



Nunatsiavut kavamanga  
Nunatsiavut Government

**FIFTH ASSEMBLY**

**OF**

**NUNATSIAVUT**

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**SPRING SESSION 1st Session - 3rd SITTING**  
**Extraordinary Sitting**

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**kAVAMALIGIJET**  
**KAUJITITSIUTINGA**  
**PARLIAMENTARY REPORT**

September 6, 2022

**In Attendance:**

**Speaker and Ordinary Member for Canada, Honourable Bryan Winters**

**Deputy Speaker and Ordinary Member for Canada, Honourable Roland Saunders**

**President of Nunatsiavut, Honourable Johannes Lampe**

**First Minister and Ordinary Member for Rigolet Honourable Melva Williams**

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

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

**Minister of Language, Culture, and Tourism and Ordinary Member for Nain, Honourable Roxanne Barbour**

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

**Minister of Education and Economic Development and Ordinary Member for Nain, Honourable Anthony Andersen**

**Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, Mr. Wally Andersen**

**Ordinary Member for Postville, Mr. George Gear**

**AngajukKâk for Nain, Mr. Julius Dicker**

**AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Mrs. Marjorie Flowers**

**AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Mr. Barry Andersen**

**AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Mrs. Charlotte Wolfrey**

**AngajukKâk for Postville, Mr. Glen Sheppard**

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

**Director of Legal Services, Mr. Mark Gillette**

**Absent:**

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

**Legal Counsel, Mr. Kevin Maher**

**The Nunatsiavut Assembly proceedings were recorded in Inuktitut and English.  
September 6, 2022  
Assembly commenced at 11:00 AM September 6, 2022**

**MR. WINTERS:** Good morning. I would like to call to order this extraordinary sitting of the Fifth Nunatsiavut Assembly and ask Johannes Lampe to say the opening prayer.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** [Recites Prayer in Inuttitut]

**MR. WINTERS:** Thank you. *Nakummek*. We are now on Item Two of the *Orders of the Day*, and I will ask that the President of Nunatsiavut, the Honourable Johannes Lampe, deliver his "Opening Address." When you're ready, sir.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** *Nakummek, UKatti*. [Speaks in Inuttitut] Mr. Speaker, during the week of July 18, Minister Vincent and Minister Asivak joined me in Kuujjuaq for the Inuit Circumpolar Councils Canada Annual General Meeting. Delegates from Alaska, Greenland, and Chukotka, Russia, attended virtually. ICC Canada held elections for the position of President and Vice President International. The ICC also held its 14th General Assembly virtually during that week. Considering the Coronavirus pandemic has affected the global community since March 2020, this year's ICC Canada AGM, and the General Assembly focused on the main items of business that had to be completed in order to comply with respective by-laws for both ICC Canada and ICC as a whole. The AGM approved past minutes. The President's report, regional reports, as well as the Audited Financial Statements for 2021 to 2022. The theme of ICC General Assembly, Mr. Speaker, was "Inuit

Strength and Peace." It was chosen to reflect the strength we have as a people, as was evident throughout the pandemic. The General Assembly focused on reporting activities and the adoption of the 2022 Declaration. Over the course of three days, the 66 Inuit delegates heard presentations on the future on International Partnerships, International Indigenous Human Rights, and International Partnerships, Food Security, Families and Youth, Health and Wellness, Education and Language, and Indigenous Knowledge. The Chair of the International Organization was transferred to Greenland for the next four-year-term. Sarah Olsvig was unanimously elected as the new Chair, taking over from Alaska's Doctor Dalee Sambo Dorough. Ministers Asivak and Barbour will join me as delegates for the ITK Annual General Assembly from September 27 to 29 in Kuujjuaq. As you know, Mr. Speaker, last week, we announced an extension to the Food Supplement and the Cleaning Supplies programs. These programs have helped beneficiaries tremendously during the pandemic. They were not meant to be permanent and will be held on April 1 of next year. Beneficiaries are encouraged to prepare for when the programs end, and to make adjustments, both financially and personally to help ease the transition away from the support offered through these initiatives. Before I conclude, Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate AngajukKâk Dicker, Andersen and Sheppard, as well as NunaKatiget Inuit Corporation Chair Kemuksigak, on their recent acclamations. I look forward to the results of next week's elections to fill the remaining seats in the Assembly. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*. Thank you, President Lampe. We will now move on to Item Three. I'd like to recognize the members of the gallery. It's great to see a younger generation taking this in too. *Nakummek*, for your interest and attendance. I would also like to mention that for today's sitting, the pages are Denzel Dicker, and Jamal Kohlmeister from Nain. Our interpreter is Katie Winters. IT support staff is Robert Ford. And OKâlaKatiget Society staff are Sarah Abel and Arlene Ikkusek. We will now move on to Item Four. This is the "Oaths of Office." As the Assembly is aware, the elections for the office of AngajukKâk for the Inuit communities and Chairs of the Inuit Community Corporations are ongoing. However, three of the five communities have had the office of AngajukKâk filled by acclamation, and the seat of the Chairperson of the NunaKatiget Inuit Corporation was also filled by acclamation. As such, four of the Members have begun new terms. Unfortunately, Patricia Kemuksigak is unable to attend today, but I now recognize the President of Nunatsiavut to administer the Oaths of Office to these three present individuals.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:**

I call upon Barry Andersen for the Oath of Office for the Ordinary Member of Makkovik. Repeat after me. In the presence of everyone assembled here...

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:**

In the presence of everyone assembled here...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:**

...and in full realization of the high calling I assume...

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:**

...and in full realization of the high calling I assume...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:**

...as a Member of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** ...as a Member of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

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

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** ...and that the powers entrusted to me...

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

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

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...I, Barry Andersen...

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** ...I, Barry Andersen...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...swear and solemnly affirm...

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** ...swear and solemnly affirm...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...that I will be faithful to the Inuit...

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** ...that I will be faithful to the Inuit...

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

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** ...and to Nunatsiavut...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...and will obey...

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** ...and will obey...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...respect...

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** ...respect...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...and uphold...

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** ...and uphold...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...the *Labrador Inuit Constitution*...

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** ...the *Labrador Inuit Constitution*...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...and all Inuit laws.

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** ...and all Inuit laws.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** And I solemnly promise...

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** And I solemnly promise...

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

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** ...to fulfill my responsibilities...

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

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** ...as a leader...

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

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** ...and to perform my functions...

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

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** ...as a Member of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

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

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** ...to the best of my ability...

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

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** ...so, help me, God.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** I present to you, Mr. Barry Andersen, the, again re-elected as Ordinary Member for Makkovik by acclamation. Congratulations.

[Applause]

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** Julius Dicker. [Performs the Oath of Office in Inuttitut.]

**MR. DICKER:** [Takes the Oath of Office in Inuttitut.]

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** I apologize for earlier, calling Barry, the Ordinary Member for Makkovik and I present to you the re-elected AngajukKâk for Nain, Mr. Julius Dicker.

[Applause]

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** Mr. Julius Dicker was also re-elected as AngajukKâk for Nain by acclamation. I now call upon Mr. Glen Sheppard, the re-elected AngajukKâk for Postville, by acclamation.

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

**MR. SHEPPARD:** In the presence of everyone assembled here...

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

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...and in full realization of the high calling...

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

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...I assume as a Member of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

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

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...and that the powers entrusted to me...

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

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...are for the benefit of all Labrador Inuit...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...I, Glenn Sheppard...

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...I, Glenn Sheppard...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...swear solemnly affirm...

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...swear, solemnly affirm...



**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...that I will be faithful to the Inuit...

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...that I will be faithful to the Inuit...

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

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...and to Nunatsiavut...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...and obey and respect...

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...and obey and respect...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...and uphold the *Labrador Inuit Constitution*...

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...and uphold the *Labrador Inuit Constitution*...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...and all Inuit laws.

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...and all Inuit laws.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** And I solemnly promise...

**MR. SHEPPARD:** And I solemnly promise...

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

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...to fulfill my responsibilities...

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

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...as a leader...

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

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...and to perform my functions...

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** ...as a member of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...as a member of the Nunatsiavut Assembly...

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

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...to the best of my ability...

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

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...so help me, God.

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** I also present to you, Mr. Glen Sheppard, re-elected, as AngajukKâk by acclamation. Congratulations.

[Applause]

**MR. WINTERS:** Congratulations to the returning Members. We will now move on to Item Five. Item five is the "Ministers Statements." Are there any minister's statements? I see the Minister of Health and Social Development, Mr. Gerald Asivak, when you're ready, sir.

**MR. ASIVAK:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll give you a brief update today. The first part is the Family Services, "Caring for Our Children" project. Josie McNeill is our new Foster Home Recruitment and Retention social worker as of August 1st. Josie is based in Makkovik. Welcome Josie. All the best in your new position. Expressions of Interest, Caring for an Inuit Child and Housing Barriers. Staff at DHSD and NG have met with the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing, and Children and Seniors and Social Development Provincial directors, regarding the foster parents who have put their names forward requesting bedroom additions to their existing homes. Caring for Our Children project staff and Director of Family Services are now engaging in conversation with CSSD's own manager and the regional director of Labrador regarding potential funding opportunities. Over the

winter of 2022 we have engaged in many discussions with Newfoundland and Labrador Housing, CSSD Provincial directors, and the NG Director of Housing. We have received information that suggests nine foster parents within the Nunatsiavut region are requesting an addition to their home. We thank you for your interest as we move through this process with our partners on your behalf. Family Connections: Shelley Dicker is a new family connections driver in Nain. She began on July 11th. This position is responsible for driving families to essential services, airport, grocery shopping, medical appointments, community programs, school. Welcome, Shelley, to the team. Thanks for helping our families. The NG has approved a second Family Connections Manager to be located within the Nunatsiavut zone. The program continues to grow with 151 families served in Nunatsiavut, Upper Lake Melville, and a request from the Canadian Constituency. The Youth Services social worker: The work prioritized for this position is youth ages 16 to 30, with a focus on those who will soon be aging out of care and assisting with those transition plans. The Indigenous representative is actively working with CSSD and playing an advocacy role for children to gain connections or remain connected to family, community, and culture. Community Programs update: As President Lampe noted earlier in his speaking notes, the Food Supplement Program and Cleaning Supply have been extended until March 31st, 2023. I want to thank all staff for their hard work who have helped with these with these programs. Mr. Speaker, Health Services update: Non-insured health benefits traveling, specialty fall schedules are being worked on,

examples: dental hygienist, et cetera. These will be shared with the communities when finalized. Dawn Michelin is doing a six-week trial of the Health Promotion and Wellness Manager position starting today, Tuesday, September 6th. She'll be working out of Nain for the trial. If she is successful in her trial and decides to keep the position, she'll be moving to Makkovik. We'll then post the Home Care nursing position for Nain. In addition to Dawn coming on board, the Tobacco Control Coordinator will be starting the following week out of the Rigolet DHSD building. The position will be reporting to Dawn. It is a temporary full-time position for three years to complete community engagement, which will inform the development of a Tobacco Control Strategy for Nunatsiavut. It will also include vaping. In terms of COVID, there are no new updates at this time. There will be another booster in the fall, but we do not have any details to share at this point. In terms of influenza, we have started plans to prepare our campaign in the fall. Again, no details to share at this point, just logistical planning of ordering supplies at the planning level. In closing, Mr. Speaker, at the next sitting, I'll update on the Qanuippitaa? National Inuit Health Survey, as we are about to start the survey next month.

