



Nunatsiavut kavamanga
Nunatsiavut Government

**FOURTH ASSEMBLY
OF
NUNATSIAVUT**

SPRING SESSION 9th Session 1st- SITTING

**kAVAMALIGIJET
KAUJITITSIUTINGA
PARLIAMENTARY REPORT**

February 2, 2021

In Attendance:

Deputy Speaker and Ordinary Member for Canada, Mr. Roland Saunders

President of Nunatsiavut, Honorable Johannes Lampe

First Minister and Ordinary Member for Postville, Honorable Tyler Edmunds

Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology and Ordinary Member for Nain, Honorable Anthony Andersen

Minister of Lands and Natural Resources and Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Honorable Gregory Flowers

Minister of Education and Economic Development and Ordinary Member for Rigolet, Honorable Carlene Palliser

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

Ordinary Member for Makkovik, Mr. John Andersen

Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, Mrs. Marlene Winters-Wheeler

AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Mrs. Marjorie Flowers

AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Mr. Barry Andersen

AngajukKâk for Postville, Mr. Glen Sheppard

AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Mrs. Charlotte Wolfrey

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

Chair Person of the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation, Ms. Maxene Winters

Director of Legal Services, Mr. Mark Gillette

Absent:

AngajukKâk for Nain, Mr. Julius Dicker

Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism and Ordinary Member for Nain, Honorable Jim Lyall

Legal Counsel, Ms. Annike Flomen

Clerk of the Nunatsiavut Assembly, Ms. Mary Sillett

**The Nunatsiavut Assembly proceedings
were recorded in Inuktitut and English.
February 2, 2021
Assembly commenced at 8:40AM February 2, 2021**

PRESIDENT LAMPE: [Speaks in Inuktitut.] I will assume the role of Speaker until a Speaker is selected. I would like to call to order the 9th Session of the 4th Nunatsiavut Assembly. I would like to ask Minister Carlene Palliser to say the opening prayer. Minister Palliser.

MS. PALLISER: [Recites prayer.]

PRESIDENT LAMPE: *Nakummek.* This is the first Assembly since the October 2020 adoption of the Special Standing Orders for the conduct of proceedings of the Nunatsiavut Assembly in the exceptional circumstances of the Covid-19 pandemic. We have the majority of Assembly Members present, but as we are continuing to observe Covid-19 health measures, we have a minimum number of staff and outside attendees. AngajukKâk Julius Dicker and Minister Jim Lyall have been properly excused from attending this sitting. Our Assembly presenters will participate by telephone. The interpreter, translator is Gus Semigak. Robert Ford and Damen Pottle are the Information Technology staff helping out for this Assembly. As well, we would like to recognize two OKâlaKatiget Society staff, Sarah Abel and Johansi Tuglavina. If there are any questions around travel and logistics,

please contact the Assistant to the Clerk, Tabea Onalik by email. We go on to Item number two, which is the "Opening Address by the President."

PRESIDENT LAMPE:

Nakummek Ukatti, which is to the Speaker. [Speaks in Inuttitut]. Dear Assembly Members. The purpose of the Nunatsiavut Covid-19 Emergency, its subsidy program is to provide assistance to those most vulnerable and those economically impacted by the pandemic, in covering costs of home heating. Eligible recipients receive assistance with acquiring wood, or in covering some of the costs of electric heat or furnace and/or stove oil. Like others, this program is intended as a supplement and not meant to replace an individual's responsibility to pay for normal expenses relating to heating their homes. As well, under the program, assistance will be provided to those who have no means in which to heat their homes either because of non-existent or broken furnaces, wood stoves and chimneys that are in states of disrepair, or fuel tanks that are not certified. Assistance will be provided for one-time repairs to qualifying applicants. Likewise, as is the case with all of our programs, seniors are eligible to apply but are not required to provide proof of income. As was the case during the first round, these emergency response initiatives are of tremendous help to Labrador Inuit. We have had regular teleconferences with Indigenous Services Minister Marc Miller and Northern Affairs Minister, Dan Vandal since the start of the pandemic. The discussions have been very productive. Both Ministers have been very understanding to our concerns and unique challenges. I'd like to thank the Government of Canada for working with

us and for recognizing the real importance of protecting Labrador Inuit from this terrible disease. We have been very fortunate to not have any cases of Covid in our communities. While geography is on our side, I would like to think our success can also be attributed to the work we have done as a Government and by working with the Inuit Community Governments to encourage and promoting public health protocols while discouraging non-essential travel to, from and between our communities. To all Members of the Assembly, the Inuit Community Governments, Nunatsiavut Government staff and to all beneficiaries, thank you for your hard work, sacrifices and support in helping us all get through these uncertain and difficult times. As we continue to see the increases in Covid cases across the country, and despite the fact that many in our communities have already received the first does of the vaccine, now, is not the time to become complacent. We must continue to remain vigilant by following all public health protocols and by supporting those most vulnerable. On another note, Members of the Nunatsiavut Executive Council met with Premier Andrew Furey, Minister Lisa Dempster and Member of Parliament, Yvonne Jones, this past November. Agenda items included the Nain airstrip, issues around our Rigolet gas station and a supply of fuel and a prefeasibility study into establishing a road link from central Labrador to our communities. There was also some discussion on ongoing justice issues, energy security, the emergency homeless shelter in Happy Valley Goose Bay and deficits incurred as a result of administering the Supportive Living Program. It

was a very positive and productive meeting which led to a commitment to work more collaboratively to advance issues of mutual concern for the benefit of Labrador Inuit and Labrador Inuit communities - and indeed, the entire province. The Premier agreed assuming he and his Government is successful in the upcoming Provincial election, to keep lines of communications open and to work closely with the Nunatsiavut Government and the Government of Canada where necessary, to help address some of our most pressing needs. Thank you.

PRESIDENT LAMPE:

Item number three is to "Recognize our visitors in the Gallery." We have no visitors in the gallery today. And Item number four, "Selection of Speaker." The position of Speaker is currently vacant, and I would like to thank the past Ordinary Member of Canada and the past Speaker of the Nunatsiavut Assembly, Mr. Edward Blake Rudkowski for his service. It is now my duty to nominate an Ordinary Member as Speaker. I wish to nominate for approval of the Assembly, the Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, Marlene Winters, as Speaker of the Assembly. Ordinary Member Winters, do you accept?

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Yes, I do.

PRESIDENT LAMPE:

And I wanna seek consensus from the Assembly. I will take a show of hands from Members for approval of this selection of Speaker. We have unanimous consent. I apologize for the delay in the Oath of Office for Speaker. [Audio mutes]

[Audio Resumes]

PRESIDENT LAMPE: In the presence of the Members of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: In the presence of the Members of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: And in full realization of the responsibilities that have been entrusted to me...

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: And in full realization of the responsibilities that have been entrusted to me...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...by the Members of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: ...by the Members of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...I...

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: ...I, Marlene Winters-Wheeler...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...swear, solemnly affirm, that I will obey, observe, uphold and maintain the rights and privileges of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: ...swear, solemnly affirm, that I will obey, observe, uphold, and maintain the rights and privileges of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...and the Standing Orders and Procedures of the Nunatsiavut Assembly

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: ...and the Standing Orders and Procedures of the Nunatsiavut Assembly.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: And I solemnly and sincerely promise...

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: And I solemnly and sincerely promise...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...to represent and speak for the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: ...to represent and speak for the Nunatsiavut Assembly.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...with integrity and honour....

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: ...with integrity and honour....

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...to preside over the business of the Nunatsiavut Assembly

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: ...to preside over the business of the Nunatsiavut Assembly

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...and enforce the rules and procedures of the Assembly with independence...

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: ...and to enforce the rules and procedures of the Assembly with independence...

PRESIDENT LAMPE: ...fairness, impartiality, patience and understanding.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: ...fairness, impartiality, patience and understanding.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: And to promote the efficient operation of the Nunatsiavut Assembly.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: And to promote the efficient operation of the Nunatsiavut Assembly.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: And prevent the obstruction or frustration of the Assembly in the conduct of its business.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: And prevent the obstruction or frustration of the Assembly in the conduct of its business.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: So, help me God.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: So, help me God.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: Just sign here. May I present to you, The Speaker of the Nunatsiavut Assembly.

[Applause]

PRESIDENT LAMPE: *UKatti*, Madame Speaker, I would like to once again, on behalf of the Nunatsiavut Government, congratulate you for accepting the important job as the Speaker of the Nunatsiavut Assembly. And I hand out the chair to the Speaker to continue with Assembly business. Again, congratulations.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Honourable President. It's an honour for me to have been selected and appointed as the Speaker. I promise I will do my very best and to ensure that the business is conducted in accordance with the Standing Orders and Procedures and that Members can participate fully in the proceedings as we represent our constituents. I wish to thank the Members of the Assembly for accepting me as your Speaker. It's my privilege to ask Mr. Roland Saunders if he would like to accept the position of Deputy Speaker.

MR. SAUNDERS: I would gladly, accept.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. Thank you. Mr. Roland Saunders is now our Deputy Speaker. Okay. Thank you. Now on to Item Six, "Ministers Statements". Are there any Ministers Statements today? Okay, I call upon Member for Upper Lake Melville, Minister of Department of Health and Social Development, Mr. Gerald Asivak.

MR. ASIVAK: Thank you, Madame Speaker. And congratulations. The roll out of vaccine in Nunatsiavut went extremely well. The weather cooperated and the team reached every community on schedule. The preparation in communities was excellent and turn out at the vaccine clinics was very

good. Thanks to everyone who worked hard to make this happen and all individuals who acted responsibly in receiving the vaccine. I will share the demographics for each community now. Makkovik: Eligible population for adults 18 and over, population 221, administered 163-, percentage 73.8 percent. Hopedale: Population 453-, 321 administered, 70.9 percent. Nain: 775 eligible, 514 administered-, 66.3 percent. Rigolet: 221, 197 administered, 89.1 percent. Postville: population eligible 147, 100 administered-, 68 percent, for an overall percentage of 71.3 percent. NG DHSD Public Health with Labrador Grenfell Health, Madame Speaker, will be Administering the second dosage next week. Madame Speaker, Nain TB update: Two active cases of tuberculosis. One individual resides in the community, diagnosed in December of 2020. The other currently at Labrador Correctional Centre, diagnosed November 2020. Both are reported to be doing well with treatment. The November case, many contacts have received follow-up, including their second tuberculosis skin test and have been discharged. Some follow-up is still underway. The December case, contact tracing is under way. Chest x-ray clinics scheduled for contacts in Nain on February 9th. Tuberculosis clinic dates to follow. Madame Speaker, DHSD submitted a proposal for Inuit Early Learning Childcare Covid-19 response emergency funding and will be receiving \$1,153, 636. The intent of the money is to meet pandemic related activities. They'll be focusing on enhancing the Family Connections work and the Inuit Childcare Home activity kits and larger Inuit Curriculum Tool Kits. The Early Childhood Education

graduation took place on December 11th in the Illusuak Centre due to Covid-19, only 20 individuals were permitted to attend. However, it went very well with Ruthie Lampe lighting the Kullik and President Lampe saying opening remarks. Messages were read from Regional Manager childcare program, Cindy Lyall, Minister of Education, Carlene Palliser, Dean of Academics of the College of the North Atlantic, Brenda Tobin. Six students officially graduated. Mme Speaker, the Status of women office compiled a video project and shared it on social media on December 6th, the national day of remembrance and action on violence against women. The videos highlighted messages relating to remembrance, awareness, and action on violence prevention. The message came from Inuit advocates including myself as Minister of Health and Social Development, Erica Jacque, Postville Youth, and Charlotte Wolfrey, AngajukKâk and Inuit Women's rights advocate. The status of women created a Facebook page that shares opportunities and educational material relevant to women. For example, contact information for help lines and women's shelters, mental health supports available and tips for women leaving domestic violence. Efforts are made to post the information daily. Mme Speaker, an extension was requested to the Nunatsiavut Government Murdered, Missing and Indigenous Women project. The project was supposed to land on March 31st, 2021. However, Covid-19 interfered with the project. The Status of Women's office was not able to travel to each community as planned. This was necessary to ensure families and community members have a say in how we honour the missing and

murdered indigenous women from their community and our Inuit region. The extension was granted for March 31st, 2022. The shelter in Happy Valley Goose Bay has received funding from Reaching Home, to expand services for the next year by hiring day staff. This allows shelter clients, transients and local residents who require service, better access. Clients can avail of brown bag lunches, clothing and personal items, shower, do laundry, use the phone, complete application for housing, et cetera. The Family Services Division has been prioritizing the implementation of culture connection plans for children in care, holding monthly implementation meetings to discuss NG priorities with children, seniors and social development and active follow-up on priority action items, particularly an indicator meeting on ongoing where we discuss evaluation priorities for Inuit children. Also completing a review of the in-case policy and procedure manual and finally participating in Federal, Provincial, Territorial and Indigenous technicians meetings in partnership with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and the Federal Government. Mme Speaker, the Mental Wellness and Healing Division is working on a number of Covid initiatives including Mental Health kits for the region, partnering to assist with the regional Parka Making project, supporting with staff and funding and ongoing community capacity building with projects and education including harm reduction, counselling skills, trauma, addictions, education et cetera. Setting up the self-help library in each community office in response to request from community members who prefer this option over traditional counselling. In closing, Mme Speaker, since

December, the Mental Wellness and Healing Division has recruited the following positions, peer support worker, new position-, program planning and support coordinator, new position-, survivor support coordinator for residential schools, justice service manager, sexual violence prevention and outreach counselor and an FASD coordinator. Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Mr. Asivak. Now I'll call upon the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Mr. Greg Flowers.

MR. FLOWERS:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. I'd like to first of all congratulate you on your new position. I know you will do well in this position. Anyway, Mme Speaker, Renewable Resources Division, I'd like to just say that the (inaudible) Science meetings for the various fisheries are being held virtually this year due to the ongoing global pandemic. The Department plans to engage in actively involved in the science meetings. It is very early in the year and predictions for the upcoming fishery for 2021 is still quite up in the air so we don't exactly know what's the-, what will be happening there quite yet. The Deputy Minister and Renewable Resource Director are right now, as we speak, Mme Speaker, meeting with the Torngat Fishery Board of the Secretariat on workshops with our fishers to see what concerns our fishers have for the upcoming year. In regards to the Davis Strait Eastern Assessment Drone, and shrimp allocations, the Department is still in conversation with outside legal counsel on proposed next steps. Mme Speaker, in November of 2020, the Nunatsiavut Executive Council authorized the Department to explore

options for bulk purchase of fish products for the Inuit communities and Inuit community corporations. The Department contacted Torngat Fisheries and also the Fish Union Shrimp Company regarding various seafood products available. The department has purchased 600 pounds of snow crab, 91 cases of scallop and 1200 pounds of cod fillets from Torngat Fisheries which has already been sent to the communities. I know, I guess, most of you have seen this, hopefully-, got a taste of it anyway. Those products were also provided to the communities in Happy Valley Goose Bay and Northwest River. This year the department authorized 23 moose licences for our harvesters. Six licences have been filled. Two were taken in Makkovik and two in Rigolet, one in Northwest River and one in Nain. The 2021 polar bear season officially opened today, Mme Speaker. We have 12 licences. Talking to some of the hunters, Mme Speaker, with the ice conditions, as everyone knows, people are reluctant right now to go polar bear hunting, so hopefully that will change in the coming months. In fact, we had our first cold last couple of days, so hopefully people will be out harvesting polar bears. On the polar bear note, Mme Speaker, the-, you might've heard that around the Makkovik area in early January, on January 12th, to be precise, we had to kill a nuisance bear that was doing a lot of damage to cabins up in the-, south of Makkovik area. The Lands Division, Mme Speaker-, since the last Assembly, the Manager of Lands reported 35 land use applications were submitted in 2020 and are at various stages of processing. Aurora Energy Ltd. submitted a land permit application to

continue their mining exploration work south of Postville. Their current land-use permit expired end of February. The GIS Specialists continue to support the work of the Lands Division in processing applications for land use including maps for two land use applications and one for land use permits. Mme Speaker, the department will introduce legislation for the expansion of three new quarries located in Labrador Inuit Lands within the communities of Nain, Postville and Rigolet. Those quarries are required for current and future development of the communities. The Lands Division staff also spent a considerable amount of their time assisting and administering the NG Covid-19 funds. And I would personally like to thank our division for all the hard work that they've done up to this point. *Impact and Benefit Agreement-*, The Voisey's Bay mine and mill expansion is in full capacity at this time with approximately 1000 employees at site. There have been numerous job ads posted since October. As of the end of December there are 394 beneficiaries working at sites, which is good news, Mme Speaker. Vale and Public Health worked together to help employees who are residents of Nunatsiavut and wanting to receive the Covid-19 vaccine. They traveled to Nain. 41 employees took advantage of this, Mme Speaker. We continue to have weekly calls regarding Covid-19. The Torngat Mountain Base Camp TMB, met by teleconference in November to discuss the economic summit and reported a conservation agreement with Parks Canada Research, updates and plans for the year ahead. The Torngat Mountain National Park is closed to visitors until further notice. However, NG beneficiaries are still

able to go to the park, Mme Speaker. The Mealy Mountain National Park, (inaudible) had a face-to-face meeting in Rigolet on October 21st to the 23rd 2020. There were presentations done by the NG Tourism Division and Economic Development Division. Discussions were held on administrative requirements for the CMB. There are also a tour of the community and facilities. Stephanie Webb started work on January 11th as the Visitor Experience Coordinator. She will be based out of Happy Valley Goose Bay for a few months for training and orientation. Non-renewable Resources, Mme Speaker-, Vale plans to continue exploration for the year on mineral license adjacent to their mine that will include prospecting and drilling. Their work plans for 2021 is still under review. Mme Speaker, the Division has received interest from Newfoundland Base Quarry company, Ocean Floor Granite, to acquire and reopen the Ten Mile Bay quarry. Some of you may have heard about this (inaudible). The Department of Lands and Natural Resources is currently in discussion as is investigating the interests of Ocean Floor Granite. Currently we have not had any commitments, application, lease or permits in place with Ocean Floor Granite. We are still in the very early stages of discussion. The Environment Division. Mme Speaker, the Environment Division has been working with multiple groups and organizations in partnership with our NG departments to ensure the continued availability of food at community freezers in the region. Moose meat from the Gros Morne harvest, chicken from Food Bank Canada and seafood from Labrador Fish Shrimp Company, was distributed throughout the fall and

right up to Christmas. The Environment Division has been working with the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador to get the term of reference for the Monitoring Health Management Oversight Committee finalized to allow the implementation of a monitoring program to determine the impacts of the flooding of the Muskrat Falls Reservoir. Since the committee is yet to be established, the Environment Division has continued to run monitoring programs in Lake Melville for the entire echo system including plankton, fish, seals, birds, to ensure that the community members understand the current methylmercury situation and monitoring that the NG's conducting. The Director of Environment and the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources will be traveling to Rigolet and Upper Lake Melville to hold community meetings and answer any questions. Mme Speaker, I do not have a timeline on when that will happen yet, Mme Speaker. But we certainly hope that we can get that done. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Minister Flowers. Are there any other Ministers wishing to make a statement today? I recognize Minister Tony Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mme Speaker and congratulations, certainly, to you on your appointment. As was noted earlier, Mme Speaker, Honourable Jim Lyall, Minister of Language, Culture and Tourism is away on medical. And certainly, we wish him a speedy recovery and for sure that he's in our prayers and thoughts. At his request Mme Speaker, I'm pleased to present a quarterly report from the Department of Language, Culture and Tourism. Mme Speaker, Jillian Edmunds who joined us in March 2020 as

Youth Leadership Program Coordinator accepted a Tourism Development Officer role in December. We're delighted to have her continue with our Division of Tourism. Archaeology saw the temporary hire of Kristen Dicker as our final Youth Intern. She helped with various tasks including the cleaning of artifacts from the field work in Hebron and research content that is uploaded to the Illusuak Facebook page weekly. Mme Speaker, we are sad to report that in January we saw the resignation of two of our long-time employees, Michelle Davies and Kyle Crotty. They oversaw the success of many programs including the Hebron Family Archaeology Project, the meat program and Drone Technology use in the field. They contributed immensely to the department and will be missed by all. The change will see the appointment of Lena Onalik, Labrador Inuit Land Claims Beneficiary to the archaeologist position. In the coming months we hope to hire an assistant archaeologist and Heritage Program Coordinator. Our Director of Tourism, Mme Speaker is Jillian Larkham, sits on the Premier's Tourism Advisory Council. The 14-member council will focus on providing advice to Provincial Government and short-term measures to assist with the sustainability, re-opening and recovery of the tourism sector in Newfoundland and Labrador. I would now like to highlight some key areas that we are working on, Mme Speaker. The Nunatsiavut Art Strategy is near completion and will be brought to the NEC within the next few months. We have hired Canadian Echo-tourism services - CES, to develop a refreshed five-year Nunatsiavut Tourism Strategy. We have also established a 10-person steering committee

consisting of five community members and five tourism partners. We are hoping to bring the refreshed Nunatsiavut Tourism Strategy to the NEC in June. We're finalizing an Experience and Product Development Plan to for the Mealy Mountains National Park Reserve. The plan will highlight key areas for the NG to focus on regarding experience and product development for the Mealy Mountains National Park. We are also continuing research for the Hebron Ambassador Guidebook. We plan to visit communities for consultation and interviews with re-locatees and their families once it is safe to do so. I had a little shock there, Mme Speaker. We also received funds from Parks Canada for their Stories of Labrador Project. The purpose of the funds are to gather stories relating to the Torngat Mountains National Park and the Mealy Mountains National Park Reserve for Tourism Development. Through this project, we are planning to develop three to four short videos and a booklet that will be shared with visitors, schools and other organizations. We're also planning to organize another online craft auction for National Indigenous People's Day. We organized two online auctions last year. Both were very successful, through online Christmas Craft Auctions, approximately \$47,000 of product was sold. And all the funds went directly back to the artists. We're also planning to host a few online arts and craft classes. We are in the initial stage of planning these. While collaborating with the Division of Culture and the Department of Health and Social Development to offer a parka sewing class. We are currently looking for instructors to offer the class. Mme Speaker, in archaeology, we continue

to experience impacts due to the pandemic. Programming such as the Heritage Forum, Hebron Family Archaeology Project and Place Name projects were halted and only a total of three permits were issued for archaeological research on Labrador Inuit lands to the NG archaeologists. Thirty-five land-use applications were reviewed thus far, for which resulted in three archaeological permits that were issued to assess the impact the cabins would have on archaeological resources. To Crown Indigenous relations and Northern Affairs Canada, the proposal Climate Change and Archaeology in Nunatsiavut, that has secured \$114,773 in funds, we were able to purchase five weather monitoring stations that will be shipped to Nain this winter. We hope to deploy these stations in the summer to known areas where archaeologist sites in Nunatsiavut are at risk due to climate change. Uncommon Bonds partnership is nearing completion of the visitation of the 60,000 plus Moravian Inuit documents that are in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and will be made available to beneficiaries in the future. This upcoming field season, we hope to see a return of research in Nunatsiavut by archaeologists and the resumption of programs such as the Heritage Forum and the Hebron Family Archaeology Project. Mme Speaker, in the Division of Culture, Master Apprentice Inuttit Program, the Master Apprentice Inuttit Program is going very well this year with one Master and one Apprentice in each community. The program is developed to Immerse Participants in Inuttit language for 10 to 20 hours per week until March 31st, 2021. The OKâlaKatiget runs an all Inuttit radio program with the support and

funds from the Department of Language, Culture and Tourism. The program airs every Tuesday from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The program aims to promote the Inuttitut language. The program contains such materials Inuttitut singers and songs, children reading, Inuttitut stories, people telling stories or memories in Inuttitut, recipes, trivia or guessing contests based on Inuttitut words, and a voice guessing, weather, et cetera. Prizes from the games include Inuttitut promotional items.

