



Nunatsiavut kavamanga
Nunatsiavut Government

FIRST ASSEMBLY
OF
NUNATSIAVUT

SECOND SESSION

THIRD SITTING

**KAVAMALIGIJET
KAJITITSIUTINGA**

**PARLIAMENTARY
REPORT**

February 12-13, 2007

Speaker: Honourable Todd Broomfield

In Attendance:

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

CALL TO ORDER: 9:00 a.m.

The Assembly Session was preceded by discussions on Non-Insured Health Benefits. The guest speaker was Michelle Kinney, Deputy Minister of the Nunatsiavut Department of Health and Social Development.

Mr. Broomfield: The meeting of the Assembly will now come to order. I would like to welcome the people who are here in the gallery. The next agenda item is the North West River Health Department being moved to another location. The member for Upper Lake

Melville, Keith Russell will now speak on this issue.

Mr. Russell: Thank you Mr. Speaker, That is not too hard to talk about. This belongs to everyone sitting around this table. I think we all have the same thoughts on this. The proposal here right now is that the residents of Lake Melville want more information from Mr. Flowers. That was discussed during the last sitting of the Assembly and the Chairperson of the North West River Corporation, Mina Campbell-Hibbs touched on this. At that time Mr. Ponniuk was present when the topic of

the North West River Health Department was on the table. There were some concerns related to what we are talking about. We would like to know where it stands right now. There were also questions raised. The Lake Melville constituency has to know how it stands now, the department being moved from North West River to Goose Bay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Andersen III: Thank you Mr. Speaker: What we called the Labrador Inuit Health Commission (LIHC) at the time, is now called the Department of Health and Social Development. We have been looking at this issue for a long long time, whether it should be moved from the community of North West River. Up to this point in time and I know it is very hard to move to the Nunatsiavut Government settlement area. What we used at North West River was very costly. The Executive decided to move the department to Happy Valley-Goose Bay. Mr. Speaker when we talk about our Health Departments, we have a hospital here in the Happy Valley-Goose Bay area. I think it would be better for our beneficiaries from Nunatsiavut communities. It would be more helpful health-wise. It's not just an issue of funding. We have nothing against the community of North West River. The only issue we have is people who are beneficiaries, they would be helped better, if our people worked in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. Mr. Speaker, in the former hospital, a lot of people were concerned about that, when there was some kind of a sickness in there. The late hospital in North West River

has been there for a long long while. The offices there at one time were using a lot of money on that building and given all that Mr. Speaker we decided to move the building. If there are any working spaces in Nunatsiavut Communities, that will be moved to Nunatsiavut...and we also think as well that we have a hospital here in Happy Valley-Goose Bay where the Inuit and Kanlunângajuit go to. If we have our own people working closer to that hospital then beneficiaries would get help a lot quicker than they do now. That is what made our decision and I thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you Mr. President. I would like to add that there was some research done on that. We would like the results of the research as soon as possible. Thank you. The Speaker recognizes the Chair of the North West River Community Corporation.

Ms. Campbell-Hibbs: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If you would like more information on this issue, the information was given to the residents of Upper Lake Melville and they have a lot to say. The Minister of Health and the President are looking into that. Also our board members and Minister Ponniuk also attended those meetings. The President was also there and also the former Minister of Health, at that time we wanted more information. In the past up to the present that was discussed in a lengthy way and I also had correspondence from Drucilla Martin on this topic. I would like to add as Chair of the Corporation, we are working closely with the people in addressing health issues. I am also asking from the Minister of Health if he would be willing to sit with the owner of the property that

we are discussing, before going into community meetings. We need more information; I will do what I have to do in terms of consulting with people who are involved. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Andersen III: Thank you Mr. Speaker, some people may not have understood what I had said earlier, all that was discussed by the Executive Council of the Nunatsiavut Government. The Executive Council has to make decisions on how funding should be used and used wisely. I believe it would be cheaper if we had plans ahead of time before the upcoming year. That is what I wanted to mention Mr. Speaker, we have to think about what the beneficiaries of Nunatsiavut Government would like to see. I believe it would be better if we had an office in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. We also have to think about the Council of North West River. We need to have discussions with the Council of Happy Valley-Goose Bay regarding the move of the office to Goose Bay. That is what we have to make a goal of Mr. Speaker. That is what the Inuit want. Also, Mr. Speaker I spoke with Mr. McLean on this issue. I am also available to sit with members on how the Nunatsiavut Government would help out possible workers. The beneficiaries have to be helped. That is our first priority Mr. Speaker to help beneficiaries not only in Nunatsiavut but also for members living in other countries. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you Mr. President. The Speaker recognizes the First Minister.

