



Nunatsiavut kavamanga  
Nunatsiavut Government

**SECOND ASSEMBLY  
OF  
NUNATSIAVUT**

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**SPRING SESSION 8th Session 4th SITTING**

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**kAVAMALIGIJET  
KAUJITITSIUTINGA  
PARLIAMENTARY REPORT**

**June 11 & 12, 2013**

**Speaker: Patricia Ford**

**In Attendance:**

**Speaker of the Nunatsiavut Assembly, Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency, Honorable Patricia Ford**

**President of Nunatsiavut, Honorable Sarah Leo**

**First Minister of Nunatsiavut Affairs, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Ordinary Member for Rigolet, Honorable Darryl Shiwak**

**Minister of Finance, Human Resources, and Information Technology, Ordinary Member for the Canadian Constituency, Honorable Daniel Pottle**

**Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Ordinary Member for Nain, Honorable Johannes Lampe**

**Minister of Health and Social Development, Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, Honorable Patricia Kemuksigak**

**Minister of Education and Economic Development, Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, Honorable Gary Mitchell**

**Ordinary Member for Makkovik, Deputy Speaker, Denise Lane**

**Ordinary Member for Postville, Glen Sheppard**

**Ordinary Member for Nain, William Barbour**

**Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Honorable Susan Nochasak**

**AngajukKâk for Nain, Anthony Andersen**

**AngajukKâk for Postville, Diane Gear**

**AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque**

**AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Wayne Piercy**

**AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey**

**Chair Person for the Sivunivut Community Corporation, Edward Tuttauq**

**Director of Communications, Bert Pomeroy**

**Deputy Minister of Finance and Human Resources, Information Technology, Rexanne Crawford**

**Deputy Minister of the Nunatsiavut Secretariat, Secretary to the Executive Council, Isabella Pain**

**Deputy Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Carl McLean**

**Director of Legal Services, Loretta Michelin**

**Deputy Minister of Nunatsiavut Affairs, Toby Andersen**

**Clerk of the Assembly, Mary Sillett**

**Absent:**

**Deputy Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Dave Lough**

**Deputy Minister of Health and Social Development, Michelle Kinney**

**Chair Person for the NunaKâtiget Community Corporation, Malcolm Winters**

**Deputy Minister of Education and Economic Development, Tim McNeill**

**The Nunatsiavut Assembly proceedings**

**were recorded in Inuktitut and English.**

**June 11 & 12, 2013**

**Assembly commenced at 9:00 a.m. on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**MADAM SPEAKER: Ullâkut Illonasi. I'd like to call to order, the fourth spring sitting of a continuation of the eighth session of the second Nunatsiavut Assembly. I'd like to ask Sister Marjorie Flowers to say the opening prayer.**

**MS FLOWERS:** ...may your spirit touch each person here. Give them wisdom, strength, clear vision and clear direction in the work that they have to do. We ask that you'll be with their families near and far. Bless them and keep them in your care until they return. We ask that you'll bless each community and be with each one. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**ASSEMBLY:** Amen.

**MADAM SPESKER:** Nakummek, Sister Marjorie. I would now like to recognize the Honourable First Minister, Darryl Shiwak.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. As you know, and the Assembly knows, I've been First Minister and Minister of Lands and Natural Resources for the past several months and while I've enjoyed working on this file, it is a very busy file and I felt that it's very important that this file have a Minister who can dedicate the time and the attention that it needs. So as per Section 552 of the Labrador Inuit Constitution, I nominate Glen Sheppard, Ordinary Member for Postville to appoint as Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, and I seek the agreement of the Assembly for this appointment. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you. Is the Assembly in agreement?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Then I'd like to recognize the Honourable President for Oath of Office.

**PRESIDENT LEO: That I will be faithful to Nunatsiavut...**

**MR. SHEPPARD: That I will be faithful to Nunatsiavut...**

**PRESIDENT LEO: ...and the Inuit of Labrador.**

**MR. SHEPPARD: ...and the Inuit of Labrador.**

**PRESIDENT LEO: ...and the Nunatsiavut Assembly.**

**MR. SHEPPARD: ...and the Nunatsiavut Assembly.**

**PRESIDENT LEO: I will obey, respect...**

**MR. SHEPPARD: I will obey, respect...**

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

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

**PRESIDENT LEO: ...all Inuit laws...**

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

**PRESIDENT LEO: ...and the Standing Orders of the Nunatsiavut Assembly.**

**MR. SHEPPARD: ...and the Standing Orders of the Nunatsiavut Assembly.**

**PRESIDENT LEO: I will hold my office as Minister with honour...**

**MR. SHEPPARD: I will hold my office as Minister with honour...**

**PRESIDENT LEO: ...and dignity.**

**MR. SHEPPARD: ...and dignity.**

**PRESIDENT LEO: I will be a true and faithful councillor to the President...**

**MR. SHEPPARD:** I will be a true and faithful councillor to the President...

**PRESIDENT LEO:** ...and will not divulge directly or indirectly...

**MR. SHEPPARD:** I will not divulge directly or indirectly...

**PRESIDENT LEO:** ...any secret matter entrusted to me.

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...any secret matter entrusted to me.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** I will fulfill my responsibilities as a leader...

**MR. SHEPPARD:** I will fulfill my responsibilities as a leader...

**PRESIDENT LEO:** ...in accordance with all applicable standards and codes of conduct.

**MR. SHEPPARD:** ...in accordance with all applicable standards and codes of conduct.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** And I will perform the functions of my office...

**MR. SHEPPARD:** And I will perform the functions of my office...

**PRESIDENT LEO:** ...conscientiously and to the best of my ability.

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

**PRESIDENT LEO:** So help me, God.

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

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Congratulations.

**MR. SHEPPARD:** Thank you.

[Applause]

**MADAM SPEAKER:** We will now carry on down through our Orders of the Day to item number two. Well, for the information of the Assembly, the pages are Emma Onalik and Tabea Onalik. The interpreters/translators are Rita Andersen, Augusta Irving and Wilson Jararuse. Robert is the IT staff helping out for this Assembly. As well, we would like to recognize the OkâlaKatiget staff, Sarah Abel and Simone Kolmeister. I would like to welcome the Honourable Nick McGraw, the Minister responsible for Labrador Affairs, and thank you for your interest in the Nunatsiavut Assembly.

[Applause]

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Max Winters, the Chair of the NunaKâtiget Corporation has been excused from this sitting. If there are any questions around Travel and Logistics, please see Hilda Hunter. Any member wishing to recognize visitors in the public gallery today? Then we move down on our Orders of the Day to number three, "Minister Statements". Are there any Minister Statements? I'd like to recognize Johannes Lampe, Minister of Culture, Recreation and Youth.

**MR. LAMPE:** Nakummek, UKâtik. I am pleased to report on our Department since the last Assembly and our vision for Nunatsiavut and all beneficiaries. Language: We are proud to launch Rosetta Stone Level 2 here at our Assembly. Many people contributed to this project under the guidance of Rita Andersen. It took 5 years to complete Level 2 and it has more local

content and will be key to enabling participants continue to a more advanced level. We are unique in the Inuit world as we are the only group that can offer Rosetta stone as a learning tool for Inuktitut. I met with Kevin Kablootsiak who is facilitating the National Inuit Education Strategy on standardization of Inuktitut and he is very impressed with the Language development work we are doing and the dedication of our two representatives Christine Nochasak and Sophie Tuglavina. Culture Centre: In the last three months we have reached all Nunatsiavut communities and stakeholders in Upper Lake Melville to have input into the design concept for the Cultural Centre including determining themes and both permanent and travelling exhibits. Malve Petersmann leads the consultation and with Form Media they will be presenting new material for us to look at this fall. I would like to thank many of you who helped with our community based approach to exhibit planning. Arts Strategy: We have met with some of our key artists and National Arts Organizations to pull together the key issues and opportunities for a Nunatsiavut Arts Strategy. We have many talented artists and most have little access to materials, professional development and marketing. Nunavut has completed an Arts Strategy which is comprehensive and builds on the strengths of a creative industry that can provide more income for the many talented artists and nurture new emerging artists. Music: In partnership with Memorial University and the international Grenfell Association a Brass Band Workshop will be held in



**Nunatsiavut August 26-30. The Workshop will accommodate 21 participants and will be open to all beneficiaries. Sr. Tom Gordon and experienced musicians will be the coached. The revival of traditional brass band music was an outcome of the film: Till We Meet Again: The Moravian Music in Labrador”. For more information contact my Department staff.**

**Archival Resource Management: We are increasingly adding to our collection and knowledge of Labrador Inuit materials that are in many places around the world. We are developing a broad framework for the ongoing development of the Torngasok Cultural Centre’s archival policy placing specific emphasis on issues of capacity and asset management. This new policy will assist us in new culture and heritage research projects.**

**Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Torngat Base Camp and Research Station on winning the Tourism Industry of Newfoundland and Labrador Sustainable Tourism award. This award is in recognition of the commitment of the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies and the success in building a quality tourism industry in Nunatsiavut. We would also like to thank Kate Mitchell who served as our Tourism Product Development Officer until May 1. Kate has assisted us in building stronger working relationships with the Inuit Community Governments as we build tourism experiences and services in each of the communities. The Rigolet Inuit Community Government is just completing a five-year tourism strategy based on the Arviat Nunavut model. Strategies like the Hopedale Adaptive**

**Reuse Plan for the Moravian Mission Complex and the Rigolet Strategy are key to building community-based tourism experiences. Nakummek, UKâtik.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: Nakummek, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize the Honourable Patricia Kemuksigak, Minister of Health and Social Development.**

**MS KEMUKSIGAK: Nakummek, Madam Speaker. Today I will report on Department of Health and also the Youth Division and tomorrow I will report on Status of Women in AnanauKatiget Tumingit. DHSD has completed a five-year regional plan, and the communities are in the process of working on their annual community health plans. This process will complete in September. The key elements of the plan are organized around four themes focusing on health promotion, enhancing community capacity, supporting and strengthening families and fostering an innovative, responsive and accountable department. We have created two new positions, social work liaisons, one in Hopedale and one in Nain, and they were filled with two new Inuit Bachelor of Social Work graduates. Their primary role will be coordination of the travelling teams, Trauma and Addictions and Mapping the Way, and working closely with Child, Youth and Family Services to support children and families and to work on the circles. Piita Irniq was in Nain for Celebrate Life activities and facilitated a Culture as Healing workshop.**

**DHSD attended a Health Council of Canada meeting to discuss healthcare as it relates to seniors. Miriam Lyall also attended as an elder and was able to speak very well on many of the challenges faced by seniors. A planning circle meeting was held, would see Child, Youth and Family Services to move the MOU process forward. A term of reference was established and an action plan agreed upon to move forward. One of the first steps will be to launch a new foster care home, recruitment campaign, later this month in Nunatsiavut. This is one of the many actions being taken to facilitate Inuit children in care being brought home, brought back to the Nunatsiavut communities, which is a priority with the Nunatsiavut Government. With our NIHB program we are now closely following our NIHB Policy and Procedure Manual, especially with accommodations. In the policy manual it's for hostel-type facilities, the most economical means, so we are now starting to follow our policies more closely. Now I'll talk on the Youth Division. The Youth Division is now part of the Department of Health and Social Development. It was believed it would fit better under our department for better co-ordination of programs and services as we run community youth programs. We will be hiring an elder co-ordinator in the very near future, and the person will be bilingual and will work elders in all of Nunatsiavut. The Youth Division hosted the 19th Labrador Inuit Youth Symposium in Makkovik from April 25th to the 28th. A total of 32 youth took part. There was 25 travelling from within Nunatsiavut and Upper Lake**

Melville, and one youth joined from the Canadian Constituency. The various presentations that were given were about under-aged drinking, university life, the National Inuit Youth Council and the summit that will be taking place in Kuujuaq in August. The Labrador Inuttitut Training Program and the Cultural Centre. There was one day for a career fair that went over really well, and the fourth day was focused on Nunatsiavut youth, themselves. So they divided into groups and talked about priorities for youth. And the topics were Vision for Youth, Identifying Leaders, Communication Techniques indicating their community problems, Community Helpers, Looking for Solutions. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize the Honourable Dan Pottle, Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. Very briefly, I'd just like to report on a couple of activities within the Department of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology. Madam Speaker, over the last two months our main focus in finance has been on preparation and completion of the audited financial statements and the finalization of reports to funding agencies. Audit teams from Deloitte, Madam Speaker, have been on site at the Department of Health and Social Development Regional Office, Inuit Pathways, and at the Nain Administration Building. We'd like to extend our

thank you to the financial staff for their dedication and commitment in ensuring the audits are completed in the time outlined as per our legislation, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, the Nunatsiavut Government's investment portfolio of approximately \$40 million that we had previously invested with BMO Nesbitt Burns in the bond market for a number of years, we've had a second look at that. In April 2013 we undertook a request for proposals for an investment manager for these investments. We wanted to ensure, Madam Speaker that we were receiving the best value for money and had an open and transparent process for the selection of this manager. Managers, Madam Speaker, were invited to submit a proposal and were selected for interviews. Based on the proposals and the interview process the Nunatsiavut Government has selected optimum asset management to be the new investment managers for our investments in the bond markets. Madam Speaker, in the fall of 2012 the Human Resource managers completed a tour of Nunatsiavut Government offices presenting changes to the policy manual as well as providing a forum for discussion and feedback on existing policies. We received considerable feedback indicating that the current definition of immediate family in the policy manual does not take into consideration Inuit culture in its definition. As a result, Madam Speaker, we've committed to reviewing this definition, and research is currently being completed across the other Inuit regions on their bereavement leave policies, as well as a request for feedback from employees

and elected officials. And we hope to have this information compiled and feedback received from employees and elected officials over the next two weeks. In the Division of Information Technology, Madam Speaker, the IT Department has begun the process of completing the Nunatsiavut Government intranet, or I should say this is ongoing. The intranet is a tool that is purposely built to enhance information sharing and collaboration with Nunatsiavut Government Civil Service. Workshops have been conducted in April and May to identify the business requirements for the Department of Education and Economic Development, Land and Natural Resources, Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Nunatsiavut Affairs and the Nunatsiavut Secretariat. These requirements will allow us to construct the relevant sections of the internet such that they meet the specific needs of each department. A draft of each department's needs have been produced and circulated to each department for comments. The final draft will be complete in late June of this year. Finally, Madam Speaker, the Nunatsiavut Government website has been experiencing significant technical issues over the past few months. The root of the problem was the migration of our website from one web server provider to another by our service provider. The migration broke most of the functionality of the current site and exposed a number of security vulnerabilities. This led, Madam Speaker, to several hacks from the outside that further deteriorated the functionality of the site. The current website, as we all know, is out of date and is built to the web

standards from the previous generation of technology. Many of the technical issues we are currently experiencing cannot be resolved without updating the foundation of the site to current technical standards. The return on investment to maintain the current site is zero. A new website, Madam Speaker, has been budgeted for and a request for proposals is currently being drafted to construct and implement a completely new website for the Nunatsiavut Government. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. Do we have any more Minister Statements? I'd like to recognize the Honourable President, Sarah Leo.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I, too, would like to acknowledge the presence of Minister McGraw. I thank him for coming to sit in on our Assembly. I'm sure you'll notice it's a lot different from the Provincial Assembly. The setting is a lot different. The atmosphere is a lot different. That's not to say that we all agree, but we, I think, as an Assembly, understand and respect where we're coming from with regards to what's going on here. Madam Speaker, I'd like to take this opportunity to provide the Assembly an update on the activities of the Secretariat, and what we've been involved in since our spring sitting. It's hard to believe that it's been a year already since I've been elected and, as most of your know, I made a commitment then, I still stand by that commitment today, and we're still struggling with it, that we are accountable to the people that we represent.

**We have held more meetings. We have held more public meetings. We have held more Assembly sittings, not only as an Assembly, but as an Executive Council. We have visited each constituency, each community. Minister Pottle has invited me in to Ottawa to his constituency meeting. We have done a lot of listening, and in some cases were able to act on the concerns that were brought for us. A lot of the concerns were just a matter of the Nunatsiavimiut having the opportunity to talk to their Ministers and say directly what their concerns were. I am proud of what we've been able to accomplish over the last year, each of us here. I am proud of each of the Assembly members and what the efforts and commitments that you've put forth and I want to thank, as well, your families for allowing you the time to commit to what you do as elected officials. Madam Speaker, we're all aware the George River Herd is in steep decline. A survey was carried out last year indicating the population has declined to 20,000 animals, 70 percent reduction since 2010. And given the importance of caribou on Labrador Inuit, on December 13th, we called on the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to immediately restrict all hunting of George River caribou for non-Aboriginal people. We also asked our beneficiaries to suspend harvesting for a period of two years. As you know, Madam Speaker, the Province initiated a ban on all harvesting for a period of five years. While we were quite disappointed that they didn't take our advice understanding our need and our rights as Inuit, we realize that drastic measures were**



necessary in order to save this valuable resource. In January, the First Minister and I, along with staff from our departments, joined other Aboriginal leaders in Quebec from Labrador and Kuuujuaq for an emergency summit to discuss ways that we, as Aboriginal people, could protect the caribou herd. We met again on April 25th and formalized the creation of the Ungava Peninsula Caribou Round Table. And the reason we went with the Ungava Peninsula Caribou Original Round Table is because through those discussions we realize as much as we started talking about the George River Caribou Herd, the Leaf River Herd and the Torngat Herd were just as important and the impact on them with the ban on harvesting of the George River Herd needed to be considered. This round table, Madam Speaker, which I chair, will strive to create a conservation and management system to protect the George River Caribou Herd as well as the impacts it may have on the Leaf River Herd and the Torngat Herd in the way that respects all of the cultures and traditions of the Aboriginal people that sit on the round table. Since then we have written to both the Quebec and Newfoundland and Labrador Governments requesting financial assistance to ensure the round table is able to meet and function effectively. I should note, Madam Speaker that I look forward to hosting the round table in Nain in September. I also had an opportunity to attend Northern Scene presented by the National Art Centre in Ottawa. This event was held from April 25th to May 4th, show casing the finest of Inuit artists from across

Canada. We had Nunatsiavimiut there representing. We had a couple of carvers. We also had Kerry Kohlmeister and Matthew Okkuatsiak from Nain who performed as part of Spirit of the Drum presentation and it was very, very moving, and I must say I was blown away by the talent that Matthew and Kerry had shown. It was absolutely beautiful. While in Ottawa I also participated in the Premier of Northwards, the documentary film by award winning CBC journalist, Sheila Rogers. This documentary showcases the Torngat Mountains National Park. Last summer, Ms Rogers, along with five Canadian authors travelled to our park to interact with the people and discover how geography can change the imagination. Each of the writers were asked to create a work out of their experience, and that was the whole in the documentary. I also attended ITK's annual Taste of the Arctic as well as participated in the ITK and ICC board meetings. As you know, Madam Speaker, members of the Executive Council met with the provincial cabinet in St. John's last month. While we did not walk away with any firm commitments, we were very successful in making sure the Premier and our Ministers were very aware of our issues and concerns in Nunatsiavut. I also had the pleasure to attend the graduation ceremonies in both Nain and Postville. It's so great to see our youth graduating from high school with their future ahead of them. Many of these graduates, as others in Nunatsiavut, will go on to their dreams and aspirations, and that's our future that we see graduating, and congratulations to all of the graduates

**this year. Tomorrow will not only be a very big day for Hopedale, but for all of Nunatsiavut. We have the honour of hosting His Excellency, the Governor-General of Canada, David Johnston. The Governor-General, Madam Speaker, had actually requested to come and address this Assembly on his own accord. I consider that quite an honour considering this will be the first time a Governor-General has visited Nunatsiavut since we've had self-government, and I think considering the atmosphere of the Nation recently, I think we should feel quite honoured as an Aboriginal government to have the Governor- General request to address our Assembly. On Friday I will have the honour to be in Goose Bay to attend the Inuit Bachelor of Social Work students' graduation. This has been a program that's been going on for the last three years and I think we're very fortunate to have our own social workers graduating from this program, and for the most part, I believe most of them are coming to Nunatsiavut and working within our communities, which was the whole basis for the program. I would like to congratulate all of those that were involved in the program, particularly Memorial University and the Labrador Institute. But, more specifically, the students that were able to successfully complete the program. In conclusion, Madam Speaker, I want to thank the Assembly for the support they have shown me over the past year and I wish you all and your families a happy and safe summer. Thank you, Madam Speaker.**

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable President. We will now move down to our next item on the Orders of the Day, which is, "Member Statements". Do we have any Member Statements? I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Postville, Diane Gear.

