



Nunatsiavut kavamanga
Nunatsiavut Government

FIRST ASSEMBLY
OF
NUNATSIAVUT

THIRD SESSION

SEVENTH SITTING

**KAVAMALIGIJET
KAJITITSIUTINGA**

**PARLIAMENTARY
REPORT**

December 10-12, 2007

Speaker: Honourable Todd Broomfield

In Attendance:

Speaker of the Nunatsiavut Assembly, Todd Broomfield
Deputy Speaker and Ordinary Member for Canadian Constituency, Daniel Pottle
Acting President, First Minister, Ordinary Member for Nain, Anthony Andersen
Minister of Lands and Resources, Ordinary Member for Nain, William Barbour
Minister of Health and Social Development, Greg Flowers
Minister of Finance, Human Resources, Information Technology and the Status of Women, Diane Gear
Minister of Education, Training and Economic Development, Darryl Shiwak
Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Ben Ponniuk
Deputy Minister of the Nunatsiavut Secretariat, Secretary to the Executive Council, Kate Mitchell
Deputy Minister of Nunatsiavut Affairs, Toby Andersen
Deputy Minister of Lands and Resources, Douglas Blake
Deputy Minister of Health and Social Development, Michelle Kinney
Deputy Minister of Finance and Human Resources, Information Technology and the Status of Woman, Wyman Jacque
Deputy Minister of Education and Economic Development, Tim McNeill
Deputy Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Sheldon Baikie
AngajukKâk for Nain, Sarah Erickson
AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Judy Dicker
AngajukKâk for Postville, Keith Decker
AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque
AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Daniel Michelin
Ordinary Member for Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Keith Russell
Chair Person for NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation, Malcolm Winters
Chief Negotiator, Ches Andersen
Director of Legal Services, Loretta Michelin
Director of Communications, Karen Prentice
Executive Secretary, Debbie Dicker

Absent:

President, William Andersen III

Assembly commences at 2:03 p.m.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you Max from your cooperation, thank you. I'll certainly use my tool with pride, thank you. At this time I'd like to officially open the, our last sitting for the Fall session for 2007. I'd like to welcome our visitors in the gallery and all the Assembly members to the sitting. For the benefit of Assembly members we have two pages, Albert Abel and Ethel who will also be helping us out. I'd also like to thank our two translators John and Wilson for everything that they do for us, it is certainly much appreciated. At this time I'd like to hand the floor over to Marjorie Andersen for the opening prayer.

Mrs. Flowers: recites opening prayer.

Announcements from the Chair

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you Marjorie, before we officially get into our agenda for this sitting, I have one announcement I would like to make to the Assembly. It's that Mary Sillett who was appointed late last summer as the Clerk of the Assembly will officially begin her duties as Clerk of the Nunatsiavut Assembly on the 8th of January. So, I'd just like to inform the Assembly of that. Are there any documents or petitions to be tabled at this time? We'll move onto Minister's Statements. At this time I'd like to recognize the Honorable Minister of Lands and Resources.

Ministers' Statements

Mr. Barbour: Thank you Mr. Speaker, again you asked a question of whether tabling documents of and petitions we have one provided from my department

“Outfitting on Labrador Inuit Lands” At present time my department has been asked about outfitting, hunting and fishing licenses. At present time I wish to inform the Assembly that we will take our time to make sure that we have a fair process in place in terms of issuing new, new outfitting licenses in the sense that under our final agreement we have to have make sure always that subsistence harvesting comes first over and above anything else being a commercial harvesting operation. So, with that Mr. Speaker, I'd just point out that my department will be taking it's time even if it does take a couple of years then that's what we hope to do to ensure that anyone who wishes to be in this type of business has fair opportunity. At present time we have one applicant and we have no process in place to allow for others at present time to make it a fair process. So, it's just my statement from Department of Lands and Resources will take it's time in trying to develop that policy for hunting and fishing outfitting licenses, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you Mr. Minister, are there any other Ministers who wish to make a statement? The Speaker recognizes the Honorable Minister of Finance.

Mrs. Gear: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take a few minutes of the House of Assembly to give you update on Finance and Human Resources which is part of my portfolio. It's our intent to give updates to the House of future sittings on the Status of Women and Information Technology. Mr. Speaker, I'll start with Department of Finance, I'm pleased to stand here today and inform the members of the House of Assembly that Nunatsiavut Government

has received its third installment of funding under the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement. On November 30th, 2007, we had deposited into our account in excess of 34 million which comprises of both the Inuit Settlement and Implementation Funding otherwise known as Chapter 19 and 23 within the Labrador Inuit Lands Claims Agreement. Please note this figure is net of the principal repayment due on the Land Claims negotiating loan.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, I would like to give to the House of Assembly members a brief financial update on the operations of the Nunatsiavut Government excluding programming areas such as the Department of Health, Post Secondary, Student Support Program, Inuit Pathways and Labrador Inuit Development Corporation. For 7 months ending October 31, 2007, the Nunatsiavut Government has received revenue of 8.3 million and expenses of 5.8 million. For the remaining 5 months, we are estimating revenue 3.8 million and budget expenses of 6.4 million for that same timeframe which ultimately leads to balance budget as presented earlier this year.

