



Nunatsiavut kavamanga
Nunatsiavut Government

**FIFTH ASSEMBLY
OF
NUNATSIAVUT**

SPRING SESSION 9th Session 3RD - SITTING

**kAVAMALIGIJET
KAUJITITSIUTINGA
PARLIAMENTARY REPORT**

In Attendance:

Speaker and Ordinary Member for Canada, Honourable Bryan Winters

Deputy Speaker and Ordinary Member for Canada, Honourable Roland Saunders

President of Nunatsiavut, Honourable Johannes Lampe

First Minister and Ordinary Member for Rigolet Honourable Melva Williams

Minister of Lands and Natural Resources and Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Honourable Terry Vincent

Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology and Ordinary Member for Makkovik Honourable Thomas Evans

Minister of Language Cultural and Tourism, Ordinary Member for Nain David Dicker Jr

Minister of Health and Social Development and Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, Honourable Gerald Asivak

Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen

Ordinary Member for Postville, Mr. George Gear

Ordinary Member for Nain Roxanne Barbour

AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Mr. Barry Andersen

AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Mr. Chesley Sheppard

AngajukKâk for Postville, Ms. Diane Gear

AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Mrs .Marjorie Flowers

AngajukKâk for Nain, Mr. Anthony Andersen

Chair Person for the NunaKâtiget Inuit Community Corporation, Ms. Patricia Kemuksigak

Chair Person of the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation, Mr. Jeffrey Montague

Director of Legal Services, Mr. Mark Gillette

Absent:

Legal Counsel, Mr. Kevin Maher

Director of Lands and Natural Resources and Information Technology Brent Denniston

MR. WINTERS: *Ullâkut.* Welcome to Day One of the Assembly. I'd like to call to order the Third Sitting of the Nunatsiavut Spring Session and ask President Lampe to say the opening prayer.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: [Recites prayer in Inuttitut]

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* For the interpreters' booth, yes, we can hear you and I'm sending one of the techs to give you a hand. *Nakummek.* Interpreters' booth, can you hear us now? Yes? Toby, can you hear us? Ches, can you hear us? I cannot hear you. Yeah, we got it, yeah. It's very low though. Still very low. It might be picking up from the other headset. That's it. Can you unplug and remove that other headset to get rid of this confusion please? *Nakummek.* Toby, just make sure that you're turning on and off the channel as you speak and as you don't need to speak, so that we're not getting all of the noise from the room, please. *Nakummek.* Item Two is, "The Opening Address."

MR. A. ANDERSEN: Point of Order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek,* Tony.

MR. A. ANDERSEN: I know what you're thinking too. He's back, and he's already on a Point of Order. Just wondering, Mr. Speaker, and I don't even know if I can stand on a Point of Order 'cause I'm not sworn in as an Assembly Member and I don't know that I can participate in these proceedings without being sworn in. Is that a fair question?

MR. WINTERS: I think that's a fair question. It was my understanding that AngajukKâk are sworn in in the home community at the ICG, not at the Assembly. Is that correct, Mr. President?

PRESIDENT LAMPE: Yes, that's...

MR. WINTERS: Thank you for your...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...correct...

MR. WINTERS: ...Point of Order.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...Mr. Speaker, yes.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* We're back on to Item Two, "The Opening Address." Mr. President, whenever you're ready to give your opening address.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: *Nakummek, Uhattik.* [Speaks in Inuttitut]

Mr. Speaker, as we approach the summer season, let's reflect on the work that we have done to advance issues and concerns on behalf of our people and our communities. I encourage all Assembly Members to continue engaging with our communities, listening to the concerns and acting to address the needs of Labrador Inuit. I wish you all a safe summer and I look forward to gathering again in the fall. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek,* Mr. President. I would like to ask the interpreter to please translate the [speaks in Inuttitut] (19:47) that the President was just speaking in Inuttitut, if possible. Yes. Just the last part that he spoke in [speaks in Inuttitut].

(Audio muted.)

MR. WINTERS: Nakumesuak, interpreter's booth. We will now take a 15-minute break to sort out some tech issues. *Nakummek.*

[Recess]

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* I will now call upon the President to administer the Oath of Office.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: Do we have (inaudible)

MS. BARBOUR: Should I put both of them on or no, or is one fine?

MR. WINTERS: I'll move it closer.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: Repeat after me. In the presence of everyone assembled here...

MR. A. ANDERSEN: In the presence of everyone assembled here...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...and in full realization of the high calling...

MR. A. ANDERSEN: ...and in full realization of the high calling...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...I assume, as a Member of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

MR. A. ANDERSEN: ...I assume as a Member of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...and that the powers entrusted to me...

MR. A. ANDERSEN: ...and that the powers entrusted to me...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...are for the benefit of all Labrador Inuit...

MR. A. ANDERSEN: ...are for the benefit of all Labrador Inuit...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...I...

MR. A. ANDERSEN: ...I Anthony Andersen...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...swear...

MR. A. ANDERSEN: ...swear...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...solemnly affirm...

MR. A. ANDERSEN: ...solemnly affirm...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...that I will be faithful...

MR. A. ANDERSEN: ...that I will be faithful...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...to the Inuit...

MR. A. ANDERSEN: ...to the Inuit...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...and to Nunatsiavut...

MR. A. ANDERSEN: ...and to Nunatsiavut...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...and will obey, respect and uphold the Labrador Inuit Constitution...

MR. A. ANDERSEN: ...and will obey, respect and uphold the Labrador Inuit Constitution...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...and all Inuit law.

MR. A. ANDERSEN: ...and all Inuit laws.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: And I solemnly promise...

MR. A. ANDERSEN: And I solemnly promise...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...to fulfill my responsibilities...

MR. A. ANDERSEN: ...to fulfill my responsibilities...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...as a leader...

MR. A. ANDERSEN: ...as a leader...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...and to perform my functions...

MR. A. ANDERSEN: ...and to perform my functions...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...as a Member of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

MR. A. ANDERSEN: ...as a Member of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...to the best of my ability...

MR. A. ANDERSEN: ...to the best of my ability...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...so help me, God.

MR. A. ANDERSEN: ...so help me, God.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: Is it the 6th?

FEMALE: 4th. (30:17)

PRESIDENT LAMPE: 4th? I present to you, the Assembly, the long-time serving again
Assembly Member in serving the Inuit Community Government, Anthony
Andersen.

[Applause]

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Welcome back to the Assembly, AngajukKâk. We're on to
Item Three, "Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery." I'd like to recognize
Isabella Pain and Mark Gillette as in the audience today and thank
everyone back to beautiful Hopedale. The pages for this sitting are Jamie
Pijogge, and Sam Winters. The interpreter translators are Nancy Ikkusek
and Toby Kojak, Ches Evans and Frederick Tabbal are the IT staff assisting
this Assembly. As well, we would like to recognize the OkâlaKatiget
Society staff, Silpa Suarak and Nancy Nochasak. If there are any

questions around travel and logistics, please see the receptionist Nancy Barfoot. That brings us to Item Four, "Ministers' Statements." The first Ministers; Statement today will be from the Honourable Gerald Asivak, Minister of Language, Culture and Tourism.

MR. ASIVAK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to highlight key development in the Department of Language, Culture and Tourism. Division of Tourism: Storytelling workshops began in Rigolet to support culture tourism experiences. And we are on plan on expanding this program to the rest of Nunatsiavut communities. "Be a Tourist in Your Hometown," program returned to summer after positive feedback from communities. NG Tourism will host community members and stakeholders on experiences that can be offered in each community to visitors. Craft workshops and events are being planned for artists to apply on throughout 2025 to 2026. Expressions of interest to be released soon. Fifty-three artists participated in five craft fairs from September to December 2024. The annual online auction for National Indigenous Peoples Day is happening again this year for artists and will run from June 16th to the 22nd 2025. The successful proponent for the request for proposals to operate the Torngat Mountains Basecamp and Research Station and Hebron for the next five years is Arctic Kingdom. We are in the process of finalizing a contract with the new operator and planning for the 2025 season. Ongoing work on the Nunatsiavut Tourism and Art Strategies, a few including finalizing the 2025 Nunatsiavut Visitor Guide, drafting job descriptions for Tourism staff for each of the Inuit Community

Governments and ongoing tourism development support to communities. "Division of Language and Culture." Brenda Jararuse who was our previous Director of Culture has resigned from her position. Brenda was a strong advocate for language and culture protection, preservation and advancement. We will miss her and wish her the best in her next endeavour. The second Language Summit was hosted in Nain from May 6th to the 9th and was a huge success. There was approximately 60 people in attendance, from elders, Inuttitut activists, linguists, not-for-profit organizations, and youth. This summit to help the NG Division of Culture developed the Nunatsiavut Language Strategy for the next five years. Aullâsimapvet program supports families reconnecting with the land through seasonal camps and environmental monitoring. Thirteen families participated in the winter and spring. Additionally, training programs have been organized for two chainsaw safety courses, two bear guard courses and one first aid training. The families are working with the Aullâsimapvet Program Coordinator, Brandon Lane on their safety plans and routes to ensure a safe and successful program. The summer program is scheduled for July 1st to August 31st, 2025. And we have 14 families selected. The program recently hired three administrators to help with the success and planning of the program. The new administrators are Glenda Sheppard in Postville, Kate Mitchell in Makkovik, and Tracy Dicker in Hopedale. We hope to have the positions in Nain and Rigolet filled soon. "Inuit Connection Program." The Department of Language, Culture and

Tourism will soon be accepting applications from beneficiaries of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement* within Nunatsiavut, Upper Lake Melville and the Canadian Constituency to attend the Inuit Connection Program at the Torngat Mountains Base Camp and Research Station for the 2025 season. This is a partnership project between the Nunatsiavut Government, Parks Canada and Makivvik Corporation. The goal is to enable Labrador and Nunavik Inuit an opportunity to reconnect with their homeland in the Torngat Mountains and provide opportunities to understand how to make the national park a living, vibrant place with the Inuit that is meaningful in the present and the future. Specific dates for the 2025 Inuit Connections Program will be released soon and shared on the Nunatsiavut Government website and Facebook page. Mr. Speaker, we would also like to take the time to acknowledge Joan Dicker. Joan Dicker was a long-standing member of Isumatat, the Expert Language Committee for Nunatsiavut, a retired Inuttitut teacher at Jens Haven Memorial School and was a strong champion for Inuttitut within Nunatsiavut. Joan was also an Inuttitut instructor for Language, Culture and Tourism Language programs and recently a Master in the Master Apprenticeship Program. The staff of the Division of Culture often worked with Joan to advance initiatives for Inuttitut language. Joan will be deeply missed within LCT, the community of Nain and Nunatsiavut. We thank her for all her hard work in supporting us. *Nakummesuak*.