Terminology workshop. The Terminology Workshop is planned for February 9th to the 11th, 2021 in Nain with some participants attending through teleconference from other parts of the country due to Covid-19. The workshop involves fluent Inuttitut speakers that help determine a standardization, lists of Inuttitut terms to use within the region. This year, the focus is on older terminology.

Language Survey: A Nunatsiavut Language Survey has been launched in August 2020 and will soon be conducted in person within Nunatsiavut. This survey will help to determine how many Inuttitut speakers are in Nunatsiavut and to gather some information on programming and next steps.

Public Health Packages: The Language and Culture Division has partnered with the Department of Health and Social Development Public Health staff to incorporating language and culture items into the care packages that are given out to infants during their first vaccinations. The 2021 packages will include small crocheted seal toy, an Inuttitut children's book, a ring of flip cards with Inuttitut colours and numbers and a magnet containing babies first words in Inuttitut. This resource will help incorporate

Inuttitut and cultural resource into the day-to-day lives of babies. This is the second year of these packages. Language Resources: In 2020, our department has printed a large number of language resources to have in each Nunatsiavut community. This includes children's books, posters containing cultural information for children, youth and adult learning settings to have in different programming, giveaway prizes as well as Inuttitut signs to have in public settings, encouraging people to speak Inuttitut. Resources have been sent to each community for free distribution. In the coming months there will be posters sent to schools, NG offices and other public settings that contain visual or traditional items. Family members, animals, et cetera with Inuttitut wording. The Kayak Revival Project: The Kayak Revival Project is led by Noah Nochasak in Nain. The project aims to revive the valuable tradition of skill of the Kayak with projects such as building a kayak from scratch, lessons to community members of all ages, collecting interviews from elders and traditional knowledge of kayak use in Labrador as well as information sharing kayak knowledge. Plans for 2021 include working with other communities to spread awareness and practise skills of the kayak. Thank you, Mme Speaker on behalf of Minister Lyall, his quarterly report.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Nakummek, Minister Andersen. Are there any other Ministers who wish to make a statement today? Okay. I recognize Minister of Education and Economic Development, Carlene Palliser.

MS. PALLISER:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. The new position of Student Counsellor has been filled in our education update. Roxanne Nochasak started on

January 18th, 2021, and we are excited to have her as part of our team.

This position directly addresses the needs outlined by students during the post-secondary review in 2018 which highlighted the need for more soft supports. Roxanne will be responsible for having direct contact with all NG-funded students throughout their time at school and will provide support and assistance where needed.

The Inuit Post-Secondary Education Funding Program: The policy and procedures manual was reviewed and approved by NEC on December 14th, 2020. There are a few supports that still need to be ironed out in terms of rates, however, the program is now ready to accept applications. Additional supports not covered in the PSSSP and Inuit Pathways Program such as graduation travel, and bad weather allowance, just to name a few, will be made available to current students effective February 2021. Other supports such as orientation chaperone and set-up allowance will come into effect in the fall 2021 semester. Starting this fall, 2021, all three funding programs, the PSSSP, Inuit Pathways and the Inuit Post Secondary Education Funding will be administered together under the NG Education Division. A new universal application form has been developed and will be used immediately. Winter 2021 applications and online learning. To date, there are 50 students funded by Inuit Pathways and 171 funded by the PSSP program. Post Secondary institutions have offered the majority of their programs online during the fall 2020 semester, therefore we provided full-time support for online learning. This will continue for the winter 2021 semester.

K to 12 Inuttitut evaluation: K to 12 Inuttitut

evaluation and the executive summary has been presented to NEC.

Further work will take place this year to accept recommendations and begin implementation. Summer Literacy Camps: Due to the savings from online delivery of summer literacy camps in 2021, funds were available to continue to offer community based virtual programming. Community-based literacy program is currently available in Nain and Rigolet. The counsellor for Makkovik has returned to On Campus studies, outside of Makkovik, so programming has stopped. A new counsellor has been hired in Postville and Programming will soon start in that community.

Chrome Book purchase for K to 12 students: The Nunatsiavut Executive Council has approved the purchase of Chrome Books for all beneficiary students in grade Kindergarten to 12 in both Nunatsiavut and the Upper Lake Melville Area. Chrome Books have been received and distributed to beneficiary children in Grades 7 to 12. Due to the high demand and delayed delivery times, devices for beneficiary children in Grades Kindergarten to Grade 6 is yet to be delivered. Economic Development Division: The fall season saw the division maintain business services and finalize ongoing contracts and projects. All key deliverables are expected to be completed near the end of the fiscal year. Policy Development: We will complete the research and recommendations for policy options related to our procurement process, Inuit Business registry and compliance, in February. These recommendations will be brought to NEC in the coming months for review, and approval. Economic Assessments: The Economic Assessments both through community and the region are

in their final stages of completion. The MUN Harris Centre, along with staff support will finalize these documents in February. Rigolet Gas Station: The Rigolet Inuit Community Government has been confirmed as the interim operator for the Rigolet Gas Station. The Gas Station was closed for a five-week period and reopened November 6, 2020. This interim contract is for a six-month period, November to April with financial support from NG and from Federal Government. The goal of the NG remains to facilitate the long-term sustainability of the gas station and to find private sector operators. Business Support: Between October and January, the Division has two new businesses added to the Inuit Business Registry regarding procurement, two under ground and five regular site operation packages were received from Vale with our division submitting 14 Inuit Business nominations. And no QBE nominations. Business Assistance start-up was provided to 12 clients and three consultants on business growth. Mealy Mountain Entrepreneurship Program: This contract is in the final stages of completion...

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Excuse me, Minister Palliser. Could you please slow down for the interpreter?

MS. PALLISER: Of course. Yes, I will.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Sorry. Thank you.

MS. PALLISER: This contract is in the final stages of completion. The project will produce recommendations on a two-year entrepreneurship program that will

assist current and possible business owners to overcome start-up and diversification barriers and provide continued support services to their success. This is expected to be completed in February or March.

Community Economic Development Program: We have provided funding for the CDO Position at the Nain Inuit Community Government . We currently have funds available within our CED program. Funding is available through continuation of the ICG development officer positions for the current fiscal year. We encourage ICG's to apply. Applications are available. We encourage ICG's to submit community development projects, to take advantage of this funding opportunity. Covid Research and Relief Programming: We completed Covid Impact Business Research in May. The results state an impact on business revenue, staffing, contracts and sustainability. The results were released in November 2020. These results were widely shared inhouse and with Federal, Provincial, Regional and Inuit colleagues. We continue monitoring of business impacts and needs while also participating in Inuit-wide and Newfoundland and Labrador specific planning and advocate for increase in relevant services to meet our business community demands. We have received Federal Covid relief funding in the amount of \$117,000 for Indigenous Business Funding Program. This fund targets small businesses and artisans impacted by the pandemic. We have drafted program guidelines and applications and seek to implement quickly. We have partnered with Culture, Recreation and Tourism for Program

Development and delivery. Once complete, this program will be publicly promoted through a call for applications. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Minister Palliser. Under Standing Orders, we have 35 minutes allotted for Minister Statements. Can I get consensus to extend? Opposed? Okay. Thank you. Now I'll call upon First Minister Tyler Edmunds.

MR. EDMUNDS:

Nakummek, Mme Speaker and along with my fellow Ministers, congratulations to your new appointment. Mme Speaker, I do have a brief update today. I will speak first around the Nunatsiavut Housing Commission. Mme Speaker, Affairs is set to receive the final draft of the NHC Report Commission from BDO. This document will contain a draft budget and a work plan to guide the implementation of the Housing Commission. Our department anticipates that we will receive the report this week Mme Speaker and we're eager to work towards the first phases of ensuring that the Housing Commission can become a reality. Mme Speaker as we await the implementation of the Commission, we need to ensure that home construction is not disrupted in our communities. Under Section 7.2 of the *Housing Act*, the NEC has the ability to extend this *Contribution Agreement* with TRHA until March 31st, 2022, Mme Speaker, which would mean that there is potential for funding this year's construction for TRHA under the upcoming budget. I have signed a letter, Mme Speaker offering to extend TRHA's *Contribution Agreement* with support from the Executive Council, however, there are a number of conditions that are placed on this *Contribution Agreement* if it is finalized.

Mme Speaker, every person around this table is aware of the land shortages that exist in our communities. As we think about the future of housing in Nunatsiavut, it is clear that housing models need to be used that minimize the footprint of the building while maximizing the use of land. This may mean construction costs could increase, however if land is better utilized and more families are served in the midst of our housing crisis, then we believe that that is the best direction for our communities at this point in time. We believe that the *Contribution Agreement* will be finalized before the fiscal year ends and we will share details with the Assembly as we move throughout that process. Mme Speaker, with respect to our Affordable Warmth and Home Repair Program, our 2019 program has finished in the communities. We've had 35 homes repaired, however, there are some carry-over items that will need to be resolved in the next construction season. Nunatsiavut Affairs is currently evaluating how this program is implemented to ensure that it best meets the needs of our homeowners. One of the key concerns that we've noted throughout this construction season and previous ones, is the need for inspection of work, not only at the start of the season, at the end, but throughout the entire process. We are seeking to improve this process to minimize any deficiencies especially in light of the short construction season we have in Nunatsiavut. It is extremely important that the scope of work for each home is completed in a satisfactory way. Between 2017 and 2019, the NG had repaired 98 homes under this program at a cost of approximately \$4.5 million. Mme Speaker, the GOC, under CMHC had

announced the Rapid Housing Initiative earlier this fall. It focused on providing rapid construction and affordable housing for vulnerable Canadians. \$1 billion was announced for this program which would flow through two streams of funding. \$500 million major city stream and \$500 million project stream. Initially, Mme Speaker, the RHI had a strong focus on modular homes to meet the needs of rapid construction under the program. However, as the application process moved forward, it was clear to CMHC that accommodations were required for northern communities to allow more conventional stick builds. As we face challenges around isolation, transportation and our short construction season. The NG has submitted an application under the project stream, and Affairs has worked with Department of Health and Social Development to identify projects which would help serve different populations in our communities. These projects will closely align with multiplexes in Hopedale and Nain and there is a part of that application that focuses on the other communities as well, Mme Speaker. The application deadline was December 31st, 2020 and CMHC has stated that they intend to commit all funds where possible by March 31st, 2021. Again, we will update the Assembly as we hear some feedback on the application. Lastly, for today, Mme Speaker, around the high-efficiency woodstoves, there were 21 that were shipped to Inuit communities this past fall. That was done primarily to meet the needs of individuals who had qualified under the Covid-19 programming and had no source of heat in their homes due to unsafe homes, broken furnaces or whatever else.

Nunatsiavut Affairs continues to assist the Nunatsiavut Secretariat in the acquisition of high-efficiency woodstoves and distribution in the Inuit communities. There is currently a policy that has been developed and hopefully that could be implemented in the near future. That program will seek to cover a large population of our beneficiaries and again, we should have more details on that program later in 2021. *Nakummek*, Mme Speaker, and I'll have more to update the Assembly tomorrow. *Nakummek*.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you. Are there any other Ministers Statements? Recognize Minister Tony Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you Mme Speaker, I'm just gonna maybe highlight a couple of things today and I will tomorrow give a more indepth detailed report from my department. Thank you, Mme Speaker, and perhaps again I'll congratulate you from my department this time. Last time I (inaudible) from Jim Lyall. Mme Speaker, as I said today's statement will provide some highlights of some of the projects and activities being managed by our staff. We had a consulting firm KPNG has been engaged to develop a business continuity plan for the Government to date, discovery and process discussions have been completed for all departments and a risk impact scale and business contingency management plan drafted. Departments will now begin the process of completing business impact analysis which will lead to the final business continuity plan. Two firms have been engaged to enhancing the Government's use of human resource management services and renewing internal controls in the

payroll process. Policy Review and development are ongoing within the HR Division. A significant project in this area involves the review and enhancement of the harassment policy to ensure compliance with new provincial legislation. Mme Speaker, the Government of Canada has approved funding for the operation of the Inuit Community Governments retroactive to 2019 to 2000 fiscal year. We expect to receive the funds before March 31st, 2021. This has no impact on Community Governments as the NG funded them with other sources of funds while this issue was being addressed. We continue to discuss the funding for NIHB programs and for (inaudible) programs with the Government of Canada. As it is close to budget time Mme Speaker, all departments have been reviewing and submitting their draft budgets and plans for the 2021-2022 fiscal years. We look forward to bringing this budget for your consideration at the March sitting. Thank you, Mme Speaker, and I'm going to stop for the day right there and continue my report tomorrow. Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Minister Andersen. I know call a recess for 20 minutes. Thank you.

[Recess]

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you. We are now onto Item number seven, "Members Statements". Are there any Members who wish to make a statement? Okay, lots of hands. Okay. I call upon the AngajukKâk for Postville, Mr. Glenn Sheppard.

MR. SHEPPARD:

Thank you, Mme Speaker and I'd like to personally, congratulate you on your new appointment and also Mr. Saunders, congratulate you as well, Mr. Saunders. It's good to be back in Hopedale. It's good to see all the faces. It's good to hear all the info from the different departments within NG. You know a lot has happened in the last 12 months. I don't have a written statement as such this morning, Mme Speaker, but I think I can talk from the top of my head. Mme Speaker, you know, I never, ever saw a Government in my life that's how, I guess a perfect Government. However, as a Government, I think, you know, we have responsibilities. We have roles. We have protocols. We have whatever. At the beginning of this sitting this morning, Mme Speaker, I heard in the room here that the wearing of a mask was mandatory for the sitting, including when you're speaking. And this is why my mask is on. I just wanna know if that's a clear-cut answer to the progress of our sitting here this morning. We have the eyes and ears, not only of our beneficiaries out there that's watching this Nunatsiavut Government They're watching our every move. And as examples, I think this is a small little thing we could do on our part to show we have respect for the community, not only the community of Hopedale, but our fellow co-workers and our elected people. Having said that, Mme Speaker, I'd like to I guess share with you a little bit of information of some of the things that's happening with our ICG. And I think it's very important for everybody who's representing different communities that as of this morning, we have two trail markers we call them, that's gone in on the trail to do the marking of the trail.

And they're hoping to get as far as Separation Lake. They will spend a night or two in on the trail starting the marking. That's for the benefit of the coast and those in Upper Lake Melville who do the traveling, keeping in mind there will not be, and I repeat, there will not be any trail marking on the sea ice due to the unsafe ice conditions right now in our immediate area. People are traveling by the shoreline, across portages. So, there will not be any markings done on the sea ice. That's just a bit of information I'd like to share with you this morning. And I'd like to take, I guess, time to recognize my staff for a wonderful job that they do at the office. You know, I got here yesterday, and I had a list of things, 'cause I spent the weekend in Goose Bay, to make a long story short, basically, with my dad who was sick. And I had a list of things for my CAO in Postville to check up on, to follow up on, to get done. I messaged her and she had wrote back, "All taken care of." So, hats off to my CAO for taking a lot of the responsibility off of my shoulders and the clerk as well and the assistant clerk. So, I'm gonna be very short and sweet this morning but Mme Speaker, I think, you know, if the wearing of a mask is mandatory in our Assembly, I think we should do all our part in keeping this mask attached to our face even including speaking. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, AngajukKâk Sheppard. A very valid point. I do ask that Members please keep their masks on while speaking. I know it may be a little bit uncomfortable, but it's the world we live in right now. We need to protect our communities and our beneficiaries. I also please ask that

those that are not sitting at the round table, when they need to ask a question or give their statement, to please come to one of the spare mics that are at the table. I ask that those that are sitting close to the spare mics to please just move back a little bit. There are wipes available close to the microphones. So I ask that you please wipe down the button that you push before you touch and after. Thank you, AngajukKâk Sheppard, for pointing that out. I now call upon AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Mr. Barry Andersen. Thank you.

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mme Speaker, and congratulations today on behalf of myself and our community of Makkovik on being appointed the Speaker of the Assembly. I would like today to congratulate Aunt Nellie Winters on her Honorary Doctorate of Laws degree bestowed on her on January 21st, 2021 at Goose Bay. The first ever convocation of its kind in Labrador. This is in recognition of her tireless work promoting Labrador Inuit crafts and customs in our region and beyond. Aunt Nellie is also a good storyteller. She has written and recorded a lot of her knowledge by audio, video and in writing. Thus, she has passed on many of her talents to her children, grandchildren and many others in the community, including myself. When I was-, when she was a life skills instructor back in 1980, I made a canvas tent in school with her as my instructor, showing me how to use a sewing machine. I will not be taking orders, okay? But I'd also like to congratulate Ms. Crane on her recognition which is well deserved as well. So, thank you, very much, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you AngajukKâk Andersen. I now call upon Ordinary Member for Makkovik, Mr. John Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. Congratulations on your appointment. I'd just like to share with you some of the changes experienced in our community as far as Christmas celebrations due to Covid restrictions. The Christingle service on December 24th is usually a packed church. Ours was held on the local radio station. The Department of Health and Social Development made apples and beeswax candles and the appropriate time that it was over the radio, they lit their candles and sang along to Jesus Bids us Shine. We'd like to thank the Department of Health and Social Development for doing that for us. Children's Day Service on December 28th is usually well attended, so people planning to attend were asked to register. Since there were more than 50 people, we had two services, served 84 people. All the buns were wrapped in cellophane paper and only juice boxes were served. The Sunday School teachers produced a short video of the Christmas Story so the town people could enjoy a virtual Christmas Pageant put on by the children and each child would read his part like in a concert. This was very well accepted. On January the 6th, Old Christmas, the service was held but without the usual Love Feast, tea and biscuits, just the service. Another thing that was not held was the ladies sewing circle Christmas sale. Instead they put items on the auction line and did very well. Department of Health and Social Development team leader Kim Andersen along with the Recreation Department and the RCMP helped Santa and the Grinch

also helped out to deliver Christmas presents that were sent from the RCMP Toys for the North. This was for ages 12 and under. The presents were wrapped by workers from Department of Health and Social Development and then they drove around to each house and dropped off the packages. The Grinch did try to steal a few but he got caught. Mme Speaker, one thing that received mixed reviews was Nalajuk night. The group that usually plans and runs the activities on January 6th, Nalajuk Night officially canceled. However, some youth took it upon themselves to dress up and do the chase around town that would otherwise be missed. Some people were happy with their decision, but some weren't. It was outdoor activity and they were wearing masks. However, others were not happy to see the official cancellation disrespected. That's just something we had to deal with Covid in Makkovik over Christmas. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Ordinary Member Andersen. I now call upon NunaKatiget Inuit Community Chair, Patricia Kemuksigak.

MS. KEMUKSIGAK:

Nakummek Mme Speaker, and I'd like to congratulate you on being named Speaker of our House. *Nakummek* to the Nunatsiavut Department of Finance for increasing our budget for 2021, which was very much appreciated, and will help us immensely. NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation received funds from Heritage Canada for Master Apprentice Inuttitut Program and Inuttitut lessons for youth and adults. Selma Jararuse is the instructor and the Master for the program. It stopped before Christmas, due to an illness, but we started up again this week with

a new apprentice, Caroline Semigak Elson. We will start an Inuttitut class for youth, in partnership with the DHSD Youth Program at the Community office in February. And adult classes will start, hopefully, in March. I would like to thank Shirley Jararuse from the Language Division for helping with information and materials that are needed for the Master Apprentice Program. Mme Speaker, we were very pleased to receive funds from the *Tasiujatsaok Trust*. Nunatsiavut Group of Companies and the Nunatsiavut Government for food for our Community Freezer. We also received food from Second Harvest Food Rescue Program on January 21, 2021. In December of 2020, 209 families visited the Max Winters Memorial Community Freezer. This is an increase from our average to 165 to 185 families. We also gave out Christmas hampers to 165 elders who regularly visit the freezer. We had more people call for hampers but there was not enough for all elders. The need has increased since Covid-19 happened as food prices have increased dramatically, as we all know. People are also very pleased with the Nunatsiavut Food Voucher program being reinstated again. Mr. Speaker, we have 422 elders, 60 and over in Happy Valley, Goose Bay and Mud Lake. Not everyone comes to the freezer, as some people are still able to hunt and fish. However, 209 families, that equals 430 people received food from our freezer. Some families are just one person in the household, like a widow. Other families have six to eight because they have children and grandchildren and sometimes great-grandchildren with them. The average are two people per household. When Lands and Natural Resources Department allocates their traditional

food such as the Gros Morne Moose Hunt meat, we are very grateful, but we only received 4.5 percent of the allocation. We only serve our elders that come and people with disabilities, however, the low percentage doesn't get everybody a meal a month. So that creates some hardships at times. I would like to send condolences to the family of the late William Barber. Mr. Barber was our past president of LIA and fellow Assembly Member for many years. I'd like to congratulate Jean Crane and Nellie Winters on receiving their Honorary Degrees of Law in a ceremony held in Happy Valley, Goose Bay. *Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Nakummek, Chairperson Kemuksigak. I now call upon Sivunivut Inuit Community Chair, Maxene Winters.

MS. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Mr. Speaker, and congratulations. Congratulations to the Nunatsiavut Region for receiving the first dose of the Moderna Covid-19 vaccine. What a great way to start of 2021. Not only does this vaccine bring a level of security to the residents, but it has also been a long time coming. Hats off to the DHSD and Labrador Grenfell Health Teams who had a hand in making this possible. Great work to all involved. Our offices are still open by appointment only, and over the past few months we have seen a rise in seniors accessing our freezer. We would like to thank the Department of Lands and Natural Resources for the donations of scallops, crab legs and cod to our freezer. I know that the seniors are happy to have more selection of country food. We would also like to send a big thank you to Torngat Fisheries who donated a six-foot freezer to Sivunivut as well. We are truly grateful for the generosity of both parties to our

corporation and our little community. Sivunivut would like to thank the *T-Trust* for the funding of a parka making course. This course will be offered in the near future and will see seven participants sporting new parkas soon. We are also currently offering a seal skin boot-making course where 10 participants will learn the art of boot making, a skill they can all, hopefully, pass down to future generations. The Christmas season was a busy time as always with helping the DHSD staff in North West River with the annual Christmas dinner. Although it was a different year, we still managed to provide a beautiful meal to the seniors of North West River. We hope that everyone had a safe Christmas and all the best in 2021. *Nakummek*, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Nakummek, Chairperson Winters. I now call upon AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Ms. Charlotte Wolfrey.