I would also like to inform the House of Assembly that the GST Agreement was finalized and ratified with the federal government of Canada in September 2007. The Nunatsiavut Government has started to receive funds under this agreement and it is expected to bring approximately \$480,000 into Nunatsiavut Government coffers between now and March 31, 2008. On a final note, Mr. Speaker, the Finance Department staff will be working with other departments within Nunatsiavut Government to prepare the 2008/2009

fiscal budget in January 2008 and be ready to discuss the budget at the next sitting of the House of Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, I'll move on now to the Human Resources Department. Since the beginning of the fiscal year the Human Resources Department has filled over 20 new positions, these are new positions created mostly with the last budget realm.

HR has also filled over 25 vacancies due to resignations since April 1st. There have also been about 15 casual employees hired throughout the various departments. HR has also performed some extensive updates on the Employee Policy Manual which came into effect on April 1st, there was also a new manual created for temporary and casual employees. This has worked well to define our processes and procedures for all staff as well as clear the lines between management and the employee division.

There has also been restructuring of the Finance Department including the hiring of a new Purchasing/Accounting Clerk in an effort to streamline processes and deal with increased workload.

Future goals of the HR Department include developing new benefit packages for all staff that live in Nunatsiavut. Currently, our most generous packages, our most generous benefits are only given to positions clarified as hard to recruit. By giving better benefits to all staff in Nunatsiavut, HR hopes that this will ease some of the recruitment problems that currently exist. We recognize that positions are very hard to fill on the North Coast compared to Upper Lake Melville. There are also retention issues such as positions on the North Coast are experiencing high

turnover. HR also has hopes of working with the HR Project Coordinator in Department of Health to assess where are health care needs are greatest and develop a program to encourage young adults to consider health careers, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you Honorable Minister, are there other Ministers statements at this time? The Speaker recognizes the Honorable Minister of Education and Economic Development.

Mr. Shiwak: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I'd like to give a couple of updates and one of them is on the residential schools, whether or not our schools will be added to the residential school settlement agreement. We were expecting to hear something about that earlier this month but we haven't heard a thing and we are expecting to hear something about the middle of December. So, hopefully we will have something to pass onto the Beneficiaries after the middle of December.

Last month, we, as I told you before we are trying to get into the cruise industry and me and some of our other officials flew to Kuujuaq to meet with the Makivik Corporation to see if we could get involved in this. We took and signed a confidentiality agreement and took the information back but we are still looking at information so there is nothing new on that front.

I would like to take a moment to send out a very merry Christmas to all Beneficiaries, residents of Nunatsiavut and residents across Canada and Upper Lake Melville. In saying that, some of our communities are going through a very hard time with, and with unemployment and stuff so I would like to tell everybody that we are working on

it and that we will hopefully in the very near future be able to give some help to these communities, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you Honorable Minister. The Speaker recognizes the Honorable Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth.

Mr. Ponniuk: Thank you Mr. Speaker, since the last Assembly sitting our department has launched four language initiatives, the Rosetta Stone CD, Inuktitut/English Dictionary, a children's book and a book of stories from the storytelling festival. I'd just like to tell you to thank Catharyn and her team for the work well done and of course the individuals in each community who had a hand in this.

And also since the last sitting, a Director of Youth, Elders and Recreation, I am pleased to announce that Sheldon Baikie is, is part of our Department now. He's also been there for the Acting Deputy Minister for our department. He brings a bit of experience from the Provincial Government including he was with the department of Tourism, Recreation and Culture with the Province and he has the knowledge, the workings of the Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs as a Senior Analyst. We hope that we will find that his work and experience will prove very, very good to us.

On another note, a little way from our department, it's an accomplishment by a Beneficiary of Nunatsiavut, Andreas Phillips, a young man from North West River he was successful in his attempt to make the provincial badminton team. He was out to the Provincials and won a gold, well two gold and I believe it was a silver in the mixed and he will now

represent Newfoundland and Labrador and of course Nunatsiavut in the Atlantic badminton championships in St. John, New Brunswick. So, I'd just like to pass that on to you and I think we should be quite proud of this young man as I think it's a very, very, very great accomplishment and as Minister Shiwak, I would also like to extend a very merry Christmas, happy new year and the best to all in the coming year, thank you very much.

Mr. Broomfield: The Speaker recognizes the Honorable Minister of Health and Social Development.

Mr. Flowers: Thank you Mr. Minister, ah, Mr. Chair. I've just got a couple of statements. One is that a couple of weeks ago, me and my Deputy Minister met with Minister of Health for the Province, Ross Wiseman and Minister of Aboriginal Affairs Patty Pottle and CEO Boyd Rowe and Board Chair, Larry Bradley of Labrador Health Grenfell basically to discuss a number of issues, health care issues in Nunatsiavut and am we had an informal meeting at that time. We did set basically another meeting in March to start addressing the issues, agenda items on a quarterly basis.

Labrador Pharmachoice is now open in Happy Valley-Goose Bay and we're looking at other ways of expanding services to Nunatsiavut and the other meeting that we had was Daffodil Place which is a non-profit organization that is looking at putting up a facility in St. John's for cancer treatment patients and basically we sat down with them and looking at ways in helping them with contributions from Nunatsiavut and looking at, looking at ways that we can basically help provide the, provide our

people from Nunatsiavut with a place to go you know, when they have to go for cancer treatment. This facility is only for cancer treatment patients so it's a place that we can, our people, it's not just our people it's for all across Newfoundland and Labrador. A place for just cancer patients can go and they're looking for you know, our support in helping get this facility underway, thank you.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you Honorable Minister.