**MS GEAR:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. The Postville Inuit Community Government is pleased to announce the tender for the new fire hall has been awarded, and work should commence as soon as materials is on site. Also after six years of planning we are finally getting to build a youth centre in Postville. This project is going to be done by Project Management, to be overseen by Clerk of Works. Interviews were done last week and we are looking at a start date of June 25th. Also, I would like to send best wishes to Ruth Jacque on her retirement. Ruth was a teacher in Postville for the last 28 years and she has been, not only a teacher, but also a friend and a mentor. We wish her all the best in her future in retirement. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, AngajukKâk from Postville. I'd now like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Canadian Constituency, Dan Pottle.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. As most members of this Assembly know, I've had an interest for quite some time in recognizing the efforts of Labrador Inuit Veterans in a peace keeping role, not only through World War I, World War II. The Korean conflict and current peace keepers, Madam Speaker, I had a request from a constituent formally from Rigolet,

**Bill Flowers, who's now working and living in Nova Scotia, to assist in some way and manner with the possibility of Nunatsiavut Government undertaking an initiative to have the efforts of Labrador Inuit veterans recognized given that this year or next year, I believe, is the hundredth anniversary of World War I. I took it upon myself to have a meeting with the First Minister who the email from Mr. Flowers also went to, as well as Dave Lough, the Deputy Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, approximately three weeks ago to flesh out the interest in these two relevant departments in working with me on this initiative. We had a preliminary meeting in Nain, as I said, approximately three weeks ago and there is an interest from both Minister Shiwak and Minister Lampe's department to follow up and, and do some further planning on this initiative. I've also had some contacts, Madam Speaker, and some preliminary discussions with former senator William Rompkey, who's also doing some research and has expressed an interest in assisting us with this effort as well. At this point in time, Madam Speaker, our next steps is to have another meeting with Culture, Recreation, Tourism, Nunatsiavut Affairs, Mr. Flowers and Barry Pottle in Ottawa, and we're also hoping to engage the various historical societies or heritage groups in each of the communities just to see if they would be interested in partnering with us in some way, shape or form in moving this project forward. So on that, Madam Speaker, I would ask each Assembly member to consult with your communities and beneficiaries living**

**in our communities. All our communities and constituencies, including Upper Lake Melville and our five Inuit communities, and I had started collecting and had numerous names submitted to me from like-minded people who are interested in this initiative, so I'd like to ask each Assembly member over the next few weeks or few months if you could engage and have some discussions with people who may be interested in this project in your communities and to submit more names with us. And, as I said, Madam Speaker, we're just building on this project and we hope to bring this to fruition and have some sort of monument, for lack of a better word, in a community and a smaller monument in each of the other communities to recognize the efforts of Labrador Inuit in peace keeping roles, not only in the World Wars, but in the Korean Wars conflicts and the current peace keeping initiatives. So I thank you in advance for taking the initiative to have these discussions in the communities and bring forth names to me and the second ordinary member for Canada, the Honourable Speaker Patricia Ford. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: Nakummek, Mr. Pottle. I now would like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey.**

**MS WOLFREY: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'd like to take this opportunity to offer congratulations to one of our councillors, Richard Rich, who received the Wayne Earl Memorial Award. This award is given annually to a member**

of a local town council or community council person who have shown interest and commitment to the community. And it's given by the Combined Councils of Labrador. And Richard has been involved as a councillor and mayor and deputy mayor for some 30-plus years, and he is well-deserving of this award so I'd like to offer him congratulations, and Madam Speaker, I would also like to offer congratulations to the graduating class of Northern Lights Academy in Rigolet. There was 2013, there were four graduates and that might not sound like a lot, but it's four more than what was last year and for the last number of years it's been, you know, a couple more each year so that's congratulations to Melissa Sheppard, Tony Wolfrey Jr., Jenna Pottle and Dylan Shiwak. So they were the graduating class of 2013. And my final congratulation gets a little bit more personal because I'd like to take the opportunity too to congratulate the graduating or the getting their degrees and convocation of the BSW students. I was in St. John's to watch that. It was really beautiful and, of course, I'm a proud mother of one of the graduates. So good work, everyone. You have set good examples for others in Nunatsiavut to follow. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, AngajukKâk from Rigolet. I'd now like to recognize the AngajukKâk from Makkovik, Herb Jacque.

**MR. JACQUE:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. First of all, I guess, congratulations to Glen Sheppard in your new position, and I would like to also to congratulate

**graduating class of John Christian Erhardt Memorial School, class of 2013, namely Jessica Winters, Maddie McNeill, Sharlene Gear and Jake Andersen. We wish them much happy and success in their future endeavours. To the teachers and students, have a safe and enjoyable summer. Makkovik Inuit Community Government will also like to bid farewell and thanks to the following individuals for their services while stationed in Makkovik. RCMP Corporal Kimbel Vardy and family, Denley Jacque and family. We wish them the best. We are pleased to announce that the results of the tender for our Arena look very favourable for the upcoming construction season. We are very grateful and thankful for the funds from all funding resources. Thank you, Madam Speaker.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: Nakummek, AngajukKâk from Makkovik. I would now like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak.**

**MS NOCHASAK: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Today I would also like to begin by congratulating the graduates of 2013, not only in Nunatsiavut, but Upper Lake Melville and Northwest River as well, and not only for high school, but as everybody had mentioned, the Bachelor of Social Work. A job well done. Madam Speaker, our Adaptive Reuse Master Plan we have on our Moravian Mission Complex is coming along very well. We have a new committee. We have a new name. Our new committee has been meeting regularly, about once a week. Although we have great expectations for the site, we need our**



government on side to make this more than a dream, but a reality. There's so much potential, not only for our community, Madam Speaker, but the Nunatsiavut Tourism as well. With the government's passion towards the Cultural Centre, we only see this project as an addition towards culture and heritage in Nunatsiavut. Madam Speaker, a project like this will create our communities' sustainability. It will create opportunity in Hopedale. A project like this can only do good, not only for Hopedale, but for Nunatsiavut tourism. We have communications, not only with the Provincial Government with ACOA, with the Canadian Heritage and the Newfoundland and Labrador Museum Association. And, Madam Speaker, I would also like to finally take a couple of minutes to recognize the Community Food Network. Over the past couple of years they have stuck with Hopedale creating awareness, some employment opportunities and even started a gardening program this year. Juliana Flowers and the team working towards the food security are doing a wonderful job. We all look forward to hearing about the gardening success that we have in Hopedale. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Ordinary Member from Hopedale. I'd now like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Hopedale, Wayne Piercy.

**MR. PIERCY:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. As AngajukKâk for Hopedale, I'd like to acknowledge Minister McGraw, and take this opportunity to invite you to

come around with me in my town, Amaguk this evening after supper for a ride around town. On another note, the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador has come up short again on forwarding a Human Health Risk Assessment Report which NG, along with Hopedale Inuit Community Government and ESG out of Ontario took over last season to ensure that we got samples required to make such a report possible. Again, the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador is lagging behind again on very important information because the majority of samples taken are a big part of our diet. The report I am speaking of should have been out to us at least a month ago. From my point of view, as AngajukKâk for Hopedale, I feel that the province is not taking into consideration the importance of the PCB clean-up and what it means for the community of Hopedale and approximately 630 residents that call Hopedale home. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, AngajukKâk from Hopedale. I'd now like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Postville, Glen Sheppard.

**MR. SHEPPARD:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I guess first of all I'd like to thank the Assembly for having confidence in me to take on the, I guess, huge portfolio and the responsibility of Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. For a minute, Madam Speaker, if I could share with you this morning, and the Assembly, of the experience, I guess, I'm not going to say I had, but I'm going to say we had. When I say we that would include the AngajukKak from

Postville and myself in just looking at what actually happens when we work together. You know, in the smallest community within Nunatsiavut, a job, one job means the world to us. We have many exploration companies doing work on Labrador Inuit Lands in LISA with, you know, our exploration standards sort of minimizes the amount of pressure that we can put on exploration companies until they go into development. However, to make a long story short, Diane and myself got together. There were a company neighbouring out community who were bringing in employees from the outside, not beneficiaries, and we saw fit that it was only fit that our people would get a crack and an opportunity for employment in this area. So we got together. We had a teleconference with this company, and you know what happened. As people working together the result was and is that doors are starting to open, people are starting to get hired and, you know, that's just an example of working together, pulling together. Madam Speaker, I'd also like to congratulate this morning a teacher who has resided in Postville for the last 28 to 30 years. Many times we look at those teachers as to say in some cases oh, this is their job, that's their job not realizing, Madam Speaker, some of those people are residing in communities, remote coastal communities, that do without a lot of necessities of life due to the hardship we face with transportation issues, due to our geographical area. You know, I look at this teacher who is retired in Postville, she come from Toronto, and, you know, spent 28 years in a community with a population, Madam

Speaker, of 200 right now or less. So I'd like to send my congratulations out to Mrs. Ruth Jacque, who's not only been a teacher in our community, but who's also been a real role model walking the roads and talking to people within our communities. Madam Speaker, one more point I'd like to make this morning, and I can't help but share it with this Assembly. You know, it was only in the last five to seven days that I had two particular phone calls come into my office, and on the opposite end of the phone, it was elderly people. And, Madam Speaker, I mean elderly people, and they were talking about the hardships living on the coast of Labrador within Nunatsiavut. In particular, Madam Speaker, it was specifically talking about caribou and how important the meat was to each of us, as individuals, living within Nunatsiavut. And, Madam Speaker, it would break one's heart to hear an elder break down and get emotional on the other end of the phone because of the lack of meat and, Madam Speaker, I don't know exactly today where it sit when it come to an alternate source of food. I just don't know, but in the very near future I guess I'll find out as being part of the Executive Council. But I feel today, Madam Speaker, if we're held and being responsible to our beneficiaries, and if there's anything to do with the provincial government being a hold-up to provide an alternate source of food, I think this is one time that we should hold the provincial government responsible for the needs of our people. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Ordinary Member for Postville. Do we have any other Member Statements? Then we'll move down on our Orders of the Day to item number five, which is, "Returns to Oral Questions." At the March 13th, 2013, Assembly sitting, the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, asked the Minister of Health and Social Development, who made the decisions on escorts for patients, the Honourable Patricia Kemuksigak, provided an oral response at that time. Later, she sent an email to add that when a medical escort is required or requested, the clinic, or the doctor, fills out a request for an escort and the NIHB staff applies criteria to determine if the patient requires an escort. The detailed DHSD client escort policy has been included in the Assembly binders. At the March 13th, 2013 sitting the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque, asked the Minister of Finance Human Resources and Information Technology, Honourable Dan Pottle, if the Nunatsiavut beneficiary discount on Provincial Airlines extended to the employee's spouse and family, the Minister said he would be meeting with PAL and he would get to the AngajukKâk for Makkovik. Honourable Minister, are you prepared to answer that question?

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. I did have some consultations with Provincial Airlines through our Deputy Minister, Rexanne Crawford, and we did respond in writing to the question to the AngajukKâk for Makkovik on the question. Currently, the agreement, Madam Speaker, extends to all

beneficiaries qualifying for the L Class discount, and at this particular point in time because the contract is negotiated, we certainly take under advisement in our next round of negotiations for that renewal of that contract coming up at the end of December. We'll certainly put that on the table and hope to have employees of the Inuit Community Governments included in that discount as well, Madam Speaker. Nakummek.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. At the March 13th, 2013 sitting the AngajukKâk Herb Jacque from Makkovik and Charlotte Wolfrey from Rigolet, AngajukKâk from Rigolet, asked the Minister of Finance Human Resources and Information Technology, the Honourable Dan Pottle, about the status of photo IDs for Nunatsiavut beneficiaries. Minister Pottle said that some of these responsibilities were being assumed by the government employees at the airstrips, but he would look into it and further get back to them. Are you prepared for that answer, Mr. Pottle? Yes, you may go ahead.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. Again this work is still ongoing. It was our understanding, and it's been confirmed, that each of the federal government employees who are responsible for the airstrips or the airports in the communities do have equipment available to produce a photo identification. The challenge is currently, Madam Speaker, in bringing that is relevant documentation to accompany such an application. Not all beneficiaries or

people who are looking for photo IDs had the relevant documentation such as birth certificate, so that's still a challenge that we'll have to work through and have some more consultations with the respective individuals responsible for that. We were supposed to have and still haven't had the consultations, I don't think yet, with the provincial government, Newfoundland and Labrador Government Services with respect to working with the government to have some form of Nunatsiavut Government ID recognized as a certified piece of identification for use within this province. As I responded to the question when it was asked in March, Madam Speaker, historically we were trying to work with the federal government on this issue through ITK on a National Inuit Identification Card which never went anywhere. The federal government had no appetite for that, so there's still some further discussion that needs to take place on this issue, Madam Speaker, and we hope to work through this through the summer and possibly engage a summer student to work with and identify individuals in each of our communities who need that piece of identification for purposes mainly related to travel. So we'll have, hopefully, some further answers and we'll provide further information to each of the Assembly members in writing through email when we get more information on the issue. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. Before we go down to our next item on our Orders of the Day, we're going to take a 20-minute break.

**(Recess)**

**MADAM SPEAKER:** I'd like to call the Assembly back to order, please. Going down through our Orders of the Day, we're on item number six, which is "Oral Questions". Do we have any questions? I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque.

**MR. JACQUE:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Finance. Presently, Makkovik, as well as other towns in Nunatsiavut, I'm sure, have a long waiting list for housing lots and are in a dire need and a subdivision to accommodate a residence. Would Tasiujatsoak Trust consider allocating additional to the Joint Management Capital Works Fund for this great need. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Finance.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker and Nakummek, AngajukKâk for Makkovik for your question. I don't mean to put you off, but I'm one of five Trustees on the Tasiujatsoak Trust. So I would encourage that you put your question in writing for consideration for Tasiujatsoak Trust meeting in early October. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Any more questions? I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Postville, Diane Gear.



**MS GEAR:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question is to the ex-Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. Our waste disposable sites are in poor condition and have reached the point of capacity. The only solution is to upgrade or move and put appropriate sources in place for each community for the management of these sites. What will Nunatsiavut Government and Provincial Government do to tackle this issue and when because four years have passed since we've met with the Joint Management Committee and tried to come up with a strategy to identify the options for practical, sustainable waste management systems. They will have to be before any action is taken. All our waste sites to the point of overflowing and we have nowhere else to put our waste. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The Honourable First Minister.

**MR. POTTLE:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I guess the commitment I can make here today is that we will look in to the issue and to the history of the issue. But I would have to say that we will have to do a bit of research and we'll have to make contact with you to understand the issue more to see where we go from there and what jurisdiction or whose role it is to take care of the issues within the government and the waste management systems, but we will look into the issue and make contact to see where we go from here. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** I'd now like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey.

**MS WOLFREY:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I have a supplementary question, I guess, for Herb Jacque's question to the Minister of Finance.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** His supplementary would be his supplementary. Your question is your first question.

**MS WOLFREY:** Oh, okay, all right, sorry. Well, I would like to ask the Minister of Finance with regards to the letter to Tasiujatsoak Trust that he's suggesting that AngajukKâk Jacque write a letter, would that be in the form of a proposal because Rigolet is in the same - Rigolet has 12 new building lots that cost us \$2.1 something 1 million or something like that and the lots aren't finished, and we don't have money so that people can just put their houses there. They've been serviced, but they're not - you know, their driveways are so steep, people can't drive up them and things like that. So I'm just wondering would this letter be in the form of a proposal, or would it be a letter, are you suggesting from the - all the Inuit Community Governments to ask that money be set aside or put aside for development of lots in our communities.

**Nakummek**

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Finance.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. Nakummek, AngajukKâk for Rigolet for your question. Yes, that would be most beneficial to the Trust. In addition

to the application for the Tasiujatsoak Trust fund, the Trustees would always welcome a proposal with an accompanying budget to support your application. It makes the work of the trust a lot easier if we had that detail information to review when we're reviewing the applications. The second part of your question regarding individual communities approaching the trust, I mean, that, that certainly would be a decision or the choice of the Inuit Community Governments, but it might be apropos or appropriate, I guess, Madam Speaker, for the Inuit Community Governments to submit a joint application. I think whichever way you decide the trust will certainly review the applications from an individual community government or a collective application from the community governments, themselves. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** I now recognize the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak.

**MS NOCHASAK:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question this morning is for the Minister responsible for Economic Development. I was hoping to have another update on stone plant here in the community. The last update I had that was maybe a small window of opportunity to begin operations again, depending on the approval of the Cultural Centre. So I was looking for an update on where that process is right now. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The Minister of Education and Economic Development.

**MR. MITCHELL:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. In response to you, you asked about the stone plant. I don't have any new information on the stone plant. The last time I talked to Chris Webb at Nunatsiavut Group of Companies he indicated that if the Cultural Centre was going ahead then the stone plant would be in operation to cut stone for a Cultural Centre. Now there's been no new update on that, but I notice in James Thorbourne's interview with OkâlaKatiget Society, it wasn't mentioned. So I meant to contact Chris Webb before it came up to ask about the stone plant 'cause there was no mention of it in this summer's activities, but I'll certainly make a note to ask him about it, and maybe I'll give him a call this afternoon to find out what's been happening there with regard to the stone being cut. And the other thing is I'm not sure if the stone that was planned for the Cultural Centre is still in the plans for the Cultural Centre. So these are a couple of things that I guess I have to follow up on. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Nain, William Barbour.

**MR. BARBOUR:** Nakummek, UKâlatik. My question will be to the Minister of Education. Recently earlier this year, along with my colleague, the Minister of Culture, I met with a couple of individuals in Nain, and before I go to my question to the Minister I'll just go into the background of where we continue to support our students and I've heard many comments about the students graduating

**this year. Well, down here in my community we not only have graduates of high school, but coming out of post-secondary institutions and looking to work in their home communities. My question to the Minister is this. Especially those that are in the education field becoming qualified teachers, is our Nunatsiavut Department of Education, not only just supporting, but advocating to the employer being the Labrador School Board now as was today will be amalgamating the one big school board, how much support and lobbying are we doing for those qualified teachers to work in their home communities? Nakummek, UKâlatik.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Minister of Education.**

**MR. MITCHELL: Nakummek, Madam Speaker. We have been meeting with the school board occasionally to discuss issues, and one thing that's always on the agenda is to encourage that our Nunatsiavut beneficiaries qualify to do teaching is given preference for jobs, we can only advocate and suggest that they be hired. As you know the school board is still in full control of the hiring, and the Human Resources Department does all the hiring, but with regard to our department, with the Nunatsiavut Government, we can only meet with them and, as I said, advocate on their behalf that they be looked at when the time comes for hiring, and we're certainly going to keep on top of that. Especially with the school board moving to St. John's, we have even more so reason to lobby on their behalf. But that's one thing that we're not**

going to drop is to make sure beneficiaries are hired when qualified to do so. But as I mentioned, they do the hiring and I guess there's coming a time that we're going to have to take down the provincial programs and do our own, but that's not in the making as of yet, but it's something that, I guess, this Assembly and the Nunatsiavut Government's going to have to take a look at in the near future especially with the school board moving away to St. John's and we're being left behind in the dust. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek. Supplementary, Mr. Barbour.

**MR. BARBOUR:** Nakummek, UKâlatik. Again to the Ministers, my redirect or if anything, what I would like to add on, and I'm speaking from my community of Nain, in honour to a couple of teachers who are now just substitute, but yet yearly high turnover of teachers that are coming in from outside and leaving as soon as they get an opportunity elsewhere but yet having qualified teachers in your own home community who want to stay there, who want to work there. All I'm suggesting to the Minister is this is that while it may not be in the form of a question, more intense lobbying at the school board level, who are the employers. Madam Speaker, how much more, to the Minister, how much more lobbying can you really do to use that issue of high turnover of not only non-beneficiaries, but non-residents coming in for short periods of time and then leaving again and still leaving these qualified teachers at home just substituting if they're lucky to substitute. Nakummek, UKâlatik.

**MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable Minister of Education.**

**MR. MITCHELL: Nakummek, Madam Speaker. Your points are well-taken and we'll certainly lobby as much as we can with the school board to ensure our beneficiaries are given a fair chance for those jobs. We're waiting now to see who's going to be the new Assistant Director of Education hired at the satellite office in Goose Bay, and when that person comes on stream we're certainly going to be on their heels to ensure that beneficiaries are given preference for jobs in Nunatsiavut and that our spending efforts to train these people, they'll be rewarded by being given the jobs, because we're spending a lot of money to train these people and we want to see that they end up with the jobs that we're training them for in our own land, in our own schools. And that's all I can say right now, Madam Speaker, is that we'll certainly we'll lobby as much as we can to make sure our teachers are going to be out there working, especially in their home communities. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: Nakummek, Mr. Barbour. I would now like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Nain, Tony Andersen.**

**MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question is for the First Minister, Minister responsible for transportation. Madam Speaker, I always make comments about what the nice hairdo that the Minister has, and I'm surprised that marine, what has already happened, the delay of the Marine,**

**Freight and Ferry service for us hasn't caused him to pull some of his hair out of his head. But my question is not about the current freight and ferry service, Madam Speaker, but yesterday I heard a rumour that our long-expected roll on roll off answer to all our prayers and hope ferry that was going to come on stream in 2016 may be delayed, and I wonder if the Minister has information from the provincial department of transportation that would confirm that rumour or maybe he can shed some light in some way on that because there surely it's going to be, if that's the case, along with this totally obsolete system that we have in place at this time, it's going to only cause more grief for our people in 2016. Thank you, Madam Speaker.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: Honourable First Minister.**

**MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Thank you for the compliments on my hair. Yes, it does cause me to pull some of my hair out and I do have sort of an update of what I know of the current situation as with the plan for 2016. And when I met with the Minister in January, they were preparing to do an RFP for vessels. They didn't know at that time what it would look like for Nunatsiavut for the north coast, and they were planning to put it out, but when I met back with them in May, the RFP had still not went out. When I questioned the Minister on it, the reason given is that when they did a tender for the straights run for an RFP for a vessel down there, they encountered problems on that RFP that would apply to the RFP for the bulk for this**



region. So they had to pull back and they are planning on putting a new tender out soon. When I questioned the Minister on when that would be, I was not given a clear answer because they didn't know when that tender would be coming out. And then it caused a huge problem with us, not only for the delay, the disappointing delay that we have this year, but what we went through last year which is totally unacceptable, and if they're going to delay in putting a new vessel on we have to look forward to this for years and years to come, which is totally unacceptable. But that is the update I have for the AngajukKâk. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you. I'd now like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey.

**MS WOLFREY:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. My question is to the First Minister and it's with regards to the housing survey. Is it completed and when will we see it? Nakummek.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable First Minister.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. The Housing Needs Assessment results were completed last November. We are still in the process of obtaining the raw data. We are in the process of getting an agreement with Newfoundland and Labrador Statistics Agency to be able to take that raw data and put it into a report. That report is not ready yet. We don't have that data. We do have some very, very interesting and some very compelling results already from

the report with regards to mould and different areas, and the fact that we had a 93 percent response rate on the housing needs assessment from the people within Nunatsiavut is very encouraging. The people felt very important that they participate in this survey. To answer your question, the report is not done. We are working to get that done very soon, and when we get the report done, we want to get it to the people into the communities as soon as we can to show them that this is what results of that housing needs assessment are, and what we need to do to move forward in putting that assessment into a strategy that addresses the housing needs within Nunatsiavut. How are we going to move ahead and address the needs? There are some very critical needs right now, especially in Nain and Hopedale. We need to address those needs, but there are also needs in other communities as well, and this assessment will show everything, hopefully, that we need to look at and help us identify or build a strategy, but we want to work together with everybody in building that strategy. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek. I'd like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak.