MS. WOLFREY:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. Can everyone hear me? I'm going to apologize because sometimes I gotta take off my mask because of health, I gotta have water and my throat gets dry with my mask on. So, bear with me. Thank you, Mme Speaker. Like everyone else, I'd like to congratulate you on your appointment as speaker. I would like to take the time today to thank all the health care workers for getting our communities vaccinated against Covid-19. We all know that this pandemic has turned our worlds upside down. And we are hopeful with a vaccine, we can get some, back to some kind of normal, hopefully this year. I would also like to thank the residents of Rigolet for their cooperation to keep our community safe. Mme Speaker, we have had so much support and help along the way to

get us where we are today from March 25th when we had shutdowns. We have had support from numerous agencies with everything from getting food for our community freezers to getting oil and wood to heat our homes and persons getting gas to go on the land hunting. We saw neighbours helping neighbours. We saw our country making noise to salute our frontline workers. We saw Government step up to the plate to do their part. We are truly all in this together and the people and the organizations who have helped keep us safe are too many to name individually. However, Mme Speaker, I have to acknowledge the Government's Federal, Provincial, Regional and local that came together and worked together to keep our communities safe. Mme Speaker, even though we are in the middle of a pandemic, we are still working to keep everything running in our community. I would also like to add, that in Rigolet, we have been working without key staff positions filled. Rigolet has not had a full-time manager or CAO since 2017. And I know that since I became AngajukKák in 2018, I've been fulfilling their HR role of that position. This is a key position for our community, and we are struggling without that position filled. But I'm happy to report that we have a new Fire Chief and finally got our Water and Sewer Operator position filled. Mme Speaker, right now we are struggling with the loss of water pressure on the hill or in the higher areas in Rigolet. We are being told that it could-, that we have a leak and to conserve water. A notice has been issued to our town. And this past weekend, we did have a contractor come in who got the third pump working in Rigolet and the situation is improving slightly but we're still

asking people to conserve water as much as they can so that people on the hill can get water. Mme Speaker, like all our communities, our activities over the Christmas season was reduced dramatically. We held a parade, and I think it's safe to say the whole community showed up-, so much so, that I think we only had one or two houses that had spectators to look at our parade. And the skidoos in the parade only saw each others' floats and decorations when people turned around and they passed us. There were so many people. Everyone was...

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Excuse me, AngajukKâk Wolfrey. You've exceeded your five-minute time. Would you like me to add you to the list for your next Members statement?

MS. WOLFREY:

You can do that. Everyone else had their time. I'm just being conscious of the translator. I'm listening in my ear.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

No, I understand your consideration for the translator. But you've gone a couple of minutes over. I can certainly add you to the list after the next-, when all the other statements are done. Okay?

MS. WOLFREY:

If that's what you wanna do, or I'll talk so fast the next time, no one can understand me. Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Okay. Thank you. Now I'll call on AngajukKâk Marjorie Flowers for Hopedale. Thank you.

MS. FLOWERS:

Nakummek, Mme Speaker. And I congratulate you as well on your appointment. On behalf of HICG I wish everyone a happy new year. We haven't met since New Year's. I look forward to working with everyone and the challenges we may face this year and to work through each one

with clear vision, integrity, positivity and determination to make our Government work for the betterment of all of our people. I would like to extend our deepest condolences to William Barber's family. And to acknowledge William's contribution to this Government and all the work that he did with *LIA*. Due to Covid restrictions, many of our programs and services in our communities were cancelled or downsized. One of the biggest for Hopedale was the cancelation of the Christmas Eve Candlelight service at the Moravian church. In its place was a candlelight service with apples. And the service programs passed out for all who wanted to participate and we did the service on the radio. Mme Speaker, I want to acknowledge and thank every organization including the staff at ACMS, LG Health, DHSD, RCMP, Franks, DJ's, Amaguk Inn, the Moravian Church, HICG and Woodwards for their hard work and dedication in keeping essential services going in our community. They are all champions and I appreciate their work and their good spirit. I also want to thank everyone in bringing the Moderna Vaccinations to our communities. The nurses and staff of DHSD, LG Health, volunteers and in some communities, Canadian Rangers, did an awesome job ensuring all who were eligible received this very important vaccination. This was a huge undertaking and many hours of planning was put into it. The clinics were very well organized. A great job to everyone involved. I would also like to thank the Education Department of Nunatsiavut for the Chrome Books for the kids K to 12. They were very, very excited youth to receive these Chrome Books. HICG funding-, we secured funding for our wooding project. Wood was purchased from a

buyer in Goose Bay and shipped to the community and was given out earlier this fall before the Covid wooding project started. Due to an extremely mild fall and winter, an upgrade of water lines, few water freezes were reported to date. I'd also like to thank Nunatsiavut Government for the shipment of moose meat and shellfish and the codfish. We received it yesterday and it was a real treat for our people. And also, to Food Canada for the shipment of-, huge, I should say, shipment of chicken. I will stop here, Mme Speaker, and I'll continue on tomorrow. Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Nakummek, AngajukKâk Flowers. I know call upon Mr. Roland Saunders Ordinary Member for Canadian Constituency.

MR. SAUNDERS:

Nakummek, and congratulations Mme Speaker. Covid relief funding for the Canadian Constituency has been well received for the Members that were approved. Members across Canada have received the newsletter and the new application forms and they are still applying even as of this week. This is due, in part, to Covid-19 and mainly because of Canada Post. Since this has happened, many applied very late and with the new system and the limited intake people, the month of December and January, funding is lost to them and there is no retroactive system so they will never ever receive any funding for the months they've already lost, which is too bad for the Canadian Constituency, but I can understand the way the system is supposed to work for everyone else. Mme Speaker, the Canadian Constituency is in the midst of a by-election for the vacant seat and Mme Speaker, I can guarantee you right here and now in this Assembly building

that the next Member for the Canadian Constituency will be a female, because there's only six women running. At this time, I would like to ask once again, the Assembly to implement an electronic voting system for the Canadian Constituency. We're very large. We're spread across the country, as you all know, and the mail system is horrid. And I don't expect, and even with this by-election, to have anymore than 15 to 20 percent of votes returned in time for the deadline. So, of the 2,200 Members that we have, we may get 300 votes, maybe 400, and that's it, because of the large country. It would be a great time if we could get it implemented within the next year before the general election and, because in reality, I can't see Covid improving across Canada very much-, not to eliminate it anyway, and I sure can't see Canada Post improving their system at all. So that's all I have to say at this time and thank you, Mme Speaker. Once again, congratulations.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member Saunders. Is there any other Members who'd like to make a statement? Okay, I recognize Ordinary Member Tony Andersen for Nain.

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. I'm pleased to present to the Assembly, on behalf of Nain Inuit Community Government, AngajukKâk Julius Dicker, a brief report. Since the last fall sitting in October, the NICG has experienced a burn-out of one of the water pumps at Trouser Lake pumphouse. Extensive damage was made to the electrical components of Pump Number One and has been sent to the manufacturer for analysis. NICG has contracted Crosby Engineering Incorporated to investigate the cause

of damage and they will report back to us in 30 days. It is believed the damage was caused by surges in the power grid but will be discovered through investigation. Meanwhile, the two remaining pumps are functioning well, and the community is safe from any further breakdowns at this time. Crosby Engineering will be focusing on the Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro for answers. The Community Employment Enhancement Program is underway once again, and up to this point the NICG has seven individuals come forward looking to qualify for EI benefit hours. Five have received their hours and two are still earning their hours up to this date of the report. Like all the Nunatsiavut communities, Nain was very excited to have the Covid-19 vaccine delivered and administered to community members. In total, 515 shots were given-, 495 were from Nain, including employees from the Voisey's Bay Nickel Mine who were flown into Nain from camp on January 16th. The extra 20 individuals were from other Nunatsiavut communities who were working at the Voisey's Bay camp. The numbers from Nain represent approximately 66 percent of eligible persons on the list. Since then, 20 plus persons have called in, looking for the inoculation and when the number reaches 30, appointments will be arranged, and the vaccine flown into Nain. The NICG acknowledges the hard work and planning and preparation for the inoculations and sends a message of gratitude and thanks to all of those involved. Once again, the Moravian traditional Young Men's Day took place on January 25, 2021 and the Illusuak Cultural Centre was pleased to host the event. For the record, Mme Speaker, the NICG is very proud and excited that the issue of the new

Nain Airport is moving forward. I will not speak to this as the First Minister has already given the NG Assembly his update. And I understand that this is still being negotiated, leading to the next steps for a further update in March. However, the NICG would like to thank NG for positive support and action on this and look forward to much great news to come in March. Thank you, Mme Speaker on behalf of Julius Dicker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Ordinary Member Andersen for delivering AngajukKâk Dicker's statement. I now call upon Ordinary Member Gerald Asivak for Upper Lake Melville.

MR. ASIVAK:

Thank you, Mme Speaker, congrats to respected elders, Ms. Jean Crane and Ms. Nellie Winters on your honorary degrees from Memorial University. Well deserved. Thank you. Condolences to any families on the passing of your loved ones in Upper Lake Melville. Due to Covid restrictions around capacity, Ordinary Member Winters and myself could not attend so we deeply send our condolences. In closing, Mme Speaker, I'd like to thank Lake Melville Minor Hockey Xtreme Association for putting toward the Chevrolet Good Deeds Cup volunteering in the community and the Emergency Shelter will benefit much needed donations from the community. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Nakummek, Ordinary Member Asivak. Are there any other Members who wish to make a statement? Okay. Seeing none, I'd like to invite AngajukKâk Wolfrey back for her second statement.

MS. WOLFREY:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. I was going to start off saying, "Tuavi Tuavi, Gus", but I guess I haven't got to. That's, "Hurry, Hurry", in case anyone don't know. Anyway, our recreation department had Santa go door to door to deliver gifts to each child, which would normally be Santa at the Hall at 6:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve, but we just had them go door-to-door. They made a sleigh and they got a replacement Santa when one backed out and they went door-to-door, gave each child in Rigolet a gift and a loot bag. Mme Speaker, this past fall, Rigolet was successful in getting a new dump truck and a new grader, and I would like to acknowledge NG for their support to secure funds for these two pieces of equipment. Rigolet has also been trying to find a solution to the dust problem-, the dust problem that plagues not only our community but every community. To that end, we put in a proposal to the-, I guess to the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to do a pilot project to pave our local roads in Rigolet. But when it came time to review the proposals, I ended up withdrawing it because the cost was expensive and the money that was requested to do that project, just, I think Nunatsiavut's portion would've almost taken all the Capital Works Budget. So like I said, I reluctantly withdrew my proposal and reluctantly, I'll tell you why-, because, Mme Speaker, everywhere you go on the Island of Newfoundland, every little nook and cranny-, every little community got pavement. And why, why, why, I ask, are we any different? Why should an MHA from Newfoundland be allowed to spend \$11 million to repave, repave his district before the Government of Newfoundland can spend \$7 million to pave Rigolet's roads? Why?

Because we allow this to happen without calling it out. And as long as we're quiet, we're gonna get nothing. Mme Speaker, we need to find a solution to the dust problem. It is a health risk. It is serious and it's getting worse. Rigolet alone has a little over 100 vehicles in the summer on our roads and dust control is a must. So I'm asking Nunatsiavut Government to try to in their meetings with the Province, to move that forward. *Nakummek*, Mme Speaker and thank you for letting me finish.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Nakummek, AngajukKâk Wolfrey. All Members are allowed two statements so I'm glad you utilized your second one. Are there any other Members Statements before I move? Oh, Barry. Okay, I'd like to recognize AngajukKâk Barry Andersen for Makkovik.

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you Mme Speaker. I rise again today to recognize the health care workers that commenced the Covid-19 Moderna vaccinations on January 11th, 2021. This was a day we long awaited for since the world-wide Covid-19 Pandemic was declared in Canada last March. The education and information outreach prior to this new vaccine being administered, played a major part in the public confidence of the medical science leading up to this historic day in our region, given what the Inuit have been through in the pandemic of 1918 and 1919. So many thanks to the Health Department and all the agencies for their efforts throughout the vaccination program. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, AngajukKâk Andersen. Are there any other Members who wish to make a statement? Okay. Seeing none, I will move on to Item Number Eight, "Return to Oral Questions." There are no returns to oral questions.

Moving us on to Item Number Nine, "*Oral Questions.*" Are there any oral questions? Okay. Thank you. I call on AngajukKâk Sheppard for Postville.

MR. SHEPPARD:

Thank you, again, Mme Speaker. Mme Speaker, my question this morning is directed to the Honourable Minister Asivak of Department of Health and Social Development. Mme Speaker, during his report this morning to the Assembly, he did make mention of the second dose of the vaccine will begin next week. Based on that, Mme Speaker, as we hear from the airwaves day-to-day, we hear of shortages coming up across, I guess not only Canada, but across the globe. My question to the Minister this morning Mme Speaker would be, despite what we hear on the news, on the media, you know, based on the second dose being starting next week, can you confirm with the Assembly for the benefit of beneficiaries, that there will not be a disruption based on what we hear on the news? Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Minster Asivak?

MR. ASIVAK:

Thank you, Mme Speaker and AngajukKâk Sheppard for your question. DHSD have been in regular contact with Labrador Grenfell Health around this Moderna Vaccine. As of late last week, we did confirm with Dr. Thomas Piggott, Medical Officer of Health, that our vaccine for Nunatsiavut, all five communities, is guaranteed. So we do have guarantee from Labrador Grenfell health and we will administer similar to dosage one within the communities. If there are any weather delays, Mme Speaker, we will reroute, but we do have guarantee for the second dosage. Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Minister Asivak. Do you have any supplementary question, AngajukKâk Sheppard?

MR. SHEPPARD: No, thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. Next question from-, I call on Ordinary Member John Andersen for Makkovik.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mme Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Education and Economic Development, the Honourable Carlene Palliser. And my question is, at our meeting in October, I asked a question on building infrastructures in our communities for vocational training. Was there any movement on this request?

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Ordinary Member Andersen. Minister Palliser?

MS. PALLISER: Thank you to the Ordinary Member for Makkovik for his question. Unfortunately, we are not-, we have not been able to access any funds yet for training infrastructure in our communities. We have several funding programs for supporting training, but as of yet, training infrastructure is not an allowable expense. As was mentioned at the last Assembly, training infrastructure is on the agenda at the Inuit Crown Partnership Committee and we are hopeful that as we-, as the process unfolds, training infrastructure funds may become available. And once again, thank you for your question.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Minister Palliser. Do you have a supplementary question, Ordinary Member Andersen?

MR. ANDERSEN: No, thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. I now call upon NunaKatiget Inuit Community Chair, Patricia Kemuksigak.

MS. KEMUKSIGAK: *Nakummek*, Mme Speaker. This question is to the Finance Minister, the Honourable Tony Andersen. Would you look into increasing the mileage rate for Nunatsiavut Government Civil Servants? It's low compared to the Province and Federal Government, and I believe there has been no increase in over 20 years. *Nakummek*, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: I'm sorry, Minister Andersen?

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you Mme Speaker and Mme Speaker, I thank the Member for the question. I have to say that there have been a number of reviews. The last, I believe and I'm not 100 percent sure, I think the last review was done in 2018. And at that time, it was found that the mileage rates that we pay to Civil Servants for the use of vehicles is on par with other Government agencies such as the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Government of Canada and on par with other Aboriginal or Indigenous organizations. Having said that, I have asked my Deputy Minister, that perhaps it is time for another review. So I wanna give assurance to the Member, who undoubtedly has been asked by Members of the Civil Service to bring this question forward, that she can give them assurance that we will always be fair when it comes to mileage rates or any other rate. We look to other Government agencies, other Governments, other Indigenous organizations to ensure that we are fair. And in doing so, I want to assure the Member that there will be a review done and that review will be done hopefully before this Assembly adjourns in June for the summer

recess. And I very much hope to be able to report to this Assembly and to the Member at that time. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Minister Andersen. Do you have any supplementary questions Chair Kemuksigak?

MS. KEMUKSIGAK: No, Mme Speaker, and thank you to Minister Andersen.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. I now call upon AngajukKâk Marjorie Flowers for Hopedale.

MS. FLOWERS: Thank you, Mme Speaker. My question is for Minister Asivak. Due to travel restrictions with the dentist and some of the eye team, the dentist won't be traveling to some of our communities. My question is, will we be guaranteed a seat on the flight that travels from here out to Goose Bay instead of being bumped off for these kinds of appointments? Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you AngajukKâk Flowers. Minister Asivak?

MR. ASIVAK: Thank you, Mme Speaker and AngajukKâk Flowers for your question. It's a very good question. DHSD is working collaboratively with all Medical Services, including dental and optometrists for services within our communities, within Nunatsiavut. As I noted in my email last week, that I shared widely with the Assembly, that sometimes it's beyond our control and where the specialists live. During the Covid Pandemic, Mme Speaker, some of the specialists live outside the Atlantic bubble and cannot enter our province, which is a good thing for the safety and precaution of our beneficiaries in our communities. I strongly encourage any Member or beneficiary to contact your local DHSD clinic if you require dental or

optometrist. Labrador Grenfell Health administers the Medivac, Skedivac Health Services for Nunatsiavut, so I cannot guarantee if a patient will be bumped off as this is Labrador Grenfell Health authority. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Minister Asivak. AngajukKâk Flowers, do you have a supplementary question?

MS. FLOWERS: Yes, Mme Speaker. Can you work with Labrador Grenfell Health on our behalf to ensure that this doesn't happen? Dental and Optometry appointments are just as important as any other appointment as it can lead to different diseases. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you AngajukKâk Flowers. Minister Asivak?

MR. ASIVAK: Thank you, Mme Speaker and AngajukKâk Flowers. As always, DHSD is working closely with Labrador Grenfell Health for the medical needs of all beneficiaries. We'll continue to advocate but on one note, I will address that there are limited capacity as well on flight restrictions and capacity. However, we will continue to advocate for ensuring that medical, dental and optometrist services are active for our beneficiaries. Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you Minister Asivak. Do you have a final supplementary question, AngajukKâk Flowers?

MS. FLOWERS: No, thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. I now call upon Sivunivut Inuit Community Chair, Maxene Winters.

MS. WINTERS: *Nakummek*, Mme Speaker. My question is for the Honourable President Johannes Lampe. Although beneficiaries in North West River may not be as dependant on wood heat as those in Nunatsiavut, we have other important needs such as snow clearing for seniors. There are over 500 elders in the Upper Lake Melville area, and a majority of these beneficiaries would greatly benefit from a snow clearing program. With the latest round Federal money received for Covid, could we please have monies allotted for this service? Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Inuit Community Chair Maxene Winters. President Lampe, would you like to answer?

PRESIDENT LAMPE: *Nakummek, Uhatti, Nakummek* to the Chair of Sivunivut for the question. Most certainly, the question is understood and where seniors or elders certainly need to support that they can get to whatever their needs may be. But to your question, I would have to go to the NEC for request of funding. And certainly, I will make sure that this issue is brought forward to the Executive Council. *Nakummek, UKatti*.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, President Lampe. Do you have a supplementary question, Inuit Community Chair Winters?

MS. WINTERS: No, I do not. Thank you, very much.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. I now call upon Ordinary Member Roland Saunders for Canadian Constituency.

MR. SAUNDERS: *Nakummek*, Mme Speaker. This question is for the Honourable First Minister, Mr. Edmunds. Mr. Edmunds would you kindly begin the

implementation of electronic voting for the large Canadian Constituency before next year's general election, please? Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Ordinary Member Saunders. I call upon First Minister, Tyler Edmunds.

MR. EDMUNDS:

Nakummek, Mme Speaker and thank you to the Ordinary Member for your question. The Member does raise a very valid point. We have relied historically on mail-in ballots throughout the Canadian Constituency, but obviously, Covid-19 as the Member has stated, has impacted those services across our whole country. With respect to my authority or ability to be able to say here and now that that is something that we would implement, I really can't say that, but this direction, I think would come from the Office of the Nunatsiavut Electoral Officer. What I can say is, you know, those sorts of discussions can certainly be pursued. I know that there was a report that was put forward to the Assembly a number of years ago by the previous Electoral Officer, Mr. Jack Shiwak. One of those items was in that report, a potential for online or electronic voting. Now, obviously, there's concerns around it as well, in terms of security and whatever else, but I can say that, you know, we can look at those sort of discussions as we look towards the next election. *Nakummek*.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Nakummek, First Minister Edmunds. Do you have a supplementary question, Ordinary Member Saunders?

MR. SAUNDERS:

No, I don't. Thank you, First Minister and thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you. I call upon Hopedale AngajukKâk Flowers.

MS. FLOWERS: Thank you, Mme Speaker. My question is for Minister Flowers for Lands and Resources. In the past five to six months there has been earthquakes around Makkovik area and surrounding areas, and my question is, can you tell me if anyone is looking into the reason why all these earthquakes are occurring in our area? Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, AngajukKâk Flowers. Minister Flowers?

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you, Mme Speaker and thank you AngajukKâk for your question. It was quite concerning and is still quite concerning for the Makkovik and Postville region. It actually was frightening to some of the residents for good reason. I can say that we did get some requests from Makkovik and I think we also did from Postville. I had my Deputy Minister look into this, AngajukKâk and we are certainly engaged, and we take consideration very seriously and we are looking at bringing some specialists up. I'm not quite sure on when the timeline that will be, but we certainly want to get to the bottom of this, certainly if we can and we are looking at bringing a specialist in whenever possible. Thank you, AngajukKâk.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Minister Flowers. Do you have a supplementary question, AngajukKâk?

MS. FLOWERS: No, I don't. Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, AngajukKâk Flowers. I now call upon NunaKatiget Chair Patricia Kemuksigak.

MS. KEMUKSIGAK: Thank you, Mme Speaker. I would like to direct this question to President Lampe. Would you and NEC Members explore the possibility of increasing

the allocation for traditional food allotment when we receive some? NunaKatiget receives 4.5 percent of the allocation and we have 400 to 422 people or 209 families a month. Back when the allocation was first done in the mid 2000's, NunaKatiget's numbers were between 60 and 80 families, so it was quite fair. But now we have more than doubled the number of families who come each month. So I'm asking if you could explore the possibility of re-looking at the allocation? *Nakummek*, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you Chairperson Kemuksigak. President Lampe, would you like to respond?

PRESIDENT LAMPE:

Nakummek, UKatti, Nakummek, Chair of NunaKatiget for the question. Certainly, our food securities are very important to Labrador Inuit in Nunatsiavut and Upper Lake Melville and at the Canadian Constituency. Certainly, an issue like this would have to go to the Executive Council but I will assure you that I will put this forward to the Executive Council and then to be discussed by the Ministers of the Executive Council. *Nakummek, Ukatti*.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, President Lampe. Do you have a supplementary question, Chairperson?

MS. KEMUKSIGAK:

No, Mme Speaker and thank you, President Lampe.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you. I now call upon Ordinary Member John Andersen for Makkovik.

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. My question is for First Minister Honourable Tyler Edmunds and are there plans to purchase the family trees from Patty

Way? Membership Committees have been requesting database for years. If we wait much longer, since she's getting up in age, it might be too late. She has been doing this research for 40 years. No other person in Labrador holds as much information for their ancestry as Patty Way.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Ordinary Member Andersen. First Minister Edmunds?

