for Nain. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Nakummek. We will now recess for 15 minutes.

(Recess)

MR. SPEAKER:

Item five, "Member Statements." Are there any member statements? I recognize Gary Mitchell.

MR. MITCHELL:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I'll just give you a brief overview this morning of the activities at the NunaKâtiget Inuit Community Corporation that have taken place since this last Assembly meeting in November. I'll begin with our most active program which is the Community Freezer Program. Things are going well there. We continue to get close to 100 people using on a monthly basis. Some of our seasonal food items are now unavailable such as salmon, char, baked apples and red berries. We had a good stock of berries this year that lasted up to the month of February, and it came at a cost, of course, you know? We are continuing to stock

fresh, frozen strawberries and blueberries from the grocery stores. It's also a good year for partridges in the area, so we have a good stock of partridges since this fall. We're getting a few rabbits in now and then, but not that many. I guess it's because of the snow and people unable to get out and bring it in. We also stock corn fish and salt fish. After the corn fish is all gone then we'll be looking at purchasing some fresh cod fillets for our clients as much as our funds will allow us to do so.

Unfortunately, there's no more frozen whole char at Torngat Co-op. So this year the product is unavailable much to the disappointment of our seniors because that was a pretty popular item, this frozen char and I was kind of surprised that we had run out of the char so quick in the year.

The hundred and fifty salmon that we caught last summer was already gone by September. We wish to thank the Department of Lands of Natural Resources and Education Economic Development for their generous contribution of seven cases of char as this was a good boost for us and a popular food item. Unfortunately Torngat Co-op ran out of frozen char this year and hasn't anymore, as I mentioned, for about a month now. We had been really fortunate with our supply of moose meat this year. We want to thank the Department of Lands and Natural Resources for their contribution of moose meat which is delivered to our freezer from the Gros Morne harvest. It lasted right up to until we were able to get our moose harvested for our freezer. One moose is hunted for us in the Double Mer area just recently, while the second was hunted in the Travispine area or Kenamish area. The moose meat is a really

important staple for our beneficiaries, and they are very happy to have this product available to them. With regard to other programs with the support the Department of Lands and Natural Resources we had Dave Wolfrey come into Goose Bay just before Christmas and do a Trapper's Ed course. It's great to have support of these departments from the Nunatsiavut Government to help us out. I think the Economic Development and Education Department also helped out with some funding there from Inuit Pathways for Dave to come in. We have sponsored two applicants who got their FAC course. More names are on the list for FAC. However, the college administers this course, and so they must register at the college and we'll assist with the registration fee, and there's always a line-up for the FAC course and so it's a job to get some more people in who want to take the FAC course, but they're slowly getting their name and getting their courses done. We have recently applied to the Department of Seniors and Wellness for two grants totalling \$10,000 each. One application was for requesting assistance for the Community Freezer Program for purchasing wild country food items. The second was for an agriculture project which we'd like to try and grow some vegetables and have some of our people who use the Community Freezer to harvest the crop in fall for their own use. These two applications are now submitted to the provincial government. Arrangements have been made with one of the local farms to lease two strips of land for the planting crop for the agricultural project. And I'd like to thank the NEC for their support in this program to

let us apply for the funding for the agriculture program. One new project we're presently working on is the Firewood Project. Apparently, the Department of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs is in the process of bringing some firewood out from Muskrat Falls to a drop off location in Happy Valley-Goose Bay possibly on Mud Lake Road. The wood will be distributed by community organizations to various people like seniors or disabled people, or people who have no means of transporting firewood. Our corporation's looking at getting some distributed to seniors' household who burn firewood and to help heat their homes. From the list of the beneficiaries Community Freezer will be contacting the people who see who might need some wood. We held a meeting with Minister Keith Russell and his staff last week to discuss the project and looked at options for getting the wood to the people who need it. Some details still need to be worked out on that matter. The Labrador Friendship Centre will also be involved in the distribution of firewood to people who may need wood transferred to their homes. Although it's two months past I will mention that the old Christmas celebrations, or Nalujuk Night, was a huge success and we had a great turnout and a fun evening. We had a wonderful meal, door prizes, Inuit games, drum dances, live music, different performers and a visit from the Nalujuit. The NunaKâtiget Corporation teamed up with DHSD, along with our two ordinary members for ULM, Minister Kemuksigak and Roy Blake, to share in the sponsorship and volunteering. We had a great team put together

whereby everyone who came out that night could share in friendship and culture. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

I recognize Jim Tuttau, AngajukKâk, Hopedale.

MR. TUTTAU:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. The multi-purpose at Hopedale located on Berry Road is approximately 85 percent completed at this time. All outside work is complete. Interior work has yet to be completed, such as drywall, a little bit of drywall, painting, electrical, etcetera. There were some minor problems with labour. On electrical, it was slow. There was a turnaround, and as the contractors have been a way on turnaround, and this seems to be, has worked out at this time. However, we have a water line freeze-up at the site. Discussions with our engineers, Lat 49, and the contractor, Bird Construction, and Hopedale Inuit Community Government believe that the freeze-up may be caused by two stops or shut-off valves from the main line between the new hook-up to the building. Also the materials, which are the ground, may be a contributing factor in this matter. Maybe some wet materials got trapped in between two or three layers of ground. There is a problem with shifting of one corner of the building near the main door. This has caused minor cracks in drywall which has since been repaired. We won't know a hundred percent of what caused the freeze-up until we can dig with heavy equipment during the summertime. Freeze-ups in the community (residential). We have had numerous residential freeze-ups since early December. There is one major break right now we are working on the

main line somewhere near the clinic area, and we are working on this constantly trying to locate the break, and this is wreaking havoc in the vicinity. This break in the water line is not resolved at this time and our water and sewers guy are presently working on that as we speak right now. Also Hopedale Inuit Community Government, in partnership with the Minister of Health's Department, Gregory Flowers, has come up with \$7,000 in funding to hire workers to get wood for our community. We had four people presently hired on, which that project expires tomorrow from Minister Flower's department. We've have loan of two skidoos from the Going Off, Going Strong Program. We hired four people, and so far that seems to be working fairly well. But it's always a tough job trying to get as much wood to everybody as possible. And at this time I'd like to thank Minister Flowers' department for working together with us and come up and then trying to resolve this issue in our community. And on another note we also have \$7,000 from our Kamatsiatet Committee that we haven't tapped into yet. And another donation from URC Rec Committee which donated thirty-five hundred dollars to this worthy cause. And within the next couple of days the HIC people will get together, come up with another strategy on how we can spend the rest of this money and implement the wood program. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Nakummek. I recognize Joe Dicker, AngajukKâk, Nain.

MR. DICKER:

Nakummek UKâtitik. These are just some highlights since last fall. Unfortunately the sitting was cancelled. So just a summary of what's been happening since then. Mr. Speaker, the community centre is still not handed over to Nain Inuit Community Government. There were issues with the electrical hook-up, and some plumbing problems. Our engineers and consultants now are expected to come into Nain next week to do a deficiency test inspection. So we expect the community centre to be completed and handed over to us by the end of this month. The Inuit Community Government would also like to congratulate the JHMS Huskies team for their achievement since November 2014. Back in November the boys and girls volleyball Regionals, they went to Labrador City and came back with gold. In December the boys volleyball team went to the Provincials in Lethbridge, Newfoundland and they came back with silver. The girls went to Arnold's Cove but did not medal. And recently in January the table tennis teams went to Sheshatshiu and they won gold there. Now they are scheduled to go to Pilley's Island in Newfoundland and Labrador, but the time has yet to be determined because they want to be more careful on travelling in the wintertime now because the accident happened recently in central Newfoundland. The Inuit Community Government would also like to congratulate Joey Angnatok and Caroline Nochasak for receiving award from the Arctic Net. Joey received the first ever award granted by Arctic Net across Northern Canada for his contribution to research and voluntarism in the community. And Caroline for her poster award for research on health

use for in the north. She beat out a hundred and sixty-six other students from across Canada, Canadian North. Congratulations are also in order for the Going Off, Going Strong Program for receiving a hundred and fifty thousand dollar investment from Bell "Let's Talk" initiative. This investment not only recognizes what your research department has done but how far a positive program like this contributes to the youth in the community. So thank you should be going to the staff and the volunteers involved. Also the program co-ordinator, Dorothy Angnatok, also known as Duru, went to Toronto by invitation from Clara Hughes who is the representative for this "Let's Talk" initiative to do an interview on the Marilyn Dennis Show, talk about the program here in our community. Also, Mr. Speaker, the Canadian Armed Forces were in Nain on February 5th to the 9th of this year to do some winter training around the Nain area. And the Nain Inuit Community Government and the Nunatsiavut Government assisted them with accommodations and some logistics. Everything went smoothly and the Nunatsiavut Government hosted the community event for them. Some part of the training will be held in the other Nunatsiavut communities shortly. I'd like to thank you, Mr. Speaker, as in your role as Ordinary Member for Nain, for helping coordinate the community event. Lastly, I would like to recognize the community members for Nain for their commitment to conserve the George River Caribou Herd. Caribou is still on our door step, and the communities have remained strong throughout all this temptation but have not broken down. So that the Inuit have a strong resolve. So I

wanted to commend them on that today. That's all I have for now, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Nakummek. I recognize Tyler Edmunds, Ordinary Member for Postville.

MR. EDMUNDS:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'd very much like to thank the Minister of Culture, the Deputy, and those within the department as well as the input from the NEC for committing myself and others to be part of the Illusuak Exhibit Advisory Committee. I can assure each of you that those selected to sit on the committee were overwhelmed with the opportunity, humbled and excited to share their knowledge of our culture and to learn more about it. The connections and energy within the committee so far have been astounding and moving, and everyone is excited to do the work that's tasked to them. Mr. Speaker, there are many reasons why we, as Inuit, work tirelessly for a *Land Claims Agreement*. We've created to handle the affairs of our people to create better situations for our people now, to help heal wounds of the past and to ensure that we shine in the future. We are faced with many issues from the past now dealing with many in the present, which makes it difficult to imagine and to see our bright future. Mr. Speaker, the decision to go forward with Illusuak may be one of the most controversial decisions associated with this third assembly. But as our Minister of Culture reminded us at the meeting, and others who sat on the committee, preserving the culture and the language was the foundation upon which we've settled our *Land Claims Agreement*. The onus to

promote our culture and to instil pride in the Inuit identity is upon our shoulders. And for us to continue doing that, it is necessary to create infrastructure, to provide something that will highlight the stories of our past, link us with our ancestors and with those who are around us today. This is something that will be a testament to what it is to be an Inuk. Illusuak will provide that infrastructure and will be the lens through which we are able to focus upon our future and provide a beacon for those moving forward, reminding them that they are moving forward amongst fellow Inuit and can be a proud Inuk. Once more, thank you for the opportunity and there are those who sit on the committee who are yet more gracious and humbled for this chance to explore their culture further and contribute to Labrador Inuit Society. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

MR. BLAKE:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Since the last sitting I have been exceptionally busy, as I'm sure you all have been as well. In December I attended a funeral of the late Stella Swaffield. At this time I would like to send condolences to the Swaffield and Dyson families. Unfortunately, due to sickness I was unable to attend the funeral of the late Ronald Williams. But also at this time I would like to send condolences to the Williams' families. I attended a funeral service for the late Tama Winters and would like to send condolences to the Winters, Blackmore, Sillett, Adams

and Rice families. I was pleased to see an increase in the meal per diem and would like to thank Minister Flowers for his continued support within the NIHB Program. Although homelessness is still a serious issue in Upper Lake Melville area, the numbers seem to be dropping. It is evident due to the programs offered to them, for example, soup kitchens, brown bag lunch, support of housing units, and there still needs to be a long-term solution put in place. Mr. Speaker, in saying that one particular boarding home was destroyed by fire recently, some beneficiaries are now looking for long-term housing. I also thank you, Mr. Speaker, for your concern and phone calls during that tragedy. And, Mr. Speaker, there have been a few success stories that I have been a part of. Working along with AES staff Marjorie Malloy, Andrea King and housing coordinator Scott Hudson. I continue to be a support for any beneficiary that approaches me with their concerns. At this time I would like to wish Batten Broomfield a continued recovery. He was struck down with illness just before Christmas season, but is very fortunate now to be home among family and friends. All the best to Batten and Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Nakummek. I recognize Richard Pamak, Ordinary Member for Nain.

MR. PAMAK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just I'm saddened to report once again the loss of two members of our community. I'd like to take this time to send out our deepest condolences to the families of the late Abia Kohlmeister and Mary Dicker. Abia passed away prior to Christmas season leaving behind

his wife and nine children. Abia was 49 years old. As President Leo mentioned in her statement, Nunatsiavut has lost another well-respected elder. Mary Dicker passed away in her home shortly after the New Year, and Mary was a highly respected elder by our community and by many living outside. Mary had strong ties with her family. Always welcomed people into her home and was a strong advocate for preservation of our *Inuttitut* language, our culture and our traditions. Mary was 85 years old. Mary is sadly missed. Sincere condolences going both to the Kohlmeister and Dicker family. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Any more member statements? I recognize Diane Gear, AngajukKâk, Postville.

MS GEAR:

I want to extend sincere condolences to the Edmunds family in Postville, to the Sillett family in Hopedale on the loss of their mother, grandmother, husband, sorry and wife. Mrs. Silpa Edmunds passed away in February. She will surely be missed by our community. Silpa was known for the love of her language. She spoke it often and whenever she had a chance. She was always available if anyone needed translations. Silpa used to call me on almost every Sunday morning without fail and ask me did I have Nain OK Society Radio on because the Moravian *Inuttitut* morning service was on. And if I had it on she would say, okay, I'm going to translate it for you. So bless her heart. I won't get that translated anymore. Silpa also had a love for the community of Hopedale, her original home. She spoke of the community of Hopedale

many times during my conversations with her. She will surely be missed in our community. Mr. Speaker, we can finally see an end in sight for the completion of our community centre. It's been a long and stressful year and a half since we started the building, but now we are hoping to begin occupying the building by the end of March. There are some minor mechanical works and that needs to be done. We had to get a pressure pump in because of low water pressure in that area. I attended a session on Poverty Reduction Strategy which was initially started by the provincial government in 2006. This was started with the goal of being able to help low income families financially and also to help them with education and employment. It has been somewhat of a success, but there is still some fine tuning that needs to be done before we can see any improvements for Labrador. The group also felt, this is our group, that information available and also difficulty in finding and completing forms needs a lot of improvement and be more user friendly. The 10th Carl Memorial Hockey Tournament was held in Postville this past weekend. I would like to congratulate the Makkovik team for winning gold and to every team that participated. I hope they all had a great weekend. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to inform all of you here today that the trail from Postville to North West River is now marked and groomed. Postville groomer arrived back on Sunday. Also the trail to Makkovik is marked as well, and that's the Sea Ice Trail, and there are also markings to Drunken Harbour from Postville and Makkovik.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Nakummek. Any more member statements? Item six, "Returns to Oral Questions." Are there any oral questions today? Item seven, "Oral Questions." Are there any oral questions? I recognize Gary Mitchell, Chair, NunaKâtiget Community Corporation.

MR. MITCHELL: Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. This question is directed to the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Honourable Darryl Shiwak. It's kind of a complex question, but it's regarding one area of land which I'd like to ask about because it regards two different issues, the fishery and the migratory birds. As 2014 was the ninth year since Land Claim Settlement, what is the status of the area in Lake Melville area known as 12-E, and has there been negotiations or settlement with other levels of government to extend the arrangement for use of that possible land beyond the nine years as outlined in the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims* area. And as I mentioned I think in regards to two different things, the migratory birds and the fishery. So has there been any-, what's the status on that area of land as we enter the final year? Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and you're absolutely right, Chairperson, for Upper Lake Melville. The two issues that you're referring to with regard to 12-E, one is regards to the conclusion of the nine-year

agreement on migratory birds, and the other one is the allowance for communal fishery in Lake Melville within 12-E for the fishery in that area. We'll start with the migratory birds. What we've done, and they're ongoing negotiations with the Department of Environment and Conservation is we've, knowing that this is due to end and that if due to end, that there won't be any more hunting migratory birds in that area. We've put a couple of options to the Environment or Conservation. We're waiting for a reply. We've contacted them within the last two weeks. We're waiting for them to reply so we're expecting a reply any time soon. Once we get that reply we'll continue to act on it, but is an ongoing negotiation, yes. Our intent is to in some way or another allow the beneficiaries in the area to continue to harvest migratory birds. That's about the extent I can say, given that the negotiations are still ongoing. With regards to the communal fishery in the area, there is a provision in the *Land Claim* for an extension to a nine-year agreement for communal fishery in the area. We've never signed a nine-year agreement with the federal government. They've never signed it with us, but it is of their opinion that nine-year agreement did exist and that we must be looking at and negotiating an extension. We're currently, again, negotiating that with them with the intent to somehow continue the communal fishery in the area. So both negotiations are ongoing, but the intent is there that we will continue those rights in that area. Once I do have an

update from that, I can provide that to the Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. MITCHELL: Yes, I have one. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When you're negotiating an extension on the use of that land for fishery and wildlife, are you negotiating another date to be set because, unfortunately, it got wrapped into nine years, whenever that nine years is up. In the extension is it just ongoing, or is there another date that you have in mind, like for a length of time of the arrangement? You know what I mean? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, that's not worked out yet. The extension period is not something that we-, is set is stone, so it's not been worked out. I can go back to the department and look for more information, more specific information, that may be able to get back to the member and I can probably do that at tomorrow's sitting. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The second and final supplementary question. I recognize Joe Dicker, AngajukKâk, Nain.

MR. DICKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Education, Patricia Kemuksigak. She mentioned in her presentation about training to get ready to go underground at the Voisey's Bay mine. My question to you, Minister, what training will become available and

how soon are we, as community members or beneficiaries, going to get an opportunity to see what's available so that we can apply for these training initiatives? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Honourable Patricia Kemuksigak, Minister of Education and Economic Development.

MS KEMUKSIGAK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. They're in the planning stages now to put together a proposal to send to the federal government to get funding for a block of funding so that they can do the training for Voisey's Bay underground. So they're not finished their proposal yet, but they've been in consultations and meetings with Vale about what positions will be needed for going underground and also in the construction period. So that it has been sorted out what all the different training components will be, but it's in the process so I'm sure it'll be done in time for people to get training before it starts going underground, or before the decision that it'll go underground. Sorry, I couldn't be any clearer, but it's not fully developed as of yet. It's in a draft stage. But I know one of the things they're working on is purchasing or renting a simulator so that people can get the training for the heavy equipment needed for underground in a simulator, and also there's talks of possibly going to Sudbury because that's where they have underground mining. But it hasn't been fully developed as of yet, but we'll keep everyone posted when it's completed. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary question.

MR. DICKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can I be assured that the Minister that the policy of closest to the resource still applies to this project, it being a new stage of the mine itself?

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Patricia Kemuksigak.

MS KEMUKSIGAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, AngajukKâk Dicker for the question. I will get back to you with further information after I consult with the Deputy Minister, but can I be assured that the adjacency principle will still apply. So the people that are closest to the resource will have the first chance for the training and employment to the IBA, yes. The IBA will still be in effect because it's not a new project. They're just going underground.

MR. SPEAKER: It's my understanding there will be no return to that oral question, supplementary. You've answered the question. That was for the purpose for tomorrow. Is there a second and final supplementary question? Any further oral questions? 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." I would like to recognize, Ms

Patricia Ford, Ordinary Member for Canada, to provide a report from the Standing Committee on rules and procedures.

MS FORD:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. The Standing Committee undertook a review of the Standing Orders and current practises of the Assembly.

After a comprehensive review of the Standing Order, the current Standing Orders were adopted by the Assembly on December 13, 2011. The Standing Committee made some minor amendments, which were also adopted by the Assembly on September 11, 2013.