**MS NOCHASAK:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. The AngajukKâk for Rigolet kind of beat me to the punch on my question for housing, so I'll just revamp my question. First Minister, you had mentioned that the assessment is complete and that you will work on compiling that information, the raw information, and that

you guys will read it over and figure out what the next steps are going to be. For the last three years now, we have all realized the housing crisis in Nunatsiavut. We have all seen firsthand and heard about the need for a senior's complex for the last three years, Madam Speaker, but it seems that - I do understand there's a process and I do understand that everything has to be done on a schedule on what you need to do first to get to where you need to end up. Madam Speaker, but it seems that we're no further ahead than we were three years ago. I do understand that there is this assessment and I do understand that you have it done, but our people are still waiting for our housing crisis to be addressed. How much longer will we continue to discuss the crisis and work on the raw data before we actually come up with housing in our region? Madam Speaker, we expect our constituents to go out and make good lives for themselves, and we say that it's up to our constituents to go and make good lives for themselves and get a career and get your education and stuff like that, but I just feel that, like, it's not entirely true. How can we expect our region to create lawyers and doctors and teachers and stuff like that, when they're here in Nunatsiavut living in deplorable housing conditions when they're faced to choose between maintaining their house and putting food on their table, repairing rundown homes just to have a roof over their heads? I understand the housing needs assessment is done, but we have the data, we know what the crisis is. When will we actually act on our housing crisis? Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER: The Honourable First Minister.**

**MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I guess to go back a bit and to explain, not just where we're at with the housing needs assessment, but as a government, we know and you know and everybody around this table knows, there are some very critical needs, and we recognize that. We want to address those needs right away, but, as you know, again, we have very limited funds that we have to be very careful with and be careful where we put them. That's why we identified the need for a strategy, not only to identify the immediate needs, but the long-term needs. As a government we have an inter-departmental working group that brings in the expertise from environment, from the Health Department, from the President's Office, and we're working together to put together a plan, not only with the housing data, or the housing needs assessment, but with a very important initiative started by the environment division through Director, Tom Sheldon, is the sustainable communities initiative that is run directly out of the AngajukKaat and their input. All that stuff has been put together. I know that's not the answer they're looking for on a date when money will be put into those areas. And, as you know, we've been approaching provincial government, not only directly to help fund some housing in Nunatsiavut, to fix the NLHC situation, which is not working for Nunatsiavut, to help us build seniors complexes or seniors homes in the communities. Unfortunately, they have not come on board with**

any of those funding requests. So our last request to them is to work with us. Look, we're trying to get there. We're going to lead this. We're going to fix these problems, but we need you on board. We've made a request to the Minister of Housing within the province, say, look, we have our own committee set up. Do we want to act fast? There's needs that need to be done. We've budgeted \$2.7 million in the last budget to address a strategy that's going to help with these issues, but we need you on board, we need you on a working group with us, and they have not yet put anybody on that working group with us. They have acknowledged that there is a need, that we are unique in Nunatsiavut, and then we have unique issues. But as they have not come on board with anything substantial yet. But, like I said, we're going to do this, but as for timeframes on when we're actually going to be able to address some of those needs, that's not yet identified. But we are getting there. We're working very hard. I think it's the number one priority for the government is that housing issue, not only for Nain and Hopedale at a crisis what exists there, and I hope the Minister takes a look around Hopedale at some of the houses and actually sees what we're talking about 'cause there is a crisis there. We need to address those needs. But we need to do it, and we need to spend our money wisely because we have very limited funds right now. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable First Minister. I'd now like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Nain, Tony Andersen.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Yeah, in speaking of spending money wisely, my question is for the education Minister. I think in January the Minister announced some changes to the post-secondary education living allowance and it was a start, but the Minister and his deputy outside of this chamber to promise that there will be further review. And my question for the Minister today, Madam Speaker, is that can the Minister announce any changes to the level of post-secondary students for living allowance for September? Tomorrow being our last day here, Madam Speaker, by the time we gather again in September the students will be back in university and it was my hope that there would be some announcement come before the end of summer so that we can see that there is a more level playing field. I hope that the Minister understands my question. I'm quite sure that he does, so I just hope that he won't pretend that he don't.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Education.

**MR. MITCHELL:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. Yeah, I understand your question. When I mentioned there was going to be a further review I didn't give a date. I, as you know, we changed the single student living allowance rates and this will be effective come September. We have not looked at any other changes to the funding for post-secondary education at this point. We're trying to stay

within budget of the current dollars that we have to keep those students going that we presently have in the system. We have a number of students now that we've got to look for money for to carrying on for next fall from some of their account. But as you know, we're on a fixed budget and we haven't done any more review with regard to any other living allowances or rates for post-secondary education students. The crucial one that we changed was for single students because we found that they were - they're the ones that needed those dollars most. And in one of your previous talks here in the Assembly you mentioned that there were some problems that you know of that came up with the program, and I would just like to advise you or inform you or ask you, that if there's individual problems that come up with our program, post-secondary education program, we'd like to know about those problems because there might be individual programs that we can take care of, but like if you feel there's a general problem with the whole program, a big problem, then we can certainly discuss, but if there's problems that you hear about that students had with the program, we'd certainly like to hear about them so we can work on those, but there's no more changes now planned for the next few months anyway. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek. Are there any more questions? If not, then we'll move down to our next item on the Orders of the Day, which is "Written

Questions." Are there any written questions? Page, can you pick up this written question, please. I'll read out this written question to the Department of Finance. According to our auditors we will have our 2011 audit done soon. Although we are happy and relieved we are somewhat overwhelmed by the final costs to complete. We are yet to receive the final invoice, but we understand from our auditor that our 2011 nine-month audit will cost over \$43,000. That is over double the cost we paid for our previous auditor, who assisted with bookkeeping where we required. Even though NG has provided us with \$20,000 it seems we are paying a lot higher rate with Deloitte than our previous auditors. Will NG continue to contribute to the costs associated with these higher rated auditors should they continue to charge these enormous rates? Any more written questions? Then we'll move down the next item on our Orders of our Day, which is, "Returns to Written Questions". I understand there are two returns to written questions from the last sitting. Honourable Gary Mitchell, Minister of Education and Economic Development and Honourable Darryl Shiwak, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. On March 13, 2013 the AngajukKâk from Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey, asked the Minister of Education and Economic Development, the Honourable Gary Mitchell, if he could advise them with the Simply Accounting would be offered. On May 28th, 2013 the Minister of Education and Economic Development emailed to say that a final decision on the date and location will be made when we look at the overall calendar



of activities with information sessions, business seminars and workshops and will most likely be in the fall of 2013. Hopedale and Makkovik are two potential locations. The Economic Development Division will be active in all five communities in Nunatsiavut. Not all activities will be delivered in every community. However, the opportunity to attend a selected activity will be offered to land claims beneficiaries. When the basic accounting, Simply Accounting, was offered in Nain, organizations from all over Nunatsiavut were invited to attend expenses paid. This same approach will be used for this course. On March 13, 2013, the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak, asked the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources this question. I would like to ask about the winter fishing nets. Beneficiaries from my community are asking why there is a restriction on winter net fishing and also if they could be changed in light of the fact that our hunters cannot harvest the caribou? Honourable First Minister, are you prepared to answer this question? You may go.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madam Speaker, and we recognize the heart of this issue and it is in light of the fact that there's a ban on hunting George River Caribou and that there's a need within the communities to identify different food resources, and fish is obviously one of the resources, and Minister Sheppard will do an update on our actions to try to find some other food resources in his report tomorrow. With regards to the particular issue, it is to my

understanding that this issue has been around since the LIA days, and Part III of the 2012 Communal Licence for LISA, the setting in nets is not permitted in inland waters. The current licence is in effect until June 14th, 2013. We have a new licence ready for the June, 2013 subsistence fishery. June, 2013/14 licence will be similar to the previous year's one, and net fishing in inland waters is not permitted. The potential to overharvest a stock of char or trout in a lake by net fishing is very high, and net fishing for subsistent purposes is only permitted in tidal waters. So having said that, I will be asking Minister Sheppard to review this issue and to ensure that this still is the best action to take moving forward. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable First Minister. No responses on petitions today and no petitions. We'll go down to item number 11, "Reports of Standing and Special Committees". I would like to recognize the Chair of the Special Committee on Nunatsiavut elections, Tony Andersen, the AngajukKâk from Nain.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to present the report of the Special Committee on the Presidential Election of 2012. Madam Speaker, the Special Committee's mandated by the Assembly to carry out a review of the Nunatsiavut Electoral Officers Report in its entirety to examine its recommendations and consider amendments to the Nunatsiavut Elections Act. Madam Speaker, I would like to move, seconded

by the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, that the report of the Special Committee on the Nunatsiavut Presidential Election of 2012 be received by the Assembly and moved in Committee of the Whole for discussion with the Nunatsiavut Electoral Officer, Mr. Jack Shiwak, and Ms Loretta Michelin, Nunatsiavut Legal Counsel, as witnesses. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, AngajukKâk. The AngajukKâk for Nain is asking that we go into a Committee of the Whole. All those in favour?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Any nays? The motion is carried. So we'll now go into Committee of the Whole. You may bring your witnesses. Okay, so we're now in Committee of the Whole there and Tony, AngajukKâk, can start.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Chair? And I'll get some words, I suppose, and Members of the Committee should feel free to make comments. I certainly wanted to table this report and I hope, Madam Chair that everyone had a chance to read and review. And, you know, that NEO had a good report, and a long report, that he tabled following the Presidential Election of 2012. But you know as a Committee we, and we thought that, you know, many of his recommendations might be easy to address, and perhaps resolve, but we found out that it was not that easy, Madam Chair. It was a very difficult task, and I think that, you know, the recommendations that we bring forward in this report and many of the recommendations that the NEO put

forward they were addressed, and I would like to say it's a stumbling block. I'm sure the NEO's going to speak and the legal counsel speaks as well. That one of the biggest stumbling blocks that we ran into was our Constitution, and we were not mandated by this Assembly to make recommendation change to the Constitution. We were mandated to make - to review the NEO's report and to make, if necessary, changes to our own Elections Act, which is not the Constitution. So we have, I suppose, made recommendation that we will speak to afterwards, but I just thought I wanted to open that up and perhaps give other Committee members a chance to speak to the report before we entertain questions from the table. Do you want to speak?

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Are you speaking, Susan?

**MS NOCHASAK:** Thank you, Madam Chair. As Tony had mentioned, there were issues in the report that we hoped to get some resolution from, but it was a task that was beyond what we had expected. The Constitution, as he mentioned was something that we kept bumping into, and our recommendations kept getting squatted because the actual Constitution and, as he had mentioned, we couldn't touch the Constitution because, well, as you all are aware, we need the full support of the Assembly as well as our constituents. In particular, we had gone into looking at the online polling access and internet voting. It was something that we had high hopes for, and it is something that we were a bit excited for at the beginning, and we had hoped it was

something that we can entertain as Nunatsiavut elections in the coming future. But again the Constitution, as well as the costs, just squatted that idea as well. We had a couple of meetings in Goose Bay, and we had a couple of meetings through teleconference and here, in Hopedale, and I believe that we did a pretty good job on working with what we could. If anybody else want to jump on.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Charlotte, did you want to speak?

**MS WOLFREY:** No, I think Susan said it all. We really had some high hopes for looking at certain things and the when we got to them, even, like, the internet voting we found out that the Constitution had to be changed because everybody, it says in the Constitution, should be given the opportunity to vote with paper. So even that, you know, we couldn't entertain, so it was a difficult task, but I think some of the conclusions that we did come to in the end I guess, which our Chair will speak out, about the test or something to prove people's ability to speak and understand Inuttitut is something that we felt we could recommend and that we might want to look at.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** William.

**MR. BARBOUR:** Nakummek UKâlatik. No, I think the only thing that we really could do and did do was not part of the Special Committee, itself, but because of our report from the Chief Electoral Officer requesting the earlier opening, not through this Committee, and you can see it for yourself on page six, the first

number one, the Member Services Committee, after having seen Jack's report, in our Assembly budgeting process, we took to heart that, hey, he really does need more time than what we do give him, and I think without changing the Constitution we can do what's in the Elections Act, open up the office earlier, which we, the Member Services Committee of the Assembly has already budgeted for, for this year going to next year's election. So it's already budgeted for in 2013-2014 budget year to open Jack's office earlier.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Anyone else from the Committee like to say a few words on it before we open it up to the floor? Go ahead, Jack.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Yes, I guess I have to say that when I wrote the report, I had to in one hand sort of hold a Constitution, and in the other hand, the Election Act, and keep in mind what I was hearing from people while I was doing the election. I think if you look at the recommendations they're not all real recommendations. Rather, some of them are items that I sort of looked at and asked the Assembly to explore or discuss if there could be changes, and that's what I had hoped would happen. Because after accepting the appointment to the Committee, some of the matters we had to deal with, I found it very difficult as Chief Electoral Officer, to have an opinion because I didn't want to see myself as supporting one side or the other. That was very difficult to do. And I think some of the Committee members may have noticed there were some topics I didn't speak on, and that was just to

recognize where I sit because I know there's topics I have an opinion on, and I've always had an opinion on, but I've never expressed, and that's, I think that's part of my responsibility as Chief Electoral Officer. So, you know, in writing a report, I also recognize that the things that we looked at, the things that I asked, and the recommendations that I asked for, and the topics I asked for discussion on, I recognize that it would take Constitutional change, but if Constitutional change is going to take place, and I know it wouldn't happen overnight, or over the next year, but it has to start somewhere, and that's why some of those recommendations or expressions of interest were put in that report. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Susan, did you want to speak again?

**MS NOCHASAK:** Just a couple more things. In regards of some of the issues we had in regards of going to the Constitution and looking at the Constitution as a whole, during a couple of our Committee sittings, we had expressed that when we sit as an Assembly as a whole that there would be something that we would put out there for the whole Assembly to entertain, that somewhere along the line somewhere in the future of Nunatsiavut Government that we actually strike a committee to actually look at the Constitution as a whole to see what the errors are in the Constitution, if any, or if there are areas in the Constitution that we want to look at and tackle as a whole Assembly. So that was, well, one of the ideas that we had as a Committee that the whole

Assembly would have that discussion in regards of later on down in the future to actually strike a committee to look at the whole Constitution. And, as well, a lot of discussions generated around what Charlotte had mentioned in regards of a test, as such, or the definition of speak and understand Inuttitut, and one of the recommendations was that the Assembly organize a committee, or a team of Inuttitut experts, and I understand right now that the Nunatsiavut Government do have an employee committee that decides whether or not they get the bilingual bonus. So if that is struck, like if there's already an existing committee then it shouldn't be much harder to create a more higher up committee to look at administering a test for the next presidential election, or striking a committee to do that test. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Anyone else? Tony.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** Yes, and thank you, I mean, Madam Chair. And like it got to be frustrating at times because I think that we felt we should be doing more to bring back to the Assembly, but, you know, like, with Jack's help and that, and I suppose we thought it was frustrating. It must have been very frustrating at times for the NEO, but like we did make a recommendation, the Special Committee recommends that the definition of speak and understand as per the Labrador Inuit Constitution should be clearly defined in the Nunatsiavut Elections Act, as well as Special Committee's recommending that all candidates for the President of Nunatsiavut be tested



to determine whether or not it meet the language requirement as per the Labrador Inuit Constitution. Now we were a committee to examine the NEO's report, but so we felt that the recommendation, that's as far as we could take it. Should the Assembly agree with this recommendation that we put forward, then it will be up to the Assembly to establish that community that would have that, what, that long, I don't know what the words are, capacity to define what speak and understand would be, but we would not be able to provide that definition as a committee, okay. So those are the kind of things that we ran into. We did also, as Susan said, our Committee, the Nunatsiavut Assembly consider establishing a Special Committee with a clearly defined mandate to review the Labrador Inuit Constitution to determine whether amendments should be explored, and we felt that that that was our limit. We took it to, we thought, to our limit, where we could, but certainly there are things in this report that I think the Assembly has to, and I'm not sure how this works anymore, but I suppose the legal counsellor will be able to tell us that after but, you know, whether this goes to the Executive Council, or if it's debated here in the Assembly. I truly hope that something is done with it and it's recognized as it was hard work, and it wasn't easy, it was frustrating, and sometimes we didn't all agree on everything, and thanks very much to Jack and, of course, Loretta. But I'm sure the legal counsel has words of advice to offer as well.

**MS MICHELIN: I guess I have a few things to say and I raise some questions. One of the things the committee is recommending is that there be a definition of speak and understand put in the Elections Act and also some requirement for a test. I think it's important for people to understand what the process is now as laid out in the Elections Act. Under Section 118 of the Elections Act, qualifications for persons as presidential candidate. To be eligible to be elected as President of the Nunatsiavut of Canada it must be a beneficiary resident in Canada, aged 25, be able to understand and speak Inuttitut, not be in prison, on parole, not be of sound of mind, not to be bankrupt. So those are the qualifications as outlined in the Constitution. So they're also put into the Elections Act. Under Section 119, Nomination of Candidates. The nomination of a candidate for election as President must be in writing, be signed by three beneficiaries, each of whom must be eligible to vote in an election for President. State that the candidate for President of the Nunatsiavut meet the requirements. They have to sign an affidavit basically stating that the candidate meets the qualifications for President and contain written acceptance of the nomination by the candidate's declaration that he or she meets the requirements under Section 118 so the candidate has to sign a declaration that they meet the qualifications. So that is the process that is laid out right now. One of the recommendations is that a definition of speak and understand be placed in the Elections Act. We can put in the dictionary definition of speak, the dictionary definition of understand. Is that - what**

issue or problem will a definition of speak and understand, rectify or accomplish? The other questions I have around issuing a test are these. What will the process be for testing a candidate? Who determines who the testers will be? Who appoints them? What qualifications will the testers have to meet? What criteria will the testers use to determine if a candidate can speak and understand Inuttitut? How will the test be administered? When and where in the process will the test be applied? Will the testers issue a certificate that the candidate can speak and understand Inuttitut? If the tester determines that a candidate cannot speak and understand Inuttitut, what happens then? Will you go public with the results and let the voters decide if they want to vote for this person? Will the testers or the Nunatsiavut Electoral Officer have the authority to disqualify a candidate if they failed the test? These are things that would have to be determined ahead of time if there was a test included in the Elections Act, and these questions have not been answered, and I guess these are the questions that the Assembly will have to grapple with if, in fact, you act on your recommendations of this Committee.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** AngajukKâk Andersen.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** That was really helpful to us, but the Committee then, we said this. As far as we know that the only way to challenge whether or not someone can speak or understand Inuttitut right now is to go to, I think it's the Provincial

**Court, and we said, you know, if someone, if that was challenged in court, the Provincial Court would have to answer those very same questions, and not only that, but the Provincial Court judge who is going to hear that, he would say to us as Inuit, what are you doing here? You, the people, who speak and understand that language, you are probably better off than me to define what speak and understand is. So that's why we felt so strongly about, at least putting it into the Elections Act, because no judge is going to want to have to face that question and no judge is going to want to have to answer those questions. I'm sorry, I'm not pointing at you, and I'm pointing at your book. So it's something that we must be the only capable body in the world. Not the Assembly, but the Labrador Inuit, to answer those questions and to come up with an answer, not an answer, but a definition of speak and understand. This has been a problem since the beginning of the first election, and perhaps it should have been more clearly defined as our feeling. Now maybe it doesn't have to be that way. Maybe someone will say that if it can't be defined and maybe if there's no definition for it maybe it should be removed from the Constitution. Because why would you have something in the Constitution, Madam Chair, something that has no definition or can't be defined? And this is what we ask, Loretta. Loretta knows, as I said. Is it because we don't want to give a definition, or it can't be done?**

**MS MICHELIN:** It can be done. We can put in the Elections Act a definition of speak. Speak means to converse, to deliver an address or discourse to communicate to utter orally and articulate to use or to be able to use oral utterances as a language. Understand means to perceive the meaning of, the grasp the idea of and to comprehend by knowing the meaning of words employed as a language. Is that going to solve whatever problem the Committee sees that they've identified?

**MR. BARBOUR:** Thank you, Madam Chair. Because we're in a Committee of the Whole, I mean, really the question is this. The Constitution says speak and understand, but the Elections Act is under the Constitution. So is it possible, as you've just described put in the Elections Act what it means to speak and understand in the Elections Act without touching the Constitution?

**MS MICHELIN:** Yes. We can put a definition of speak and understand, a clarification, if you will, or a definition of speak and understand. We can put that in the Elections Act. It doesn't affect the Constitution. It's just a clarification of what that means. We can do that. I guess somebody has to come up, then, with the definition, and will that alleviate or solve whatever issue the Committee sees being around the qualification of a candidate for President?

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Charlotte.

**MR. WOLFREY:** I say leave it up to the lawyers to complicate things. But really Loretta, what you read out there in English is an English dictionary of what it means

to speak and understand, and surely people who speak Inuttitut and understand and read Inuttitut, I mean, is their definition the same, only is it in Inuttitut? Like I don't know. You read out an English dictionary version of what it means to speak and understand English or any language, I suppose, but still, though, I'm wondering if an Inuk who speaks and understands Inuttitut can't be the person who, I don't know who determines what it is to speak and understand Inuttitut, It seems also complicated when really it seems so simple, and then we've got to complicate stuff. I mean when our forefathers made our rules in the first place, they wanted the President to be able to speak fluently in Inuttitut and I suppose that was a better word to use, because people knew then what fluency, but speak and understand doesn't have that clear a definition like fluency does. I think that's part of the problem that where we're at, and I really think for us it didn't seem so hard that we could have our language experts put together some kinds of questions and talk to people who wanted to be a candidate and see if they could speak and understand Inuttitut if our language experts could understand them.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Sarah, did you want to speak?

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Yes. Actually, my question is for Loretta, and sort of picking up on what Charlotte and Tony had said, and I think Susan had alluded to. We do give our employees, a language bonus, I guess it's called, or a, I think it's called

or a bilingual bonus, and obviously there's a test given for that. And my question is why could that not be put as part of the criteria? Can I finish? And, you know, obviously, I don't know if it's, you know, the more, the higher you get on the score the more of a bonus you get. I'm not sure how the bonus works, and I don't know who around the table can fill me in on that, I'm not sure. The other question is with regards and I think Tony and Charlotte or Tony, more specifically, had sort of alluded to this in a way, it's very vague in the Constitution, and maybe you had asked Loretta to some extent, but I don't know if she answered you, and I'd like to ask why was it left - what happened to fluency in the definition. I believe it was there at one time and it seems to have gone, and why was it left so vague? I mean, that doesn't really help us in our situation now, but it would be good to help in understanding why it's left so vague.