"Archaeology," lastly, Mr. Speaker. Archaeology is excited to share that a new Heritage Program Coordinator has been hired and that is Liz Pijogge

of Nain. One archaeology position remains vacant, and we hope to fill that soon. Repatriation requests are increasing, highlighting the need for dedicated staff and policy development. Progress on creating a Nunatsiavut repository for artifacts, feasibility study underway with community consultations. Staff have just completed the second round of training on collections management software for Heritage Inventory. Nanilavut Initiative held a family memorial service in St. Anthony on May 29th for the family members of Andrea Webb. Nanilavut Initiative has commissioned an Inuk artist, Jessica Winters, to create a monument to commemorate Inuit who died from tuberculosis to be placed in Hopedale with the replicas for other communities. The monument will be permanently placed in the Hopedale Assembly building. There will be an unveiling event planned for October 2025. And we are preparing for the 2025 summer field season including research and cruise ship visits to archaeological sites. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Minister. Are there any other Ministers' Statements? Yes, Recognizing the First Minister, Melva Williams and Acting Minister of Health and Social Development. Whenever you're ready.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm going to start with the Nunatsiavut Affairs First Minister Statement. "Membership and Enrollment." Mr. Speaker, as of May 30th, 2025, there is a total of 6,880 beneficiary members on the Register of Beneficiaries. Carol Matthews has resigned as a member of the Rigolet and Lake Melville Membership Committee. And a seat of that committee has become open and hopefully be soon filled. We

would like to thank Carol for the dedication and knowledge she provided to the Rigolet Lake Melville Committee during her time as a member. And we wish her the best and a healthy future. All other committees and Appeal Board have all their seats filled that consists of five members per committee board. The Registrar's Office has hired Olivia Edmunds as the Assistant Registrar. The Assistant Registrar will assist the Registrar in overseeing the Membership office and files. Olivia will start her new position on June 16, 2025. This position was a long time coming, and the Registrar's Office is looking forward on working with her, as their office has been short-staffed for quite some time. We welcome Olivia to the Membership Team. The Registrar's Office would again like to stress all beneficiaries to contact the Registrar's Office if you change your address or have any change in your contact information. Failure to do this can interfere when traveling for medical or any health benefits you may need. Also, Mr. Speaker, to all new parents, we recommend that you apply for your child as soon as possible to ensure that your child is covered as a beneficiary under the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Act*. Please note that your child can be covered under the beneficiary parent up to two years old. After they turn two, then it's the responsibility of the parent/guardian of any health coverages. To all the re-applying 19-year-olds, we also like to stress that it's important for you to reapply when you receive your notice from the Registrar's Office to ensure that you are covered for your post-secondary education funding and health coverage. If you have any issues with filling out the application, you can contact the

Nain Admin Office and they can assist you on completing the application or go to your local NG office and speak to your community liaison officer.

Know History traveled to Nain in May as a part of the final phase of the creation of an Inuit Ancestry Database project. This phase includes the work required to continue adding family lines from Rigolet and Upper Lake Melville, Hopedale, Makkovik and Postville. This database will become an invaluable tool to preserve the knowledge of Nunatsiavut's Membership Committees and support them in their ongoing work.

"Housing." Mr. Speaker, NG is building houses in Nain, Makkovik, Postville and Rigolet this summer. These projects will carry over into 2026. Acquiring and developing land in Nain and Hopedale is crucial for large-scale housing projects that will have significant impacts on the housing deficit in those communities. This week our infrastructure team will be presenting to and consulting with Members of this Assembly on the development of a Nunatsiavut Housing, Infrastructure and Planning. Mr. Speaker, as the 2025 summer construction season approaches, the Nunatsiavut Government has issued multiple tender packages for large-scaled capital projects scheduled to commence in summer of 2025.

When combined with existing work already underway, there are no more than 10 new buildings and housing complexes in development. In addition to these already-tendered projects a series of four six-unit multiplexes as well as an emergency shelter in Nain and women's shelter/assisted living facility in Makkovik, which will include two rooms for a women's shelter and six rooms for assisted living. This will be a

multi-purpose building. And these are expected to be tendered this summer, with primary construction scheduled for 2026. The division is assessing alternative construction technologies and site-adaptive design approaches to develop land previously considered unsuitable for building. These projects are now progressing through early-stage planning, engineering review and approvals with implementation targeted for the 2026 construction season. "Strategic Planning."

Nunatsiavut-wide Infrastructure Growth Strategy aims to create a sustainable and culturally-sensitive plan for future growth and land uses within each of the five Nunatsiavut communities. Nunatsiavut Housing Strategy aims to set clear targets and direction for building, repairing housing, and implementing programs to address housing challenges facing Nunatsiavut beneficiaries. The final phase of community consultations begin this week in Hopedale. The completed draft of both strategies is anticipated by Fall of 2025 with finalization and adoption targeted for March 2026. "Infrastructure." Mr. Speaker, in addition to Capital Projects, several region-wide infrastructure initiatives are underway. "Community Fire Breaks." A consultant has been retained to assess wildfire risks in each community and design modern firebreak systems. As climate change intensifies environmental risk robust fire protection infrastructure is now critical. Design work is in progress for implementation in 2025 and beyond. "Repository." A centralized location in Nunatsiavut to support repatriation of artifacts and other items. "LiDAR surveying." High-resolution topographic data is being

collected to support engineering, land use planning, and climate resilience strategies. "Regional Waste Management Strategy." A comprehensive waste management plan is being developed to address environmental and operational challenges across all communities. "Base Camp Infrastructure Upgrades." Significant infrastructure upgrades are being made in operational infrastructure to support field work, logistics, and seasonal construction operations. "Nain Airport." All feasibility studies for the Nain Airport have been completed. The final report has been submitted and is undergoing internal review in collaboration with the Environmental Assessment Team. The Environmental Impact Assessment, the EIA, and land-use studies are advancing pending confirmation of overall feasibility, the next step will focus on identifying and securing funding for implementation. "Facilities Management." The maintenance division continues to provide critical operational support for all Government-owned buildings and vehicles. In response to increased service demands Cory Pottle has been hired as the maintenance coordinator in Makkovik. He will manage day-to-day maintenance activities across Nunatsiavut communities. We welcome Cory to the infrastructure team. To streamline service delivery and improve response time a new centralized maintenance ticketing system is being put in place and is expected to be fully operational in the coming weeks. "ICG Capital Project Management." In 2024 the Province informed the Nunatsiavut Government that it would no longer manage infrastructure projects on behalf of the Inuit Community Governments, the ICG's. In response, the

NG Infrastructure Division formed a dedicated ICG Project Delivery Team consisting of a project manager and project coordinator to take over a portfolio of 127 projects, many of which had been inactive. Key accomplishments since this transition include project prioritization, collaborated with the ICG's to define critical infrastructure needs for the next five years, engineering and design, awarded \$1.1 million in design contracts for nine projects with an additional \$1.4 million in contracts planned by year-end.

MR. WINTERS:

I will ask the Minister to pause briefly. Per Standing Order 29(3) I'm looking to the Assembly to approve moving Ministers' Statements beyond 35 minutes. Show of hands? All in favour. Minister you may continue.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. So that was a total design investment of \$2.6 million. "Construction Oversight." Managed \$24 million in construction projects in 2024-2025 with 13.5 million more in tenders expected in the coming months. "Funding Acquisition." Submitted 15 Federal Funding Applications, \$52 million in total, and six Provincial applications, \$10.1 million in total. "Fund Reallocation." Redirected \$4.5 million from Legacy Projects to current community infrastructure priorities. "Process Development." Created internal legal templates, contracts, and procurement tools to replace those previously provided by the Province. "Consulted Expansion." Introduced new design consultants to address performance and service delivery issues. "Funding Strategy Improvement." Supported ICG's in preparing for Joint Management Committee, JMC process. Although delayed in 2024-2025 due to funding

uncertainty, future cycles are expected to improve with confirmed multi-year budgets. "Digital Records System." Implemented a secure Cloud-based platform for storing ICG project data and retrieved historical records and as-builts from the Province. These initiatives have re-established oversight and accountability for community-led infrastructure development. The ICG's are now positioned to manage their own capital projects with greater independence capacity and transparency. The last I have in Nunatsiavut Affairs or the First Minister's is, "Illusuak." Mr. Speaker, the Illusuak Remediation Project continues to face complications due to the actions and management approach of the insurance adjuster. The quality of work and remediation efforts to date have not met the standards or the expectations of the Nunatsiavut Government. And progress has been slower than anticipated. In response, Nunatsiavut Government infrastructure has taken steps to intervene and accelerate the project toward timely completion.

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I will present the Health and Social Development statement further into the statements. *Nakummek*.

MR. WINTERS:

For the interpreter's booth, we're going to call on another Minister now. Which other Minister would like to deliver their statement? Seeing the Honourable David Dicker from the Department of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology. Please give the interpreter's booth a moment to find your statement. *Nakummek*. You may go ahead.

MR. DICKER JR.:

Mr. Speaker, on May 1st, the Nunatsiavut Government were informed that Bell Canada was withdrawing from the Labrador North Wireless Broadband Project. This was a shock and a disappointment. Bell Canada indicated that an exponential cost increase in the project as well as a decrease in subscribers for Bell services were the main reasons for its withdrawal. The Nunatsiavut Government met with Innovation Science and Economic Development Canada who funded the initial project through the Universal Broadband Fund. ISED is providing expertise to assist the Nunatsiavut Government in looking for options to bring high speed and cellular service to the region. Mr. Speaker, since May 1st, the Director of Information Technology has been gathering information on the current status of the project. What Bell Canada has left to complete, and potential next steps, as well as other providers reached out to the Nunatsiavut Government. There have been meetings with these providers but only at an information gathering level. The Finance Division has been exceptionally busy since the new year. It is the time of year where budgets for the upcoming year are finalized, year-end financial reports are completed and preparations for the audit are ongoing. I want to thank the finance staff for their dedication and efforts. Mr. Speaker, in March 2025 the Nunatsiavut Government, the Government of Canada and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador agreed to amend the termination date in this *Fiscal Financing Agreement*. The termination date was changed to March 31, 2026 from March 31, 2024. Canada recommended this amendment due to the political change as it typically

takes a few months to brief a new Minister and receive instructions, mandates and approvals. Mr. Speaker, the Nunatsiavut Government received a one-time adjustment of 2.4 million for personal income taxes. This is a result of Canada Revenue Agency having completed the residency audits of personal income taxes filed for the 2023 year. In simplistic terms, there were more taxes collected that remitted to the Nunatsiavut Government in the 2023 calendar year. The Nunatsiavut Government has approved a new policy on the use of generative artificial intelligence for employees of the Nunatsiavut Government. Artificial intelligence or commonly known as AI refers to a type of technology that is publicly available and can create works of text, images and audio or video data. AI can also analyze and sort data as well as create original content. AI tools have the potential to enhance efficiency in operations in several ways including but not limited to document summarization, meeting scheduling, and email drafting. The improper or unauthorized use of AI can result in significant risks to employees, beneficiaries and the Nunatsiavut Government. These risks include improperly automated decision making, reliance on inaccurate or misleading information or a breach of confidential and sensitive data. This policy outlines the acceptable and prohibited use of AI by Nunatsiavut Government employees, in the workplace, establishes security measures to protect sensitive data and provides a framework for oversight. *Nakummek, Uhattik.*

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Minister. I will now call upon the next Minister who would like to give their statement. Recognizing the Honourable Tom Evans, Minister of the Department of Education and Economic Development whenever you're ready, sir.