Mr. Speaker, a number of procedural and administrative matters and concerns had arisen since the fall of 2013 that required consideration by the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee met in Happy Valley-Goose Bay on January 22, 2015 to review the Standing Orders and procedures of the Assembly to ensure they are relevant,

understood and working for the Assembly and the members. During the review the Standing Committee addressed itself to the following matters to ensure they reflect the current practises. Appearance of

witnesses, Committee of the Whole, procedure for reviewing bills,

points of privilege, points of order, a sitting calendar, sitting hours and extended sittings. Generally, a Standing Committee agreed that

procedures in the Assembly were working well and members were not finding it difficult to understand how they are applied to ensure the

efficient running of the daily business of the Assembly. Having a fixed calendar for sittings of the Assembly has been working well as it

allows for planning by members, the Executive Council, and the Clerk. Committee of the Whole and Witnesses. Mr. Speaker, committee members agreed that the Committee of the Whole process was working really well and that it is in Committee of the Whole that members have an opportunity to ask questions of witnesses. Generally, the appearance of witness is required when dealing with bills, reports from the trusts and auditors and this is working well. The committee noted that and this is why the provisions in the Standing Orders are there for this to occur. Standing Order 75 provides the procedure to authorize witnesses to appear. The Assembly may require a person to attend its proceedings for the purpose of giving evidence or to produce any documents in or under that person's custody and control concerning any matter for which any member of the Nunatsiavut Executive Council has general responsibility. Notwithstanding Order 75(1), no witness shall appear before the Assembly or a committee unless with the Assembly or committee's unanimous consent or through the adoption of a motion of approval by the Assembly. Any person who is required to attend the proceedings for the purpose of giving evidence or producing documents is not obliged to answer any question or produce a document which that person would be entitled to refuse to answer or produce in proceedings in a court of Newfoundland and Labrador. Each question directed to a witness and each reply shall be made

through the Chair. The Chair shall rule out of order any question which a) is the nature that would tend to intimidate or embarrass the witness or b) constitutes a personal allegation against the witness.

The Standing Committee's concern was not with government officials appearing as witnesses, but from groups, organizations and individuals that want to lobby the Assembly that may or may not be under the Assembly's jurisdiction or responsibility. The Assembly has had a number of individuals that have appeared in Committee of the Whole who would be better described as dignitaries rather than witnesses. The Assembly recently had His Excellency, the Governor General of Canada; speak to the Assembly outside of the formal Assembly session. Mr. Speaker, the Standing Committee agreed that a consistent approach is needed as to how individuals are permitted to appear before the Assembly. The appearance of witnesses in Committee of the Whole should be restricted to government officials and those authorized by the Assembly understanding Standing Order 75(2). To be respectful of those individuals that the Assembly may wish to hear from, the Standing Committee agreed that a protocol list should be developed and added as a speaker's directive. The protocol list could include, but limited to, Heads of State, Prime Ministers, Premiers and Presidents of the International, National and Regional Inuit organizations and other so-designated by the speaker. The speaker's directive would also confirm that if the Assembly agreed to

hear from those on the protocol list, that it would be during an Assembly but not in formal session. Mr. Speaker, the Standing Committee agreed that to address those individuals, groups or organizations that fall outside those permitted in Committee of the Whole or those on the protocol list that the speaker's directive on witnesses clarify a process that these groups will not be permitted to appear during the sittings but may request through the Speaker's Office to meet outside the formal sitting. Upon further discussion on the areas of concern with the Standing Orders, the Standing Committee agreed that there is no need to make any amendments to the Standing Orders at this time. Process for Recruiting the Nunatsiavut Electoral Officer. Mr. Speaker, the Standing Committee discussed the requirement to fill the vacant position of Nunatsiavut electoral officer. Part II of the *Nunatsiavut Elections Act* provides that 3(1). There shall be a Nunatsiavut electoral officer who shall be appointed by resolution of the Assembly. 2) The Nunatsiavut electoral officer holds office during good behaviour and may only be removed from office by a resolution of the Assembly. 3) The Nunatsiavut electoral officer shall report on his or her activities to the Assembly through the speaker. Mr. Speaker, the Standing Committee considered a process for the recruitment of Nunatsiavut electoral officer in a timely manner so that a person can be recommended to the Assembly for appointment at the June 2015 sitting. The Standing

Committee resolved that the Office of the Speaker and Clerk be responsible for the recruitment process for the Nunatsiavut electoral officer in consultation with the Standing Committee on rules and procedure. The recruitment process would be initiated with an expression of interest and that the Interview Committee is comprised of the Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Clerk. Mr. Speaker, in addition to the need for a recruitment process for the Nunatsiavut electoral officer, the Standing Committee discussed the requirement under the *Nunatsiavut Elections Act* for the appointment of a moderator for *Inuttitut* debate for the presidential election in 2016. The Standing Committee, in considering this requirement, noted that the *Act* is clear and the speaker has the responsibility for nominating possible names for consideration of the Assembly. Since the presidential election is in May, 2016, the Standing Committee acknowledges that the speaker will be considering and initiating the necessary actions to comply with the *Act*. Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I now move, seconded by the Honourable Dan Pottle, Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology, that the March 3, 2015 report on the Review of the Standing Orders, Rules and Procedures of the Nunatsiavut Assembly, be received and adopted.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. The motion is in order. Would the Ordinary Member for Canada like to speak to the motion?

MS FORD: No, Your Honour.

MR. SPEAKER: Does anyone else wish to speak to the motion? No other members wish to speak. Does the Ordinary Member for Canada wish to make final comments and close debate?

MS FORD: I'd like to close debate.

MR. SPEAKER: That concludes debate. All those in favour?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Any nays? The motion is carried. Thank you. I would like to recognize Ms Patricia Ford, the Ordinary Member for Canada, to give the January 20, 2015 report from the Member Services Committee on the result of the consultation process with Inuit on the proposed increases to the constituency allowances for Upper Lake Melville and Canada.

MS FORD: Nakummek UKâtik. The Member Services Committee is mandated by Inuit law and the *Nunatsiavut Assembly Act*. The committee is expected to consult and seek feedback from the Inuit before the Nunatsiavut Assembly can agree to salary and benefits for its Assembly Members. The consultation process, Mr. Speaker, on November 27, 2014, the speaker issued a public service announcement to Nunatsiavut beneficiaries through the Nunatsiavut website and requested community liaison officers to post English and *Inuttitut* notices throughout their communities. The deadline for comments was December 15th, 2014. The speaker received two

responses. One agreed and the second expressed concern about an almost 100 percent increase in the constituency allowances of elected officials and said that a list of eligible expenses should have been provided in the advertisement. The response added that to contact the clerk for this information created was an additional step that deterred beneficiaries from responding. The speaker responded by providing the eligible expenses, purpose and history behind the constituency allowances. The response focused on the history as follows: It is important to understand the history of the amounts provided to the elected officials in Upper Lake Melville and the Canadian constituency. For the fiscal year 2012-2013 the constituency allowance for ULM was reduced from \$7,500 to 4,000. However, due to astronomical increases in costs over the last two years, an increase in the constituency allowances has been requested in order for elected officials to continue to effectively discharge their duties to over 2,000 beneficiaries in the ULM area. In the Canadian constituency the original constituency allowance was set at 50,000 per elected official. Again, in 2012-2013 there was a reduction to 32,000 per elected official. Due to increases in the overall costs of discharging their duties, a request has submitted to increase their constituency allowance to 37,000 per member. The Member Services Committee, through the Department of Finance, tracks the expenditures for each elected official and all within budget. At the

first Assembly sitting subsequent to the fiscal year the treasurer shall prepare a report outlining all names of each member and the amounts of salaries, indemnities and allowances paid to that member. This report is a public document once tabled with the Nunatsiavut Assembly and a copy can be requested from the Speaker or Clerk of the Nunatsiavut Assembly. Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I'd like to now move, seconded by Roy Blake, the Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, that the January 20, 2015 report from the Member Services Committee and the result of the consultation process with Inuit on the proposed increases to the constituency allowances for Upper Lake Melville and Canada be received and adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The motion is in order. Ms Ford, the Ordinary Member for Canada, would you like to speak to the motion?

MS FORD: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Does anyone else wish to speak to the motion? If no other members wish to speak, does the Ordinary Member for Canada wish to make final comments and close debate?

MS FORD: I'd like to close debate, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, before we close debate, I believe there was a question or comment from Joe Dicker, AngajukKâk, Nain.

MR. DICKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regards to the resolution itself, there are two different constituencies there. My question is why were they

not separate, and are they able to be amended to be separate? Thank you.

MR. SHIWAK: Deputy Speaker, would you like me to answer the question?

MS FORD: Yes.

MR. SHIWAK: This is just a motion to receive and adopt the report from the Member Services Committee. So your question was why is there two constituencies? Basically, the Canadian Constituency and also Upper Lake Melville, but it pertains to the one constituency allowance. They're two separate, granted, the Canadian Constituency does receive a separate constituency allowance in an amount compared to Upper Lake Melville and also in relation to Nunatsiavut as well.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you have another question?

MR. DICKER: Just for that, Mr. Speaker, if it's adopted, Mr. Speaker does that then say that the resolution will be accepted and moved and move on forward? The amounts that are warranted in the resolution, will they then be accepted as such? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: This is just a report being presented to the Assembly. We will be entering into Committee of the Whole for the Assembly budget for further discussion, if you refer to your Orders of the Day. Are there any further questions?

MR. DICKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the clarification. No further questions.

MR. SPEAKER: Richard Pamak, Ordinary Member for Nain.

MR. PAMAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No, I'd like to withdraw my question at this time. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Are there any other further questions? Does anyone else wish to speak to the motion? If no other members wish to speak, does the Ordinary Member for Canada wish to make final comments and close debate?

MS FORD: I'd like to close debate, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: This concludes debate. All those in favour?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: All those opposed? The motion is carried. Thank you, Ms Ford, the Ordinary Member for Canada. That concludes reports for today. Item 13, "Tabling of Documents." I would like to recognize Mr. Tyler Edmunds, Ordinary Member for Postville.

MR. EDMUNDS: Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to table the Assembly budget recommendations for 2015-2016 as put forward by the Member Services Committee. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Edmunds. This document will be numbered as tabled document 01-3(5). I would like to recognize the Treasurer of Nunatsiavut Government, the Honourable Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek UKâtik. I would like to table the amended *Tasiujatsoak Trust Deed*. Nakummek.

MR. SPEAKER: Nakummek, Minister Pottle. This document will be numbered as tabled document 02-3(5). I would like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Canada, Ms Patricia Ford.

MS FORD: Nakummek UKâtik. I would like to table the Policy Directives for the Speaker's Office.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Ms Ford. This document will be numbered as tabled document 03-3(5). I recognize the Treasurer of Nunatsiavut Government, the Honourable Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek UKâtik. As required by the *Labrador Inuit Constitution*, I would like to table the Nunatsiavut Government Financial Plan for the year 2015-16. Nakummek UKâtik.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister Pottle. The tabled document will be numbered as 04-3(5). I'd like to recognize First Minister, the Honourable Kate Mitchell.

MS MITCHELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It gives me great pleasure as First Minister to present the Annual Report of the Nunatsiavut Government for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 2014. As a government we continue to advance the concerns and interests of Nunatsiavut and all beneficiaries of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*, while at the same time pushing forward with our goal of self-government.

Through our collective work and steadfast determination to reach this goal, we continue to create and renew confidences in who we are as a people, mindful of the importance to revitalize, preserve and protect our language and unique cultural identity. Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I'd like to table the Nunatsiavut Government Annual Report for the year 2014-2015. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, First Minister, and I expect we will have that report shortly.

MS MITCHELL: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Nakummek. That tabled document will be numbered as 05-3(5). Are there any more documents to be tabled? Item 14, "Notices of Motion." I would like to recognize Minister of Finance and the Treasurer, the Honourable Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek UKâtik. I give notice that on Wednesday, March 4th, 2015 that I will move, seconded by the President, Sarah Leo, the following motion: That the Nunatsiavut Assembly break into a Committee of the Whole to decide who the two successor trustees to the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust* will be. Further, Mr. Speaker, after the decision is made, I will be making a special resolution, seconded again, Mr. Speaker, by the Honourable President Sarah Leo, stating that pursuant to Section 5.3 of the *Settlement Trust Indenture* that the following persons have been elected by the Assembly as trustees to the *Settlement Trust* and that their tenure becomes effective upon the later of the date hereof and the date of each trustee executing and delivering

to the *Settlement Trust* acceptance as set forth in Section 5.3 of the *Trust Indenture*. Nakummek UKâtik.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. I would like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Postville, Mr. Tyler Edmunds.

MR. EDMUNDS: Nakummek, Honourable Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, March 4, 2015 that I will move, seconded by the Ordinary Member for Canada, Ms Patricia Ford, the following motion. That table document 02-3(5) the Assembly Budget Recommendations for 2015-2016 be referred to Committee of the Whole for consideration with Ms Rexanne Crawford, the Controller of the Nunatsiavut Government as a witness and, Mr. Speaker, I'll be seeking unanimous consent to deal with this motion today under item 16, "Motions." Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Nakummek, Mr. Edmunds. I would like to recognize the Nunatsiavut Treasurer, Minister Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, March 4th I will move that table document 05-3(5) the Financial Plan 2015-16 be moved into the Committee of the Whole for discussion in conjunction with Bill 2015-01, the Budget Bill 2015. Nakummek UKâtik.

MR. SPEAKER: Nakummek, Minister Pottle. Item 15, "Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills." I recognize the Minister of Finance and the Nunatsiavut Treasurer, the Honourable Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek UKâtik. I give notice that on Wednesday, March 4th, 2015 I will move the First Reading of Bill 2015-01, the Budget Bill 2015.

Nakummek UKâtik.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister Pottle. I do not believe there are any more notices of motions for first reading of bills. Item 16, "Motions." I would like to recognize Mr. Tyler Edmunds, the Ordinary Member for Postville.

MR. EDMUNDS: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I'm seeking unanimous consent to proceed with my motion today that table document 02-3(5) the Assembly Budget Recommendations for 2015-2016 be referred to Committee of the Whole for consideration with Ms Rexanne Crawford, the Controller of the Nunatsiavut Government as a witness. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The Member is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with his motion today. All those in favour?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Are there any nays? There are none. Mr. Edmunds, proceed.

MR. EDMUNDS: Thank you, Honourable Speaker and Members. The title is "Assembly Budget Recommendations for 2015-2016 to Committee of the Whole." Whereas the Member Services Committee, as required by Section 81, of the *Nunatsiavut Assembly Act*, has tabled a consolidated budget recommendations for the approval of the Assembly, and whereas the Assembly should consider the recommendations to allow the Member Services Committee to finalize, consolidated estimates of the Assembly for transmittal to the Treasurer for inclusion in the Consolidated Financial

Plan for 2015 and 2016. Now therefore I move, seconded by the Ordinary Member for Canada, Ms Patricia Ford, that tabled document 02-3(5), the Assembly Budget Recommendations for 2015-2016, be referred to the Committee of the Whole for consideration. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. The motion is in order. Mr. Edmunds, would you like to speak to the motion? Please stand, sir.

MR. EDMUNDS: No, Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to speak to the motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: If no other members wish to speak, does the Ordinary Member for Postville wish to make final comments and close debate?

MR. EDMUNDS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not wish to make any more final comments to close the debate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: That concludes debate. All those in favour of the motion?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: All those opposed to the motion? The motion is carried. Before we proceed I propose a recess until one o'clock. We are now in recess. See you back at one o'clock for Committee of the Whole.

(Recess)

MR. SPEAKER: We are now in Committee of the Whole, and I invite Ms Rexanne Crawford, the comptroller of Nunatsiavut Government, to open the discussions on the Assembly Budget Recommendations for 2015-2016.

Just for the information of the Assembly, you do have a revised handout. If you refer to the Assembly Budget 2015-2016, the first one had a total of 2,865,000. That has been revised. Your new one you should be referring to is the handout that refers to 2,885,500. It's the single loose sheet.

MR. SPEAKER:

Ms Crawford, the floor is yours.

MS CRAWFORD:

Just to start, the budget for this fiscal year is just over 5 percent less than the prior fiscal year's budget for the Nunatsiavut Assembly. And that's due to the fact that last year we had budgeted a significant amount for the general election. So I'll walk you through each item on the table. Salaries and Benefits. There is a slight change from last year, mostly because of the fact where it was an election year. To be conservative we had budgeted as if everybody had been re-elected and were at the top of the level scale for the elected official. So this reflects actual salary scales for this year. Travel has decreased from last year because during a general election year we have to have a sitting in May following a general election, and this would have been additional cost for the additional travel. So we have one less sitting planned for the upcoming year. We do want to note, however, that the cost of charters has increased, and that's just generally across the board, the cost of travel has increased. Nunatsiavut Assembly Committee meetings and professional fees, there are no changes in this budget for the upcoming year in comparison to last year. So we budget for four standing committees of the Nunatsiavut

Assembly, Member Services Committee, Rules and Procedures Committee, Code of Conduct Committee and the Alcohol and Drug Committee. There is also a general allocation for any special committees that would be struck during the year. So during the presentation on the *Environmental Protection Act* yesterday, I'm sure there was a discussion about in the event that there was a project that has to go through this piece of legislation there would be a committee struck. These are the funds of where they would come from for this type of committee. And professional fees are to cover training for Assembly Members, and also for any specialized advice pertaining to the operations or legislative requirements of the Assembly. I'll get back to the constituency allowance. I'm just going to jump to the other two items. Election Costs. There is a small budget in this line item in the event that a bi-election has to be called for an Ordinary Member, as well as we have budgeted funds for the Nunatsiavut electoral officer to begin their work in this upcoming fiscal year in preparation for the presidential election. And under Operating Costs there has been an insignificant increase in the cost, and these are just due to general increases that were seen in our economy. Under the Constituency Allowance, there has been an increase in the amount appropriated for the constituency allowances for Upper Lake Melville and Canada. In Upper Lake Melville the constituency allowance is proposed to be raised from \$4,000 to 7,500 per Member. The amount of 7,500 was the original allocation for Upper Lake Melville prior to 2012. For the Canadian Constituency, it is proposed to be raised from 32,000 to

37,000, and there are a number of reasons for this increased request for their constituency allowance due to such things as increased costs for printing newsletters, postage costs and travel costs to visit constituents in such a vast area as the Canadian Constituency. So that brings the total for the budget to \$2,885,500 for your consideration.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Mrs. Crawford. I understand that Joe Dicker, AngajukKâk for Nain, had some questions in relation to the constituency allowances. His question this morning was in to the effect of why include the two constituency allowances in an increase? Why two and why not separate them? Is that correct? Would you please elaborate?

MS. CRAWFORD:

I'm not sure exactly what your question relates to, but there are two members that represent each, so two Members that represent Upper Lake Melville Constituency and two Members that represent the Canadian Constituency. And when we do up the constituency allowance it's based on by Member. So each Ordinary Member in Nunatsiavut receives \$4,000 regardless, you know, if there's two in Nain versus one in Nain or two in Upper Lake Melville versus one in Rigolet. And so we always do the amount per Member. And in looking at the analysis, I know Canadian Constituency, every year we prepare a budget looking at what the actual costs are per year versus what, you know, were they able or not able to do because of the restriction in the cost? And in doing so it was determined that the 35,000 per Member, which would give a total of 70,000 for that constituency, is what was required for them to be able to

discharge their duties as an elected official. So does that answer your question?

MR. DICKER: If I may, Mr. Speaker, can I pass this on to AngajukKâk from Hopedale? He's got more questions related to this.

MR. SPEAKER: Jim Tuttauk, AngajukKâk, Hopedale.

MR. TUTTAUK: Yes, I was going to relate in saying with the AngajukKâk Dicker from Nain there on why Upper Lake Melville was included with Canadian Constituency where they're a separate region? Why couldn't the Upper Lake Melville have a separate one and the Canadian Constituency also? That's one part of the question.

MS CRAWFORD: So the answer is, they do. So if you see when what we do under, you know, what we have here is a total line item for constituency allowance. And actually when you do look at the table it would say Ordinary Member for Nain, 4,000, Ordinary Member for Nain, 4,000, and then we'd go on down the list. So the allocation is made by a Member. So the request is each Member representing Upper Lake Melville, I requested \$7,500 each for their constituency allowance. Each Member for Canada is requesting 35,000 for their constituency allowance, and we add all these together to come up with the line item and the total line item. The line item for constituency allowance is 113,000. So they are separate. It's just in the discussion, in order to explain why it has gone up from the previous year, those are the two drivers.

MR. SPEAKER: And I'd like to elaborate just on the process of what happened. These recommendations, their requests to the Member Services Committee and the Member Services Committee enter into discussions along with input from Department of Finance because it directly relates to finance, and we need expertise from Ms Crawford and the Department of Finance in order to budget these correctly. So when requests such as these coming to come in, either be it to the Clerk or Speaker's Office, they're forwarded to the Member Services Committee for discussion in consultation with Department of Finance. Yes, they were separate requests.