Mr. A. Andersen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We still have one other issue. Mr. McLean wishes to make a regulation. We have a member who just recently lost a relative, this person has spoken to a number in regards to regulations being made, to better help beneficiaries. We can't right now make regulations and that is where I'll end up for the time being.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you first Minister. I think everyone here understands what you are saying. We will now move onto another agenda item, the Upper Lake Melville 5 thousand dollar pay-outs. The Speaker recognizes the Member for Upper Lake Melville.

Mr. Russell: Thank you Mr. Speaker, on where it stands right now, I would like the members of Upper Lake Melville to know that I am trying very hard to represent them well, I would like to ask Mr. Speaker, on how this issue was dealt with, we were informed briefly, that is a concern that was brought up, I would like an answer, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank You. The Speaker recognizes the President of Nunatsiavut.

Mr. Andersen III: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is one agenda item, it was watched very closely on how it was dealt with, and I'll go further on that if you want me to.

Mr. Broomfield: Continue Mr. President.

Mr. Andersen III: Thank you Mr. Speaker, there is only one issue in regards to the pay-out of five thousand dollars. It belongs to all the members. We have to answer everyone who is applying for the pay-out and they are waiting for an answer as soon as possible regarding the five thousand dollars from the Nunatsiavut Government. It will take several weeks to review and it will be up to the assembly on who will be eligible for the pay-out. Who will receive the money, it will go to only the members of the former Labrador Inuit Association who voted on May 26, 2004. That will be the route that we will go and we have to review the applicants. For example, who ever is applying for membership to Nunatsiavut, we can't just say you are now a member under the Agreement. We have a committee in place that looks after the membership and they are the ones who look after all the applications. Mr. Speaker as I mentioned earlier no-one can't be refused membership under this Agreement and who ever was rejected to become a member, can reapply. They have a right to go through the highest courts and that was always the case. I tell you who-ever has concerns in relation to this issue can go through the appeals committee. Outside of that Mr. Speaker if there is one applicant or even a thousand we have to review them all.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you Mr. President. The Speaker recognizes the member for Upper Lake Melville.

Mr. Russell: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Mr. President I would like to make a short comment to what we are talking about right now. We all represent the membership, there are people who were

already paid and there are some who were not. Some members were paid for example if you have a lot of relatives, some were paid and some were not. I would just like to say we have people who are looking after this sort of thing and we would have to review applicants again before it goes before the table. We have to wait for some time like the President said we have to go through different stages when we are reviewing applications. We can't ignore the applications. Some applications to become members even talk about going through the courts. It is all up to them and they have a right to talk about their concerns in regards to receiving money. We have to look into this as an Assembly, Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you. The topic we are discussing now has been straightened out. Even if we can't straighten everything our right now by the assembly, it will be done. The Speaker recognizes the Minister of Education and Economic Development.

Mr. Shiwak: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I will be brief given that we are new to this department. We have started the Inuktitut version and we as a department will meet next month in Nain. That is where we are at this point in time and the Minister of Education will help us out on determining how Tourism is going since December of 2007. We will have in place in the Inuit communities a committee that will look after tourism. It will be in the works for quite some time yet. In regards to Recreation, we have met in Goose Bay and also in the Province with the Mic Mac, Metis and Inuit. We will help each other out. We have two representatives both are aboriginal and people from different

communities have participated in recreation activities. The government also helps out in the Province and in Nunatsiavut communities. Thank You Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ponniuk: Thank you Mr. Speaker. We have come up with different agendas in regards to Inuit Pathways receiving funding in Goose Bay. We now have three employees. We also have learning curriculums in place and for employment that has to be researched for the near future. I also would like the assembly to know that our beneficiaries should be helped in any way possible. I have a phone number and I can also be reached by computer if anybody would like help. I am ready if anyone wishes to talk to me and I also have a co-worker who helps me out. Marjorie Flowers is there for anyone needing assistance. That is very important as we can help our beneficiaries, knowing that kind of issues will always come to us in the future. The Deputy Minister in Labrador who is a representative for the Elderly and we will also meet with them given that I have been there now for three years along with a resident of Rigolet, in talking about a possible road from Rigolet to Upper Lake Melville and that will have to research and I also would like to touch on the Community of Hopedale. Last January with the help of Parks Canada and the Agvitok Society we have come with a plaque from Hospitality Newfoundland. Judy was the recipient for all the work she has done in the last 10 years. I am very pleased to congratulate Judy (Dicker) on her receiving the plaque. That is what we

have in place right now Mr. Speaker. Thank You.