MR. EVANS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll just provide a brief update to the Departments of Education and Economic Development. Okay, I'll do the Economic Development update first. As a reminder, our annual plan for the Division focuses on business development, community development, policy, data collection and offering supports. "Business development." As of mid-May, our Inuit Business Registry has 264 certified businesses. Regarding procurement, 16 packages reviewed from Vale with our division nominating 44 Inuit businesses and six qualified business entity nominations. There are a total of 19 business clients, nine in Start-up, nine in Growth and one in shut-down mode. The Business Development Committee or BDC, quarterly meetings between Vale, the Innu and NG have delayed for a year. The meeting schedule was reactivated and was held in St. John's on May 13th. Key business concerns and policy issues were brought forward and addressed and the annual calendar for quarterly meetings confirmed. The Mealy Mountain Entrepreneurship Support Program will offer up to two training programs in 2025-'26. Consultations with Parks Canada began on May 23rd and will continue with the Rigolet Inuit Community Government and the Tourism Division in June. Our department will present to the Parks Canada Co-Management Board on the program and related policies on June 4th in

Rigolet. We have two funding programs, the Community Economic Development Fund, the CEDP and the *Fiscal Financing Agreement*, the FFA. These encourage community improvement initiatives, sustainable employment and local economic development projects. We are reviewing two FFA applications, the floating dock replacement and boardwalk from the Rigolet Inuit Community Government, one Community Economic Development Fund application, the Tourism Development Officer from the Rigolet Inuit Community Government. In partnership with the Tourism Division, we have drafted a new Community Capacity Program. This program will improve the sustainability of the Inuit Community Government Community Development Officer positions by increasing funding levels to 60,000 annually, operate on a multi-year funding model and have formal supports between the Nunatsiavut Government and the Inuit Community Governments. This program is currently under financial and legal review. It will be presented to the NEC once approved. The new Economic Development Officer position which will be advertised in June will serve as a central contact and support new community capacity program and positions. Under, "Policy and Data Collection," the Community Economic Profile Project in partnership with the Harris Centre is finalized. We will release the profiles to a social media and website campaign in mid-June 2025. The labour database continues to review best practices, particularly the model of data collection, storage and presentation. We are meeting on June 6th with the consultants, preparing the Education

Division's database to determine appropriate development options.

Under, "Self Employment Benefits Program," this program provides EI-type benefits for six months to new business start-ups. The program is open for applications. Under, "Business Industry Sessions," the Division launched its virtual information series in May, 2025. This program aims to provide industry-relevant information to certified Inuit businesses. On May 29th Newfoundland Hydro and Quebec Hydro provided virtual supplier information session on the Gull Island and Churchill Falls expansion projects. Nineteen Inuit businesses attended. On June 6th Nunatsiavut Government infrastructure will offer a virtual construction information session on the upcoming 2025 projects and how to do business with the Nunatsiavut Government. Nineteen Inuit businesses are scheduled to attend. Registration for certified Inuit Businesses is open. Two additional virtual sessions are planned for the 2025-'26. The topics and presenters will be confirmed by August 2025. "Business Financial Support." The division have created a new Business Grant Program. This program, as previously mentioned will offer small-scale business grants up to 10,000 per Inuit business with a minimum of 10 grants available per year with an annual budget of 100,000. The program is under review by Finance and Legal and will be sent to the Nunatsiavut Executive Council once approved. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker. I have the Education update, but I can do that. Okay, thank you. Okay, I'll do a brief update on the Department of Education. For current students, the intercession and spring semester have begun, and we currently have

approximately 238 students in post secondary studies and being supported by the Nunatsiavut Government Education Division Funding program. A hundred and eighty-three are receiving fulltime supports and 55 are receiving part-time supports. We are supporting six ABE students at our learning centres in Nain and Hopedale, which will close at the end of June for the summer break and reopen in September. Apologies. We have one beneficiary recently completed a work experience and we are now receiving applications for the summer work program. We partnered with the new Harvester Support Program to deliver the PAL training course in Rigolet. And 21 beneficiaries successfully completed it and are in the process for applying for licences. Now a reminder that although the funding application for the Fall is past, we are still accepting applications and encourage beneficiaries to apply. There is a blackout period from July 1st to August 31st where we can still accept applications, but they might not process until September. This is due to the high volume of work involved with processing the applications and then setting students up to receive their funding supports. Under the Inuit Nunangat University, the location of the university will see a main campus in one of the four Inuit regions with a smaller satellite campus in each of the remaining regions. Work is underway to gather all of the information that will be required for leaders to make the decisions regarding locations of all four sites. ITK has recently hired two Inuit, Natasha MacDonald from Nunavik and Piers Kreps from the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, as our first Academic Council members. They will be

responsible for drafting academic policies and shaping a five-year plan toward the Inuit Nunangat University first program offerings in 2030. Under, "Career Trips," the Grade 9 career trip to Goose Bay took place last-, recently took place and was a success. Thirty-one students with eight chaperones gathered in Goose Bay to visit the College of the North Atlantic, Memorial University, Labrador Campus, Air Borealis, RCMP Circle, Nunatsiavut Group of Companies, Trades NL, the Gov NL Labour Market Division. And they also had a chat with the Nunatsiavut Government Education Division on funding opportunities. Students took in presentation from schools and possible employers on a variety of career options and post-secondary programs. Summer Literacy Camps 2025. We have once again contracted United for Literacy formerly known as Frontier College, to oversee the delivery of the Summer Literacy camps on the five Nunatsiavut communities. We have a high number of local counsellors hired this year with numbers hovering around 20 local counsellors once again. So we may have 100 percent local counsellors this year. The camps will run for four weeks between July and August free of charge for children ages 5 to 12 and those heading to Kindergarten this Fall. Our Regional Education Division Building. Construction on the new Regional Education Division Building is well underway. The building is closed in and plumbing, electrical, insulation and drywall is currently being installed. The predicted timeline is estimated summer 2025 as completion date. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Minister. Are there any other Ministers looking to give their statement? Recognizing the Honourable Terry Vincent, the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. Just waiting for a thumbs up from the interpreters' booth that they have your report. Whenever you're ready, sir.

MR. VINCENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to present my quarterly report to the Assembly as Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. This update highlights key developments within the Department since my last report. For Renewable Resources, "Fisheries." Mr. Speaker, the food, social and ceremonial fisheries will open on June 16th. Both LISA and 12E licences have been renewed for the 2025 season. The 12E licence which expired on March 31st, 2024 is now extended for two more years. Due to the high volume of licences in Upper Lake Melville beneficiaries are encouraged to call ahead to reduce wait times. A public notice has been issued. We extend our thanks to the Upper Lake Melville staff for supporting the conservation officer in issuing FSC licences. The 2JS Snow Crab Fishery opened on May 18th. Two designated beneficiary fishers are operating under NG-owned licences. "Wildlife." Polar bear hunting season remains open until June 30th. Ten of the 13 licences have been filled, three in Nain, three in Hopedale, one in Postville, two in Makkovik and one in Rigolet. We have secured wild meats from Quebec including elk, bison and wild boar. Unfortunately caribou is not currently available. Further updates will follow as the project progresses. "Lands Division." Mr. Speaker, to date in 2025, 11

land-use applications have been submitted and are in various stages of processing. In March, the lands manager attended the Labrador Transportation Grooming Subsidy meeting in Goose Bay. Discussions focused on trail system reviews and program delivery. The primary challenge remains climate change, with insufficient snow and sea ice causing delays and rerouting. Recruitment for the GIS specialist position has resumed, and we remain optimistic about filling this role soon.

"Impact Benefits Agreement." Mr. Speaker, Vale has now fully transitioned to surface and underground operations at the Voisey's Bay mine and mill. On May 26, Vale and IBA Coordinator hosted the information sessions in Makkovik alongside recruitment and a job-readiness training program. Visits to all the Nunatsiavut communities are scheduled for June and July. The next Tasiujatsoak Committee Meeting is set for June 26. The Torngat Mountains Co-Management Board held a virtual meeting on May 28 where Parks Canada provided updates and continued discussions on caribou management. The next in-person meeting will take place at basecamp from August 2nd to 9th. The Mealy Mountain National Park Reserve Co-Management Board met virtually on April 14th. Parks Canada has appointed Terry Pottle as the Nunatsiavut Community Liaison under the Parks IBA. A site visit to Beaverbrook is scheduled for June 3rd to explore options for a visitor experience hub. In-person board meetings will follow on June 3 and 4 in Rigolet. Non-renewable Resources. Mr. Speaker, Labrador Gold received approval to explore its Hopedale property in Udjuktok Bay, establishing a temporary

flight camp and fuel cache. Altius Resources was approved to prospect claims across Tasisuak Lake, Kingurutik Lake, Konrad Brook and Pants Lake. Field activities will begin late summer based out of Nain. Dean Fraser has submitted a proposal prospecting and surveys in the Grand Lake area of the Central Mineral Belt. Application is currently under review. Aurora Energy completed its winter drilling program on April 13 and plans to resume drilling in July. The winter program included 129 drill sites covering 10,000 metres using two rigs. Recruitment for the mining analyst position is ongoing and we hope to have this role filled shortly. "Environment Division." Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say on March 25th, 2025 the Nunatsiavut Climate Change Strategy was launched at the Annual Climate Change workshop. The event included representation from across Nunatsiavut, Upper Lake Melville, Provincial and Federal Governments, and Inuit Community Governments. We are now in the implementation phase guided by the Nunatsiavut Government Climate Change Committee and contributing to the forthcoming update to the National Inuit Climate Change Strategy. Progress continues on Torngat Area of Interest. Discussions with the Steering Committee in Makivvik are focused on finalizing boundaries. This work aligns with Federal priorities on protected area expansion. The Environment Division has hired a biologist, research technician and environmental specialist. An offer has also been extended for the Environmental Assessment Manager position. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Minister. I believe we have one remaining Ministers' statement left. Recognizing Melva Williams, the First Minister and Acting Minister of Health and Social Development, when you're ready.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Department of Health and Social Development. "Youth Division." The youth symposium was held March 16 to the 22nd. It was a land-based delivery. More than 40 youth, elders, staff and guests from the region, as well as Upper Lake Melville and the Canadian Constituency in attendance. The Youth North Caribou Hunt trip was held April 2nd to the 6th with six youth from the region and one elder attending. Youth Land-based and Culture Exchange with Inuvialuit Nunangat. Youth traveled to Inuvik April the 9th to the 17th. And there were five youth from our region that traveled. May and June. Firearms Safety and Hunter's Education course delivery to two groups in Nain with 24 youth in total. On June 12th there will be five community events and it will be an affair carnival style. There will be promo items, food and activities. We encourage people to go out and take part. July 20th to the 25th, there will be a seniors' gathering with seven to eight youth delegates attending. In July with the dates to be determined, there will be a Youth Torngat trip. On August 3rd to the 10th, there will be a youth land-based and culture exchange with the Inuvialuit Nunangat. They will be in Nain. They will take part in fishing, berry picking, Inuit games, throat singing, drum dancing, community feast, traditional dress, sewing, pattern trades and elders' circle. There will be 10 youth from Inuvik and approximately 12 from Nunatsiavut. "Elders Division." The

Housing Strategy is scheduled to visit all Nunatsiavut communities. There will be specific sessions for seniors and elders. Planning is still underway for the biennial regional seniors' elders gathering for July in Rigolet. The late Joan Dicker was a member of the Inuktukait kattimattigit, the Regional Seniors Elders' Committee. And she was the one that suggested it be in Inuttitut. We are respecting that and will recognize her at the elders' gathering. The Elders Division will have a summer student position this year. "Food Security." The Nunatsiavut Government will support the Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program to provide beneficiary households in Nunatsiavut with a variety of items to promote land-based and traditional food gathering activities. Land-based and traditional food harvesting activities have significant cultural importance, as it not only provides food, but also provides a means to share and transfer knowledge. Land-based activities and the consumption of country food is a pillar of Inuit culture, identity and overall health and well-being. These land-based kits will be distributed to households in the coming days. There are weekly food baskets available at the schools, and hot meals are available twice a week in Rigolet. Plans are underway for the distribution of monthly food bag meal kit program. This program also offers an opportunity to provide health promotion messaging, to be included in the distribution to households. And the development of the Nunatsiavut Food Security Strategy is nearing completion. "Health Services." Sexual Health Outreach and Expanded Scope of Practice. Three-year nursing position is posted with two candidates. We're

currently working with HR to review the file and the next steps. The plan is to work with the Provincial Department of Health and Community Services, to look at the legislation and options to expand the scope of practice for public health nurses in Nunatsiavut, to complete full scope of care for sexual health infection to follow up. From education, screening, treatment, contact tracing and follow up. In addition, the plan for this role is to expand outreach services and potential use of point of care testing. Syphilis. A regional team continues to work with and support the Labrador Grenfell Zone on the syphilis outbreak in Central Labrador.