MR. FLOWERS: I, just for the Canadian Constituency allowance, you want to raise from 32, I heard you say 35, or is it just 37 or did you just make a mistake?

MS CRAWFORD: Just say for the record I did make an error in my statement. It's 37.

MR. SPEAKER: In an effort to get all questions asked and answered, if you have a second question, we will come back to you, but we'd like to give the opportunity to other Assembly Members as well in order or there so any further questions? Patricia Kemuksigak.

MS KEMUKSIGAK: It's not so much a question, Honourable Speaker, Honourable Chairperson. It's just some information. We were only able, I and other Ordinary Member, Mr. Blake, we were only able to produce one newsletter this year. We normally produce four. But just to let you know the costing, it was \$2,585 for printing, 639.29 for stamps, plus Roy delivered about a hundred, 9776 for envelopes, which total \$3,322.05,

and that was, basically, one constituency allowance, add on a little bit more. So, you know, we're not able to meet our commitments of four newsletters a year with the constituency allowance that we received so far plus there's, you know, mileage and Roy's cell phone and all kinds of other expenses. So that was the reason why, like, we wanted an increase because we're not able to effectively communicate with our beneficiaries with only producing one newsletter a year. So I just wanted to pass the information on. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Minister Greg Flowers, you have a question, comment.

Sorry. AngajukKâk Jack Shiwak, you have a question or comment.

MR. SHIWAK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm still wondering why there is such a big difference between the two Members in Goose Bay and the two Members in St. John's. Is it because that the members of the Canadian Constituency use the money to hire an administrator or something that they work for you? And whereas the Goose Bay, Upper Lake Melville, they probably avail of the staff in the office there. Is that why there is such a difference?

MR. SPEAKER:

I'd like to refer this question to Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE:

That's partly the reason, yes, Jack. I mean, you know, my job takes me out of my office quite frequently as does Patricia's. As Deputy Speaker, one of the things that we feel that we need is to have somebody employed to maintain that liaison and keep the lines of communication open with beneficiaries. The other cost related to our request for an

increase, as the comptroller already pointed out, the general cost to travel throughout the constituency. We, like Upper Lake Melville, have approximately 2,300 beneficiaries spread across every territory and every province in Canada. So, I mean, you know, in order for us, not only to maintain communication by hiring and employing a beneficiary as a constituency officer, we also, too, produce three to four newsletters a year. This year, by way of example, because of the extra cost with printing and the increase in almost a dollar we doubled the amount for mailing. So that's another reason that we're seeking an increase. So that's two or three reasons why we've requested that increase.

MR. SHIWAK: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Patricia Ford, you'd like to elaborate.

MS FORD: Yes. I would just also like to say that the difference, too, in Upper Lake Melville they use NG administrative support, so they have that support there. That's why their costs would be lower, and we need to hire administrative support for our office.

MR. SPEAKER: Roy Blake, you have something to add in this line of questioning.

MR. BLAKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To date, on my constituency allowance, I have a printout here from the office in Nain of \$3,692.33. After I got in, I claimed mileage for just to North West River. I did not yes, September. From May to October I didn't claim any mileage claims in Goose Bay. If I had to do that my constituency allowance probably would have been gone long ago as well. I believe my cell phone bill didn't go on my

constituency allowance till, don't quote me, I think it's November because it used to be on the Assembly at first, right? Just give you a little idea of if I had to start claiming mileage claims and whatnot and the cell phone had to go back on my constituency allowance, mine would have been gone long ago as well as Patricia's. And that's why, it's not that we're asking for increase. We're asking that it go back to where it was at 7,500. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: President Sarah Leo.

PRESIDENT LEO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I just have a question on the professional costs, but before I go into my question, can I make a comment on the constituency allowance?

MR. SPEAKER: Please do as it pertains to constituency allowance.

PRESIDENT LEO: I see the amount for the constituency allowance and I see the request for the increase or the increase put in the budget. I think that's great because one of the things we always hear for our beneficiaries is that they don't hear from us enough. And by having enough money in the constituency allowance to allow the two Ordinary Members from the Canadian Constituency to travel to the other beneficiaries that are spread across Canada. I went to one of their open houses in Ottawa, and it was amazing from the beneficiaries how happy they were to see their representatives actually take time to go and visit them. Like, they feel isolated. They feel left out. They feel no connection. But by having their Ordinary Members go and visit with them, it makes a big difference.

With regards to the newsletters, we can use electronic media for some, I'm sure, and that would probably cut down some of the costs, and I think that's what the two Members from the Canadian Constituency does for sure because I know my daughter receives one. And, again, those newsletters are basically for some people, for some of our beneficiaries that are outside of the region or even in Upper Lake Melville, the only connection or the only thing they really hear from Nunatsiavut and it provides so much information. So I want to say hats off to the Members from Upper Lake Melville and the Canadian Constituency. I think you're keeping the lines of communication open is great. For us in the smaller communities it's easy. We walk down the road, we go to the store. We can see the people we represent just about every day, no matter where you go. You go to the hospital, you go to the school or you go to the store, you're talking to your beneficiaries. A lot of people in the communities use OKâlaKatiget. We get a lot of information out there. So they still feel that connection. But when you get to the larger places, I think a lot of that connection is lost. And it's through the visits and the newsletter that they're able to keep that connection. On to my question, with regards to professional fees, I believe you had mentioned that that was for any sort of consulting and whatnot, right? I know that the House of Assembly have been using David Hamilton from the beginning of the Assembly, and I'm wondering has his costs been reduced or has the use of his professional advice been reduced? Because from what I

understand it was supposed to be a gradual process and he would certainly become less needed, I suppose, is the best way to put it.

MR. SPEAKER: As for actual exact numbers from Mr. Hamilton, he has been also utilized for the Rules and Procedures Committee and also in terms with legislative law. And for exact numbers we're going to have to get back to you.

PRESIDENT LEO: I'm not necessarily looking for exact numbers. I'm just wondering if the amount that we're using him for has been decreasing if the capacity within the staff of the Assembly is building so that there's less reliance on him.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. There have been great advancements by the Assembly staff in relation to Assembly business, Assembly law and either advice, legal advice from Mr. Hamilton. Patricia Ford.

MS FORD: Yes, I just wanted to say to I see it through the process David Hamilton is being used less and less, and the times that we do use him when he does come in we just use a small amount of his time so it is gone less big time.

MR. SPEAKER: And that's not to say that his advice is not important. No. And by no, it is very important to the running of the Nunatsiavut Assembly. Jim Tuttauk.

MR. TUTTAUK: Thank you. Being new and a rookie to this area, I'm not sure if this is the proper time to address this here. Will these come to a vote after on the constituency, both Upper Lake Melville and the Canadian Constituency asking for this increase, will this come to vote?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, this budget will have to go vote.

MR. TUTTAUK: And one more, will there be time for, like, during the vote will we have time to add our inputs or will we add it now?

MR. SPEAKER: The purpose this Committee of the Whole is to do it now.

MR. TUTTAUK: Then, sir, I have one more question, if it's all right.

MR. SPEAKER: Please proceed, sir.

MR. TUTTAUK: Having said all this, you know, obviously, there is a great need for extra funds here and, you know, it's in, you know, in their best interest to ask for it. But when coming from an AngajukKaat perspective and point of view, I'm going to elaborate to the JMC's. We've been told that by the Minister Pottle, himself, Minister of Finance, that, you know, we wanted our JMC's face to face, but we've been told no teleconference because we're trying to save money. So, I mean, how can we save money by having our JMC's by teleconference and then getting an increase to the Canadian Constituency? Like I said, it's not knocking anybody getting an increase. But, I mean, you know, like, the face-to-face sittings with the AngajukKâk for JMC's with the Finance Department there we feel, at least I feel, that it's very important that we continue to sit face to face because we are struggling and fighting for dollars for our communities and funding and our strategy for capital assets and, you know, capital works. And if we can't sit down face to face, and we've got to go by teleconference all the time we cannot achieved a goal.

MR. SPEAKER: I'd like to stop you there and that line of questioning refers to the JMC which will be under Budgetary Discussions in Committee of the Whole tomorrow. This is referring to the Assembly budget.

MR. TUTTAUK: All right, thank you for the clarification. Nakummek.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there any further discussions? Comments? Mr. Joe Dicker, Nain.

MR. DICKER: I guess I was a bit confused this morning when the motion was introduced. I asked if they would be separate because I thought they were two different geographical areas that, you know, we would vote on one area, like, being Upper Lake Melville. Then we could vote on the Canadian Constituency as another area. But I understand the way the motion reads now we will vote for both. I, myself, with AngajukKâk Tuttauk is, you know, as AngajukKâk for Nain, then if we do have an opportunity later to discuss the face-to-face meetings and I will go with this motion, then make that discussion later, if we do have the opportunity. I just wanted to be assured that there will be an opportunity for us to have this discussion at a later date in this sitting when the budget submission comes up. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Dan Pottle, you'd like to elaborate.

MR. POTTLE: Just very quickly, I guess, to try to help the newer Members of the Assembly understand the process. I mean, if that's what you are going to do, excuse me for interrupting, Mr. Chair. But, I mean, as per the preface in this discussion and this Assembly budget, the Member Services Committee is responsible for preparing the annual budget, detailing the

estimates and cost for the Assembly for the coming year. As per Section 81 of the *Assembly Act*, the MSC must table their annual budget recommendations for approval by the Assembly. What we're discussing here today, constituency allowance is just one line item in the overall Assembly budget. So, I mean, you know, if anybody, I guess, is looking to make any changes to that, I mean, you know, there are processes in place as per the Standing Orders if somebody wants to propose an amendment to make a change to the allocations for constituency allowance, by way of example, this is the forum to do that. And, I mean, you know, part, again, getting back to the statement that the AngajukKâk for Hopedale and Nain have spoken to, I mean, you know, this discussion has nothing to do with the Member Services Committee *per se*, and I'll reiterate and give some more information on the costs associated with JMC when we get to that tomorrow, if that comes up in the detailed review of the budget, the financial plan and the *Budget Act* itself. But, I mean, you know, we're talking here, I suppose, in terms of overall governance and not operations *per se*. I guess operations is a part of that but, I mean, constituency allowance, again, is just one line item in the overall operating costs for the Assembly. So I just wanted to make that clarification. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Dan Pottle. I think maybe a brief history of the Member Services Committee and its purpose. The Member Services Committee is comprised of all those unelected Ordinary Members that are not part of the Nunatsiavut Executive Council. Now they are tasked with duties that

directly relate to all elected officials. If they have problems, be it benefits, salary, which really is, if you want to elaborate on that later, we really can't because already defined. But anything of that nature. And I do realize that this is, you know, we've had two recent elections. We have new Ordinary Members. We have new AngajukKaat. That being said, its different elected officials executing their offices in a different way. They could have administered or approached their duties as an elected official in a different manner than previous. Some constituency allowances may or may not be utilized as much. Others more depending on the individual elected official, and so be it. It's the duty of the elected official before budget to submit a request to the MSC to either increase or, perhaps, decrease their own constituency allowance. That's every elected official's right. I hope that helps further clarify it. Minister Greg Flowers, you have a question. Sorry.

MR. FLOWERS:

Thank you, Chair. I think I heard the Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville say that they're really not asking for an increase, they're asking for the amount that they had. Was 7,500 what they had before, and is the increase for the Canada constituency allowance from 32? Are they asking to go back exactly to where they were to before? I just want some clarification on that.

MR. SPEAKER:

Further clarification on the consultation process.

MR. FLOWERS:

I heard the member for Upper Lake Melville say that they wanted to go back to what they had, which was 7,500. And I'm just wondering for

Canada is they, well, did they get a decrease, too, to 32 and they want to go back to 37, or are they asking for an increase of 37 and...

MR. SPEAKER: Ms Rexanne Crawford.

MS CRAWFORD: Prior to 2012 the Upper Lake Melville members did have 7,500 each for their constituency allowance. The Canadian Constituency had \$52,000 per Member.

MS FORD: There was just one member then, right?

MS CRAWFORD: No. Even when the second member came on, it was up to \$52,000 per member. So they're not asking to go back to what it was prior to 2012.

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: And also for the information of the Assembly, this request, the Standing Committee had put out the notification to consult with the Inuit public. As Patricia Ford had mentioned in the report this morning, we had two responses, and I believe all the Assembly were notified in December. Sarah Leo.

PRESIDENT LEO: Again, Mr. Chair, just a comment, maybe. Just from my experience I've sat in the seat as an AngajukKâk and I guess, for those of us that deal with this regularly and we see the formation of this and this is us coming to this table, we have a better understanding of what looking at and trying to vet through it. When you're new here, it's, you know, you're still trying to learn everything and everything's coming at you and you're learning a whole new process. You're learning all new terminology.

You're learning all new procedures. And I think I'm just-, I, without insulting anybody's intelligence or anything, I'm just going to say how I see it to help maybe understand where we're to with this. What we have presented in front of us is called the Nunatsiavut Assembly Budget. It's not the government budget. It's just for the running of this building and us as Assembly Members. It includes our salaries, and correct me if I'm wrong, the constituency allowance so that Members of the Assembly can do their constituency work. It includes the staff that provide the support to the Assembly as this building, not as a government. It provides the professional fees that are relied upon to help us run more smoothly within the Assembly building and, obviously, the operating costs and everything else associated with this beautiful building and us as an Assembly, not as a government. And I'm hoping that sort of clarifies it a little. This has to do with Assembly Members in the Assembly structure and that's it. It has nothing to do with government or government operations or anything else. Does that help?

MR. FLOWERS:

Yes, it does. I got it just about when the speaker alluded to that earlier, but thank you for the clarification and, yes, it's tough sometimes when you're a rookie trying to catch all the terminology. Yes, it is. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Is there any further questions? If no other Members wish to speak, does the Ordinary Member for Postville wish to make final comments and close debate?

MR. EDMUNDS:

Mr. Chair, sorry, my apologies.

MR. SPEAKER: Is the Assembly in favour accepting the Assembly Budget 2015-2016 for the inclusion in the overall Nunatsiavut Government Budget for 2015-2016? All those in favour please say aye?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Any nays? It's carried. We are now back in Assembly. Thank you, Mrs. Crawford. 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, March 4, 2015. The schedule for outside sessions during this sitting is as follows: *Inuttitut* training will take place after the formal Assembly today and the Illusuak presentation will take place tonight at 6:30 p.m. Both events will take place in the courtroom. I'd say we have a little break first.

PRESIDENT LEO: How long is the *Inuttitut* training?

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to ask Ms Rita Andersen. There is a question posed. How long will be the *Inuttitut* training? That's perfectly fine. Nakummek. We will convene at two o'clock, courtroom for *Inuttitut* training. Nakummek.

02:41:03 **Track Day 1 ends.**

Date: **March 4, 2015**

Track **0002**

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

MR. JARARUSE: [Prays on record]

MR. SPEAKER: Nakummek, Wilson. Item two, "Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery." Any member wishing to recognize visitors in the public gallery today? Item three, "Minister Statements." Are there any minister statements? I recognize Honourable Darryl Shiwak, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'll give an update from the other divisions in the department. Impact Benefit Agreements. The Voisey's Bay Committee meeting was held December 18th, 2014. During this meeting the company indicated that presently they have vacancies for heavy equipment operators on site and we will work with them in filling these vacancies. We've also discussed the situation with some wood that was recently cut on site and drug and alcohol testing. Pre-employment drug and alcohol testing had not started it as of this meeting. A meeting date, even though Vale is expected to start in September, and they will keep us posted on this. There have been some clearing done on the site over the summer season. As a result there was some wood brought down to the beach area near the old construction campsite for public access. Mr. Speaker, as per for the Parks IBA, two teleconferences were held in December with the main purpose being introduce the new Co-Management Board Chairperson, Annie Barren. There was also two

other items that was discussed during these calls. A contract for financial and bookkeeping services with the CNB and scheduling of location before the future meetings. The CNBS followed the process outlining the IBA in regards to contract for financial and bookkeeping services. Qualified Inuit businesses will have the preference through this process. With regards to location of future meetings, we stress the importance of holding an equal number of meetings in Nunatsiavut communities as in Nunavik communities. It is important that Labrador Inuit get the same opportunity to attend these meetings and a chance to voice their opinion or concerns regarding Torngat National Park issues as Nunavik Inuit. A decision was made to still hold the next meeting in Nunavik, but the following meetings and an equal number of face-to-face meetings in Nunatsiavut communities before going back to the Nunavik community.

Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to inform you that our IBA co-ordinator, Theresa Hollett, was appointed to the Mining Association of Canada, Towards Sustainable Mining Community of Interest Panel in December. The Environment Division. The Lower Churchill, Lake Melville. Mr. Speaker, 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 into these reviews. We have now received the result of the provincial judicial review and, unfortunately, the application was dismissed. In consultation with the Executive Council, we have filed a Notice of Appeal regarding the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador decision. We have yet to receive any news

on the federal judicial review, although we expect that very soon. On the research and monitoring front, we are still making good progress. We are now in the analysis phase related to the dietary surveys and hair and sampling that was conducted from last spring through November. This is along with other analysis related to biophysical environment in Lake Melville. We expect to visit communities to provide updated results on this program by early summer. With our team we are doing our best to get the analysis done in a timely fashion to inform decision making. They are aiming for a final report to be published in the fall of 2015. Going Off, Growing Strong. Mr. Speaker, we continue to work hard in the intersection of environment and health. Our team continues to run Going Off, Growing Strong program in Nain. Just last month one of the youth participants in the program snared his first rabbit that he was able to bring home and help feed his family. He also learned how to skin and clean the rabbit. This is just a very small example of some of the great things the youth, the harvesters and staff are doing with each other through the program on a regular basis. We are particularly proud of this, however, because as the rabbit was snared just outside of the outskirts of the community, youth are learning that not having access to a snowmobile in the wintertime is not necessarily a barrier to being on the land. Being healthy and supporting your family, it's a good message to remember and to reinforce with that all kinds of young people whose families and households do not have access to snowmobiles. We are extremely proud of the partnership with Bell, "Let's Talk," as AngajukKâk

Dicker admits yesterday, which in January notes it's committing 150,000 over the next 3 years to the program. Going Off, Growing Strong, with Dorothy Angnatok, as the spokesperson was also featured in the CTV mental health documentary, "Clara's Big Ride," as an example of a program that is making a difference. Dorothy travelled to Toronto as an ambassador for Going Off, Growing Strong, the Labrador Inuit and Nunatsiavut and was featured on a nationally televised "Marilyn Dennis" talk show. She, along with other Going Off, Growing Strong team members, especially Sarah Karpik and Joey Angnatok should be acknowledged for the tremendous work that they do. Food Security. Mr. Speaker, we also worked hard on programs related to food security. This fall and winter we have managed the distribution of 12,000 pounds of char and cod. In partnership with the Economic Development Division we are especially happy to be able to support those in need during the Christmas Season while creating employment for fishermen and fish plant workers. We are only one small part of the many hands that are helping to address food insecurity. We know food security is an important issue for our government and are looking to help arm policy makers with the most up-to-date information for programming. Just prior to Christmas, in partnership with the DHSD, our team completed food security survey field work in two more Nunatsiavut communities, Makkovik and Postville. All communities have now had food security surveys completed with technical work being led by Trent University and the fantastic local teams of locally-employed surveyors. We expect to be

able to communicate community-specific food security rates to each Nunatsiavut community by April. Similar to the Housing Needs Assessment, this household food security survey will provide critical information to our government as well as to other governments and the general public to help inform policy. It is also important to know that all of this food security work has been done through various external sources of funding. Hopedale. We are also working with the Hopedale Inuit Community Government to try to press the province to officially spend their next \$6 million towards the remediation of Hopedale. In January a letter was jointly sent from the AngajukKâk of Hopedale and myself to address these outstanding issues, not the least of which is the province hosting community meeting in Hopedale with at least Minister present, ideally, both the Minister of Environment and Conservation and the Minister of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs. We've requested that the meeting happen as soon as possible. We have just received indication that they may be looking at June. Lands. Mr. Speaker, with regards to land administration, there was a total of 37 land use applications submitted in 2014. Most are for cabins, while the rest ranged from mineral exploration or archaeology. Of the 37 applications, 17 since were approved while the remainder are in a different stage of processing. Since the beginning of 2015 five new land applications have been submitted. Mr. Speaker, GIS specialists had been providing ongoing support to other NG departments in filling GIS/mapping requests. Close work is continuing with the Lands Manager to fulfill/complete Labrador

Inuit land applications. Talks are ongoing with Google Street View team to partner with NG to bring Street View to Nunatsiavut communities by July. Support has been received from the various community AngajukKaat. Finally, Mr. Speaker, the Lands Division staff in Rigolet, myself, and the Conservation Officer relocated to our newly-renovated office in Rigolet. It is helpful to have the department with staff together in one office. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Nakummek. I recognize Honourable Patricia Kemuksigak.