*Nakummek.*

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Thank you, Minister Asivak. The next person that I saw was the honorable Thomas Evans, Minister of Information Technology, Human Resources and Finance. When you're ready, sir.

**MR. EVANS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Okay. This is just a brief update in regards to our HR Division. With the short notice of this sitting. We'll provide a much

more detailed informative update at the next sitting. Mr. Speaker, the HR Division undertook an annual review of the Nunatsiavut Civil Service to determine the number of permanent and temporary positions in total, and by community, as well as the number of beneficiaries in these positions. This review was completed as of March 31st, 2022. The total number of employees have grown by 24 percent to 450, from 364 in June of 2021. Of this workforce, 76 percent are beneficiaries, which is down five percent from the prior year. However, the stats include a significant number of employees working with the Supported Living Program, and the emergency shelter in Happy Valley Goose Bay. When these employees are removed from the data, the workforce is actually composed of 85 percent beneficiaries. The Civil Service was also broken down by gender, of which 76.2 percent are females, 23.3 percent are males, and 0.4 percent of other. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Thank you, Minister Evans. The next hand that I saw was the Minister of Education and Economic Development, the Honorable Tony Andersen, when you're ready, sir.

**MR. A. ANDERSEN:**

Yep. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I must say that was a very brief statement from the Minister of Finance. I always wanted to give brief statements when I was the Minister of Finance, but (inaudible), Mr. Speaker, I never gave nothing that brief. And I thought my own statement was going to be brief. You can imagine how long my next one is going to be, at the next sitting. Anyway, I'm going to give what I thought was going to be a brief statement from my department. And first of all, the Economic

Development Division. The Rigolet gas station: The Rigolet Inuit Community Government continues as the interim operator of the Rigolet gas station. The contract period has been extended into this fall 2022, Mr. Speaker. There is a business proposal for a private operator underway and expected to be completed mid-September and prepared for the Nunatsiavut Executive Council review as soon as possible. And I so much want to thank the outgoing AngajukKâk, Mr. Speaker for the Rigolet Inuit Community Government for their tremendous help with the Department to assure the smooth running of the-, you know, as we're striving as First Minister and Member for Rigolet also knows, it hasn't been easy to find an operator for the for the Rigolet gas station without support from AngajukKâk Wolfrey and her Inuit Community Government. Certainly, made things a lot easier. Our Business Support Program between July and August, the Division had one new business added to the Inuit Business Registry. Regarding procurement, one underground and three regular-site operation packages were received from Vale within our division, submitting seven Inuit business nominations and one qualified business entity nomination. There were a total of 13 clients, 11 business start-up, and two business growth. We're preparing a release of our Northern Lights 2023 Business Support package. This package will provide financial assistance for businesses to attend the Annual Trade Show in Ottawa and will operate on an application basis. The program will be launched next week, the week of September 12th. Small Business Start-up Tour: The tour, focusing on youth engagement, client engagement, generating

interest in small business development, and community meetings, still has two outstanding community visits to complete, Mr. Speaker, the final Nain follow-up, and the Rigolet sessions will be planned for this fall, 2022. In the meantime, we have completed two short community visits in Makkovik and Hopedale, in late August and early September. Funding distribution: Community Economic Development Program-, Community Economic Development Program contributions have reached the annual 95,000 as we have approved applications for their Rigolet and Nain Inuit Community Governments to fund their Community Development Officer positions. We will review an additional application from the Postville Inuit Community Government in September. We will continue to accept applications on a continuous intake and evaluation process. COVID research and Relief Programming: The Federal Indigenous Community Business Fund, or ICBF Program, targets small business, and artisans impacted by the pandemic. The program provided \$266,524 in funding for the NG for COVID relief. As you all recall, the division developed a program in partnership with the Division of Tourism, to allow access to these funds. The COVID-19 Micro Business and Artist Relief Fund, supporting 53 artists, nine business, to a total contribution of \$210,500. We have finalized the relaunch for this program, and we'll be open to the public on September the 7th, it relaunched already, today. The enhancement program will increase in value from \$266,525 to \$484,500. The additional funding of \$217,975 to support this program increase will come from *our Internal Fiscal Finance Agreement* dollars. The enhancement program will see the

current approved artist and business applications increase their grant amount of 50 percent. This means that the Phase One approved businesses will receive an additional 2,500 and artists an additional 1,000 for the approved application level for a business of 75,000-, sorry, 7,500, and then artist of 3,000. The Phase Two program is open to new applicants who will apply at this increased allotment level. The relaunch is meant to meet the industry needs amid COVID-19 impacts and allow for an increased program eligibility with the application reference year change from 2019 to 2021 and 2022 and will serve as a pilot to explore micro grant and funding programs in both the Economic Development and Tourism Division moving forward. An update on the total program supports and approved applications will be provided at the year end. And I hope it's not as long as the other one. Self Employment Benefit Program. We currently have three clients operating under this program and currently are reviewing additional applications. We are reviewing a potential program budget increase from our Education Division partners, which, if approved, will double the number of eligible client seats in the program. The request is expected to be completed in September 2022. The program operates on a continuous intake and evaluation process and start-ups are encouraged to contact the department to learn about and how to apply for the program. That said, the program is being revised to accommodate client needs and will be presented for review to the NEC in the fall of 2022 prior to the launch of the revised program. The anticipated start date of the Business Development Manager position has been rescheduled for



September 12th, 2022. We continue to have a vacant Business Development Officer position, which we will see Contract Services to meet our required work commitments. And also, Mr. Speaker, a brief update from our Education Division. We're now entering the fall semester of 2022. To date, we have 234 sponsored students supported by our funding program. Of these, 183 will be studying full-time and 51 part-time students. In addition to this, there are still 18 applications that have not been processed. We had a blackout period over the summer, July 1st to August 31st, you know, set ample time to process on time applications. These 18 applications will be processed over the coming weeks. There are many enhancements to our supports, in addition to the new financial benefits for our students. It was announced during the spring sitting. The student handbook can be found on the Nunatsiavut website for anyone who would like to have a look. And I encourage Members, Mr. Speaker, to take a look at that handbook and unbelievable, just the enhancements now and the supports for students as we continue to grow. School supply kits. There was a small amount of left-over funds that were received last year from the Master Card foundation. Basic school supply kits will be provided to all K to 12 students in Nain, Hopedale, Makkovik, Postville and Rigolet. Due to concerns every year, from parents in Nunatsiavut, related to access as well as the cost of school supplies, it was decided to left-over money from the credit card foundation donation to provide some basic school supplies to school aged children in Nunatsiavut. Many families do not have credit cards to order affordable supplies online and even for

those that do, shipping costs are high. In addition to this, stores in most communities in Nunatsiavut have very limited school supplies that often arrive late and into the season and are very costly. We notice that the cost of school supplies in larger centres is far lower and the variety of items is far greater, leaving families in Nunatsiavut at somewhat of a disadvantage, Mr. Speaker, when it comes to accessing school supplies. For example, we noticed that in larger centres, companies such as Staples-, I had to look at the book to remember the name-, and Walmart, those kind of stores, they compete for this school supplies and often have great sales at the beginning of the year. School kits are being shipped this week on the MV Kamutik and will be distributed to students once they arrive. A quick update on the summer literacy camps: Summer Literacy Camps were delivered in all five on Nunatsiavut communities this summer, running from August 11th to July 5th. Two communities run 100 percent by local counsellors. One community had just one outside counsellor and two communities had two outside counsellor Several local people were hired as camp counsellors and gained valuable work experience. And that's my brief update, Mr. Speaker. A much longer one coming in a couple of week's time.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Minister Andersen. Would any other Ministers like to make a statement? Seeing none, we will now move on to Item six. This is the "Members Statement" section. Are there any Members statements? I see Ordinary Member Asivak for the Upper Lake Melville has his hand up. When you're ready, sir.

**MR. ASIVAK:**

Mr. Speaker, condolences to the families of late Mr. John Williams of Happy Valley, Goose Bay, Mr. Wilbert Montague of North West River, Ms. Rose Michelin of Happy Valley, Goose Bay, Ms. Angeline Connuck of Happy Valley, Goose Bay, Ms. Rosemary McLean of Happy Valley, Goose Bay, Mr. Tyler McLean of Happy Valley, Goose Bay, Ms. Lily Lyall of Happy Valley, Goose Bay. Prayers and well wishes for the families and friends. My colleague, Mr. Wally Andersen and I attended the Pride events in Happy Valley, Goose Bay in July. This is the first time the Nunatsiavut flag was carried proudly during the march by elected officials from Upper Lake Melville. We were happy to be part of this important event. Congrats to Safe Alliance and the volunteers for a successful week of events. Mr. Speaker, I was honoured to attend Ms. Muriel Andersen's 105th birthday party on Saturday September 3rd at the Kinsman Centre in Happy Valley. Her family celebrated her with music, potluck and speeches. I had the honour of reading the media release from President Lampe on behalf of Nunatsiavut Government and presenting her with a milestone certificate. A great time was had by all. Thanks, for the invite. I had a great, great time. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank all out-going elected officials who will not be seeking re-election in the September election. Your commitment to serve beneficiaries of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement* is much appreciated. Best wishes in whatever you choose to do. Thanks, AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Ms. Charlotte Wolfrey for asking the questions and representing Rigolet proudly. I wish you a happy retirement. Ms. Maxene Winters, it was great working with you. We had a great working

relationship and I will miss you in the Assembly. Congrats to the AngajukKâk on re-election by acclamation, Mr. Barry Andersen for Makkovik, Mr. Glenn Sheppard of Postville, and Mr. Joe Dicker of Nain. Also, Patricia Kemuksigak, NunaKatiget Chairperson, all the best on your re-election, Ms. Marjorie Flowers. *Nakummek*.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Ordinary Member Asivak. Next hand that I saw was the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Mr. Barry Andersen, when you're ready, sir.