Nursing in-person meeting. We partnered with Indigenous Services Canada and both First Nation communities to co-host an in-person nursing workshop, with a focus on communicable disease in Goose Bay during nurses' week. Feedback from staff was positive. CPR Health Care Professionals, partnered with the Labrador Grenfell Zone to have eight nurses complete CPR training while in Goose Bay during the in-person meeting. The Inuit Public Health Task Group. Nunatsiavut Government Department of Health and Social Development will be hosting the Inuit Public Health Task Group in Nain during the week of June 9th. This meeting will bring together Inuit treaty organizations along with Provincial and Federal partners to update the work plan and prioritize public health work for this fiscal year. Health promotion and wellness manager. Carolyn Tyner started in this role on Monday April 28, 2025. That position was vacant for four months. Currently working through the orientation process and work planning for the upcoming year. QNIHS,

the Qanuippitaa? Survey. The team are in the process of returning high-level results of the survey to communities. Postville engagement took place on May 27th and Rigolet May 28th and 29th. Nain is scheduled for the week of June 2nd. Both Makkovik and Hopedale are in the process of rescheduling due to unforeseen circumstances. The team is working on planning for round two roll out of the survey as well as working on internal and external data access policies. Sylvia Doody and Shannon Dicker attended the Annual Reflective meeting in Iqaluit May 5th and 6th. "Non-insured Health Benefits." Muriel retired April 4th, 2025, and Wanda will be retiring June 13, 2025. Muriel's position has been awarded. There has been a new contract structure in place with Maximus Canada which commenced on April 1, 2025. And all contracts for professional services and accommodations are signed and up to date. Mental Health and Addictions. The mental health and addictions worker has continued to support their clients in community, while focusing on prevention and promotion, while liaising with other service providers. The Mental Health and Addictions manager position has been filled and the individual will start in the next few weeks. May 12th to the 18th, 2025 is Mental Health Week were hosted and there were prizes to win. A number of staff within the Mental Health and Addictions attended the FASD conference as many staff-, a number of staff within Mental Health and Addictions attended the FASD conference, as many staff are the file holders for the FASD file. "Child and Youth Mental Health." The FASD Coordinator, Georgia Abel presented at the FASD NL conference during

the week of April 7th, 2025. The Child and Youth Mental Health clinical head lead, Grant Gear continues to support clients in play therapy support as well as AutPlay therapy, DDP, IFS, FBT, and ACT. Funding has been approved to advertise to expand the Child and Youth Mental Health team for specialist and Child and Youth Mental Health worker positions. We are advocating the change the FASD Coordinator position title to be more inclusive of all folk with brain differences. "Shelters." We have received funding from Reaching Home to fund the operations of the shelters in Nain and Hopedale for an additional four years. In 2024-2025, Hopedale had 1,526 Heads in Beds. That averages four individuals per night, a total of 29 individuals, 17 males and 12 females utilized the shelter. Nain had 2,033 Heads in Beds, with an average of six individuals per night. A total of 48 individuals, 30 males and 18 females, utilized the shelter. Donations to food banks and community freezers. DHSD receives funding from Indigenous Services Canada. Each year for climate change, health adaptation. These funds have been used to purchase boats to facilitate land-based programming for traditional foods and activities, purchasing greenhouses and supplies for Nunatsiavut communities and many other programs and activities. We recognize the impact that climate change has had on the ability of families to access country or wild food. We also recognize the high cost of store-bought food within communities, as well as issues with weather and transportation. We hope that these funds will support existing food banks and community freezers to support our most vulnerable

populations. During COVID, programming was more limited, which meant that there were funds that were not utilized. The department was able to redirect some of these funds to support food banks and community freezers in Nunatsiavut. In Nain, \$36,000, Hopedale, \$29,000, Makkovik, \$9,000, Postville, \$7,000, Rigolet, \$14,000. The funds were distributed based on actual usage of existing food banks and population. And finally, Mr. Speaker, "Childcare, Child Development."

We are collaborating with the Collage of the North Atlantic to deliver a virtual ECE certificate course. We are looking at 10 students to begin in September. The Nain Family Resource Centre celebrated their 10th anniversary on May 6th and 7th. This milestone marks a decade of dedication, compassion, and commitment to providing an essential service and support to families and children in our community. Over the past decade we have supported families and provided a safe and nurturing environment for children to grow and thrive. The Family Resource Centre provides a variety of community-based activities and resources that emphasize early childhood development and parenting support. The Family Resource Centre actively engages with children, parents and caregivers, and by guiding early learning. The Nain Family Resource Centre serves as an inspiration for lifelong growth and healthy well-being. I thank President Lampe, Minister Dicker, Ordinary Member Barbour for joining me in some of the celebrations at that event. I went off script and then, sorry. I thank President Lampe, Minister Dicker, and Ordinary Member Barbour for joining me in the celebrations. We are-,

and finally, we are communicating with Susan Aglukark's agent and looking at a tour to Nunatsiavut communities in early October 2025.

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ministers. We will now be taking our lunch break until 2:00 p.m., as there will be a presentation in the Courtroom and your lunch is here. *Nakummek*.

[Recess]

MR. WINTERS:

...five, "Members' Statements." Are there any Members' statements around the Table? Yes, recognizing the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Ms. Marjorie Flowers, when you're ready.

MS. FLOWERS:

Time has flown by. Sorry, *Nakummek*. I am sad to report that tragedy has hit our little town again. As I say so many times in the past when we lose a member of our community, everyone feels the loss. I extend my deepest condolences to the family of Tommy Tuglavina, to his partner Justine, children Judith, Nicolena, Kelly, Trent and Danielle. Please know Hopedale is with you in thought and prayer. To Amos Onalik and family, we extend our deepest condolences, love and prayers on the tragic passing of his two sons, Jonas Tuglavina and William Onalik. Three men who worked hard for their employers and would give you the shirt off their backs if they could. They all loved their families and friends so very much. They also enjoyed social events and were often seen socializing there with their families and friends. Tommy will be missed especially for the laughs he brought to us when he participated in the beauty pageant

held at our annual Heritage Festival. May they rest in peace. Our town is in deep grief and mourning, Mr. Speaker. However, as in all small communities, when tragedy strikes we rally together to help families. I thank everyone who helped make the burden of loss to these families a little easier to bear. To all organizations NDHSD, Labrador Grenfell Health, RCMP, Moravian Church, Women's Shelter, ACMS, Ground Search and Rescue, Nunatsiavut Government, all who raised money for the families to come home, and to all who cooked meals and did whatever they could to help in any way, your hard work does not go unnoticed. May God bless you all. May each one of us be kind and loving to each other. A smile, a hug, or a kind gesture costs nothing but to the person on the receiving end it means the world. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, AngajukKâk Flowers. We will now hear from the Chairperson for the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation, Mr. Jeff Montague.

MR. MONTAGUE:

I'll say that again. Mr. Speaker, sincere condolences go to the Watts Family and friends of Rosalyn Watts. Our community is looking forward to the summer, which means salmon fishing. I am pleased to learn of the news that the 12E communal salmon licences are rolling over to give enough time for formal negotiations. Members of our community and our community freezer will continue the harvest that we have enjoyed. I would like to thank the Minister and the Deputy Minister along with those involved, for their efforts. Funding from the Labrador Regional Wellness Coalition has allowed us to host a senior social at the riverside restaurant back in April. We had a good turnout of 22 seniors who very

much enjoyed the time, according to the feedback we received. We are looking forward to doing such an event some time sooner than later. Our IGA grant will carry over to the next winter season as we did not have snow accumulations as we normally do. We have been doing weekly socializing activities like bingo and crafting afternoons every other week respectively, which have been going over quite well according to the feedback we have been getting. Numbers in participation fluctuate from just a few to 18. These activities have now ceased, and we will have-, we will save the remaining funds for next winter. I have yet to submit the report, but since we haven't used all of our funds, I have been granted permission to provide a report for what we have done, spent so far, and to continue the program next winter. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Lake Melville School Graduating class of 2025. Madeline Andersen and Jordan Montague are the two graduates this year. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. We will now hear from the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Mr. Barry Andersen.

MR. B. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of Makkovik Inuit Community Government I'll pass on our sincere condolences to the community of Hopedale on their tragic losses over the past several weeks. It's always hard when you lose such young people in your community. On a brighter note I'd like to congratulate the three graduating students from John Christian Erhardt Memorial School in Makkovik. We wish them all the best in their future endeavours. I'd also like to pass on that there is an

Inuttitut speak off going on right now as we speak in Makkovik with students from all communities represented. I'd like to thank the Nunatsiavut Government and their school for putting this speak off again this year. Anything we can do to promote the language is a step forward, in my opinion. And Mr. Speaker, also I'd like to congratulate the ball hockey and badminton teams that came first overall in their tryouts-, or their competition in the last two weeks. And Mr. Speaker, there's some recent events happened yesterday that I'll just bring it forward here with regard to our airline, Air Borealis, that stranded over-, at least 14 people from Makkovik. So I'd just like to point out and stress that this is just another challenge with the airline and traveling with confirmed reservations and getting bumped. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, AngajukKâk. We will now hear from the AngajukKâk for the community of Nain, welcoming back Mr. Anthony Andersen, when you're ready.

MR. A. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, very much Mr. Speaker and the House for a warm welcome this morning. I wouldn't want anyone to get confused about retirement. I had a great time, Mr. Speaker, retired, traveling around all last summer. And I tell you how good it was that I may even do it a couple more times in this lifetime. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to express on behalf of the Inuit Community Government and indeed the whole town of Nain to speak of appreciation, gratitude, thank you, to my long-time friend and now former AngajukKâk of Nain, Julius Dicker who we all know as Joe. Joe served three terms as the Vice

President of the LIA. And during that time he also served as Acting President for a period of months. As most of the Assembly knows, Mr. Speaker, that Joe was in his third term as AngajukKâk for Nain and served for a total of 10 years and 6 months. Truly, Mr. Speaker, a great and remarkable contribution by an individual, to Nain and to Nunatsiavut. Joe will be missed but I also wanted, Mr. Speaker to let the Assembly know that since he has returned from medical treatment in St. John's, Joe's in fine spirits. I attended the Jens Haven Memorial School graduation and Joe was there with one of his granddaughters and he was in fine form. I also went to visit him at his home a few days ago to present him with a plaque from our Community Government. Joe was very thankful and at that time he asked me to bring his regards to the Assembly. I wanted Mr. Speaker and fine Nunatsiavut Assembly to show our that our thoughts are with Joe. We wish him a speedy recover and asking (inaudible), I hope that everyone will...