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

Mr. Andersen III: Thank you Mr. Speaker, This is for the assembly's information Mr. Speaker. I would also like to give my thanks to Kate Mitchell, and also to my co-worker Ches for being a negotiator for the Nunatsiavut Assembly and the Government. Ches Andersen will look after the funding for development . Mr. Speaker, we have two negotiators from the Assembly. In the weeks coming representatives from Nunavik, from the Makivik Corporation will be coming to Nain In total there will be ten representatives to talk about Tourism and the Park. That will be an upcoming meeting with Nunavik next week. The last but not least, just last week I had a meeting in St. John's with the Minister Tom Rideout, the meeting was about Dental Services for Nunatsiavut. The hardest thing about this is we have in Nunatsiavut, beneficiaries who have been trained to become dentists' therapists. The Dental Association of Newfoundland and Labrador can't help us out and we can't employ our people even though they want to work. Minister Rideout agreed. That we should have someone working he also mentioned the Minister of the Province and the Minister of Nunatsiavut. Mr. Speaker, Minister Rideout also stated that he wanted to help us. Sometime in March he will let us know. We have to work on this in order for us to have our own dental services. At this time we have to work on that and it would be a bit easier for everyone. For the future I would like the

Assembly to know that we as a government in Nunatsiavut, we are moving forward, in conclusion we as a Nunatsiavut Government is heading in the right direction. I can honestly say Mr. Speaker, that I have a lot to talk about We have to keep our membership informed. In saying that we need more people in our communications department. We have done our job in the former Labrador Inuit Association, in coming to ratification, we kept our members informed. After that our information purposes somewhat dropped. We have to keep working hard in our Communications Department. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you Mr. President. The Speaker recognizes the First Minister.

Mr. A. Andersen: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I will give a short update. I would like to say Mr. Speaker what you said was entirely correct and I also know how we have to represent our beneficiaries in the Upper Lake Melville region. I guess everyone know how much they are going through. I am willing to sit down with the member of Upper Lake Melville, Keith Russell. We have to straighten out the problem areas. We can easily have an understanding on what the problems are and I'm willing to work on those issues, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to add Mr. Speaker Nunatsiavut representatives, myself, Mr. Ponniuk , Mr. Barbour, Tim McNeill and Stan Oliver we are working on those issues. We have an upcoming meeting with Nunavut and their negotiators. We will discuss anything from the fisheries, seal hunting. There is a lot on the agenda items and I'm hoping something will come up out those meetings. In closing I

would like to say Mr. Speaker, Sarah Erickson is not present at this time given that there was a fatality when an 18 year old youth committed suicide. This person was well known in the community. Sarah is a leader in our community. She is representing the residents of Nain in their time of sorrow, she stated as an AngajukKâk she should be in Nain at this time. We are with the family in heart in their time of sorrow, Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you. The Speaker recognizes the member for Upper Lake Melville.

Mr. Russell: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank the First Minister for speaking with me. I would also like to add for the residents of Upper Lake Melville that I represent, that I will do everything that I can to administer to their concerns in terms of getting monies. There was a pretty lengthy discussion on that today. Mr. Speaker when we talk about transportation in Upper Lake Melville for members that is another issue. I would like to read something that was given to me by a member before the assembly. This person had asked me to read while at the table this letter was written on December 12-December 13th, 2006. This was addressed to me and it is not an easy letter. The letter has to do with alcohol use while in meetings. Our President and Tony Andersen tried to the best of their ability to straighten out this topic. Given that I am a member I try hard to represent my constituency. We as a government have to represent both the elderly and the youth. The topic here is Mr. Michelin. It is very hard to talk about. We are unsatisfied with the President. Today I have very different

feelings; there are a lot of issues that are problematic. These have to be resolved. Problems such as why some of our elderly are in prisons, why there is so much suicide and the shortage of housing. Our elderly would like help from our government. This letter was written by Mary Adams and the second issue Mr. Speaker, when we sat on the days of December 12-13th, there was problems within the Nunatsiavut Government, especially between Mr. Michelin and Mr. William Andersen. Mr. Andersen had tried to stop the trouble and we thank Mr. Tony Andersen for that. When we have been drinking while meetings are on the go it is hard to focus on what we are supposed to be doing. I am not only saying that to Mr. Andersen, but also to members of the assembly. I am now representing Nunatsiavut, as I had done with the former Labrador Inuit Association. I am hopeful that in the future we will properly represent the Inuit of Labrador. If anyone has any questions they can call 896-5790, Mr. Ron. P. Lyall. He is well known and he has submitted his letter of concerns. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you. The Speaker recognizes the Chair of the North West River Community Corporation.