MR. EDMUNDS:

Nakummek, Mme Speaker and *Nakummek*, to the Ordinary Member for your question. And I just wanted to I guess preface my response by recognizing Mr. Andersen in his capacity as a Member on the Postville-Makkovik Membership Committee for a number of years and I want to thank you for your expertise and all the other communities as you ensure that the registrar was kept up to date and functional. The Member raises an important point, an important need that exists within the registrar right now. I did see correspondence that was sent to Affairs in November of 2019, I believe, where this request was put forward to develop an Inuit Ancestry database so that the registrar can more efficiently do its job and that members from the communities can have a good foundation to work on as they make their decisions. There was, budgeted under last year's budget, a special workshop to get all the members together from the Membership Committees to be able to start this process of developing an Inuit Ancestry database. Obviously, Covid-19 has come along and really thrown a wrench into that. But it is something that we're still committed to doing and, you know, we'll try to support the registrar in any way that we can to make sure that this process of creating an Inuit Ancestry database can move forward. *Nakummek*, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, First Minister Edmunds. Do you have a supplementary question, Ordinary Member Andersen?

MR. ANDERSEN: No, thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Ordinary Member Andersen. I now call upon Sivunivut Inuit Community Chair, Maxene Winters.

MS. WINTERS: Thank you, Mme Speaker. My question is for the Health and Social Development Minister, the Honourable Gerald Asivak. Can you please advise when members in Upper Lake Melville area will be able to receive the Covid-19 vaccine? I know that the 75 and up members will be getting it soon but is there a timeline for regular members, that it will be available?

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Chair Winters. Minister Asivak?

MR. ASIVAK: Thank you, Mme Speaker and Chairperson Winters for your question. The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Department of Health and Community Service is administering the vaccination for the province. As of this past Saturday, vaccination for the target elderly group 75 and up has been postponed due to shortage of vaccine nation-wide. DHSD is working closely with Labrador Grenfell Health to keep everyone informed when the vaccine will be available to the general adult population. NG will share information through all media channels when it is available. Vaccination updates are also available online, Gov NL dot Covid-19 vaccines. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Minister Asivak. Do you have a supplementary question Chairperson Winters?

MS. WINTERS: No, I do not. Thank you, and thank you, to Gerald.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. I now call upon AngajukKâk Glenn Sheppard for Postville, please.

MR. SHEPPARD: Thank you Mme Speaker. My question is directed to the Honourable President, Johannes Lampe. Mme Speaker, take my memory back to November of 2019 when the official opening of the Illusuak happened in Nain. I happened to be part of the ceremony. Part of the statement that was made at the time by the President, Mme Speaker, was, "It was a good purpose or a good reason to what's called bridging the gap between the youth and the elders." My question for the President today Mme Speaker would be, what has been done to date to bridge that gap between the youth and the elders in my community of Postville and the remaining communities within Nunatsiavut, Upper Lake Melville and the Canadian Constituency. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, AngajukKâk Sheppard. President Lampe, would you like to respond?

PRESIDENT LAMPE: *Nakummek, UKatti, Nakummek*, to AngajukKâk Sheppard for the question. Certainly, the elders and the youth are very important part of the Nunatsiavut Government and especially where we as Labrador Inuit have to bridge the gap and we certainly, are working on bridging that gap and-, but Covid happened. But that doesn't say that we will not continue to work on getting the elders and youth where the elders can certainly pass on valuable knowledge to the younger generation. I know that we will work

very hard to make sure that this knowledge is continued to be passed on to our children and our grandchildren. And certainly, the Department of Language, Culture and Tourism plays a big role in making sure that knowledge is passed on through the youth programs and the parks-, but due to Covid, this has been slowed down a lot. But I will certainly keep pushing the Executive Council to make sure that this very important issue is discussed, but right now, due to Covid, and like in all other things that we do, this has slowed down a lot. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, President Lampe. Do you have a supplementary question AngajukKâk Sheppard?

MR. SHEPPARD: No, I don't, Mme Speaker and thank you, Mr. President.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: I now call upon AngajukKâk Barry Andersen for Makkovik.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mme Speaker. My question is to Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Minister Flowers. Makkovik Inuit Community Government did not opt in for the Quonset Hut program, last fall, but rather would like to see a new freight laydown area. Has there been any discussions the Federal or Provincial Governments or funding agencies for this much needed infrastructure in Makkovik? Mr. Flowers, that's your department, I believe?

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, AngajukKâk Andersen. Minister Flowers?

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you, Honourable Speaker and thank you AngajukKâk for Makkovik. I have not been engaged, Mme Speaker in the talks of a laydown area as you call it, for the Makkovik. But I certainly, will take in consideration and

see what my department has any updates for me on that and should be able to answer the question tomorrow. If not, I will certainly, whenever possible get the question answered. Thank you, Mme Speaker

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Minister Flowers. Do you have a supplementary question, AngajukKâk Andersen?

MR. ANDERSEN: No, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. I now call upon AngajukKâk Wolfrey for Rigolet.

MS. WOLFREY: Thank you, Mme Speaker. My question is for Minister of Health and Community Services, Minister Asivak. Given that the new strains that are coming with Covid and the rest of Canada, and the increase, I guess, in some of the cases in Newfoundland and Labrador, do DHSD have a comprehensive plan of what's gonna happen in the communities if one of those strains, you know, infiltrates or come into Labrador, even? Is there a comprehensive plan and can you share it with us? Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, AngajukKâk Wolfrey. Minister Asivak?

MR. ASIVAK: Thank you, Mme Speaker and AngajukKâk Wolfrey. As you noted, these are new strains within Canada and world-wide, very recent information and research is still being investigated on this. And as information is shared through our parent Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, it is filtered down through us at NG and we are still working closely with the Provincial and Federal Government. We strongly encourage everybody to continue to follow health protocols to Covid-19 including wearing your mask, hand hygiene, staying home if you're sick and calling 8-1-1 if needed. As I noted, this is

still new strains and right now the majority of Nunatsiavut adult population are fortunate enough to be vaccinated and as more information is shared to us from other health parties, we will share and encourage updates as needed. Thank you, AngajukKâk Wolfrey.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Minister Asivak. AngajukKâk Wolfrey, do you have supplementary question?

MS. WOLFREY: I don't know if it's supplementary but is there a comprehensive plan? Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, AngajukKâk Wolfrey. Minister Asivak?

MR. ASIVAK: Thank you, AngajukKâk Wolfrey, as I noted, when information is available, we'll continue to work on any future pandemic planning, including the question you ask for a comprehensive plan. It will be shared. Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Minister Asivak. AngajukKâk Wolfrey, do you have a final supplementary question?

MS. WOLFREY: Just I guess it's better to be pro-active than re-active, thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, AngajukKâk Wolfrey. Do we have any other Oral Questions? Okay. Oh, sorry. I apologize. I call upon AngajukKâk Wolfrey for Rigolet.

MS. WOLFREY: Thank you, Mme Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Culture, although he's not here. I don't know how it's gonna get relayed, but I'm just wondering about the online program that was introduced this past fall, I think or past summer and spring, it was an Inuttitut program that was introduction to Inuttitut with the instructor being Sarah Townley. I'm just wondering, is there something like that planned again in the near future?

I think it was well received and a lot of people used it. I'm just wondering, is there a plan to do it again? Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: I'm not sure if maybe for Minister Andersen you may be able to shed some light? Thank you.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mme Speaker and my fault. Minister Lyall had asked that if there was any questions for his department that I ask Members to submit them to the Speaker under the next agenda item which is, "Written Questions". And I would as well, be happy to bring those questions to Minister Lyall, which I'm sure he would do anyway, but again, I apologize for that Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Okay. Thank you, Minister Andersen. AngajukKâk Wolfrey, I'll ask maybe that, maybe you write that down as a written question and we could submit it to...

MS. WOLFREY: Can I get some paper?

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Sure. Okay. Thank you. Are there any other oral questions? Oh, sorry. I call upon AngajukKâk Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mme Speaker. This question is on behalf of Ordinary Member John Andersen is timed out so is it okay for me to ask a question on his behalf? I'll only ask one question, all right?

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Okay, go ahead.

MR. ANDERSEN: This message is for Honourable Tony Andersen. Has the Nunatsiavut Government been in contact with CanArctic Inuit Networks Incorporated about the email that was sent out on December 23rd about laying a 2104

km fiber optic network between Iqaluit Nunavut and Clareville, Newfoundland, also connecting Makkovik, Postville, Natuashish, Voisey's Bay and Nain, along the way from their (inaudible). Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you. Just for clarification, that was for Minister Andersen? Yes. Thank you. Minister Andersen?

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mme Speaker and I could answer that in one word, "Yes", but I'm sure that's not the answer that he's looking for today. I'm going to go right to my notes from tomorrow because during my statement today I left some-, including my statement for the IT Division, I was going to speak to that tomorrow but since he's asked the question, I will answer this way. And I may even read from my statement from tomorrow. But as I said, the answer, yes, we have met with CanArctic and I wanna say first of all, Mme Speaker that the press release that came out, we had no prior contact or talks with CanArctic regarding internet service in Nunatsiavut. It was a bit of a surprise and I think my department found it a bit offensive, Mme Speaker, that they would go through the process of making such an announcement that included us without having, you know, a respect to contact us, to tell us what they were doing, what they would expect from us-, anything like that. So we were caught a bit off guard. We were aware-, my department-, officials from my department were fully aware of proposals to do deep-sea cable for internet, but we had no prior contact with CanArctic or any other organization regarding laying of deep-sea cable. As well, we've had for a number of years, talk with the service

provider for Nunatsiavut, Bell Aliant, and at the time of that press release, my department reached out to Bell Aliant to ask if they had any talks with CanArctic. And again, the answer was, no, they had not received any proposals or contact with CanArctic and that-, so we did-, I asked my department to reach out to CanArctic and we did a number of people, including our director of IT as well as the Deputy Minister of Nunatsiavut Affairs and the Deputy Minister from my department with CanArctic in January. And a number of questions-, and I will speak more to this tomorrow, but let me say that they have what is known as the desktop study. Their proposal is based on desktop study. They have not looked too much at what the environmental impacts might be. All of those things-, a lot of questions around their proposal. And I must say that their proposal included only three communities from Nunatsiavut: Makkovik, Nain and Hopedale. It did not include the community of Rigolet. CanArctic said that it would be cheaper to lay cable down Lake Melville from North West River to Rigolet, and at this time they were not interested in doing that. Postville, they-, where it's so far into the bay, they were not really interested in doing that, and they think it would be better served to existing infrastructure such as the Bell Aliant microwave system. As well, they had not had any talks with the Mushuau Innu from Natuashish, regarding this project, who they included in their press release. They had not had any talks with the Vale from the Voisey's Bay mine site with respect to that. So we did not know if they had anyone on board to partner with to advance their proposal. That's not to say, Mme Speaker, that we have

ruled this out. We're always open. And now this internet thing has been a moving target. I will speak a little bit more about it tomorrow but hopefully that somewhat answers your question that we have, on a number of occasions engaged in discussions with CanArctic but I must say that our talks, up to this point-, and I wanna say this, have not been encouraging given the lack of respect that they have paid to us or their plan. We have seen many loopholes in their plan, but we will continue to work with CanArctic and any other that come forward that have offers of better communications for Nunatsiavut. But I leave it at there right now and I hope that, that somewhat answers the Member's questions, that I first thought I might just answer, "Yes". Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Minister Andersen. Do you have a supplementary question, AngajukKâk Andersen?

MR. ANDERSEN:

No, I don't, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you. Are there any other Oral Questions? Okay. Seeing none, I will now move on to Item Number 10, which are "Written Questions". Are there any written questions today? Okay, I have from AngajukKâk Wolfrey and AngajukKâk Sheppard. Just bring them forward please. Thank you. Thank you for the written questions. Are there any other written questions? Seeing none, we'll move on to Item 11, "Returns to Written Questions". There are no returns to written questions today so we will move on to Item number 12. Item number 12, "Petitions". There are no petitions today. We will now move on to Item number 13, "Responses to Petitions". There are no responses to petitions today. We'll move on to

Number 14. Number 14, "Reports of standing in special committees". There are no reports of standing in special committees for now. I would like to make a recess for-, (speaking in background). We will now move on to Item number 15, "Tabling of Documents". I would like to recognize the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Gregory Flowers.

MR. FLOWERS:

Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I present the following three documents to be tabled: Petition for a Bill for the Nain Inuit Community Government, petition for a Bill by the Postville Inuit Community Government and petition for a Bill by the Rigolet Inuit Community Government.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Minister. The documents presented shall be tabled as follows: The petition of the Nain Inuit Community Government, as Tabled Document 1-49, the petition of the Postville Inuit Community Government is tabled, Document 2-49. The petition of the Rigolet Inuit Community Government is tabled Document 3-49. Thank you. I would like to recognize Ordinary Member for Makkovik, Mr. John Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. I would like to table the Assembly Budget recommendations for the 2021-2022 season.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Mr. Andersen. This document will be numbered as Tabled Document 4-49. That concludes the Tabling of Documents for today. I would now like to call a recess till 1:30.

[Recess]

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you. I trust everyone had a great lunch. Thank you for getting back on track. We are now at Item number 16. I just wanna make sure everyone

can hear me okay. I know, given our circumstances during the Covid, things are a little bit different, but can you hear me okay, AngajukKâk Wolfrey?

MS. WOLFREY: (Inaudible.)

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Okay. Okay. I'll do my best. Thank you. Under Item number 16, "Notices of Motions", I would like to recognize the Minister of Finance, Mr. Tony Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mme Speaker. Mme Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, February 3rd, 2021. I will move, seconded by the Ordinary Member for Postville, Mr. Tyler Edmunds, that the Assembly convene as a Committee of the Whole to receive presentations from Chris Webb and Gary Best of the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust*. I will be seeking unanimous consent to deal with this motion today under Item number 18, "Motion", by requesting that the Assembly waives Standing Order 37(1). Thank you, Mme Speaker

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: *Nakummek*, Minister Andersen. I again, recognize the Minister of Finance, the Honourable Tony Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you again, Mme Speaker. Mme Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, February the 3rd, 2021, I will move, seconded by the Ordinary Member for Postville, Mr. Tyler Edmunds that the Assembly convenes as the Committee of the Whole to receive the presentations from REXANNE CRAWFORD and ISABELLA PAIN of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims*

Implementation Trust. The Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust, the Tasiujatsaok Trust. Thank you, Mr. Speaker

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Nakummek, Minister Andersen. I would like to recognize the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Gregory Flowers.

MR. FLOWERS:

Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, February 3rd, 2021, I move, seconded by the Ordinary Member for Postville, Mr. Tyler Edmunds, that the Assembly make a resolution to approve that as I, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, may use my authority to issue an easement over a 0.101 hectare portion of Labrador Inuit land with partial LIL 19-C, located within the Inuit Community Government Inuit Community of Makkovik-, the Makkovik Inuit Community Government for the purpose of establishing a portion of a public roadway. Thank you, again, Honourable Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, February 3rd, 2021, I will be seeking unanimous consent to deal with this motion today under Item number 18, motion by requesting that the Assembly waive Standing Order 37(1).

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Okay. I would like, again, to recognize the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Gregory Flowers.

MR. FLOWERS:

Thank you, again, Honourable Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, February 3rd, 2021, I will move, seconded by the Ordinary Member for Postville, Mr. Tyler Edmunds, that the Assembly approve the petition by the Inuit Community Government of Nain, Postville and Rigolet requesting the passing of Inuit Law respect to approval for certain quarries on

Labrador Inuit land. Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I will be seeking unanimous consent to deal with the motion today under Item number 18, "Motions". I request that the Assembly waive Standing Order 37(1).

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Nakummek, Minister Flowers. I would like to recognize the Minister of Finance, the Honourable Tony Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. Mme Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, February the 3rd 2021, I will move, seconded by the Ordinary Member for Postville, Mr. Tyler Edmunds, that the Nunatsiavut Assembly break into a Committee of the Whole to select one trustee to the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust*. Mme Speaker, I will be seeking unanimous consent to deal with this motion today under Item number 18, "Motions" by requesting that the Assembly waive Standing Order 37(1). Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Honourable Minister. I would like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Makkovik, Mr. John Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, February 3rd 2021, that I will move, seconded by the Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, Ms. Marlene Winters-Wheeler, the following motion, that Tabled Document 06-4(9), the Assembly Budget Recommendations for 2021-2022 be referred to the Committee of the Whole for consideration with Ms. Rexanne Crawford, the Comptroller of the Nunatsiavut Government as a witness, and Mme Speaker, I will be seeking unanimous consent by requesting the Assembly to waive SO, 37(1) to deal with this motion today Under Item 16, "Motions".

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Andersen. That concludes our notices of motions for today. We will now move on to Item 17, "Notices of Motions for the First Reading of Bills". I recognize Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Gregory Flowers.

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you Honourable Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, February 3rd, I will move, seconded by the Ordinary Member for Postville, the Honourable Tyler Edmunds for first reading of bill 2021-01 *Inuit Community Quarry Act 2021*.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. There are no more notices of motions for the First Reading of Bills today. We will now move on to Item number 18, "Motions". Minister Andersen, I understand you wish to proceed with the motions you gave earlier.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mme Speaker. Mme Speaker, I'm seeking unanimous consent to proceed with my motion today by requesting the Assembly waive Standing Order 27(1) to receive the presentation from the appropriate representatives of the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust* into the Committee of the Whole with witnesses, Chris Webb, Gary Best, Paul Janes from Deloitte, and Sarah Leo, for consideration. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: The Minister is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with his motion today. Are there any "Nays"? There are none. Minister, please proceed.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mme Speaker. My motion is as follows. Whereas the Nunatsiavut Assembly is required to receive reports from the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust*, and whereas the Assembly should consider the

tabled documents in Committee of the Whole with witnesses Chris Webb, Gary Best, Paul Janes from Deloitte, and Sarah Leo, now therefore, I move, seconded by the First Minister the Honourable Tyler Edmunds that the Assembly convene as Committee of the Whole to receive the presentation from the appropriate representatives of the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust*. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: *Nakummek*, Honourable Minister. The motion is in order. Minister, would you like to speak to the motion?

MR. ANDERSEN: No, thank you, Mme Speaker, I have no wish to speak to the motion.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: *Nakummek*, does anyone else wish to speak to the motion? Okay. If no other Members wishes to speak, does the Minister wish to make final comments and close debate?

MR. ANDERSEN: Again, Mme Speaker, no, I have no final comments to make and I wish to close debate.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: *Nakummek*. That concludes the debate. All those in favour of the motion please raise your hand. Thank you. Any opposed? Thank you. The motion is carried. I call for a 10-minute recess to prepare for the presentations. Thank you.

[Recess]

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. Before we break into the Committee of the Whole, we need to do an amendment to a motion that's been brought to our attention. Excuse me. The motion by the Ordinary Member for Makkovik, Mr. John Andersen had a seconder as myself, so obviously, that wouldn't have been

appropriate. So is there another Member that can second the motion? Mr. Saunders, for Ordinary Member for Canadian Constituency? Okay. So now I'm gonna call for a vote on the amended motion moved by Mr. Andersen, seconded by Mr. Roland Saunders. Can I get a show of hands for support of the amended motion? Any opposed? Thank you. The motion carries. Thank you for your patience everybody as we navigate this new-, so now we are in Committee of the Whole. And I understand that-, and I invite the *LICST* representatives, Mr. Chris Webb and Mr. Gary Best. I understand they're doing a brief presentation and are accepting questions today. Can you-, hopefully you can hear me. I'm not sure.

(Audio muted.)

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: It seems good, yes? I'm not sure if there's a bit of a delay between what is being said on our end and what you guys are actually hearing?

(Audio muted.)

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Okay. My understanding as well, that Mr. Janes will not be joining this session today-, sorry, the presentation?

(Audio muted.)

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Okay. The floor is yours, gentlemen, if you want to give your brief presentation on the 2019 Annual Report. Thank you.

(Audio muted.)

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Sorry, yes, you may go ahead.

(Audio muted.)

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Excuse me, Mr. Best, Mr. Best?

(Audio muted.)

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Mr. Best, I don't think you can hear me, can you?

(Audio muted.)

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Okay, thank you. I wasn't sure if you could hear me or not. This is-, we're in Committee of the Whole, so I'll be a bit informal. It's Marlene speaking and, I wasn't sure if you could hear me or not. I had spoken to you a couple to you a couple of times, so I'm not sure if you-, if there was an issue maybe with the audio, or not, or if you can hear me okay?

MR. BEST: It's not entirely clear on my end, but I hear most of what you say, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Okay. So the-, actually, you're in the Committee of the Whole and that you are presenting the 2019 Annual Report or giving a brief overview of the 2019 Annual Report for the LICST, not the Election of the Trustees, at this point.

(Audio muted.)

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Hello, Mr. Best again. So I'm sorry, it's not a second-, a new presentation. It's the 2019. I know we were very rushed at our last presentation in October and I think what was discussed was to have you and Mr. Webb kinda give a brief overview of the 2019 Annual Report, the one that you presented in October, to allow for further questions. We do...

(Audio muted.)

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Yes, of course.)

(Audio muted.)

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you very much. We are completely fine with opening the floor to questions regarding the 2019 Annual Report if any Members have any questions. I believe everybody should have a copy in their binder, so...

(Audio muted.)

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: I'm not sure if anybody has any questions at this time for Mr. Webb or Mr. Best. Mr. Glenn Sheppard, AngajukKâk for Postville. And please let us know if you have any issues with the audio, Chris or Gary?

MR. SHEPPARD: Thank you, Mme Chair and thank you, I guess, NGC for I guess, being available today. I wasn't, I guess, visible in October when you did the presentation. But as I see, Universal Helicopters is part of-, was part of the, I guess, what you delivered in October. My question to you, I guess, will be, where does this stand-, we get questions from beneficiaries in relation to, I guess, Universal folding, if you want to call it that, and what the status financially might be-, if there was any gain, loss-, and you know what I mean there, Chris. I think you and I had a brief conversation with emails some time ago, about this. So if there's anything you could share with me today, it would be great. If not, I fully understand. So thank you.

(Audio muted.)

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Chris. Are there any other Members that have a question? I recognize Marjorie Flowers, AngajukKâk for Hopedale.

MS. FLOWERS: Thank you. Can you hear me?

MR. WEBB: Yes.

MS. FLOWERS: My question is, when you're investing in business and companies, and buying them, who gets to decide which company to buy?

MR. WEBB: Well, it goes through a-, thank you, Mme Speaker. Thank you, AngajukKâk Marjorie Flowers for your question. We go through a pretty diligent due diligence process. You know, we-, if a business such as a helicopter company, you know, we have industry experts. We have consultants. And in this particular case, you know, we had the CAPE fund, which is the Paul Martin, *Capital Aboriginal Prosperity Entrepreneurship Fund* and all of their so-called industry experts involved with that particular purchase. So we do go through an extensive due diligence process to determine, you know, if we are going to get into a certain business line and we engage industry and consultations with consultants.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Okay, thank you, Chris. Thank you, Marjorie. Are there any other Members that have a question? Nobody else has a question-, one more time? No? Okay, Marjorie, you may go ahead again.

MS. FLOWERS: If the company out west was in such bad shape and then you bought it, like why would you decide to buy companies that are in real financial distress?