MS KEMUKSIGAK:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Today I'll talk on the Economic Development Division. Their agreement with Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, or ACOA, ends March 31st, 2015. Brent Denniston was on secondment from Lands and Natural Resources for a year and a half. He has announced that he will be returning to his original position on April 1st, 2015. I want to thank Brent for his work with us and wish him well. The 2015-16 Nunatsiavut Government budget includes two positions, Business Development Manager and Procurement Specialist that's now partially funded by ACOA to become permanent. This funding to make the two positions permanent comes from our *Fiscal Financing Agreement* funding for Economic Development. If it all goes through, these positions will be advertised this week. Our objective is to have people hired by early April. Service Canada. The Nain Virtual Service Pilot project has finally been implemented after a long time. On February 13th, the first day of offering services in Nain, five clients showed up to file for EI or CPP

or Old Age Pension. Rutie Dicker and Boas Bennett headed up the project. The first Tuesday of every month is dedicated to this pilot project until June 2015. Records of the number of people asking for services on other days are being kept to inform the next step of the pilot project. A meeting was held in St. John's in February between our department and Service Canada to explore the possibility of expanding the virtual service to other communities in Nunatsiavut. Honourable Speaker, the Economic Development Division offers counselling and referral services to entrepreneurs and would-be entrepreneurs on a daily basis. Many inquiries are about start-up funds for new businesses. The Economic Development Division continues to nominate Inuit businesses for procurement opportunities offered through the Voisey's Bay mine. The division is exploring ways to stay in touch with current entrepreneurs and potential business owners, including social media. A consultant will be hired before March 31st to review our current Inuit Business Registry and propose a more user friendly database that will allow the division to follow up on contracts awarded to Inuit businesses. Business Development Committee. A number of applications for the Inuit Business Registry were reviewed by the committee. Community Economic Development Program Review Committee has received and reviewed a number of projects since November. Their \$300,000 allocation to CEDP will be entirely spent by the end of the fiscal year. Brent Denniston and John Lampe have been to Rigolet, Makkovik and Nain to offer public information sessions on the mandate and activities of the Economic

Development Division. They will hold sessions in March for Postville and Hopedale. Francine Couture and Molly Shiwak accompany a consultant, Brenda Kelleher-Flight from GDP Consulting in four of the Inuit communities on the north coast to find out what the Economic Development priorities are for the communities and Nunatsiavut in February 2015. The workshop is scheduled in Nain in March and Nunatsiavut Government consultation will be held in Goose Bay on March 11th. The outcome of the community consultations will be discussed within our department to develop an Economic Development Strategic Plan that will be drafted by the end of April 2015. The proposed Strategic Plan will be presented to the Inuit communities in early May to validate what was in it. A final version of the Economic Development Strategic Plan for Nunatsiavut will then be presented to the Executive Council in May 2015 to obtain sanction and brought to the Nunatsiavut Assembly in June. Members of the Economic Development team attended the Northern Exposure Conference and Trade Show in January to network and promote Inuit businesses. The Communication and Economic Development Divisions shared a booth at the trade show. The division also secured a second booth for Torngat Arts and Crafts. Mr. Speaker, Torngat Mountain Base Camp. The Economic Development Division is involved in discussion surrounding the sustainability of the Torngat Mountains National Park Base Camp and Research Station. Meetings were held in Goose Bay on December 3rd and 4th to put forward a sustainable blueprint for coming years. The Economic

Development Division covered the costs for Ross Cloutier, a tourism expert, to come to Goose Bay to advise the working group. Our department has committed funds on various initiatives in relation to the Base Camp. Examples are training and marketing to leverage funding from potential partners. The Economic Development Division is also part of preparing for a stakeholders' meeting in Rigolet to prepare for Mealy Mountains National Park. This meeting will be held in Rigolet on March the 9th. The division, in association with Torngat Fish Producers Co-operative, work with the Business Development Bank of Canada to contract a study of the Arctic char fishery in Northern Labrador. A research report was presented in November 2014. A stakeholders' meeting will be held in Goose Bay on March 11th to discuss next steps. The division is involved in discussions with the Environment Division and Natural Resources Canada for potential biomass projects for 2014-15, having access up to 50,000. Natural Resource Canada is willing to fund up to \$100,000 for this coming fiscal year to leverage other funds to support initiatives in Nunatsiavut. Vale made a presentation to Inuit and Innu business owners on its Voisey's Bay Underground Mining Perspective Project in Happy Valley-Goose Bay on December 15th, 2014. The Economic Development Division invited 10 Inuit businesses from Nunatsiavut to attend this session, and they offered flight and accommodations to facilitate their participation. The event was promoted to all Inuit business on the registry. Many Inuit business persons seized the opportunity to hear about the opportunities attached

to this project. The Economic Development Division will partner with the Youth Division to bring forward workshops to increase youth's knowledge on economic topics, entrepreneurship and budget, to name a few. The Economic Development Division was approached to bring expertise and how to best operate the café in the Illusuak Cultural Centre scheduled to open in 2017. Preliminary discussions were held on potential business and training opportunities. Minister Pamak and I attended Arctic Opportunities luncheon and Seal Day on the Hill in Ottawa on February the 15th. These events promoted Inuit Economic Development and Inuit culture and also the importance of the sealing industry for Inuit across Canada. Raytheon is offering an information session and workshop in Happy Valley-Goose Bay on March the 18th where companies will learn about Raytheon's existing opportunities and how to put together requests for proposals, bids and quotes. All registered Inuit businesses were informed of the workshop. The Economic Development Division will offer Inuit businesses the opportunity to participate in the workshop. The division is proposing to bring 10 women from the North Coast to NLOWE's annual conference on April 22nd and 23rd in Corner Brook. NLOWE conference brings together over 200 business women from Newfoundland and Labrador and presents themes on business operations, opportunities and challenges. Nakummek, Honourable Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

MR. POTTLE:

Nakummek UKâtit. I'm just going to speak briefly on two issues relative to the Department of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology this morning, Mr. Speaker. 1) Internet issues and problems and 2) Personal income tax. Mr. Speaker, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission, the CRTC, has set a target that all Canadians should be able to access broadband internet with a download speed of five megabytes and an upload speed of one megabyte by the end of 2015. A number of years ago, Mr. Speaker, this target was met by Bell Aliant and service was reasonable within Nunatsiavut. However, Bell Aliant has taken no steps to upgrade their network to keep pace with the demand and, in fact, has placed an embargo on the addition of any new accounts in Nunatsiavut. Mr. Speaker, with no plans to upgrade the Bell Aliant network, we are not being provided with a level of service that we are paying for. This has had an impact on government operations on the day-to-day basis whereby a slow email and internet have become the norm rather than the exception. This has had a significant impact on Economic Development in our region. We cannot encourage Economic Development nor proceed fully with plans for staff to transition from areas such as St. John's and the Upper Lake Melville area if we cannot acquire reasonable and reliable internet access. This level of service, Mr. Speaker, impacts everyone in Nunatsiavut as the internet has become a source of information for reading the news, for doing banking and for communicating with our family and our friends. Mr. Speaker, this is not acceptable. Our department is in the process of setting up meetings with

the government of Newfoundland and Labrador and Bell Aliant to discuss this particular issue. We have also begun, Mr. Speaker, the process of initiating or filing a complaint with the CRTC, all in the hope of instigating improvements and change. Personal Income Tax. Mr. Speaker, all personal income tax collected from residents on Labrador Inuit lands or living within the five Inuit communities is remitted annually to the Nunatsiavut Government by the Government of Canada less a 5 percent administration fee. These funds, Mr. Speaker, are used for the Nunatsiavut Government operations and provisions of programs and services. Beneficiaries are required, Mr. Speaker, to check the box on their personal income tax returns if they reside on Labrador Inuit Lands or within Inuit communities of Rigolet, Makkovik, Postville, Hopedale or Nain. If you do not live in these areas, do not check this box. We are being subjected to audits as a result of beneficiaries inadvertently stating that they live on or in Labrador Inuit lands and communities. Mr. Speaker, please note that this will not see any change to the amount of the tax you have to pay. However, it will ensure that the Nunatsiavut Government receives the correct tax revenues in accordance with the *Personal Income Tax Administration Agreement* in place with the Government of Canada. Nakummek UKâtik.

MR. SPEAKER:

Nakummek. I recognize Honourable Greg Flowers, Minister for Health and Social Development.

MR. FLOWERS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I just have a few more updates this morning. The Department of Health and Social Development has recently submitted a proposal to Health Canada for a tobacco control strategy. We received funds for January and till March 31st to complete a household survey and to bring five representatives from each community together to provide input into this strategy. The smoking rates for Labrador Inuit are very high which causes many concerns as smoking is known to contribute to many health conditions. As many of you are probably aware, the province has been working on an initiative related to housing and homelessness. As part of this work they commissioned a report on the current state of homelessness within the province and recommended for improved homes and support options. The report was recently released and the Deputy Minister for my department, Health and Social Development, has been asked to sit on the Implementation Committee. The first meeting is actually being held this week in St. John's. Every year the HSD hosts a Regional Early Childhood Education conference for childcare staff. It's mandatory for the licensed daycares to maintain their professional development hours, and it is important to have all staff meet to network and learn about resources. This year it was held in Hopedale on February 24th and 25th. Twenty-eight childcare staff from the communities participated in two workshops. One on "Enhancing *Inuttitut* Language in Childcare Programs" with Sarah Townley, and "Behaviour Strategies" from Tracy Saunders. It was a very successful two days, and the childcare staff was

so pleased to get to Hopedale and see the daycare Aboriginal Head Start Program and Language Nest. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Nakummek. Any further minister statements? Item four, "Member Statements." Are there any member statements? Recognize Jim Tuttauq, AngajukKâk, Hopedale.

MR. TUTTAUK:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Last night the Hopedale Inuit Community Government's Rec Department hosted a traditional Inuit games night for the 37th Brigade of the Canadian Armed Forces Reserve. Our local youth showcased the talent of the Inuit and such games as the seal cake and other traditional games that involve northern games of the Labrador with the games. Last night everybody enjoyed themselves. The Canadian Forces, the first time ever seeing any kind of Inuit games. They were thrilled, and I was really pleased that our kids showcased their talent. At the end of it the troops played volleyball with our local kids. So they all had fun and they were extremely glad. Also they noted that what a pristine, beautiful land we have here. It's the first time a lot of them ever seen any land like this in their life so it was a great showcase. I'm glad they come. At this time I'd like to thank the Community Recreation Fund for giving us the funds to host these events. Also on February 23rd to the 25th in Makkovik we had solid waste management for Nunatsiavut. As the Chair of the Solid Waste Management Committee we discussed strategies for to remove solid waste from Nunatsiavut. At this time we've come up with a draft plan that we hope to see implemented within six

months in Nunatsiavut. Also Hopedale Inuit Community Government with Tom Sheldon's department and stakeholders of the PCB Contamination Committee held meetings in St. John's to discuss our remedial clean-up process. During the discussions it was decided by all parties to have a public meeting to address our concerns in the community of Hopedale and, as stated by Minister Shiwak there, February 13th we received a letter from Minister Dan Cromwell stating that they have accepted our request to host a public meeting in June of 2015 to try to solve this and come up with a better plan to help clean up our community. At this time, Mr. Speaker, that's all I have. Nakummek.

MR. SPEAKER:

I recognize Dan Pottle, Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency.

MR. POTTLE:

Nakummek UKâtik. During the week of March 23rd - 27th, I have been invited to participate in the 2015 Gwich'in Tribal Council Post-secondary Academic Conference entitled, "Aboriginal Citizenship in the 21st Century: A Time of Change and Possibility." The conference, Mr. Speaker, is hosted by Memorial University and is sponsored by both the Gwich'in Tribal Council and Memorial, and the Department of Education and Economic Development, through the program director of the PSSP Program, has been involved in the planning and scheduling of this conference. The conference, Mr. Speaker, is structured to integrate international scholarly research activity with ongoing Aboriginal political leadership activity and undergraduate and graduate education. The mixture of individuals and institutions involved in this project is both

ambitious and complex. To meet this challenge the conference is structured in terms of a daily rotation of specifically defined events that include but are not limited to, Mr. Speaker, student sessions and open sessions. Student sessions include Gwich'in Tribal testimonials, life skills workshops, philosophy of Aboriginal rights, graduate humanities and master of philosophy lectures and seminars, research paper discussions. Mr. Speaker, open sessions include citizenship research paper presentations, key note conference presentation, opening and closing ceremonies and the Memorial University and Gwich'in Tribal Council memorandum of understanding ceremony. The conference, Mr. Speaker, is intended to give more exposure to the Gwich'in Tribal Council students to post-secondary institutions while pairing them with Aboriginal students, such as Labrador Inuit at Memorial University who are achieving academic success at Memorial. Mr. Speaker, I will be participating in the key note conference presentation, "Indigenous Governance in the 21st Century," as a panel member and I will focus on the success and challenges of the Nunatsiavut Government. Mr. Speaker, I encourage those from our government who may be in St. John's during this week to take some time to drop in on the conference and for those wishing further information I would be more than happy to share that information with you. Nakummek UKâtik.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

MR. BLAKE:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I had the pleasure of attending two elders Christmas socials as a volunteer in Happy Valley-Goose Bay and North West River. If it were not for the commitment of both volunteers and staff this may have not been possible. It was a good time had by all and I encourage individuals to become involved in their respected communities. I was also involved in Old Christmas Day Nalujuk Night celebration. This event was a huge success with approximately 250 participants. They enjoyed food, local entertainment by Mike Mitsuk, Eric Mitsuk, Sim Asivak, Walt Broomfield, Gary and Jennifer Mitchell, Cathy Lane and our local junior drummers. A great time was had by all. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, due to previous commitments, I was unable to attend the benefit in Mud Lake for beneficiary Holly Chaulk who has been stricken with illness. I would like to mention that this event was a huge success. Great job done by all. I wish Holly all the best in her recovery. Mr. Speaker, I would now like to take the time to commend the heroism of Blair Wall and beneficiary Raylene Hope. They both put their lives at risk to save others. They were two of many residents that lived in the boarding home that was just lost due to a fire. I would like to recognize them for this. Raylene is the daughter of Bride Hope and Ray Oliver. Mr. Speaker, I also took the time to volunteer at our local pancake breakfast for housing and homelessness. This also was a huge success. I would like to recognize all of those who were a part of this event. Hats off to the organizers. Also, Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to wish former Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville Ben

Ponniuk, who recently had surgery, a speedy recovery. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: I recognize Patricia Kemuksigak, Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville.

MS KEMUKSIGAK: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I would like to thank the DHSD and the province on funding the Supportive Living program that's run by DHSD in Happy Valley because they've gone a long way to address homelessness. This program has made a difference in our community, however, there are still issues with homelessness, but the numbers have gone down quite a bit since the program is in place. Unfortunately, as Roy, my colleague, has mentioned, there was a fire and there's more homeless people due to the fire. So the numbers are going to go up a little. I'd like to pass on my condolences to the family of Tama Winters and Silpa Edmunds. It was difficult on the families to lose two sisters in 13 days. Tama played a big role in promoting the *Inuttitut* language and she was an interpreter at our local hospital. As was mentioned earlier Silpa promoted the language, culture, Inuit rights, not only in Labrador but all across Canada. These two sisters who were elders will be missed. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to recognize Jack Shiwak, AngajukKâk, Rigolet.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to begin this morning by extending condolences to the families of Mrs. Dicker, Mr. Jararuse, and Mrs. Edmunds on behalf of the community of Rigolet, and the Rigolet Inuit

Community Government. I've been in office now for some six months and we are still going through a learning period. It's kind of difficult that there is-, when you walk into this office there is nobody to lead you through the whole ordeal of rules and responsibilities of being an AngajukKâk or a councillor. I honestly think, and I've spoken to some of my colleagues from the north that says we need training. We desperately need training to further our knowledge as to exactly what the rules and responsibilities are of an Inuit Community Government. Mr. Speaker, I hope that we can get this training. Training that can be passed along to each AngajukKâk and as an outgoing AngajukKâk if we lose, that we can at least take the training we had and help the next incoming government to have had a better understanding of the Inuit Community Government, their rules and how they work. Secondly, I'd like to speak somewhat on our hall project, the community centre. And before I was elected I looked at this project with some scepticism. It wasn't being built by a contractor. It was done by project management, and I kind of wondered would this hall come in under budget, and would it be done in time for anything that we wanted to do? Because I knew if a contractor had to do it, he had only a certain amount of time to do it. But since elected I've become kind of close with this project, and I got to know the project and, Mr. Speaker, I have to commend the former AngajukKâk and council for taking on this project along with project management. I've seen things that it's made me proud to be a member of that council now and to see what's happening. As a former teacher I

spent some 10 years in the classroom, and some of that 10 years I've spent with students with learning disabilities. There were times that I wondered what does the future hold for them? But, like I say, since becoming AngajukKâk I have made it a point to visit the hall project once in a while and see what was going on, and to my surprise, some of my former students are working there. Students that I wondered about wondered where did their future lie because academically they had problems. And to go through the college system, a post-secondary education system, you had to have at least some academic abilities. But when I went into this project, my first visit, I looked at some of these students. They were working with carpenters, they were working with electricians, and it was almost like a mentorship program. Just before I came out here I went back to the hall again. You know what's gratifying about it? To see these people that have been mentored, they are now working on their own. They're doing carpenter work. They're helping electricians, and that's why I want to commend the former AngajukKâk and council for doing it this way. It's not only at the end of the day will we have a beautiful building, but we will have a trained workforce with the confidence to do the work, and during this coming summer and the building and construction season begin again, I am confident that we have a workforce that's going to be able to take over the next building that's coming up. On site right now we just had one journeyman carpenter, one journeyman plaster painter, one journeyman electrician and one apprentice electrician. There is nine locals, and these locals,

through this program, I'm quite sure can carry on into the future and feel confident that they can do the jobs that the town needs with regard to construction and helping in electrical plumbing or plaster and painting. So it hasn't been as fast as we wanted the hall done. We wanted it ready for certain events that would happen in the community, but when I look at it, as I say, with students who I know struggle in the school and in the workplace academically, they have gained confidence and I think that's a big plus. And I would say to any community council who want to go with project management, make a stipulation in that contract that your people work, your people be trained and from there we can move forward. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

[Applause]

MR. SPEAKER:

Nakummek. I recognize Tyler Edmunds, Ordinary Member for Postville.

MR. EDMUNDS:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Earlier the AngajukKâk for Hopedale mentioned that there was a friendly game of volleyball between Hopedale and the Canadian Forces. I trust that our locals beat out the Canadian Forces. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to wish good luck to our student athletes that will be travelling to Rigolet this weekend for the winter sports meet. I hope that they have a great time, a safe time, and are able to create lasting friendships through sport. From my understanding, the member for Rigolet, the Honourable Mr. Shiwak, will be the prime demonstrator for Native games and will be doing the back bend and the stick jaunt. Mr. Speaker, in January we did host a Poverty

Reduction Strategy meeting under the provincial government in Postville, which went well. We had a great group discussion, and as the AngajukKâk from Nain mentioned during the teleconference, we sincerely hope that the provincial government uses our input for developing future policy and programming, that our thoughts and contributions are not placed on the back burner or simply thrown out, especially if there's a change in government. Mr. Speaker, our physical activity group in Postville, Aulajok tamamik, were planning to start a skiing and snowshoeing program for the community in late February. However, certain members of the club are physically falling apart, and we're hoping to have at least some events and programming in place with the help from DHSD team next month. There are groups in the community who are advocating healthy living and activity, and like the continued work of the Recreation Committee and programming under the DHSD, and just recently a group formed by Ms Carla Colbourne. Ms Colbourne challenged members of the community to participate in a weight loss regime, which became a competition, and there are currently 15 members participating with many losing pounds each week. At the annual Carl Memorial Hockey Tournament the community were fortunate to have a booster to fundraising activities with donated sign Pee Caps from Montreal Canadiens Gary Price and PK Sebban. The caps were received well and won through a draw by Kayla Anderson and Carl Sheppard's daughter. Mr. Speaker, briefly, I'd like to commend the work done under the department of Education and Economic Development in

the announcement creation of the Loretta Barbara Grace Saunders Memorial Scholarship for students studying away from, especially our young women. This will be a strong reminder of why they are there and they can see, you know, they can get the opportunity to pursue their education and other things that arise that were robbed from Loretta. And I'm sure that each member around this table shares this sentiment as well. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Nakummek. I recognize Jim Tuttau.