**MS MICHELIN:** I have no idea. I wasn't around when this Constitution was drafted. I came in after it was already enacted. And I think - I don't know. I mean fluency is a higher test than - fluency in a language is a higher test, in my estimation, than speak and understand. Fluency has different connotations than just being able to sit down with somebody and have a conversation in their language. And so maybe it was determined that fluency was too high a test. I don't know. I can't answer that because I wasn't around then. But speak and understand in the normal, I guess, everyday understanding is that a

person be able to sit down with somebody that speaks the language and be able to carry on a conversation to be able to express your opinions, your views, your thoughts and to be able to understand and answer questions posed to you in whatever language you're having this dialogue in. And that would be the common understanding of speak and understand a language.

**MADAM SPEAKER: Dan.**

**MR. POTTLE:** Just to pick up, I guess, on Sarah's question, and I wasn't a part of constructing this Constitution either, but I certainly was party to the consultations with the then members of the Labrador Inuit Association when the Constitution Committee, I guess, put the Constitution together and sought support through that, through an election on the issue to accept the Labrador Inuit Constitution. I remember at that time the meeting, in particular, that I attended these questions arose at the same time, and the people who we asked the questions of very similar to people around this room today could not answer those questions for any of the people who asked those detailed questions. I guess like any piece of legislation, our Constitution is subject to interpretation. I'm not going to try to answer Sarah's question, but I would make the assumption that it was written that way because it could be subject to interpretation. I mean, and the thing for me with respect to being able to understand and speak Inuttitut to me that could be interpreted as being fluent or having a various degree of speaking



and understanding Inuttitut, which most of the Assembly Members do have some certain understanding of speaking and understanding Inuttitut. Mr. Barbour, by way of example, Ms Nochasak, Johannes, Herb, Wayne are basically fluent in Inuttitut versus my Inuttitut language skills which are limited, but, I mean, you know I believe that, I mean, I have a certain ability or degree of understanding and speaking Inuttitut. Is that enough for me to seek the election of office of President, I'm not sure on that yet? I mean, you know, maybe one day if I, you know, wanted to test that then you put yourself forward as per the eligibility criteria as for election of President. And if, I mean, you know, you have your nomination sign by three Labrador Inuit who state that the candidate for the President of Nunatsiavut meets the criteria for the office of the President then everybody has a right to test that, I think. Therein lies for me the test. It's very difficult to, I guess, and getting back to a point that President Leo had made about the bilingual bonus that we give Inuttitut speakers, I mean, we all hear from time to time that you have to separate the public service from people in election. So on that I guess I would ask the question could you administer the same test, for lack of a better word, that we apply to the public service? And I guess the full test of that, I mean, without having an appetite to change the Labrador Inuit Constitution is for people to put themselves forward and let the beneficiaries challenge you. Bring that to the only recourse that we have right now is to a court of law to have a court determine whether or not Danny Pottle or

**Denise Lane speak and understands Inuttitut, and Tony's point is well taken, I think. I mean, you know, I'm not a judge, neither is Tony, but I support his notion that, I mean, the judge would probably say you're the best judge of that, not me. I don't speak and understand your language. What does that mean? So, I mean, I guess what I'm trying to say there has to be maybe some more thought and consideration given to that, but to me the test is there. Put yourself out there. Let the beneficiaries challenge you, and then you take it upon yourself. If it's a challenging court, then you have to convince the court, if necessary, that you speak and understand Inuttitut.**

**Nakummek, Chair.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: We're in a Committee of the Whole now so it's much freer. If you're talking about the language issue that we had in place somewhere now, would you want to invite in Rita Andersen here to let her explain that? Go ahead.**

**MS MICHELIN: I just, one of the things that I think has to be understood is that if the Assembly wants the definition of speak and understand in the Elections Act, we can put it in. If the Assembly wants to have a process for testing in the Elections Act, we can put it in. The only thing is these questions that I ask would have to be fleshed out in the actual - you can't just say the candidates will be tested. You have to have a very structured approach to how that's going to be done and who would do it. One of the things that I have to say right off the bat is that if you have testers they would have to be independent**

of the government. We could not use, for example, government translators. The whole reason behind having an independent electoral officer is to keep the election of President totally separate from elected officials and the Nunatsiavut Government in the civil service so that there can never be say that the government interfered in any who became President. So if you're going to set up a committee, for example, to test the candidate's ability to speak and understand Inuttitut, it would have to be an independently-appointed committee.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Susan, would you like to speak?

**MS NOCHASAK:** Just going back to the bilingual test, I understand that it is for the Civil Service employees, and if we were to go down that route then it would have to be a few levels up from what the test is actually now for the Civil Service employees. If we were to administer a test for the presidential election then the Civil Service employee test is here, and the Nunatsiavut Presidential qualification test should be up here. What I'm trying to say is the magnitude of what's actually in the tests should increase from what we have right now for the Civil Service bilingual bonus. And just a question to Loretta, you had mentioned that it is possible to put a definition of speak and understand in the Elections Act. Can the word fluency be replaced in the Elections Act rather than having speak and understand? And just and one more thing, oh, lost my train of thought. I'll come back to it.

**MS MICHELIN:** I think, I mean, I can't answer that right now because I think you cannot put anything in the Elections Act that is in conflict with the Constitution. Right now the Constitution says speak and understand, which I think is not as high a test as fluency. So you cannot override the Constitution by putting something in the Elections Act that is in conflict with the Constitution. So I would be, I would advise extreme caution in putting in any definition of speak and understand that includes fluency because there's a whole connotation around fluency and definition of fluency. The test, I think, is higher.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Johannes, go ahead.

**MR. LAMPE:** Nakummek Itsivautak. We as a whole are speaking about this very important issue, very heavy issue, with Jack Shiwak and our Legal Aid here as well and I also know that the committee done a lot of working in trying to straighten this issue out and we all know that we cannot change the Constitution. Madam Chair, I truly appreciate the work that the Committee has done, and the report that Jack Shiwak gave and with the help of legal advisor, Loretta. At the election for President I was campaigning with Sarah, and a number of constituents who were supporting the Presidential election were suggesting that I challenge the other candidate for President at the time, but I had no grounds in anywhere in the Labrador Inuit Constitution to do that, and so at one of the Assembly sittings I raised

concerns that the constituents had toward the Presidential Election of 2012. And to speak to the bilingual bonus, The Interpreter Translator Committee Isumatat Committee who to work on definitions and terms in Inuttitut have been challenged by definitions and terms and appointing for a bilingual bonus as fluent interpreters and translators of the Nunatsiavut Government. But at the same time this bilingual bonus, you know, got out of hand where civil servants were, you know, if they could say Ullâkut or Atelihai and Kaniven we're becoming, you know, included in the bilingual bonus. And so that we thought we could resolve that issue by striking a committee or standing committee to get back the standing committee on language, and we are, because that committee was dissolved when a general election happened three years ago, we are hoping that we will get this committee back. We are working with a legal advisor on this and we had hoped that we would put this on the table at the sitting, but we are not fully prepared to do that, and so hopefully in the fall sitting we will come up with a recommendation. And so there are many issues which relate to Inuttitut, that language, and my department is working as hard as they can too, to speak to understand and to use Inuttitut before we lose it. And I know that it was mentioned that our forefathers were, you know, concerned about our culture and of our language as Labrador Inuit, and so language, Inuttitut, is one of those values that we consider as very important to Labrador Inuit and especially within Nunatsiavut. And so I appreciate what the Committee and what Jack

**Shiwak has put in his report and the legal advisor, Loretta. But we still have a long way to go, no doubt. Nakummek.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: Also wishing to speak to this report or to ask questions of any of the Members. Go ahead, Susan.**

**MS NOCHASAK: Found my train of thought. Loretta, you had mentioned these questions should be answered, and the complications in regards of how would we prove this Committee would be the experts? Just thinking in regards of our communities, we all know who is actually fluent. We all know who actually can speak and understand Inuttitut. And I understand that these questions can be complicated if we make them complicated, but we can also answer them because we, ourselves, know who's capable of actually being an expert in regards of speaking and understand Inuttitut, and if we can't use our government employees, then maybe we can a church chapel servant who only do the Inuttitut services can be an expert. An Inuttitut teacher up at the schools can be an expert, and I'm sure that if we give them the task to answer these questions, they can be answered. I just, like, all along I just don't see the complication in my head in regards of trying to find a definition or an expert to administer a test of speaking and understand Inuttitut.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: Is there anyone else? Ed, Loretta. Ed, go ahead.**

**MR. TUTTAUK: Thank you, Madam Chair. I like the recommendations put forth in this report. However, when it comes to the test, I'm pretty much in agreement**

with legal counsel as who administers the test. In partiality of the Testing Committee, what happens if they deem that candidate not qualified to run for Presidency, how do the Testing Committee break that to the voting public? There's still a lot more questions are raised by forming a committee to determine testing for qualified candidates. A little, I think a little more work has to be done on that issue.

**MR. SHIWAK:** All right. Thank you. One of the reasons for bringing this up in my report is I get a lot of calls to my office during a Presidential Election from people questioning my on candidates, whether they can speak or understand Inuttitut. And the only answer I can really give them is I have three affidavits and the candidate's consent saying yes, I do meet the qualifications. The affidavits are saying I've known the person for so many years and this person meets all qualifications, including speak and understand. And that's the only answer that I can give them. I get arguments that I know this person. I know this person can't speak Inuttitut. I know this person don't understand Inuttitut. I don't know that. So that's where the recommendation is coming from to be looked at, because, you know, as of right now with nothing else there I have to accept the nomination along with the affidavit as is.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Is there any other people that wishing to speak? Patricia.

**MS. KEMUKSIGAK:** I think including a definition and possibly having independent test is an excellent recommendation from the Special Committee, and maybe to answer some of the questions that was asked by legal counsel could also be possibly tasked by the Special Committee to answer, or I'm not sure if the Special Committee is now dissolved, but there could be a committee that could answer some of the questions so it will be clear when it's time to do the testing. So all those questions that Loretta and other people had could be done ahead of time. And when somebody runs, or possibly are interested in running for Presidential election would have the test administered to them, and then they would be accepted to be a Presidential Election. There could be something put in place to that extent. I'm not quite sure, but, you know, another Special Committee or the same one could look at those specific questions. That's my opinion. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Loretta.

**MS MICHELIN:** I can tell you I'm asking this because, obviously, it would be left to lawyers to do any amendments to the Elections Act, and if you're going to include the requirement of a test, and the conditions around that test are not clear, I can tell you at the next election Jack is going to run into grave and numerous concerns. That's why, if there is a test included all of the details of that test have to be clearly outlined in the Act so that there's no question about, okay, what happens now if this Testing Committee decides that the



person doesn't speak and understand Inuttitut? Who has the authority to do what? Can that person be disqualified? Who has the authority to disqualify them? And, obviously, if there's a test there's going to be questions around the test. What are the qualifications of the testers? How fair was the actual test that was applied to the candidate? When in the process, in the whole election process, will this test be given to the candidate? And that's why all of these details have to be worked out ahead of time and included in the Act. Otherwise you're going to run into a brick wall at the next Presidential Election after these changes and amendments have been included.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Patricia.

**MS KEMUKSIGAK:** Actually, I guess I wasn't real clear, but what I was trying to say is kind of like what Loretta said. It all needs to be worked out. If we put it in the Act, but there's needs to be processes worked out and procedures worked out, and all these questions that need to be answered will be clearly defined and before it can be enacted. So there's no what if kind of things. So what I've tried to say earlier is what Loretta just said, but clearer. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Tony.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** Yeah, and we do not expect the legal counsel to come back tomorrow with an amendment in their hand. We understand that this is going to take time, but we also understand that if this is not done, and if it's not acted upon

there is going to be challenge, whether we write the definition or not. Sooner or later there's going to be challenge, and it'll end up in a provincial court, and I think that if we can somehow - our Committee believes, not me, hey. Our Committee believes if we can act now and move towards seeing a definition then it's going to be a lot better than ending up in a court. That's why we lead.

**MR. BARBOUR:** And, Pat, if I can just add onto what Tony had just said then now you can understand why it was hard to bring this report to the Assembly and to the Committee of the Whole. It was hard. Now to your point, though, a couple of technical points. Patricia, this spring sitting I assume the President and the speaker will close for this session, and yet our mandate is one of this Committee's mandate has now run out after this sitting, okay, number one. And if you look at it on page six, just above number one, we say clearly define mandate to review the Labrador Inuit Constitution to determine whether amendment should be explored, whether it's the Constitution or within the Constitution and under the Elections Act. The Elections Act, I think, says speak and understand Inuttitut with no definitions to it, but because it was the same wording as the Constitution we couldn't come here with something. Now Loretta has given examples of how it can be done. Now that was the toughest issue was the language issue. Now you look at a couple of other things that the NEO has looked at, one has been, you know,

the Easter Holiday. It's an issue. Electronic voting is another issue. Can be done, but it still has to be that beneficiaries have a right under the Constitution to vote by paper ballot. So always my question was this one, and I still stand by it. When this Committee was struck, there's going to be very little that the NEO report can, you know, based on his recommendations, that the Committee could do, and that's the one thing we've already done is to open this office early without touching near the Constitution there, still with this test. And my question really, to Loretta, is this. Based on those three or four, based on the NEO's report, do you foresee, can you foresee a referendum on the Constitution on those issues?

**MS MICHELIN:** I can't foresee it. I mean, I don't know.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay, it's getting near lunch time and we have to be back at here one o'clock for the launch of the Rosetta Stone from 1:00 to 2:00. We come back into Assembly at two o'clock, and lunch will be ready now down there at the hotel at 12:00. So I'm wondering about this report here, did you want to adopt the report now and it looks like the recommendations come in and set up another striking committee to look at these recommendations, and come back to the Assembly with that report, after looking at these recommendations here, and hearing the questions and comments around the table. So are you willing to now adopt this report by this Special Elections Committee? Yes?

**MR. POTTLE:** At this point in time, Madam Chair, I'd say Auka, I'd like to have some more discussion. We've only touched on, I think, two of the issues that was raised by the Special Committee, that being the language requirement for President and the issue of absolute majority for a winner for the election for the President. We haven't touched on - we touched on briefly, I think, and skirted around the other three recommendations from the Chief Electoral Officer, so I think I would like to have some more discussion and I have some questions in mind relative to some of these, the three recommendations that Mr. Shiwak has put forward, and I'd like to hear, I think, the answer to Mr. Barbour's question from, Ms. Michelin and say a few words on that as well. Nakummek.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay. So what we'll do when we come back at two o'clock is we'll continue into the Committee of the Whole and continue on with these discussions. So we'll now break for lunch.

(Recess)

**MR. LAMPE:** Nakummek, UKâlatik. As Minister of Culture, Recreation and Tourism for the Nunatsiavut Government I would like to present to Minister McGraw of our Labrador Affairs, a T-shirt from the Torngasok Cultural Centre.

**MR. MCGRAW:** Thank you. Nakummek.

[Applause]

**MADAM SPEAKER:** We're now back in Assembly. We're still in Committee of the Whole.

We're still on Elections Report. Why don't we go up to page six of the recommendations and go through each one and then have a discussion on each one and maybe you could decide what we want done or something looked into on each recommendation. Yes, go ahead, Darryl.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Did you say we're talking about the recommendations from the NEO or the recommendations from the Special Committee?

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The recommendation on the Elections Report...

**MR. SHIWAK:** Okay.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** ...that this are on, and their recommendations, I think, comes on page six.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Starts with number one, does it?

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Yes, on the...

**MR. SHIWAK:** Okay, thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The first one there, I don't have a number one on it. Where it says, "Recommendations," if you want to discuss that and see if there's a decision to come to on what's to be done.

**MR. POTTLE:** Thank you, Madam Chair. Just in relation to recommendation number one, I think that's easily attainable. The Member Services Committee is responsible for budgeting for the operation of the Assembly, I guess, for lack

of a better word, and I mean during my time as speaker, Deputy Speaker and Speaker prior to the last election, I mean...

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay, first of all, we're going to look at the one above that. Okay if you want to have a discussion, first, on the part in the beginning, the first recommendation is in italics there, "The Special Committee recommends that the definition of speak and understand is for the Labrador Inuit Constitution should be clearly defined in the Nunatsiavut Elections Act." As well, "The Special Committee has recommended that all candidates for President of Nunatsiavut be tested to determine whether or not they meet the language requirements as for Labrador Inuit Constitution." So we'll have a discussion about that one first. Tony, you want to speak to that?

**MR. ANDERSEN:** Okay. Well, I think that, you know, we did, as an Assembly, Madam Chair, have good discussion about the requirement for candidates for President to speak and understand Inuttitut today. Or this is what we all hope for once that - we didn't outline procedure for this, but and I have to ask and perhaps the best person to ask is the legal counsel now for some help on how the Assembly proceeds to deal with that recommendation, which is at the middle of the page, I guess. But, you know, if you go back up to the top of the page it says in the second paragraph, "While the NEO made several recommendations in his report outlined below, he also raised other issues especially on any felt warranted for an examination, namely, the

requirement for candidates for the President speak and understand Inuttitut," which is what we had good discussion on this morning, I think. But, as Dan pointed out just before lunch, there is another one there that says the need to have absolute majority of votes cast to win an election for President. And the reason why we felt that that warranted discussion was because of the length of time that it took to elect the last President. I know, it's several months it was between the first election and the second? Two months? And we thought maybe that the Assembly wanted to have some discussion on that. Again, that requires Constitutional change, I think.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Oh, okay, who's speaking? Loretta's...

**MS MICHELIN:** Yes.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** ...speaking first and then Charlotte.

**MS MICHELIN:** In the Constitution, Part I(2) amendment of the Labrador Inuit Constitution there's an amending formula, and what it says in 1.2.1 is that the provisions of the Labrador Inuit Constitution listed on Schedule 1(a) may be amended by a resolution passed by at least 60 percent of the members of the Nunatsiavut Assembly that has also been approved in a referendum by more than 50 percent of Inuit aged 16 years or older who vote. If you go to Schedule 1(a) it lists all of the provisions in the Constitution that can only be amended by this formula, and if you go to a Schedule 1(a) all parts of Chapter 3 are included. Chapter 3 deals with the President of

Nunatsiavut, which includes presidential elections. So any amendment to that part of the Constitution can only be amended by a resolution passed by 60 percent of the Members of the Assembly and a referendum. So that's why if you're looking at Constitutional amendments, you have to be really clear on what it is that you want amended and how amendments can be brought in. The Constitution is the cornerstone of our government, like it is for most governments. It sets out the structure of the government. In most governments, amendments, Constitution amendments takes years of debate, discussion, review and, you know, it's not something that you do quickly or without a lot of careful consideration. So if there was a Committee set up to review possible amendments to the Constitution, the mandate of that Committee should be very carefully thought out and the mandate should be very specific as to what that Committee would be looking at. So Constitutional amendments are not simple things.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Charlotte.

**MS WOLFREY:** Loretta, I know what you're saying, and I understand what you're saying, but I've got to say this, I mean, really, look, if we look at what our Constitution did to a simple election, it requires some change, I think, because, I mean, even the dates, which sometimes interferes with Easter, whatever and stuff like when we're looking at all - we were just looking at the election, and look how many things we felt there needed to be, you know,



like that got in the way of, in some cases, of like, our - NEO was trying to make things better by making some recommendations, but I'm trying to say, I guess, look how our Constitution is written, that a simple thing like an election, or I think it's not too complicated, but it's so complicated that we've got to wait for years to change things, so I guess what I'm saying is, and we only looked at one part of it, was the election, and if we start to look at other parts or whatever, what are we going to come up with? There's something in just the elections part of it, we wondered about, speak and understand. We wondered about having an absolute majority, wondered about the dates. You know what I mean, just in the elections part. So it tells me, though, that for somehow or other, if it's that many, I don't want to call them oversights or something, I guess, I'll call them in our Constitution, then maybe we need to look at it. If there's that many just in the elections part of it, alone.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Thank you. I think it's kind of two-part here, really. What Tony had just brought about, about the changes that, you know, we should be discussing in the Constitution, and then further down a Special Committee with a clear mandate to review the Constitution, and then we have legal counsel advising us that, obviously, any sort of Constitutional change, and I agree the Constitution is the cornerstone of who we are. Our Constitution defines us as a government. It, you know, it's just the basics of everything, and I think it's a very important document, but as a candidate in the

presidential election hearing some of the concerns and seeing it in the report and seeing the report from the Special Committee on the presidential election, there are some real issues with the - just from my experience, from the presidential election procedure. And I think it's not just from the NEO, it's not just from the Committee that looked at the NEO's report, and it's from our beneficiaries. There are some concerns with it. Whether it's the language clarification, whether it's the dates, whether it's going to the second ballot, all of that. And maybe it is something we have to look at, or maybe we have to look at some way of resolving a lot of those issues within the Elections Act because I, for one, and I think William had mentioned this, I think it was at the last sitting of how we have to be careful when we start looking at the Constitution and making changes to it. We have to be really careful. But you also have to look at what's in the Constitution, and when it comes to the presidential election of maybe, you know, maybe there are some things we need to look at, but maybe we can look at fixing those things by using the Elections Act to do it, if we can. But I think we can sit here and we can talk about the recommendations that the Special Committee came up with and, you know, like I said, it's not - these aren't things that just came from the NEO report and from the Committee. They're from Nunatsiavimiut in general. I guess, you know, we could sit here for a month or two months or three months, or we could sit here till the next election and not have anything resolved, but I think we have to start somewhere as to

how, you know, we're going to be ready for the next election so the next Assembly is not going through this again. How we do it, I don't know, and, like I said, I'm not sure if we should be looking at amending our Constitution. I don't know if we can solve it by using the Elections Act, and if we are considering amending our Constitution, we'd better take the time it needs to do it understanding that, you know, these are things that we here sitting around this table can say that we want this, this and this in the Constitution, but we have seventy-five hundred Nunatsiavimiut out there that have a say in what's in our Constitution. And I think that's, you know, I don't think that really solves or answers or responds to anything here. It's just something, I think, we have to think about.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay, what about now the first recommendation which where they're not talking about the change of the Constitution is the middle one in, on that page in italics there, the one I read earlier. The definition as it's printed out should be clearly defined in the Nunatsiavut Elections Act. So that's number one, is the recommendation to find out can that work somehow? Is there somehow that.