[Applause]

...thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, AngajukKâk. Are there further Members' statements around the Table? Recognizing the Ordinary Member for Nain, Ms. Roxanne Barbour, when you're ready.

MS. BARBOUR:

Naku. I didn't prepare anything because I knew if I did, I would cry. And I might cry again still. But I don't want to be sad because I want to stand here today to recognize the life-long achievements of Joan Dicker, my

miss. She co-founded Nain Care in 1989. And for just over 35 years Joan dedicated herself to helping those in need in Nain, even to the last days. And I said I don't mean to be sad. She was the founder of the iconic Katilautta Music Festival, bringing Labradorian musicians together. A life-long member of the Moravian Church in Nain and a career teacher teaching Inuttitut at JHMS. That's why she's my, "Miss." In her younger years, she was a competitive athlete, a good one at that too. She was a song writer and an artist, a champion of Inuttitut and a pillar in my community. She loved life, her family, her friends, our people and our community and will be forever missed and loved. My sincerest and deepest condolences to her large circle of family, friends and my home community of Nain, and of course all of Nunatsiavut, because everywhere she went, she knew somebody. Mostly, I want to say she will also be forever remembered and forever loved because her music and her Inuttitut lives in me. And I just want to say thank you.

Nakummek, Miss. Keep on the sunny side. And that I also want to say congrats to our graduating class of JHMS. We had the honour and privilege of being invited. And it was really nice. I would also like to send get well wishes to our previous colleague, Mr. Joe Dicker, and thank him for his life-long commitment to Nainimiut and Nunatsiavimiut. I wish him all the best in the next stages of his life. At the same time I'd like to say, "Welcome back," to my colleague, and one of my biggest supporters, or as everybody knows in our hometown, Tony-Tony. I look forward to

working with you again even though we only have a short period of time left, there's lots of work to do for our beautiful Nain. *Nakummek*.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. We will now hear from the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen.

MR. W. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, over the last number of years and time we have lost some of our most treasured possessions. Today I want to pay tribute to a pioneer and Inuit man, Mr. James Asivak of Happy Valley, Goose Bay. Mr. Speaker, in the early '60s as a young boy, I remembered when Mr. Asivak traveled to Makkovik on the coastal boat. Every time the coastal boat arrived in our community as young people, the next morning we would run to the store. It was there that this man had walked into the store. He bought a can of drink that was sold. It was called Jacko. and pack of gum. There was three kinds of gum, Mr. Speaker. Yellow was Juicy Fruit. White was Spearmint and Green was Doublemint. And he bought a pack of gum, Doublemint gum. Back then if families had \$5 or \$10 it was considered that they had a lot of money. We watched that morning as Mr. Asivak opened his wallet. And Mr. Speaker, he must've had about 20 one-dollar bills in his wallet and we said to each other, "Boy, he got a lot of money." It was shortly after his visit to Makkovik that Sarah left Makkovik and they got married. Mr. Speaker, shortly after the passing of Mr. Asivak, Ordinary Member Gerald Asivak put out a post on his father. He talked of the treasured time he spent with his father, like going for rides and playing the Shriners Bingo. Ordinary Member Asivak said that his dad was his hero. And certainly

myself and my brother knows the full meaning as we thought the same about our mom. Mr. Speaker, these people with very little or no education but garnished the greatest of respect from everyone who knew him. They never served on committees or councils. But yet they garnished the highest respect for their knowledge of people, the land, the air and the sea. Mr. Asivak was one of these people. Mr. Speaker, I'm sure the whole Assembly would join me in passing along our deepest condolences to Ordinary Member Gerald Asivak and his family. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. We'll now hear from the Ordinary Member for Rigolet, Ms. Melva Williams.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to pass along my thanks and appreciation to the Speaker and to the Assembly for my approved absence from the last Assembly because of a loss of a family member after we arrived in the community of Hopedale. I'd like to pass along condolences to Uncle Harv's family. I know that for the community and many of his family members or his family members, he is still missed and thought of often in our community. I'd like to also thank Minister Asivak and Minister Dicker for doing my statements during the last Assembly as I was absent. I'd like to pass along congratulations to the three graduates in our community, Brooklyn, Kylie and Isabelle. AngajukKâk Sheppard and I were invited to the Assembly and were invited to address-, sorry, to the grad and invited to address them. And we were able to do that so that was wonderful. I'd like to pass along congratulations to recipients of

the King Charles Medal in Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey and Sarah Baikie, two very deserving recipients. And we were able to celebrate and have a ceremony last week. Both AngajukKâk Sheppard and I was able to do that. So-, and we'd like to thank Paula Sheppard who helped us very much during-, preparing for the event. Also at this time I'd like to make note of and recognize the retirement of a co-worker, a long-time employee of the Nunatsiavut Government, Conservation Officer, David Wolfrey. David worked for 32 years with Nunatsiavut with LIA and Nunatsiavut. And will retire on Friday this week. I hope David enjoys his retirement, but I know that he has already had his irons in the fire for different opportunities coming his way. Each Assembly I like to rise and pay recognition to the hard work of different groups or agencies in Rigolet. This Assembly I'd like to recognize the staff who work in the Nunatsiavut Government office in Rigolet. They are a very respectful, helpful group of people who help anyone who comes through our doors. And we appreciate their hard work. I would like to wish everyone an enjoyable summer and a good break if you have those, play it.

Nakummek.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. I'll now recognize the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Gerald Asivak.

MR. ASIVAK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Ordinary Member Andersen for the beautiful tribute. It was very heart-felt and much appreciated and all the support from Assembly Members. Condolences to the family of the late Amanda Saunders of Happy Valley, Goose Bay, to the family of the late

Mr. Samuel Pottle of Happy Valley, Goose Bay, to the family of the late David Best of Happy Valley, Goose Bay. Congrats to King Charles III Coronation Award recipients, Ms. Sophie Ford of Happy Valley, Goose Bay, under the sector of Community Service and Philanthropy, and to the late Ms. Rose Oliver formerly of Happy Valley, Goose Bay, under the sector of Community Service and Philanthropy. An award ceremony is scheduled this Friday with my colleague, Mr. Andersen and the DHSD Community Office. Congrats to T.J. Gear who traveled to Norway in May to attend the World Bench Press Championships. Lastly, all graduates in Upper Lake Melville best of luck and happy adventures. To Assembly Members, have a fun, enjoyable summer. *Nakummek*.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. Are there other Members' statements, first Members' Statements at this time? Yes, recognizing the Chairperson of the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation, Ms. Patricia Kemuksigak.

MS. KEMUKSIGAK:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. First I'll report on the Max Winters Memorial Community Freezer. We purchased 650 pounds of seal meat from Nunatsiavut beneficiary commercial seal hunters. It was a very welcome addition to our freezer as many elders have been requesting it. All the seal was gone by May the 28th. We received 25 more cases of char from the Department Lands and Natural Resources which we are very grateful. I'm going too fast. Sorry. A hundred and eighty Nunatsiavut beneficiary families visited the community freezer in April. And a hundred and seventy visited in May. We want to thank the Department of Lands and Natural

Resources for again approving us for 200 salmon for this year. As of May 5th, we have 473 Nunatsiavut beneficiaries 60 and over in Happy Valley, Goose Bay and Mud Lake which is a very large number. Nunatsiavut is partnering with Inotsiavik

Language and Culture Incorporated to put off traditional earring-making workshops in late June. Mr. Speaker, our audit-, we are presently going through our audit process with Deloitte. We are hoping to have it complete by the end of June. Our audits are very expensive and when we looked at the cost for 2024, it was 16 percent of our overall budget. We pay more for our audit than we do for rent. Financial. We want to thank Minister Dicker for approving our increase in our budget for 2025. We will now receive \$162,959 from the Nunatsiavut Government versus 101 from 2024. We can now operate our corporation more effectively with the additional funds. The Ikajutitget Board is operational again. And we received \$29,000 for funds in December 2024 and we received \$34,500 for this fiscal year. We wanna to thank the Board for their generous contribution. And May 21st, 2025, we received confirmation that the *Tasiujatsoak Trust* has approved our proposal of \$44,818 for a summer literacy camp for Happy Valley, Goose Bay. We have no children in Mud Lake, beneficiary children. We were really glad to get it. We will be contracting United for Literacy to run our summer camps as they have within Nunatsiavut for the last several years. We are also partnering with DHSD Community Office to use their Child Development space for the summer program. We are hoping it will be a huge success. We wanna

send our condolences and prayers to the community of Hopedale on the loss experienced by the Tuglavina and Onalik families. And I wanted to mention-, it's nothing related to us but it's really good news, that the Housing and Homeless Coalition will be building seniors' apartments in Happy Valley, Goose Bay and it should be completed in October or November of 2025. It's for elders and there's a lot of elders experiencing housing issues in our community and affordability. We want to wish the best for Joe Dicker and I just wanted to say in 1989 or I can't remember, I got sworn in as a Board Member for North West River at the time and Joe was the acting President. And myself and Jane Shiwak said it seemed like we got married to him, 'cause we had to read the oath. But he was always a good man and had a big heart. And I want to thank him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Chairperson. Recognizing the AngajukKâk for Postville, Ms. Diane Gear.

MS. GEAR:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to congratulate the two graduates of Postville B.L. Morrison School. We wish them the best of luck and much success in whatever career they choose. Also congratulations to Shirley Goudie on receiving the King Charles Medal. Mr. Speaker, PICG is looking forward to having work done this summer on the much-needed storm water upgrades. This work involves roadside ditching, removing old and installing new culverts. This will be the first time any work is being done on the culverts since it was installed in the late 1980's. Mr. Speaker, PICG has once again designated three weeks of community clean-up-, spring

clean-up, sorry, again, this year. May 23rd to June 13th. This is when the residents are encouraged to clean up their property and put any old vehicles or skidoos out by the roadside and the council will take it to the waste site free of charge. Also June 3rd and June 5th has been designated as community clean-up. This is the time when we come together and clean the whole community. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Unfortunately I'm not there to help them this year.

MR. WINTERS:

Unfortunately. Are there any other first statements around the Table? Recognizing George Gear - who is also not there - Ordinary Member for Postville.

MR. GEAR:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to congratulate all the graduates along the coast from the-, all on Nunatsiavut and Upper Lake Melville and everywhere else, and especially to Ethan Ford-Goudie and Timothy James Poole who graduated in Postville, and also to Shirley Goudie for accepting the King Charles III Memorial Medal. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. Are there any further first members' statements around the Table? Yes, recognizing David Dicker Jr., Ordinary Member for the Community of Nain.