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:**

Okay, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I didn't have a prepared statement for today, but I rise this morning to pass on my condolences to the family of the late Clemens Jararuse of Makkovik. He was the last-born person out of Hebron back in the resettlement days. Clemens was a fisherman, hunter, traveller. He died suddenly, in Makkovik about two weeks ago, so I'd like to pass on my condolences to the whole family, to the extended family up and down the coast and to the community of Makkovik as a whole. I also would like to wish all the students attending school tomorrow, the best of luck for the upcoming winter semester for our local school students. I also would like to put out a big thank you to our recreation department within our town of Makkovik, ICG and the Inuit Community Government and the Students on Ice program who was able to secure funding for a floor for the arena, so that our arena can now be operated full-time, summer and winter for sports such as volleyball, badminton, soccer and whatever else you'd want to get into the arena now. So that came about with the-, I didn't realize that the Students on Ice had such a program. But through April Rideout of Makkovik who has a

job working with the Students on Ice, I didn't realize that at the time. But when she brought it forward, we put the proposal in, and with the support of the *Tasiujatsoak Trust*, as well, we managed to get the funds to secure that floor for our arena. Also, the Trout Festival in Makkovik last month, in August, it was announced-, we had to keep it under wraps for a while, but the Hockey Legends, NHL Hockey Legends are coming to Makkovik in March. So if you want to come to Makkovik and watch some old-timer hockey play against me, come on down. I'm a good goalie, sideways or straight forward. So, yeah, but also, as I'm standing here, I'd like to congratulate AngajukKâk Sheppard, AngajukKâk Dicker, Chairperson Kemuksigak for their offering herself to public office again and best of luck to those still in the election race. And also to the family of Aunt Mu in Goose Bay, just pure luck that I was in Goose Bay at the time, as the Ordinary Member for Goose Bay mentioned, that I was able to celebrate Aunt Mu's supper with her a few days ago. So Happy birthday to Muriel on her 105th birthday's a milestone for anyone and especially someone who is such a strong person-, remembered me and my spouse-, was able to remember us and talk to us as she did before she left, pretty much. So thank you, very much Mr. Speaker. I'll hopefully have a prepared statement the next time around.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Andersen. The next hand that I saw was the Chairperson for the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation, Maxene Winters. Chairperson, when you're ready.

**MS. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would like to thank all the beneficiaries living in North West River and Sheshatshiu for the past four years for all your support. It has not been easy the past two years and your support over the past four years has meant a lot to me, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart. I will miss the seniors each month coming to the Community Freezer, social craft afternoons, and any program that Sivunivut or the DHSD crowd hosted. It was a pleasure representing you. I would also like to thank the staff at the Assembly building, the elected officials over the past four years, the new, and the ones that are not here today, and everyone I worked with. It was a learning adventure and I enjoyed working alongside everyone. I would like to pass along condolences to the late Wilbert Montague who passed away at the age of 91. He was a respected elder in our little community. He was the one who everyone in town called for the latest news on the weather, to share their hunting accomplishments and stories of days gone by. On a happier note, I would like to wish Uncle Morris Blake a happy 91st birthday. We wish you have many more. In closing, I would like to wish the best of luck to the two candidates running in the upcoming election for Sivunivut. I am sure either of you will excel in this position. I would also like to congratulate AngajukKâk Dicker, Sheppard and Andersen as well as Chairperson Kemuksigak on your re-election and best of luck to Marjorie and to the two gentlemen running in Rigolet. *Nakummek*.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Chairperson Winters. The next person that I saw that wants to speak is Ordinary Member Wally Andersen of the Upper Lake Melville. When you're ready, sir.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I've never written a speech in my life. And maybe today is the time I should have. Today, Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to a lady who turned 105 on September the 2nd. She's the mother of me and my brother Tony who was just in the House of Assembly, as well as our two sisters, Annie and Iris, who are still living and the mother of my brother Eric who passed away some years ago, and my sister Ruth. Mr. Speaker, when the people were relocated from Okak and Hebron, my mom was probably the only person in Makkovik at that time who could speak the Eskimo language because it was called Eskimo at that time. Every Sunday, there was a Eskimo service at ten o'clock, an English service at 11 and a combined service at four. And my mom always cooked Sunday dinner. And I can remember the Inuit people coming in prior to church at ten o'clock, and just after, with papers, wanting her to tell them what the letter was about. And she did that from the bottom of her heart. As a matter of fact, the Member for the Upper Lake Melville Area, the Minister of Health, I can remember his mom moved to Makkovik. Mr. Speaker, she cared about people very dearly, and she cared about her family. Being widowed at an early age with three boys to feed Mr. Speaker, never once, did we ever go to bed hungry. But when I tell that story about it, people say to me, Wally, looking at the size of you, and looking at the size of Tony, are you sure you never stole his food when your mom wasn't watching?

But seriously, Mr. Speaker, she talked about the land Adlavik, and many times she said, "I wish I could only go back." And during the celebration, my brother Tony wasn't there, but I know the reason why, because he was in Adlavik, and I'm sure he looked over the land and thought, what a honour it is to do this when mom is still here. Mr. Speaker, she never served on any committees, but yet she passed on advice to all of her children and her grandchildren and great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren. One thing she taught me in early life was, and I mentioned this before, if someone criticizes you in your job, before you get all flustered and upset with them and start yelling back, sit back, think about what they're saying about you because after all, what they're saying about you could be true. Mr. Speaker, I look around this Assembly today and I see other Members here who have lost their parents, some great, great people, and a pleasure to have known them. So we had a supper for Mom on Saturday, and it was a wonderful day. But Mr. Speaker, our lives have been blessed in more ways than one to have this lady for 105 years that we love and for me and my brother, we call, Mom. Mr. Speaker, so many people up and down the coast of Labrador called me personally, to pass along greetings to her and ask how she was doing. Her memory, boy, is still pretty good. And I guess I'll close off by saying on behalf of my brother Tony and her grandson Tommy, Grandma, Mom, happy birthday and boy, do we ever love you.

[Applause]



**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Ordinary Member Andersen. Do we have any other Members statements? I see two. Okay-, three. The first hand that I saw was Ordinary Member Roxanne Barbour of Nain, when you're ready.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

*Nakumesuak Uhalitik*. I didn't make a speech, but I wanted-, I just was writing down some notes. So first of all, I would like to congratulate Julie Dicker. She's Nainimiuk Inuk and she's our principal for the Jens Haven Memorial School in Nain. And I believe she's the first Inuit principal in our community. I would like to wish the best of luck to all students from all grades and schools going back to school with a new semester, especially, for the ones going away from home for the first time-, going out on their own and exploring the world. Hopefully, one day they can come back with their education and commit to, you know, Nunatsiavut. I would like to send out my condolences to the Winters and Tuglavina families in Nain. And I would also like to recognize Muriel Andersen who turned 105. That's very special and you don't get to see that every day. And just thinking about, you know, the things she's went through in the world, in the nation, it's very special. On July 28th I held my first ever constituency meeting. There were lots of great topics discussed. There was a small turnout but hopefully with consistency, we can see increased participation. I would also like to recognize and celebrate Nainimiuk Vanessa Webb. She's-, her business is a Amaamak Lactation that focuses on prenatal, postnatal care and labour and delivery, and as well, she's a certified lactation consultant. She was also recently showcased-, I might be wrong in this but I think it was in Vancouver-, again, I might be wrong, but I just wanted to highlight

her because it's an Inuit focus on maternal care. And hopefully, we might be able to see traditional birthing and caring for pregnant women come back to our Nunatsiavut communities in the near future because that's what her goal is. *Nakummek*.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Ordinary Member Barbour. The next hand that I saw was the AngajukKâk for Postville, Mr. Glenn Sheppard. When you're ready, sir.

**MR. SHEPPARD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's so great to sit back, Mr. Speaker and listen to the different Members statements, Minister statements. Mr. Speaker, I'm going to start off with something I guess, not so much of sincerity, but something, you know, that you experience sometimes that you don't expect. And I shared it this morning with one of my colleagues there, Marjorie. We had a discussion and it's relating to the time of the year, Mr. Speaker when everybody is so excited about, you know, coming off of summer-, now, not everybody-, some people, for those who don't like the heat is excited. But everybody looks forward to the hunting season. And I'm no stranger to that. So to start the weekend off, I go off to the cabin, and then Saturday morning she starts with not so great luck, good luck. I had two black ducks shot and I went to clean them and the first incident I had was I cut my finger. It took us about a half hour. There's no bandage now but it took us about a half hour to get the blood stopped. Anyway, that stopped. We got on our way, Mr. Speaker and we go to shore and I'm a safety person. I make sure that that boat is secure before I walk away. So I goes and I gets this boat and I put up against the other one where the boat was tied on and I banged my finger-, my thumb. I'm a cripple. Then

we ran into some-, make a long story short, we ran into some pretty stiff wind Saturday afternoon, headwind and not realizing, I guess, when the boat takes some big bangs, they flex a bit, even the fibreglass one, they do flex. I had my hand on the windshield with the windshield open, and bang, the windshield come apart and it goes back together and clipped my hand. The woman looks at me and she said, "Glenn, I think it's time to go home and look for some more hands. We ran out." Anyway, Mr. Speaker, that was a little bit of an experience to the time of the year. What's more serious, Mr. Speaker, Glenn Sheppard was put in office at the beginning of his four-year term by the people of Postville. Glenn Sheppard just took a stand and he took his Oath of Office, that the powers entrusted to me, is for the benefit of all Labrador Inuit, not just those around the table-, not just those in my community-, for all Labrador Inuit. When I get aboard my boat to go out to the bay, I look back at my community and sometimes with a heavy burden. Why do I have that? I'm in an elected position. I'm responsible for this community. I am a role model, supposed to be. Glenn Sheppard can afford to go to the gas station and pay \$56 for 23 litres of gas. I got family. I got friends in that community that cannot do that. The health and well-being of our people, Mr. Speaker, in 2022, 2023 and beyond, lays on the shoulders of the decision makers with the Nunatsiavut Government. I'm not saying that the Nunatsiavut Government should come out and hand out paycheques. I'm not saying that. But I think it's high time that the Nunatsiavut Government take a stand, plan some action and get together with the PUB who make the regulations on the gas fuel

prices-, and sit down. This is the first summer, Mr. Speaker, and I'm sure everybody can agree with me around the table. Our prices are frozen, were frozen at 2.54 point whatever, a litre. Again, \$56 for 23 litres of gas. The ordinary family can't afford to go out and do berry picking. They can't afford to go out and get that goose which I can. And I certainly, will share my bonuses when I go out hunting. But I-, my message this morning and my Members Statement this morning-, this afternoon, now, is related to, I think, as a responsible Government and as an Assembly Member, we have an obligation to take care of our people and do it from the sincerity of our hearts. We have to take our jobs seriously. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Thank you, AngajukKâk Sheppard. The next person I saw raise their hand was the Ordinary Member for Rigolet, Ordinary Member Melva Williams, when you're ready.