Mr. A. Andersen: Thank you Mr. Speaker and I certainly do wish, Mr. Speaker that I had decorative glasses like the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation, I don't. We've got the same eyes although I'm much younger than him Mr. Speaker. Just a couple of brief announcements that I think perhaps important for the members to hear is that a week ago, myself and Minister Gear in our positions as the Minister responsible for the Status of Women. We met with the new Justice Minister of Newfoundland and Labrador Government; we had some at least interesting conversation with the Minister. Present at the meeting as well was our neighbors the Innu, with whom I think we share a lot of common concerns regarding the justice system and unfortunate as well.

I'm pleased to say as well the new Minister indicated to us that he is a very hands on Minister and he did take the time while in Upper Lake Melville area to meet with one of our elders who's been very vocal on some of the justice issues regarding all of our Beneficiaries I think and I did have a chance since that time to speak with her. She told me that she was humbled by the meeting and

that it was for her a great opportunity to represent Nunatsiavut. So, we are working with/to try and touch base with as many Ministers as we can with this new Provincial Government since they came into office in October. Next week as Minister Shiwak mentioned, well Minister Shiwak mentioned the hardship regarding employment as some of our communities have had over the summer. Myself and Minister Shiwak will be traveling to St. John's Thursday night to meet with Ministers Hickey and Minister Hickey and Pottle to...

Mr. Shiwak: And Minister Flowers too.

Mr. A. Andersen: and Minister Flowers as well? I didn't know that until now but that's fine. To have some discussion with them, one of the, at least one of the agenda items and as well I will be meeting with Minister Whalen, the new Minister of Transportation to have an initial meeting to discuss some of the transportation problems we've had, marine as well as air. So that's just an update, it is our intention Mr. Speaker for this government to work with whoever is out there, the Federal, Provincial Governments, municipalities. It is certainly not our intention to go out alone but to build partnerships and to build Nunatsiavut true partnerships with other governments in the province and in this country.

I would as well Mr. Speaker like to take the time to wish all the members and all their families a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. As well to recognize the tremendous effort, Mr. Speaker, that our civil service have provided to Nunatsiavut and its Beneficiaries over the past year and I wish Mr. Speaker that they also have a

very merry Christmas and of course a happy New Year and the same for all our Beneficiaries in Nunatsiavut and Upper Lake Melville and Canada. I also take this time to wish them a merry Christmas and a happy New Year and I think that as another year goes by we have to try to provide for them, a government they can have confidence in and I think that over the last year 19, not 19, 2007 we've had had some obstacles. We've had feedback from members who are not exactly happy with the way things are but I think we're, we're moving forward and as, as was said yesterday in caucus Mr. Speaker feedback is most important and certainly this government encourages questions and recommendations, whatever from all members of this Assembly. It's the way to build our government, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Members' Statements

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you Mr. President. At this time the Speaker recognizes the Member for Upper Lake Melville.

Mr. Russell: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I have a very brief statement. I know most of you are used to seeing me get up here and be pretty long winded but I'm glad to hear these things from the Acting President and Minister Gear about some of the things that are going on. We simply can't have a repeat of what has happened to some of the women in Upper Lake Melville regardless of where they're from; we shouldn't have to put up with that. As you all know we've had some family issues in my personal family, my mother had a very difficult surgery. I'd like to thank everybody around this table and Beneficiaries

everywhere for the support that we were given and I'd just like to let you know that things are good and things are looking up.

Next, I'm glad to hear Mr. Shiwak speak about people that are less fortunate, especially during the holiday season. We all got it pretty good, most of us in here and just reach out and see if you can touch someone this holiday season by giving them a helping hand, no matter what it is. In this day and age we shouldn't have to see people that are cold, hungry and hurting. Other than that, in the spirit of peace and goodwill I'd like to wish everyone a merry Christmas, happy holidays, Beneficiaries everywhere, all people of Upper Lake Melville especially and say that I hope everyone has a safe holiday and a very merry Christmas and I look forward to working with everybody in the New Year and trying to resolve other things, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, the Speaker recognizes the Member for Canada.

Mr. Pottle: Nakummek Mr. Speaker, I stand today to posthumously thank the late elder, Nat Igloliorte for his unrelenting efforts and advocacy to promote Inuktitut and Inuit culture. Nat was always there to lend a hand and to volunteer his services to provide Inuktitut translation whenever necessary. Nat would always remind us all not to forget our language or forsake our culture. Nat developed his own Inuktitut lessons and always encouraged us to do our utmost to preserve our language, he was the oldest member of the Nipik Inuit Drummers of St. John's and he also developed his own Inuktitut language course, a prime example of his

dedication to the preservation and promotion of language and culture. I believe each and every one of us should work towards continuing his legacy and work towards ensuring his dream of language revitalization and the promotion of Inuit culture to ensure that it's upheld. Nakummek, aksunai illanâk. I'd also like at this time Mr. Speaker, to wish each and every Assembly member, Beneficiaries to the Land Claims Agreement and the members of our civil service a joyful and merry Christmas and all the best wishes for a safe and happy new year, nakummek Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, the Speaker recognizes the Angajukakâk for Makkovik.