**MR. POTTLE:** I think we heard this morning and maybe I heard wrong, but I think I heard the opinion from legal counsel that that recommendation certainly can be done without a Constitutional amendment. I mean, you know, if there's an appetite by the Assembly to look at amending the Elections Act to make that

happen, then there would be no need for a Constitutional amendment on that.

**MR. TUTTAUK:** I think it's a moot point putting in the definition of speak and understand, unless you're going to put into the word fluency, which we're not going to do. I think the words speak and understand are taken as being understood. I think people know what speak and understand means. Unless we're going to use fluency then, then what's the point of putting in a definition? It's just my thoughts.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** Well, the way we looked at it, the point of putting in the definition is because at this point in time the only ways to challenge someone whether or not someone speaks or understands Inuttitut, is through the court system. And we thought, as a Committee, that if there was a clear definition in the Elections Act, then perhaps there was a way that people could challenge a candidate without dragging it into the Newfoundland Labrador justice system through Provincial Court. And that is the whole basis why we wanted to see a definition for speak and understand. That's the point.

**MR. TUTTAUK:** But the second point of that paragraph states that you wanted to see a test for all candidates. I like that idea, as I mentioned this morning, but then again we have to make sure we address all the questions that legal counsel raised this morning.

**MR. MITCHELL:** Nakummek. Yes, I feel that the words speak and understand shouldn't become so hard. Do we have to drag ourselves through the courts for months at a time to say whether we can understand and speak Inuttitut? I don't think we can. I don't think we've got a language here, Inuttitut language, and if we've got to prove something by going through the courts for months at a time then I think there's something wrong here. Sure, it's in the Constitution. The Constitution's very complicated, but like Ed said, if you take out the word fluent and speak and understand, I think that's simple enough to do that. I would think so. Like I don't think we should go months and years because even here is mentioned to see whether we can speak and understand the language. My goodness, what have we come to?

**MS. WOLFREY:** I guess it would depend on what definition you, or what you want to use. Like, for instance, if William Barbour or Johannes asked me in Inuttitut Kaniven? I could answer in Inuttitut. Does that mean I can speak and understand Inuttitut? No. I'm just because I know one phrase or two phrases. You know what I mean? What I'm trying to say is I don't know, if I could answer someone's question in Inuttitut, a simple question, does that mean I can speak and understand Inuttitut? And who's going to define whether they ask me what's your name, how are you, what are you doing, where are you going, where did you come from, all that kind of stuff, I might be able to understand all those little phrases, but I wouldn't be able to sit up

and have a proper conversation with William Barbour in Inuttitut where, you know, like where we would be talking I mean, I can understand some phrases, but I wouldn't be able to have a proper conversation with William Barbour in Inuttitut that we could be talking about the bear skin on the floor and the weather out there. All that all together, like, you know what I mean? I don't know if I'm explaining myself, but I wish I could, but it's just that everyone has a different opinion of speak and understand, I think. That's what I'm trying to say, and some people might think that just because I can understand a few phrases, you know, I don't know. I'm just trying to say that I think that was where I was at when I was thinking about this is that whose definition of it is speak and understand? And if we had this test, and if we had this definition and stuff I think it would be a lot easier to determine because I think in a test you would be asked a lot more complicated questions than just do you understand Inuttitut, what's your name, where you from are, and little things like that. Are you tired? If someone asked me was I tried in Inuttitut, I can answer them in Inuttitut, but I think in a test it would be a lot more complicated than that to really be sure that I could speak and understand.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Susan.

**MS NOCHASAK:** And as a Committee member, like, that was a big part of our debate.

That was a big part of our discussions. What does speak and understand

actually mean, and we couldn't answer that. Even though there are people on the Committee that were speaking and understanding Inuttitut, we still couldn't come up with a definition in regards of what our voting public actually wanted to know what that meant. And I kind of agree with you what you said, it's kind of a moot point because that's a reason for a lot of the debate because we couldn't really define what we are saying in regards of a candidate speaking and understanding Inuttitut. And when we were having the discussions we had mentioned that in order to be a candidate before it actually went out to the voting public that we'd only accept the candidates if they pass a certain kind of criteria or certain kind of test. Like the way we had gone about it in the past elections is that you come out with your name and you submit your candidacy out to the public right away, and while we had felt as a Committee was that the candidates would submit their names to this Committee before coming out to the public, and having to pass this criteria, and then the candidates who actually can qualify to be a candidate would then come out in the general public. That was some part of our discussions as well. Did I make sense? Like you'd have to go through this test first before you come out to the public on whether or not you can be a presidential candidate, and if you pass, then the people that passed would be the ones you'd vote for. That was just another part of discussions that we had.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Gary.

**MR. MITCHELL:** Yes, I just want to say that yes, I agree that there should be some kind of criteria laid down for speak and understand. I wasn't talking about just using phrases, you know, should be some kind of criteria laid down to see what speak and understand means and like with a special test drawn up, but I guess we can ask Special Committee to do that. I don't know. I certainly agree that we should have some kind of criteria laid down for speak and understand.

**MR. PIERCY:** And awhile back Johannes was talking about where we getting a bonus if we're bilingual, and now they're going to a review of what actually has to be spoken before you get being able to be paid that amount of money or whatever it is they're getting. And once that recommendation is done, why don't we follow that and it's like where Jack is here, he's not employed by the Assembly or Nunatsiavut Government, or should say what is he, a paid employee, right? So he's outside the Assembly, he's outside of Nunatsiavut. So once we get the criteria down for what Tourism, Recreation is doing for what they're going to be the bilingual staff that we do have, why don't we follow that recommendation set up a Committee that's outside Nunatsiavut and outside the Assembly to review, like, what Susan was saying, put their names forward to that Committee, because everything's supposed to be confidential, and if they don't meet it, well, their names was never known or



it was never put out there to be offered for President for Nunatsiavut. Thank you.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** I notice that most of our laws and acts that we pass in here, there's always a list of definitions, sometimes they're quite long. And I understand it's written by lawyers, and I think that's mostly what we asked this morning was that could there be a definition of being able to speak and understand. Now we are getting, Madam Chair, into almost the same where we were this morning. The legal counsel already said this morning that it can be done. She did this. She wanted a definition in the Elections Act, we can do it. So, you know, I guess it's a matter of the Assembly agreeing that should there be a definition in the Act and, you know, right off the top of her head she listed, what was 20 questions or so. And, you know, if they've all got to be answered, then so be it. And we knew it wasn't going to happen overnight. You know, but we think it can be done, and that we should ask her again what she said this morning. She said it could be done, so.

**MS MICHELIN:** Yes, I did say that there can in the Elections Act a clarification, if you want, of what speak and understand means. That would, obviously, have to be thought out so that it makes sense. There can also be a test, but the details around how that test is actually administered, who administers it, what the criteria used will be, the process, what happens with the results, all of those are details that would have to be worked out and clearly approved by the

**Assembly before they were actually included in the Elections Act. I think maybe the first thing is for the Assembly to decide whether or not they think it's appropriate to have a definition or a clarification of what speak and understand means. If, in fact, they do want some kind of a test included in the Elections Act and going through including all of the questions that I pose. Like, we're in the process. I know that Susan mentioned the fact, maybe at the beginning, when a candidate, or before a candidate submits their name, that they go through this test, but these are all really important details that would have to be clearly defined and laid out before the Elections Act could be amended to include them and, obviously, they should be run by the Assembly again before actual amendments to the Elections Act are tabled to bring that into the Act. So I guess we should go through it, and the Assembly needs to decide if they want a definition, and if they want a test included in the Elections Act.**

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Can we take a vote on this recommendation now to see if the Assembly wants that work done and to see. This is just this one here in italic. Yes, Johannes.

**MR. LAMPE:** I want to say a few words before the election. The Labrador Inuit way of life and language. You're doing your own thing, you're doing alright you don't have to wait for anything. Doing the white man's way, they get into conflict, the white man's way of life and their language and to look to it to

our Inuttitut ways, in Inuk language and understanding each other, that way in English, talking about it gets marked harder and the Inuit bylaws, or not one Inuit bylaw or anything was never mentioned, they have to think about this.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** So the Assembly - okay, Charlotte.

**MS WOLFREY:** Just one question, Pat, if we're going to vote, are we going to vote on two separate things, one is that we're going to put a definition of speak and understand, and the second thing is that there's going to be a test to ensure that you can speak and understand, or are we going to put it together in one question? One vote, we'll vote on one thing or two?

**MADAM SPEAKER:** We're only voting on this one first recommendation that we're here talking about, the Special Committee recommends that the definition of speak and understand as per for the Labrador Inuit Constitution should be clearly defined in the Nunatsiavut Elections Act. So the first one is be clearly defined the Nunatsiavut Elections Act. So do the Assembly agree on having this work done to have it put in there? To have it worked on. Worked on and worded. Like to see something worked on there to see if it can be put in there. Yes, Danny?

**MR. POTTLE:** Who would do that work?

**MADAM SPEAKER:** What?

**MR. POTTLE:** Who would do that work?

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Well, we don't know yet.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** I believe that, if I may, Madam Chair, it will be the same people who drafts all amendments to our Acts, the legal counsels.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Yes, Sarah.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Sorry, and I think Wayne, you were probably going to ask this too. Can you just clarify again what we're voting on?

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay. Yes.

**MR. PIERCY:** Yes, that's what I was going to ask. Just repeat it so that when I do vote I understand what I'm voting on. Not just bits and pieces.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The Special Committee recommends that the definition of speak and understand as per the Labrador Inuit Constitution should be clearly defined in the Nunatsiavut Elections Act.

**MS NOCHASAK:** So what we're saying is that it's either going to be legal counsel or another committee going to get together again to find wording such that it can be put in the Elections Act. Is that what we're voting on right now? To find people, yes but who's going to do it? Who?

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Pat?

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Yes, Sarah?

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Can I just ask Tony something?

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Yes, go ahead. We're still in Committee of the Whole, so feel free.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Tony, I guess it would be better directed that the Committee that came up with this recommendation, what did, like, do you know exactly what you had in mind when you came up with that recommendation and maybe you would - the Committee would be better off in wording what we could be voting on, in what the intent was of that recommendation?

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Yes, Tony.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** We didn't, and even we said so. The Committee, however, has no specific recommendations as to the definition of speak and understand how a test would be conducted and in what format. But now, Madam Chair, like, and I don't know evidence to it, you know, and why this would be any different than usually they are, or legal counsel are the people who draft our laws and Acts and amendments to them, and whatever resource they need, we, as an Assembly, try to make sure that it's at their disposal, when they draft, so if there are special people that they need, whether it's Wilson or Rita or Susan or William or Herb, that, you know, they would have those people, those experts at their disposal in drafting an amendment. They would draft it, bring it back again here. This is usually how things are done, and I don't know why this would be any different.

**MS MICHELIN:** One suggestion that I think I would have, instead of legal counsel drafting actual amendments to bring, that one possible first step could be that legal counsel come up with a memo to the Assembly outlining possible definitions

and a possible test before it's actually drafted in amendment form so that it may help the Assembly because I don't think it should be left totally to legal counsel to come up with a definition and a test, but it might be possible to come up with some suggested wording and some suggested process for a possible test that could be then brought back to the Assembly in the form of a memo for a further discussion.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** As well, the Special Committee is recommending that all candidates for President of Nunatsiavut be tested to determine whether or not they meet the language as per the Labrador Inuit Constitution. Yes, Wayne.

**MR. PIERCY:** If we're going to do a test, I don't mean to put Rita on the spot, but she's done a Rosetta Stone CD. Why don't we get well, Rita's been here longer than most of us put together? Rita's been with the LIA. She moved her way up through Nunatsiavut Government, and she's still here with us yet. So and today you saw that, saw the presentation that she done. So we, as Labrador Inuit, entrusted Rita to produce, along with the crowd from Rosetta Stone, something for our younger generations to come up and follow and learn from. So why don't we get or to see if she's willing to do a test up, if that's going to be a part of the process for choosing the next President.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Well, that was discussed already. Yes, Charlotte.

**MS WOLFREY:** I think that the suggestion that Loretta made and, like, the process for our test or something like that, that would come later, who doesn't - what's going

to be included in it and things like that, but the process outlined to how we're going to determine how a test is going to be run and when and who's going to write it and all that would be later. It's just that the process would be outlined. Loretta's saying that she's going to make, I mean, not necessarily her, but her legal counsel is going to make some possible suggestions of definitions and suggested process for testing and stuff like that, so if we had that to look at, we would be able to, I mean, put our minds together maybe and make some comments on some of those things, and after that we, after the process is outlined we would determine who's going to do it because at that - I heard at one point today that any of Nunatsiavut's employees would be - I mean, I could, if I was a Minister I could go and say to one of employees you do this, this and this to make it fit me. You know what I mean? So, I mean, it's got to be, I think, outside of our employees or something because we could if we wanted to, determine the outcome or whatever. Anyway, I think what Loretta is suggesting, I'd like to vote for that and say that that sounds good to me.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay. We're getting all over the place here. Yes, Danny.

**MR. POTTLE:** I don't know. As an Assembly Member, I find it almost impossible to sit here today and make a decision on this matter. I mean, I think it takes a lot, it needs a lot more thought. It needs to, I don't know, there needs to be a plan, I guess, maybe put together or somebody work on what to do with this

report. Madam Chair, you had asked early on when the Committee of the Whole had met whether or not the Assembly was ready to accept the report as tabled, and we wanted some further discussion on the recommendations on that. My fear is as an Assembly Member, and I guess it's a reality, whichever way we look at it, whether we leave the Constitution the way it is, whether we work on a definition to define speaking and understanding Inuttitut. You come up with a test. All that, in itself, is subject to interpretation and challenge, so, I mean, I think we need to have more thought put in this to make sure that we're not going to be faced with these challenges down the road. That's my...

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Yes, but...

**MR. POTTLE:** ...I mean, how we do that, I don't know.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** But right now, all right, in this paragraph here there are two recommendations, right? And I wanted to know if the Assembly accepts the recommendation number one, their recommendation to be worked on and looked into. So do the Assembly agree with the Committee's recommendation on this number one? That the definition of speak and understand should be clearly defined in the Nunatsiavut Elections Act. Of course it has to be worked on in many ways and come back to the Assembly, but is this recommendation what the Assembly accepts and wants to be worked on? Yes, Patricia.



**MS KEMUKSIGAK:** Madam Speaker, I was just wondering if it would be beneficial to, like, read out the whole italicized paragraph as one - well, there are two recommendations, but have them together and add to it, legal counsel to write a memo for suggestions for definitions and processes for Inuttitut tests to be brought to the next Assembly. And then we can vote on that. That's just a suggestion.

**MR. BARBOUR:** Madam Chair, can I just, on Patricia's point about adding onto it, I mean, this is a Special Committee's report that's tabled to the Assembly. It is tabled to the Assembly. Recommendations, as they are, I mean, you accept them, you object them, you amend them, but the report, itself, has to be, because it's tabled, it has to be discussed, and Loretta has been pointing out a number of times what can be done. And the Special Committee, our real issue was this. She can understand in the Constitution just the way it reads, but in the Elections Act it also says the same wording, speak and understand, only, and what we've been trying to get our heads around is this how do we make that definition stronger, speak and understand. Loretta gave some examples this morning, and I think that's what Pat is asking that we vote on, because that's where we were really stuck, and it wasn't easy for us to be stuck there, for none of us, none of the Committee members had a difficult time with it.

**MS KEMUKSIGAK:** I'm sorry, Madam Speaker, I didn't mean amend, I didn't mean add on to the report. I meant you write some, like, almost like a motion that we're going to vote on, that's what I meant. I'm sorry, I wasn't clear. I didn't mean add to, add onto this report. I meant if that was in the form of a motion with that paragraph about legal counsel to write a memo. I'm sorry if I wasn't clear.

**MR. SHEPPARD:** Yes, thank you, Madam Chair, it's been a quite a lengthy debate, but it's a very important issue. I just want one question, I guess, cleared up before I think you mentioned a break, if I understand this correctly. The Constitution override the Elections Act, that correct?

**MS MICHELIN:** Mm-hmm.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** Okay. In the Constitution it clearly state you speak and understand the language. If we further define the Elections Act to define speak and understand, isn't that taking away from the Constitution or adding on?

**MS MICHELIN:** It could be considered a clarification of further clarifying what speak and understand means. That's why I said you couldn't put in the Elections Act that a candidate would have to be fluent in Inuttitut because that would change the meaning of - that would be a higher standard than just speak and understand. But I think that you could possibly put a clarification of speak and understand or a definition of speak and understand in the Elections Act,

but you couldn't put in the Elections Act that a candidate has to be fluent because that would be a higher standard than is found in the Constitution.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** We're going to break for 10 minutes.

(Recess)

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Hi, we're back in Assembly, back in COW. Okay. We're still talking about the report from the Elections Committee. The report has already been received by the Assembly. Now we need to have the Assembly accept it, and by accepting it, it doesn't mean that we agree with it, or agree with anything in it. So right now we're going to have the Assembly accept the report, that we have it accepted here, and then tomorrow there will be motions done on the recommendations from this Committee and then we can go into discussion on that when that time is there. So do the Assembly agree to accept this report from the Elections Committee?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay. This report has been accepted and we'll deal with the motions of it tomorrow. So now we're going back into Assembly coming out of the Committee of the Whole. Thank you, Loretta. So down on our, back to our Orders of the Day, we're down to item number 12, "Tabling of Documents".

**MR. SHIWAK:** Me?

**MADAM SPEAKER:** I recognize the First Minister, the Honourable Darryl Shiwak.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am pleased to table the Nunatsiavut Government's 2012-2013 Annual Report. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek. This document will be numbered as table document 2-2-8. I now recognize the Minister of Finance, the Honourable Dan Pottle, who, I understand, has two documents to table.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. I'd like to table the Financial Statements of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust, and the Financial Statements of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust, both for the timeframe ending December 1st, 2012. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. These documents will be numbered as tabled documents 3-2-8 and tabled document 4-2-8. I now recognize the President of Nunatsiavut, the Honourable Sarah Leo.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am pleased to table the document titled, "Composition of Trustees of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Settlement Trust and the Tasiujatsoak Trust".

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable President. This document will be numbered table document 5-2-8. I think that's our tabled documents for the day. We'll go down to item number 13, "Notices of Motion". I recognize the Ordinary Member for Nain, William Barbour.

**MR. BARBOUR:** Nakummek, UKâlatik. Madam Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, June 12th, I will move, seconded by the Ordinary Member from

**Postville, Glen Sheppard, that the following paragraph be inserted on page nine of the Elected Officials policies under business travel section number four. Financial responsibility, accountability, are the goals of the NG and A. Assembly members are required to use Assembly charters to travel back and forth from Assembly sitting. Should any member use any means of travel that have not been approved by the President or the Speaker, the cost of that travel will be the sole responsibility of that Member. This directive is being issued, not only to ensure financial accountability, but also to address any insurance or liability issues that may arise. Nakummek.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: Nakummek, Mr. Barbour. "Notice of Motion for First Reading of Bills," I recognize the First Minister, the Honourable Darryl Shiwak.**

**MR. SHIWAK: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, June 12th I will move first reading of Bill 2013-04 an Act to amend the Beneficiaries Enrolment Act. Thank you, Madam Speaker.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you, First Minister. Down to item number 15, "Motions". I recognize the Ordinary Member for Nain, William Barbour.**

**MR. BARBOUR: Nakummek, UKâlatik. Madam Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to waive Standing Order 37 and move my motion today dealing with the policy on charter use by elected officials. Thank you, Madam Speaker.**

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The Ordinary Member for Nain is seeking unanimous consent to move his motion today. Are there any nays? There are none. Mr. Barbour, proceed with your motion.

**MR. BARBOUR:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Whereas the Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology requested the speaker of the Nunatsiavut Assembly to work with the comptroller to develop a policy requiring elected official to use charters when travelling to Assembly meetings and whereas a draft of the policy was reviewed by the Member Services Committee for inclusion in the Elected Officials Policy. Now therefore I move, and seconded by the Ordinary Member for Postville, Glen Sheppard, that the following paragraph be inserted on page nine of the Elected Officials policies under the Business Travel section, number four. "Financial responsibility, accountability are the goals of the NG and A. Assembly members are required to use Assembly charters to travel back and forth from Assembly sittings. Should any member use any means of travel that have not been approved by the President or the Speaker, the costs of that travel will be the sole responsibility of that Member. This directive is being issued, not only to ensure financial accountability, but also to address any insurance or liability issues that may arise." Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The motion is in order. Would you like to speak to the motion?

**MR. BARBOUR:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. No, that all it does is just make very much more clearer that the only reasons the President or the Speaker may excuse any Member not using travel would be maybe an illness in the family or a death in the family. Those would be excusable. But for anything else, charter use must be used by all Assembly members. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Would anyone else like to speak to the motion? Would you like to close debate?

**MR. BARBOUR:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. I'll close debate.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** All those in favour?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Those against. The motion is carried.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to give first reading of Bill 2013-04 an Act to amend the Beneficiaries Enrolment Act. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you. Members, the First Minister is seeking unanimous consent to give first reading to Bill 2013-04, an Act to amend the Beneficiaries Enrolment Act. Now, are there any nays? There is none. Please proceed with the first reading, Mr. Minister.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Bill 2013-04, this Bill would amend Section 7 of the Beneficiaries Enrolment Act. To prevent a person who has submitted an application from re-applying for enrolment, or from re-applying instead of seeking appeal or seeking judicial review unless the application discloses new particulars that are relevant and significant. It would give the Registrar the authority to decide if a re-application disclosing new information that is material and significant and to refuse to process that case and that is in the sole discretion does not disclose new and significant information. This Bill would also amend clause 17(1)(c) of the Beneficiaries Enrolment Act to increase the number of members of the Membership Committee for the Hopedale Land Use Region from three to four. Madam Speaker, this Bill, if approved, will add provisions to Section 29 of the Beneficiaries Enrolment Act, (1) to load beneficiaries to or the Registrar to request eligibility reviews of beneficiaries who may not meet criteria for enrolment. And (2) to give the Registrar the power to remove from the Registrar of beneficiaries, the name of any person whose eligibility is being reviewed by the Membership Committee and who fails to co-operate by completing an application form, or to provide information that is needed in order to decide that the person meets the eligibility criteria. Madam Speaker, this Bill, if enacted, will amend Section 39 of the Act to treat the 19 year olds who submit incomplete applications as if they had failed to submit any application. It will give the Registrar the authority to remove from the Registrar of beneficiaries, the



name of any individual who submits an incomplete application under Section 3.11.4 of the Land Claims Agreement and refuses or fails to supply a complete application after having been given (1) a reasonable chance to supply necessary information and (2) notice that a continuing refusal or a failure to supply the information will result in their removal from the Registrar of beneficiaries. Madam Speaker, the Bill will give the NAC the power to enact regulations to establish administrative remedies in all of the situations where incomplete applications are received. It will also give the NAC additional regulation making powers necessary for efficient administration of the Act, including the power to establish rules of practise and procedures for the purpose of reviews under Section 3.8.2 of the Land Claims Agreement. Enactment of such rules will require consultation with committees or the Appeal Board, as applicable. Madam Speaker, I move, seconded by the Minister of Finance, the Honourable Dan Pottle, that Bill 2013-04 an Act to amend the Beneficiaries Enrolment Act, be now introduced and read for the first time. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The motion is in order. Does anyone wish to speak to the principle of the Bill? If no Member wishes to speak, does the First Minister wish to conclude the debate?