**MS. WILLIAMS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just wanna make a brief statement, 'cause I know we're moving along throughout the day. I wanted to pass along condolences to the family of the late John Michelin. Anybody who came to Rigolet and saw Johnny, knew that he was the most friendly, welcoming man, and he's surely missed in our community. And our condolences and well-wishes to his wife, Greta. I'd like to also take an opportunity to thank the Rigolet Recreational Committee and Emily Wolfrey, for our well-done Salmon Festival. We had our first in-community festival this year and it went over quite well. So great work to our ICG and the Recreational Department. I too, also wanna add my well wishes to the students that are going for school this year for all grades, as well as those who are going

to university and college from our community. And some of those will be doing online learning as well. So good luck to everybody. Thank you, Mr. Speaker

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Ordinary Member Williams. Do we have any other Members statements around the table? I see AngajukKâk Marjorie Flowers of Hopedale, when you're ready.

**MS. FLOWERS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't have a prepared statement, but I too just want to congratulate the AngajukKâks who were acclaimed, AngajukKâk Andersen, Sheppard and Dicker and to say good-bye again, I think maybe for the third time to AngajukKâk Charlotte Wolfrey. I wish you much success in your endeavours. For sure you will be doing something. I wish all the best to my other candidate who is running, Mr. Jim Tuttuak . I've worked very hard in my term and I'll hopefully be back at this table in the next couple of weeks. But I just want to say that it's been very busy at our office. We were very, very short-staffed and worked very hard. I'm very proud to say that we've done a lot of work as a small team and we've done interviews and we now have a manager for the Nanuk Centre and Assistant Director for Recreation. So I'm very pleased that Georgia Abel will be joining our team and Nathaniel Winters. And the CYN position will be filled shortly as well. And we have done interviews for Town Clerk. So hopefully we'll have a full compliment of staff in the next month, for sure. And I want to extend my condolences to Clemence Jararuse's family from Makkovik. I went to school with Clemence and he's always a kind, gentle, humble fellow, very quiet but very funny. And I'm sure his loss is felt deeply in

Makkovik. And a big happy birthday to Aunt Mu. Aunt Mu is a wonderful woman who I always looked up to all my life. And I wish her much health and happiness. It looked like she had a wonderful celebration and it's so good to see many people wishing her congratulations on her special day. And that's it for me and I hope that I'll be back here again in a couple of weeks with a full report. Thank you-, and to wish all our school children and students who are gone away, a very good year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Flowers. The next hand that I just saw was Charlotte Wolfrey. When you're ready.

**MS. WOLFREY:**

*Nakummek*. If everyone thought I was gonna leave without speaking-, anyway, I'm not gonna say good-bye again because twice already, I did. But I'd like to congratulate the Members that got in by acclamation, like everyone else. I really too would like to offer condolences to Johnny Michelin's family in Rigolet. Always a smiling face and certainly is missed already in the community. He was just so friendly, and you miss seeing the-, always riding in car, him and his wife and stuff. So, yeah, it was a sad day when we lost Johnny. So I'd like to offer my condolences to his family. Rigolet Inuit Community Government has lost a couple of our workers. They're gone to work for Nunatsiavut Government. Although it's hard to lose people who did a lot for our community, I wanna wish them well in their new positions and wish them every success. And I'd like to-, whoever the new AngajukKâk is for Rigolet, I'd like to wish them all the best in their tenure. And to the students and staff that are starting school, I wish you

every success. Yeah, thank you and I'll see everyone around somewhere, for sure.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Wolfrey. And I apologize for not mentioning that you represent Rigolet. The next hand that I saw was Ordinary Member for Nain, Tony Andersen. Did you want to say something? No? I thought I saw your hand. Are there any more Members Statements around the table? Seeing none, I'm going to suggest a 15-minute recess for people to visit the facilities or have a tobacco break, whichever they require. So we'll be back again in 15. So what, 23 minutes to the hour? Okay. *Nakummek*.

[Recess]

**MR. WINTERS:**

Good afternoon. Thank you, everyone for returning. I apologize for getting the length of break wrong. That won't happen again. Right now we're going to be moving on to Item Seven which is the "Return to Oral Questions." There are no returns to oral questions today, so we will continue to Item Eight. Item Eight is, "Oral Questions." Are there any oral questions? Just as a reminder, each Member is allowed two questions a day and a Member is allowed the initial question and two supplementary questions. But the supplemental questions must be on the same topic as the initial. Okay, I see AngajukKâk Joe Dicker. Do we see any other? I see Wally Andersen. Okay, go ahead when you're ready, AngajukKâk Dicker.

**MR. DICKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Education and Economic Development, HR and Economic Development. As you know, the Service Canada people have been talking about putting an office in

Nain up to 20 hours. My question for you, I guess, is can the Minister have a detailed report on this at the fall meeting later this month? I know you can't answer it today.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Dicker. If you'd like to respond? Go ahead.

**MR. A. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, yes, I thank the Member for the question and a detailed report, I shall have at the next sitting, very detailed. And I even hope, Mr. Speaker, that that position that has been promised to us by Service Canada to put a full-time employee in Nain, hopefully, that, that will be done before we get back, so that my report wouldn't have to be long. I'd just have to jump up and say, they're already there. But certainly, to answer my colleague, the AngajukKâk for Nain, I will bring back a detailed report on what's happening with that Service Canada position at the next sitting.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Minister Andersen. And AngajukKâk Dicker, do you have a follow up? I see you shaking your head, no. The next question that we have is for the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, Wally Andersen. When you're ready, sir.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Ordinary Member for Nain and the Minister of Education. In his Ministerial statement, he talked about school supplies for the North Coast communities which I fully agree with. However, Minister, there are many people in the Upper Lake Melville area and other parts outside the Claim area. Many of them are single mothers and they're struggling. And at the same time, some of the parents



in a Claim area-, both parents have good jobs. They're getting a good income. And I'm not gonna debate that. But certainly, we have single mothers and single parents in Goose Bay who have to pay as high as a thousand, 1,200, \$1,400 for rent. And they're finding it pretty difficult. So would your department in the future look at some assistance for those who live outside the Land Claims and are struggling?

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* Ordinary Member Andersen. If the Minister would like to respond?

**MR. A. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And Mr. Speaker, as I said in my statement earlier, I said to the Member that, you know, I started my statement by saying there was a small amount of left-over funds that had been received from the Master Card Foundation donation. And it was quite small. And it's not only, you know, when we talk about disadvantaged, certainly, as a Member and as a Minister in every department that I've been, my first thought is always for the most vulnerable. And I hear what the Member says, Mr. Speaker. And to answer-, but you know, when we looked at it and when we considered, Mr. Speaker, we look at things and as I said in my statement, when you have big companies like Walmart-, I don't know, maybe in Upper Lake Melville, the department store-, other shops that give reasonable sale on school supplies at the beginning of the year. I don't think anyone would disagree with me that, that's the case. But in our little, tiny communities, those school supplies are very, very basic and the way I look at, when we talked about this in my department, we noticed that one of our staff members had gone and had-, was able to buy six coil notebooks

for a dollar. And those notebooks in our community-, we don't get sales on things like that at the beginning of the year. But I wanna say this to the Member and, you know, to the Members of Lake Melville and Canada as well, when we do these-, consider things like this and we-, it often seems-, I don't know if it seems unfair but we try to look at the most vulnerable, the hardest to get to, and the cost of living, the cost of-, and how readily supply those kind of things are. And that's just what we considered here. But I'll say this to the Members, I will go back to my department and say like, okay, we've sent these off now to the Nunatsiavut communities. So is there still money left over? And maybe, if there is, then we can consider doing something for Upper Lake Melville and maybe Canada but our commitment right now, and as Minister I will say it, we can do that in the future. But for this fall, our priority was, with the little bit of money we had, was the Nunatsiavut communities. And that-, certainly, in the future I will, as a Member, as for to consider, you know, thinking and trying to include the other constituencies. But we always do. And I recognize that there is hardship in those constituencies as well. That's a long-winded answer. That's thee best that I can give at this time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Minister Andersen. Would Ordinary Member Andersen like to provide a follow-up question.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm glad that the Member said he was long-winded. I hear what the Minister is saying but let me say this. You kept on mentioning Walmart and all these, yet we have these, especially, single

moms who are living day-to-day. They don't have access to Walmart even though they live in Goose Bay and yes, some things are cheaper. So let me ask the Minister this in the supplementary, if there is money to go around, would he, in the future consider that they would look at it as a base, for example, anyone making under 40,000 or 50,000-, if he would take that into consideration? And by doing that, Minister, I think that you would really help those who are the most vulnerable. Again, something for your consideration.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Ordinary Member Andersen. And would Minister Andersen like to reply? Go ahead.

**MR. A. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you, to the Member. It certainly is something that we'll consider. Decisions such as that is not something that I can make, or my department can make. We have to bring it back to, of course, to the Cabinet. But I'd be happy to do that. And as a Minister, I always try to, where possible, to try to include. It only makes sense that we try as much as possible to include. We're not always able to do things because of very limited funds, you know? And sometimes when there is a very limited amount of funds, it's sometimes-, it don't make sense to spread it this wide, because it almost looks like nothing. So that's why that sometimes we do it for the hardest-hit communities or the most vulnerable communities or constituencies that we work this way. But to answer his supplementary question, I certainly will bring it back to the NEC for consideration, what he asked. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Minister Andersen. And does the Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville have a second supplementary question, or no?

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Yes, Mr. Speaker, again, and just to, I guess to get to the truth and the crux of it, that there is widespread, well, hard times is widespread. It's not in just one area and I'll ask-, I might-, you've already made a commitment that you will do your part to ask the Assembly. So again, I would ask that you take it back because, you know, Mr. Speaker, I fully agree with you, Minister, it's widespread. And the need for that single mother in any coastal community is just as great in the Upper Lake Melville area and for those who are living on a fixed income. So again, I would ask that if you-, I trust you and I know that whatever the answer is, that you will do your best. So again, I would ask you, if you could bring this before the Executive Council for future funds that might come available.