Ms. Campbell-Hibbs: Thank you Mr. Speaker. When we talk about being informed, some members don't know how the government is operating. That has to be resolved. Some of us really don't know how we have to work as of yet. At times it is very difficult to really answer questions. That is one of the things that we really have to work on, communications. At times I really can't get an answer to the questions that I

have. Everything has to be known that is important to people, that is what I wanted to say in terms of communications. The Nunatsiavut Government has a web-site and even when we try to go through the computer, even questions are not answered. The Nunatsiavut Government has to have a better way of communicating. The president also said earlier that this is one of the things that are now on the go. The Executive Council has to keep the Speaker informed on what is going on. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Michelin: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I agree with the incident of December 12-13,2007, I was involved. I have not forgotten that since I left on the 14th of December. I am apologizing to the Assembly for my behavior, also to the residents of Hopedale and to the Inuit of Labrador on what had happened on December 13th. I am ashamed of what had happened. That is what I want to inform the Inuit of Labrador about. The actions that I had taken is something that I would not want to go through again.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you. Your points are well taken, thank you. Any other comments? The Speaker recognizes the Member for the Canadian Constituency.

Mr. Pottle: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also like to give my thanks to the Nipet youth who are beneficiaries living in St. John's. They have participated in recreations with anyone from the Province of Newfoundland, and the province of Nova Scotia. For

that I am very grateful. The Labrador Inuit consumption of traditional food was well recognized by the Province of Newfoundland. The Inuit youth are doing what they have to do to the best of their ability in representing Nunatsiavut. Their actions could be seen on the computer by logging onto Nipet.Com. They are also keeping their traditional lifestyle. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Andersen III: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Going back to December 13th incident. Mr. Speaker I am not sorry for what had happened, the letter that was read not too long ago did not specify on what exactly had happened. It was supposed to be forwarded to the Executive Council for review before being put on the table. I am sorry for what had happened. For me it is very hard that is something I wanted to say to the assembly. I have had very difficult times since my mother passed away some 25-30 years ago. I have never in my lifetime Mr. Speaker, spoken back to my mother. I can tell you not one word of Kablunâtitut was spoken in the household, only Inuktitut. I can't remember anyone drinking and the letter that had been written does not only belong to me, it goes for the whole assembly. The letter was supposed to go to the Executive first and Mr. Speaker I agree with no alcohol tolerance during assembly meetings. I would also like to let the assembly know when I was a youngster at the age of eleven I learned how to speak the English language. That is something I am shamed of. We have to think about the traditions and language. The last time I had a meeting

if I remember correctly, was with the LIA annual general meeting and it was only in Inuktitut back in 1986. Mr. Speaker that goes to show respect for the culture and language of the Inuit of Labrador. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you. I would request the Deputy Speaker to take the chair.

Mr. Pottle: Thank you. The Chair recognizes the Member for Makkovik.

T. Broomfield: Thank you. I would like to touch on the five thousand dollar pay-out and the voting of ratifying. Both my spouse and I did receive the pay-out and for that I am very grateful. The pay-out came in handy with all the hard work of the Nunatsiavut Government. I am very grateful that the Inuit receive this money. I would also like to thank Herb Jacque, the AngajukKâk for Makkovik for keeping us informed about the possibility of a Uranium mine near Makkovik and Postville. Residents of Postville have been asking for an environmental monitor while exploration going on. I also would like the Minister of Lands and Resources to know that we request a monitor if there is going to be winter drilling. That is what I wanted to say. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: The Speaker recognizes the AngajukKâk for Makkovik.

Mr. Jacque: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to add on to something different that is being discussed. There is concern in regards to the fisheries and Crab fishing in Makkovik. There are three licenses that are not being used. The DFO lessened the issuing of

licenses. The fish plant workers and community residents need to be informed as to what is going on. That is what I wanted to comment on at this time. Thank you.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you. We will break for about 5-10 minutes, before we adjourn.