MR. DICKER JR.:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. In recent months, Mr. Speaker, I have assisted 121 Nunatsiavut beneficiaries of the constituency of Nain to complete the following: Helping beneficiaries in completing their 2024 income tax returns free of charge with the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program who are unable to do their taxes on their own, and receive their notice of

assessments and benefits the beneficiaries can avail of from the Canada Revenue Agency, obtaining their T4s from the Canada Revenue Agency and T5007's from Income Support; aided beneficiaries in completing the Nunatsiavut Housing Commission Affordable Rental Housing Applications, Critical Care Repair Program applications, required documents and letter of support for beneficiaries; following up on their applications and maintaining communication and follow-up with the Nunatsiavut Housing Commission; help beneficiaries obtain their new Nunatsiavut Government beneficiary cards with the Membership Department. In partnership with the Department of Health and Social Development, the Nunatsiavut Government and Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro I have helped several constituents resolve outstanding balance or disconnection notices on their hydro bills. Eligible individuals received a one-time payment from the Department of Health and Social Development; setting up beneficiaries for an equal payment plan with Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro, setting up payment plan with income support and Newfoundland and Labrador automatic payments from their income support; assistance to beneficiaries on obtaining new bank cards from the Bank of Montreal and providing appropriate documentation, signing them up for new email address and BMO online banking. In partnership with the Non-Insured Health Benefits, the Department of Health and Social Development, Labrador Grenfell Health, aiding beneficiaries with communication and advocating for approvals for escorts for seniors and beneficiaries who have difficulties navigating in the city for critical health appointments who

require an additional escort. In partnership with Non-Insured Health Benefits, the Department of Health and Social Development, Labrador Grenfell Health, in obtaining a letter of support from the health professionals for Inuit Child First Initiative for review and approval for beneficiaries; assisted beneficiaries in applying for income support and required documents to submit income support for beneficiaries, updating their information on their files, advising and maintaining communication with beneficiaries of their benefits such as Goods and Services Tax benefits, Carbon Tax Rebate benefit after filing their fiscal year and prior year of personal income tax returns; in partnership with the Department of Health and Social Development local red seal electrician aided beneficiaries in attaining an inspection to receive their power of a one-time payment for beneficiaries from the Department of Health and Social Development to transition from the emergency shelter in Nain to their home; aided beneficiaries in partnership with the Nain Inuit Community Government and Mercer, to complete their pension plan to receive their benefits as well as their Guaranteed Income Supplement. In addition, Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity to attend TSN's, "Breaking Down Barriers," community event at the Jeremias Sillitt Community Centre in Nain on May 2nd, 2025. Nine young girls from Nain have traveled to Montreal to attend a professional women's hockey league playoff game to experience firsthand the professional women's hockey meeting-, inspiring leaders, going on exciting tours to experience the energy and excitement of playoff hockey at the highest level with teacher and principle Julie Dicker,

chaperone Edna Asivak and professional hockey player of Team Canada Saroya Tinker. I have attended the Language Summit in Nain from May 5 to the 9th of 2025, hosted by the Department of Language, Culture and Tourism.

MR. WINTERS:

Member, that's your time. You can...

MR. DICKER JR.:

Okay, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

...conclude the rest on the 2nd. *Nakummek*. Are there any second members' statements around the Table at this time? Recognizing AngajukKâk Marjorie Flowers of Hopedale, whenever you're ready.

MS. FLOWERS:

Nakummek, Uhalitik. Time has flown by and here we are another school year ending. This means exciting times for our graduating class of 2025. They will be graduating this Saturday at ACMS. On behalf of Hopedale Inuit Community Government, I extend congratulations to Isaac Abel, Stephanie Bennett, Ethan Dicker, Caelin Lampe, Franny Onalik, Tabea Onalik Jr, Kennedy Winters and Laura Winters. Wishing every student every success in whichever endeavour they choose. To all students attending the Okalalayuta event in Makkovik this week and have fun. It is wonderful for youth to be learning Inuttitut and speaking it in this forum. One teacher will be leaving this year to pursue studies at MUN. Thank you to Mr. Riley Baker. We wish him all the best in his studies. To the teachers who are staying, thank you, for your service to our community. May all students and staff alike have an awesome summer. Have fun and stay safe. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of HICG I want to wish AngajukKâk Julius Dicker of Nain

Inuit Community Government a happy retirement and wish him a good recovery in his recent medical issues. Thank you, AngajukKâk Dicker for your hard work and dedication to the town of Nain and for the numerous times you have supported all other ICG's on different issues. I will sorely miss our comradery at the Assembly sittings. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, AngajukKâk. Are there any other second Members' statements around the Table? Recognizing the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen, when you're ready, sir.

MR. W. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I bring greetings from the membership in the Upper Lake Melville Area. It's always nice to get back on the coast and to see many of our beneficiaries. It's always good to help beneficiaries who are in the Upper Lake Melville Area. The van takes patients to their appointment and to the drug store. But Mr. Speaker one of the most requested requests I get from beneficiaries they're at the airport waiting to travel back to the North Coast and they'll call up and say, "Wally I forgot my eyeglasses, at such and such a place." So it's a pleasure to certainly help them out. I want to say thank you to former AngajukKâk Joe Dicker for all his work. Mr. Speaker, both Joe and I worked together at the Government store in Davis Inlet in 1973. I also want to pay tribute to Joan Dicker and Mr. Speaker I was blessed when she gave me a CD of her and Karrie Obed singing the Moravian hymns in Inuttitut. It's a present that I'll cherish forever. I also want to congratulate the new AngajukKâk for Nain, my baby brother, Anthony William Eugene Andersen. And Mr. Speaker I hope he's not unparliamentary, but I will say this, brother if I

didn't use a little comb-over, the tops of our head would be identical.

Thank you. Gotta rub it in.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. Are there any other second statements around the Table? Recognizing the Ordinary Member for Nain, Ms. Roxanne Barbour.

MS. BARBOUR:

Naku. I was asked by a community member, a former-, former or current? Current, sorry, Board Member for the OK Society to-, she was very happy to share that they are now 100 percent Inuit employed and I was glad to share that and I'd like to acknowledge Silpa-, she's here with us-, she's the Executive Director-, for pulling off that success and just wanted to do that. And then the other part is I-, as the summer approaches, you know, and if everybody goes on their vacation, I hope we always keep in mind still that no matter where we go or what we do or how we do it, we always remember our purpose and the reasons why we're here. I've struggled recently which almost pushed me away but again coming back here and being surrounded by yous all really reminded me. So I just wanted to express sincere gratitude to everybody for reminding me of a part of my purpose and wish yous all a healthy, fun and good summer. *Naku*.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. Are there any other second statements? Recognizing the Ordinary Member for Nain, Mr. David Dicker, when you're ready.

MR. DICKER JR.:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to take the time to acknowledge Ian Dicker of Nain who is a 17-year-old who hosted a volleyball camp in

Makkovik with CBC Newfoundland and Labrador, CBC National Journalist hosted by Nathan Wareham. Head coach for the team Newfoundland and Labrador Canada Summer Games 2025, who Ian is an official competitors and rosters for Team Newfoundland and Labrador Canada Summer Games 2025, on Friday May 16 to Sunday May 18, 2025 for age groups, Grades 4 to 6, 7 to 9 and 10 to 12. Mr. Speaker, we held our Nain constituency meeting in Nain on May 21, 2025 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Nunatsiavut Government Administration Board Room. We had a great turnout with a total of 12 constituents in attendance. I tended the Jens Haven Memorial Class of 2025 on May 24, 2025. A total of 10 graduates have graduated, Ian Dicker, Kaleb Dicker, Menzel Lidd, Gilbert Haye, John Aaron Ikkusek, Mary Ann Lidd, Geraldine Andersen, Samantha Jararuse, Chassidy Ikkusek, and Serenity Ivany. *Nakummek*, to those who made this graduation a success. Geraldine Andersen, Serenity Ivany, Peyton Dicker, Jasmine Tuglavina, Sandra Dicker Nochasak, Kelsey Vinnicombe, Juanita Skanes, Charmaine Gear, Megan Webb, Stefan Moores and Matthew Mercer planned the prom. Lena Onalik, Mike Earl, Juanita Skanes, Lora Dawn Angnatok, Frankie Short, Chase and Colby Holwell and Amelia Angnatok cooked the food for the prom. Lastly, Mr. Speaker I want to highlight that I have unwaveringly supported beneficiaries by addressing their questions, guiding them to the appropriate departments and doing everything within my power as Ordinary Member for Nain to assist and benefit the constituents of Nain. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. Are there any other second statements around the Table? Recognizing the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Mr. Barry Andersen, when you're ready.

MR. B. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, just briefly Makkovik Inuit Community Government, will have a clean-up week next week starting Monday. Unfortunately, I will be there to help to clean up. And we'll encourage all residents to bring out all their old skidoos and whatever ATV's that you might have around, and we will deliver it to the landfill site for free as well. And I was reminded by Ordinary Member Dicker from Nain about the volleyball camp that was held in Makkovik, and I'd like to congratulate all the participants. It was a huge event from people from Nain, Hopedale, Makkovik, Rigolet too I believe. And it was an event that was well-attended, and I think everybody enjoyed themselves. Everybody got in and out on time. Also Ordinary Member for Makkovik, Tom Evans is also organizing the King Charles III presentation ceremony for residents of Makkovik that will happen very soon. And I also-, unless Facebook served me wrong, I'd like to congratulate Isabella Pain on receiving the Ordinary Member-, or the King Charles III medal as well. So one of our own employees. So thank you, very much.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, AngajukKâk. It's always good when we can make the interpreters laugh. Are there any other second statements around the Table at this time? Yes, recognizing Patricia Kemuksigak, the Chairperson of the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation. When you're ready.

MS. KEMUKSIGAK: *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker. I wanted to congratulate our Barbara Crawford who's a Board Member of NunaKatiget who also received the King Charles III medal. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, Chairperson. Are there further second statements at this time? Seeing none, we will take a 15-minute break. The snack is here in the Courtroom. *Nakummek*.

[Recess]

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*. We are now on to Item seven-, six, apologies. Thank you. Item Six is, "Returns to Oral Questions." Under Standing Order 34(3), a Minister or the President has the option of reading the response to a written question. None of the Ministers nor the president has opted to read the responses. You can find these returns in your binder under, Tab Two. Now we're on to Item Seven, "Oral Questions." Are there any oral questions? Recognizing the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen.

MR. W. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the First Minister. With another annual spring hunt of migratory birds over, can the Minister inform me of any recent meetings that she's had with officials to try and re-open the spring hunt in the Upper Lake Melville Area?

MR. WINTERS: Whenever you're ready, First Minister.

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And thank you, Ordinary Member for the question. There has, to my knowledge, the Implementation Committee hasn't met in review, this file stands as it did last time I responded to the

question from the Member. Once I do have information I will be providing it to the Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, First Minister. Does the Ordinary Member have a supplemental question?

MR. W. ANDERSEN: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: Are there any other oral questions around the Table? Recognizing Patricia Kemuksigak, Chairperson of the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation.

MS. KEMUKSIGAK: *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker. I have a little bit of an explanation before I get to the question. And several elderly people have run into this problem. There was a female elder whose husband had a massive stroke and he was sent to the hospital in St. John's and then to the Miller Centre. Her husband is not a beneficiary. But she had to be his escort and she-, it was really difficult. She was wondering if there could be some kind of special funding for people that, elders who might be over 75 whose spouse-, they know that they can't be covered by Non-Insured because they're not a member, but if there was something else a little something in place because a lot of older elders, they don't-, they're usually on very fixed incomes and they don't have a lot of additional money and it's very hard. It causes stress on the beneficiary as they are out in St. John's with very little support or funds, and their spouse needs them to be there. Some suggestions she had was...