**MR. A. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I'm happy that we only have two supplementary or the Member from Upper Lake Melville might go on all day. But I can, again, I assure the Member that I will bring this back to the Executive Council and again, I must say that, you know, I disagree with parts of what he's said that this is almost along the lines of disparities equal across, you know, the cost of living as we know in Nunatsiavut is very high. And as I explained, especially for these kind of things like school supplies and that, it's very different how they-, you are able to purchase these supplies and, you know, I know that there are single mothers in other parts of the world other than Nunatsiavut and I will, again, in my Department

we will give every consideration to try to help whenever we can, wherever we can. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Minister Andersen. Are there any other oral questions? I see AngajukKâk Sheppard of Postville, when you're ready, sir.

**MR. SHEPPARD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Mr. Speaker it's a continuation of a question and answer period on high cost of living, goes on. My question, Mr. Speaker is directed to the Honourable President, and it's sort of related to his statement he made this morning. And I would like to ask the President, based on the high cost of living, in his report this morning, he went on to say that the Food Supplement and Cleaning Supply program will end as of April the 1st, 2023. I would like ask the President, based on the cost of living for beneficiaries and communities up and down the coast, would he consider probably with his cabinet, to meet with the Province or the PUB, I should say, not the Province, and have a discussion related to the high cost of fuel and gas prices within our communities? Mr. Speaker, up to today, I missed something big. I did not hear why a freeze was put on our fuel this summer. I didn't hear the reason why. I must've missed something big. So I'd like to ask the President if that's something he would consider, is to meet with the PUB and come up with some answers for our people. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Sheppard. Mr. President, would you like to respond?

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:**

*Nakummek UKatti.* [speaks in Inuttitut]. Yes, we do know that fuel prices are very high and especially for those of us who are used to traveling by snowmobile or by boat. And most certainly, during the colder, winter months where we depend on furnaces to provide heat and, yes, the fuel prices are very, very high. And we have written to the Public Utilities Board and have pointed out to them that we, in the Nunatsiavut communities are impacted by the freezing of fuel and we will continue to write letters, as we have done before. But it is, at the same time, quite challenging to get a good response or even just to find out from the PUB of what, you know, what it is that can be done for Nunatsiavut communities. Yes, we, as the NEC, we will continue to discuss this issue and certainly write letters or continue to write letters to the Public Utilities Board and hopefully if we continue to push the PUB, that hopefully, some day we will get an answer that will be favourable to the Nunatsiavut communities. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek,* Mr. President. Would the AngajukKâk from Postville like to provide a supplemental question at this time?

**MR. SHEPPARD:**

Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. So I would like to further ask the President, Mr. Speaker, is it fair to say that your Government, as we sit today, do not know why the PUB has a freeze on us? Is it fair to say that? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek,* AngajukKâk Sheppard. Mr. President, when you're ready?

**PRESIDENT LAMPE:** *Nakummek, UKatti.* Thank you, AngajukKâk for Postville for your supplementary question. No, I do not, at this point in time, know what the reasoning is behind, the PUB's in freezing the fuel for Nunatsiavut. And will certainly, we can write that letter to the PUB and certainly, ask for an answer. And certainly this issue will be directed to the NEC. *Nakummek, UKatti.*

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek,* President Lampe. AngajukKâk Sheppard, do you have a second supplementary question?

**MR. SHEPPARD:** No, I don't. Than you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Are there further questions at this time? AngajukKâk Flowers of Hopedale, when you're ready.

**MS. FLOWERS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, my question is for the First Minister, Honourable Melva Williams. Will anyone from the Housing Department or with the NEC, help with the legal fees for those residents whose houses were passed over through Torngat Housing and don't have land titles to their land? Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek,* AngajukKâk Flowers. First Minister Williams, would you like to respond?

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and thank you to the Member for the question. I know that we've had some conversation, but I don't have a final answer to give you today. I can take that question back and get you an answer.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek,* First Minister Williams. Does AngajukKâk Flowers have a supplementary question?

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

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Are there any other oral questions around the table? I recognize Wally Andersen, Ordinary Member for the Upper Lake Melville, when you're ready, sir. I would ask Ordinary Member Andersen to please repeat his question closer to the microphone because the interpreter could not hear what you were saying.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:** Okay, Mr. Speaker, my question was to the First Minister, that where the Provincial Government has announced money for feasibility study for a road to the North Coast, has the First Minister had any conversation with the Province, as to where the money and the feasibility study might be?

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek,* Ordinary Member Andersen. First Minister Williams, would you like to respond?

**MS. WILLIAMS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the Member for the question. From my understanding, nothing that's currently been identified by the Province for pre-feasibility study. But further to your question, I'm currently waiting for a response from Minister Loveless to have a discussion to discuss-, have a meeting to discuss the issue. And depending on the result or lack of the meeting if we can't get that arranged, I'll be making recommendations to the Nunatsiavut Executive Council on how to proceed on this issue as well as any other transportation issues. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek,* First Minister Williams. Does the Ordinary Member from the Upper Lake Melville have a supplementary question?



**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Minister, and I'm very familiar, as well, with what transpired and what took place to get the Trans-Labrador Highway completed to the South Coast. Minister, it's one thing to do the feasibility study, and then there comes months and months and months of negotiations between-, it would be between the Province, the Feds and our own Government, as to whether the road goes ahead or not. The feasibility study has to be done first. And until that's done, really, there's no serious talks can take place. So they've announced it twice in the Budget and it's getting pretty close to Budget time again, so Minister, I would encourage you, because it seems like more and more young people from the coast, when you talk-, when you go through the airports, which I do, and there's people going back and forth from the North Coast on a daily basis, that a lot of these people-, I'm sure you've heard too, that everyone's saying the time has come to open up the North Coast so our people can have more benefit. So I would encourage you again, to do whatever you can to get the ball rolling with the Provincial Government, and I guess, the only way I can say it is to try to get them off their backsides.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Ordinary Member Andersen. Just as a point of order, this is question period, specifically, so if you are going to put your hand up, you are required to ask a question. So thank you, for that statement. Does First Minister Williams have a response, or?

**MS. WILLIAMS:**

Thank you to the Member. I'd like to reassure the Member and everyone else present, that a road to Nunatsiavut is priority for me and my department. This is an important issue, and one that cannot wait for other

Governments to take years to continue. I will update the Assembly on what the next steps we did to expedite the process to complete the pre-feasibility study in order to initiate the feasibility study.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, First Minister Williams. The next question that I saw was a hand raised by AngajukKâk Sheppard. When you're ready, sir.

**MR. SHEPPARD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Honourable Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. And my question, Mr. Speaker is for the record. I would like to ask the Minister today if his department has plans or is planning to get caribou from Nunavut, specifically, I guess, Rankin Inlet again for their 2023 winter season? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Sheppard. Does the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources have a response at this time?

**MR. VINCENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for your question, Member. We do have plans, but they're still talks and something should be coming up, I think within, say, the next month or so, that we should know for sure. My Deputy, Mr. Jim Goudie would have more on this than I would, if you would like to say something, Jim.

**MR. WINTERS:**

The question was for the Minister and not the Deputy Minister. If you don't have a response, that's fine. We can say that and provide a written response later?

**MR. VINCENT:**

Okay, thank you. Hopefully we'll have more information for you in the next session.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, Minister. Does the AngajukKâk for Postville have a follow-up question?

**MR. SHEPPARD:** No, I don't, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Sheppard. Are there any further oral questions at this time? Seeing none, we will be moving on to "Written Questions." Are there any written questions today? Seeing none, we will move on to Item 10. Item 10 is the, "Return to Written Questions." And there are no returns to written questions today. So we will move on to Item 11. Item 11 is, "Petitions." And there are no petitions today, so we will move on to Item 12. Item 12 is "Responses to Petitions." And there are no responses today. We will move on to Item 13. Item 13 is, "Reports of Standing in Special Committees." And there are no reports of standing in special committees today. So we will move on to Item 14. Item 14 is the, "Tabling of Documents." And there are no documents to be tabled today. We will move on to Item 15. I would like to recognize the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Terry Vincent. When you're ready, sir.

**MR. VINCENT:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Wednesday, September 7, 2022, I will move, seconded by the First Minister, the Honourable Melva Williams, that the following motion be considered in the Committee of the Whole with witnesses, Mr. Jim Goudie, Deputy Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Mr. Darryl Shiwak, Deputy Minister of Nunatsiavut Affairs, and Mr. Colin Gilbride, Director of Infrastructure and Planning. Whereas the Nunatsiavut Government has identified that the existing airstrip in the Inuit community of Nain is in critical need of replacement

due to deteriorating conditions, location, and negative climatic effects. And whereas the Nunatsiavut Government has commenced a feasibility study to investigate a proposed site for a new airport for the Inuit community of Nain, and whereas the proposed site of the new airport an access road is located on Labrador Inuit Lands, and whereas, as part of the feasibility study, a series of boreholes and test pits must be utilized to complete the necessary geotechnical assessment of the proposed project area and as such, an initiative uses water. And whereas, a number of the required boreholes and test pits are located within 50 metres of bodies of water. And whereas Section 3.5.1(b) of the *Nunatsiavut Environmental Protection Act* requires that the Nunatsiavut Assembly must approve initiatives that use water on land or in wetlands located within 50 metres of water. Now, therefore, I move, seconded by the First Minister, Honourable Melva Williams, that the Nunatsiavut Assembly approve all test sites, bore holes and test pits required for the feasibility study for the proposed Nain Airport, which are located within a distance of 50 metres of water, with the condition that a) the consultant or contractor responsible for those test sites must obtain a permit-, sorry, to alter a body of water from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador for any test sites located 50 metres or less, from water, b) the consultant or contractor responsible for the test site must obtain all other authorizations required to undertake such work from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador for the Government of Canada. And Mr. Speaker, I am seeking

unanimous consent of the Assembly to waive Standing Order 37.1 to deal with this motion today. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Minister. The Member is seeking unanimous consent to proceed with his motion today. All those in favour? Are there any "Nays?" Seeing none, Honourable Minister, you have consent to bring your motion today at the appropriate time. There are no notices of motions today beyond this so we will move on to Item 16. There are no, "Notices of Motions for the First Reading of Bills." So we will now move on to Item 17. Item 17 is, "Motions." And I would like to recognize again, the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Terry Vincent. When you're ready, sir.