MR. WEBB: ...question, AngajukKâk Flowers. In this particular case, the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust* had (audio muted) so essentially, you know, this decision was made by a separate board. Universal Helicopter's board consisted of six representatives, one from the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust*, one from the *Tasiujatsaok Trust*, one from the CAPE fund

and then there was three industry experts that were all within the helicopter industry. You know, we-, I don't think at any given time we necessarily agreed with the governance structure of Universal, but, you know, at that time they felt that investing out west was where things were moving and things were busy and I know you can't do a business plan based on wildfires and things like that, but there had seemed to be a hotspot in the western region in BC, pardon the pun. And the board, at that time, decided that, you know, if we were going to grow, they felt that this was the best opportunity at the time. And obviously, it never worked out in that sense. It'd be great to have a crystal ball. I think they may have taken a chance and that chance never really panned out. So, you know, obviously, it is a lesson learned for, you know, *LICST* and the *Tasiujatsaok Trust*, and, you know, going forward, you know, we're really going to have to look at the governance structures of the businesses that we own, whether it's majority ownership or have a minority stake but we're certainly going to have to look at our governance structures on a go-forward basis.

MR. BEST:

Can I add maybe a couple of perspectives as well, from the board and thank you. These are excellent questions. Even though I've only been on the board for the last two and half years, I think what I can share is that there's a lot of discussion around the corporate and the financial health of these entities. It is never a rubber stamping operation. We ask tough questions of each of the entities and the board looks at the viability. And I have to admit that it was a very good job of that due diligence and checking. When

the board came to a conclusion that we had to obviously address with Universal, with other members who had a corporate stake, that we could not take losses because that would be inappropriate and we're all doing this work to the benefit of beneficiaries. So in the long-term health of the *Trust*, and certainly in terms of our relationship with Universal, then at the time under the Chairmanship of Clint Davis, and he was given full support on the board, we had to revisit our relationship and if that meant taking a different direction than the Universal folks wanted, then that in fact, was actually achieved. But looking at it from a corporate business point of view, a governance point of view, a structural point of view, is something that we do on a regular basis as board members, again, to protect the investments, to also ensure the best viability of these companies moving forward. So I think that was the role that was well played and well executed as a Trust over the last two or three years.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you. Are there any other Members that have a question? Okay. I recognize Mr. Barry Andersen from Makkovik.

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mme Chair. On page 52 of your report there, I'm sorry, I guess you guys didn't have-, wasn't expecting this but for the financial assets right at the bottom, there's a \$150,000 due from Mr. Philip Earl, non-interest bearing with no set terms of repayment which are in June 2022. Is there any update on that or is that something that's gonna be, going the same way, has to be written off or anything?

MR. WEBB:

Thank you Mme Chair, thank you, AngajukKâk Andersen for your question. Yes, that does still sit on our financials as a receivable. There was a

commitment for a five-year pay-back term so that's coming up soon. So we are still hopeful that we will redeem that and that is due from some of the old Air Labrador ownership structure. Does that answer your question?

MR. ANDERSEN: Yes, thank you, very much, Chris.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. Are there any other Members that have a question? Okay. Last time. Any Members have a question for Chris or Gary? Okay. Seeing none, I'd like to thank you gentlemen for your time. I know it's precious and limited, so I really appreciate it. We have to move on to some other matters, so we will thank you for your time and we'll disconnect and thank you, very much. Oh, yes, go ahead, Chris.

MR. WEBB: We dial back in when the nominations of the two trustees gets put forward?

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Yes. Someone will call you back, and I understand-, I think AngajukKâk Wolfrey may have a question? Did you, Charlotte?

MS. WOLFREY: I was only gonna ask what he asked, what Gary asked.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Oh, okay. Thank you. Okay. So thank you, gentlemen for your time. You will hear from us again in the near future, some time this afternoon.

MR. WEBB: *Nakummek.*

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: *Nakummek*

MR. BEST: Yes, thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. Oh, sorry. My apologies. Not used to this. We'll take a five-minute recess so IT can disconnect and get ready? Thank you.

[Recess.]

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Okay, thank you. We are now back in the Assembly and I would like to recognize the Minister for Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Gregory Flowers. Minister Flowers, I understand you wish to proceed with the motion you gave earlier?

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I am seeking unanimous consent to proceed with my motion today by requesting that the Assembly waive SO 37(1) to deal with the Makkovik easement resolution.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: The Minister is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with his motion today. Are there any, "Nays"? Seeing none, Minister, please proceed.

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. My motion is as follows. Whereas the Makkovik Inuit Community Government has made a request to the Nunatsiavut Government, for interest in a 0.101 hectare portion of the Labrador Inuit Land, with partial LIL 19-C, which is located within the Inuit Community of Makkovik, for the purpose of establishing a portion of a public roadway in a housing subdivision in the community. Whereas the Department of Lands, Natural Resources has determined that an easement would be the appropriate interest to be created for the use intended. Whereas Section 2.1.1(1)(b) of *Labrador Inuit Lands Act* states that the Minister cannot issue an interest in Labrador Inuit Lands with an Inuit community without written approval of Nunatsiavut Assembly. Be it

resolved that under the authority of Section 2.2.1(1)(b) of the *Labrador Inuit Lands Act* and subject to the requirement of the application registry and any conditions the Minister is entitled to enforce under authority of the *Labrador Inuit Land Act*. The Minister of Lands and Natural Resources is hereby authorized to issue an easement over a 0.101-hectare portion of Labrador Inuit Land within partial LIL 19-C, located within the Inuit Community of Makkovik to the Makkovik Inuit Community Government for the purpose of establishing a portion of a public roadway.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: *Nakummek*, Honourable Minister. The motion is in order. Minister, would you like to speak to the motion?

MR. FLOWERS: No, your honour.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. Does anyone else wish to speak to the motion? No other Members wish to speak? Does the Minister wish to make final comments and close debate?

MR. FLOWERS: Yes, Mme Speaker, I'd like to close debate.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: That concludes debate. All those in favour of the motion? Okay. Any opposed? The motion is carried. Thank you. I would now like to recognize the Minister of Finance, Honourable Tony Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mme Speaker. Mme Speaker, I'm seeking unanimous consent to proceed with my motion today by requesting the Assembly waive Standing Order 37(1) so that the Nunatsiavut Assembly break into a Committee of the Whole to decide who the two successor trustees will be, sorry, Mme Speaker I got tongue-tied there. I'm going to start all over.

Mme Speaker I'm seeking unanimous consent to proceed with my motion today by requesting the Assembly waive Standing Order 37(1) so that the Nunatsiavut Assembly break into a Committee of the Whole to decide who the two successor trustees to the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust* will be. Thank you, Mme Speaker

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Minister Andersen, I'm just seeking clarification. You're looking for the one successor of the trustee, not two?

MR. ANDERSEN: I apologize Mme Speaker, I did make a mistake asking to break into a Committee of the Whole to decide which of the two nominees shall be the successful trustee to the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust*.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Minister Andersen. The Minister is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with his motion today. All those in favour? Any, "Nays"? There are none. Minister, please proceed.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mme Speaker. Mme Speaker, my motion, seconded by Mr. Tyler Edmunds, Ordinary Member for Postville, is as follows. Whereas Section 5.3 of the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust* indenture states that, "Each trustee shall be elected by a special resolution of the Nunatsiavut Assembly, from a list of nominees prepared by the trustees and presented to the Nunatsiavut Assembly for consideration and selection, other than appointment of the initial trustees upon the execution of this trust indenture who shall remain the trustees unless ruled in accordance with Section 5.1 and Section 5.3 hereof. Be it resolved that

the Nunatsiavut Assembly move into Committee of the Whole to consider and select one successor trustee to the *LICST*. Thank you, Mme Speaker

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Honourable Minister. The motion is in order. All those in favour? Okay. Any, "Nays"? The motion is now passed. We are now in the Committee of the Whole. And we'll now take a short recess to connect with the *LICST*. Thank you.

[Recess.]

(Background talking.)

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you. We are now in Committee of the Whole. Thank you, again to Chris and Gary for joining us again. And so the motion is passed. Now, Committee of the Whole. Minister Andersen, is there anything you would like to add about the trustees? The nominees are Catherine Andersen and Naomi Martin(ph).

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Chair. As we are in Committee of the Whole, we don't have a Speaker when we are in Committee of the Whole. We have a Chair. Saying that for the benefit of Chris Webb there who kept calling you Mme Speaker the last time around. It's Mme Chair at this point in time. Only, Mme Chair that about a month ago, the bios for these two nominees were sent to all Members of the Assembly for consideration. So I hope that during that month, that Members took a couple of hours to-, or a few minutes at least to look at these-, the two and to see credentials and what they have to offer as Trust Members of the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust*. Certainly, they're bios speak for each of them-, a wealth of

knowledge, and certainly, either one, I'm sure would make a great addition to the board. I will ask, Mme Chair, if our two guests online have something to add to what I've said regarding those two individuals, that they have opportunity as well.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Minister Andersen. Yeah, if Chris or Gary would like to add anything, please?

MR. BEST:

Thank you, Mme Chair and I take the opportunity. First it is with great pleasure that we look forward to the Assembly this afternoon. Two strong candidates and you're quite correct. Either one, I'm sure will do an absolutely, outstanding job in the service of beneficiaries. We have looked, in fact, around and we've asked around and while we would like to have had many, many more nominees to present for your consideration today, we, nonetheless have two strong candidates. Others were asking but didn't submit their names so therefore we held out as long as we could, I think, until about December of last year. And-, so you have, I guess, as much as we have in terms of the backgrounds and bios and we've looked at them and, once again, I will say that either one of these candidates, who are both very strong, I'm sure will do themselves and the board proud in the service of beneficiaries on a go-forward basis. Thank you, Mme Chair.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you. I don't know if Chris had anything he would like to add as well?

MR. WEBB:

I have nothing at this time, Mme Chair and thank you, Minister Andersen for clarifying for me.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you. Are there any Members that have questions to either Minister Andersen or to Chris or Gary regarding the nominees? Oh, sorry, Charlotte? AngajukKâk Wolfrey has a question. Come forward, please.

MS. WOLFREY:

Hi Gary, *Ilitannamik*. Long time no see. I'm wondering on the board now, is there-, I'm trying to think of some kind of words to put it-, is there anything missing? Like I know, you know, for example, Clint was a lawyer. So d you still have that expertise or is that expertise at your hands anyway, you know, no matter who we elect, do you-, you already got access to stuff like that?

MR. BEST:

Thank you, and very, very good to see you as well. As you know, we have currently, two men and two women on the board remaining. We have Government representatives with Ms. Isabella Pain and Christie Sheppard who are both doing excellent work. I'm joined, as well by Natan Obed who has-, certainly has a strategic view of the Inuit situation nationally and certainly regionally as well. I think Clint had a legal background and he also had a business background so both of these certainly would be an asset to our discussions which tend to be more strategic than the kinds of discussions, I'm sure, that Chris would have with his own corporate team in the day-to-day running of the businesses. So the idea of the trustees is to provide that strategic oversight. It's to provide some of that longer-term and informed guidance to Chris and his senior members for, in some cases, our consideration, but obviously, in-, to the benefit of the *Trust*, itself. So again, looking at the two candidates, they both have strong leadership backgrounds, which I believe is a definite asset. They come at

it as well. One is a lawyer. One is not. But they, again, in their own private lives and public work, they've done a lot of good which I'm sure will service us in our debates and discussions around the board table. So perhaps I didn't address directly, but there is a room-, certainly for strong leaders, there's room for someone with a legal background but these, again, the legal or other business-type background, it's not a necessity. I would suggest it's not essential, but certainly is an asset going forward and it would-, either one of these candidates would add to the mix of experiences lived and as well professional lines of the four remaining trustees on the board.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. Chris, I didn't know if you had anything to add to that?

MR. WEBB: No, I don't, at this time. Thank you, Mme Chair.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Okay. Are there any other Members that may have a question? Anybody else have any questions? I recognize AngajukKâk Barry Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN: It's just for our translator. Can you hear what's going oh here? Okay.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Okay. Thank you, Barry. I couldn't see. I can see you now. Okay. Are there any other questions for the *LICST* before we vote? Seeing none, I would like to thank Chris and Gary for their time again, this afternoon, and your patience. We truly appreciate it. We know your time is limited and valuable. We will now disconnect and proceed with our vote and you will be updated with the trustee once it becomes official and of course, you're more than welcome to listen online as well. So we hope that you're doing that. So once again, we thank you for your time. Thank you. *Nakummek.*

Thank you. Okay, thank you, everybody. I would like it now if you would please cast your ballot on the slip of paper that Tabea has provided. Mark and Tabea will collect the ballots and count the ballots and come back to us. Thank you.

[Recess]

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you. Still in Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Minister Andersen. Does-, oh, sorry. So we have the results of the vote were Catherine Andersen has been selected as the new Trustee for the *LICST Trust*.

[Applause]

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Does any Member wish to make comments or speak before we ask the Minister of Finance to make a resolution confirming the nominee, Catherine Andersen? Yes, NunaKatiget Chair, Patricia Kemuksigak?

MS. KEMUKSIGAK:

I wanted to ask a question, just for clarification's sake. I remember when we used to vote with a show of hands and I'm not-, for people to be on trusts and I'm not sure when that changed, but it seemed to have changed a couple of years ago? So was there a reason?

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you for your question. At this time, we're following precedent with secret ballot. Thank you.

[Audio mutes.]

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you. I apologize for the delay. We're now back in the Assembly. I would ask if the Minister Andersen would like to make a motion confirming the new Trustee?

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. Mme Speaker, I move, seconded by the President of Nunatsiavut, Honourable Johannes Lampe, the following motion. Whereas the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust, ICST*, was created pursuant to the settlement and trust indenture made effective March 20th, 2006, between Chelsea Andersen, Wyman Jacque and Tim McNeil(ph) as Trustees and the Labrador Inuit Association (inaudible). The Trust indenture was amended and restated with effect from April 18, 2007. Section 5.3 of the Trust Indenture provides for the election of successor Trustees to replace the initial Trustees and reserves capacity to elect the successor Trustees to Nunatsiavut Assembly as approved by special resolution of the Nunatsiavut Assembly. Section 5.2. As the Trust indenture sets forth the qualifications and criteria of the successor trustees and the Nunatsiavut Assembly has considered the foregoing provisions of the Trust indenture and reviewed several candidates for election and desires to approve the election of the following person as successor Trustee of the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust*. Now, therefore, be it resolved that pursuant to Section 5.3 of the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust* indenture, the following person be elected by the Nunatsiavut Assembly for election as successor Trustee of the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust* effective upon the latter and the date of each successor Trustee executing and delivering to the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust*. And acceptance, sustainability that's set forth in Section 5.3 of the *Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust* indenture. Catherine Andersen. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Minister Andersen. The motion is in order. Minister Andersen, would you like to speak to the motion?

MR. ANDERSEN: No, Mme Speaker, I have no wish to speak to the motion.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Minister Andersen. Does anyone else wish to speak to the motion? Okay. No other Members wish to speak. Does the Minister of Finance wish to make final comments and close debate?

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mme Speaker, I have no final comments and I do wish to close debate.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Minister Andersen. That closes debate. All those in favour? Thank you. Opposed? Seeing none, the motion is carried. Thank you. Minister Flowers, I understand you wish to proceed with the other motion you gave notice to earlier?

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you, Mme Speaker. *Nakummek*, Honourable Speaker. I am seeking unanimous consent to proceed with my motion today, requesting the Assembly waive SO 37(1) to deal with the approval of the petition of the Nain, Postville and Rigolet Inuit Community Governments, for a bill respecting certain quarries on Labrador Inuit Lands.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: The Minister is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with his motion today. All those in favour? Opposed? There are none. Minister, please proceed.

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you, again, Honourable Speaker. My motion is as follows. Whereas, Section 2.12 of the *Labrador Inuit Lands Act*, states that until the land use plan is in effect, the Minister and the Executive Council must not, without

the approval of the Nunatsiavut Assembly, issue a private interest in Labrador Inuit Lands or purchase of commercial or industrial development, accept in accordance with a special act passed under part five of the *Labrador Inuit Lands Act*. And whereas Section 5.2 of the *Labrador Inuit Lands Act*, requires that a person who is wishing to develop any Inuit lands for commercial or industrial purposes before the land use plan is in effect, must petition the Assembly for Act of the Assembly and whereas, under Section 5.4 of the *Labrador Inuit Lands Act*, the Minister is responsible for introducing such a petition at the Assembly and if the petition is approved for preparing and introducing corresponding bill for an Act of the Assembly. And whereas, I, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, table a petition of the Nain Inuit Community Government as Tabled Document 1-4(9) and whereas, I, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources table a petition of the Rigolet Inuit Community Government, as Tabled Document 3-4(9) and now, therefore, I move, seconded by the Ordinary Member for Postville, Mr. Tyler Edmunds that the Nunatsiavut Assembly approve Tabled Document 1-4(9), the Petition of the Nain Inuit Community Government to the Nunatsiavut Assembly approve Tabled Document 2-4(9), the petition of the Postville Inuit Community Government and three, the Nunatsiavut Assembly approve Tabled Document 3-4(9), the Petition of the Rigolet Inuit Community Government.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Mr. Flowers. The motion is in order. Mr. Minister, would you like to speak to the motion?

MR. FLOWERS:

No, Mme Speaker, I do not wish to speak to the motion.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: *Nakummek*, does anyone else wish to speak to the motion? I recognize, Minister Tyler Edmunds.

MR. EDMUNDS: Just a quick comment, Mme Speaker. People were looking for the actual petitions, they're at the very last of Tab Five. I myself had a little bit of difficulty finding them just then, so I wanted to point that out. Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, very much, First Minister for pointing that out. AngajukKâk Wolfrey, do you have anything to...

MS. WOLFREY: I don't know if now is the appropriate time to point out something that I see as kind of an error in some of the wording?

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Yeah, just go ahead and let us know, please?

MS. WOLFREY: Okay. When we're talking the Rigolet-, Part Three, Rigolet's petition, under number G(e), it says the standards provided to the Nain Inuit Community Government. I think that should be Rigolet-, page 7 of 7 on that petition, on that chart.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, just give us a second, please, AngajukKâk Wolfrey. Thank you, AngajukKâk Wolfrey, we're talking about the motion right now. What you're pointing out is in the Bill which we're discussing tomorrow, but we can make a note. Thank you very much for those great eyes. Are there any other comments on the motion? Okay. No other Members wish to speak. Does the Minister wish to make final comments and close debate?

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you, Mme Speaker. I'd like to close debate.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: That concludes debate. All those in favour? Okay. Any opposed? Seeing none, the motion is carried. I would now like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Makkovik, Mr. John Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I am seeking unanimous consent to proceed with my motion today by waiving Standing Order 37(1), so the Tabled Document 4-4(9), the Assembly Budget Recommendations for 2021-2022 be referred to the Committee of the Whole for consideration with Ms. Rexanne Crawford, the Comptroller of the Nunatsiavut Government as a witness.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you Ordinary Member Andersen. This motion needs a seconder. Is there another Member that would like to second the motion?

MR. ANDERSEN: Mr. Roland Saunders.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Mr. Roland Saunders?

MR. ANDERSEN: Yes.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Okay. Thank you. Thank you. The Member is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with his motion today. All those in favour? Any, "Nays"? There are none. Please proceed.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Honourable Speaker and Members. Whereas the Members Service Committee as required by Section 81 of the *Nunatsiavut Assembly Act* has tabled the Consolidated Budget recommendations for the approval of the Assembly, and whereas the Assembly should consider recommendations to all the Members Service Committee to finalize consolidated estimates of the Assembly Budget for transmittal to the

treasurer for inclusion in the Consolidated Financial Plan for 2021-2022. Now, I therefore move, seconded by Ordinary Member of Canada, Mr. Roland Saunders, that Tabled Document 4-4(9), the Assembly Budget Recommendations for 2021-2022 be referred to the Committee of the Whole for consideration, with Ms. Rexanne Crawford, the Comptroller of the Nunatsiavut Government, as a witness.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Andersen. The motion is in order. Would you like to speak further to the motion, Mr. Andersen?

MR. ANDERSEN: No, Honourable Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Sorry. Does anyone else wish to speak to the motion? If no other Member wishes to speak, does the Ordinary Member for Makkovik wish to make final comments and close debate?

MR. ANDERSEN: No comment, and I'd like to close debate.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: That concludes debate. All those in favour? Any opposed? Thank you. The motion is carried. We are now in Committee of the Whole. We will take a short break to connect with Ms. Rexanne Crawford. Take us a short break.

[Recess.]

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: I'm sorry. Still getting used to my microphone. I apologize for those that didn't hear me. We are still in the Committee of the Whole. I invite Ms. Rexanne Crawford, the Comptroller for the Nunatsiavut Government to open the discussion on the Assembly Budget Recommendations for 2021-2022. Thank you. The floor is now yours, Ms. Crawford.

MS. CRAWFORD:

Nakummek, Ullakut. Today we're going to be going over the document that has the Nunatsiavut Government symbol on it, and it says, "Nunatsiavut Assembly Budget 2021-2022". So just to give a little background, the Nunatsiavut Assembly-, the Members Services Committee of the Nunatsiavut Assembly, is tasked with responsibility of preparing a budget for the Assembly operations. And the Assembly has to approve this budget and then it gets incorporated into the overall financial plan for the Nunatsiavut Government. The Members Services Committee met and we have before you a proposed budget of just over \$3.3 million. So as you will note on page two, and I'll just pause for a second to ensure that everyone has the document in front of them. Mme Chair, I'm not sure, there might be some Members who don't have the appropriate document.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Hi everybody, my apologies. It's under Tab Four of your binders. It has the Nunatsiavut Government logo on the front. Does everybody have it okay?

MS. CRAWFORD:

Okay, so on page two, there is a summary broken down by categories. We'll go into a little bit more detail but just to give a summary, "Salaries and benefits for the Nunatsiavut Assembly proposed for 2021-2022 is \$2,543,000, travel would be \$255,000. A budget for the Nunatsiavut Assembly Committees, \$104,000. Constituency Allowance, \$113,000. Professional fees of \$87,000. Election costs, \$98,500 and operating costs of \$141,000, for a total budget of \$3,341,000. So there is an overall \$20,000 decrease in the proposed budget from the last fiscal year. And the categories are broken down on the next table on page three. So salaries for elected officials are increased by the consumer price index for

the preceding year and we use the December 2020 rate which was one percent. And that caused an increase for the base salary for the elected officials to be raised to \$79,756. There is a slight increase for travel. Again, this is related to increased airfare costs for the Assembly sittings. There is no change for the Assembly committees. And just for reference, the Standing Committees of the Assembly that we budget for are the Members Services Committee, the Rules and Procedures Committee and the Alcohol and Drug Committee. And there is an allowance for a committee that may be struck during the year to deal with *Code of Conduct* issues or other matters of importance for the Assembly. So I'll pause here before I go any further just to see if there's any questions on salaries and benefits, travel, committees, or constituency allowance. All right? There's no change proposed for professional fees. The professional fees are items such as professional development for Assembly Members, fees that may be incurred for legal cost related to matters of the Assembly-, could be *Code of Conduct*, could be seeking legal advice in developing Standing Orders, et cetera or for preparation of legislation. Election costs, you'll see, has the biggest decrease of \$58,000. In the last budget year, in the last fiscal year, we had the presidential election. So in this fiscal year, there is no election, but there is prep time for the upcoming general election. So the Nunatsiavut Electoral Officer is responsible for preparing a budget for the elections and she has also included a contingency for-, in the even there has to be a by-election during the fiscal year. And so she feels that \$98,500 and I agree with her. I've gone through the budget in detail-, is a sufficient

amount in order to prepare for the upcoming general election, and in the event there is a by-election. And there is no change in the operating cost proposed for the operations of the Assembly. And those items would include such things as casual labour costs for our pages, printing costs, fees for SLICK(ph) which is responsible for the broadcast of our Assembly proceedings, transcription, the The OKâlaKatiget Society, et cetera. So that takes us to the end of the budget and an explanation on any of the differences and changes year over year. Are there any comments or questions?