MR. WINTERS: Member, have you completed your question?

MS. KEMUKSIGAK: Not yet.

MR. WINTERS: Okay, because suggestions are not part of your question.

MS. KEMUKSIGAK: Okay. Sorry. Is that something-, I was going to direct it to the President because it don't really fit into any portfolio. Is that something that Nunatsiavut Government could consider, such as letting them go on the First Light Van or even give a few meal vouchers at the hospital cafeteria? Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: I don't know that the First Light Van has anything to do with the mandate of the Nunatsiavut Government, but I will leave it to the President to respond.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: *Nakummek, UKatti.* I can say that we've come up with a similar issue before and the only answer that I can say is the same, we do provide NIHB or health services to beneficiaries, but to those non beneficiaries, we have not in the past provided that support. And we have not come to a discussion on whether we will support that issue now, today, or in the future. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek,* Mr. President. Does the Chairperson have a follow-up question?

MS. KEMUKSIGAK: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Are there other oral questions around the Table? Recognizing the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Mr. Chesley Sheppard.

MR. SHEPPARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This question is for Honourable Terry Vincent, Lands and Natural Resources. I just wanted to ask, did I hear right that you are getting bison, elk, and boar for beneficiaries? Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: Would the AngajukKâk be able to repeat the question for the interpreters' booth?

MR. SHEPPARD: I was just wondering if I heard right that NG is gonna provide elk, boar, and bison for NG members?

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, AngajukKâk. Minister Vincent?

MR. VINCENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Member for your question. That is correct. We will be providing elk, bison and boar as there was no caribou available to get this year. So we supplemented something else just to add the wild meat.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, Minister. Does the AngajukKâk have a supplemental question?

MR. SHEPPARD: Do you know roughly when you would have it come in?

MR. WINTERS: Minister?

MR. VINCENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Member for the question. We're hoping to have it within a week or two so it could be then delivered on the ferry to the Coast.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*. AngajukKâk, do you have a second supplemental question?

MR. SHEPPARD: No.

MR. WINTERS: Are there any other oral questions around the Table at this time? Are there any other first oral questions around the Table at this time? Seeing none, I'll recognize the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen.

MR. W. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And my question is for the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. With the allotment of bison, elk and boar, will there be an allotment for beneficiaries in the Upper Lake Melville Area?

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Minister Vincent?

MR. VINCENT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Member for your question. Yes, there will be allotment for Upper Lake Melville.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Does the Ordinary Member have a supplemental question?

MR. W. ANDERSEN: No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: Are there any other oral questions around the Table at this time? Yes, recognizing Chairperson of the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation, Ms. Patricia Kemuksigak

MS. KEMUKSIGAK: *Nakummek,* Mr. Speaker. This question is to the Acting Minister of Health and Social Development. I heard that the homeless shelter and supportive housing complex that was scheduled to be built in Goose Bay is on hold by the Province. Is this correct, and when will a decision be made if it's going to go ahead?

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek,* Chairperson. Ms. Williams, Minister?

MS. WILLIAMS: *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker and *Nakummek*, Chairperson for your question. That is not information that I have heard, so I will have to take the question under notice to confirm an answer.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*. Does the Chairperson have a supplemental question?

MS. KEMUKSIGAK: No, Mr. Speaker and I want to thank her for putting it under advisement. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*. Are there any other oral questions around the Table at this time? Seeing none, that's the end of question period. We're moving on to Item Eight, "Written Questions." Are there written questions around the Table at this time? Yes, recognizing Roxanne Barbour. There are two questions provided by Ms. Barbour. One is to Language, Culture and Tourism and one is to more generally the NEC. Both questions appear to be in order. Are there any further written questions at this time? Seeing none, we are on to Item Nine, "Returns to Written Questions." Under Standing Order 34(3), a Minister has the option of reading the response to a written question. None of the Ministers nor the President has opted to read the response. There are seven returns to written questions from the March sitting. And you can find these returns in your binder under Tab 3. That brings us to Item 10, "Petitions." Are there any petitions today? Seeing none, that brings us to Item 11, "Responses to Petitions." There are no responses to petitions today. Item 12 is, "Reports of Standing in Special Committees." And there are no reports today. Item 13 is, "The Tabling of Documents." I would now like to recognize the Honourable Minister of Education and Economic Development, Mr. Tom Evans.

MR. EVANS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Honourable Speaker, I'm pleased to table the following document, titled the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies, Labrador Inuit Capital Trust 2023 Annual Report.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, Honourable Minister Evans. The document presented is tabled and numbered as follows: 11-59. I would now like to recognize the Honourable Member of the Canadian Constituency, Mr. Saunders.

MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to table the following document titled, "Special Committee on Voting Alternatives for the Canadian Constituency, Progress Report and Recommendation to the Nunatsiavut Assembly.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, Ordinary Member Saunders. The document presented is tabled and numbered as 12-59.

MR. A. ANDERSEN: Point of Order, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS: Yes, recognizing the AngajukKâk.

MR. A. ANDERSEN: Under Standing Order 30, I think that tabling of documents certainly is in order, but it's supposed to be provided to the Assembly at the time it's tabled. That document is not in my binder.

MR. WINTERS: One moment while we check the binders.

MR. A. ANDERSEN: Voting alternatives for the Canadian Constituency.

MR. WINTERS: Apologies for the absence. You're absolutely right that the document does not appear in the binder. We're make sure that they're printed and

brought in to you right now. We will take 10 minutes to make that happen.

Nakummek.

[Recess]

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Welcome back. Thank you, first of all to the AngajukKâk for the point of order. I did not realize that the document was not in your binders. Once again the document presented is tabled and numbered as 12-59. There are no more documents to be tabled today. So we will move on to Item 14, "Notices of Motion." There no more-, sorry, there are no notices of motion today. That brings us to Item 15, "Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills." There are no notices for first reading of bills today. Item 16 is, "Motions." There are no motions for today. Item 17 is, "First Reading of Bills." There are no bills for first reading today. Item 18, "Second Reading of Bills." There are no bills for second reading today. Item 19 is, "Assent to Bills." There are no bills set for assent today. Item 20 is, "Adjournment." The Assembly is now adjourned until 8:30 a.m. tomorrow morning, Thursday June 5th, 2025. *Nakummek.*

[Adjournment]

Day 2 June 5, 2025

MR. WINTERS:

Ullâkut. Welcome to Day Two of the June Sitting of the Assembly. Item One is, "Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery." Recognizing Mark Gillette of Legal Services and Isabella Pain from the Secretariat. We will move on to Item Two, "Ministers Statements." Are there any Ministers Statements today? Seeing none, we'll move on to Item Three. Item Three is, "Members Statements." Are there any Members' Statements? Recognizing the Ordinary Member for the Constituency of Canada, Mr. Roland Saunders.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. Good day, Members, staff, pages and guests. It's good to be back here in Hopedale again. Congratulations to all Nunatsiavut members that were awarded the King Charles III Medal for their hard work and dedication to the people of Labrador and Canada. Thank you to the Executive Council for the constituency meeting in Ottawa last month. It was a good meeting with a small turnout of members, but the questions and discussion, it was great. I think everyone enjoyed it. And the meeting itself went really smoothly, no hitches and no-, not much swag either, I must mention that. But there was some. I also traveled to the Northern Peninsula of Newfoundland for a constituency meeting in late May. The weather was interesting. That was probably the most interesting thing that happened. I had all four seasons in one day. So you probably know what that's like, just typical Newfie weather. The questions were a little different this time round, mainly on membership and benefits which always comes up. The members also mentioned that getting family and friends of their relatives that have-, that were born in the Land Claims Area had signed the applications for most of those people are deceased. And the children or relatives aren't willing to sign the application. It has become a real problem for anyone that had just reached the age of 19 in the Canadian Constituency. They're having problems getting their applications signed. So that is one thing that will be brought up more than once. It's good to hear from many members all across Canada and that they are satisfied with the help that they get from NG, especially when it comes to benefits

and assistance when they call for help. Now I would just like to wish everyone a happy, healthy summer vacation and hopefully we'll see each and everybody back here again in September. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. I will now recognize the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Gerald Asivak, when you're ready, sir.

MR. ASIVAK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Condolences to the family of the late Irene MacLean of Happy Valley, Goose Bay. Congrats to Aiden Wheeler of Happy Valley, Goose Bay who was selected to attend the Trail of the Caribou program in Europe in June and July. Have a wonderful trip and enjoy the once in a lifetime experience. Well wishes to Joe Dicker of Nain. Thank you, for your service to LIA and NG. *Nakummek*.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. The next Members' statement will be from the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Ms. Marjorie Flowers, when you're ready.

MS. FLOWERS:

Nakummek, *Uhalitik*. This morning I give you a brief update on HICG. To date, we are still short-staffed. The town manager position is still vacant which is causing a huge void in our office. I'm filling in as much as I can, however, with any vacancy, especially in a town manager position, work has to be prioritized which slows down other work in the office. Our town clerk has some medical issues as well, therefore I'm also filling in for her when she's out of town. Luckily, the student who is doing her work placement this spring has returned to town and has been hired on as a

casual basis to catch up on town clerk duties. I thank our Office Assistant Stonia Nochasak for her hard work and dedication helping out wherever she can. I was involved with negotiations in April and am happy to report a new contract was agreed upon and signed for another four years. Staff have received a pay increase to bring their salaries on par with Nain's municipal staff. Thank you, to Nunatsiavut Government for added increase in funding to make this possible. And also for added funding for more IT support. Hopefully the pay increase will also help retain our staff within HICG. The Winter Trails Program finished the end of April. This will be the last year that HICG will take on this program, as it puts much strain on our already over-worked staff. Hopefully next year another agency will take Winter Trails on. HICG is gearing up for capital works projects this summer. I look forward to the engagement sessions for growth strategy in our town which will be happening this evening and tomorrow. Thank you, to NDHSD for the donations of funds which will keep our food pantry stocked for a while. An increase is noted in residents who used the food pantry this year, which shows food security is definitely an issue here in our community. Lastly, I congratulate AngajukKâk Anthony Andersen on his election win as AngajukKâk for Hopedale Inuit Community Government-, Nain, I'm sorry. You can't take my job. HICG extends sincere condolences to the family, friends and town of Nain in the passing of elder Joan Dicker. She has left a huge legacy in language, culture, church and as a community member who loved and fought for her community right to the end of her life. May

angels lead you home, Joan. I wish all Assembly Members and staff a safe and pleasant summer. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication to Nunatsiavut Government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, AngajukKâk. Are there any other Members' Statements around the Table? Yes, recognizing the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen.