**MR. VINCENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the First Minister, Honourable Melva Williams, that the Assembly proceed into the Committee of the Whole, with witnesses, Mr. Jim Goudie, Deputy Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Mr. Darryl Shiwak, Deputy Minister of Nunatsiavut Affairs, to consider the following motion: Whereas, the Nunatsiavut Government has identified that the existing airstrip in the Inuit community of Nain, is in critical need of replacement due to deteriorating conditions, location and negative climatic effects, and whereas the Nunatsiavut Government has commenced a feasibility study to investigate the proposed site for a new airport for the Inuit community of Nain and whereas the proposed site for the new airport and access road is located on Labrador Inuit lands, and whereas, as part of the feasibility study, a series of boreholes and test pits must be utilized to complete a

necessary geotechnical assessment of the proposed project area in depth. Such an initiative uses water. And whereas a number of the required boreholes and test pits are located within 50 metres of bodies of water and whereas Section 2.5.1(b) of the *Nunatsiavut Environmental Protection Act* requires that the Nunatsiavut Assembly must approve initiatives that use water on Labrador Inuit Lands located within 50 metres of water. Now, therefore, I move, seconded by the First Minister, the Honourable Melva Williams, that the Nunatsiavut Assembly approve all test sites, boreholes and test pits required for the feasibility study for the proposed Nain Airport which are located within a distance of 50 metres of water within the condition that, a) the consultant or contractor responsible for those test sites must obtain a permit to alter a body of water in the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador for any test sites located 50 metres or less from water, b) the consultant or contractor responsible for the test sites must obtain all other authorizations required to undertake such work from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador or the Government of Canada.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Minister. The motion is in order. At this time, the motion is to move into the Committee of the Whole. Minister Vincent would you like to speak to the motion?

**MR. VINCENT:**

No, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

Does anyone else wish to speak to the motion? Seeing no one, does the Member wish to make final comments and close debate?

**MR. VINCENT:** I wish to close debate, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:** That concludes the debate. All those in favour of the motion? Okay. And I see no one against. The proposed motion will be now considered in the Committee of the Whole with the witnesses. We are now in the Committee of the Whole and I invite Mr. Goudie, Mr. Shiwak, and Mr. Gilbride to the chamber. We are now in the Committee of the Whole. Sorry, my apologies. Mr. Minister, would you like to make remarks on the proposed motion?

**MR. VINCENT:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Morning, Mr. Speaker, President Lampe and all the Assembly-, oh, good afternoon now, sorry. As you are aware, our Government is undertaking feasibility studies for the next two years to determine a suitable location to construct a New Nain Airport. The current airstrip has to be replaced as soon as possible, for safety, economic and climate reasons. There will be 12 feasibility studies to be completed to determine if the location identified is a good location for the Nain Airport. Currently, three of the 12 feasibility studies are under way. It is critical to a timeline in developing a new airport, that each feasibility study stay on schedule within the two-year timeframe to allow for a potentially lengthy environmental assessment and to meet a crucial 2026 timeline to begin construction. The current feasibility study requires a geotechnical investigation of the proposed runway, airport facility locations and access road to the site. Sixty-three boreholes and 27 test pits are required as part of this testing. The drilling for this testing must be completed before September 19th, 2022. The consultants contracted to complete the study

are Aivek Stantec and Sikumiut Environmental Management Limited. The *Nunatsiavut Environmental Protection Act* has provisions for protection of water near initiatives, specifically, 3.5.1(b) states that, "An initiative-, drilling, in this case-, may not be located within 50 metres of water without prior approval at the Nunatsiavut Assembly. Eight of the proposed testing sites are within 50 metres of water and therefore need the approval of the Nunatsiavut Assembly before activity can commence. These sites are critical, and the possibility of relocation is not an option. This is because geotechnical information is needed close to the water bodies to evaluate structural capabilities for future bridges and evaluation of permafrost in the area. Any delay in this R4 Feasibility Study will cost the Nunatsiavut Government approximately \$35,000 per day of stand-by costs for the drilling team. If the approval is not given to complete these boreholes in the timeframe identified for this fall, the overall project will be in jeopardy to begin construction in 2026. As well, the cost to complete the studies will increase dramatically. In fact, if the approval for these test sites is not granted, the planning and timeframe for the entire project will be in jeopardy. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Minister Vincent. Are there questions of the witnesses? You may all offer up questions at this time. I see both AngajukKâk Wolfrey and AngajukKâk Sheppard, first of all. When you're ready, AngajukKâk Wolfrey.

**MS. WOLFREY:**

Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm trying to understand this motion, first off. Maybe I should've stopped but it sounded to me as if we, in the motion, it sounded to me as if we were approving all the test pits without the debate,



and without the debate in the Committee of the Whole. That's what the motion sounded like to me. But I know we're going in the Committee of the Whole now, so I need you to help me. Was that-, like without seeing the motion, what I heard was almost that we were approving all those test pits before the Committee of the Whole. Just help me out here.

**MR. WINTERS:**

AngajukKâk Wolfrey, it was just a motion to go into the Committee of the Whole, as opposed to a motion to approve all of those pit sites and bore sites.

**MS. WOLFREY:**

But what I heard was approval of the pit sites in that motion. I-, that's what I heard. I want my-, I wanna be clear that we didn't already approve this. That's what I heard in that motion without this discussion.

**MR. WINTERS:**

And I fully understand and appreciate your concern. The issue was that the motion needed to be explained in its entirety in order to approve moving to the Committee of the Whole to discuss it. So it's not that we approve the motion, including everything that was described. It was that we approve to move into the Committee of the Whole for this discussion. Sorry for the confusion there. I know it's layered.

**MS. WOLFREY:**

Okay. I still, I wish we could see these motions beforehand so that we know what we're dealing with, because only what I heard, I mean, I know that we had these papers and stuff like that, but only what I heard just now, and I, you know, I don't understand it fully. But I'm okay, as long as we didn't already approve what we don't know what we approved.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Wolfrey. And I fully understand your concern. AngajukKâk Sheppard, I saw your hand up.

**MR. SHEPPARD:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. I did hear the Honourable Minister there, Mr. Chair read, I guess, notes related to this motion, and with a very important initiative of a new airport-, airstrip location for Nain. I guess my question, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Chair, would be, I guess, was this something that happened at the spur of the moment, that it became time-sensitive? The reason why I ask this question is technically, less than two weeks time, we will be sitting here in Hopedale again. But I-, we all understand that there was a special extra-ordinary sitting. So was there something there that, you know, at the spur of the moment, came out of nowhere, practically, that triggered an extra-ordinary sitting, related to this motion? Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** So for clarification, AngajukKâk Sheppard, was that question for me? Because I think it was explained in the email that was circulated, why we had to do this. But if it's a question of how we got to the point of suddenly needing to have the meeting, then I would direct that to the witnesses to further explain.

**MR. SHEPPARD:** Yes, thank you. Yes, I guess the question would be directed to the Minister responsible for the department as to-, for an explanation. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Sheppard. Would Minister Vincent like to respond?

**MR. VINCENT:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to pass this to Darryl, please.

**MR. WINTERS:**

The Committee of the Whole recognizes Darryl Shiwak, when you're ready, sir.

**MR. SHIWAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chair. It's-, so basically, back up a bit. This project started in December of 2021. So there's, as the paper says, there's 12 feasibility studies to happen. This is the fourth one that is currently happening. The RFP, the original RFP, that went out for R4 which is the fourth one, went out and had to be pulled back because the response was not adequate for what we needed done for this study. That delayed us getting the RFP the second time. What that did, then, was delayed getting the contractor hired to do the study. And by the time the contractor identified the borehole sites that could be brought to the Assembly, or identified the borehole sites for this project, then identified the borehole sites within 50 metres, all the Assembly business had passed. But what had happened then, was the contract for this part of the study is up on September 17th, which is before the next sitting of the Assembly. If we don't have the study done by September 17th, what we're looking at is uncertainty for getting those extra sites done. Say if waited till the 21st for the next sitting. And that's a great question. What it would do is, it would cause a escalation of prices for the study, meaning approximately \$35,000 a day, stand-by costs, which is in the contract for this Stantec. And then that-, we don't know how long that will take to get that work underway. It could be five days. It could be 10 days, depending on the availability of the helicopters and the different equipment. So that would show a huge cost for us trying to get these studies done. That's why we needed to come here today. The

other thing that could happen is if we don't get the studies done this year, the rest of the studies that were identified in the sheet, could be put in jeopardy or delayed if we didn't push it with the timeline. It could cost-, the cost for demobilization next year, and this year could be even greater. So basically, to answer your question is that, it's basically, timing and as we had to pull the RFP back. We had to release the RFP again to get the right contractor in place, then identify the borehole sites, and then within those borehole sites, the ones that had to go-, come to before you, the Assembly which is under legislation to approve, all that had to be identified. That wasn't identified until early July. So that's why we're here today, because it's a timely thing we need. We wanna get these feasibility studies done so we're not delayed-, we're not pushed till next year. We don't run into those huge standby costs for this contract. Collin, did you wanna add anything to that? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Mr. Shiwak. Would AngajukKâk Sheppard like to provide a follow-up question?

**MR. SHEPPARD:**

No, thank you, Mr. Chair and thank you, Darryl for the clarification there. I'm fine, now.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, AngajukKâk. Are there further questions around the table? Yes, Mr. Wally Andersen, Ordinary Member of Upper Lake Melville, when you're ready.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker and again, too, I gotta say I just wanna remind everybody that when we sit around the table that it's unparliamentary,

whether we're in the Assembly or in a Committee, to call people by their given names-, that we are supposed to refer to them as their title. Mr. Chair-, or I can tell you that certainly, I'm gonna be voting 100 percent in favour because the airstrip is long overdue and like you say, that this would never happen in any other part of our province where a Medivac aircraft can't travel into a community because it's dark. The only thing that I wanna ask is for public information. The boreholes that you're talking about, is that-, was that a separate contract tendered or If it was, how many bidders did we have, or was this work given to a company who was already doing some work with this project?

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, for your question, Ordinary Member Andersen. When you're ready, Mr. Shiwak.

**MR. SHIWAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you for the question Minister Andersen. This is part of the contract that went out, the RFP that went out for the R4 contract. It's all one contract. It's not a separate contract. They have the responsibility to do all the test pits, the boreholes-, all the boreholes. That's including the ones within 50 metres. It's all the same contract.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Mr. Shiwak. And does Ordinary Member Andersen have any follow-up questions?

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

No, Mr. Speaker, and again, the question was just for public knowledge and certainly the answer he gave explains the whole situation. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, Ordinary Member Andersen. Are there any further questions around the table? Yes, I recognize AngajukKâk Julius Dicker of Nain. When you're ready, sir.

**MR. DICKER:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. The contract for the boreholes, does that include some places off top of fields? You know, right before you get to Nain, there's an avalanche area and I believe there's one over Kauk, Is that included in this contract or does that come later on?

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Dicker. Witnesses?