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Ms. Crawford. I don't see any questions from the floor. We have a question from Maxene from Sivunivut.

MS. WINTERS:

Hi, Rexanne. It's more about housekeeping. On the top of page three, it says there is an overall \$20,000 increase. Shouldn't that say decrease?

MS. CRAWFORD:

You're correct. The document should say decrease. And when I gave my presentation, I did note it was an overall decrease.

MS. WINTERS:

Okay.

MS. CRAWFORD:

Nakummek.

MS. WINTERS:

That's all I wanted to say.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Are there any other questions from the floor for Ms. Crawford? Thank you, Charlotte. Charlotte has a question, AngajukKâk Wolfrey?

MS. WOLFREY:

Thank you. So Rexanne, if, for example, 'cause there were questions on the floor to-, I can't remember which Minister, but it was about trying to

look at electronic voting. So is there money in that budget for something like that, that would require some special investigation, or whatever?

MS. CRAWFORD:

Nakummek, Charlotte. There are, I believe, more than *[audio cuts out]* in order to address electronic voting. Looking back on what actual expenditures are and have been used in that particular budget item, we do have adequate funds in order to address that item.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Hi, we have a question from AngajukKâk Flowers for Hopedale, Marjorie.

MS. FLOWERS:

Thank you. My question is, how do you come up with the increase-, or the salary increase? What do you base it on?

MS. CRAWFORD:

Nakummek. We-, during the 2017-2018 year, there was approval of a methodology for calculating the change in the base salary for elected officials and we base it on *[audio cuts out]* CPI for December month-, or it could be November, but November or December and it's consistent year over year. So if you want, I can actually send you the data set that we use in order to do that calculation.

MS. FLOWERS:

Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Do we have any other questions from the floor for Ms. Crawford? Patricia Kemuksigak, Chair of NunaKatiget.

MS. KEMUKSIGAK:

Just a quick question, Rexanne. Does the-, under the operating expenses, did that cover like heating and electricity and those kinds of operating expenses?

MS. CRAWFORD: It does include expenses related to the operations of the building. There are items such as insurance, fuel costs et cetera and those are built into this category.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. Are there any other questions from the floor? Last time, any other questions from the floor? Thank you. Ms. Crawford, thank you for your time. I wasn't sure if there was anything else you had to add before we said good-bye?

MS. CRAWFORD: Thank you for the opportunity.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Ms. Crawford. We will take a short recess while we disconnect.

[Recess.]

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Okay, thank you. We are now back in the Assembly. Okay, sorry. Is the Assembly in favour of accepting the Assembly Budget 2021-2022 for inclusion of the overall Nunatsiavut Government Budget for 2021-2022? All those in favour? Any opposed? Thank you. Motion passes. That concludes the motions for today. We will now move on to Item number 19, "The First Reading of Bills". There are no bills for first reading today. We will move on to Item 20, "Second Reading of Bills". There are no second reading of bills today. We will move on to Item 21, "Assent to Bills". There are no assent to bills. We will move on to Item 22. The Assembly is now adjourned until 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning, Wednesday, February 3rd.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Good morning, everyone. I'd like to welcome Day Two of the 9th Assembly of the Fourth Nunatsiavut Assembly. Just a friendly reminder

to our Assembly Members to please turn off your electronic devices while we are in session and I would like to ask Sivunivut Inuit Community Chair, Maxene Winters to say our opening prayer.

MS. WINTERS: [Recites prayer]

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Chairperson Winters. I would like to acknowledge those listening in the audio feed. Thank you for your interest as we have during Covid restrictions, we do not have visitors in the gallery and minimal staff in the building. We now move on to Item Three, "Ministers Statements". Are there any Ministers Statements today? I recognize Minister Tyler Edmunds. Thank you.

MR. EDMUNDS: *Nakummek*, Mme Speaker. Mme Speaker, the President spoke briefly yesterday around the meeting that we had with Premier Furey, Ministers Dempster and Warr, this past fall. We've had several questions and concerns on the commitment of the feasibility study for the road to the North Coast, including timelines for implementation, consultations with the communities and the Innu Nation and how this feasibility study could lead to the commitments on the infrastructure. While the messaging was that community consultations will be an important part of this process, Mme Speaker, no additional details could be given. The Province stated that until terms of reference has been developed, they could not speak to timelines or any specific details on the study. We've inquired, this past week around the status of the development of these terms of reference, however, the Province has stated that they have not been finalized. I believe we were all pleasantly surprised, Mme Speaker, to hear that the

feasibility study was funded this fall but knowing that the terms of reference has yet to be finalized is concerning. Given that the GNL has called an election, we will not have any additional information until the Government exits caretaker mode. Mme Speaker, as I informed the Assembly Members, we've received a positive response to the expression of interest application for feasibility studies on a new Nain airstrip under the Northern Transportation Corridor's Fund. And we've been invited to submit an application for the next phase of the fund. The preparation for the comprehensive proposal is currently underway. And this has to be submitted before the March 15th, 2021 deadline. I will state, Mme Speaker, that the messaging from the Province since our meeting with Premier Furey has been supportive in finding ways to support the Nain airstrip, but they've made it clear that this can only work with the Federal Government. If we are successful in securing the 50 percent portion of Federal Funding under the NTCF, then a formal commitment from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is absolutely critical and necessary for us to move forward. This has been a file that has been a source of great frustration for our Government, Mme Speaker and we recognize that nothing in this process is guaranteed, but it is promising to see a path forward on the long-overdue, Nain airstrip. With respect to new construction, Mme Speaker, work continues on the design engineering phase for the new DHSD building in Rigolet and a new storage building in Hopedale is underway with construction slated to begin in 2021. As the Assembly is aware, the Nunatsiavut Government

was successful in securing funds under the Oceans Protections Plan, more specifically, Transport Canada's Safety Equipment and Basic Marine Infrastructure in Northern Communities Initiative. This application translated to \$1.8 million to build freight storage facilities in Nain, Postville and Rigolet. The need has been clear for years, Mme Speaker for adequate storage facilities across Nunatsiavut and this will be a great first step towards improving marine services. There is also a need, Mme Speaker in Makkovik and Hopedale and it will be important to work with any Government partners and the ICG's to secure funds to expand those laydown areas for any additional warehouse space is constructed. While the application focused on Quonset huts, Mme Speaker, there's a potential for a more traditional warehouse design as well. The RFP for design and engineering of the spaces in the three communities should be released in the coming months with construction moving forward this summer. With respect to the Hopedale DHSD, Mme Speaker, it is in he final commissioning and I wanna thank the staff of the DHSD for their patience in the completion of this building and we do trust that it will meet the needs of the community in the near future. Attention will now turn to transitioning staff into the building. Under Membership and Enrollment, Mme Speaker, Membership Committees and the Appeal Boards continue to meet face-to-face where possible to discuss Membership applications. There has been a new appointment to the Postville Makkovik Membership Committee. I'd like to welcome Gail Flowers onto that committee. There were two re-appointments as well

which were Beni Ittulak for the Nain Membership Committee and Sam Palliser for Rigolet and Upper Lake Melville. All will be serving four-year terms. We'd also like to welcome Stacey Dicker as the new Membership Filing Clerk and would like to thank Christine Angnatok for her previous work in this role. And Mme Speaker, as of today, there are 7,064 beneficiaries on the registrar. *Nakummek.*

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Minister Edmunds. Now, I'd like to recognize the Minister Tony Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mme Speaker, first of all I'd just like to give-, make Members aware of the number of beneficiaries that have been approved for the voucher programs for Round two the Covid voucher funding. For Nain 260 have been approved, Hopedale 144, Postville, 38, Makkovik, 63, Rigolet, 60, Upper Lake Melville area, 315, and the Canadian Constituency, 297. For a total of 1177. That information was as of January 22nd. So there may have been more intake since that time. Mme Speaker, our department has been working diligently on a broadband issue in Nunatsiavut. Since the October sitting, members of my department and Nunatsiavut Affairs have met with Bell Aliant and CanArctic Inuit Networks as well as provided information update on low earth orbit satellites to the Inuit Community Governments as well as the Ordinary Member for Makkovik. Mme Speaker, Bell Aliant continues to explore opportunities to increase bandwidth under the current infrastructure in Nunatsiavut. While there are no firm solutions, there has been significant progress in the project plans. As well, Bell Aliant did

inform our Government that they are recruiting an additional technician to be based out of Happy Valley Goose Bay. This will allow Bell Aliant to reduce the wait times for service in Nunatsiavut. And certainly, we do welcome that, Mme Speaker. The deadline for the Universal Broadband Fund is mid-February. Staff within my department met with senior officials in early January from Bell Aliant and were informed of the options being explored, namely, submarine cable, microwave towers, and low earth orbit satellite options. Given the complexity and the uniqueness of our region, Bell is excited to be exploring these options and improve the services provided in our region. This past Friday, members from my department had another meeting with Bell Aliant. And the recommendations from Bell Aliant at this time is to complete further upgrades to the microwave towers and use a fixed wireless solution for residential customers. This would provide the ability to offer a 50/10-megabyte service. This option has been used in other provinces such as Ontario, Quebec and the Atlantic provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and is specifically designed for small communities where it's not feasible to install fibre for the last mile. This solution as well has potential to have cellular service in our communities, however there is still more work to be completed on this potential offering. Just before Christmas, there was a press release sent by CanArctic Inuit Networks indicating that there will be a cable constructed to serve the Inuit communities of Makkovik, Hopedale and Nain. The Nunatsiavut Government was only informed of this project with the news release by

CanArctic Inuit Networks on December 23, 2020. There was no discussion, engagement or consultation with us prior to this release. And I'm repeating some of the stuff now, Mme Speaker that I did in response to a question from the Member for Makkovik. Mme Speaker, our staff reached out to CanArctic and had a teleconference with the CEO and the COO on January 11th. As of that date, they did not have any capital investment to construct the festoon, with an estimated cost of \$40 million. They also had not had any discussion with potential investors, Bell Aliant or the Mushuau First Nation in Natuashish. They have completed a desktop study using nautical maps and the current ferry route to plot the proposed route of the festoon. They are not at the stages whereby considerations are made for the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*. The Environmental Assessment process or traditional areas of use by Inuit of the proposed route. It is important to note that the proposed project will not provide service to our communities of Rigolet or Postville. I am committed to providing updates, Mme Speaker and as more information is received from Bell Aliant, CanArctic or Telesat, to Members of the Assembly. And I want to make a commitment, Mme Speaker to the Inuit Community Government as well, to the Member from Makkovik who follows this particular item very closely. I want-, we did have a conference call and I commit to having another one in the very near future to update the Community Government as well as any Member who's interested in joining us on the broadband issue. As I said early in my answer to the Member yesterday,

the broadband issue in Nunatsiavut remains a moving target but we are committed to ensuring that the best service will be brought to Nunatsiavut. And as the AngajukKâk for Makkovik told me during our teleconference, that it is time to let the companies such as Bell Aliant know that we no longer will stand for being-, having second class service provided to our communities but to stand up for what we deserve as the best technology that is available through this Universal Broadband Fund. And our Government is committed to that Mme Speaker and I have to say that I think that-, and I believe that the communities will agree, that conference call to share information is a great way to communicate. We can all be in our own communities within our own offices and from time to time communicate and dispel rumors and half-truths and un-truths. And I certainly look forward to continuing that relationship with the Community Governments and other Members that may be interested to join us. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Minister Andersen. Are there any other Ministers that wish to make a statement today? I recognize the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Greg Flowers.

MR. FLOWERS:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. From our Environment Division, in partnership with Canada Coast Guard and in response to the Postville Oil spill, the Environment Division coordinator, Environment Response Training for NG staff Inuit Community Government staff and other community members to ensure there are individuals trained in each Nunatsiavut Community to respond to an oil spill. Additionally, the Environment Division has been

conducting monitoring in eggs and birds near Postville and Nain to determine any potential impacts from the spill. Furthermore, additional baseline research is planned for the coming years near each community to ensure appropriate resource baselines exist in case another spill were to take place. Mme Speaker I certainly know that the oil spill was a great concern in the Postville area, or in any of our communities in Nunatsiavut, so we're doing-, we're being proactive in trying to make sure that we can keep ahead of the game on that one. Also, I'd like to just furthermore, Mme Speaker, respond a little bit more to the question I had yesterday if that's appropriate, from the AngajukKâk around the earthquake in the Makkovik Postville area. My department has reached out to National Resource Canada in regards to them sending an expert into the community of Postville and Makkovik to discuss the earthquake activity in the region. Unfortunately, due to Covid restrictions that means someone coming to our community was not an option. NRC is willing to either present virtually or to send a presentation to the NG, I guess, our department for one of our staff to present in the communities. We are certainly, open to each option. So Mme Speaker, I'd just like to say if the communities feel that we could be of service in doing any of these, they certainly can reach out to my department. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Minister Flowers. Are there any other Ministers that wish to make a statement? Seeing none, we'll move onto the next Item, "Members Statements". Are there any Members that wish to make a

statement? A flurry of hands. Okay, I recognize Ordinary Member Gerald Asivak for Lake Melville.

MR. ASIVAK:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. Leading up to Christmas, my colleague and I, we assisted the Department of Health and Social Development Community Office staff in Happy Valley Goose Bay to give meals out for Christmas and to help deliver chicken. It is always great to get out, work with our staff and see the appreciation from our beneficiaries. It was a great way to end 2020. If you haven't heard by now, Mme Speaker, one of our former colleagues, Mr. Gary Mitchell and his daughter Jennifer have released a new album, "Makkovik Moonlight". We wish them all the best on their latest album. Mme Speaker, we have heard both positive and negative feedback from the latest Covid-19 Emergency Food Supplement Program. Elders are very happy to be automatically approved this round. Students and parents are also very happy to receive their Chromebooks and theirs to keep. I had some emails-, we both had some emails and messages thanking our Government for the Covid-19 Program. *Nakummek.*

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Ordinary Member Asivak. I now call upon Ordinary Member Carlene Palliser for Rigolet.

MS. PALLISER:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. I would like to start off with congratulating John and Greta Michelin who had celebrated their 60th anniversary on January 21st. I wish them much happiness and love. Congratulations going out to Pam Campbell, who although works full-time for DHSD had announced on January 4th that she successfully completed her online

studies and will receive her Bachelor of Arts Community Studies Degree. It's great to see young people strive to accomplish what they set out to do. I would also like to extend my congratulations to Aunt Nellie Winters and Jean Crane for their Honorary Doctorate Degree. It's well-deserved, I'm sure, as they are both inspirational women. As always, I would like to express my thanks to the DHSD for all the programs and services that they continue to offer in our community. They do a wonderful job serving our community. Special thanks to the Public Health Department of NG for their work with the Covid pandemic. And most recently working hard to ensure our community residents are vaccinated. Thank you, Mme Speaker

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you Ordinary Member Palliser. I now recognize Ordinary Member John Andersen for Makkovik.

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. On December 12th, 2019, there was a launch of the Nunatsiavut Media Network in Makkovik. This is another project of Traditions and Transition. The belief that all of James R. Andersen's material should be made available to the community led to creation of this hub. Mme Speaker there is a community terminal set up in the boardroom at Makkovik arena. Now anyone can have access to viewing the digital materials. We thank Dr. Mark Turner for gathering materials that were put into the hub and his brother David Turner for setting up the server at the arena. This was all done with the support from Makkovik Inuit Community Government, Nunatsiavut's Government, Department of Education and Economic Development, Tradition and

Transition and Makkovik White Elephant Museum Chair Joan Andersen who is involved with describing photos and the videos. Mme Speaker, besides Uncle Jim's collection, other archival materials will be added to the hub by products of Tradition and Transition like videos, reports, pictures, articles that they have created as well as the collection of the newsletters from OKâlaKatiget kinatuinamot illengajuk-, also the Moravian Periodicals, Post records and even films from the Hudson Bay Company plus sheet music and more. Communities will soon have access to a lot of archival materials, and they won't be just in some distant university's libraries or museums. Mme Speaker, in addition to setting up the Access Centre, Dr. Turner traveled to Goose Bay in January 2020 to meet with representatives of the Moravian Church and the Nunatsiavut Government to discuss the Moravian Archival materials which are scattered in all Moravian communities, as well as abroad. Present at this meeting in person were Michelle Davies, Reverend Beatrice Hope, Sarah Jensen, Joan Andersen. Joining by phone was Lena Onalik, Kyla Crotty, Dr. Hans Rollman and Martha McDonald. Mme Speaker, there is a huge amount of work to be done with the materials in Happy Valley Goose Bay which are stored at Them Days and the Moravian Church. NG's Department of Education and Economic Development has now provided funds for digitation of the bulk of these archival documents. Finally, Mme Speaker, there is much work to be done in the other communities. Them Days does not want to store Moravian Archives indefinitely and are

looking forward to Nunatsiavut building their own storage site.

Nakummek, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Ordinary Member Andersen. Just a friendly reminder. Thank you for that, that the Members coming up to the spare microphones to please use the wipes to wipe down before and after you speak. Thank you, so much. I now call upon AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Ms. Marjorie Flowers.

MS. FLOWERS:

Nakummek, Mme Speaker. One of our service personnel has retired and I did not acknowledge him in our October sitting, so I'd like to do it today. Mr. Allan Pijogge joined our HICG team as the Water and Sewer Assistant in 2008. For 12 years he worked hard and tirelessly in wind, rain, snowstorms, holidays and special family occasions, when we were sitting in our warm home eating our Christmas dinners with our families, Alan was at times, called out about frozen water lines. Never once did I hear him complain. He was an awesome team player and kept his co-workers on their feet with his jokes and his pranks. On behalf of HICG, we thank Alan for his hard work and dedication and wish him the best in his retirement. Alan Jensen has since filled this position. We welcome Alan to our team. Our CYN worker, Scott Lucy has also resigned his position for a job in Voisey's Bay in a career which he trained for. We thank Scott for his services as well and wish him all the best in his new endeavor. Interviews were completed for this position and the new candidate will be notified this week. Interviews were also completed for this position, and successful candidates will be notified this week as well.

Unfortunately, our Town Clerk position is still not filled which causes lots of extra work for our staff in the office. HICG has applied for four capital works projects for this coming year. Hopefully we will hear in March if we were successful. Mme Speaker, there were concerns brought forward to me regarding the Covid-19 Food, Gas and Heating Supplement Program. I have been given a petition to present to this Assembly by a beneficiary which I'll present later on this morning. *Nakummek*, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, AngajukKâk Flowers. I now recognize AngajukKâk Charlotte Wolfrey for Rigolet.

MS. WOLFREY:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. I would like to begin with the recognition of Dr. Jean Crane and my good friend, Dr. Nellie Winters. A big congratulations to two well-respected women who truly deserved to be honoured. Mme Speaker, *Tasiujatsaok Trust*, has funded some projects for our community. One of the projects is a land documentation study because in our community, the land isn't documented proper. It's been neglected and it's a real mess. And they also provided funds for us to operate the Native Spirit Youth Centre, a well-utilized program for youth in our community. And we've been granted some extensions for projects that we didn't complete. Mme Speaker, Rigolet also has needs for more cleared and serviced lots. We had one lot available in our new subdivision. Some land is available in the community now but there are no services there. And Mr. Speaker my final note is to offer my condolences on the passing of our former President, William Barber.

William gave a lot of his life to the process that created this Government. Rest in peace, William. Your contributions will never be forgotten. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, AngajukKâk Wolfrey for that lovely tribute to former President Barber. I now call upon Ordinary Member for Postville, Mr. Tyler Edmunds.

MR. EDMUNDS:

Nakummek, Uhatti. Mme Speaker, I guess I just wanted to open up by recognizing the work of the acting Speaker over the last two months, Mr. Roland Saunders for ensuring that we were able to gather here today and the work of Tabea Onalik and the acting Clerk, Mary Sillett. I know that coordinating these things take a lot of organizing, a lot of logistics and obviously, weather and so now we have Covid to contend with as well. So that's just another variable in this thing. So thank you, Roland. I want to formally recognize Public Health Nurses, all staff and officials from Labrador Grenfell Health, NG and the Province who coordinated the Covid-19 vaccination clinics. When I saw the schedule for the vaccinations, Mme Speaker, it was clear that this was a very ambitious undertaking. Once the vaccination started, however, it was absolutely clear that the whole team was up to the task, vaccinating entire communities in a day. And I highly commend them for their dedication to Nunatsiavut. What they pulled off, Mme Speaker was unprecedented, and all involved should feel immensely proud of this accomplishment. It was a historic day for our region and I could not help but feel the optimism and energy in my community on that day and I and many

others are eager to receive our second dose to increase the level of protection for ourselves, our family and our communities. Mme Speaker, I also wanted to recognize the work of the Bethel Pentecostal Tabernacle in Postville. Throughout the course of the pandemic, they took to airing their services and messages on Facebook through a segment called North Matters. The series focuses on sermons from Pastor Paddock and Pastor Porter and has testimonies and stories from locals. It has been well-received, Mme Speaker with all videos receiving at least 1400 views and some receiving 8,500 and 9,200 views. Along with many others around the table, I wanted to recognize Dr. Winters, recipient of her Honorary Doctorate of Law. Clearly, a very strong legacy in her family for making traditional clothing, art and music. Several of her family reside in Postville and are dedicated and talented artists and crafters, including her daughter, Polly Jacque who is a well-recognized sewer and works with grass and other mediums, Jason Jacque who is now a certified gold smith, carver and artist and several of her grandchildren in the community do art and craft as well, including Bronson Jacque, James Jacque, Jamie and Erica Jacque and Kaitlyn. I think as AngajukKâk Andersen stated yesterday, it's clear that she has taken her role as a leader in traditional knowledge seriously, and her talents and skills will forever be seen in our communities. If not in the things that she has produced, in the things that she has taught her family and those around her. Again, I'm not-, I haven't had the chance to meet Dr. Crane but again, to see her be

recognized and awarded this degree for what she's done in education, I'd like to congratulate her as well. *Nakummek*, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Ordinary Member Edmunds. Are there any other Members wishing to make a statement today? I recognize AngajukKâk for Postville, Mr. Glenn Sheppard.

MR. SHEPPARD:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. I guess Tyler summed it up, I guess, much better than I could and I think Minister Palliser sorta took the words out of my mouth, but until I share it myself, well, it's no good to me. So I'd like to acknowledge this morning, again, related to Covid-19 some of the outstanding people within our communities that sometimes we overlook and along the way we say-, we look at them and say, "You know, it's their job. It's their responsibility", not realizing what work load they carry with them when they go home as well and the after hours work that they be involved in at their homes and I'd like to recognize everybody in the Department of Health and Social Development from the Minister, right on down the line to the janitor. You know, I've seen the doors of the place open over the past months delivering stuff to individuals on the roadside. I've experienced a knock on the door, they delivering cleaning supplies to our homes. All those little things sometimes gets lost by the wayside and, you know, I really, really respect them and pay a lot of attention to those kind of people and, you know, I read something not long ago, you know, and it sunk in to me that-, almost more than anything, you know, I think just as much of the janitor as what I do of a premier or a president. So that little statement to me, means a lot.