**MR. POTTLE:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Yes, I wish to conclude debate.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** That concludes debate on first reading. Is the Assembly in favour of approving Bill 2013-04 on first reading? All those in favour?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Opposed? The motion is carried and, accordingly, Bill 2013-04, an Act to amend the Beneficiaries Enrolment Act has had first reading. I recognize the First Minister again.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Madam Speaker, in accordance with Standing Order 54(3), I seek unanimous consent to waive Standing Order 54(1)(d) to have the Assembly proceed directly to second reading of Bill 2013-04 and that'd be considered in Committee of the Whole.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you. The First Minister is seeking unanimous consent to waive Standing Order 54(1)(d) to proceed with second reading of Bill 2013-04 in Committee of the Whole. Are there any nays? There is none. First Minister, you have unanimous consent so the Bill can proceed to second reading in Committee of the Whole under item 17, second reading. We'll now go into item number 17, which is "Second Reading of Bills". I recognize the First Minister, the Honourable Darryl Shiwak.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. As Members of this Assembly are aware, Bill 2012-04, an Act to commit the Regional Land Use Plan for the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area with Labrador Inuit Lands, has been on the orders of the day since December, 2012. Today, I'm here to tell you that the Executive

**Council will not be proceeding with second reading of this bill. The Executive Council may introduce this bill in a new session, and will be withdrawing from the Assembly today. Thank you, Madam Speaker.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: So now we are in a Committee of the Whole. The procedure for second reading debate will be any general comments on the Bill and then we will proceed with a page-by-page and clause-by-clause review of the detail of the Bill. So second reading of the Bill will be done in the Committee of the Whole. We'll go through the first page of explanatory note. Do anybody have questions or discussions on this part, the first page? Okay, go ahead, Ed.**

**MR. TUTTAUK: Thanks, Madam Chair. Just a question to clarify. Why are we allowing beneficiaries to request eligibility reviews of other beneficiaries?**

**MR. SHIWAK: The question is why are we allowing beneficiaries to request? I believe, it's my understanding that a beneficiary has the right to request a review of another beneficiary's eligibility. I believe that's within our Land Claims Agreement, if I'm not mistaken. Maybe I should get a witness down here at the table. Madam Speaker, can I call Loretta down to help clarify as a witness? What this does is it gives the Registrar the authority or puts in place the process. Are - you're not challenging the process? You're just challenging. Along with this Bill there will be a - and it's not called an**

application, but it will be a form that you have to fill out, that you have to fill out with regard to if you're going to challenge somebody's beneficiary status.

**MR. TATTAUK:** Oh, okay, why can't say that challenge...

**MR. SHIWAK:** No, you've got to fill out a form. It has to go to a committee, and a committee makes that decision. Or first, sorry, first it goes to the Registrar, the Registrar determines if it's - can go on to a committee if it's valid, right?

**PRESIDENT LEO:** That's all right. There'll probably be other questions for her anyways.

**MR. SHIWAK:** This is, it's...

**MR. TATTAUK:** Okay, yeah. Thanks for that clarification. That's all I was looking for, the process more than anything. Thank you.

**MR. POTTLE:** I'm not answering part of the question. I just wanted to...

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay, go ahead.

**MR. POTTLE:** ...just clarify what Minister Shiwak had said the reason for this, and Loretta will give more details on this, I would assume, but as the Assembly is aware, anytime during when we have elections, beneficiaries do have the right to challenge a name on the voter's list. This is just taking that one step further and ensuring that that right is not only applied during election but throughout any time anybody would like to challenge that, not only during the election, but if any beneficiary believes that somebody shouldn't be

enrolled on the register, then that beneficiary has the right to apply to the Registrar to have that person's name reviewed to see whether or not they meet the criteria to be eligible for enrolment.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Loretta.

**MS MICHELIN:** Just to give some further information, for example, if I wanted to challenge your membership, Ed, I would have to fill out a form. I would have to clearly outline my reasons for feeling that you don't meet the criteria. And you would be informed that I am doing that. The form would then go to the Registrar. The Registrar would review the person's file and make a determination whether or not he feels that the complaint, I guess, is justified. If it is, it goes to the Membership Committee. The Membership Committees are the only body that can actually review a person's membership or revoke a person's membership. That person then would be given a chance to answer to the complaint against them. They would have the right to defend their right to be a member, and so there would be a whole process. If their membership was reviewed by a Membership Committee and the committee determined that they don't meet the criteria, they would still have the right of appeal and a right to judicial review. So it's not a simple process.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Charlotte.

**MS WOLFREY:** I've got a question, I guess. It's about could be just two-pronged, almost. The first one is what if you had a mother applying for their child and they

didn't submit complete information, and I'm reading this to say that if you didn't put in a complete application, you might be given a second chance to give additional information. Then if you didn't do a complete application in a certain amount of time your name would be taken off of the list, but I'm thinking of a negligent mother, for example, who doesn't fill in the proper forms for her baby who really could have had membership and then down the road is there ever a chance for that baby to re-apply? That's one thing. The second thing is you could have the same thing with a kind of a 19-year-old when they were supposed to re-submit their application, but they're out there partying and doing whatever. So later on in their life maybe at 22, 25, they realize they should have completed this information. Like is there a second chance for people to do that if they're pulled off the list the first time? I guess.

**MS MICHELIN:** Yes, if somebody is taken off the register because they have failed to provide an application, or failed to provide additional information that was requested, they do have the right to re-apply.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Any more questions on this first page, the explanatory note? Darryl, was it? No. No, Sarah.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Well, I guess it was probably a new point now, but I think a lot of the, the couple of questions that came up right now, like, are explained further in the Act. So I don't know if there's any more. I don't really want to stop

anybody from asking questions, but you know maybe take a look through and see if it may be answered further in the Act, and then get your explanation on it then or I don't know.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** We're on page one of the explanatory note. So have everybody had their questions answered here? Do everybody agree with page one on this Bill, the explanatory note?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** We move over to the Table of Contents on the next page. Is everybody in agreement with the Table of Contents, or do you have questions? All in agreement?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Now we'll go down to Section 1 here. Section 7 of the Beneficiaries Enrolment Act is re-numbered as subsection 7(1). All references to Section 7 in the Act are deleted and replaced with subsection 7(1) and the following subsections are added to Section 7. So this whole Section 1 here, do anybody have questions or comments for that? Everybody in agreement with Section 1?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Then we'll move to Section 2, clause (c) of subsection 1 of Section 17 of the Beneficiaries Enrolment Act is deleted and replaced with the following. All agreed?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Section number 3, Section 29 of the Beneficiaries Enrolment Act is amended by adding the following subsections. Any questions or comments on that one? Section three agreed?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Then we'll move to section four. Section 39 of the Beneficiaries Enrolment Act is amended by deleting all references to application form and replacing them with application form by deleting the words "ordinary pre-paid" in subsection four and replacing them with the word, "certified" and by deleting subsection seven and adding the following subsections. Any questions or concerns on that clause, number four? Agreed?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Subsection five. Subsection five, any questions there? Agreed?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Section six, agreed oh, wait, one question. Go ahead, Dan.

**MR. POTTLE:** If I may, Madam Speaker, bump up to subsection five for just one minute under...



**MADAM SPEAKER:** Sure.

**MR. POTTLE:** ...clause 44(d) there's a typo. Prescribing form should be separated.

**Prescribing forms should be two separate words.**

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Prescribing forms. The space.

**MR. POTTLE:** Should be a space.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay. We'll say that...

**MR. POTTLE:** Prescribing then forms.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** ...accepted with that space. Okay. Agreed?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay, so we're down to Section six, agreed?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Section seven. Agreed?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Section eight, agreed?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** That concludes the clause-by-clause review or section-by-section review of the Bill. Does the First Minister wish to conclude the debate? We're still in a Committee of the Whole, but we're doing second reading in a Committee of the Whole.

**MR. POTTLE:** Yes, thank you, Madam Speaker. I wish to conclude debate.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Pardon me?

**MR. POTTLE:** Yes, I wish to...

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Okay.

**MR. POTTLE:** Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you. That concludes debate. All those in favour of a second reading of Bill 2013-04?

**ASSEMBLY:** Aye.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** All those opposed? The motion is carried. Accordingly, Bill 2013-04 an Act to amend the Beneficiaries Enrolment Act has had second reading. So now we'll go back into Assembly. We'll come out of the Committee of the Whole. We go down to our next item on the Orders of the Day which is number 18, "Assent to Bills". Madam Speaker, the Assembly, sorry, Madam President, the Assembly has given second reading to Bill 2013-04, an Act to amend the Beneficiaries Enrolment Act.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Madam Speaker and Members of the Assembly, I wish to, as President of Nunatsiavut, I wish to give assent to Bill 2013-04, an Act to amend the Beneficiaries Enrolment Act and hereby sign it into law.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you. I recognize the President again.

**PRESIDENT LEO:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. It is my pleasure to request under Standing Order 16, the unanimous consent of the Assembly to add to the Orders of the Day for Wednesday, June the 12th, an address by His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, the Governor-General of Canada.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Members, the President is seeking unanimous consent to add an address by the Governor-General to the Orders of the Day for tomorrow. Are there any nays? There are none. Therefore, the address by the Governor-General will be added to the Orders of the Day for tomorrow after "Assent to Bills". The Assembly is now adjourned till 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** I'd like to call the Assembly to order, please. Going down through our Orders of the Day, we'll go to item number two, "Minister Statements," do we have any Minister Statements today? I'd like to recognize the First Minister, Darryl Shiwak.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'd like to give an update from the Department of Nunatsiavut Affairs. Implementation. The Implementation Committee met in May here in Hopedale. The budget and work plans for the fisheries and wildlife boards have been finalized, approved and signed by the appropriate Ministers. The budget for the Dispute Resolution Board has also been approved in accordance with the implementation plan.

**Membership.** In addition to the preparation of the amendments that were approved yesterday, Sheila Angnatok was hired as a co-ordinator for the regional membership list. Preparation of the regional membership list is a requirement under the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*. Sheila was hired in March, 2013 and is doing well in working towards the preparation of the regional membership list. She works out of the Registrar's Office in Nain. To address some of the issues with requirement to re-apply when beneficiaries reach the age of majority, we have advertised for a student position to help with transitioning or help with these students or these young adults when they have to reapply so that we ensure that we do everything we can to get those applications in. So that's a summer position. The updated information as of May 21st, 2013, confirms that we have 7,184 beneficiaries enrolled on the Registry of Beneficiaries. Transportation and Housing. I met with Minister Davis on May 7th to discuss transportation and the housing issues. At that time the Minister informed us that they are looking trying to have the Ranger ready for the early start date of June the 1st. We were informed at that time there had to be some work done on the generator sets and that she may not be available for that time due to that and ice conditions. As you know, this past week we've been informed that there had to be some additional work on the engines. We've been told that that work is either going to be complete this week, or it's going to be completed when she gets into Goose Bay. Either way that she will be

sailing into Goose Bay this week as early as tomorrow evening and that she will be ready to go for the summer in the best shape she was in three years. Hopefully that is the case and the Astron is due to sail this morning going into Black Tickle in Rigolet and back to Lewisport and hopefully Ports North, and we've been also told that Sir Robert Bond will be available to support the Astron in the fall, if necessary. And they say that they're still committed to the new vessel or vessels for 2016. That plan is still in place, but yet we have yet to see an RFP tender for that. The weather study for the Nain airstrip is due to be completed this summer. Preliminary discussions are still ongoing for funding for this Nain airstrip. This progress is slower than we like. We need to identify, or they need to identify funding now and it's very critical to get that Nain airstrip completed. The housing needs assessment has been completed and we expect to get the final report soon and get the report out to the beneficiaries and to the Assembly members. We have held discussion with the federal and provincial governments regarding release of a report. These discussions are ongoing. The NG discussing a planning process for preparation of the strategy for implementation and recommendations in the report, and I'd ask Minister Davis if the province is prepared to partner and that we appoint a joint working group to prepare parts of the strategy. We are heading up this strategy. We are getting it done, whether they take part or not, but they seemed to be very interested and very

interested to have LIAC work with them on it, but we have yet to see action on that. Public Property, the Makkovik Office Complex. Budgell's have purchased and are now shipping the material. According to CAI the material should be in Makkovik on June 24th on the basis that Makkovik has set the start date for June 24th. Their work schedule is to have the building completed by the second week of February, 2014. Ilusuak Cultural Centre tenders for the construction of Ilusuak close on May 3rd, 2013 and we received three bids from three different companies. The lowest bid was \$5 million higher than our budget. Then Nunatsiavut Executive Council met in Nain on May 22nd and decided not to accept any of the three bids. They said the decision was based on the fact that NG cannot award a contract for the amount of bids because we do not have the funds. The NEC had directed our inter-departmental working group to meet with our consultants to discuss the issue and ask them to modify the project in order to bring the costs within the range of our budget. The first meeting to discuss modification of the project was held on June 5th, 2013. NEC was briefed on the result of the meeting, and further discussion needs to take place before we can move ahead with any future plans for that project. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize the Honourable Minister of Health and Social Development, Patricia Kemuksigak.

**MS KEMUKSIGAK:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Today I'd like to do a quick update on the Status of Women and AnanauKatiget Tumingit. The Status of Women co-ordinator has developed a vision and mission statement for the Department, and she's also been participating in Violence Prevention Labrador's annual meeting. She participated in AT's AGM in Hopedale and went to Violence Prevention and Awareness Action training in Nain. She now has the list serve up and running and the list serve is operated by the Status of Women office. It is a networking and a communication tool to inform, let people know of upcoming events and a forum to provide feedback on current issues affecting Inuit women, and if beneficiaries would like to sign up, they can email the co-ordinator at [tracy\\_evans@nunatsiavut.com](mailto:tracy_evans@nunatsiavut.com). AnanauKatiget Tumingit has been very busy this last while. Their Violence Prevention Initiative Program and the three-year project addressing women's economic security that's been funded by the Status of Women is going really well in Hopedale and Nain. They've hired a project co-ordinator and the project is going very well. They received funding from Department of Advanced Skills and Education to create five job creation project positions. These are full-time, non-EI

eligible positions for 52 weeks and there's somebody hired for Nain, Hopedale, Makkovik, Rigolet and Northwest River. They also held an AGM in Hopedale May 31st and June 1st and the AGM went very well. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize the Minister of Education and Economic Development, the Honourable Gary Mitchell.

**MR. MITCHELL:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. I'm just going to be brief in my reports as well this morning, but I'd like to cover off something on each of Education and Economic Development. I'm just going to highlight a few things anyway. With regard to the report on IBSW and PSSSP updates, and the IBSW is the Inuit Bachelor of Social Work program. In April 2013 the Inuit Bachelor of Social Work program ended resulting in 17 out of a possible 19 graduates. This is a wonderful achievement for Nunatsiavut and the beneficiaries who graduated. We still have two students who are continuing their program through MUN'S Regular program and are expected to complete their programs in April, 2014. A formal graduation for the social work program ceremony will take place in Goose Bay on June the 14th to celebrate the success of our students and the program. The PSSSP selections for the fall 2013-14 academic year will be completed by mid-June. At present we have 105 continuing students and have funds



for 58 new applicants. At present we have 74 eligible applicants which means we have 16 applicants who may be wait listed or not funded for the coming year. It is early yet and we do expect that number to change as well. Some will find employment. Some may change their mind and others may not get accepted into their respected programs, but I'd just like to add that we will do whatever we can to fund these few applications that we're not sure about at this point in time. We have 37 students expected to graduate from the programs by the end of the spring intersession. Official confirmation should be received throughout the summer to confirm this number. With regard to the Inuit Pathways, this is one of the busiest time for Inuit Pathways with assessments being completed on skills, development, applications for selections later this month. Staffs are busy helping applicants get all their requirement documentation completed as part of the mandatory career counselling process for the application. Efforts are also being renewed to promote the work experience application with a view to watch the clients who are graduating from the skills, development programs at this time of the year and looking for the work opportunities. Staffs have been fielding a lot of questions from current students and applicants with regard to the issue of ABE for September. These students as well as Inuit Pathways staff are very concerned with this issue. The unknowns around the budgeting issue that comes with the new delivery agent creates some uncertainty over budgeting projections for the

coming year, and I just might add that we spoke with the Minister of Education and we've written to the provincial government regarding the ABE programs and they were concerned for the loss of this program by the college, but in a letter from received from the Honourable Joan Shea she said she'd be letting us know when we hear back on who the program deliverer for the ABE program and we'll be working in conjunction with that agency to see that the ABE program is continued in Rigolet and Hopedale and Nain. Inuit Pathways had their annual visit from the auditors in May and are now able to concentrate fully on 2013-2014. While the major concerns for the fiscal year is renewal process for post-2015 strategy for the continuation of valuable work to assess the Inuit Pathway's staff from the office. Staffs are in Ottawa now meeting with the Inuit Human Resources Development Technical Committee through ITK for another round of discussions with Inuit asset holders and a face-to-face meeting with national staff of HRDSDC or Service Canada on the post-015 issue. Some of our staff is presently in Ottawa and talking with the people up there, trying to get some more money for our programs to be continued. I have a number of things on Economic Development, but I'm just going to highlight a few things right now for the Assembly here. The Economic Development Division circulated its business plan to a number of funding agencies in late 2012. ACOA is contributing \$246,448 for two positions. The Business Development Manager and Procurement Specialist from

**January 1, 2013 to March 31st, 2015. Unfortunately, we never had them hired in January so it would be from June because these positions were now posted and the interviews for these two positions are scheduled for this week. Human Resources were interested in discussing a potential partnership on service delivery as mandated by Service Canada in Nunatsiavut. The Economic Development Division received a draft for its proposal by HRD to get a pilot project funded by Ottawa for Nunatsiavut. So that's continuing as we speak to try to get some work through HRSD so we can have a partnership with them so we can carry on some Service Canada program in Nunatsiavut. The CED program, the community program review committee has received one application for the community Economic Development program and a number of expressions with interest with applications to be forwarded for review. The Economic Development Division next steps are to prepare a calendar of events or activities, Nunatsiavut in preparation for the Economic Development Summit in October. The Economic Development Division is planning an Inuit Economic Development Summit in October, from October 28th to the 31st. Two conference planners have already been hired to organize this event and I just should add that we had hoped to have it here in May, but because we couldn't get the stakeholders together that we wanted to bring here at the cost this conference is going to be we wanted to make sure that we have everything in place the stakeholders and the agencies that are**

coming to do the presentations. So we could not get them ready for May. So hopefully this is going to be in October, at the end of October here in Hopedale, and more information will be coming out to the communities as the conference is being developed and more preparations made. The Economic Development Division would like to offer in the next few months one or two basic accounting, simply accounting courses, workshops on enhancing business opportunities and how to write a business plan and other business seminars to enhance business acumen in Nunatsiavut. The Economic Development Division will seek partnerships with the school board to make presentations to high school students as part of the economic education courses and with the Inuit Women Association to reach potential women entrepreneurs. So, just to put it short, we're hoping that this Business Development Manager will be in place and help and go to visit the communities and do some of these workshops, and as I mentioned in my report that there will be a calendar of events that the Economic Development Division will be putting together and sending out to the communities on what activities we're going to be doing in Nunatsiavut in the few coming months. So Nakummek, Madam Speaker. That's my report this morning.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, the Honourable Glen Sheppard.