MR. TUTTAU: I have no other statement at this time. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Any further statements, member statements? I recognize Kate Mitchell, Ordinary Member, Makkovik.

MS MITCHELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all I'd like to pass along my condolences to the family and friends of yet another elder from our community that passed away on the 24th of February, William, Billy, as we knew him, Billy Anderson. And as our AngajukKâk Herb is on sick leave right now, I would just like to do a quick update on the Pantry and Wood Box Committee of which Herb plays an instrumental role, and even when he's off he's still involved. The pantry is still operating and just this past week our local *Trust*, the *Makkovik Inuit Trust*, granted Pantry and Wood Box Committee \$10,000 to purchase firewood for people who could not get it themselves. So I wish Herb a speedy recovery and thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Nakummek. Any further member statements? Item five, "Returns to Oral Questions." Yesterday the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Darryl Shiwak, said he would get back to the Chair of the NunaKâtiget Corporation, Gary Mitchell, on whether or not there will be a new date negotiated for the term of a new arrangement. I would like to recognize Honourable Darryl Shiwak, the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources.

MR. SHIWAK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And in response to Chairperson Mitchell, with regard to migratory birds is a two-part answer here. Migratory birds, Section 12.13.13 of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claim Agreement* states "For nine years immediately following the Effective Date Inuit ordinarily resident in Labrador outside of the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area shall be entitled, subject to Section 12.13.14 to Harvest Migratory Birds in the area set out in the Map Atlas and in so Harvesting to be, so otherwise subject to the agreement as if they were harvesting in the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area." Under subsection 12.13.13 harvesting of Migratory Birds in the spring in the area 12-E by beneficiaries residing in Labrador outside the settlement area is permitted. However, without action by the Nunatsiavut Government once the nine-year period has expired on December 1st, 2014, harvesting of migratory birds in the spring in 12-E by our beneficiaries will no longer be permitted except as permitted under the laws of general application. In April 2014 we wrote the Director of Wildlife for Environment Canada to request a meeting to discuss the issue and a request to extend this provision. It should be noted that

there is no language in the Agreement that is specific to an extension of this provision. Subsequent to this letter a meeting was held with Environment Canada and options were discussed. In October 2014 we wrote the Assistant Deputy Minister Environmental Stewardship Branch to put forward two possible options. 1) A new regulation under federal legislation to allow the harvest to continue. 2) Removing the sunset restriction from Part 12. 13. 13 of our *Land Claim Agreement*. As it is unlikely that any of the three signatories to our *Land Claim Agreement* would support reopening the claim, we would like to discuss the possibility of removing the sunset clause by an exchange of letters between parties. So in other words no set dates for what that extension period would be for migratory birds. Communal Fishery. Mr. Speaker, in mid-February we wrote the Regional Director of Wildlife Management requesting that the authorize continuance of the year-to-year issuance of a communal food fishing license for beneficiaries of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement* resident in Labrador outside the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area. Section 13. 13.1 of the LILCA allowed for the negotiation of a nine-year arrangement between Nunatsiavut Government and the Government of Canada for Labrador Inuit residents in Labrador outside of LISA to fish for food, social and ceremonial purposes in the tidal waters of Lake Melville. Our position is that the Nunatsiavut Government and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans have not signed a nine-year agreement referred in the Section 13. 13.1 of the LILCA. In the interim DFO and the Nunatsiavut Government have

proceeded on the basis of communal licenses issued by DFO from year to year. We informed DFO that arrangements respecting annual communal licenses have been negotiated and finalized with regional DFO officials. We wished to continue offer Labrador Inuit the opportunity to fish under communal license for food, social and ceremonial purpose in the tidal waters of Lake Melville. It is the wish of Nunatsiavut Government to continue the current arrangement until a nine-year agreement is signed. We request of the continuance of a year-to-year arrangement that has been in place since the LILCA became effective in 2001. So for communal fishery we're requesting year-to-year until we sign the nine-year agreement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

We will now recess until 10:15.

(Recess)

MR. SPEAKER:

Before I move on I'd like to recognize members of the Canadian Armed Forces that recently visited Hopedale. I'd like to thank them for their service, not only protecting Labrador Inuit but all Canadians and also a lot of people around the world in the various humanitarian and peace keeping missions. Item six, "Oral Questions." Are there any oral questions? Okay. I recognize Gary Mitchell, Chair of NunaKâtiget Community Corporation.

MR. MITCHELL:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the First Minister, First Minister Mitchell. It's regarding membership application process. As every now and then there's beneficiaries coming with membership

problems with the process and we try to find out some information if we can when we can and to help them. I know we're not in a position to make any decisions, but we try to pass on information to the beneficiaries to help their process be a bit easier. Anyway, my question is if during the membership application process and appeals process with the applicant being denied of membership and is left with no option but to turn to the Federal Court of Canada, is there any mechanism in place whereby they can be reconsidered without the hassle of turning to the Federal Court if the applicant can show evidence that the appeals process wasn't being followed properly as per the Appeals Policy as outlined in the Guide to Enrolment Process? I've seen a case where, according to the applicant, the process wasn't followed properly and the only recourse was going to the Federal Court, but how were they to know that the process wasn't followed? I think they need something to help them to check out the process before they go to the Federal Court. So is there any mechanism in place whereby they can have another recourse but to go to the Federal Court if they can prove that the evidence was-, the process wasn't being followed in the appeals process? Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

I recognize First Minister, Honourable Kate Mitchell.

MS MITCHELL:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you Chairperson for your question. Okay, if a person is not satisfied with the decision of the appeal, or the process of the appeal board in making a decision, the only thing that I can

tell you is there are provisions in the *Land Claims Agreement* that allows a person to seek a review, and it's up to that person if they want to take those steps. So what my advice to you, I guess, would be to contact a Registrar and they will be able to help you from there because, you know, as First Minister, my responsibilities towards-, and I know you're aware of it is that, you know, my responsibility is to make sure that we have a Registrar's Office in place and it does function efficiently and whatever, and that all our boards, the appeals board and the local committees have a full slate of candidates. But there is a process in the *Land Claims Agreement*, so I think the next step would be to contact a Registrar and then they would follow the provisions laid out in the *Land Claims Agreement*. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. I recognize Joe Dicker, AngajukKâk, Nain.

MR. DICKER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Lands and Resources, Honourable Darryl Shiwak. Earlier in the year there was a press release put out by NGC and Nunatsiavut Government regarding a change in management to run the parks and facility at Saglek. My question to the Minister is with that change in management, will that affect the employment that's of the people out there and will that effect the scheduling of the season for this year? I ask this question because employment to the community of Nain is very important. There are a lot of people that rely on that and I would like to know if there are any

residual effects, I suppose, of a change in management for the operation of the post there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to recognize Honourable Darryl Shiwak, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources.

MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And we all recognize the importance of Torngat Mountains Park and Torngat Mountains Base Camp towards the success of our park. And you're referring to a press release that was issued by Nunatsiavut Group of Companies which stated that there would be a change in management. It also stated that there would be a partnership in moving forward between Nunatsiavut Group of Companies, Parks Canada and Nunatsiavut Government. The whole intension of that management group is to put a plan in place so that there would not be any effects to employment or effects to scheduling for the upcoming year. The plan is to put a real plan in place, not just for the short term, but for the long-term success of base camp and the park. So the short answer, we can't see any effects to employment this year or scheduling this year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

MR. DICKER: Not to the Minister of Lands and Resources, Honourable Speaker. I do have a question for another Minister, if I may be allowed that, if there's nobody else in line.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. Okay, if you have another question, we shall get back to you. If there are any further questions? I recognize Tyler Edmunds, Ordinary Member, Postville.

MR. EDMUNDS: Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I'll be directing my question to the Honourable Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology. You mentioned earlier about the CRTC and its mandate to provide broad band access to all Canadians by the end of this year. Bell Aliant, I'm sure, is well aware of the limited access that it provides to Nunatsiavut. I'm just wondering what steps we have taken to lobby increase internet access for our beneficiaries and those residing in the Land Claims communities and, I guess, Nunatsiavut as a whole. Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Nakummek. I would like to recognize Honourable Dan Pottle, Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek UKâtik. And Nakummek to the Ordinary Member for Postville for your question. We have been dealing with the issues relative to internet access and problems associated with internet access through our division of Information Technology for quite some time. Our Director of Information Technology has held discussions with entities such as Bell Aliant and have been informed time and time again from Bell Aliant that they have no new dollars for infrastructure for extending the internet and broad band access to Nunatsiavut. They have said to us that if we come up with the funding to create new infrastructure then they'd gladly put that in there. We take offence to that. We believe that it's not our

responsibility as per the, I guess, thinking of the CRTC with respect to, I mean, making it a requirement that each Canadian by the end of 2015 has the access that I referred to this morning. We have, from a departmental divisional perspective, been looking at different options to alleviate the problems with the internet access in Nain. We've just recently put in place and purchased some more satellite technology there with hopes to alleviate some of the problems that are just coming on stream. We have dedicated several lines to different areas of the building in Nain, by way of example, with some success, but again, I mean, you know, we believe that Bell Aliant is not providing the services that they should, we believe, although they're telling us they're not, they're rolling and streaming different bandwidth throughout the community, that sort of thing, which sort of plays havoc, I guess, with our ability to be efficient and effective in carrying out our responsibilities when there are down times in the community of Nain. By way of example, if it's a snow day or sometimes during the day when children get out of school they go home, they all get on line, which slows the process down even more. We have been looking at some options and we've just drafted a position paper for me and the President to go back to the provincial government and Bell Aliant to advocate and further, I guess, try to justify in our minds and looking at the short comings with Bell Aliant on that. So that's some of the initiatives that we're taking. We've just received the draft position paper yesterday. I still had to review that with my departmental staff, and once we do that review we

will request a meeting with the President of Bell Aliant and with the province of Newfoundland and Labrador. And with respect to the complaint that we will be putting forward to the CRTC hopefully that they will take some serious consideration into the issues that we're dealing with and hopefully make some changes through the powers that they have with respect to looking at some of those shortcomings. So very briefly that's some of the initiatives that we've been working with. Some of our IT support staff, by way of example, have some ideas to load share, by way of example. Some of the capacity within the community of Nain were still trying to figure out ways that we're going to do that. So we're still continuing some discussion and dialogue on that and hopefully, I'm not saying within the near future. But, I mean, you know, with some creativity I guess, and innovative ways of doing some more things with respect to our capacity within our division of Information Technology hopefully some of these problems will be resolved. So that's some of the things that we're working towards right now. Nakummek UKâtik.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. A supplementary question? Any further questions? I'll return to AngajukKâk Joe Dicker, Nain.

MR. DICKER:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My next question is directed to the Minister of Health and Social Development, Honourable Greg Flowers. Early in 2014 there was a petition that was tabled at this Assembly, I believe, by Roxanne Andersen, with regards to pregnant women and escorts. I asked Mr. Flowers at what stage is this request, I guess, to have escorts with

pregnant women at? There are people in my community that are asking questions and I would like an update so that I can go back with some information for them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. I recognize Honourable Greg Flowers, Minister of Health and Social Development.

MR. FLOWERS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, AngajukKâk for Nain. Yesterday I gave a short update on kind of where we do with escorts for pregnant women. I know that I didn't go into much detail, but I'd just like to tell you that I guess in November I and my Deputy Minister, Michelle Kinney, met with the Lab-Grenfell Health. We had a meeting with them and from that meeting we were in the process now and actually that the policy has been drafted by our department, and I guess on March the 12th, this next week, my Deputy Minister will now be sitting down with Lab-Grenfell Health on the policy that we drafted. I know it's quite a long time coming, but there was a lot of back and forth with Lab-Grenfell Health because they didn't even have a policy their selves and no policy. So there's a policy drafted, but we're very confident in talking with Lab-Grenfell Health that we will certainly get this policy passed, and I guess after the meeting on March the 12th we will know basically where we stand now with Lab-Grenfell Health and be able to see where we're to and then move forward. So after this meeting next week we'll have a better update on where we're actually to with the policy because policy has been drafted by us. Now we have to go back to Lab-Grenfell Health

and talk details and then look at actually when-, but we're confident that in the near future we will be able to take escorts for pregnant women to Goose Bay. So thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Would you require a supplementary question?

MR. DICKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would just like to have that update at our next sitting and have it on the agenda for return to oral questions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: I believe that will be up to the Minister if he will make that in the next sitting. That will be up to the Minister's discretion.

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I certainly can it's a long process, and I know that people are being impatient or has been very reluctant or, you know, on a daily basis or a weekly basis I get calls on escorts for pregnant women, and I certainly am pushing for this to be done. And so once we know where we're to, I certainly will give an update. If it's at the next sitting or before we certainly will inform the people in Nunatsiavut. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: That will be not return to oral questions that will be just an update in your report. Any further questions? Item seven, "Written Questions." Are there any written questions? Item eight, "Returns to Written Questions." Are there any returns to written questions? Item nine, "Petitions." Are there any petitions? Item 10, "Responses to Petitions." There will be no responses today. Item 11, "Reports of Standing and Special Committees." I do not believe we have any reports today. Item

12, "Tabling of Documents." I would like to recognize First Minister, Kate Mitchell.

MS MITCHELL:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Under the tabling of documents yesterday the record shows that I tabled the annual report for 2014-2015. The document that was tabled was a Nunatsiavut Affairs report, Annual Report for 2014-2015. So I respectfully request the document be renamed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, First Minister. The tabled document will be renamed and will be numbered as same, 05-3(5). I would like to recognize the Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology, the Honourable Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE:

Nakummek UKâtik. I would like to table the amended *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust* as amended on March 4th, 2014.
Nakummek UKâtik.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Honourable Minister. This document will be numbered as tabled document 06-3(5). Are there any more documents to be tabled? Item 13, "Notices of Motion." There are no notices of motions today. Item 14, "Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills." There are no notices of motions for first reading of bills today. Item 15, "Motions." I recognize the Minister of Finance and Treasurer, the Honourable Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE:

Nakummek UKâtik. I move, seconded by the President of Nunatsiavut, the Honourable Sarah Leo, the following motion: Whereas the *Labrador*

Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust was created pursuant to the *Settlement Trust Indenture* made effective on March 1st, 2010 between James Lyall, Todd Broomfield, Isabella Pain, Wyman Jacque, Michael Flatters and Anthony Andersen as settlers, and the *Settlement Trust Deed* was amended on March 4th, 2014 removing the President and Treasurer as trustees. And Section 5.2 of the *Trust Indenture* provides for the qualification of trustees and Section 5.3 of the *Trust Indenture* provides for the process to elect trustees by special resolution of the Assembly. And the Nunatsiavut Assembly has considered the foregoing provisions of the *Trust* and-, oh, I read the wrong one. Okay, sorry, Mr. Speaker, let me start again. I apologize to the Assembly for being a little bit confused in my notes here. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the President Sarah Leo, the following motion: That the Nunatsiavut Assembly convene as a Committee of the Whole to decide who the two successor trustees of *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust* will be. Nakummek UKâtik.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Any nays? The motion is passed, and we are now in Committee of the Whole. Minister Pottle, would you like to begin?

MR. POTTLE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. As per the special resolution of the Assembly that was passed, I believe, in September of 2013, removing the President and the Treasurer as trustees to the *Settlement Trust*, we have, since that

time, been working towards carrying out the resolution that was proposed by the Assembly. The trustees presented the names of several individuals for consideration for replacement trustees, and the trustees received the biographies or the resumes from the five individuals that we have put forward as recommendations for replacement trustees. I believe prior to this sitting this week the Clerk and the Office of the Clerk provided the biographies of those individuals to the Assembly Members, and both myself and the President trust that you have reviewed this biographies in order to help you to make a decision on who the Assembly would like to see as new trustees to the *Settlement Trust*.

MR. SPEAKER:

That is correct, sir. Thank you for that, and just for the reference for the Assembly, they are included in your binders, so please refer to your binders for the bios under Tab 8.

MR. POTTLE:

And Members of the Assembly, too, have received the amended *Trust Indenture* that was amended on the 4th of March, 2014. If you go the *Settlement Trust Indenture* itself it sets out specifically the purpose of the *Trust*, who comprises the trustees, what the roles and responsibilities of trustees are, that sort of thing. If you would have some time to review that I'm sure you're familiar with that. That's about all I have to say in my introduction, but I would ask the Chair for the opportunity to give President Leo the opportunity to also say a few words on the process that we're going through today in case I've missed something that she would like to say. President Leo.

PRESIDENT LEO: Oh. Maybe I would have been listening to you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pottle.

PRESIDENT LEO: Thank you, Mr. Pottle. For those of us that have been around for a while this change in trustees in not only the *Settlement Trust* but *Tasiujatsoak Trust* has been a long time coming. The process today is obviously we have the bios of the five nominees for *Trust* replacements. I think when we get into start looking at who the trustee replacements can I get into this now? As to who we look at trustee replacements, just from my experience, and Mr. Pottle and I have had quite a few discussions about this as well as with the other trustees on what it is when you're a trustee. For those that have seen the presentation, we're not talking about a couple of hundred thousand dollars. We're not talking about a couple of million dollars. We're talking tens of millions of dollars that we're dealing with. We're talking about meeting with the investment managers. We're talking about setting the direction for how the *Trust* is going to look. It's meeting with the investment managers, and it's committing to four or five meetings a week, or month, a year, sorry. Anywhere from one day to four days. It's a big commitment on behalf of the trustees outside of your work. The other side of it, while being able to understand you don't-, I went in completely cold. I knew a little bit about investing. I knew what bonds were. I knew what, you know, what equities were. I had a very basic understanding. It's a big learning curve. I think the list of nominations we have are quite capable of, if they haven't got the basics

already, will catch up pretty quick. We have some great advisors on the *Trust*. The other thing to consider is when you're looking at, not only being able to understand the technical financial side of investments in meeting with the managers, it's actually understanding what the *Trust Deed* means, and it understands once applications start going into the trustees, being able to make a not only an educated decision, but a conscious decision understanding the values, understanding why the deed was created in making those decisions for the allocations. The final side of it is when you're sitting as a *Trust* with the other trustees, there's a certain relationship that's created. That relationship created amongst the trustees is almost as important as, again, understanding investments, being able to make those financial decisions and being able to make the allocation decisions. So when you're going through the trustees, I hope and I believe you will, but I want you to consider those things. This isn't a personality contest. This isn't saying, well, I don't like this person. I don't think they should sit on the *Trust*. I like this person. I think they'd make a great person. This person has, I don't know, brown eyes, so maybe they should be on the *Trust*. I think you really have to consider what you're selecting this person for. These are our *Trusts*. This is our money that we're having this person come in and help manage, and I think those are very important decisions. It's going to be very important. I am quite happy that I'm no longer going to be on the *Trust*. I'll miss all the meetings and seeing what's going on and, again, that relationship with the trustees, but with our time commitments and understanding the

having to remove the political side or the government supposing influence or perceived influence in the *Trust*, I think it's long overdue and I think with the five trustees we have here, any two of these will be able to fill my position quite well. Thanks.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Mr. Pottle, would you like to add?

MR. POTTLE: Just before we begin the voting process, Mr. Speaker, I've just been asked a question by Mr. Flowers, whether or not he would have to declare a conflict because his daughter, Tiffany, is one of the nominees for replacement trustees. So before we begin I'd just like to add that clarification. Nakummek.

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to thank both Mr. Pottle and Mr. Flowers for identifying that. We will refer with legal counsel. I will request a brief five-minute recess or until we receive a reasonable answer. We are now resuming Committee of the Whole and I'd like to thank legal counsel. I believe, Mr. Flowers, you would like to present.

MR. FLOWERS: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. See I declared a conflict because my daughter is one of the five for the *Settlement Trust* that you had to vote on. So I guess the procedure then, I will excuse myself from the Committee as a Whole.