Mr. Jacque: Thank you Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the constituency of Makkovik I would just like to inform the Assembly and congratulate the Makkovik girls volleyball team that traveled to Lab or Churchill Falls last week and won the gold medal, I'd like to congratulate them. Also, I too would like to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and safe and happy New Year on behalf of the Makkovik Inuit Community Government, thank you.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, the Speaker recognizes the AngajukKâk for Rigolet.

Mr. Michelin: Thank you Mr. Speaker, it's good to be back here at the Assembly again. First of all, I would like to thank the Nunatsiavut Government for all their, for all their help in getting the situation, gas situation in Rigolet straightened up, thank you very much for that. On another note, I seem to be coming here every time with

bad news from Rigolet. This is no different again, this has been brought up by Minister Shiwak to the Executive Council that the community of Rigolet is hurting badly for employment. We have a list of people from the Inuit Government of 50 persons looking for hours to qualify for EI. Within those 50 people you could add on another 50 or more and those would be the children of the people that are looking for hours. I would ask the Nunatsiavut Government to, to try as quickly as they can for those people to get a little bit of money for Christmas. It's going to be a hard, hard winter and it's going to be a bleak Christmas if none of these people don't get no hours to get money to spend on their children. I'd just like to, thank you very much for the time I have here and on behalf of the community of Rigolet, wish everybody in Labrador a very merry Christmas and thank you very much.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, the Speaker recognizes the AngajukKâk for Postville.

Mr. Decker: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I'd just like to say thanks to Minister Barbour and his group I guess for us finally getting the go ahead, LIDC finally getting the go ahead with the tank farm in Postville. You know, we just managed to get it done but we got it done and I would certainly like to say thank you and also on behalf of the Postville Inuit Community Government I'd like to wish everybody a merry Christmas and a happy new year and if you drive, don't drink, thank you.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, the Speaker recognizes the AngajukKâk for Hopedale.

Mrs. Dicker: I'd just like to wish everybody a merry Christmas from the Hopedale Inuit Community Government, everybody, thank you.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, the Speaker recognizes the AngajukKâk for Nain.

Mrs. Erickson: Thank you Mr. Speaker, first of all, Merry Christmas and happy new year to everybody from the Nain Inuit Community Government, all the best for next year. Following the AngajukKâk for Makkoviks lead, the volleyball team from Nain went to the regional provincial championship. The boys came in first in the regions and second in the Province. Yay for them, congratulations to Makkovik. I'd like to officially here at the Assembly say congratulations to Mac Winters for the order of Newfoundland that he received last weekend and things are good, that's it.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, the Speaker recognizes the Chair of the NunaKatiget Corporation.

Mr. Winters: Thank you Mr. Speaker, thank you very much Sarah. On behalf of the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation of Happy Valley-Goose Bay I wish everybody in the government and all our Beneficiaries a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, before we move on in our agenda we will take a 10 minute break at this time.

Question Period.

Mr. Broomfield: I'd like to call the House back to order. At this time we will proceed with Question Period, Oral Questions. The Speaker recognizes the Chair of the NunaKatiget Corporation.

Mr. Winters: Oh, thank you Mr. Speaker. I guess this is probably two questions for the Acting President. I'm just wondering if there will be an appointment of a First Minister for nominations for it and my second question would be is if you was to fill the portfolio, would that be too much of a workload for you? Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, the Speaker recognizes the Acting President of Nunatsiavut.

Mr. A. Andersen: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I think Mr. Speaker that some of what the Member has asked hinges on the hypothetical. In our Constitution in 5.87, 5.88, I did as required I guess by the Constitution as the President took a leave of absence that I became Acting President. With respect to the first part of the Members question Mr. Speaker, I would have to say at this time I have not considered transferring any or all of the First Minister's duties to any current Minister or, or anyone else for that matter. It would be fair to say Mr. Speaker again, it's a little bit hypothetical but at the time I perhaps feel that the workload is too great after consulting with the Ministers, I would either then share some of the First Minister's responsibilities with them or give it to, give all that responsibility to one of them which would then probably

put some workload on them. But, at this time I would have to say that I have not gone there, I don't know how long this period of time will last but I have to say that I guess we all hope that, you know, this doesn't go on and on and on.

With respect to the second part of his question, maybe I've even answered. Maybe I've even answered that at the same time and I think that I did even answer that. When I believe that the workload is too great or when there is more certainty around the return of the President then perhaps that's something that I would even consider at that time. But, for now it's business as usual. I need, I am at this time am wearing two hats, it probably only adds more protection to the loss of covering on the top of my head Mr. Speaker but two perhaps in my case, two hats are better than one but it is certainly something that I have on my mind and in a responsible matter Mr. Speaker I would share that with the other Ministers at a time that I felt was more appropriate than it is today, thank you.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, are there any other questions? The Speaker recognizes the Member for the Canadian Constituency.

Mr. Pottle: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I direct my question to the Acting President of Nunatsiavut. I'm just wondering Mr. President if you could clarify a point that was raised in last session regarding the discrepancy between the Elections Act and the Constitution with respect to the next date for the election of President for Nunatsiavut. I think some of us were still unclear of what those discrepancies may be and what would need to be

amended. Would that be the Labrador Inuit Constitution or the Nunatsiavut Assembly Elections Act? I would just like that clarified please Mr. Speaker, thank you.