Mr. Broomfield: The Speaker will call the Assembly back to order. There are still two issues we have to deal with before the adjournment. If there are any questions, you will have thirty minutes. The Speaker recognizes the AngajukKâk for Makkovik.

Mr. Jacque: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I have a question to the Minister on how the three licenses stand now and when can there be another issuing of licenses, thank you.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you. The Speaker recognizes the Minister of Lands and Resources.

Mr. Barbour: Thank you Mr. Speaker, the AngajukKâk for Makkovik mentioned earlier that he has concerns regarding the fishery in Makkovik and the fish-plant. You, yourself mentioned that to me Mr. Speaker. I have not really had time to look through this given that I just recently went home Friday morning. I do know what is being talked about. When we talk about the three licenses a total of one quota can be taken under the Nunatsiavut Government regulation in all the five communities including Upper Lake Melville area. The fisherman who had fished from Upper Lake Melville is now working in the West. We in 2006, did give a license to a fisherman from Rigolet. He did not fish during that year

so we allocated the license to a fisherman from Postville. The Nunatsiavut Government was allocated a quota of one from DFO but now the quota is in Makkovik. In having spoken to fisherman approximately 40, 50 thousand pounds was not landed, the cost of fuel is very high and the prices for crab have dropped immensely. I can tell you only one fisherman can get a license. In my department we are looking into that. We don't know at this time on how the fishery will look or if there will be another set-back. We still have to research the 2007 fishery schedule. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: The President of Nunatsiavut.

Mr. Andersen III: Thank you Mr. Speaker, in supporting the Minister before the election of last year if we are going to give a quota to a fisherman we would be losing money. There was some money made as Mr. Barbour stated. The prices for crab dropped immensely, leasing a boat is very costly and also the cost of fuel. If our fisherman are going to make money the quota for three fisherman, we will lose money. Our fisherman did not make too much money like Mr. Barbour said. His department will look into how money can be made and to see if the prices of the crab can go up and the cost of fuel go down. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Mrs. Dicker: Thank you Mr. Speaker, When I read the three releases the questions I had been already answered by the First Minister back in December.

The First Minister met with the council of Hopedale. Mr. Russell McNeill has been looking for a possible site for the building, he was supposed to be here on January 3rd, but we haven't seen him yet, he stated through computer when he would be in the community, we haven't heard from him since. When can we expect to hear from him? The issue of not corresponding is up again, can the First Minister answer that.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you. The Speaker recognizes the First Minister of Nunatsiavut.

Mr. A. Andersen: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I am sorry for the delay. The Inuit Community Government in Hopedale has a person looking into a possible site. Mr. Russell was supposed to be here in January. Sometime the weather does not cooperate. In our communities sometimes its hard to get accommodations. Russell tried more than once to get here. The Inuit Community Government has to identify a possible site for a building. He is trying to get here and has informed the Inuit Community Government in December that he will be here. Mr. Russell McNeill is experienced. I want you to know that he will be here to work with you to find a possible site. I am hoping that we will work together in establishing the Legislative Assembly building. We discussed this in December. We want the residents of Nunatsiavut know we are working on this and you will see Russell in a few days.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you. The Speaker recognizes the Chair of the North West River Inuit Corporation:

Ms. Campbell-Hibbs: Thank you. I will give this to the President for his review. Those can be read. When would this go ahead?

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

Mr. Andersen III: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I believe the Chair of the North West River Community Corporation is talking about communication and also the funding has to be approved by the assembly. The communications by the Executive Council and our Director of Communications can look after that. It is in agreement that we have to come up with and plan, Mr. Speaker. We have to keep our membership informed on what is going on in the communities. Our Human Resources Department is also working on the ID issue and it should be soon that they can go through the computer. Pilot Communications is also working on this. Our representatives have to be taught on how to use those kinds of things. I will be the first to say that we have not been informing our members as much as we should. In closing I would like to add that we need to have a better way of communicating.

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

Mr. Michelin: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Education and Economic Development department. The residents of Rigolet would like to see a survey for a road from Rigolet to North West River. When can this survey begin? Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Ponniuk: Thank you Mr. Speaker, There was a question from a resident of Rigolet. We have been discussing this for quite a while by different organizations. Nunatsiavut has to think about that part of the land that belongs to the Innu. The Deputy Minister has to discuss this with Daniel Ashini. We're not sure on how big the survey has to be, were still in the talks. The development department has to have a meeting on this issue. Maybe even next week also we don't know how much the survey would cost.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you. The Speaker recognizes the First Minister.