**MR. GOUDIE:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, AngajukKâk Dicker. In a very simple answer, yes, it does include borehole and drill hole sites that are on different sets of topography. So there will be borehole sites that are on higher elevations. There will be borehole sites that are on lower elevations for both the airstrip and for the feasibility of the road to the airstrip. So there will be borehole sites in different elevations all around that area.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, Mr. Goudie. Mr. Shiwak, when you're ready.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. And to answer your other-, part of your question around Kauk and the snow sites, we believe that is running-, ground that is running through an area that is-, there is a potential for some avalanche, some snow sliding there.

**MR. GOUDIE:** So it-, the road right now, the feasibility study, the alignment of the road is going through Blowhole, which is a well-known spot for avalanches. So this is part of the ongoing investigations right now, is evaluating the snow in that area and part of the construction will be evaluating if that slope can

be adjusted or the road can be adjusted to prevent avalanche risks in that area. And this is all part of the feasibility study is to understand if this is a risk, and if it is, then we need to move the alignment of the road that's safer for the public. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek* witnesses. Does AngajukKâk Dicker have a follow-up question?

**MR. DICKER;** No, I don't. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Dicker. Are their further questions of the witnesses? AngajukKâk Flowers of Hopedale, when you're ready.

**MS. FLOWERS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not quite sure who to direct my question to, but it has to do with the environment so that would be Minister Jim Goudie? What safeguards do Nunatsiavut Government have in place to protect when drilling for the environment there, especially the animals and the birds-, even if there's like good berry picking places around? Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Flowers. Witnesses, when you're ready.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, AngajukKâk Flowers. When drilling, all aspects of drilling, there's always some aspect of the environment that's disturbed. That happens in mineral exploration. It'll happen in this case. But those areas are-, I shouldn't say small in comparison, but they're not very large, even though there's quite a number of drill holes. We have reviewed all the work put forward by Stantec and their drilling partner, as a Department. We've reviewed their return water collection and water

management plans. We don't have too many concerns in regards to impacts on wildlife in that area. I can say that Lands and Natural Resources is satisfied with what was presented to us by the proponent that this will be as environmentally friendly as it possibly can be.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Does AngajukKâk Flowers have a follow-up question?

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

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek.* Are there further questions of the witnesses? I see AngajukKâk Andersen of Makkovik, when you're ready, sir.

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And I guess to Mr. Shiwak or Mr. Gilbride or Mr. Goudie, there. Regarding this project, now, is there a Plan B should the airport test pits and drilled boreholes are not-, are found to be not suitable for an airstrip or that location is not suitable for the airport? Would there be any consideration of building a road onto Voisey's Bay for the Nain Airstrip or something to that effect? I'm not sure if that's been in the cards. I'm not a part of the NEC or anything like that. Would-, is there a Plan B if the test pits turned out to find a major permafrost and that kind of thing? Just a question.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek,* AngajukKâk Andersen. Witnesses? I see Darryl Shiwak? When you're ready, Mr. Shiwak.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you Mr. Chair and thank you to AngajukKâk Barry Andersen for the question. Just jump to the last part first, we have not considered-, as far as to my knowledge, have not considered building a road to Voisey's Bay to that airstrip, to work as the airstrip for the community of Nain. I think



there's two stages to this. If some of the boreholes turn out to be-, show less than positive results for building in those areas, then we'd have to adjust those-, if the feasibility studies showed us we have to adjust those, we will. The bigger scale, if the whole thing is determined not to be feasible to build an airstrip, then we'd have to go back to the drawing board because-, I'll reference-, there's two reports, the initial report that NG had completed was to look at the current airstrip and see if there's opportunities in that current airstrip that could be improved to make that runway better for larger aircraft, improved so that you could do it 24 hours a day, seven days a week. And then looking at climate change and risks associated with that. That was the first one. The second study we had done, after we got that one completed, was a pre-feasibility study. So that one looked at actual-, when we determined you can't fix up the first, that current strip, we went to look at, okay, what can we do? So we looked at three sites. And that study looked at three sites very specifically with an aviation company called Octant There's not many companies across Canada that actually do this work. They looked at three sites. They came back with the recommendation that this is the only site that's feasible for an airstrip in Nain to accommodate larger aircraft, to deal with the weather conditions in Nain and line of sight-, a number of different factors, climate change, all those things. This is the only one-, this is the only site they recommended. And that's why we-, that initiates the feasibility phase which is, okay, let's-, if this is the only one they're recommending, let's do the feasibility studies. Let's see if this actually can be built there. So I guess

the short answer is there's-, right now, there's not a Plan B. But we will certainly have to look at something if it turns out that the feasibility studies say the recommendation is you can't build there. The company that's doing this work is pretty confident. But again, that's why we're doing all this-, these studies for environmental work. You gotta be sure if you're gonna build something as big as a Nain Airport, and as big as a 12-kilometer road, and you gotta be sure you're doing it right. So I think that answers your question?

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Mr. Shiwak. AngajukKâk Andersen, do you have a follow-up question?

**MR. B. ANDERSEN:**

No, I just thank the witnesses for their cooperation and answers there. I think that'll settle a lot of people's minds in the future with this record. Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Andersen. I recognize AngajukKâk Dicker of Nain, when you're ready, sir.

**MR. DICKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Chair. These boreholes are in line of where the road is going to be, airstrip and the top of fields. There's gonna be a lot of change. My question is how will that look in the future? Will it be recognizable? Will it have impact on the ability, I guess, of anything in that area, especially where there's wildlife. I know the char goes up-brook and there's people use that. And there's-, but, you know, we're gonna see the boreholes. We're getting permission for them to use the boreholes but the end result, what kinda impact will that have on the land? Excuse me.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Dicker. Witnesses? I recognize Jim Goudie. Go ahead.

**MR. GOUDIE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, AngajukKâk Dicker for your question. In terms of the long-term impact of boreholes or the short-term impact of boreholes in areas where there's higher areas of vegetation, certainly, those areas would have to be cleared. So you would have a clearing of the trees and whatnot around a drill site. Also in areas where, you know, there might be more precipitation or more moisture into the ground such as bog, you know, it would impact that area. But if-, the time for drilling these holes are very-, it's a very short timeline. They're expecting to drill only six-, six metres is the average borehole depth and they plan on doing two of these a day every day. So one borehole will be drilled in a day. They'll move on to the next one. So we'll have two boreholes drilled every day. So in terms of the vegetation and the marsh, eventually, if there's no road built or anything, it will return to its normal state, other than you know, a very capped off well head or little still pipe for those that have been in the mineral exploration field, you'll be-, you know, it's quite common with them. But other than that, from the borehole drilling process, the change to the local, you know, the current local way the environment looks, will be minimal.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Mr. Goudie. Does AngajukKâk Dicker have a follow-up question?

**MR. DICKER:**

The-, you're going to have to cross some areas of water. Is there boreholes on both sides of the water? You know, like (inaudible) 2:37:54. 2:05:33

p.m. And I suppose Anthony is taking care of we're under Canadian standards of course. Environmentally, we're-, we watch what they do on top of what Nunatsiavut guidelines are. I just want to make sure that in those areas, we see as much as possible, the responsibility of the proponent taking place and that we are confident that the-, we did what we had to do for a reason. Okay? I'm going to vote 100 percent for it. I just had these questions on my mind, as an individual and as a community member. (Inaudible) 2:39:21 taken care of. 2:07:01 p.m. Thank you. No more questions.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek, AngajukKâk Dicker.* Are there any further questions of the witnesses? I see Minister Barbour, Honourable Member from Language, Culture and Tourism. Sorry.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

*Nakummek, Uhalitik.* It's not a question, but I would like to, I guess, make a statement. Am I allowed to make a statement?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Yeah.

**MS. BARBOUR:**

Okay, to the Committee of the Whole, so since I was a young girl, like five or six, I remember people in my community, in my family, leaders in my community, talking about needing a new airstrip for our community. And it's really needed, like as stated in the statement, you know, our current airstrip has a life expectancy of was it two or three years-, something like that, anyways. So-, and earlier this year, there was an incident where there was a senior in our community, and our Provincial MHA has advocated on behalf of the Torngat Mountains area that, you know, we need a new

airstrip. And it's finally coming. So I just wanted to remind everybody again, how badly that this is needed and thank you for all of your hard work that, you know, transportation and Lands and Natural Resources are doing. *Nakummek*. It's finally here and I can't believe that I'm saying it, you know, 23 years later. So *Nakummek*.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Minister Barbour. Are there any further questions or comments? Yes, AngajukKâk Wolfrey.

**MS. WOLFREY:**

Thank you. I'm happy too that Nain is gonna finally get a new airstrip. I know I heard all the-, I mean especially about people needing to get Medivac'ed in the middle of the night. But I'm just wondering, I mean, we're here to debate or to talk about drilling within 50 feet of the water, of water sources. And I'm just wondering what's the concern with that? Like is it the oils? Is it the chemicals that's gonna get in the water? Like what is the environmental concern? And what is the plan to-, what does this company have to plan to deal with that? Like if we're here to decide whether or not we want people drilling within 50 feet of water and it certainly sounds like we gotta do that. But why was the concern to be drilling within that 50 feet of water? Do you understand what I'm saying? Like what are the concerns, and how are they gonna deal with it to make sure that we still do it-, it's kinda like what Joe was saying-, in an environmentally friendly and conservation kind of way for any animals, wildlife, fish-, whatever is there? Like what's the plan and what's the concern and what's the plan?

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Wolfrey. I see Mr. Darryl Shiwak will provide you an answer.

**MR. SHIWAK:**

I'll answer the first part and ask Jim to answer the environmental part. The reason why we have to drill so close to these water bodies and these rivers, is if it's feasible, this is gonna require some infrastructure go over those rivers. That's why we need to make sure that there's no permafrost, there's no stabilization issues, there's bedrock so we can actually build that infrastructure over those rivers. As far as the concerns on environment, Jim, you do have stuff within the permit that they have to follow, right to ensure that they-, it's safe?

**MR. WINTERS:**

The Committee of the Whole recognizes Jim Goudie. Go ahead.

**MR. GOUDIE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, AngajukKâk from Rigolet. Yeah, written right into the permits-, and I won't go into them in detail, there are, you know, certain requirements for the contractor when they do their drill process. In regards to, you know, what threats are, what we're worried about-, obviously, you know, any kind of contamination by oil, whether it be hydraulic oil, diesel fuel, et cetera, is always a concern. But when you're getting into those areas that are extremely (inaudible) 2:44:18 such as (inaudible) Brook 2:11:59 p.m., you know, the disturbance of the natural environment is probably our biggest concern that, you know, damaging the actual areas is to a point where it could never go back to its natural state is probably the biggest concerns. But again, from our review of what was put forward to us by Stantec, and the provisions we put in their licensing permit, we have no concerns in-, I shouldn't say we've had no

concerns-, we're always concerned, but it wouldn't-, we would never-, we're at the point where we're satisfied that this process will unfold as best as it possibly can. And we will certainly have our own staff reviewing and monitoring those sites as this process unfolds.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Mr. Goudie. Is there a follow-up question?