MR. SPEAKER: For the information of the Assembly, under the *Code of Conduct* deemed pecuniary interest 3.4 pecuniary interest and that states a) the spouse of a member, b) any son, daughter, father, mother, brother, sister of a member or the members' spouse, the spouse of a person referred to and

so on. So, yes, you are properly excused from Committee of the Whole until the voting has been finalized. Any questions from the Assembly? I'd like to thank Gregory Flowers in being transparent. Mr. Pottle, would you like to add?

MR. POTTLE:

Just very quickly again, Mr. Chair, for the interest of people who may not some of the nominees, I'll just give a quick overview of each of the bios and, again, to reiterate what President Leo had said in her address to the Committee of the Whole, I mean, the *Trust*, Sarah and I as outgoing trustees, I mean, believe that any one of these individuals can fill and take on the duties of a trustee, but we leave that decision entirely up to the Assembly to make that decision. Just very quickly the first nominee, and not in any specific order, but in order that they are in the Assembly binders, William Barbour. Everybody, I think, is familiar with Mr. Barbour. Mr. Barbour has been around the Labrador Inuit Association prior to becoming an Ordinary Member of the Assembly and wasn't re-elected in the last general election. Mr. Barbour is from the community of Nain. He's a hunter, fisherman, and he's quite immersed in our culture, and he has had some previous experience as the former President of the Association and had some dealings with the *Trust* in the early stages. I don't think I need to say any more on Mr. Barbour. He's well-known to the Assembly Members and I think his record speaks for itself. Daniel Bennett. For people who may not know Mr. Bennett, he's a beneficiary to the *Land Claims Agreement*. He is the son of Helen White. People may know that name from Upper Lake Melville. Her father is a

name that may be familiar to some members of the Assembly. Her father was Hiram White. Mr. Bennett currently resides in St. John's. He has a bachelor of commerce degree and has experience in drafting *Trusts* and *Trust Indentures* and implementing same. He's currently a lawyer working in St. John's and he serves on the Board of Directors of the St. John's Native Friendship Centre. He has always, any time that we've had meetings in St. John's, constituency meetings, or the Executive Council came to St. John's. Mr. Bennett always asked to be kept informed and he's attended sessions that we've had in St. John's at constituency meetings or at open houses by the Executive Council. He attended the Illusuak launch in St. John's as well, and although he may not be from the settlement area, he is interested and concerned with what goes on with Nunatsiavut Government as a whole, and he wants to learn more and contribute more to the Nunatsiavut Government. Tiffany Flowers, as everybody knows, is from the community of Hopedale. She's currently working as Manager of Operations for the Goose Bay Airport. She has a bachelor of administration degree from Memorial University. She began working with Walters Hoffe Accountants when she finished her degree. She's also attended St. Mary's University in Halifax to further her education in finance and tax through the Atlantic School of Chartered Accountants. Ms Flowers is one of the upcoming youth, I think, and certainly is interested and is willing to share her education and her experiences to further advance the initiatives of the Nunatsiavut Government and promoting Labrador Inuit and Labrador Inuit culture.

Elizabeth Ford. Elizabeth is originally from Nain. She's working with ITK in Ottawa currently and has been in her current position with ITK since 2010. She's been prior to that, the Director of Health and Environment for ITK and she also has been a Senior Advisor and Operation Trainee with ITK as well. Elizabeth's background is in social work and she's worked in numerous positions in that and, as you can see from her bio, she's also had various work experiences. Elizabeth, like all of the nominees, I believe, is interested and willing to work again for the advancement of Nunatsiavut. She does a lot to promote Labrador Inuit culture and traditions, and although she may be living in Ottawa, she's still deeply connected to Nain and Nunatsiavut. The final nominee is Patricia Pottle or, sorry, I believe Patricia now goes by Dicker, again, but everybody knows, Patty, I believe she's from the community of Hopedale. Patty has a background in education. I believe she worked for a couple of years when she finished her education degree at Amos Cornelius here in Hopedale. She's a local entrepreneur and business person and a very successful business person. She has been involved with the *Trust* in some capacity over the years and she's currently a trustee to the *Implementation Trust*. Patty, again, I think would, as all the other nominees, fulfil the duties and requirements as a trustee, and she, like the rest of the trustees, are interested in furthering the advancement of Nunatsiavut and promoting Labrador Inuit culture, and she certainly has the well-being of Labrador Inuit at heart. So very briefly that's just some introductions to the nominees, and I think I don't have to say any more

there. Their bios speak quite clearly of their interest and their capabilities. So with that, I turn it over to you, Mr. Chair.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Mr. Pottle. I'd like to inform the Assembly of the process. But beforehand I'd like to refer to the Standing Orders. This issue will be coming to a vote, and under the Standing Orders Section 46(1), "Question shall be only put when a quorum is present. (2) Question shall be decided by a majority of members voting unless the majority requirement as prescribed in Standing Order 1 subsection 8 requires otherwise. Section 3. In the case of a tie, the speaker shall cast the deciding vote and may state reasons. (4) If a quorum of members is not present on a question the speaker shall call in the members in accordance with Standing Order 6.6." I would like under Standing Order, Section 16.1 to proceed with a secret ballot. We will have one vote, one piece of paper, but on that paper two names of your selection. But before we can proceed, the other option, if we do not receive consensus, would be show of hands. I would suggest secret ballot. All those in favour?

ASSEMBLY:

Aye.

MR. SPEAKER:

Opposed? For the record we will proceed with secret ballot. Question?

PRESIDENT LEO:

Yes. It was just actually more of a comment. I don't know if maybe we've said our piece on the *Trust*, the trustees, what it entails. Danny's given a little bit more of, you know, information on the trustees. I'm wondering

if the Chair is going to give them an opportunity if there's any questions from the floor.

MR. SPEAKER: Absolutely. We are still in Committee of the Whole and are there any questions, comments in regards to voting? Patricia Kemuksigak.

MS KEMUKSIGAK: Mr. Chair, my question is not really related to voting, but I wonder if you could share the other trustees that are presently on the *Trust* because, as it was mentioned, they have to all kind of work together, and I can't remember who's on the *Settlement Trust*. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Would you like to answer that, Mr. Pottle?

MR. POTTLE: Sure. As per the qualification set out in the *Trust Deed*, you'll see the qualifications for the trustees. Currently the settlement trustees are myself, President Leo, Rexanne Crawford, the Controller of Nunatsiavut, Isabella Pain and Michael Flatters. Both Isabella and Rexanne are trustees as per the requirement of the *Settlement Trust Deed* itself, and Mr. Flatters is the arm's length trustee of the *Trust Deeds*. As per the qualifications he is not a beneficiary to the *Land Claim Agreement*. So that's currently the trustees.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. So my understanding there's a total of five?

MR. POTTLE: There's five trustees...

MR. SPEAKER: Yes.

MR. POTTLE: ...as per the *Trust Deed*...

MR. SPEAKER: *Indenture*.

MR. POTTLE: The indenture itself, and as the President had iterated in some of her commentary, the *Trust Deed* was amended to remove both the President and the Treasurer from the *Trust Deed* because the *Trust* itself is supposed to operate at arm's length from government, and we've always taken exception with the fact that the President and the trustees, two very high level officials within the Nunatsiavut Government, sits on the *Trust*. So that was the rationale and the reasoning for putting forth the resolution of the Assembly to have the treasurer and the President removed.

PRESIDENT LEO: Can I just add to that?

MR. POTTLE: Yes.

PRESIDENT LEO: Again, under the trustees, I don't know, Dan, I'm sorry, I may have not been listening to you, but it says the *Trust* shall at all times include the Deputy Minister of Finance and shall at least one male and one female, and the representative trustee shall be Inuit, include one individual who resides within LISA and not include any who is sitting as a Member of the Nunatsiavut Assembly. The composition of the *Trust* will be under 5.1, three trustees who represent eligible beneficiaries, herein referred to the representative trustees, two non-elected government officials, herein referred to as government officials, and one trustee who is not an eligible beneficiary. So if you go through that list when we came up with the nominations, obviously, the two non-elected government officials are Isabella and Rexanne. The non-beneficiary trustee is Mike Flatters. So

we were looking for-, we still need three trustees. So because Isabella and fills the other trustee because we have the Deputy Minister of Finance. I know it gets quite complicated, and so we are looking for just two eligible beneficiaries to fill the three eligible beneficiary seats. Did I confuse it for everybody because I almost confused myself.

MR. SPEAKER: Is there any further questions, comments? Mr. Tyler Edmunds.

MR. EDMUNDS: Mr. Chair, maybe a obvious question, but now the people that sit on the committee, will be only for once more, say, one of the trustees were to resign for some reason? Okay. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

PRESIDENT LEO: Or they're removed.

MR. SPEAKER: Further questions, comments? For the information of the Assembly, the counting will be done by the Clerk and the Assistant Clerk, the counting of the votes. And once more you have a piece of paper, a voting ballot presented to you. Please indicate your two choices and the top two will become. And again in the event I will not be voting, but in the event of a tie, I will be.

PRESIDENT LEO: I was saying I haven't had a smoke break since nine o'clock this morning, I'm getting pretty antsy. Are we going to have a smoke while they're counting?

MR. SPEAKER: Very short break there. We'll convene at 11:30.

(Recess)

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. We are still in Committee of the Whole. Have we come to a decision?

PRESIDENT LEO: Yes.

MR. POTTLE: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. I'd like to recognize the Minister of Finance and the Treasurer to make a special resolution confirming the two new trustees of the LILCST.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek UKâtik. And Honourable Members of the Assembly. I move, seconded by the President of Nunatsiavut, the Honourable Sarah Leo, the following motion: Whereas a) the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust* was created pursuant to a *Settlement Trust Indenture* made effective on March 1st, 2010 between James Lyle, Todd Broomfield, Isabella Pain, Wyman Jacque, Michael Flatters and Anthony Andersen as settler, and b) The *Settlement Trust* was amended on March 4th, 2014 removing the President and Treasurer as trustees and c) Section 5.2 of the *Trust Indenture* provides for the qualifications of trustees and d) Section 5.3 of the *Trust Indenture* provides for the process to elect trustees by special resolution of the Assembly and e) the Nunatsiavut Assembly has considered the foregoing provisions of the *Trust Indenture* and has reviewed the list of candidates for election as replacement trustees of the *Settlement Trust*. Now therefore be it resolved that pursuant to Section 5.3 of the *Settlement Trust Indenture*, the following persons has been elected by the Nunatsiavut Assembly as trustees of the

Settlement Trust and their tenure becomes effective upon the later of the date hereof and the date of each trustee executing and delivering to the *Settlement Trust* acceptance as set forth in Section 5.3 of the *Trust Indenture*. The Assembly has chosen Daniel Bennett and Tiffany Flowers to be replacement trustees to the *Settlement Trust*. Nakummek UKâtik.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. I'll be seeking unanimous consent from the Assembly to destroy the ballots. All those in favour?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Opposed? Thank you. The motion is in order. Mr. Minister, would you like to speak to the motion?

MR. POTTLE: Just very briefly, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to thank the Assembly for considering all five names put forward as replacement to the *Settlement Trust*, and I thank you for your confidence in the names that were put forward, and I'm sure that Mr. Bennett and Ms Flowers will perform their duties as trustees to the best of their abilities and we welcome them to the *Trust*. Nakummek UKâtik.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Does anyone else wish to speak to the motion? Sarah Leo.

PRESIDENT LEO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm just sort of going to echo a little bit of what Mr. Pottle says. I thank the Assembly for taking the time and, you know, asking the questions and certainly putting the confidence into these two individuals. I think it's kind of, I know for me, as a trustee in my position it's sort of a relief to get to this point. When the initial discussion or the resolution was made to replace the President and the Treasurer on the

two *Trusts*, there was talk of some transition time. Obviously, because, as I mentioned, earlier the *Trusts* only meet maybe three or four times a year the transition will probably take place over the next six months. I think there was a provision that in the initial motion, and Mr. Pottle can help me out on this one, and correct me if I'm wrong, but I think there was some transition time and it was possibly one or two meetings. So we're looking at possibly six months before Mr. Pottle and I are completely removed from the *Trust*, just in case anybody sees that we're still on *Trust* business. That's why. We have to allow for some transition time. And, again, thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you. Does anyone else like to speak to the motion? If no other members wishes to speak, does the Minister of Finance and the Treasurer wish to make final comments and close debate?

MR. POTTLE:

I have no final comments, Mr. Speaker. I wish to close debate.
Nakummek.

MR. SPEAKER:

Those in favour of the motion?

ASSEMBLY:

Aye.

MR. SPEAKER:

Those opposed? Motion's carried. That concludes debate. I'd like to call back Honourable Greg Flowers, back into the Assembly chamber.
Honourable Greg Flowers, for your information, the Assembly has come to a decision and the two new trustees are Daniel Bennett and Tiffany Flowers. I recognize the Minister of Finance and Honourable Dan Pottle for motion 3-3(5).

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek UKâtik. I am seeking unanimous consent to proceed with my motion today, that tabled document 05-3(5) the Financial Plan 2015-16 be moved into the Committee of the Whole for discussion in conjunction with Bill 2015-01, the Budget Bill 2015. Nakummek UKâtik.

MR. SPEAKER: Member is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with his motion today. Are there any nays? There are none? Minister Pottle, proceed.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek UKâtik. Whereas the Executive Council is required to prepare a consolidated plan for each fiscal year and present it to the Assembly, and whereas the Financial Plan for 2015-16 has been tabled in the Assembly, and whereas the Financial Plan should be considered by the Assembly. Now therefore I move, seconded by the First Minister, the Honourable Kate Mitchell, that tabled document 05-3(15) the Financial Plan 2015-16 be moved into the Committee of the Whole for discussion in conjunction with Bill 2015-01, the *Budget Act, 2015*. Nakummek UKâtik.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Minister. The motion is in order. To the motion, Mr. Minister, would you like to speak to the motion?

MR. POTTLE: Auka UKâtik. Nakummek.

MR. SPEAKER: Does anyone else like to speak to the motion? If no other members wishes to speak, does the Minister wish to make final comments and close debate?

MR. POTTLE: I have no final comments, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to close debate. Nakummek.

MR. SPEAKER: And that concludes debate. All those in favour of the motion, please raise your hands. All those opposed to the motion? Motion is carried. The Financial Plan will be considered in Committee of the Whole at the appropriate time. Item 16, "First Reading of Bills." I recognize Minister of Finance and Nunatsiavut Treasurer, the Honourable Dan Pottle. Before you proceed, I would like to recess for lunch and we'll proceed after lunch. President Leo.

PRESIDENT LEO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Can I suggest that prior to going into the first reading that some definition or clarification on the difference between first reading and second reading be made to the Assembly Members because it's kind of confusing.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. It's considered and we will take that avenue, and we will do so after lunch with the approval of the Assembly. We'll shoot for one o'clock.

(Recess)

MR. SPEAKER: Before we enter into item 16, "First Reading of Bills," if the Assembly would allow me, I'd like to present a bit of information. So under Standing Order 16(1) would the Assembly allow me to provide the Assembly with some definitions and a brief explanation of what is about to happen? All in favour?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: And all those against? We are about enter into a first reading of bills, and this is the definition of a bill. A proposed law submitted to the Assembly for its approval. It may be introduced by a Minister, a government bill, a

private members bill. A bill may relate either to public or private interest. As per yesterday, as you may recall, the Honourable Dan Pottle presented a notice of motion for first reading of bills. This is in your Standing Orders, Standing Order 37. Before a bill is ready for first reading, 24 hours' notice is required from the Minister or a Member sponsoring the bill, which is what happened yesterday. Twenty-four notice is not required if the President declares that the bill is an emergency bill. Bills are usually introduced by the government and are confidential until first reading has taken place. Every bill shall have two separate readings on different days. This requirement may be waived by unanimous consent. They are always printed in English and *Inuttitut*. Now Standing Order 50, First Reading of Bills. First Reading Process. Under this item the sponsor of a bill moves that this bill will be now introduced and read for the first time. The mover reads only the title and the purpose of the bill. The motion requires a seconder. Debate at first reading is to the object, expediency, principles and merits of the bills. Basically, the over picture of the bill. Amendments may be moved at first reading. There are various time limits when speaking to a bill or an amendment. Refer to your time limits while speaking in the Assembly section. Process Options at Conclusion of Debate. The Assembly shall vote to reject a bill, vote to refer to the bill to a public hearing by a committee of the Assembly, vote to refer the bill for further study and consideration to a committee of the Assembly, or vote to refer to the bill ready for second reading. If the bill is voted ready for second reading, the bill shall not be read on a second

time until the expiry of 10 business days during which Labrador Inuit may make submissions or representations to the Assembly on the bill. The Assembly may unanimously consent waive (d) above, and if that occurs the bill will then proceed to second reading debate. (*Speaks in Inuttitut.*)

Second Reading of Bills, Standing Order 55. Under this item the sponsor of a bill moves that this bill will now be read for the second time. The motion requires a seconder. At second reading the details of the bill are reviewed clause by clause. Second reading is where we go into the details of the bill. If the bill under review is the appropriation bill with the operation a maintenance and capital budgets, the details and schedules are reviewed. Thank you. Item 16, "First Reading of Bills." I recognize the Minister of Finance and the Nunatsiavut Treasurer, Honourable Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek UKâtik. I move, seconded by the First Minister, the Honourable Kate Mitchell, that Bill 2015-01, the Budget Bill, be now introduced and read for the first time. Nakummek UKâtik.

MR. SPEAKER: Would you like to introduce the bill?

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek UKâtik. Bill Number 2015-01, the Budget Bill, would approve the budget for the fiscal year 2015-16 and authorize the Nunatsiavut Government to raise and collect revenues to spend money from the Nunatsiavut fund for the purposes set out in the budget.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order. Does anyone wish to speak to the principle of the bill?

MR. POTTLE: Just a point of order, I guess, Mr. Speaker. I just did a quick introduction of the bill. I had meant to speak to the motion. Nakummek.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Would you like to introduce the bill?