Mr. Broomfield: The Speaker recognizes the President, the Acting President.

Mr. A. Andersen: Thank you Mr. Speaker and it was, it was at the last sitting of the Assembly the President who raised that at the Assembly. I can, I can assure the Member that at this point in time I have asked our legal council to review our Acts, review the Constitution to make sure that all are in line, I guess she did and I'm pleased to say that just a few seconds ago informed me that there are no amendments that are needed. That was the question that from the last, until a few seconds ago was our concern and the note, I'll just read what it says "nothing needs to be amended, the date is the second Tuesday in May 2008", thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, the Speaker recognizes the AngajukKâk for Rigolet.

Mr. Michelin: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my question to the Acting President. When I was at the last Assembly I put forth the question to then the First Minister about a road from Rigolet to Goose Bay or to North West River. I know that the First Minister now has, is up in, he's up a little higher now, he's Acting President but I was wondering is he still...is there any work being done on the...on the...road from Rigolet to North West River? Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: (inaudible)

Mr. A. Andersen: Thank you Mr. Speaker and certainly if I have moved higher it's not reflected in the treatment I got from the hotel. But, to answer Member's question, one thing that I forgot to mention in my statement to the Assembly is that I had spoke with Minister Hickey and Minister Pottle about a week ago in Goose Bay. I had asked Minister Hickey that I would expect that now that there is a new Transportation Minister in this Province that the commitments that were made during Minister Hickey's tenure at Transportation Minister that they would be upheld.

Minister Hickey assured me that he's as Minister for Labrador Affairs, that his commitment is still there to all of Labrador and at the same time and the same day that Minister Hickey made a commitment to me in the presence of Minister Pottle that he would try to arrange for a meeting for me on the, well at that time it was the 17th. The date is now changed to Friday the, Friday the, Friday the 14th Mr. Speaker, thank you. Friday the 14th I would also have a first meeting with Minister Whalen and in those talks that I hope to have with Minister Whalen the feasibility study, excuse me, feasibility Mr. Speaker is a top priority for those discussions. I know that Rigolet is anxious to see this move forward but we're trying to move this forward in a responsible way that we are looking at perhaps transportation systems by road to all of Nunatsiavut and I would very much like to thank the AngajukKâk for Rigolet. He has been most patient, I think with this government but I want to assure the AngajukKâk that beginning on Friday we'll start discussions with the new Transportation Minister with respect to a

feasibility study for a link by road to Goose Bay from Rigolet, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, the Speaker recognizes the AngajukKâk for Hopedale.

Mrs. Dicker: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Acting President. In our last sitting we viewed the blueprints or the drawings of the Assembly building and from that day to now we haven't heard anything else about it. I was just wondering if you could update me on that, thank you.

Mr. Broomfield: The Speaker recognizes the Acting President of Nunatsiavut.

Mr. A. Andersen: Thank you, thank you Mr. Speaker. During our last visit, I think the Executive Council did during our open house here in Hopedale we did give or we did present for people to have a look at concepts of what the Assembly Building in Hopedale could look like. Since that time Mr. Speaker, we have reviewed I guess in a little more detail the actual size of that building and it is I think, Executive Council members have had some concern with the size of the building so we've asked Infrastructure Committee to go back to the engineers and to come back with a somewhat smaller and perhaps because smaller, it may in fact be a little less expensive. But, our plans Mr. Speaker, our commitment is still there. We have a site selection as the AngajukKâk is aware and that the commitment is still there and come spring there will be, we will have in place at least we'll start the foundation work. We'll have the drawings in place

and I would expect that sometime between now and sometime next year that tender for that Assembly Building will be awarded, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, the Speaker recognizes the AngajukKâk for Nain.

Mrs. Erickson: Thank you Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. Given the FFA is not due to be negotiated until 2009 and that's where the communities get their capital works money from, it's understood amongst communities and it's talked about at every Joint Management meeting that there's not enough money in the capital works budget for the communities. There's 3.3 million dollars to share between the 5 communities. What we have on a 5 year wish list for a 5 year capital works plan right now and this is just basic needs for the communities, for the infrastructure in our communities is close to 20 million dollars. Is there any way the government can somehow through the money tree, wherever, get extra money to put in the capital works pot for the communities? Thank you.

Mr. Broomfield: The Speaker recognizes the Honorable Minister of Finance.

Mrs. Gear: I can sympathize with you Sarah, I worked with the Town Council in Postville for many years and we've always had that problem but as of right now, all I can say is just bring it to the Joint Management Committee and we'll just take it from there. You know, put it in your budgets I guess and I guess we'll just have to come up with something. I know that there is desperate need out there for a lot infrastructure, water and

sewer, different things that each, every, each and each, each and every community on the coast needs. So, that's all I can say, bring it to the Joint Management Committee in January.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you Honorable Minister, the Speaker recognizes the Acting President.

Mr. A. Andersen: Thank you Mr. Speaker and I, I would just like to, like to add on to what Minister Gear has said and recognize the concern from the AngajukKâk from Nain. As well and if again I may mention that was said in caucus yesterday about the tremendous lack of infrastructure and the dollar for such infrastructure.