**MR. SHEPPARD:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'll provide an update on the fisheries files first. In late February staff of my department attended a Northern Shrimp Advisory Committee meeting in St. John's. The northern shrimp advisory Committee is the advisory group that makes recommendations to the Federal Minister on shrimp exploitation levels in the various shrimp management areas. Northern Shrimp Advisory Committee recommended that the exploitation rate in shrimp fishing area SFA4 the increase from the current level of 9 per cent to 15 per cent. This represents an increase of 6,000 metric tonnes or 50 per cent in SFA4. The Nunatsiavut Government has written the Minister and requested that the exploitation be increased by 15 per cent in accordance with the Integrated Fisheries Management Policy and has requested to receive 70 per cent of the increase. The Minister has not responded to their request to date. The Nunatsiavut Government maintains its communal shrimp licence and associated quota of twelve hundred and sixty metric tonnes for SFA5. Madam Speaker, the Nunatsiavut Government has now allocated 3.38 per cent of the Canadian Greenland halibut quota available for NAPO area 2 + 3 KLMNO for the 2013 season. This amount is 192 metric tonnes. This allocation will provide additional employment hours for the Makkovik Fish Plant and is much appreciated. The competitive 2 and 3K Greenland Halibut Fishery for 2013 will again operate under a split season, 75 per cent of the quota will be available for the June opening and 25 per cent for the August

opening. The NG will also participate in the August competitive Greenland Halibut Fishery through its three fishing enterprises that have ground fish licences. The 2HJ North Snow Crab Fishery will open when ice conditions permit and this normally occurs near the end of June or early July. The Nunatsiavut Government holds a communal licence and associative quota of 310 metric tonne for areas 2HJN. The quota was reduced by 15 per cent from 2012. Madam Speaker, applications for participation in the 2013 commercial fishing system were sent out March the 8th and closed on March 22nd. The Department received 18 applications for 2013 and was able to accommodate 14 of the applicants for participation in the commercial fishery. The Commercial Char Fishery in Nain will proceed again this season and Torngat Fisheries Co-operative expects to purchase 30,000 pounds of product from local fishers. This is an increase from 20,000 pounds purchased in 2012. Madam Speaker, the subsistent Salmon/ Char/ Trout fishery will be starting soon in LISA and the Upper Lake Melville area. There are no changes in our communal licence conditions for this year from last year. Madam Speaker, Atlantic salmon numbers are in decline in North America, and Labrador is considered to be one of the last remaining strongholds for the Atlantic salmon in North America. In light of that it is important to keep our buy catch within the established guidelines and fill our accurate catch logs in this subsistence fishery. We are currently meeting 100 per cent of our

conservation limits at English River and it is very important to us that we maintain this status given the national and international concern for Atlantic salmon. Madam Speaker, the Department has also been very busy identifying a location for a second counting fence in LISA. As per funds approved by the Assembly, staff in my Department, along with DFO science, surveyed several rivers in the Rigolet, Lake Melville area during September, 2012 for their potential to accommodate a counting fence. After this was completed DFO prepared for the NG on the rivers surveyed. A meeting was later arranged with DFO staff and my Department, also engaged the services of Dave Reddin to advise us on the best approach to this issue. The Nunatsiavut Government was advised to first conduct a Spaghetti Tagging Program to determine salmon migration patterns in the Rigolet, Lake Melville area. Prior to considering a location for a second counting fence, as a result the Nunatsiavut Government has hired three individuals from the community of Rigolet to carry out this work. Training for this will take place this week in Rigolet, and I understand that that's happening as we speak. After the completion of this tagging program, the Nunatsiavut Government will be in a much better position to determine a location for a second counting fence in LISA. Should this be the decision of the NG, we plan to tag and release up to twenty-five hundred salmon during this tagging program, and when recaptures occur their migrations will be better understood. Wildlife. Madam Speaker, the

recent moratorium announced by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador for the George River Caribou Herd established a total allowable harvest of zero. Madam Speaker, the establishment of a total allowable harvest requires the Nunatsiavut Government to present an Inuit harvest level recommendation to the Minister in accordance with Section 12.4 of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claim Agreement*. The Department is currently in the process of putting together and supporting documentation that will be presented to the Minister for the establishment of an IHL. The George River Caribou Herd in LISA. We anticipate having this recommendation completed and presented to the Minister in the near future. The NG arranged to conduct a flight over areas. Labrador Inuit traditionally hunt caribou, George River Caribou Herd. After requests from several hunters my Department, in co-operation with President Leo arranged a flight that took place on April the 4th. We arranged to take one individual from each community, along with staff from our Department. The flight covered a large area from the north of Fraser Canyon to Snegamook Lake. Very few caribou were seen during this flight and I would like to thank the individuals who took part. Torngat Mountains Caribou are not under a formal management system and Labrador Inuit can harvest Torngat Caribou to their level of need. During this past winter and spring Labrador Inuit harvested 64 animals from the Torngat population. The Nunatsiavut Government, in co-operation with our partners, are planning



a traditional knowledge survey to better understand these caribou to feed into the science database on this herd. There is concern about the status of this population and this survey will provide valuable knowledge that Inuit have of this caribou. Inuit are the expert knowledge holders. Madam Speaker, the 2012-13 moose hunting season was a success of 35 animals available in LISA, 33 were harvested by Labrador Inuit. We have requested the province to allocate additional licences to Nunatsiavut for the 2013-14 hunting season. As we discussed at the last session of the Assembly we told you we would work on finding alternate meat to provide to communities in the absence of caribou. We did submit a proposal to the provincial government to provide funding for a beef purchase program, however, to date no response have been received from the province other than saying they are still considering it. We also put in a request to the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador for additional moose licences last year, but this request was denied. Madam Speaker, our polar bear quota was established at 12 animals and 9 are harvested to date. And off the top of my head, out of those 12 to 3 that's not harvested is 2 from my home community of Postville and 1 still left in Makkovik. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable Minister. Do we have another Minister Statement? I'd like to recognize the Honourable Johannes Lampe, Minister of Cultural and Recreation and Tourism.

**MR. LAMPE:** Nakummek UKâtik. As Minister responsible for Culture I am proud to report that last week we held the 4<sup>th</sup> Nunatsiavut Heritage Forum in Rigolet. I would like to thank AngajukKâk Charlotte Wolfrey, the Rigolet Inuit Community Government and the residents of Rigolet for hosting this very successful gathering. Inuit Community Governments are key to successful cultural and tourism initiatives and Rigolet like all our communities has a rich and unique heritage. Rigolet proved they could very successfully host a week-long meeting of 25 community representatives and resource people. As well as hours of presentations and discussions we learned to square dance and make grass baskets and there was opportunities to visit the Strathcona House Museum, the Net Loft, the Craft Shop, the old WW2 Canons and the Boardwalk. For three solid days we have presentations and discussion on the rich heritage of Nunatsiavut. Presenters included our many archaeology sites, our historic buildings, heritage music, crafts, storytelling, historic collections and research, historic films and photos, the resources of the Hudson Bay Company archives, the story of Donald Smith, Lord Strathcona and the Double Mer Point sod house archaeological project. One presentation put forth the

**Watchman program of Haida Gwaii. Having our Nunatsiavut conservation officers and all Inuit guarding our many and remote historic sites. Madam Speaker perhaps one of the most important outcome of the Rigolet Heritage Forum is that we cannot work in silos. We need all Nunatsiavut and all our Departments as protectors and presenters of our Inuit identity. Culture and heritage is key to identify and pride in being Inuit. Each heritage forum goes to the local school and presentation and discussions are held with the students. We must all engage our beneficiaries but it is especially valuable when we bring our key presenters into the schools and engage in a good discussion on Inuit culture and heritage. Madam Speaker, Culture and Heritage are major economic generators in Aboriginal communities throughout the world. We have opportunities in Nunatsiavut our culture is creating meaningful employment and we can increase significantly with our support. Let us all work together as elected officials to build our future with a strong identity as proud Inuit connected to our past and with a vision for the future.**

**Nakummek Madam Speaker.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: Nakummek, Honourable Minister. We'll now move down to the next item on our Orders of the Day which is, "Members Statements". I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey.**

**MS WOLFREY:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I just want to do a little bit of, kind of tell people what's happening in Rigolet. I think Johannes mentioned our five-year tourism strategy yesterday. We do have a five-year tourism strategy that's in place and we're really looking for money to implement that strategy. Some of our plans are to extend the boardwalk down to Double Mer Point where there are longhouses, Inuit longhouses there and we plan on, not exactly on the site where the longhouses are, but we're going to do a replica of them longhouses at the end of the boardwalk, so we hope that that'll be a good tourist attraction. Another thing that we're working on is getting the carcass, no, not the carcass, I guess the bones of a minke whale that's been buried. There's a couple of minke whales buried up in Southern Labrador and we're trying to find money. We got the money, actually, to go and do a dig and get one of those whales brought back to Rigolet and put back together for display because we do have a lot of grumpuses around our area. We've got a number of research projects on the go. I guess the first one is from the Food Security Network, which is an extension of the Hopedale Project. Nain and Rigolet has been chosen to have a four-year project in their communities to work with food security so we're really looking forward to doing some work around, maybe even gardening because there used to be lots of gardens around Rigolet and re-using compost and things like that and hopefully enhance our Community Freezer Program as well as some other initiatives. We've got a number of

research projects on the go, like, there's been one that was looking at gastro-intestinal illnesses related to water and water-borne diseases. We've got another one dealing with mental health called Culture Connect and we hope that people, that Inuit youth and elders are going to work together to bring back some of our, you know, learning how to sew and drum dancing and throat singing and things like that. And also I'd just like to mention that we have a teacher retiring this year. She's been there seems like forever, Ms Rowe, Bella Rowe. She's been there for more than 25 years and we do have or community hall project starting this summer which is the building of a, I guess it's called a multi-purpose building and we're doing that under project management. There's been a Clerk of Works hired who's going to be work between Postville and Rigolet, I think, and the materials are supposed to be arriving on the first boat or start to arrive on the first boat, and we do plan on doing our fire hall. We got some money for a fire hall on project management, but when you look at it, it's really hard to believe that a million dollars, although it might sound like not a lot of money, but I think to us it's a lot of money, that it can't build a fire hall with a plain roof and, you know, a couple of doors, them opening garage doors and stuff like that. It's hard to believe that a million dollars can't do that, but it can't. And the other thing that we're going to be looking for and I guess I, I'll forewarn the Minister of Finance now before our Management Committee meeting is that we had \$2.1 million to build

12 building lots in Rigolet. Twelve building lots is what we got, but we've got to look for more money to level them off and stuff like that so that people can actually build on the land. So, you know, \$2.1 million don't go a long way when it comes to putting in water and sewer, and I can't believe the enormity of how much stuff has increased, but that's where it's at and we've got to have it, so we're going to be looking for more money to try to make the lots where you can build on liveable, I guess. And, anyway, that's just a quick update of some of the things that are going on in Rigolet and, certainly, some of the Minke Whale Project. We got some money from a couple of sources, but the money that was given to us from the Tasiujatsoak Trust fund, the last money that we had from there, we were told that we could use that how we saw fit and we do, we're trying to scrimp and save on that money, but we are using it towards projects like that that are going to be sustainable for our community. Nakummek.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, AngajukKâk from Rigolet. I'd now like to recognize Susan Nochasak, Ordinary Member for Hopedale.

**MS NOCHASAK:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would just like to take one more opportunity to express to the Assembly my passion towards the Hopedale Mission Complex. As I mentioned yesterday we do have a new Committee and we are regularly and our Committee is only improving. We are now incorporated, newly incorporated and we're heading in all the right

directions. We have a few agencies very much supporting our Adaptive Reuse Master Plan, Madam Speaker. Agencies like the ACOA, Amherst Proposal Employees, the Canadian Heritage Association and a few more. Madam Speaker, we're looking to have an expert architect coming to Hopedale after he leaves the community of Makkovik this summer working on the white elephant. We are hoping to piggy back on his way down here to do a sight survey of the whole complex and the floor for the church. Madam Speaker, this initiative can only get better, I feel, and for example, we will be touring the Governor- General when he's here down to the museum and, at this location, and when other people come into Hopedale, they ask to go down to the museum and take a tour and of the church and the mission house, and we are more than happy to do this, but I just feel that we would need assistance from the government and the Tasiujatsoak Trust and other agencies to make the tour more memorable and to make the experience exciting enough for them to want to return, and I just wanted to again mention that to the Assembly members. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Ms Nochasak. I'd now like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Makkovik, Denise Lane. You didn't want? No, okay. Are there any more Minister Statements? I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque.

**MR. JACQUE:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Just for the information of the Assembly we're going to be in the near future officially opening our new craft shop, and I'd just like to extend an invitation to any member or officials who would like to attend our grand opening, and we're going to be constructing a new fire hall through Project Management. We're very thankful for the extra quota for Torngat Fish Producers Co-op, and also I'd like just to mention a new office that these will be constructing the day-care. For all of those projects we'd just like to ask that everybody would support local employment, which is our priority. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Jacque. Are there any more Minister Statements? Then we'll move down to the next item on our Orders of the Day, "Returns to Oral Questions". Are there any returns to oral questions? I'd like to recognize the Honourable Gary Mitchell, Minister of Education.

**MR. MITCHELL:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. It's just in relation to a question that the Honourable Member for Hopedale asked yesterday about the rock plant. I did contact Chris Webb after the session yesterday and reconfirmed with him if they were going to be doing any work at the rock plant this coming summer and he said due to the uncertainty of needing the stone for the Cultural Centre, there are no plans at this time to process any stone at the rock plant. Unfortunately, they put that on hold, but he's coming to Hopedale to do an inventory of their material. He didn't say



when. I would suggest that'd be a good time to meet with him to discuss with him any future plans they have for the rock plant at that time. So it's a matter of giving him a call and finding out when he's coming so I can meet with him while he's here. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek. I'd now like to recognize the Honourable First Minister, Darryl Shiwak.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'd like to give a response to an oral question that was put to me by the newly engaged, the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Ms Susan Nochasak, congratulations, by the way, regarding the transition plan and an update on the plan for Nunatsiavut Government. The Labrador Inuit Constitution requires that Nain be the administrative capital and Hopedale the legislative capital of for the Nunatsiavut Government. And that we're feasible support offices be established in the Nunatsiavut communities. The Nunatsiavut Government Strategic Plan calls for a plan to be established on transition positions to these communities by March 31st of 2013. As we have been moving forward on development of this plan, we have realized that a goal of March 31st, 2013 was very aggressive. A plan to transition employees outside of Nunatsiavut, as well as ensuring the support office be established in all communities and much more than just reviewing the departmental structure of the government. It also requires a complete review of the

**infrastructure, including the office space and housing as well as development of policies for staff housing and relocation expenses.**

**Nunatsiavut Government is very committed to this plan. Our employees can do the work on different pieces with a goal to present components to Executive Council for approval, hopefully over the next month. Thank you, Madam Speaker.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Minister. Are there any more returns to oral questions? Then before we go down to our next item on the agenda we're going to take a 20-minute break.**

**(Recess)**

**MADAM SPEAKER: I'd like to call the Assembly back to order, please. We are on our Orders of the Day, down to number five, "Oral Questions". Do we have any oral questions? I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk from Nain, Tony Andersen.**

**MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. I must say that there was a lot of information in the Minister Statements today and most of them can rhyme it off a mile a minute. Hard for poor old Tone by the time it gets to question period. I forgot some of the information. It would be good in the future if we had access to those statements before question period so we would not appear so confused like probably how I'm going to be. Anyway, my question for**

the Minister is that from the new allocation of turbot for the Nunatsiavut quota, I know that it was from, you mention, 2 + 3KL. It was, I guess that was part of in the past was competitive quota. I wondered if during your Department's discussions why some of that quota was not allocated to the Nain operation? And I know that you mentioned that in June 75 per cent of that quota will be landed, and I somehow doubt that you'll be able to land that 75 per cent in June in Makkovik, and so we may see some of that quota landed in plants other than in Nunatsiavut. But just my question, hey, if I am correct and if I've, if I am confused I certainly do apologize to the Minister, Madam Speaker, but because over the last number of years we had heard that that would eventually become part of the operation if Nunatsiavut could get their hands on some of that competitive quota. Now you have, Minister, his Department has received some of that quota, and I wonder why the Nain plant was not considered for landing some of that turbot.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister of Lands and Natural Resources.

**MR. SHEPPARD:** Thank you, Madam Speaker and thank you, AngajukKâk from Nain.

I guess as you are all well aware that I only took my oath of office yesterday about just before this time. I did have brief discussions with my Deputy Minister, but it'll take many more discussions to get everything down pat, but I think if I quoted that 75 per cent of the catch for turbot

will be landed in Makkovik by the end of June that might have been a typo. My understanding is that this 75 per cent is the fishery will start around the end of June. So if that's what I read out in the report, and I don't have it in front of me right here now, it might have been a typo. As for turbot being landed in Nain, I think AngajukKâk or Madam Speaker, maybe it would be better for the Minister that was acting responsible for the Department to answer that question. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The Honourable First Minister.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madam Speaker, and to clarify a bit what Minister Sheppard was saying about the competitive turbot quota. The way it's allocated across the province, this is a provincial-wide competitive fishery for Labrador, I believe, and it's for Southern Labrador and Northern Labrador's included. The 75 per cent of that quota is fished in the early summer. We had asked the Minister of Fisheries. There was a request in from the FFAW to have all that fished at one time. We had asked the Minister of Fisheries that that not happen. That it'll remain the same that 25 per cent be fished in a related fishery so that some of our fishermen or fishers can take advantage of that and help out our fish plants, and the Federal Minister of Fisheries agreed to that and said that no, we're not going to split it up so that especially the Makkovik fish plant can become more viable at this point. And with regards to Nain a lot of our discussions

with Torngat Fisheries is how can we get Nain up? We're keeping Makkovik going and the employment rate, but we want to get Nain back on track and we want to get turbot in there and we're trying to find ways. We met with Torngat Fisheries in May and that was part of the discussions, how we can get Nain and how we can get that plant viable the same way we're trying to do with Makkovik. I'm not sure if this answers your question, but with regards to the allocation, we have a competitive quota for turbot, we have a communal quota for turbot and we're using that to build up the Makkovik fish plant to make it viable, but we're also looking at ways to try to make Nain viable. And this year we're trying to work with Torngat and it just wasn't the way it worked out or I guess a lot of this direction comes from Torngat Fisheries and but we will try to, we are trying to work on plans to get Nain up and get the plant viable. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable Minister. I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey.

**MS WOLFREY:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. I attended a meeting in Rigolet the other evening and it was a joint venture between Nunatsiavut Government and Memorial University. There were two people there and they were talking about the tagging program that's going to go ahead in Rigolet this summer, and they

were talking about the possibility that the salmon that come to Rigolet are actually have a different genetic makeup than the Atlantic salmon and they're trying to determine that with some of this tagging program, but the question I have is this. I thought the tagging program was about trying to find a river that around Rigolet, we figured, that was going to have a salmon fence. And I think that if the salmon are tagged around the Rigolet area, sure it's already predetermined that they're going up in Lake Melville. I mean, most of the salmon that are passing Rigolet, we already know is going up in Lake Melville. So with DFO's advice, I guess, they're going to make a decision on where to put the fence. After the tagging the salmon in Rigolet, and we already know it's the salmon that go, that passes Rigolet is already going up that way, but anyway I'm, what I'm trying to say is I hope that there's not a pre-determined decision that this salmon tagging fence is going to go up in Mulligan River because, I mean, that's definitely one of the rivers that were looked at and there was - I think there's four more rivers around Rigolet, and Mulligan River was the fifth river. So I just think that if they're going to be taking salmon they should do it outside of Rigolet, out in southern, out when they're coming up from south somewhere, and then see if they're going north or south or whatever. I don't know. It's I hope that there's not a pre-determined decision as to where to put, based on advice from DFO as to where to put the fence because we're hoping the fence is going to be around the Rigolet area and

that the monitoring of that fence and stuff is going to be done from our area. Nakummek.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The Honourable First Minister.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. No, there's no pre-determined river for the counting fence for the salmon fence in Rigolet, Upper Lake Melville area. One of the key issues with the tagging program, or one of the key issues we identified is like you mentioned in your remarks, is that there is a chance or there is an indication that this may be a new salmon breed. One of the issues has been in Rigolet or in past from years, people have always been saying there's a new salmon breed and people have always been saying look, we know where they're going, we know where the salmon are going into Lake Melville. We know where they're going. We have that local knowledge, but there was a real sense that we - not only have that local knowledge, but we can actually prove it. And that's why we said well, on the recommendation from DFO is that we need to prove it and the best way to prove it is through a spaghetti tagging program. And the way the program will work is that there will be salmon taken outside of the Rigolet area, outside of the Tom Luscombe area. Some are up around The Narrows. Some are up around the Double Mer. Not quite sure of the exact location, but our whole goal is to do just that, just to prove that this is our own breed of salmon and it'll help on future initiatives and moving

**initiatives forward in Rigolet area on salmon, and it'll help when we go to governments, when we go to DFO and say, look, this is our own breed of salmon. We want to do this, we want to do this. It gives us a lot more ammunition to research and we're not, again, we're not there having a pre-determined river and it's not pre-determined to be in Upper Lake Melville. Thank you, Madam Speaker.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize Susan Nochasak, Ordinary Member for Hopedale.**

**MS NOCHASAK: Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question this morning is for the First Minister, the Honourable Minister Shiwak. Thank you for your response to my written question in the last Assembly. I just want to add, you had mentioned that it is in process in the Committee, the Transitional Committee are moving along, and that's a nice update. But my question is you had mentioned that there are processes to do and it comes down to infrastructure and space availability and things like that in order for departments to come down here, but my concern this morning is in regards of my community, and if my community will be housing a department, and if in the fact that right now there are no facilities to house any extra office space or any extra departments, would that deter a decision of a department coming down in my community? Thank you, Madam Speaker.**



**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Susan. The Honourable First Minister.

**MR. SHIWAK:** Thank you, Madam Speaker, and thank you for the question and it's good to have more clarification 'cause it's a very important issue for this government moving forward. Like I said, the plan, or the Transition Plan is still being worked on and hopefully coming to the NEC very soon. Part of that plan is identifying, like I said in my statement, their office is going into different communities. Once you identify which office is going into the community then you have to put the budget in place to be able to provide that office space to provide that housing within that community. So it's coming together. The fact that we say that Hopedale doesn't have the office space in to house a department should not have an impact on saying that department can't come to Hopedale. They run together. If you determine that this office is going to Hopedale, then you have to provide the office space and the housing for that. That's the way I see the Transition Plan working, but that hasn't come to my desk yet, but hopefully very soon. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable Minister. I'd now like to recognize William Barbour, the Ordinary Member for Nain.

**MR. BARBOUR:** Nakummek, UKâlatik . My question will be directed to the Minister of Finance, well, jointly and also to the President. First of all thank the Trustees for having produced a report that has been - I sound like a

broken record here, and the Minister of Finance well knows. I thank the trustees for putting forward the report that they have put forward and before I ask my question, I just want to be able to say that I'm not looking at individuals here, I'm just looking at the positions. And that when Trustees make decisions they make business decisions and not political decisions. My question is this is the conclusion by the Trustees is that the positions of President and the Minister of Finance be removed from the Trustee, when would this happen? And the question is to the Minister of Finance.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The Honourable Minister of Finance.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker, and Nakummek to the Ordinary Member for Nain for your question and yes, Mr. Barbour, you're right. You've been waiting for an answer on this for quite some time. The plan, I believe, is the Trustees will be at the Assembly in September to report on the activities of the Trust. We prepared this report for the Assembly members so that they'll have it, have time to review it and our plan for September is to discuss that report in its entirety in the Committee of the Whole. The Assembly are responsible for the Trust, themselves, and making any changes and recommendations to the Trust Deed including the composition of the trust. So we hope we'll have that and we're expecting to have that

discussion in the Committee of the Whole in September when we meet.

Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable Minister. Do we have any more oral questions? I'd like to recognize the Ordinary Member for Hopedale, Susan Nochasak.