MR. POTTLE: Just quickly again, Mr. Speaker, I want to go through the explanatory note again, but in introducing the bill, Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise here today in this honourable house in my new Kamet to deliver our government's 2015-16 budget. Mr. Speaker, I had avoided for quite some time as this is my fifth budget bill to not to try and bring too many influences from the kablunak world, I guess, into our honourable house. But during my visit to Inuvik this summer I had longed for a new pair of Kamik and I found these beautiful ones so I bit the naluk, so to speak, and said that I'd try to put a little bit of a spin on the process in other government houses and thinking that is not appropriate at this time of year in Nunatsiavut to wear shoes I bit the naluk and bought new Kamet for my first time wearing new boots for the Budget Bill. First of all I want to thank the government departments, Mr. Speaker, for being fiscally responsible for ensuring the Nunatsiavut Government continues to remain financially strong and sound for providing input into this year's budget. In the five years, Mr. Speaker, that I have been Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology, we continue to balance our fiscal realities with the needs of our people and our communities. Our government, Mr. Speaker, is committed to doing things differently, more efficiently, and more effectively while never

forgetting who we are and celebrating our way of life. We all want to make life better for our people, Mr. Speaker. We want people to choose to stay in Nunatsiavut, to move to Nunatsiavut, to start and end their careers here and to raise their families here. To do so, Mr. Speaker, we must change some of the ways we do things and we must create conditions for economic growth and stability. In doing so we are building a stronger and healthier Nunatsiavut. This is the basis of the Nunatsiavut Government Strategic Plan and the foundation for the *Budget Act 2015*. In our commitment to change, Mr. Speaker, we recognize that housing remains one of the top priorities for the government. All Nunatsiavummiut should have access to affordable, quality housing. The Nunatsiavut Government remains committed to developing and implementing a long-term housing strategy to address all aspects of housing while continuing to address the current needs in our communities. An interdepartmental working group, Mr. Speaker, has been working diligently on this strategy and has made great headway on the foundation of this document. To that end, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that we have budgeted \$10.3 million from the *Fiscal Financing Agreement* or the FFA for housing for this year. Of that a total of \$2.4 million will be provided to Torngat Regional Housing Authority to continue its work in the five Inuit communities. We have committed, Mr. Speaker, \$1 million for the Healthy Homes Program, which encompasses many exciting initiatives including the multi-unit prototype home which incorporates Inuit traditions and lifestyles with a state of an art building

techniques, designed specifically for our climate, and geotechnical assessments of the Inuit communities to assist with community planning ensuring that development occurs in areas where buildings can be sustained for many years. Mr. Speaker, as we are all aware, it takes an enormous amount of money to implement any strategy, especially one that addresses an issue as complex and multi-faceted as housing. The remaining \$7 million, Mr. Speaker, is earmarked to implement the housing strategy and other housing initiatives. Mr. Speaker, our communities need access to efficient, reliable and sustainable energy. Capacity limitations have resulted in exorbitant heating costs for Nunatsiavummiut and it impedes economic growth in our region. The Nunatsiavut Secretariat has engaged the services of an energy consultant to assist with addressing the current and future energy needs, assessing energy security and assisting with the development of a long-term energy plan, which will include innovative ways to achieve energy security including green energy. As a result, Mr. Speaker, we have continued to budget funds of \$50,000 for this initiative. The Environment Division, Mr. Speaker, has budgeted \$75,000 to continue its work with the Inuit Community Governments on Sustainable Communities Initiative. This initiative will push the envelope on how we do things and how we can do things with an Inuit approach in our sub-Arctic climate. Mr. Speaker, in our commitment to economic growth, it is extremely important that Nunatsiavummiut are educated and well trained to take advantage of the economic opportunities that arise. The *Budget Act* has appropriated a

total \$5.7 million for post-secondary education programs and services. 2014-15 marked the transition year for an entry into the Inuit Bachelor of Education Program. A new and exciting program developed and funded jointly between Nunatsiavut Government and Memorial University. Our funding for this initiative comes directly from the FFA. Again, Mr. Speaker, for the 2015-16 year the Economic Development Division continues to invest \$240,000 in seminars, community programs and support for Inuit businesses. There is also a continued appropriation for the Community Economic Development Fund of \$300,000 to support community-based projects. The Nunatsiavut Government, Mr. Speaker, continues to raise funds for the development of our fishery through the collection of access fees from fishers and revenues from off-shore shrimp. The Department of Land and Natural Resources has engaged a consultant to assist with the development of a policy on multi-year designations and the use of the funds. To date, Mr. Speaker, we have just over \$1 million in this fund to take advantages of opportunities in the fishery. As these opportunities arise on short notice, Mr. Speaker, the funds have to be appropriated on an annual basis. The Non-renewable Resources Division has budgeted \$50,000 for promoting and marketing Nunatsiavut and our businesses in the mineral industry at events in order to educate industry on our region as a mineral destination. We are also engaging with the off-shore oil and gas industry to explore potential financial support from the industry towards projects in Nunatsiavut related to infrastructure development, programming and training, and

are planning a gathering of Inuit government representatives to discuss individual mining policies, best practises and improved co-operation. Mr. Speaker, in celebrating our culture and language, as we all know December 1st, 2015 marks our 10th anniversary as a government, an event that will be celebrated with all our beneficiaries and in our communities. The Nunatsiavut Secretariat, Mr. Speaker, will take the lead on this file and has budgeted \$25,000 for our celebrations. The Nunatsiavut Government is also committed to making the Illusuak Cultural Centre a reality. We have budgeted \$1.6 million in the 2015-16 fiscal year towards the construction of Illusuak, the same funds that were committed in previous years' budgets. Each component of construction will only be approved by the Nunatsiavut Executive Council as funds are available. Mr. Speaker, revitalization of our language is a huge priority for this government with many programs planned for the 2015-16 year including family *Inuttitut* nights, *Inuttitut* speak-offs and implementation of the Labrador *Inuttitut* Training Language Program. Mr. Speaker, we continue to receive \$44.7 million for secondary education in Nunatsiavut, of which funds are used for incorporating cultural activities and *Inuttitut* in the schools in each of our communities. The Department of Health and Social Development, Mr. Speaker, will receive \$21 million from the FFA to continue to deliver programs included, but not limited to, mental health and addictions, non-insured health benefits, suicide prevention and programming for youth and elders. These programs emphasize the importance of physical, mental, social and spiritual well-being and are

designed to build upon the strengths and resilience of Labrador Inuit. As I indicated earlier, Mr. Speaker, this marks our 10th anniversary. We have made many great strides in Nunatsiavut since becoming a government, and we remain cognizant that we still have a long way to go. We remain committed to implementing change while protecting our land, our way of life and our language. Mr. Speaker, the budget I will present here today has the full support of the Nunatsiavut Executive Council, and I trust, Mr. Speaker, the support of all Members of the Assembly. Nakummek UKâtik.

MR. SPEAKER:

The motion is in order. Does anyone wish to speak to the principle of the bill? If no other members wishes to speak, does the Minister of Finance and Nunatsiavut Treasurer wish to conclude debate? I recognize President Sarah Leo.

PRESIDENT LEO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to add my comment and support of this bill at this time before we go into the actual reading of it. The Minister of Finance and his department, I think, have done a great job in putting this bill together, but I think it takes the whole of the departments that have gone through their departments and recognize the needs that were in there, cut out the needs that weren't necessary to come up with this fine budget. Obviously, we're not increasing any dollars. We had to work with what we have, but we also have a need to provide more capacity within our government. We are a growing government. We have needs with regards to infrastructure with regards

to human resources that we have to try and fit into our limited resources. I want to comment on just a couple of points in there without getting into the intent of the bill. A lot of the initiatives that are introduced in this isn't a matter of giving money out from the government. It's a matter of how the departments have come together and look at different programs, initiatives and strategies so that we can build that self-reliance back into our people. I think we've lost a lot of it. I think we've become a community and a society of where people expect the government just to give them stuff. Give me a house. Give me this. Give me that. That's not how we were and that's not where we came from. And we need to build that back and by coming up with a housing strategy that not only just builds houses, but offers more of a strategy to help people, if they can, find a way to help them get their own mortgage. Find a way to help them build their own house. Help them along instead of just giving. And I think this is how a lot of the departments have looked, and I think how, I hope, we are moving toward ahead as a government, and part of this will come out in the budget. It's not a matter of just us, as a government, putting money on the table and saying here. It's a matter of us looking at the bigger picture, looking at strategies so we, again, get that self-reliance back as Inuit. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

If no other members wishes to speak, does the Minister of Finance and Nunatsiavut Treasurer wish to conclude debate?

MR. POTTLE:

Yes, Mr. Speaker, I wish to conclude debate. Nakummek.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Minister. That concludes debate on first reading. Is the Assembly in favour of approving Bill 2015-01 on first reading? All those in favour?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: All those opposed? The motion is carried and accordingly Bill 2015-01, the Budget Bill 2015, has had first reading. I would like to recognize the Minister of Finance.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek UKâtik. In accordance with Standing Order 54.3 I seek unanimous consent to waive Standing Order 54.1(d) to have the Assembly proceed to second reading of Bill 2015-01, the Budget Bill 2015. Nakummek UKâtik.

MR. SPEAKER: Nakummek. The Minister is seeking unanimous consent to waive Standing Order 54(1)(d) to proceed with second reading of Bill 2015-01, the Budget Bill, 2015. Are there any nays? There is none. Minister, you have unanimous consent so the bill can proceed to second reading at the appropriate time. Item 17, "Second Reading of Bills." I would like to recognize the Minister of Finance for the second reading of bills.

MR. POTTLE: Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make a motion in accordance with Standing Order 42 to allow for consideration of the Budget Bill in the Committee of the Whole. Therefore I move, seconded by the First Minister, the Honourable Kate Mitchell, that Bill 2015-01 be referred to the Committee of the Whole for consideration with witnesses.
Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Nakummek. Mr. Minister, the motion is in order. To the motion, all those in favour?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: All those opposed? The motion is carried. We are now in Committee of the Whole. Honourable Minister of Finance, would you like to invite witnesses into Committee of the Whole?

MR. POTTLE: Yes, Mr. Chair, I'd like to call the Controller of Nunatsiavut Government, the Deputy Minister of Finance, Rexanne Crawford, please.

MR. SPEAKER: The Assembly calls Mrs. Rexanne Crawford, Committee of the Whole. We'll now move into Committee of the Whole to consider the Budget Bill. The procedure for second reading debate will be a page-by-page, clause-by-clause review of the budget. The committee will first consider the annex to the bill page by page beginning on page seven under Tab 6. Once this has been completed we'll then go to page two of the bill and go clause by clause. If members have comments or questions on any page of the bill you each have 10 minutes at a time. If you still have questions or comments once all the other members have spoken, you'll be given another opportunity to speak. I will call members to the attention to page seven, Annex A, and each item. Annex A, Consolidated Financial Plan of the Nunatsiavut Government for the fiscal year beginning April 1st, 2015 and ending March 31st, 2016. Department Nunatsiavut Assembly: 2,885,500.

PRESIDENT LEO: Sorry, can we get a copy for the translators, please?

MR. SPEAKER: Of course. I will continue. Annex A, Consolidated Financial Plan of the Nunatsiavut Government for the fiscal year beginning April 1st, 2015 and ending March 31st, 2016. Total: 77,752,125. Are there any questions? We will now go to page seven. Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: We will now go to page two. I'm still on the Annex so, please bear with me. This is the Nunatsiavut Government Projected Revenue and Expenditure April 1st, 2015 to March 31st, 2016. Total: 77,752,125. Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Questions? Nunatsiavut Government Projected Sources of Revenue April 1st, 2015, March 31st, 2016, 23,531,150. Questions? Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Nunatsiavut Government Projected Budget April 1st, 2015, March 31st, 2016, 23,531,150. Questions? Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Page 11, Nunatsiavut Government Projected Budget Five- Year Plan year ended March 31st. Question? Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Nunatsiavut Government total department, April 1st, 2015, March 31st, 2016. That's on page 12. Total: 16,486,000. Question? Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Nunatsiavut Government Nunatsiavut Assembly April 1st, 2015, March 31st, 2016, 2,885,500. Page 13. Question? Question? Joe Dicker, AngajukKâk, Nain.

MR. DICKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I notice that for the government and the Assembly for travel for the next fiscal year it's only \$220,000 for the government and the Assembly. Is that correct?

MR. SPEAKER: Ms Rexanne Crawford, Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE: No, that's just a travel for the Assembly itself. Joe, if you go to the spreadsheet that has the different allocations department by department, you'll notice in the line items there's a travel budget specifically for each department, and again this \$220,000 on page 13 is specifically for travel for the House of Assembly.

MR. DICKER: Thank you. That's better.

MR. SPEAKER: Question? Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Jim Tuttau.

MR. TUTTAUK: This is going to come to the JMC's about the JMC. Since we got allotments budgeted for all the departments there, does that mean that we can, you know, possibly cut back on our teleconferences for our JMC managers and I believe it was agreed to before that four face-to-face meetings with the JMC's so that we can, I guess you can say klutz, fight or

barter for our share of the whatever pot that's coming from Nunatsiavut to help us out with our communities for our capital works projects.

MR. SPEAKER:

I'll defer this question to Deputy Minister Crawford.

MS CRAWFORD:

I'm going to speak specifically to the travel budget on as per department, and I'll turn it over to the Treasurer on the JMC. As you'll note on page 12 there is about \$1.2 million budgeted for travel, and that is travel allocated by department for us to meet some of our commitments and travelling for various meetings or programming or things as that sort. So, you know, the Secretariat has \$204,000 budgeted for travel, which would include travel to ITK, ICC, as well as various other requirements. So this is not specific to Joint Management Committee meetings. This is about travel per department by those officials and employees of each department.

MR. SPEAKER:

You'd like to add something, sir?

MR. POTTLE:

Yes, and just further to that, I mean, you know, as the Controller has stated, what you see on page 12 relative to each of the departments and the travel allocated for that, by way of example, travel in the Department of Finance, HR, Information Technology, the travel dollars under our department pays for my cost of travel to the Joint Management Committee. The AngajukKâk participation in the Joint Management Committee to funds budgeted for such participation at Joint Management Committee comes out of the overall operating costs for the individual Inuit Community Governments. So that's something that the

Inuit Community Governments budget for as part of their overall operating costs for their participation in Joint Management Committee. And not to, I guess, dismiss Mr. Tuttauq's concerns with respect to Joint Management Committee; I just refer Members of the Assembly to the *Financial Administration Act*. In particular Part V of the *Financial Administration Act* relative to Inuit Community Government funding. The Part V of the *Financial Administration Act*, specifically Section 30, speaks to the Inuit Joint Management Committee. It sets out, specifically, the purpose of the Joint Management Committee, and as per the *Financial Administration Act*, the Joint Management Committee must meet at once in each fiscal year for the purpose of assisting the Treasurer in the preparation and submission of a proposed Draft Consolidated Plan for financial-, Nunatsiavut Government under Section 19. And it takes into consideration the budgets of the Inuit Community Governments, and the committee may meet at additional times and at such places as may be determined by Chairperson. We did have some discussion at the last Joint Management teleconference and that was for discussion purposes only and to revisit the number of times that the Joint Management Committee meets. Traditionally, and it's been a carryover from my time, when I came in as the Minister of Finance and a standard that was set by the previous Minister of Finance carrying on the practises that were coming out of the old *Newfoundland and Labrador Native People's Agreement*. When the communities received funds for their operating processes under that old *Native People's Agreement*, it was decided at

that point in time that the communities would meet four times a year with funding from that *Agreement*, and that had a tendency to carry over into Nunatsiavut Government. My intent of having the discussion with the Joint Management Committee was to revisit that. We did not make a final decision on the number of meetings that we would have. The main purpose of the Joint Management Committee when we have a face-to-face meeting the, how can I say, the one required meeting that we have is very specific to capital works funding for Inuit Community Governments. Throughout the process the Inuit Community Governments are asked to identify their priorities for capital works funding for any given year relative and specific to their five-year community plans. There has been no decision at this point in time whether or not we're going to carry on with other face-to-face meetings and, again, I think I alluded to in the budget speech some of the things that we're trying to do to make things more effective and efficient, and to try and save on some of our costs in our limited dollars was to look at the need for four Joint Management Committee meetings a year. Outside of the crucial, I guess, for lack of a better word, meeting that we have to decide an allocate dollars for capital works, the other three meetings are specific to updates on capital works projects and updates and presenting quarterly financial statements. So I just wanted some dialogue at that point in time with the Joint Management Committee to flesh out people's thinking and notion is it required to take two days and spend dollars that we could probably be using elsewhere at the Inuit Community

Government level to hold a meeting that we had for a half a day. Could we achieve more efficient and better cost and use of money by holding those three meetings by teleconference? So, again, we had the final, I think, thinking with the last Joint Management Committee was that there would be more thought given to this and we would continue our discussion on this at the next Joint Management Committee meeting which is scheduled for June. So, again, I mean, you know, if you go back to the *Financial Administration Act*, the Joint Management Committee may meet at additional times and at such places as determined by the Chairperson. That being said, under Section 33 of the *Financial Administration Act* the AngajukKâk may requisition meetings, and if all of the AngajukKâk sign a letter asking the Chairperson to convene a meeting then the Treasurer has to hold such meetings. So, I mean, there's been no decision, I guess, is what I've been trying to say on whether or not we're going to continue with four face-to-face meetings, or if we're going to take a different approach to that, and that was the whole intent of that discussion at the time. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

MR. SPEAKER:

Gary Mitchell.

MR. MITCHELL:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can I ask a question on page 12? Like, we already carried it, but in looking back at it I have a couple questions on some figures there.

MR. SPEAKER:

Page 12 has been agreed to. If you would like further explanation we could, with the approval of the Finance Minister, proceed and answer the question.

MR. POTTLE:

I think, in all fairness, just to each Assembly Member and, I mean, the process may be moving a little bit fast and maybe people are not understanding. I mean, you know, you have the right to ask questions relative to what's under discussion page by page or, I mean, I have no problem, with the consent of the Chair, to go back and revisit and allow you time to ask specific questions, sure.

PRESIDENT LEO:

Sorry. And I'm just sort of going to pick up on what the Minister of Finance says, and given Mr. Mitchell's question, I think we are proceeding a little fast. And I think maybe it's because the Assembly Members aren't aware of-, they know we're going through second reading. Can I just say, this is your opportunity to ask. If you see a page and you see numbers on it, ask your questions. Now this is your opportunity to ask about these dollar amounts, how they're being spent, what they're being funded for. This will be your one and only chance to ask on the budget, and I think maybe it was-, I know it's a bit overwhelming when you're looking at these numbers. You're looking at the budget, but you're looking at the whole process. But I think that's why we're in a Committee of the Whole so we can go through this. But when it comes to a page, if you have any questions on it this is your time to ask those questions.

MR. SPEAKER: All right. That being said I'll entertain this question for explanation purposes. Mr. Mitchell, please proceed.

MR. MITCHELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reason I didn't ask, because I thought there was a breakdown further on, like, on page 6 there's a Total Department Budget, give us a little bit of breakdown. That's why I didn't ask on when we come to the figures here. But I will ask the question. On page 12 with regards to Program Allocations Funding. Lands and Resources up to \$1,464,000, why is that department up so high for programs when the other departments are significantly lower?

MR. SPEAKER: Ms Crawford.

MS CRAWFORD: As you may have heard the Minister speak about in his budget speech about the fishing fund. I have some details here; the Nunatsiavut Government has established a fund for the purchase of fishing opportunities, such as quotas and licenses. So if you look under programs there is just over a million dollars budgeted in the event that there is a fishing opportunity to be purchased. And on the revenue side, so you see \$1.387 million in revenue. Just over a million dollars of that is our revenue from our fishing fund. So they're an offset. So while, you know, it's under programs. If we don't have the money budgeted, if an opportunity came up during this year, we wouldn't be able to act on it immediately. And as we're all aware in the fishery, you need to act quickly doing your due diligence, but opportunities can come and go, and we may not have the opportunity to come back to the Assembly and

provide legislation to give us authority to do so. So it is a bit of an anomaly looking at it, you know, cold, but that's what over a million dollars of it is. The other programs the department will be doing and has budgeted for is 75,000 for Sustainable Communities, 150,000 for the continuation of the Lake Melville Baseline Study that's being done in relation to the Muskrat Falls Project.

MR. MITCHELL: A further question, sorry. Thank you. I have a couple more questions regard to page 12.

MR. SPEAKER: We'll come back to your questions.

MR. MITCHELL: Okay.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Joe Dicker, you had a question.

MR. DICKER: Mr. Speaker, I would prefer that a supplementary question be asked to Mr. Tuttauk as he was getting answered by Minister Pottle. And then if I have the opportunity I would like to ask then.

MR. SPEAKER: I believe yes, that actually would suit the purposes fine because I believe that you are next in line. Yeah, you may proceed.

MR. TUTTAUK: All right, thank you. Just another part to that question for the Minister of Finance. Having said that, you know, there's slotted in the Inuit community budgets. Then, you know, if it's slotted in our budgets then why does the Minister have the final authorization to say that we need to save money, and as per saying whether it's to be decided by the committee, or we have to write a letter stating that, you know, we'd like

more face-to-face meetings, I have to, you know, stress that, you know, whether to make it understandable that these JMC's are very, very important, and I'm not saying that you're not aware of this, Minister, but it is very important to our communities that we sit down and work out a strategy...

MR. SPEAKER: A point of order.

PRESIDENT LEO: I'd like to call a point of order. While I think it's important and I understand the frustration with the AngajukKâk with regards to the Joint Management and the frequency and timing of meetings, I don't think this is the place. We're discussing the budgets right now. So I don't think this is appropriate. I think what we need to have is we're here for two days. There's no reason why when we first get here that the AngajukKâk can't sit down with the First Minister and myself as the Minister responsible for Intergovernmental Affairs and have a discussion about this. I'm calling a point of order because I don't think it's appropriate that this discussion be taking place during the budget itself.

MR. SPEAKER: Point of order has been noted and I'll remind AngajukKâk Jim Tuttau that questioning must be in regards to the Budget Bill that has been presented today in Committee of the Whole.

MR. TUTTAUK: Nakummek. Thank you and I guess we'll have to get together at some other time to discuss this. Thank you very much.

MR. SPEAKER: Questions? Gary Mitchell.

MR. MITCHELL:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now my second question regard to page 12 is Membership Committee Meetings and Workshops. In that line all we see is \$250,000 under Nunatsiavut Affairs. I'd like to know why there isn't a breakdown of committee meetings and workshops budgeted for other departments because I'm sure other departments have meetings and workshops and be nice to know what departments are spending the most on committee meetings and workshops. Maybe they all come under Nunatsiavut Affairs, but why isn't there any dollars listed under their departments when they themselves have the meetings and workshops, you know what I mean?

MS CRAWFORD:

That line item is specific to the Membership Committee and Inuit Appeal Board, and the one which they hold an annual workshop once year plus the meetings from the Membership Committee. So it's not specific to a committee under finance having training. That is very specific for that role and it falls under the Nunatsiavut Affairs.