Somebody walking down the road with their hands in their pocket with no employment thinks they're down and out. Well those people are just as important as we are. Mme Speaker, I'd just like to touch a little bit-, I know our time is limited to five minutes each but just a little bit on climate change and why climate change? I heard I think Tyler say, he mentioned traditional knowledge. In the last few years back home, we've experienced use of traditional knowledge more than ever I've seen, related to climate change. In the mid 1990's, an elder that's passed on, the late Albert Flowers and I traveled up to Hopedale caribou hunting. We had to take an inside route, we calls. That was a different year. That was in the mid '90's. Today, that route is being used annually and those that travel that route can contest to that. Climate change-, why should I talk about climate change? Our elders in our community has provided that direction for us. We are here in our seats and standing on our feet, to carry that torch what they provided us years and years ago. And I respect them for that. And I think we should all continue to work together for the betterment and the good of our people and for the safety of our youth and of our elders in our community. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, AngajukKâk Sheppard. Now I'll call upon Ordinary Member Tony Andersen for Nain.

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. With sadness, I've just found out and offer my condolences to the family of Margaret Obed who passed away earlier

today. Margaret is recognized as a long-time Chapel servant, great contributor to our church in Nain. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Ordinary Member Andersen, and my condolences to the community of Nain. I now recognize Ordinary Member Greg Flowers for Hopedale.

MR. FLOWERS:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. Today I'd like to recognize one of my good friends, Gus Semigak who is our interpreter-translator. Gus I think he comes no matter what the weather is or no matter what we need, he's always there for our Assembly and also for people who want to even learn a simple word or the stuff that he does, you know, with people on the phone or whatnot. And I'd just like to recognize you today, Gus and I know just recently you lost your own son and I'd just like to say, you know, we're thinking of you. Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you Ordinary Member Flowers. Are there any other Members who wish to make a statement today? Okay. Seeing none, we will now move on to Item Number Five, "Return to Oral Questions". There are no return to oral questions. Excuse me. So we will now move on to Item Number Six which is, "Oral Questions." Are there any oral question today? Okay. I recognize the AngajukKâk for Postville, Mr. Glenn Sheppard.

MR. SHEPPARD:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. My elastic just broke on my mask here, so I guess I'll have to try to hold it up there. Anyway, that's called multi-tasking, I guess. Mme Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance, the Honourable Minister Tony Andersen. When he gave his

briefing this morning or his update this morning, Mme Speaker, relating to broadband internet, he did mention that Postville and Rigolet will not be provided the service that other communities will be. But in his report he went on to say that we want the best service for our Nunatsiavut communities. So I would like to ask the Minister how can you say, "We want the best service for our Nunatsiavut communities", when two communities is going to be excluded from this service? Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, AngajukKâk Sheppard. I now recognize Minister Tony Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. And Mme Speaker, I thank the AngajukKâk from Inuit Community Government of Postville for his question. Perhaps I was not clear, but what I said this morning was that in the proposal-, in the press release and the communication that we had with CanArctic, Postville and Rigolet were not included in their proposed plan for deep sea fibre optic cable. Mme Speaker, I can assure the AngajukKâk that as a Government we stand committed to all communities and certainly a plan that includes only three of our communities is not a plan that's acceptable to my department and certainly not to our Government. I want the AngajukKâk for the Inuit Community Government of Postville to rest assured that in our plans for broadband in Nunatsiavut, his community as well as the community of Rigolet will certainly be included. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Minister Andersen. Do you have a supplementary question, AngajukKâk Sheppard?

MR. SHEPPARD: No, Mme Speaker. And thank you, Mr. Minister.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. I now recognize Ordinary Member John Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mme Speaker. My question this morning is to the Minister of the Department of Health and Social Development, Honourable Gerald Asivak. Are there any plans to build senior assisted living homes in Nunatsiavut this year?

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Ordinary Member Andersen. I now call upon Minister Asivak, DHSD.

MR. ASIVAK: Thank you, Mme Speaker and Ordinary Member Andersen. DHSD has begun discussions with Labrador Grenfell Health for assisted living units in Nunatsiavut. We currently operate two in Upper Lake Melville, one for a client from Hopedale and one for a client from Nain. They are specially funded by the Province based on special needs. We do have two supportive living units in Nunatsiavut, and they are available to seniors as well if they meet the criteria. Mme Speaker, generally, assisted living homes are based on identified needs. Individuals and the supports are built around them. Many seniors are not eager to live communal but there may be opportunity. Physical infrastructure is an issue, but we have a proposal that has been submitted by NG to increase infrastructure. If you or any Member of the Assembly are aware of

specific needs in your community for supportive living, please reach out to Deputy Minister Michelle Kinney. *Nakummek.*

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Minister Asivak. Do you have a supplementary question, Ordinary Member Andersen?

MR. ANDERSEN: No, Mme Speaker and thank you, Minister for your answer.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. I now call upon NunaKatiget Inuit Community Chair, Patricia Kemuksigak.

MS. KEMUKSIGAK: Thank you, Mme Speaker. This question is to the Honourable Gerald Asivak, Minister of Health and Social Development. Recently, there was a street outreach coordinator hired in Happy Valley-Goose Bay to assist the growing homeless population in our area. The coordinator would like to do some land-based programming with residents from the emergency shelter. Most of the people who go to the shelter are Nunatsiavut beneficiaries. Can the program coordinator access funds to start land-based programming? *Nakummek, Mme Speaker.*

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Chair Kemuksigak. I now recognize Minister Asivak, Department of Health and Social Development.

MR. ASIVAK: Thank you, Mme Speaker and Chairperson Kemuksigak. It was a very good question for this vital new position of the Street Outreach Coordinator, Mr. Roy Blake, based in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. The funds for this position is a one-year term position. We acquired the funds from the town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay. I know that land-based programming is very important for us as a people. It's our culture and

who we are. As this new position is relatively new-, it is only started this past month, I will consult with my department and Department of Finance on the availability of any funds and will also look into external funding opportunities with the Province and the Federal Government and any other agency available for this. But right now, I cannot guarantee it, but I will make the commitment and promise that we will look into it and work together within our Government to make this hopefully happen. Thank you, Chairperson Kemuksigak.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Minister Asivak. Do you have a supplementary question, Chair Kemuksigak? Okay. Thank you. I now call upon AngajukKâk Charlotte Wolfrey for Rigolet.

MS. WOLFREY:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. My question is to the Minister Andersen. In your response to AngajukKâk Sheppard, I heard you mention broadband and I'm wondering is there any appetite for, you know, to explore the TESLA option for internet to our communities where everybody would have like a satellite dish on their house and individual internet, because while we keep exploring broadband, we're giving the okay, to Bel Aliant to do what they're doing to us. And I really think we should look at other options, so I'm wondering about the appetite to look further. I don't know if TESLA is the LEO's or whatever they are, but I really think we should look elsewhere. Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, AngajukKâk Wolfrey. I now call upon Minister Tony Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. And Mme Speaker, I thank the AngajukKâk from Rigolet Community Government for her question. Certainly, we're wide open to any proposal or new ideas, fresh ideas, with respect to broadband in Nunatsiavut. As I keep saying, it is a moving target and I certainly welcome input and should the AngajukKâk have information other than what I've given, provided to the Assembly, I welcome her to bring forward information to me and to my officials from my department and certainly we will consider any option to improve broadband in Nunatsiavut.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Minister Andersen. Do you have a supplementary question, AngajukKâk Wolfrey? No? Thank you. Now I recognize Sivunivut Chair, Maxene Winters.

MS. WINTERS:

Nakummek, Mme Speaker. My question is for the First Minister, Honourable Tyler Edmunds. In regards to my email sent to the NEC on October 28, 2020, is there any update on the request about the Nunatsiavut face mask being made available to all Members in the Upper Lake Melville area? Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you. I now recognize First Minister, Tyler Edmunds.

MR. EDMUNDS:

Nakummek, Mme Speaker and *Nakummek* to the Chairperson for Sivunivut for the question. Later-, earlier this fall, obviously, we did do a small allocation to the community freezers for Sivunivut and NunaKatiget. Since then the Chairperson did send an email to the NEC asking around the provision of extra masks to other beneficiaries. Since

then the NEC did have a discussion while we were in Nain, around this issue. As far as I understand, there were a number of masks that were still in Nain that were set for shipment to DHSD offices throughout Nunatsiavut and Upper Lake Melville. As far as I understand, those shipments did go out. They should've been received by DHSD and those were ready for distribution to anybody who's involved in DHSD programming in Upper Lake Melville. *Nakummek*, Mme Speaker

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, First Minister Edmunds. Do you have a supplementary question, Chair Winters?

MS. WINTERS: No. Thank you, very much.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. I now recognize AngajukKâk Marjorie Flowers for Hopedale.

MS. FLOWERS: Thank you, Mme Speaker. My question is for Minister Flowers, Minister of Lands and Resources. There is a growing concern that fishing is becoming over fished in Hunts River area. We do know that there is a fish camp there. Is there anyone from your department looking into the fact that there may be overfishing and hunting in that area from that camp? Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you AngajukKâk Flowers. I now recognize Minister Flowers for Lands and Natural Resources.

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you, Mme Speaker. And thank you, AngajukKâk Marjorie, for your question. For some time now, we all living in the Hopedale are, certainly know of the Big Bay Hunt River camp that is owned and operated by I think it's Chris Verbiski, who does a lot more in past years, these last past

years than we ever seen before. And I certainly notified my staff that we need to keep checks on all these camps in Nunatsiavut. And they certainly do their part. We had-, every year with limited chopper use we do go to the Big Bay and other camps to check to make sure that they have the right-, what do you call these-, right permits, I guess it's called-, permits to be able to harvest or to be able to fish in any of our camps, Mme Speaker. So we definitely are doing everything that we can and we certainly-, I know this fall again, that we had some people that were around that area, and they're saying that the fish has not-, the fishing hasn't been the same over the last few years. And we do check on camps on a regular basis, and I know in all of Nunatsiavut, that sometimes even our own people do some more fishing, which is not a great thing, especially in one confined area. But yes, we do look at anyone harvesting and anything that comes to us, we certainly look at. Mme Speaker, thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Minister Flowers. Do you have a supplementary question, AngajukKâk Flowers?

MS. FLOWERS: No, I don't. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. I now call upon Ordinary Member John Andersen for Makkovik.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mme Speaker. My question I bring today is a question that I brought first when I came to the House and as a written question, today I'll be asking it orally. And it's to the Minister of Department of Education

and Economic Development, Honourable Carlene Palliser. Would the Nunatsiavut Department of Education and Economic Development work with our community of Makkovik to secure ongoing funding to hire full-time music teacher for our school in Makkovik?

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Ordinary Member Andersen. I now call upon Minister Palliser for Education and Economic Development.

MS. PALLISER:

Thank you, Ordinary Member Mr. Andersen for your question. Our department has ongoing discussions with school board, staff on the subject and a board issue of seniority is certainly a challenging one. Music education is a Provincial responsibility and it is certainly challenging to implement in small schools. Our department cannot hire music teachers, but we will continue our discussions to the school board to see what might be possible. One of the models under discussion was the idea of a transient music teacher that might service to several schools and so would not be counted as teaching unit in any particular school. Unfortunately, we have not found a solution yet, but our discussions will continue and we will keep you informed. Again, thank you for your question. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, Minister Palliser. Do you have a supplementary question, Ordinary Member Andersen?

MR. ANDERSEN:

No, Mme Speaker. Thank you Minister for your answer.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you. Are there any other Members wishing to ask a question? I recognize Mr. Barry Andersen, AngajukKâk for Makkovik.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mme Speaker. I realize that the Ordinary Member for Makkovik has asked these two questions and another question from me would be to the Minister Greg Flowers. Is the George River Caribou Herd being over hunted or is there any indications of hunting taking place by our Members? Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, AngajukKâk Andersen. I now recognize Minister Flowers.

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you, Mme Speaker. As a question that got a lot of answers. If you're asking if our Members are hunting George River Caribou, I think that's what that question was, is since the ban that was proposed on us I think it was in 2013, '12-, whatever it was, our beneficiaries of *Nunatsiavut Land Claims Agreement*, we cannot harvest caribou just because of our *Lands Claim Agreement*. So I have to say no to the question that we are not harvesting any George River caribou in Nunatsiavut. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Minister Flowers. Do you have a supplementary question, AngajukKâk Andersen?

MR. ANDERSEN: No, I don't. Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. I now recognize AngajukKâk Glenn Sheppard for Postville.

MR. SHEPPARD: Thank you, Mme Speaker. My question, Mme Speaker is for the Honourable President Johannes Lampe. It's an ongoing question and I guess until the squeaky gets the grease, it will be an ongoing question. And the question is to the Honourable President, Mme Speaker. I guess since I asked the last question in the House verbally, has there been any

discussion between yourself or the NEC and any department within the justice system in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador related to policing for Postville? Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, AngajukKâk Sheppard. I now call upon President Lampe.

PRESIDENT LAMPE: *Nakummek, Ukatti.* (Inaudible) Sheppard. We have had discussions with the Department of Justice but the same answer as-, you asked the same question over the previous Assembly sittings-, it's a challenge to try to get policing for Nunatsiavut communities and especially for Postville. And so-, but we are not letting this go. We continue to keep asking the justice system and the policing system in Nunatsiavut to Upper Lake Melville. But we will continue to try to get policing for the Nunatsiavut communities the best way that we can. But it is a real challenge, AngajukKâk. *Nakummek UKatti.*

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: *Nakummek,* President Lampe. Do you have a supplementary question AngajukKâk Sheppard?

MR. SHEPPARD: No, I don't, Mme Speaker and thank you, Mr. President for the response.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Are there any other oral questions? I recognize NunaKatiget Inuit Community Chair, Patricia Kemuksigak.

MS. KEMUKSIGAK: *Nakummek,* Mme Speaker. This question is to the Honourable Tyler Edmunds, First Minister. This is about the food voucher program. People are very appreciative of the food voucher program being reinstated, however there are a few issues. There is a bottleneck which slows the process down in getting approved. Only one person who had to call over

200 people to inform them if they were approved or not. Many people were calling back and calling back which created a lot of issues. And number two, not all seniors 65 plus were getting approved. Would your department look into concerns to see if the process can be increased by allocating more human resources to the program? *Nakummek*, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Okay. Thank you, Chair Kemuksigak. And I recognize the First Minister, Tyler Edmunds.

MR. EDMUNDS:

Nakummek, Mme Speaker. I guess I will just open up by stating that, you know, when it comes to the administration of the Covid-19 programming, it is a bit of a joint effort between several different departments, Secretariat, Lands, Natural Resources, and a few other departments as well. We do know that this program is a massive undertaking. Minister Andersen gave the figures earlier. In terms of the getting those food vouchers out, taking calls, continual intake, the Chairperson is correct, it is a very high demand on our human resources. In terms of getting extra human resources, we can certainly bring that discussion back. I know it is something that we have been aware of since the start of the implementation of this program, is the need for extra support. We're seeing a lot of demand on our regular staff right now. So the human resources issue, I'm sure there's discussions that we could have to try to find ways to displace current staff and add extra capacity. *Nakummek*, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, First Minister Edmunds. Do you have a supplementary question, Chair Kemuksigak?

MS. KEMUKSIGAK: No, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. Are there any other oral questions? Okay. Seeing none, we will now move on to Item Seven, "Written Questions". Are there any written questions today? Okay. Seeing none, we will move on to Item number eight, "Return to Written Questions". There are no written questions today. And before we move on, I would just like to take a short break, about 10 minutes.

(Recess)

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Welcome everybody back from our break. We are now on Item number nine, "Petitions". I would like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Ms. Marjorie Flowers.

MS. FLOWERS: Mme Speaker, *Nakummek*. I am presenting this petition under the authority of Standing Order 35 which states, "A Member may present the petition from his or her place in the Assembly under the Item, "Petitions". The Member shall endorse his or her name on the petition and shall confine the presentation to a statement of the petition, the number of signatures and the material allegations. The Member shall not exceed five minutes in presenting a petition. The Standing Order allows a Member to present a petition at any given time, as long as it's filed with the clerk with the proper manner. This has been confirmed with our Legal counsel and copies have been distributed to the appropriate

individuals in the Standing Order. The petition is signed by beneficiaries who feel that NG's Food Voucher program should be extended to all beneficiaries regardless of income. Beneficiaries who do not qualify, feel there is injustice and it is causing disharmony in our communities. So today, I present this petition. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, AngajukKâk Flowers. I now recognize President Johannes Lampe.

PRESIDENT LAMPE:

Nakummek UKatti, Nakummek, AngajukKâk (inaudible) Flowers. And I thank you for presenting the Nunatsiavut Covid-19 Vouchers for All Beneficiaries Petition. We will review the petition that you have presented and will respond to it within the time required, as set out in the Standing Orders. *Nakummek UKatti*

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you, President Lampe. Under Standing Order 35(10), the President or Minister must provide a response to the petition within 60 calendar days. Thank you. *Nakummek*. We are now on to Item number 10, the "Response to petitions". There are no response to petitions. We now move on to Item number 11. There are no reports of standing in special committees today, so we move on to Item 12, "Tabling of Documents". There are no tabling of documents today, so we will move on to Item number 13, "Notices of Motions". I would like to recognize the Nunatsiavut Treasurer, the Honourable Tony Andersen.

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mme Speaker. Mme Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, February 3, 2021, I will move, seconded by the First

Minister, Honourable Tyler Edmunds, that the Assembly convene as the Committee of the Whole to receive the presentations from Rexanne Crawford and Isabella Pain of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust, Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust*, and the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*. I will be seeking unanimous consent to deal with this motion today under Item 15, "Motions", by requesting that the Assembly waive Standing Ordre 37(1). Thank you, Mme Speaker

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Nakummek, Minister Andersen. That concludes the notices of motions for today. We now move on to Item number 14, "Notices of motions of first readings of bills". There are no motions for first reading of bills today. So we move on to Item 15, "Motions". Minister Andersen, I understand you wish to proceed with the motion which you gave notice to earlier?

MR. ANDERSEN:

Thank you, Mme Speaker, I do wish to proceed. Mme Speaker, I am seeing unanimous consent to proceed with my motion today by requesting the Assembly waive Standing Order 37(1) to receive the presentations from the appropriate representatives of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust, the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust and the Tasiujatsoak Trust* into Committee of the Whole, with witnesses, Rexanne Crawford and Isabella Pain, for consideration. Thank you, Mme Speaker.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Nakummek, Minister Andersen. The Minister is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with his motion today. All those in favour? Any opposed? There are none. The Minister, please proceed.

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mme Speaker. Mme Speaker, my motion is as follows, whereas the Nunatsiavut Assembly is required to receive reports from the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust, the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust, and the Tasiujatsoak Trust*, and whereas the Assembly should consider the Tabled Documents, 2-4(8) and 3-4(8) in Committee of the Whole with witnesses, now, therefore, I move, seconded by the First Minister, the Honourable Tyler Edmunds, that the Assembly convene as the Committee of the Whole to receive the presentations from Rexanne Crawford and Isabella Pain of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust, the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust, and the Tasiujatsoak Trust*. Thank you, Mme Speaker

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: *Nakummek*, Honourable Minister. The motion is in order. Would you like to speak to the motion, Minister Andersen?

MR. ANDERSEN: No, Mme Speaker, I have no wish to speak to the motion.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Does anybody else wish to speak to the motion? No other Members wish to speak. Does the Minister wish to close debate, make final comments?

MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Mme Speaker, yes, I wish to close debate.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: That concludes debate. All those in favour of the motion? Any opposed? Seeing none, the motion is carried. We will take a short recess to connect with Ms. Pain and Ms. Crawford.

(Recess)

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Welcome back, everybody. Thank you to our wonderful and very competent IT staff for getting us back online. We are now in the

Committee of the Whole and I invite Rexanne Crawford and Isabella Pain to being their presentation.

MS. CRAWFORD:

Good morning. We're going to start with the *Settlement Trust* presentation. So just to ensure everyone has the correct presentation in front of them, it's-, mine's just in black and white, but it has *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust*, with January 2021 on it. We'll give everyone a minute just to locate the correct presentation.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

For those who may be looking, it's under Tab Three in your binder. It's close to the back. Okay, I think you can-, I think everybody's ready now, Rexanne. Thank you.

MS. CRAWFORD:

Thank you. So this is our presentation on the 2019 year for the *Settlement Trust* and we will provide an update on the 2020 year to September. On the second page labeled, "Background", the *Settlement Trust* was created on March 1st, 2010 and this is a fund that came from the settlement of our *Land Claim Agreement* and it's from the Chapter 19, "Dollars". Payments were received in 15 installments. And we received the last payment last year. So we are fully-, have received all the funds under the *Settlement Trust*. I'm not going to go in and read all of the objectives under the Trust Mandate, but we do have them listed on the next slide. And these objectives are found in the Trust Deed. And so it is to maintain, administer and invest the Chapter 19 payments and to do distributions to eligible beneficiaries. We've discussed this topic in the past as we made presentations on the *Settlement Trust*. The eligible beneficiaries are the Nunatsiavut Government, another *Inuit Settlement*

Trust and eligible beneficiaries. The Trust Deed is in the process of undergoing its final amendment to include the following as eligible beneficiaries: An Inuit Community Government, An Inuk and Inuit, and any registered charity or non-profit organization with the meaning of the *Income Tax Act* that directly and indirectly benefits at least one or more Inuit. And I'll just pause here and remind you that we did have a discrepancy between eligible beneficiaries for the Settlement Funds under the *Tax Treatment Agreement* that we are party to under with the Government of Canada and what the Trust Deed said. And based on the Agreement with the Assembly, we have-, are undergoing the modification of the Trust Deed to ensure it matches what the *Tax Treatment Agreement* stated are eligible beneficiaries for the Settlement Fund. Are there any questions on this particular item?

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

There are none. Please proceed.