This morning Mr. Speaker the Executive Council level, we did have some discussion around the employment concerns or the lack of employment that happened in a number of communities this summer. It is our intention, the intention of this government Mr.

Speaker to try to address early in the new year some employment plans or economic plans for Nunatsiavut and I would have to say Mr. Speaker, that given there is so much unemployment still remaining in Nunatsiavut even at such time when we have such things as exploration going full blast inside of Postville and Makkovik.

We have a nickel mine operating just outside of Nain and yet there is a lack of employment and one of the ways to address some of the concerns that the AngajukKâks raised in caucus yesterday Mr. Speaker is to come up with a plan that would address some of the employment concerns and we know Mr. Speaker that some of the people don't want to leave the communities. People from Nain don't want to work in

Postville, people from Postville don't want to work in Makkovik. A large number of people want to stay home and rightly so Mr. Speaker and they should have, they should have that right. That they could find meaningful employment within their communities and we know that there is a tremendous lack of infrastructure in all of our communities and it's our intention Mr. Speaker to begin early in the new year a plan that will address some of those employment concerns that was raised by Minister Shiwak and the Executive Council and by Minister Flowers and by, those, their concerns were shared by other Ministers as well. So, I want to well I stand here to make that commitment in helping Minister Gear answer the AngajukKâk from Nain her concerns that we have a commitment from this government that those areas, your concern as well that employment will hopefully start to address them in a meaningful way in the new year, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, the Speaker recognizes the Member for Upper Lake Melville.

Mr. Russell: Thank you Mr. Speaker, my question is directed at the Acting President. According to my understanding I don't believe there is a requirement for an Acting President to be fluent in both English and Inuktitut and given that so many people are not in favor of that mandatory fluency requirement, I was just wondering if the Acting President thought that the fact that he is not bilingual will effect his ability to do the job as Acting President, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: The Speaker recognizes the Acting President.

Mr. A. Andersen: Thank you Mr. Speaker and let me say that it certainly do effect the way or I feel. Mr. Speaker I've always maintained that I think that I the requirement that the LIA has or the Nunatsiavut Government has in its Constitution that the President be fluent in Inuktitut. I very much believe in that, I, I've, I represent the community and this government or there are a lot of people that are fluent in Inuktitut. Some of them in fact are unilingual Inuktitut speakers and it is very difficult for me to have a conversation with them, a meaningful one on one. I can have a conversation with them through Inuktitut/English and a lot of waving our arms around through the air and I know Mr. Speaker and others know we can, we can communicate that way but it's not the best way to communicate.

I, I've always felt that every person has the right to speak to the President in the language of their choice of the two languages now, not talking about other foreign languages like German or French but the language of their choice meaning English or Inuktitut. And I feel very strongly and I did Mr. Speaker sit as Acting President of the LIA for 9 months and it was a very emotional time for me when I had to speak to elders especially and I had to do it through an interpreter. But, having said that Mr. Speaker this is, I didn't ask to become Acting President, it's the nature of our government and a require of the Constitution and certainly when called upon for any responsibility I think such as all of these Ministers and Members will they will, they will step forward as they are asked to do so.

So, I look forward to the day Mr. Speaker when I have to relinquish my

position as Acting President, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Reports from Committees

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, are there any written questions to present at this time? We'll move on in our agenda to "Reports from Committees" I think that the Tasiujatsoak Trust should have been presented in the "Tabling of Documents" section of our agenda but as we are into Reports from Committees I will ask the Honorable Minister of Finance to give a report from the Trust at this time.

Mrs. Gear: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would like to table three documents to the House of Assembly on behalf of the Tasiujatsoak Trust. It is the intent of the Trust to provide annual reports both written and financial to the House of Assembly. The three documents consists of the written report to audited financial statements, the written report is for the calendar year 2004-2005. The audited financial statements are for the financial year ending December 31st, 2004 and December 31st, 2005. Mr. Speaker, the Tasiujatsoak Trust was designed, created and approved by the Labrador Inuit Association, the Trust is comprised of 5 members, 3 beneficiaries, 2 non-beneficiaries. It is automatic that the President and the Minister of Finance for Nunatsiavut Government represent 2 of the beneficiary seats on the Trust. I would also like to point out Mr. Speaker that the reports I've tabled is for the time period when I was not a trustee of the Tasiujatsoak Trust. I am requesting I give the members a brief update on the information contained in these reports. If the Honorable Members have questions within these reports, please

advise me and I will bring your questions back to the Tasiujatsoak Trust and get some answers for you. The Trust is currently working on the Annual Report both written and financial for 2006 calendar year and should have them available for the next sitting of the House.

The written report there in front of you gives a brief background information on the make up of the Trust. In addition, it names the trustees of the Trust for the time period covered. This document Mr. Speaker also states some of the priorities of the Trust such as establishing harvesting compensation fund that has already been done. Transfer money to community volunteer centers, this is done annually.

The Tasiujatsoak Trust is required to reserve 30% of the capital received into a heritage fund to be used for future generations. As well, the Trust can make funds available subject to availability to help relieve negative impacts of the Voisey's Bay Project. Also included in the written report there is a summary of financial commitments. The Trust is currently disbursing 1 million, \$100,000 annually to each established volunteer center.

As well, there is a summary of agencies where money has been dispensed, to, where money has been dispensed to at the back of this report of each calendar year.