MR. W. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the residents of the Upper Lake Melville area, I would like to thank the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources and the Executive Council for the contribution of caribou that we had last year. And I want to thank you again for the coming year when we will get an amount of bison, boar, and elk. That kind of thing, I think means a lot to the people in the Upper Lake Melville area and in some ways it sort of brings us a little closer together. I want to thank the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources and his staff for the extension of the salmon fishery for the Upper Lake Melville area. I understand that they will now have to negotiate with a different organization and had they not done what they did, there was a possibility that there would not have been a salmon fishery in the Upper Lake Melville area this year. Minister, to you and your staff, thank you for that. And I'm sure at the Fall Sitting I will be asking questions for an update for the future fishery. I wanna wish all Members a safe summer. And I would ask you, please take the time with your family and your friends. Have a safe summer. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. Are there any other Members' Statements around the Table? Recognizing the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Mr. Chesley Sheppard, when you're ready.

MR. SHEPPARD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I never prepared a real statement where we are short on staff and my town clerk, which there's only two of us in the office has been out for the past week for medical reasons. And it has been pretty busy, the past week, as spring cleanup has been starting as well as we prepare for our capital works projects. But I would like to send my congratulations out to the Northern Lights Academy 2025 graduates, Isabelle Palliser, Kylie Palliser and Brooklyn Wolfrey. And I would also like to congratulate Brooklyn Wolfrey for her gold medal she won in the Dwarf Games out west this past month. And I'd also like to wish her the best of luck when she goes to Peru this summer. We know you'll do great and do our community proud. And I'd also like to congratulate the recipients of the King Charles Award, and Charlotte Wolfrey and Sarah Baikie. It is well-deserved. Our spring cleanup starts next week, which I will also be in town to help. And the-, our salmon festival starts August 5th to the 8th. Everyone's welcome to come and celebrate in our annual Salmon Fest as we have the Sun Dogs scheduled to come and perform for the BYOB (inaudible) during the days. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Are there any other Members' Statements around the Table at this time? Seeing none, we'll move on to Item Four, "Returns to Oral Questions." Are there any returns to oral questions today? Recognizing

the First Minister and Acting Minister of the Department of Health and Social Development, Ms. Melva Williams.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker. I want to provide a response to the question as on Day One by the Chairperson for the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation, Patricia Kemuksigak. The question was around the homeless shelter complex and whether it was on hold. And the supplementary question was, "Will it go ahead, or an update?" The answer is it is not on hold. The design is complete, geotech work is complete and I think that they're ready to go to tender soon. And we are being advised that they're looking at a completion date in two years.

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. Are there any other returns to oral questions at this time? Seeing none, we will move on to Item Five. Item Five is, "Oral Questions." Are there any oral questions around the Table? Recognizing the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen.

MR. W. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the First Minister. Minister, do you have any further update on the request for proposals or the design work that was supposed to have been done by the Provincial Government on a road for the North Coast of Labrador?

MR. WINTERS:

Minister, whenever you're ready.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker and thank you, for your question, Ordinary Member. In relation to the pre-feasibility work that the Province has done on the road to the North Coast, they had requested comments from

stakeholders. Nunatsiavut Government has provided our comments.

They have not advised us that the report is ready to be released as of yet.

I could further add that I have a request for a meeting with the Minister and that is on the agenda of items I want to discuss with him. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Ordinary Member for your question.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Minister. Does the Ordinary Member have a supplemental question?

MR. W. ANDERSEN:

No, Mr. Speaker.

MR. WINTERS:

Recognizing the Chairperson of the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation, Ms. Ms. Kemuksigak.

MS. KEMUKSIGAK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. The Housing and Homeless Coalition in Happy Valley, Goose Bay has a Meals on Wheels program. They wanted to request to Nunatsiavut Government for some arctic char, possibly two cases. As 60 to 70 percent of the people who receive Meals on Wheels weekly are Nunatsiavut beneficiaries, and they're wanting traditional food. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Chairperson. Minister Vincent.

MR. VINCENT:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And thank you, Chairperson for your question. Yes, our staff is working on it to see what we have available to be able to donate to them. At this time we're still trying to figure out what we have. Hopefully it will be within the next week or so.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, Minister. Chairperson, do you have a supplemental question?

MS. KEMUKSIGAK: No, Mr. Speaker. Thank you for...

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek*. Are there any other oral questions around the Table at this time? Seeing none, that concludes oral questions for today. Yes. Okay. My apologies, we're still on, "Oral Questions," and the second question will be coming from the Chairperson of the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation, Ms. Patricia Kemuksigak.

MS. KEMUKSIGAK: *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker. My question is to First Minister, Melva Williams. In regard to the Family Tree project, will-, are the committees set up or is that going to be once they're done the preliminary work?

MR. WINTERS: First Minister?

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Chairperson. I am not sure what your question is-, I'm not sure what you refer to as, "Committee." I have no knowledge of a committee being set up in relation to the Family Lines project, for the Know History. Is that what you're referencing? Is it a Know History Family, the Inuit database that you're referring to? There isn't a plan to be a committee set up. Committees are the Membership Committees that are currently already established in the communities. There's a community-, there's a Membership Committee for Rigolet, Upper Lake Melville. They're already in place. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Chairperson for your question.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* I'll ask the Chairperson to use your headset so it's easier to hear responses. Do you have a supplemental question?

MS. KEMUKSIGAK: No, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS: *Nakummek.* Are there any other questions around the Table at this time? Seeing none, now we are finished oral questions for today. Item Six is, "Written Questions." Are there any written questions around the Table? Yes, recognizing the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Roland Saunders. Apologies, Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency. We're all getting our locations wrong today. We have a question from Ordinary Member Saunders that is in order, a question from Ordinary Member Saunders for LNR that is also in order. We have a question from the Chairperson of the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation that is in order, and we have another question-, well, we have a statement from the Chairperson of the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation that is not a question. So it is not in order. I will ask that the Chairperson follow up via email and we can discuss this afterwards. Yes, First Minister, you have a question?

MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm just wondering if the question that was in order from the Chairperson, are you able to tell which department it's addressed to please?

MR. WINTERS: It's you. Yeah, it's-, they were both addressed to the First Minister. One is in order and one is not a question. *Nakummek.* Are there any other written questions around the Table at this time? Okay. I will hand over

my chair to the Deputy Speaker and submit a written question for review.

Nakummek.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Thank you, Mr. Winters. Ordinary Member Winters, do you have a written question?

MR. WINTERS:

I do.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Thank you. Thank you, Ordinary Member Winters. The question is in order and is good. The attached expression for data for the area, it's in French. We prefer it to be in English, so if you could do that, then we will continue on. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek.

MS. WILLIAMS:

Excuse me.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Go ahead, First Minister.

MS. WILLIAMS:

I'd like to ask the same questions I asked previously, can we know who the questions are directed to please?

MR. SAUNDERS:

Thank you. It's for First Minister Williams, Department of Health.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek. That should be the end of musical chairs. Are there any other written questions around the Table at this time? Seeing none, that brings us to Item Seven, "Returns to Written Questions." There are no returns to written questions today. Item Eight is, "Petitions." Are there any petitions today? Seeing none, Item Nine is, "Responses to Petitions." Are there any responses to petitions today? Seeing none, we are on Item 10, "Reports of Standing in Special Committees." I would like to

recognize the Ordinary Member from Canada, Mr. Roland Saunders to present the Report of the Special Committee on Voting Alternatives for the Canadian Constituency.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Honourable Speaker, in accordance with Standing Order 72(1) and 72(2), I move, seconded by the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Ms. Marjorie Flowers, that Tabled Document 12-5(9), the "Special Committee on Voting Alternatives for the Canadian Constituency Progress Report and Recommendations to the Nunatsiavut Assembly," be received and adopted.

MR. WINTERS:

Thank you, Ordinary Member. The motion is in order. And I'd like to thank the AngajukKâk from Nain for pointing out that the report had not been in the binders yesterday. It is now, and hopefully you've all been able to review it. Would the Ordinary Member like to speak to the motion?

MR. SAUNDERS:

Yes, Mr. Speaker. The Special Committee on Voting Alternatives for the Canadian Constituency was struck by the Fifth Assembly to continue the important work that was unfortunately cut short by the dissolution of the previous Assembly. There's little more importance to the legitimacy of a democracy than the ability of its citizens to cast votes. Since the creation of the Nunatsiavut Government, beneficiaries living in the Constituency of Canada have had to deal with the uncertainty of whether or not their ballots are being counted in the elections or representative in the Assembly and the President of Nunatsiavut. In political science terms, knowingly allowing barriers to voting is known as disenfranchisement and

is denying the rights enshrined in the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims*, 17.3.6 and the *Labrador Inuit Constitution*, 1.4.1 to a large swath of our membership. In recent years, especially during and since the COVID-19 pandemic, electronic voting has become more standard across the country and within Indigenous Nations, especially with those in large geographic areas. The variety and quality of vendors offering this service is a safe, secure and simple way that's been founded by this committee, and a Nunatsiavut Electoral officer as the ideal way to expand our voting methods. Since the dissolution of this Fourth Assembly the Makivvik Corporation in Nunavik has implemented electronic voting as an option for all beneficiaries of its land claim through great success. Although electronic voting could eventually be considered by the Nunatsiavut Assembly as an option for all constituencies, this committee's mandate is limited to the Constituency of Canada. The Nunatsiavut Government would not be recklessly charging ahead of other Indigenous Regions and our cousins in Nunavik. We would simply be modernizing beyond a single and long-outdated method of casting ballots, with an additional option for our beneficiaries, with careful consideration about how we can improve the election process for our members, the Committee has provided this report and recommendations for this Assembly to adopt.

MR. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member. Does anyone else wish to speak to the motion? Just a reminder that debate is under Standing Order 40(1). Every member has an opportunity to speak once the motion and mover

has right of last reply. Seeing no one, does Mr. Saunders wish to close debate?

MR. SAUNDERS:

Yes, Mr. Speaker, I wish to close debate on the subject. Thank you.

MR. WINTERS:

That closes debate. Is the Assembly in favour of approving the Special Committee on Voting Alternatives for the Canadian Constituency progress report and recommendations to the Nunatsiavut Assembly? All those in favour, please raise your hand and say, "Aye." Any, "Nays?" The motion passes. Item 11 is, "Tabling of Documents." There are no documents to be tabled today. We'll move on to Item 12, "Notices of Motion." There are no notices of motion today. Item 13, "Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills." There are no notices for first reading of bills today. Item 14 is, "Motions." There are no motions for today. Item 15 is, "The First Reading of Bills." There are no bills for first reading today. Item 16 is, "The Second Reading of Bills." There are no bills for second reading today. Item 17 is, "The Assent to Bills." And there are no bills for assent today. Item 18 is "Adjournment." The Assembly is now adjourned, and the next sitting will be the week of September 21st. I would like to thank all Members of the Assembly for their diligence this week as well as all Assembly support staff for their excellent work that made this possible. I would like to thank our two new incredible interpreters, Toby Kojak and Nancy Ikkusek . I would also like to thank our OKâlaKatiget Society support, Nancy Nochasak and Silpa Suarak and our IT support Ches Evans and Frederick Tabbal.. Our two fantastic pages, have been Sam Winters and Jamie Pijogge while our drivers have

been Rodney Gear and Jimmy Tuttuak. I would also like to send a special thank you and the sincerest condolences to our own Tabea Onalik assistant to the Clerk of the Assembly who has been off on bereavement leave this week but still putting in many hours on logistics to help make this sitting happen. *Nakumesuak*. Please take care and have a safe, restful summer, everyone.

[Adjourned]