Mr. A. Andersen: I'm in agreement that the transportation department has to look into the communities of Rigolet and Makkovik. We also have to think about the Trans Labrador Highway, that has been a big issue and that has always been thought about the communities of Makkovik, Rigolet, Postville. They do have a path during the winter months. Mr. Speaker, everything will not be done in one night. We have to meet with the Newfoundland Government on this issue. We have approached Minister Hickey's department in regards to transportation issues. We have been working hard with the transportation department, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you. The Speaker recognizes the member for the Canadian Constituency.

Mr. Pottle: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the First Minister

pertaining to register of members. At this time there 1, 413 members that are represented in Canada. 4.2 of the LIC states that for every 1 thousand members there should be one representative. We have to know if 4.2 of the Constitution is being followed properly. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you. The Speaker recognizes the First Minister.

Mr. A. Andersen: Thank you Mr. Speaker. The Canadian Constituency member asked a question. I believe last Wednesday the Register was just looked into and we can't really say right now how many members there are. If you requested maybe we can tell the numbers. I have asked my Deputy to research that last fall. I can say though even up to today I have asked the Canadian Constituency member for members names under 16 years of age. I have also asked the Deputy Minister to look into the legislation to see if the policies are being followed accordingly. When can always return to this issue and we are working on that Mr. Speaker. In the next assembly meeting I can have numbers of names that are now in the register. I can also say that in the March meeting we will have update for you.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you. The Speaker recognizes the member for Upper Lake Melville.

Mr. Russell: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have a two part question for the First Minister, In regards to the five thousand dollar pay-out. What can I tell my constituents what they have applied for the pay-out in Upper Lake Melville on how the five

thousand dollars stands and how the decisions were made? Thank you.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you. The Speaker recognizes the First Minister.

Mr. A. Andersen: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I won't try to change your question that was also raised this morning. The Executive has to be notified and also all the Ministers. I would like to ask the President of Nunatsiavut on where it stands now?

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

Mr. Andersen III: Thank you Mr. Speaker, like I said before in the past the review people made decisions on this issue. My department right now is still reviewing on who should receive the money. The First Minister and the assembly can review who should get the money. At this time people who were not on the voters list will not get the money only the residents of Nunatsiavut. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: The AngajukKâk for Hopedale said earlier she had two questions do you have another question?

Mrs. Dicker: I don't know who this question should be forwarded to. A person in our community had a concern they thought about for some time they feel the meetings are in too much of a hurry. I would like an answer from the President.

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

Mr. Andersen III: Thank you Mr. Speaker and also thanks to the AngajukKâk for Hopedale. The meetings are always short due to the agendas. Our representatives have a lot of work to do and they also have to get all the agenda items ready on time. They are also given mandates to implement the Agreement. Now in the near future, there are a time one or two days of meetings but when we goes into being a government fully there will be a lot of work for the Assembly. Given that we are still new and we are still in the learning process, right now we don't have enough meeting time. Thank you Mr. Speaker, this is for the First Minister or William.

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

Mr. Flowers: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the First Minister, has the structure of the building been completed now and when will it be started, has the land site been agreed up on?

Mr. A. Andersen: Thank you Mr. Speaker. It is not completed yet and I am hoping Russell McNeill will inform you on that. When the structure of the building is completed he will let you know. We still have to find a site for the building, When the structure is or the plan is completed Russell will certainly let you know.

Deputy Speaker assumes the Chair.

Mr. Broomfield: Question period is finished. In representing the residents of Makkovik, I would like to make a motion in regards to a Dental Therapist.

This will have to be approved by the assembly. The seconder of the Motion would like to have a few words.

Unknown: When we talk about dental services, we should have someone trained and also the universities has to come up with a training program for people from Nunatsiavut Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: I would like to add on that on the issue of a dentist for the Nunatsiavut Government during the last sitting of the Assembly that was a big issue in trying to get a dentist for Nunatsiavut communities sometimes dentists do not want to travel outside of the province like our President said earlier on. Mr. Speaker, in our communities we have not had a dentist for two years and sometimes residents of our communities have to go to Goose Bay for dental services and only if they have room on the flight . Mr. Speaker sometimes not everyone can get on the mission flight. I understand the motion should refer to all the Nunatsiavut communities. If we could get a dentist, it would be very helpful. We all know that it's very hard to train to be a dentist. Lucy Brennan had said long before this motion was put forward, she was trying to get students trained to be dentists. That would be the first priority of the assembly . I would like to put forward a motion stating that we need a dentist in Nunatsiavut Mr. Speaker. This would ensure that any students applying to the PSSP (the Post Secondary Support Program) for funding to do a dentistry program would receive priority funding. This would be similar to the Nursing Access Program that the President speaks of. The motion is seconded by the AngajukKâk from Rigolet.