The other two documents as I mentioned earlier Mr. Speaker is audited financial statements for December 31, 2004-2005. For the year ending 2004 the Trust received income of 3 million, 3 million dollars comprised mostly of interest on loan to Voisey's Bay Nickel Company. There are expenses of \$10,000 but the Trust did dispense in excess of 1 million dollars of eligible beneficiaries of the

Trust such as Nunatsiavut Government to offset program costs, etcetera. The Trust on December 31, 2004 had 9.1 million in the bank and the Labrador Inuit Association owed the Trust 3.4 million. Please note 2 million was paid back in 2005 and the remaining 1.4 million was paid back in 2006. For the year ending December 31st, 2005 the revenue was 4.8 million, expenses of \$65,000 but the Trust did disburse 1.9 million again to eligible beneficiaries of the Trust such as PSSSP, Nunatsiavut Government, Department of Health to name a few. At December 31st, 2005 Mr. Speaker the Trust had 2.4 million in the bank account and 11.3 million in investments. This is just a short summary of 2004-2005 and hopefully by the next Assembly sitting we will have 2006 thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you Honorable Minister. As the Chair of the Rules and Procedures Committee, I do have a, a item to bring to the Assembly. The Rules and Procedures Committee is a striking committee to recommend the composition of Assembly committees. The Language Committee is looking for two new members, these members brought forward, these names brought forward by the Language Committee are the AngajukKâk for Postville, Keith Decker and Toni White of, Toni works for Torngâsok Cultural Centre and these two individuals names were put forward to the Rules and Procedures Committee for the Assembly to approve for these people to sit on the Language Committee. So, at this time I would like to ask the Assembly if they are in favor of this.

House of Assembly: Aye!

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, so Keith, you are on the Language Committee and I will, I guess the Language, the Chair of the Language Committee will inform Toni White of this also. So, thank you. The Speaker recognizes the Chair of the Code of Conduct Committee.

Mr. Pottle: Nakummek Mr. Speaker, I would like at this point in time as Chair of the Code of Conduct Committee to distribute our work that we had been diligently been pursuing over the last year with respect to developing a code of conduct for elected officials of the Nunatsiavut Assembly. At this point in time, this draft bill is for your perusal for your review and this will be introduced at the first sitting of the sitting of the Nunatsiavut Assembly for our spring session 2008.

As you go through the document, you will see that the code of conduct committee has recommended and has conjoined our current conflict of interest guidelines with the code of conduct and we're proposing that this code of conduct be enacted as Inuit Law. I would like this opportunity Mr. Speaker to say nakummek to the Code of Conduct Committee, namely the Chair of the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation for Upper Lake Melville, Max Winters, the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Judy Dicker, the Honorable Diane Gear, the Minister of Finance and Human Resources, Information Technology and the Status of Women and the Honorable Ben Ponniuk, Member of Culture, Recreation and Tourism and also Mr. Speaker to say nakummek to you for your objective advice when necessary as well as to say nakummek to the Nunatsiavut Government legal council, Veryan Haysom and Loretta Michelin for their

advice and their help in bringing this code of conduct to fruition. The Code of Conduct Committee is recommending that the code of conduct be enacted as Inuit Law, we are seeking your support on this bill when we present it for reading in the spring sitting in 2008 and we hope Mr. Speaker that the Assembly members will embrace this code of conduct as their own and enact this as law, nakummek Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you Dan, I think this document was a while in the making. It's certainly is a document that I feel is very comprehensive and when you take the time to read it I'm sure you will agree and it will be introduced in the spring session. The Speaker recognizes the Member for Canada to do a, a brief report from the Language Committee.

Mr. Pottle: Nakummek Mr. Speaker, once again on behalf of the Language Committee I would just like to give a brief report on our activities since we reported to the Assembly in October. As most of the Assembly is aware the code of conduct, the Language Committee was stalled I guess for lack of a better word in continuing our work because we lost two members, one with a resignation of the Chair for the Inuit Community Corporation of North West River, former member Mina Campbell-Hibbs and our non-elected official, Frances Murphy from Torngâsok who left her position to pursue other interests.

We did take the initiative at the request of the regional language committee Inuktitut Unikalautta on November 20th to meet with the group to listen to their concerns and commit to work with the committee to address issues and to put forth the recommendations for Inuktitut to become the working language of the

Assembly and the civil service. Mr. Speaker the committee members have now been appointed to the committee and we expect to pick up and carry on with our work very soon in the new year, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, at this time I would like to give a brief summary from the Member Services Committee. We had a meeting on the 7th of November in Goose to discuss the upcoming budget for 08/09. We made a quite of bit of progress, we discussed some issues during caucus and the Member Services Committee will move these issues forward to be recommended in the budget for the Assembly's approval in March of this year. There are a couple of new items to include in the budget which is the salary for the Nunatsiavut Electoral Officer and the two Returning Officers and these requirements are laid out for the Member Services Committee in the Elections Act itself. And again, we will present this for approval when the budget is presented probably in March of 2008. The Speaker recognizes the Honorable Minister of Education and Economic Development.