**MS NOCHASAK:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I guess I can say that I must sound like a broken record as well. My question this morning is for the Minister of Education, Economic Development. As you all are aware, I've been asking about the *Inuttitut* teacher retention bonus and with everything that's going on with the school board merging into one, I know that's kind of put on the back burner right now, and I just hope that discussions will continue on this very important issue to me. I know that Hopedale and Nain pretty much house a lot of the majority of the *Inuttitut* teachers and the rest of the communities, the *Inuttitut* program is not so strong, but I just feel that the teachers that teach day in, day out through the whole school year to our school children, our mother tongue, our *Inuttitut* language, deserves some recognition and a bonus. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Susan. The Honourable Minister of Education.

**MR. MITCHELL:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. And yes, it is an ongoing issue and we are not forgetting about it. It was only last week that we met with the *Inuttitut* teachers in Goose Bay, Tim McNeill and I, and we mentioned to

them that we're still working on that case, but that we haven't made any headway lately with the school boards the way they are moving to St. John's. But we are going to keep that on our agenda and bring it to the new Assistant Director of Education whenever that person's hired in Goose Bay and certainly we're going to keep on top of that and see what headway we can get with it with the unions of NLTA and NAPE. And I'd also like to discuss this with the Department of Finance at some point to see what we can work out there, you know, because they haven't been involved because they distribute the dollars. But we will be keeping on top of this, that's for sure. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable Minister. Any more oral questions? I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Makkovik, Herb Jacque.

**MR. JACQUE:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Lands and Resources. Can you just give us a little short briefing on the status of where we stand with uranium mining with Aurora Energy and why was the office in Postville closed? Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister of Lands.

**MR. SHEPPARD:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Thank you, AngajukKâk for Makkovik. I guess as before I became Minister, Madam Speaker, it was roughly a week ago representatives from Aurora came into the community of Postville and they never only met with me, but they also met with the

**AngajukKâk and her Inuit Community Government sharing with us as communities, I guess, that's adjacent to the proposed development or the planned development. As for an update on the happenings with Aurora, the information provided to us is that we can look forward for the next three years at least of further exploration. That's due to a couple of factors and I guess the first one is uranium price did drop back in 2008 and it's gradually climbing and, you know, in order for this project or development to become viable, once it gets past all the red tape, information provided again was it has to be somewhere around \$65 a pound. Right now it's just \$45 a pound. I guess in addition to that the drop in uranium price and further exploration is that they want to find more, a bigger resource, more resource. The words that John Jory, Exploration Manager of Aurora stated was we want to find another Michelin, and then the questions that came up in my mind was, you know, where are you going to find another Michelin? And he said it would be - they have an indication where their anomalies might be, their hot spots, and he did say that it would be in a radius of five kilometres of the Michelin deposit. So that's the information on the, I guess, Aurora's plans for the next at least three year summers, but they're going to maintain a 30-man camp and I think they won't to exceed that, if they do very minimum. But as for your second part of your question there why did the office in Postville close, that didn't go over too well as for me as the Ordinary Member representing my community, and**

**I'm sure the Inuit Community Government had their bones to pick with them on that one as well. I questioned it, not once, not twice, several times and had several telephone conversations. One job in a community of our size means a lot. The answer I got, Madam Speaker, that I can provide the AngajukKâk was, I guess it was based on the amount of work that was happening near Postville. Now when I say the amount of work, it's quite a bit to bring into the picture because they were going to use, prior to this year, they were going to use what we call salmon pond for those of you who are familiar with Postville. They were going to use this pond as a landing spot for the Twin Otter to fly goods back and forth from Postville to Michelin and have a floating dock in this area. That has been scrapped by Aurora so they saw the work in Postville activity very limited. Therefore they didn't see a need to keep the office open in Postville. In addition, they were trying to keep within budget. So that's the best explanation I can give you, can give the AngajukKâk, Madam Speaker. Thank you, Madam Speaker.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you, Honourable Minister. Are there any more questions?**

**I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk for Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey.**

**MS WOLFREY: Thank you, Madam Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Finance.**

**Some time ago I think I brought to your attention some concerns that were raised to me about the employee or the public service, I guess, or what the**

employees use as their employee manual, used to be an employee manual, and my understanding is that there was a review, but I'm wondering if some of the policies changed. If someone had built up over time or additional hours, working additional hours, my understanding is that if they're sick, they've got to use those additional hours and they can't use their sick leave, and I think I brought that to your attention before and I'm wondering has there been any progress in changing that so that if people are sick and they got sick leave, they can use their sick leave and their additional hours is what they worked extra, and they should be able to use them as they see fit, not as sick leave. If they're sick and they've got sick leave on the books. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Honourable Minister of Finance.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker and Nakummek to the AngajukKâk for Rigolet. I certainly will follow up on that question for you, Ms Wolfrey. I don't have the answer for you quite off the top of my head and to make sure that I get the detailed information for you, I'll try to get that information for you before we leave Hopedale today. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, Honourable Minister. Are there any other oral questions? Then we'll move down to the next item on our agenda, "Written Questions". Are there any written questions? Item number

seven, are there, "Returns to Written Questions"? Number eight, "Petitions," any petitions? Number nine, "Responses to Petitions," there will be none today. Number 10, "Reports of Standing of Special Committee"? I would like to recognize the AngajukKâk from Rigolet, Charlotte Wolfrey.

**MS WOLFREY:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'm going to report today on the Alcohol and Drug Committee, and first I want to inform the Assembly of who these Members are. We have five Members, Johannes Lampe, Herb Jacque, Wayne Piercy, Michelle Kinney and me. I was honoured to have been chosen as the Chair of this Committee. We held our first face-to-face meeting on May the 12th, 2013 and we do have some action items that we're working on and I'd like to inform the Assembly what those are. We've initiated a call for a new name for our Committee, which is more inclusive of community healing versus alcohol and drug committee and a contest will be held. The individual who submits the name that we choose will get a mini iPad. So I guess you'll be seeing some notices about this soon if they're not already out. And we're in the process of developing a resolution that we'll present in September requesting that the Alcohol and Drug Committee become a Standing Committee, instead of a Special Committee, as it is recognized that these issues addressed by the Committee require a constant and lasting commitment. And we're doing



things the re-establishment of the Labrador Inuit Role Model Campaign and there are notices out now, I think, seeking nominations for role models for Labrador Inuit. A letter has been sent to each Inuit Community Government asking support in implementing the amounts of alcohol to be shipped to communities as outlined in a resolution that was passed by the Nunatsiavut Assembly a number of years ago. A letter has been written too to the Inuit Community Governments asking for suggestions of individuals in their communities who could be featured in the Nunatsiavut Government newsletters as examples of individuals living alcohol and drug-free lifestyles. And we do plan on featuring individuals in the Nunatsiavut newsletter, and again, like I said who are living alcohol and drug-free lifestyles. And we do plan to meet on a regular basis either by teleconference or face-to-face, and I think one of the requirements of the Committee when they were established last is that they have on-going reports to the Assembly, at least verbal reports. So I'll be doing that, Nakummek, if there's any questions, I guess. Thank you.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Nakummek, AngajukKâk from Rigolet. We'll now move down to the next item on our Orders of the Day, number 11, "Tabling of Documents". I'd like to recognize the Honourable President, Sarah Leo.

**MS LEO:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'd like to table the Nunatsiavut Secretariat Annual Report. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you. This document will be numbered as table documents

**628. I recognize the Minister of Finance, the Honourable Dan Pottle, whom I understand, has two documents to table.**

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. I'd like to table the Annual Report to the Nunatsiavut Assembly on the activities of the Department of Finance and Human Resources and Information Technology for 2012-2013 as required by the *Nunatsiavut Assembly Act*. Very quickly, Madam Speaker, the details in the report is a compilation of the quarterly reports that we've been reporting to the Assembly. So I think if any Member wants to have these reports, they certainly request them from the Clerk of the Assembly. The other report, Madam Speaker, I'd like to table is the report to the Nunatsiavut Assembly regarding Section 111 of the *Nunatsiavut Assembly Act*, the Treasurer at the end of each fiscal year shall report to the Assembly on the name of each Member and the amounts of all salaries, indemnities, and allowances paid under this part to the Member, and the name of each board, commission, committee other than a committee of the Assembly reported under subsection (a) or other body on which a Member has served and the names of those Members who served on them during that fiscal year, and the amounts paid in that fiscal year by the government as fees for travelling and living expenses under this part in respect of each Member who is named in the report. Nakummek, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable Minister. These documents will be numbered as table documents 728 and table document 828. Moving down to the next item on our agenda, "Notices of Motion". I'd like to recognize the AngajukKâk from Nain, Tony Andersen.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I give notice that on Thursday, June 13th I will move, seconded by the Ordinary Member from Nain, William Barbour, that I'll give the following motion. That the Nunatsiavut Assembly request legal counsel to provide to the Assembly an opinion on possible language on a definition or clarification of the requirement for the candidate for President speak and understand *Inuttitut* to be included in the *Nunatsiavut Elections Act* and that the Assembly further requested legal counsel provide suggestions on how a test could be conducted in order to determine if a candidate for President meets the requirement that they speak and understand *Inuttitut*. The procedures and authorities for this test would need to be clearly outlined in the *Nunatsiavut Elections Act* and that this opinion should be ready for consideration by the Assembly at the September, 2013 sitting. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Andersen. Item number 13, "Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills," there are no notices today. Item number 14, "Motions," I recognize the AngajukKâk from Nain, Tony Andersen.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I seek unanimous consent to waive Standing Order 37 and move by motion today regarding the clarification on the requirements for the President of Nunatsiavut.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The AngajukKâk from Nain is seeking unanimous consent to move his motion today. Are there any nays? There are none. Mr. Andersen, you may proceed.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I move, seconded by the Ordinary Member from Nain, William Barbour, that the Nunatsiavut Assembly requests legal counsel to provide to the Assembly an opinion on possible language on a definition or clarification of the requirement that a candidate for President speak and understand *Inuttitut* to be included in the *Nunatsiavut Elections Act* and that the Assembly further requests that legal counsel provide suggestions on how a test could be conducted in order to determine if a candidate for President meets the requirement that they speak and understand *Inuttitut*. The procedures and authorities for this test would need to be clearly outlined in the *Nunatsiavut Election Act* and that this opinion would be ready for consideration by the Assembly at the September, 2013 sitting. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The motion is in order. Would you like to speak to the motion? Go ahead.

**MR. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, yesterday we went through, I think, you know, a fair amount of time debating the report or exchange of opinions, I guess, on the report that we presented as a committee to the Assembly. And many of us on the Committee or perhaps all of us, Madam Speaker, felt that we somehow confused Members of the Assembly, and I want to make it clear to the Assembly, Madam Speaker, that we no means came forward to bring amendments to the *Nunatsiavut Elections Act* yesterday. We felt that we were given a mandate by the Assembly to review the NEO's Presidential Election Report of 2012, and to be fair to the NEO and to the Assembly, we reviewed all its recommendations. Many of them as we stated yesterday were requires Constitutional amendment, and we felt that as a committee, as I said yesterday, we do not have a mandate to do that. What we did have a mandate to do was to perhaps recommend to the Assembly recommendations to the *Nunatsiavut Elections Act*. Madam Speaker, this motion does nothing other than that. And whether or not, you know, this thing is spoke to and voted upon, whether it's accepted, you know, in our democratic process, in fairness to all, that's the decision of the Assembly. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you Mr. Andersen. Would anyone else like to speak to the motion? I'd like to recognize to the Ordinary Member for Nain, Mr. William Barbour.

**MR. BARBOUR:** Nakummek, UKâlatik. And the other thing just to add on to what the AngajukKâk for Nain, as putting forward the motion, the one other thing that, you know, without seeing something, definition, or possible test, until we see that I don't think we'll have a full discussion anyway, or a reasoned discussion. And I think that that was part of maybe some of your confusion that was happening out there yesterday because again for our Committee it was a difficult one to come forward with, but without seeing those possible definitions, possible tests, which is what we're asking for, I think this debate will not be really concluded today until we see possible definition, if the motion started. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Mr. Barbour. Would anyone else like to speak to the motion? I'd like to recognize the Honourable Minister of Finance, Dan Pottle.

**MR. POTTLE:** Nakummek, Madam Speaker. I believe the AngajukKâk is quite accurate in his, I guess, preamble to why, or in speaking to the motion in itself, I mean, we did have a long discussion on this in the House of Assembly yesterday. There were a lot of concerns raised by each and every one of us as Assembly members on this very sensitive issue. I heard many times

during the discussion yesterday about, I guess, the need for an independent look at this for lack of a better word. The Nunatsiavut Government has a Nunatsiavut Electoral Officer, the Chief Electoral Officer is an officer of this House of Assembly. It causes me some concerns that this Assembly is directing, I guess for lack of a better word, in this motion to have an employee of the Nunatsiavut Government put forth a recommendation or a definition for speak and understand *Inuttitut* and to put forth recommendations to look at testing a person's level of speaking and understanding *Inuttitut*. I see this, Madam Speaker, as something that is not independent. I believe that this should be an independent process undertaken by somebody from outside of the Nunatsiavut Government and not associated with Nunatsiavut Government, either as an employee or elected official. As I spoke yesterday, Madam Speaker, and I say again today that this is a very sensitive issue. For the non-members of the first Assembly this issue was put to the Assembly in the form of a motion to have the Assembly approve a motion to have this issue to go to a referendum. There was no appetite for that three or four years ago and I know we're a different Assembly and maybe some attitudes and appetites for that have changed. As we heard from Mr. Shiwak yesterday, Madam Speaker, the Chief Electoral Officer, that there is a process inherent in the running or looking at the criteria for a candidate for the Presidency of Nunatsiavut, whether that's all or one of the criteria including the ability to

speak and understand *Inuttitut*. That challenge, I believe, Madam Speaker, should be undertaken by our beneficiaries and not by Nunatsiavut Government. Our beneficiaries know our people. They know whether or not somebody has the ability to speak and understand *Inuttitut*. The affidavit, as the Chief Electoral Officer stated yesterday, is his, I guess, his answer to whether not somebody speaks *Inuttitut*. A candidate for the Presidency of *Inuttitut* for the President of Nunatsiavut is expected to have three signatures swearing that they believe that the person speaks and understands *Inuttitut*. Therefore, Madam Speaker, I believe that that test is there and it's up to the beneficiaries to challenge a candidate for the election to the Office of President if that person solely believes that the person doesn't have the ability to speak and understand *Inuttitut*. To have the Assembly do that, Madam Speaker, I think takes away any independence that, and we could be seen as being in conflict and biasing our processes that we have in place. Therefore, Madam Speaker, I can't support this motion. Nakummek.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, Honourable Minister. Would someone else like to speak to this motion? Would the mover like to close debate? Okay. Would you like final comments?

**MR. ANDERSEN:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I certainly hope that the Assembly will support this motion. And you know, Madam Speaker, we represent the



people. This motion is nothing short of democratic process. We're all elected to represent the people. We, as the Committee, brought forward concerns that were tabled in this Assembly by the NEO, and we were mandated to review them. I believe, Madam Speaker, that the motion that we put forward represents the beneficiaries of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement*. What's of great concern to Members of the Committee was that when that happens, and we really believe that it will, Madam Speaker. We really believe that a challenge will come to a candidate on whether they cannot, whether they can speak and understand *Inuttitut*. And our concern for that was the process, as it is laid out now, would end up in the provincial court, and it would be, not only an embarrassment to this Assembly, but it would be embarrassment to the Labrador Inuit that we would have to go to a provincial court to determine whether or not someone could speak or understand *Inuttitut*. We really believe that in the first instance the provincial justice system would say this should not even be here, as I said yesterday. This should not even be in my court. This is for your people to determine, to decide on whether or not a candidate for the President can speak and understand *Inuttitut*. This is our attempt, the first attempt, the first shot at taking charge of our own affairs, and this is nothing short of that. This is for us to determine, Labrador Inuit to determine. Not the provincial court. Not a federal court. Not the Newfoundland and Labrador Assembly. Not the federal government to

**decide. This is a decision for Labrador Inuit. And we here represent Labrador Inuit, and I truly believe that this is something that can, a decision that can be made here, should be made here and I truly hope that Members of the Assembly will vote in favour of this motion. Thank you, Madam Speaker.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you. Would this close the debate, Mr. Andersen?**

**MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Yes, I wish to close debate.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: All Members have been provided with a copy of this resolution. All those in favour?**

**ASSEMBLY: Aye.**

**MADAM SPEAKER: Those against? The motion is carried. We'll now move down to our next item, number 15, there are no, "First Reading of Bills" today. Item number 16, there are no, "Second Readings of Bills," today. Item number 17, there are no, "Assent to Bills," today. We are not going to take a break until 12:30.**

**(Recess)**

**MADAM SPEAKER: I'd like to call our Assembly back to order, please. His Excellency, as Speaker of the Nunatsiavut Assembly, it gives me great honour to welcome you to Nunatsiavut and to our Chambers. Your presence here is an historic for Nunatsiavut since this is the first visit of a Governor-General**

since the Nunatsiavut Government was formed. We hope you enjoy your visit. On behalf of the Nunatsiavut Assembly I want to thank you for coming. At this time I'd like to ask you to say a few words.

**MR. JOHNSTON:** President Leo, Speaker Ford, First Minister Shiwak, Ministers and AngajukKaat, let me thank you for welcoming me to your wonderful community with the wonderful name of Hopedale, hope for us all. I've been looking forward to this visit very much. This place you call home is truly one of the most spectacularly beautiful and rugged parts of Canada. Nunatsiavut plays a vital role in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, but more than that, it's an inspirational region to other Inuit communities across the country. Not even a decade old and the government representing the Labrador Inuit is already making great gains. You're building your communities. You're ensuring preservation of resources and you're bringing success to the region. *(Speaks in French)* At its core, Canada, itself, is an experiment. This country is a product of the vision that emerged when people took up the challenge of responding to certain very specific realities, social, economic and geographical. That we can still call this an "experiment" nearly a hundred and fifty years later reflects the fact that although we have made tremendous strides in our efforts to accommodate and celebrate different cultures and traditions, including Inuit, we're still a work in progress. I often say that the most

**practical thing in the world is a good general theory when continually tested and refined against reality. In this case the theory, be it self-governance for Nunatsiavut or the multi-cultural nation of Canada, is applied and tested in an ongoing experiment. This experiment is one that has needed, and will continue to need, fine tuning, but it is essential that we succeed. Despite the challenges you continue to push for better lives for yourselves, your children, your Elders, everyone. One of the ways you were doing so is through adaptability. You've long recognized that evolution is necessary for the well-being of your society, but that did not mean abandoning your heritage. By adapting to the situation in which you found yourselves, you were able to come to solutions and compromises that protected your rights and that contributed to the wider province and country. I'm reminded of the words of Terry Audla, President of the Inuit Tapirit Kanatami, the National Voice of the Inuit in Canada who spoke last year at the opening of this beautiful building. He said, "As Inuit, we all face many challenges in this modern world, but we are adapting to them in our own way." And from my own experience I would add that I've seen Inuit, not only adapt to, but overcome those challenges as well. This is being accomplished in part through collaboration. You involve the community and listen to their needs, but more than that, you go outside Labrador to interact and work with provincial and federal representatives. You know that by working together we can accomplish so much more than**

we can by ourselves. Already there is so much that you've done. Let me speak about one of the symbols of your accomplishments. That being the building we're standing in right now, this building. This is a culmination of many years of work, of building, of learning and of growing. The Labrador Inuit waited for the day when there would be a space where their voices would be heard clearly and where their concerns, their challenges would be addressed head on. This is that place. But it is the object on top of this building that draws my attention. Of course I refer to the green Inukshuk. Inukshuks can be found across this country, even forming part of the logo for the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver. And in Rideau Hall in Ottawa where we live, we're privileged to have an Inukshuk designed and built by Inuit artist Kananginak Pootoogook near the front entrance. In his book, "Inuksuit, Silent Messengers of the Arctic," author Norman Hallenday writes on its significance. "To some elders with whom I have spoken, the Inukshuk is a metaphor. It reminds them of the time when people were attached to the land by an unbroken thread of reverence. When they created great dancing circles built fish weirs, placed huge Inukshuks on hilltops, made traps to catch the most cunning animals and communicated by rearranging or shaping fragments of the landscape." The symbolism is hard to miss. This building where decisions are made for the future looks decidedly to your past, and I think that's highly appropriate. What we do tomorrow is always informed by what

happened yesterday, and we ignore the lessons of the past at our own peril. I think there's another meaning to the Inukshuk found in the last part of Mr. Hallenday's quote. "Inukshuks were used to communicate by rearranging and shaping the landscape." That's exactly what you're doing. On the government's side you're creating stronger communities based on the ideals set forth by your constitution. I was interested to learn of the ratification of this document which has far-reaching implications for the Labrador Inuit and impacts the well-being of the province and country, principles such as democracy and equality, pursuits such as a healthy society or preservation of culture. All of these show the type of future you want to build. On the business side the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies in Trust is constantly looking for new opportunities to grow its investments. It does this by examining recent trends and gains and considering what will be needed in the future. In addition to what I believe will be a boom for your region is your focus not only on preservation of the environment, but also on building a sustainable economy. That key word sustainability is an important one as it informs so much of what you do. We're all stewards in this country of the environment, of our economy, of our children. We therefore have a responsibility to ensure that we are able to meet the needs of today without compromising those of future generations. The focus on the health of the land is a theme the Inuit know better than most. Hugh Brody, author of "The Other Side of Eden,"

interviewed an Innu woman in the North, Mary Adele Andrew, who raised her children off the land and taught them the traditional ways of survival. She remarked to him that on the land we are ourselves. Well, from what I've seen that statement is wholly accurate. I visited Inuit communities in the north and have experienced first-hand the reverence in which they hold the land, a reverence that I believe is also here in Labrador. And that's why it's important to protect the land. That is why sustainability is so vital to the future of your communities. I often speak of building a smart and caring nation, one in which everyone has the opportunity to contribute. This is the type of government you've built. This is the type of society the Labrador Inuit have always had. As you strengthen your community, as you develop your roles I know that you will inspire others with what you do. I'm delighted to learn of your story, of your accomplishments, of your people, and I look forward to sharing your story with other Canadians. Thank you so much.

[Applause]

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you, sir. On our final orders of the day we are now adjourning the Assembly for this sitting. I hope the Assembly members and staff have a productive and restful summer. Our Assembly is now adjourned. At this time I would like to ask you, sir, if you can now stay for some photographs to have some pictures taken around.

**MR. JOHNSTON:** It'd be a pleasure.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you.