MS. CRAWFORD:

Thank you. So if you turn to the next slide. In the first 11 years of the fund there was no distributable cash flow to be made to any eligible beneficiary other than the NG. And I can say for the last-, except for I think 2011, might've been the last time there was any funds used by the NG from the Settlement Fund and that was a very long time ago. At this point I couldn't even let you know what it was exactly used for. So year 12, is 2021 and the year we are now in. So the Trustees have been busy preparing for year 12 and we are in the process of finalizing the Trust Application for funds and the dates for funding, statement of principals to be used for this fund, and working on the distributable cash flow

calculations. The distributable cash flow calculations are defined in the Trust Deed. And so it's a formal calculation that we'll have to go through in order to determine how much money would be available for distribution. So obviously, because we're in year 12 and this is the year the fund will be available for distribution, once we have the finalization of the documents, we will bring them either back to the Assembly, but we will be communicating it broadly to each of the Members of the Assembly. Isabella, do you have any other comments on that particular item? Okay. So if we turn to the next page, the current Trustees are Isabella Pain, Michael Flatters, myself, Daniel Bennett, and Sarah Leo, and there's been no change in Trustees for a number of years. The next slide covers our Asset mixed policy. And so the policy allows us to invest in different types of investments. We're invested in Canadian and global equities, (inaudible) income, Canadian real estate, infrastructure equity, private debt, and infrastructure debt. I will note that we are not invested in global real estate because at this time we have not found an investment vehicle that we are allowed to invest in, based under the *Provisions and the Tax Treatment Agreement*. We are working with Canada to look at those requirements under the *Tax Treatment Agreement*. And they're looking at it globally for all sub-governments, not just in terms of Nunatsiavut Government. So part of the role of the trustees is to monitor the Asset-mixed policy. We look at our investments against our policy and making sure that all the investments are made within the approved policy. There are a couple of changes to

note for the 2019 year. The Trustees terminated the fund manager, Hexavest who invested in global equities. So as we'll talk about in a few moments, we do have a monitoring policy and we do monitor our fund managers very closely. And when they are not performing in accordance to their style or their benchmark, we do go into closer monitoring and which could lead to termination. And in this particular case, we did terminate Hexavest as one of our global equity fund managers. We did hire Unigestion to replace Hexavest after doing a search for a new fund manager. As I noted, we had no global real estate fund manager at this time and in 2019 we hired a company called Third Eye Capital, to be our fund manager for private debt. I'll just take a pause here to see if there are any questions on the asset mixed policy, or the changes that we have undergone in this current year.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Hi, Rexanne, we have a question here from Tyler.

MR. EDMUNDS:

Nakummek, Mme Chair and thanks, Rexanne for the presentations. I guess I just wanted a little bit more clarity. I think-, well, you had said that, uh, you don't have the authority or the ability to invest in global real estate currently, but it is listed as a five percent value in the current asset mix policy, so I'm just kinda wondering what that means? What's happening with that five percent? Thank you.

MS. CRAWFORD:

So what it means is that when we do our monitoring-, like we have an approval to invest five percent into global real estate, when we did our asset mixed policy. We don't have any funds invested in global real estate, so when we do our monitoring, we would have our policy say five

percent and what we have actually invested is zero. It doesn't mean that, that five percent is sitting in cash. We actually have it invested in our other fund managers to continue to earn income for the Trust. So once we are able to find global real estate fund manager that we are eligible to invest in, as per provisions of the *Tax Treatment Agreement*, we will then proceed to ensure that we meet the parameters under our asset mixed policy.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. Do you have anything else, Tyler? No?

MR. EDMUNDS: Thank you, very much.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Okay, thank you. Charlotte has a question.

MS. WOLFREY: I got two questions, actually. So is there gonna be some kinda criteria for the types of proposals that's gonna be considered?

MS. CRAWFORD: Yes, Charlotte. There will be criteria and that's what we're developing at the moment. We're at the-, nearing the final stages. The Statement of Principals and the criteria will be based on the objectives outlined in the Trust Deed.

MS. WOLFREY: Okay, my second question might be wishful thinking, but since we're talking the *Settlement Trust*, are we talking proposals from the Settlement Area?

MS. CRAWFORD: The eligible beneficiaries are listed on a previous slide. So it doesn't specify when, under certain items like Inuk or Inuit-, it doesn't specify they have to be in the Settlement Area. It does specify it could be NG or the Inuit Community Government, another Settlement Trust, Inuk or Inuit

or a registered charity or an NPO who's directly or indirectly benefits at least one or more Inuit. But there is no specific provision, under the Trust Deed, that it is specific to the Settlement Area.

MS. WOLFREY: Thank you. *Nakummek*.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Are there any other questions at this point? Tyler-, oh, sorry. Sorry, Tyler, I'll allow Patricia.

MS. KEMUKSIGAK: My question is, will only a certain percentage be distributed in any year, so that we can still keep funds for the future, for future generations? Like have you got a percentage what you'll distribute out every year?

MS. CRAWFORD: I think I got the question. I may-, if I missed part of it, Patricia, please let me know. The distributable cash flow calculation is outlined in the Trust Deed. I don't have it in front of me but I could send it around to the Assembly if they are wanting it. We do have to keep a capital reserve of 100 percent of the total funds that were brought in from the Settlement and were brought in under Chapter 19. So the distributable cash flow is a percentage of the income. Again, I don't-, I'm speaking from my memory. I don't have it formally in front of me but we will communicate that out.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: She said thank you. Okay. Tyler? Oh, sorry. Go ahead, Isabella.

MS. PAIN: If the Members had the Trust Deed in front of them-, it used to be in your binders. That's the Distributable Cash flow explained in Section 4.1 which is on page 11. But we'll send that out and make it clearer English, I guess, because it's a bit technical.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Isabella. Tyler has a question.

MR. EDMUNDS:

Nakummek, Mme Chair and thanks Rexanne and Isabella again. I know you're in the process, as you said of getting together the applications and figuring out the deadlines for eligible beneficiaries but there's likely gonna be a, I guess a strong overlap between some of the applications that you maybe see under the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*, currently, maybe? And I'm just thinking about the deadlines and the dates for this, and do you see the dates as coinciding with the *T. Trust* or will they be different, or have you thought about that yet? Thank you.

MS. CRAWFORD:

Thank you, Tyler. We have considered the dates for both the applications for the *T. Trust* and the *Settlement Trust* and we have taken all those items that you mentioned into consideration as we set the application date. I don't want to-, I'm not try to, I guess, withhold information, but we're still in the final drafting stages of all our documents. And so when we bring the documents forward and communicate them out, it will become more clear as the dates will work through. But we did consider all those items that you noted when developing this *Settlement Trust* applications and dates.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Thank you. Was that it for you, Tyler? Okay. Are there any other questions, canvas before we start again? Okay, thank you. Rexanne, you can proceed.

MS. CRAWFORD:

Thank you. The next slide talks about the monitoring of fund managers and I know we often have been asked questions before about, "When do you make decision on a fund manager for termination?" And so, we do have a monitoring policy and we've outlined, on this slide, and the next

slide, some of the items and the processes we undertake for monitoring the fund manager. So each quarter, we do get a report on each of our fund managers, and the report looks at items such as, you know, from an organizational standpoint, did they have a change in ownership? Do they have a change in the personnel on the particular fund we're invested on? We look at their gains and losses of clients. We looked the characteristics of their portfolio and any other event that may be relevant. When you turn to the next slide, we have a qualified investment advisor who's been with the *Trust* for a very long time. He's exceptional and he prepares the monthly quarterly reports for us and also meets with us to go through these reports in detail so that we are able to monitor the fund managers against their performance, against their style. And things that we look at are performance and accordance with their objective. So if we hire a fund manager and we're hiring them to beat a certain index, so the NSCI index and we want them to beat it by one percent above that index, we monitor that very closely. We look at portfolio characteristics, so there are a number of investment ratios we look at in performance analysis. So we've listed out on the presentation here, some of these types of matrix we use-, "price over earnings", "Beta", "R-squared", and we've become much more familiar with these terms as the years have gone by because most of the Trustees have been involved in one or all of the *Trusts* for 10 years or longer. And we have some new Trustees and we do educational sessions as well, to make sure we're all up to date on what we need to be doing, in order to do our job. We also look at annualized performance

over one year, two, three-, up to five years. And on the next slide, more details on the monitoring. We meet two to three times a year to review these quarterly reports. We meet annually with each one of the fund managers, face-to-face or in global pandemic times, virtually, to review their detailed performance, investment style, organization and other items that are important for us to understand. And we have opportunity to ask questions. And once certain events are triggered, we then place fund managers into closer monitoring. So if you recall, I noted that we terminated Hexavest. So when we were monitoring Hexavest on the quarterly basis, there were things that were not-, that were, I guess worrisome for us, for lack of a better word. So they were placed into closer monitoring in accordance with our policy. And as we did closer monitoring, then we had to get to a certain decision point which was whether we continue to do closer monitoring, whether their performance improved or if it was time to terminate. And in this particular case, it was time to terminate the mandate. I'm gonna move on to the next slide. It talks about negotiation logs. So under Chapter 19, Canada was deducting out our repayments on our negotiation loans over the 15-year period. And as we have communicated previously, through the Nunatsiavut Government, the Government of Canada has forgiven whatever outstanding payments we had made. So the payment that was due December 1st 2019, was forgiven. And we got our full payment for the *Settlement Trust* on that date. And the remaining loans are being repaid back to the Nunatsiavut Government over a schedule or a five-

year period. And we did receive the first payment, as we disclosed, to the Nunatsiavut Government, under my department. The next page gets into the financial updates for 2019. I think what's really important to note here is at the end of December, we do have an increase in value in our *Settlement Trust*. So, we have invested \$175 million. That's the value. So that's the one dollar that we put into this *Trust* and we've been able to grow it to just over \$216 million. So that's when you put your dollar in and how much you grew it and now we've got \$216.7 million for 2019. So it's an increase of \$41 million. If you turn to the next slide, it's your update for 2020. We felt it was really important to bring this here. As you know, we're in the midst of a global pandemic and if you're listening, as we all do, diligently, to the news, there's been a lot of talks about the economy and the impacts on the economy due to the global pandemic. So we have monitored, as Trustees, the global pandemic, very closely. We've had meetings with each of the fund managers since the onset of the global pandemic and I can note that I think it was in April and May, I believe we had about 10 separate Trustee meetings during that particular time period, in order to understand the impact of the pandemic on our Trust Funds. We also continue to receive and review individual reports from fund managers as well as reports prepared by our advisor on a quarterly basis, and any other important reports he wanted us to be aware of in order to do our jobs as Trustees. So the financials have shown that as of September 30th, we still have a significant increase of our book value, and in fact, we've had a small increase since January 1,

2020. And so our investment at the end of September 30th is \$217.6 million versus the \$216.7 million at the end of 2019. That takes me to the end of the *Settlement Trust* presentation. Are there any other questions on this *Trust*?

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

I'm just having a look around the room, Rexanne and Isabella. I don't see any hands for questions for that report. Thank you, very much.

MS. CRAWFORD:

All right. I'll pass it over to Isabella.

MS. PAIN:

Okay, thank you. I'm going to go next to the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust*, and just as a note for you, the next two presentations will go fairly quick, I believe because much of the information that Rexanne presented around the *Settlement Trust* process is the same process we use. So I won't go into too much detail on it. But I will skim over some of (inaudible). So the *Implementation Trust* that was created on May 7, 2007, and the objectives-, there are two of them: To receive and invest, Chapter 23, "Payments from the *Labrador Inuit Land Claim Agreement*", and then to create a capital reserve of 75 percent of the amount received from the Nunatsiavut Government. And just to note that the *Implementation Trust*, we have received all of the funds from the Government of Canada in this fund. There will be no other funds that we will receive from the Government of Canada. The *Implementation Trust* is different from the other two *Trusts*. There is only one eligible beneficiary and that is the Nunatsiavut Government. There are three Trustees on this *Trust*. They are myself, Michael Flatters and Patty Dicker. The next slide is on the asset mixed policy which

Rexanne spoke about for the *Settlement Trust*. The difference that you will note here is that when you go to real estate, the *Implementation Trust* is invested in global real estate and our manager is UBS. Other than that, these are very similar to the *Settlement Trust*. So the same managers, the same people that we see for all three *Trusts*. When we go to the next slide, the assets mixed policy, again to note, Rexanne did mention we have a policy and we do review them quarterly to make sure all of our investments are in line with that particular policy and to note again that Hexavest was also terminated. Their mandate was terminated due to performance issues is 2019. And we did hire Unigestion to replace them. Am I going too fast for translation, Mme Speaker?

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

I haven't gotten a signal. You're good, Gus? You're good? He's good. Thank you for considering Gus. Thank you.

MS. PAIN:

Okay. The next slide is the same one that Rexanne went through, so, "Monitoring of Fund Managers". I don't need to go through this again because we've reviewed it in detail with Rexanne and same for the next slide, the Monitoring of Fund Managers. Same slide and same process there. The next slide I wanna talk about is the, "Financial Update for 2019." And again, we should've presented this last year but we didn't make it in front of you to do this, so we just wanna give you a heads up on this one that the book value at the end of 2019 was \$243 million, just a little over, and the market value \$307 million. You'll note that that was an increase of just over \$64 million for the *Investment Trust*". When we go to the last slide in this particular presentation, we do have an update

here for you in terms of 2020. It's only to September 30th, not to the end of the year and so things may change but for 2020 you will notice, as Rexanne noted, the ongoing global pandemic and the concerns we have around what that would do to our investments. And making sure that we were monitoring and meeting with managers regularly throughout this particular period. During 2020 we do still have an increase in the value of the *Trust* over this period from January 1 2020. So we have been able to grow the value of the *Trust* through the global pandemic. Are there any questions on the *Implementation Trust*?

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

I don't see any hands, Isabella regarding the *Implementation Trust*.
Thank you.

MS. PAIN:

Thank you. If it's okay, I'll go ahead and discuss the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*. As I'm sure Assembly Members are familiar with this *Trust*. This one was established in 2002 to receive an investment payment from a 2002 *Impacts and Benefits Agreement* with Voisey's Bay Nickel Company, which is now Vale. And this trust is set up to disperse funds, to enable NG to meet its obligations under the IBA, so that's the first obligation we have. We also are directed to assist seven community volunteer centres to meet community needs. We are directed to reduce negative impacts of the Voisey's Bay project and to promote social, educational, language and business initiatives. There are three eligible beneficiaries to this *Trust*, the Nunatsiavut Government, charitable organizations was the big criteria or a community or class of Inu. The current Trustees are Michael Flatters, Sharon Peevy(ph), myself, Tiffany Flowers and just to let you

know that Darryl Shiwak was appointed in December of 2020 to be a Trustee to fill the complement of the Trustees on this particular Trust. So we're back up to a full compliment of Trustees. The asset mixed policy here again, is similar to the *Implementation Trust*. And you'll note that we have Unigestion who has replaced Hexavest. You'll get that on the next slide which is similar to the other two *Trusts*. We do have the same asset mixed policy. We do have the same monitoring policy with respect to the managers and we did terminate Hexavest in 2019 due to performance issues. I won't go back through the next three slides because they're the same one-, monitoring of fund managers, that you went through previous two *Trusts*. I'll get to the Financial Update for 2019. And this here is the update for January to December 31, 2019. The value at the beginning of January was \$264 million and at the end of December 31, 2019, the value at the end was \$318 million with an increase in value of \$33 million which is net of distribution. So this *Trust* as I'm sure everyone's aware does make (inaudible) distribution to eligible *Trust* applicants. The priorities as I'll just remind you again. I went through them very quickly, is to cover the Implementation Budget. So that's the first obligation on this *Trust* is to ensure that NG has the resources it needs to implement the IBA equally. Thirty percent of all capital receipts that we receive, and 10 percent of all net income are to be set aside to a heritage fund and when we say, "Heritage Fund", that does not mean specifically for language and culture. It means it's a heritage fund which means it has to last forever. And so the trustees

have to-, are directed to consider the desirability of setting aside up to 50 percent of capital receipts and 25 percent of income each year. We have to do these calculations before we know how much we have which is eligible for distribution on an annual basis. We have to do these calculations to make sure we're in line with the Trust Deed as we go forward. We also allocate \$100,000 to each volunteer centre. There are seven of them, annually. The funding-, the Tasiujatsoak Trust does make funding available on a proposal basis. We receive proposals two times a year, March 31st and September 30th. We do meet to review them within between four and six weeks after applications are received, and to date, since 2004 which is when the *Trust* started making these distributions, we have distributed about \$126 million to eligible beneficiaries. The next slide shows you proposals funded in 2018. That slide is in there, basically because we didn't get to talk to you about the 2018 presentation. We should've done it in 2019. And so we didn't get to have that discussion. Many of them are similar eligible beneficiaries that apply every year and have received funding for quite some time. And then on the next page, we have the proposals funded in 2019. And again, that was for the allocation for another \$3.9 million that were allocated to eligible beneficiaries. Again, similar applicants that you'll have seen in the previous slides including AnanauKatiget Tumingit, the ICG's, the Native Spirit Youth Centre, OkâlaKatiget Society receives usually, an annual-, they put in an annual application for us. So those are some of the programs. NG is also a beneficiary. It has received some

funding for programming. The last slide we have, again, is performance results to September 2020. And this is just to give you a quick overview of our performance in the last year. So we have made-, well, we have-, the value at the beginning of January 1 was \$318 million and the value at the end was \$319 million. We have-, you can see there's some-, a realized loss of \$68,000 and our disbursements were \$5.5 million. So we are still doing good even though we're in the middle of a global pandemic and (inaudible) getting their value of that particular *Trust*. Are there any questions on this particular *Trust*?

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER:

Hi, Isabella. Thank you. I have a question here from AngajukKâk Sheppard.

MR. SHEPPARD:

Thank you, Mme Chair and thank you both to Rexanne and Isabella. Isabella, I guess my question is related to the second last page here, "Proposals funded in 2019". Illusuak Cultural Centre just over \$1million. Could you elaborate a little bit on that please? Thank you.

MS. PAIN:

Yeah, I can. So that's in there because the Tasiujatsoak Trust had made a contribution towards the construction and development of the Illusuak Cultural Centre. That had not all been taken down. And so in finalizing the exhibits and the displays and the furnishing of those things, that was completed just last year. So we had made the allocation to them a number of years ago, but we didn't-, they didn't actually draw down-, NG didn't actually draw down and use that money until the last-, until the 2019 fiscal year as the exhibits were being finalized and installed.

MR. SHEPPARD: Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, AngajukKâk Sheppard. I have a question from AngajukKâk Wolfrey from Rigolet.

MS. WOLFREY: Hi Isabella. I'm just curious about the deadlines. I thought that one of the deadlines was May, or did it change to March or was it always March?

MS. PAIN; The deadlines have been the same since we started accepting applications. It's always been March 31st and September 30th. So that has been consistent throughout the entire period since 2004.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. Are there any other questions regarding this presentation? Oh, Patricia Kemuksigak from NunaKatiget.

MS. KEMUKSIGAK: Thank you, Mme Chair. I have a quick question. How is it determined how much money is given every year by the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*? Is it like a percentage of the interest earned or some kind of formula? Thank you.

MS. PAIN: I'll go to the right slide for you. So what we do is that the Trustees-, we still receive some allocations from Vale. So we have to look at what our receipts are, our capital receipts or what's coming in from Vale. And then we take 10 percent of the net income from our investments-, sorry, we take the net income. We look at what we earned in a year and how much we received from Vale in a year. We then have to-, as a first priority is cover off implementation budget. So NG submits to us its implantation budget and says, "This is what we need to administer the IBA this year." That allocation then comes off. So then we do the

calculation of say for 30 percent of the capital receipts and 10 percent of income, we have to also take that away from any annual receipts because we're directed to put that into a capital reserve. And then further to that, we also look at whether or not what 50 percent would look like and what 25 percent of income would look like each year. We don't decide at the beginning whether we're not gonna increase the amounts we're setting aside for the Heritage Reserve. We wait to see what applications we have. We also then deduct 100 percent, for each volunteer centre, so 700 percent-, \$700,000 out of those payments annually have to go to the volunteer centres, so we deduct that amount. And then that's-, we then calculate from that, what we can actually fund on an annual basis. Some years we've had more applicants than we've had funding available. In other years we've had more funding than applications and we've put that aside as well. So those are the basic calculations. We just look at what it is that the Trust Deed tells us we must cover and what we have to do, and then if there's any (inaudible) it goes to deal with the applications that we receive. And to be fair and upfront, there are some applications that do not receive funding-, some because they're not eligible beneficiaries so don't meet that criteria. Others because they may be an NG application which is within the departmental responsibility and should possibly be funded by NG if it's a staff person as an example, the *Trust* does not generally provide funding for staff for NG unless it's for a very specific of short-term project. And so there have been a few times we have rejected a proposal.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Hi. Thank you, Isabella for that clarification. I have a question from Carlene Palliser from Rigolet.

MS. PALLISER: Did you say that you had a loss? And what was the loss, if it is right that I heard?

MS. PAIN: Yeah, well, it's a loss in terms of the fact that we have-, some of our methods may not have done so well. It's not a lot. It's \$68,000 which we say is a realized loss that probably came when we wound up Hexavest, I think. And I should look at Rexanne or Sharon to give me that, but I think once we collapsed the Hexavest investment and took what was left, we did have a small lost in that fiscal year. It wasn't a huge loss at all. So it was a realized loss of \$68,000 which had come from collapsing the Hexavest loss, which we then took and reinvested in Unigestion.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you. Are there any other questions on this presentation? Okay. I don't see anymore questions.

MS. PAIN: Marlene, that concludes our presentations on the three *Trusts*.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Yes. Thank you, very much. I was just confirming with my helpful aide here that we were-, thank you, very much for your three presentations. Very informative. Thank you for your time. We know that both of you ladies are quite busy all the time, so we appreciate your time, and we thank you, very much.

MS. PAIN: *Nakummek.*

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: *Nakummek.* Thank you.

[Audio pauses.]

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Sorry. Thank you, again to Ms. Pain and Ms. Crawford for their presentations. We are now back in the Assembly. And that will conclude motions for today. We will move on to Item number 16. Item 16, "The first reading of bills". I would like to recognize the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Gregory Flowers.

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I move, seconded by the Honourable Tyler Edmunds that *Bill 2021-01, Inuit Community Act 2021* be introduced and read for the first time.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Would you like to introduce the Bill, Minister Flowers?

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. We, as a Government, continue to make progress on a path to self governance, including, in relation to our own resources. Therefore, we need to own and operate our own quarries. Quarry resources are of great importance for the expansion and growth of our communities. The community of Nain, Postville and Rigolet operate sand quarries for the use of road maintenance, construction or other projects, including subdivision and landfill sites or whatever they choose to use these quarries for. The Bill provides for the assurance of a five-year quarry lease for the communities of Nain, Postville and Rigolet. Their leases will support the growth and development of our communities as we continue on a path of self governance and self-reliance. I am asking the Assembly to support Bill 2021-01, *Inuit Quarries Act 2021*. Thank you.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: The motion is in order. Does anyone wish to speak to the principal of the Bill? No other Members wish to speak. Does the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources wish to conclude debate?

MR. FLOWERS: Thank you, Mme Speaker, I'd like to close debate.

MS. WINTERS-WHEELER: Thank you, Minister. That concludes debate on the first reading. Is the Assembly in favour of approving Bill 2021-01 on the first reading? All those in favour? Any opposed? I see none. The motion is carried, and accordingly, *Bill 2021-01* has had first reading. The bill will be read for a second time at the next sitting of the Assembly. We now move on to Item number 17, "Second Reading of Bills." There are no second reading of bills today. We move on to Item 18, "Assent to bills". There are no assent to bills today. We will go on to Item number 19. So this is our adjournment. I'd like to thank the Assembly Members and the staff Tabea and Roland Saunders who coordinated and organized this Assembly. I thank you, very much for a job well-done. Thank you, very much. It was very appreciated. If there are any questions about travel, which we just received an email recently that the charter from Goose Bay has been canceled due to deteriorating weather. So we are here for another day in Hopedale. If you have any other questions regarding the travel, please see Tabea. This concludes this Assembly. The Assembly is adjourned until the week of March 1st to the 5th, 2021. I thank you again. It's been an incredible honour to sit as my first sitting as Speaker. Thank you, *Nakummek*.