Mr. Shiwak: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I'll give a short update on the Education Committee. As I said at the last Assembly that we did have a terms of reference done and I was hoping to present that, well not necessarily for, necessarily for the Assembly to approve our terms of reference for the Education Committee. I was hoping to present it today but I failed to do that but I will have that at the next Assembly sitting, I will present the Assembly with our terms of reference. On another note, two of our members Sarah and Herb attended

and education conference in Winnipeg this past month and they will be doing a report to the committee and if you have any questions or want to know more about this you can contact me or any of the committee members after this report is done. We are also seeking an outside member for our committee; we need to fill the position as soon as possible so we are seeking to fill that whenever we can, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, the Speaker recognizes the Acting President.

Mr. A. Andersen: Thank you Mr. Speaker I'd just like to give an update on our Special Committee on the impacts of alcohol and drugs in our communities, I almost forget the name of our committee Mr. Speaker but I'm sure to remember seeing that you knows which one I am talking about.

Mr. Broomfield: The Drug and Alcohol Committee.

Mr. A. Andersen: Thanks.

Mr. Broomfield: Thanks.

Mr. A. Andersen: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker mostly I say this for the benefit of two communities Makkovik and Rigolet that we tried very hard over the fall months since August to visit all communities to give an update on the progress of our committee and to do an update and a report to each community but unfortunately due to the weather and among other things that we didn't make it to those two communities. But, it is our intention to, to visit those communities very early in the new year so that then we can start the next phase of how should I best say it,

implementing the recommendations that we've heard from our communities and we'll start that process but we still very much need to go to those two communities first, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you, before we hand the floor over to Minister Barbour before we move on in our agenda we will take a short break at this time.

Notices of Motions

Mr. Broomfield: (*inaudible*)...to order and hand the floor over the Honorable Minister of Lands and Resources.

Mr. Barbour: Nakummek Mr. Speaker, now when you go back to our October sitting, when I introduced a motion on possible uranium policy, uranium mining and development policy, it had been my hope at that time to try to pass that second reading of that motion during the sitting. But also when you look at the motion itself it does not give a date, the motion that I read in October did not give a date or timeline. With that in mind, also during caucus in October, we also, the Assembly itself set up a special committee of the Assembly being the whole Assembly along with non-elected officials and they know who they are. With that we had our first meeting in Goose Bay over a two week period, when we listened to experts on uranium mining and also others being regulators, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission and also the Provincial Department of Mines. In putting forward the request to the Assembly, Mr. Speaker, I need discussion with my department officials along with legal council today, I respectfully request of the Assembly that

we do not go to second reading of the motion today and why I say that is that potentially if there are possible amendments to the motion what I need to make sure of is that possible amendments and I just say the word possible, possible amendments are in line with the Acts and our Constitution that to make sure of that in the second reading of the motion. It is also my request to the Assembly Mr. Speaker, that this special committee of the Assembly meet as soon as the Speaker and the Acting President have set dates for the new sitting in the New Year to take a day to see where possibly the Assembly members along with the non-elected committee members may want to be going. In doing all of that Mr. Speaker what I'm trying to do here is to make sure a second reading is done properly, is in line with our Acts and our Constitution and that's why I put that request forward and whenever the Assembly as the Speaker and the Acting President do decide when they, when we do sit that I request on behalf of the special committee of the Assembly along with the non-elected official who are part of the committee to spend another day to go over what we have gone through.

So, in effect Mr. Speaker, I am requesting deferment of the second reading of the motion and possible amendments into the new sitting. I also understand from yourself Mr. Speaker and also in house legal council that we are able to do this, that we are able to carry a motion from one sitting into the next sitting. So with that I respectfully submit, make that request, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you Honorable Minister, I'd just like to request one clarification, you will request to defer second reading until the Spring session, is that correct?

Mr. Barbour: Thank you Mr. Speaker, that's exactly what I'm requesting. I am requesting that Ches Andersen, Toby Andersen, Doug Blake, Marina Biasutti-Brown and Loretta Michelin, when we get together as an Assembly in the Spring sitting that we set a time, set a day aside as to where the second reading may be going in terms of possible amendments, possible and I say the word possible because I just had to make sure especially legal council is making sure that we are in line with our Acts and our Constitution. Thank you Mr. Speaker, I hope that's clear.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you Honorable Minister and I do personally feel that a deferment at this time is certainly in order to give the Assembly the time needing to properly prepare for a second reading and to as the Honorable Minister suggested, to allow the Assmby more time to consider and digest the information that we did hear from these experts in Goose Bay. So, is the Assembly in favor of deferring second reading into the Spring session of 2008?

House of Assembly: Aye!

Mr. Broomfield: Okay.

Mr. Barbour: Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: So the Assembly will defer second reading of Ministers Barbour's motion to the Spring session of 2008. That concludes the business we have to deal with for this setting, this

sitting. I guess in the spirit of the season, I too would like to pass Christmas greetings to all Beneficiaries and to all residents who live in Nunatsiavut and the Canadian Constituency. When we begin our Spring session for 2008 we will have a new Assembly member, the bi-election for the Chair of the North West River Corporation will take place on December 19th and there are three candidates for that bi-election and we certainly wish them all the best and we will have a new member for our next session. And one clarification, I'd like to thank Max Winters for the, or the term the official Nunatsiavut Gavel, it's very effective. It's a personal gift from Max and I'd like to thank him for that. At this time I'd like to close our Fall session for 2007 and wish you all a Merry Christmas, thank you.

House of Assembly session adjourned at 3:46 p.m.