**MS. WOLFREY:**

No. Thank you, for your answer. That's what I need clear in my head of why, you know, why. I kind of understood, but I just wanted to make sure that I knew. Okay, thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Wolfrey. Are there any further questions or statements? Yes, I see Ordinary Member for Postville, George Gear. Go ahead, sir.

**MR. GEAR:**

Yes, just listening to all you talking about the Nain airstrip, I'm glad to see it's in the process of getting a new one there because I've been flying into Nain all my life, just about, ever since I was-, ever since before the airstrip was there. And it's one of the hardest airstrips to land on even if you ask the pilots. And it's good to see that doing this to get something there that even we can get a plane to land for Medivacs in the nighttime where every other community got it-, you can land there in the nighttime. And it would be very good to see. And they got my full support here. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Ordinary Member Gear. Are there further questions around the table? Yes, AngajukKâk Flowers.

**MS. FLOWERS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question-, I don't know quite who to address it to, but it has to do with the feasibility study as it stands. I understand, and I'm really happy that Nain is finally getting an airstrip. It's badly needed. But I thought-, this airstrip is gonna be Federally-, monies to build the airstrip would be Provincial and Federal? Why is it that Nunatsiavut Government has to pay for the feasibility study when this, I thought was the responsibility of the Province? Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Flowers. Witnesses? Mr. Darryl Shiwak.

**MR. SHIWAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chair and thank you, for the question, AngajukKâk. So if you-, when you refer to funding, yes, we did apply for funding to do the feasibility studies through the Federal Program and the National Trades Quota Fund. So we did receive 4.35 million to do-, from the Federal Government. And we did get a guarantee of another 4.35 from the Province to do the study which is totalling 6.9 million. So that's all-, this-, we're still working on the *Contribution Agreement* with the Province. The money from the Federal Government has flowed to us. So we do have that funds. When we say NG is doing the studies, we are the owner, so to speak, so we're responsible to get the studies done. That's why issued our fees on MERX. That's why we had to bring it here for approval. We are responsible. We're not actually, paying for it. When we get to a point where we get to standby costs, such as the \$35,000 a day, that's not in the contract. That's not in the funding proposals that we submitted to the Federal and the Provincial Government. That's something that we're gonna have to be responsible for. That's why it's gonna be a huge cost to



us. It's above the 6.5 million. And we continue to work with the consultant, with the project manager often to look at all these risks and understand the cost going forward, and what potential cost we might see in the future. That risk assessment is not complete yet, but that is happening, so that we are prepared as we move forward if there's other costs identified for this project. But yes, they are funded by the Federal and Provincial Governments. It's just we have to take-, but anything above that is gonna be our responsibility.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Darryl Shiwak. Is there a follow-up question?

**MS. FLOWERS:**

No, thank you for the answer.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Flowers. Are there any further questions or discussion points to bring forward? Yes, AngajukKâk Wolfrey.

**MS. WOLFREY:**

One more question, I hope that's all. Who is gonna pay for the airport?

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, AngajukKâk. Witnesses?

**MS. WOLFRY:**

And the road, the 12-mile road or kilometre road, whatever it is?

**MR. WINTERS:**

Mr. Shiwak.

**MR. SHIWAK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, AngajukKâk. We don't have that figured out yet. As I was saying, this is a feasibility study to determine if we can build an airstrip. Once we have that done, then we'll look at the next stage which is looking for-, go through the environmental assessment and look for funding to construct the road. We do know that all the other-, for all the other Inuit regions, including us, support this initiative. The Federal Government is very supportive of the initiative. They haven't said that they

would fund the project, but we are very confident, once we get to the stage, if we say this is feasible, we are very confident we can go out and find the money to build the new airstrip in Nain. But it's not just the airstrip, or the airport, the major airport or the road that we've gotta build. There's a lot more support services that need to happen within the community of Nain, such as transportation for people getting back and forth to the airport, especially in the wintertime. Not a lot of people got trucks. Not everybody got skidoos. So you need to think that, that's another component-, how do we make this more accommodating to the community of Nain? So it's bigger than just building it. It's a whole operation that we gotta get a hold of. But we aren't there yet, but it's a great question.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, Mr. Shiwak. Does AngajukKâk Wolfrey have a follow-up question?

**MS. WOLFREY:**

No, thank you. I won't be around to ask it, so I had to ask it now.

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Wolfrey. Are there any further discussion points or questions of the witnesses? Okay. Seeing none-, yes, AngajukKâk Dicker of Nain?

**MR. DICKER:**

Before we vote on this, you said they had to have this done by September 19th, I believe? Anyone, you can answer this, when will the-, this part of the project be finished and ready for report to the NEC?

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Dicker. Witnesses? Mr. Shiwak.

**MR. SHIWAK:** So just-, thank you, Mr. Chair and thank you, for the question. So to be clear, are you asking for the final report after all the feasibility studies are complete?

**MR. DICKER:** No, just this part, here. When we give the okay, that they can do the drilling within 50 metres, and when they have it done, when can that report be available to NEC and when can you share it with us?

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Dicker. Mr. Shiwak.

**MR. SHIWAK:** So for the R4 study, the one that's currently happening for the boreholes, we anticipate to have that report by the end of November so we can then make recommendations for feasibility studies to come next which is R5 to R12, right? So we will get that report late this fall.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, Mr. Shiwak. Do you have a follow-up question, AngajukKâk Dicker?

**MR. DICKER;** Yes, I do. Will that report be ready for the September sitting of the Assembly so we can vote?

**MR. SHIWAK:** No, that won't be ready until the end of November. So the likeliest time after that would be the January sitting of the Assembly.

**MR. WINTERS:** You don't have any follow-up questions?

**MR. DICKER:** I'm just wondering, if it's gonna be done and the report's gonna be finished in November, when is our December meeting-, sitting? Would it be ready for then or will we have to wait till...

**MR. WINTERS:**

I can answer this, AngajukKâk Dicker. The next sitting after November is in January, not December. Are there any further discussion points or questions of our witnesses? Seeing none, Minister Vincent, I believe you have a motion to make and just for the concerns of our interpreter, please pace your reading.

**MR. VINCENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the First Minister that the Assembly adopt the following motion: Whereas the Nunatsiavut Government has identified that the existing airstrip in the Inuit community of Nain is in critical need of replacement due to deteriorating conditions, location, and negative climatic effects, and whereas the Nunatsiavut Government has commenced a feasibility study to investigate the proposed site for a new airport, in the Inuit Community of Nain, and whereas the proposed site of the new airport access road is located on Labrador Inuit Lands, and whereas, as part of the feasibility study, a series of boreholes and test pits must be utilized to complete the necessary geotechnical assessment of the proposed project area. And that such an initiative uses water, and whereas a number of the required boreholes and test pits are located within 50 metres of bodies of water. And whereas Section 3.5.1(b) of the *Nunatsiavut Environmental Protection Act* requires that the Nunatsiavut Assembly must approve initiatives that use water on Labrador Inuit Lands located within 50 metres of water...

**MR. WINTERS:**

Minister, I'm sorry, AngajukKâk Wolfrey, I didn't hear what you were saying.

**MS. WOLFREY:** Do we need to get out of the Committee of the Whole in order to approve the motion and have the motion read? Thank you.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek* for the question, AngajukKâk Wolfrey. I was looking at the same thing. Not yet. We go to debate first.

**MS. WOLFREY:** Okay, sorry.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, AngajukKâk Wolfrey. Minister Vincent, if you could continue.

**MR. VINCENT:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now, therefore, I move, seconded by the First Minister, the Honourable Melva Williams, that the Nunatsiavut Assembly approve all test sites, boreholes and test pits required for the feasibility study for the proposed Nain airport, which are located within a distance of 50 metres of water, with the condition that a) the consultant or contractor responsible for those test sites, must obtain a permit to alter a body of water from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, or any test sites located 50 metres or less from water, b) the consultant or contractor responsible for the test sites, must obtain all other authorizations required to undertake such work from the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador or the Government of Canada.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, Minister Vincent. Would the Minister like to speak to the motion?

**MR. VINCENT:** No, thanks.

**MR. WINTERS:** *Nakummek*, Minister Vincent. Does anyone else wish to speak to the motion? Seeing no one, if no other Member wishes to speak, does the Member wish to make final comments and close debate?

**MR. VINCENT:**

I wish to close the debate, Mr. Speaker

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek.* That concludes the debate. Can I see a show of hands for those in favour of this motion? Seeing all hands up, the motion is carried, and we are now moving back into the Assembly and out of the Committee of the Whole. So we're moving on the Item 18, which is, "The First Reading of Bills." And there are no first reading of bills today. So we will go onto Item 19, where there are no, "Second Reading of Bills," today, we will move on to Item 20. Item 20 is the, "Assent to Bills." And there are no bills-, sorry, yeah, there are no bills for assent today. That's a fun typo. We will now move on to Item 21. Item 21 is "Adjournment." I would like to thank all Members and Ministers for ongoing contributions to this Assembly. I would like to thank members of the public for their interest in listening to our proceedings. I would also like to thank all of the staff present for a job well-done. If there are any questions about logistics, please contact the Assistant to the Clerk, Tabea Onalik. I would also like to thank Jamal and Denzel for their work today as pages and to Nain for providing them. This concludes this extraordinary Assembly sitting and the Assembly is now adjourned until the week of September 19th, 2022. *Nakummesuak,* everyone.

**MR. W. ANDERSEN:**

Point of order, Mr. Speaker. Point of order. Mr. Speaker, under the Standing Orders, I do believe it's page 28, 29, Section 18, and it states quite clearly in the Standing Orders that a motion made to adjourn a debate or the Assembly is always in order. So I do believe that under the Standing rules that...

**MR. WINTERS:**

*Nakummek*, for your point of order, Ordinary Member Andersen. The understanding is that the only time that a motion for adjournment is required, is if it's outside of the Item of Adjournment. Where we are on the Item of Adjournment, it is not required. That's my understanding. That's the understanding of the Acting Clerk of the Assembly. This can be something we address at another time or revisit. So thank you, for bringing it to my attention. But again, I'll reiterate, the Assembly Sitting is adjourned.