MR. MITCHELL:

Thank you. I have one more, can I ask it now?

MR. SPEAKER:

Yes.

MR. MITCHELL:

Okay. Now I overlooked the Membership Committee meetings. I was just thinking about committee meetings. The other one is regard to heat and light, further to the bottom of page 12. We see some figures there under some departments, like Nunatsiavut Affairs, Lands and Resources and Administration, I believe. We have offices in all of the communities

so why isn't there heat and light budgeted for those other offices? Thank you.

MS CRAWFORD:

The breakdown for heat and light, well, as you're aware, Nunatsiavut Affairs, one of their divisions is Public Property. Some of that falls under heating and light under some of the public properties. It's also budgeted under Administration in relation to some of the main administration buildings and we could put it all in one and some of it's just broken out between the two. Lands and Natural Resources, there are a couple of properties that we pay heat and light as well, and those are specific to a particular functional area. Off the top of my head I can't exactly tell you what property, but it's not specific to community. It's specific to the function of what that department does.

MR. SPEAKER:

Question? Tyler Edmunds.

MR. EDMUNDS:

Thank you, Mr. Chair. While we are on page 12 I was just curious about the programming costs under the department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism. Earlier the Minister mentioned that we're trying to implement new programming under the Department of Culture, like, the Family *Inuttitut* Nights, and I'm not sure if that's entirely new or not plus, okay, the continuance then of that plus another more development with the LITP, I guess. Can all those things still be done with that budget? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

MR. SPEAKER:

So the answer to that question was yes?

MS CRAWFORD:

Yes. So under the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism there are programming dollars allocated for different language initiatives, cultural initiatives, tourism initiatives, and while, you know, we have funds that we feel are adequate to start allotted, continue with programming, start the implementation of others, we're always seeking other outsource, other funding. Like federal agencies, as well, always help supplement some of our programs as well. And that's across all departments.

MR. SPEAKER:

Question? Comment?

MR. POTTLE:

Just a comment, if I may, Mr. Chair. I mean, even though most of the questions are being fielded to me and the Controller, I don't think it precludes if any Minister wants to step in and add additional information relative to any question on any of their departmental spending or line items related to the budget as well. So, I mean, oh, feel free if a Minister wants to give further input, I mean, you know, they can have the opportunity to do that as well. And just, I guess, one other quick comment. Usually what we had done in the past was, I mean, we'd go through the Word document of the Financial Plan before we get into some of the details here. So this is meant to compliment too. So, I mean, you know, if before you ask your question, if you've read this, the answer might already be in the Word document itself too. It's meant to compliment what's here as well. That's why we tabled the Financial Plan yesterday in the house.

MR. SPEAKER: Just for clarification also, documentation has been sent to the Members in February. Joe Dicker, Nain.

MR. DICKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is, I guess, to the Minister of Finance. Yesterday it was mentioned that the Chief Electoral Officer position is now vacant. Have we-, I was trying to find it in here somewhere, but just the only place I can find it I think it's under Election Costs, 45,500 under the Nunatsiavut Government Assembly. I don't know if I missed the boat yesterday, but I did not hear if we were going to be looking for or trying to recruit a new Chief Electoral Officer. And if so, is that in the budget for this year or was it for next year? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Dan Pottle, you like to add something to the same question?

MR. POTTLE: Yes, if you recall, yesterday when the Committee of the Whole entertained and had some discussion on the Assembly budget itself and the report from the Committee on Rules and Procedures, we spoke to the Committee on Rules and Procedures, identified the need because there was a vacancy within the Nunatsiavut Electoral Officer. We drafted the terms of reference and put out an expression of interest specifically for that, and I believe the deadline for receipt of expressions of interest for the NEO is the end of March this year. And as you go back to the Assembly budget, part of that total overall election costs covers the cost associated with the Nunatsiavut Electoral Officer.

MR. SPEAKER: Just also for clarification, yesterday when we were in Committee of the Whole there was provision for a by-election and all this was in the Assembly report. Mr. Tuttauk.

MR. TUTTAUK: I guess this is more a statement than a question. I think the times that me and the Minister have had our disagreements on JMC's and whatever, I'd like to commend the Minister and his staff for this budget they've done up there, and I've had some previous experience on budgeting and it's a very tough job. I just commend him and his staff on a wonderful job on the budget. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Questions? Comments? We'll proceed to page 13. I will repeat, page 13, Nunatsiavut Government, Nunatsiavut Assembly, April 1st, 2015, March 31st, 2016, 2,885,500. Question? Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Nunatsiavut Government *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement* Implementation Plan. Question? Do you have a comment, Ms Crawford?

MS CRAWFORD: Yes. I just want to explain that this budget related to the Implementation Plan comes from Annex D of the Implementation Plan, which is the document about 900 pages, and this has been agreed to between the three parties that this is our share of the cost for those boards.

MR. SPEAKER: Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Nunatsiavut Government Capital Infrastructure Year Ended. Question?
Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Question?

MALE: Yes, I have one question on staff housing. Is this house staffing housing for Nain?

MS MITCHELL: Yes, that is. That is staff housing complex that we're putting up there and is six two-bedroom unit that'll be going up in Nain this year. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Question? Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Nunatsiavut Government *Fiscal Financing Agreement*. Projected April 1st, 2015, March 31st, 2016, 54,220,975. Comment?

MS CRAWFORD: I just want to explain under the revenue, you'll notice that there are 45.1 million noted from the Government of Canada. That is our allocation that we'll actually physically receive in cash this year. The next line item we have it called Internally Restricted. Those are funds that we have received in previous years, but have not spent in those years for various reasons. And our *Fiscal Financing Agreement* allows us the ability to carry over funds. So in the past when you're in a one-year contribution agreement, if you didn't spend it within the year you would lose the funds. So our *Fiscal Financing Agreement* now allows us to carry over funds so that we can plan either multi-year projects or a larger project,

such as the housing strategy, which the Minister spoke about in his speech. And so again according to our *Financial Administration Act*, if it's not budgeted we can't spend it in a particular year. So we have budgeted the amount that we have internally restricted which would allow us, should need arise, to spend it in the area as allocated.

MR. SPEAKER: Question? Gary Mitchell.

MR. MITCHELL: Regard to housing, I notice there's \$2 million for Torngat housing and over 7 million for housing. So does this tell me that in that year, this coming year, we're going to spend over \$7 million on housing besides Torngat housing's allotment?

MR. SPEAKER: Sarah Leo.

PRESIDENT LEO: No. If you recall in Minister Pottle's budget speech, and I believe in Minister Mitchell's statement, we talked about an investment in housing and a housing strategy and we talked about a \$10 million dollar investment in housing. That's what that \$10 million investment in housing, and you'll see the 2.4 budgeted for Torngat housing. That goes directly to Torngat to run the programs that they have. Those are actually not even housing dollars from the federal government. That's our governance dollars because we don't get any federal housing dollars. We don't get any dollars for housing at all. So we take that 2.4 out of our governance dollars and give it to Torngat. The other 7.8 million is all part of the work we're going to be doing on a housing strategy that's been talked about this week. It's talking about the geotechnical work. It's

talking about the model home that's going in Nain. All of those initiatives that we're working on so that we're building sustainable homes and we're not building just these cottages that are going to be falling apart in a year.

MR. MITCHELL:

Just if I may follow-up to that or is there actually going to be any houses built or just talking about the strategy because it's a lot of money just for preparation.

PRESIDENT LEO:

Well, we've spent a lot of money in building houses that are falling apart within five years. We've got to stop doing that. That's why we're coming up with a housing strategy. We also have to come up with a housing strategy so we're not just helping this small group of people that fall into Torngat guidelines. There's a lot more people on either side of those guidelines that need assistance. That's why we need a solid housing strategy so we're not in the housing crisis now in 20 years. We've got to fix this crisis. The only way to fix it is by coming up with a solid housing strategy. Out of that 10 million, that 2.4, Torngat will continue to do its work in the communities in doing their repairs and building homes. We're also out of that 7.8. We're building that model unit in Nain. So we can start looking at best practises. So there is some investment in actual wood and beams and whatnot.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE:

If I just may add to what the President said. And to reiterate, I mean, you know, we're looking at building a housing strategy. I mean, there's no

point in building a housing strategy if you have no dollars to implement it. That's some of the reasons too why the dollars are earmarked for housing as part of the overall housing strategy. It's not just for a development of a strategy, but is for the implementation of that strategy once the strategy is developed and we need to implement that many dollars to implement the strategy as well.

MR. SPEAKER: Jim Tuttauk.

MR. TUTTAUK: Thank you. Nakummek. President Leo just stated about housing strategy there. We were also looking at, especially here in Hopedale, we were looking at also coming up with a different strategy. We are just at the early planning stages yet. We're going to get together. I think what we're going to look at is building up because we don't have much land left. That's the only thing we can do. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Question? In regards to Nunatsiavut Government Fiscal Financing Agreement projected April 1st, 2015, March 31st, 2016, agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Nunatsiavut Government *Fiscal Financing Agreement* April 1st, 2015, March 31st, 2016. Page 17. Question? Diane Gear.

MS GEAR: It's not a question. It's more of a comment. We've had our budget frozen, and I just wanted you all to know that since our budget's been frozen we've had to increase all our taxes, our equipment rentals, everything. So it's really put a hardship on our community. And being the smallest community on the coast, you don't have as many taxpayers

as the bigger community. So I just wanted to stress that it's really put a burden on our community. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Question? Dan Pottle.

MR. POTTLE: Just a quick comment, if I may, Mr. Speaker. I mean, one of things as per the *Labrador Inuit Constitution*, Nunatsiavut Government cannot operate in a deficit and looking at, I mean, the allocations and the dollars coming out of the *Fiscal Financing Agreement* to support the Inuit Community Governments, the same can be said for Inuit Community Governments. As per the *Constitution*, we can't operate in a deficit. That's one of the challenges when you're working with a limited amount of dollars and to look at, and that's why we, I think, do so much work. In preparation of our budget is to encourage all departments and communities to look at where your priorities need, where your priorities lay and to weigh those priorities against the dollars that we have. So, I mean, you know, it's a hard exercise, but we've achieved that year over year and we're required to do that. So, like any department, community governments too should be looking at, you know, priorities and maybe looking to streamline some things that you're doing, too, with respect to the dollars that you have. So just some food for thought, I guess, in the fact that as per the *Constitution*, the government or the Inuit Community Governments are not allowed to operate in deficit.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. I'd like to inform the Assembly the rules of debate under the Standing Orders. In debate a member will be called to order by the

speaker if the member-, this is under 19.2 Section C, raises matters which have been decided during the current session. Just for the information of the Assembly. Sarah Leo, President Leo.

PRESIDENT LEO:

I just wanted to make a comment on the AngajukKâk for Postville's comment with regards to the allocation of the capital works dollars, or the operating dollars for the community governments. I'm going to speak a little bit from my experience as AngajukKâk, but also as Minister responsible for Intergovernmental Affairs. AngajukKâk Gear had pointed out that being a smaller community, you have a smaller base to draw taxes from. On the other side, being a larger community you have more businesses and homes and services to provide. So your costs are more. So it works both ways. I think this reallocation of the community government budgets was long overdue. I know the struggles, again from my experience as the AngajukKâk in Nain, in trying to fit the services that you have to provide to a community of 1,200 people and almost 400 homes, residences and businesses on a very limited budget. It's a large struggle. I can understand the smaller communities having their struggles, but I think it's only fair that this allocation was done and brought in line so that each of the communities are working from the same constraints of trying to fit within their budget rated to the size of their community.

MR. SPEAKER:

Any other questions? Agreed?

ASSEMBLY:

Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Page 17. We will now go to page two of Nunatsiavut Assembly Bill Number 2015. Page two, Interpretation. Page two, clause one, Short Title, agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Clause two, agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Page three, clause three, Budget Approved and Adopted. Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Clause four, Authorizations Respecting Revenues. Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Page four, clause five, agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Clause six, Payments Must be Authorized. Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Clause seven. Time Limit on Payments Authorized Under this Act. Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Pages four, five and six. Clause eight. Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Question?

MR. DICKER:? Can somebody explain to me exactly appropriations so I can understand it better?

MR. SPEAKER: Rexanne Crawford.

MS CRAWFORD: Appropriations means it has to be budgeted. In a very simple word, but it's a legal term to say that it's budgeted for a certain amount. So we've appropriated for a certain purpose.

MR. SPEAKER: Page six, clause nine, Authorization for the Payments of Loans, Guarantees and Indemnities. Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Clause 10. Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Clause 11, agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Roy Blake, question?

MR. BLAKE: Excuse me, sir. When you're asking these clauses, am I supposed to be reading these? You're just going too fast. I can't keep up.

MR. SPEAKER: You've had the documents. They should have been read already.

MR. BLAKE: Okay, sir.

MR. SPEAKER: ...prior.

MR. BLAKE: Okay, thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Clause 12, Effective Date, agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: That concludes the clause-by-clause and annex review of the bill. Does the Minister wish to conclude debate?

MR. POTTLE: Just final comments, Mr. Speaker, and I thank again the Honourable Members of this house for your due diligence in reviewing the Budget Bill and the Financial Plan prior to our debate on first and second reading today. I know it's sometimes hard when we're moving at the speed that we sometimes move at, but, I mean, I think it's incumbent and that's why the Office of the Clerk and the Speaker requires that things are received by your respective offices 10 days prior to the sitting of the house so that the Clerk has time to compile all the information and to send out the information and get it in the hands of the Assembly Members before we actually come to sit. But that being said, I know this is new to some people and I thank you for your support on the Budget Bill. It's not always easy. We're not always going to agree. I think sometimes we had to agree to disagree at times but, I mean, you know, this is not only-, this process happens once a year but, I mean, you know, at any time during the year if anybody has any questions or comments on the budget itself as it is passed and being implemented and monitored throughout the year, Finance is always here, and we'll certainly work with you to help you understand and answer any questions that you may have going forward. So I thank you again for your support on first and second reading for the bill. Nakummek UKâtik.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Granted, this is the end of the year review, budgetary time with Nunatsiavut Government, Nunatsiavut Assembly as with other governments. And, as such, Finance Ministers do have new boots on this time of year. Yes. Does anyone else wish to have final comments to this bill? I recognize Gary Mitchell.

MR. MITCHELL: I have a comment to make because there's something further on in this section that I never had a chance to ask. But it was put in there, but we didn't go over the total department budget

MR. POTTLE: Financial Plan.

MR. MITCHELL: Your financial plan. Are we going through the financial plan or was that it?

MR. SPEAKER: Would you like to proceed with the Financial Plan?

MR. POTTLE: I believe that has to be your call. It's not mine, Mr. Chair, but what we had done previous and, again, this is your first time going through a Budget Bill. In the past before we got into the Annex or the Budget Bill itself, which is attached to the Financial Plan, historically, what we've done is we went through the Financial Plan which is just, I guess, verbiage, a Word document to help you understand in more detail what you see in the Budget Bill itself. It's meant to, I guess, compliment the Budget Bill to give you more information relative to what's in the Budget Bill itself so that it could help you understand the appropriations, the expenditures and so forth. So, I mean, it's meant to be, I think, reviewed and that's why, again, the Speaker and the Clerk's Office requires

documentation 10 days before the Assembly sits so that people do have time to review it. And, again, it's not my call. I think, you know, the speaker would call me out of order if he thinks I am, but we've just gone through second reading of the Budget Bill in the Committee of the Whole and now to go back and entertain more discussion on the Financial Plan, I don't know how beneficial that would be, but that's not my call. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. We will now proceed page by page with the Financial Plan 2015, 2016. Page two. Questions?

MS FORD: They have that.

MS CRAWFORD: It's attached to the back of the *Budget Act*. I think it's, actually when it was printed, it seemed to be printed to the last page of the *Budget Act*.

MR. SPEAKER: Just waiting on a copy. Does the translators have a copy?

TRANSLATORS: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay. Proceed, you have a comment, Sarah Leo.

PRESIDENT LEO: Sorry, I think we've just sort of been overwhelmed with numbers and a lot of information in the actual meat of the budget. Can we just maybe take a brain clear before we get into this? Would it be appropriate? Tell me I'm out of line or tell me I can't say anything, but...

MR. SPEAKER: I think we can go through this. Not much to cover in the Financial Plan if you review it. Page two, Financial Plan 2015-2016. Page two, agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Page three, sources of revenue. Questions? Page three, agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Page four, questions? Page four, agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Page five, Projected Budget and Five-year Plan. Questions? Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Page six, Total Department Budget. Questions? Gary Mitchell.

MR. MITCHELL: This question is in regard to page six, seven and eight because it takes in the Total Department Budget. My question after reading this is why are there only two directors considered for those departments when the rest of them don't have any directors, do you know what I mean? There's two directors coming on stream, I understand, in two departments, and isn't there enough work for all departments to have a director? Shouldn't each department be equal with a director in each department?

MS CRAWFORD: All departments have directors. This is just highlighting two new directors that will be taking on certain roles in the department. So in my department as Finance, HR and IT, I serve as Director of Finance. I have a director of Human Resources and a Director of Information Technology. So the two that are specifically referenced in this document are new and will be new positions being filled if the budget is approved.

MR. SPEAKER: Any further questions? Gary Mitchell.

MR. MITCHELL: Now I understand that some director positions are rolled in with other positions, but are these director positions just solely to be a director because I understand some departments have director and other responsibilities.

MR. POTTLE: Yes, they're new positions, new created positions as directors of the department. Director of Lands and Director of Culture, specifically.
Okay, sorry, Darryl.

MR. SPEAKER: Please proceed, Darryl.

MR. SHIWAK: One of the director positions that you're referring to is Director of Lands. We, as a department, took the initiative. We have identified that there is a need for a full-time director. There's already a full-time Director of Lands, but the duties were split between the Deputy Minister and the Director of Lands. The work in the division of lands is-, there's a lot of work to be done, and there's also a lot of work to be done on a Deputy Minister's Office as well to the whole department, and through our review of the department, it was found that a lot of the duties for the lands work being accomplished because the duties for the Deputy Minister were so overwhelming that you couldn't concentrate on the files as much as you could. So we identified a need for just a full-time Director of Lands. That's why we asked the Executive Council to budget it.

MR. SPEAKER: Richard Pamak, would you like to add any in addition to that, any comments?

MR. PAMAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Very similar to what the Minister Shiwak had to say, too, as well. Within our department we have two directors. We have Director of Tourism and we also have Director of Culture. But the Director of Culture was a shared with the Deputy Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism. So this is now going to be a new position within our culture. And now we don't have a director at this time for recreation, and we don't forecast a director of recreation at this point. But certainly we're undergoing a Recreation Strategic Plan and we'll see what comes out of that, but for our Department of Culture, Recreation a director was held by the Deputy Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism. This will be a new position for us. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you for your clarification on that matter. Page six, agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Page seven, question? Agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Page eight, question? Page eight, agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Page nine, question? Page nine, agreed?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: That concludes a page-by-page review of the 2015-2016 Financial Plan.
Does the Minister wish to conclude debate?

MR. POTTLE: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I wish to conclude debate. Nakummek.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. That concludes debate. All those in favour of second reading of bill 2015-01, the Budget Bill 2015, say aye?

ASSEMBLY: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: All those opposed? The motion is carried. Accordingly, Bill 2015-01, the Budget Bill 2015 has had second reading. I would like to thank the Minister and the witness. We are now back in Assembly, and we shall recess. We shall now recess till 10 after 3:00.

(Recess)

MR. SPEAKER: Item 18, "Assent to Bills." Madam President, the Assembly has given second reading to Bill 2015-01 and wish to present it for assent.

PRESIDENT LEO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the other Members of the Assembly. By the authority vested in me under the *Labrador Inuit Constitution* and the *Nunatsiavut Law Registration Act*, I hereby grant my assent to the *Budget Act 2015-16*.

MR. SPEAKER: Nakummek. Item 19, "Adjournment." I wish to thank the Ministers and Members for their contributions, and I give special mention to the interpreter/translators who are Rita Andersen, Augusta Irving and Wilson Jararuse. To the pages, Amber Saksiagak, Julia Pijogge and, of course, Tabea Onalik, Nakummek. To Andrew Hamel, from IT, as well, we'd like to recognize the OkâlaKatiget staff, Simone Kolmeister and Johansi Tuglavina and to the Assistant Clerk, Hilda Hunter. The Assembly is now adjourned and next session is scheduled for the week of June 1st to the 5th, 2015. Nakummek.