Mr. Pottle: The Chair recognizes the President of Nunatsiavut.

Mr. Andersen III: Thank you Mr. Speaker, that is what we are now working on and the nursing access program is still going on and I support that Mr. Speaker, It would be good for our students in nursing access programs there 19 students from the start, and there is an agreement that they will return to Nunatsiavut and be employed there. It would be very helpful if there was more training like the member for Makkovik said we need a long term plan. The motion is very good . If there are no other questions on this issue it would be good if it was approved.

Speaker re-assumes the Chair.

Mr. Broomfield: We will now go into another topic. Thank you Dan and thank you to the assembly for passing this motion. Dentistry has been problematic for years in Nunatsiavut. Before we adjourn there was a proposal for two more members to sit on the Language Committees and the Education Committees the people appointed all agreed. The committee members for the Language Committee, the Minister of Lands and Resources, William Barbour, from the North West River Corporation, Mina Campbell-Hibbs, Canadian Constituency member Danny Pottle, AngajukKâk for Rigolet Dan Michelin, AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque and the speaker Todd Broomfield and also Francis Murphy. For the Education Committees, appointed were Keith Russell member for Upper Lake Melville, Minister of Youth, Darryl Shiwak, AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Judy Dicker, AngajukKâk for Makkovik,

Herb Jacque and the AngajukKâk for Nain, Sarah Erickson, if they all agree, they are appointed. These people will have a short meeting tomorrow at 8:30 and the assembly will convene at 10 in the morning.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you. We have one item to appoint a drug and alcohol committee. The recommended members are the First Minister Tony Andersen, the Minister of Health and Social Development, Greg Flowers, the Deputy Minister of Health and Social Development, Michelle Kinney, the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque, and the AngajukKâk for Nain, Sarah Erickson. These members have to be approved by the Assembly. The Drug and Alcohol committee and review recommendations from the communities on drug and alcohol issues. The President wanted to make a statement. The Speaker recognizes the President.

Mr. Andersen III: Thank you Mr. Speaker. First of all, it came to my attention today that there were supposed to be a couple of media interviews by our employees. Some of the issues that are to be discussed are very difficult. I am asking from now on that only the appropriate people within the Government deal with the media. The second statement I wish to make is that I met with our high level officials last night and our public servants have issues to bring to the Assembly. Mr. Speaker, sometimes our representatives goes through a hard time, some of them go through very difficult questions arising from the membership, some questions arising may be, how do people get employment and at the next assembly meeting we will look through on what we have to work on, everything that we

have to work on, and we also have to talk with other government departments, given that we were elected as officials of the government, and there is no doubt that we will have difficulties, that is part of being a government. Mr. Speaker, we have to work closely together and that will have to be one the main topics for discussion as a first priority and our membership has to know exactly what is going on, what is being worked on and what has gone ahead to this day, we have to keep our members informed, although at times, we seem to be in such a rush when we are having our assembly meetings, we have a lot of work ahead of us, as I mentioned earlier on, we seem to be in a rush, the next assembly sitting we have to have separate meetings, as we have to review what we have to work on, and this to me and also for some assembly members is what we have to work on and also it is very difficult for members and we can't just ignore what is expected of us, and I will say now to the assembly members and also for the executive, that we will meet for one day in March to review what has been done so far, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Broomfield: Thank you Mr. President, at this time I would like to close the meeting. Just before we finish up, there were a lot questions raised and I believe we had a very positive and productive meeting. And as Speaker of the house, the work that I had to do was a little easier as we are moving forward. The meeting in the last few days was very productive and it is also good for our beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claim Agreement, and I often wonder how our new government is working and in my opinion, this sitting was a success. Even though the last two days were

exhausting, the discussions and what we have to work on were explained properly. As Nunatsiavut Government, we still have a lot to learn on how to run a government. It was noted by the President that we have to work closely together. Thank you.

